



# COMMUNION

Monthly Periodical of Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467 (est. 1935)  
265 Wellington Street. St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 2S6

April 2025



## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

### Brothers:

As we enter April, the Lenten '*home stretch*' to Easter, we are reminded to redouble our efforts to maintain our obligations to pray, fast / sacrifice, and to increase our financial donations to the needy and/or performance of charitable acts. You could, for instance, decide this month to reflect and discern how (through *prayer* and *sacrifice*) to make a generous *donation* to the Holy Angels debt reduction and capital works fundraising campaign and, in so doing, score a Lenten '*trifecta*'. You could also reach out to a 'shut-in' brother, perhaps to pray together that the turmoil caused by current world events will soon subside so that we are spared the daily distraction of news that seems only to increase anxiety and despair ... exactly contrary to what we should aspire to feeling during our Easter 'advent'. Let us pray that hope, faith and love prevail!

As always, there's lots of information presented in this issue. Please especially note that our April Business Meeting will occur on **Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup>** given the Columbus Club will be a polling station for the Federal General Election on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup>. You'll also note a recurring theme in this issue is support of our Club. While I'm pleased to report that the Club Directors responded favourably to my petition for a reduction in our monthly rent (achieving significant relief to our General Budget), I appreciate it is incumbent on all Council members to do what we can to enhance revenue for the Club. So, while it may not be practicable for some of us to book the hall ourselves for family- / work-related functions, *we can and should* promote our club facilities whenever the someone may ask for a recommendation. Let's all '*raise our game*' in this respect.

In closing, I wish you and yours a Happy & Blessed Easter; remember that you are a beloved child of God.

Fraternally, Harald Schraeder, GK, PGK



**Father Ernie Deslippe** (1929 - 2011) served as Council chaplain for over 46 years. He was born in Harrow Ontario on March 20, 1929 and was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John C. Cody on May 27, 1961 at St. Peter's Basilica, London Ontario. He celebrated his first Mass at St. Anthony of Padua parish in Harrow. Through his 50 years of ordained ministry, he served as associate pastor, Holy Angels' Parish, St. Thomas; and Administrator, St. Joseph Mission, Port Stanley. He was an inspiring priest, a leader with fortitude. Throughout his life he was a comforting power for disadvantaged people helping them to find a clear path to follow. He was a dedicated member of the Knights of Columbus who stressed that prayer is a vital tool. It helps to become confident, to see things in proper perspective, to give us vision, courage, strength and endurance, and to erode our impure motives.

He said holiness is not something we do for ourselves and instead something that God does in us. He invited us to open our hands to allow what we have to be shared, to flow out of us and we watch it multiplied. He understood that giving, not getting, is the generosity begets generosity. He pointed out that paying attention is one of the greatest compliments we can pay to another human being. Father Deslippe exemplified the mission of the Church to guide its followers to a fulfilling life. He was a great spiritual leader dedicated to prayer and always striving for virtue. Fr. Ernie was a strong advocate of learning and so Council awards a \$1000 scholarship in his name each year to a student that demonstrates the values and principles of the Gospel and is pursuing post-secondary education.

The Knights of Columbus (K of C) is a fraternal benefit society that was established in 1882 thanks to the efforts of **Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney**, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. The K of C has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and approaching 2 million members world-wide. The Order holds true to its founding principles of **Charity, Unity** and **Fraternity**.

**Bulletin submissions deadline: 25th of the month (Sept-May inclusive)**

## COUNCIL OFFICERS 2024-25

- Harald Schraeder, Grand Knight  
[gk1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:gk1467@ontariokofc.ca)
- Fr. Peter Keller, Chaplain
- John Kana, Deputy GK
- Blair Ferguson, Chancellor
- Robert Weir, Recording Secretary
- Regis Trudel, Financial Secretary
- Orio Ortins, Treasurer
- Donald Henry, Advocate
- Luc Audet, Warden
- Armand Matte, Trustee (3 yr.)
- Jim Dewan, Trustee (2 yr.)
- Roy Esbaugh, Trustee (1 yr.)
- Michael Kilborn, Inside Guard
- David Primeau, Outside Guard
- Patrick Houston, Lecturer
- John Noonan, Insurance Agent / Fraternal Advisor

## ESTEEMED PARTNERS

- Raymond Bernicky, District Deputy
- Simon Vink, Faithful Navigator, Bishop Cody Assembly
- Sandi Hoffer, President, Ladies Auxiliary
- David Warden, President, Columbus Club

**COUNCIL BULLETIN:** Harald Schraeder  
([hschran623@rogers.com](mailto:hschran623@rogers.com))

**WEB SITE LINK:** [kofc1467](http://kofc1467)

**SITE ADMIN:** [martin.evers53@gmail.com](mailto:martin.evers53@gmail.com)

**COLUMBUS CLUB MANAGER:** Laurie Elford (226-927-0375)

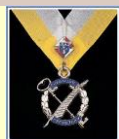
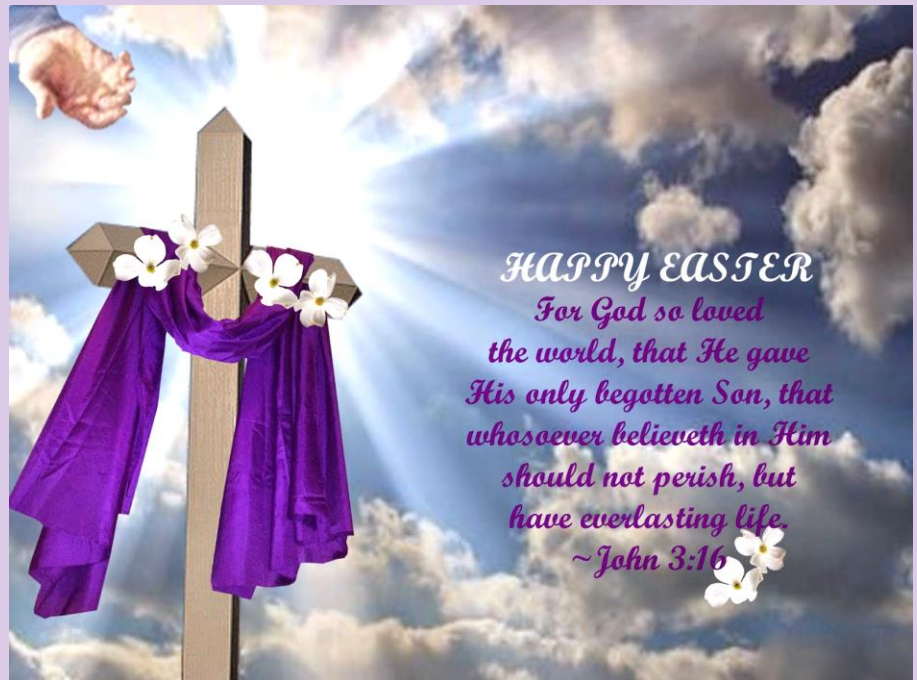


# Join Us!

<https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/about-membership/index.html>



Council donated \$5,000 towards St. Anne's restoration fund from money raised through bingos. Pictured are (L-R): Stephen Huver, ERCFP Business Mgr.; Bros. Jim Dewan & Regis Trudel; and Father Peter Keller.



## FS CHAT

## HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS!!!

Gilbert Berger, Ron Casier, Gary Clarke, Martin Evers, Stephen Gooding, Donald Griffin, Czeslaw Kozinski, Carl Kroeplin, Gerald Kupferschmidt, Lambert Kusters, Terry Kwapis, William Meglic, Nick Parachoniak, David Primeau, Kevin, Rainsforth, Bernie Sheridan, Ed Szura, Alan Taylor, Paul Wolfs & Christopher Zwicker.

Fraternally, Regis Trudel, [FS1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:FS1467@ontariokofc.ca), 226-688-6060





## MARK THE DATES APRIL EVENTS

All events occur at the Columbus Club at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Evening with Fr. John (**6:30 p.m. SA**)
- 6<sup>th</sup>: **Benefit Spaghetti Dinner (4:30 p.m. - )**
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Bishop Cody Assembly mtg.
- 14<sup>th</sup>: FED Exec. Mtg / Ladies Aux
- 16<sup>th</sup>: Soup Brothers (**9 a.m.**)
- 18<sup>th</sup>: **Good Friday**
- 20<sup>th</sup>: **Easter Sunday**
- 21<sup>st</sup>: Columbus Club Directors
- 26<sup>th</sup>: Steak & Craft Beer Night (**4:30 p.m. - )**
- 28<sup>th</sup>: Federal Election Day
- 29<sup>th</sup>: (**Tuesday**) FED Business Meeting

### UPCOMING:

- May 3-4: Rose Sunday campaign
- June 14<sup>th</sup>: Fathers' Day BBQ

## April Assignments

- Wed. 9<sup>th</sup>, 9 – 11 **a.m.**: Bill Walker & Al Baca
- Thurs. 17<sup>th</sup>, 9 - 11 **p.m.**: Greg Reynaert & Bill Ressler

Please arrive 15 minutes before your assigned time.

*Did you know the Bingo crew generates well over half of Council's Charity giving each year? Thanks to Jackpot Time for giving Council the opportunity to raise funds to help the needy in our community.*

**Volunteers make the ordinary extraordinary.**

We were each given a rosary upon joining the Knights and encouraged to recite a rosary as often as possible. Your fellow Brother Knights join together every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. to pray a virtual rosary together using ZOOM.

You can be added to the weekly email notice and provided the ZOOM link so that you can join whenever you are able from your home by contacting Brother Regis at [FS1467@ontariokofc.ca](mailto:FS1467@ontariokofc.ca) or 226-688-6060.

## Ladies Auxiliary



## Please Pray for the Intentions of:

His Holiness Pope Francis, Gary Beckwith, Maurice Brennan, Ron & Barry Buchanan, Randall (Otis) Clifton & his daughter Genevieve, Gerry & Miriam Costello, Dino DeAngelo, Case Hoffer's niece Robin DeLeemans, Jim Dewan's wife Susan, Martin & Marilyn Evers, Jean Goddeeris, Adam Hicknell's Oma, John Jakobi Sr, Fr. Johnson's mother, Jim Kennedy's wife Pauline, Dean Kitt's wife Ria, Carl & Barb Kroeplin, John Laverty, Michael Lukasik, Jim Lumley, Cliff Marentette, Barry MacMillan, Larry McCaffery as well as his relative Leo, Madeline McIntosh, Matthew O'Gorman, John Nolan, Doug Pardey, Carl Pearson, Louise Perrier, Peter Sowinski, Darryl Sullivan, Alan Taylor, Case Terpstra, John Thomas, Joe Vachon's wife Joan, Alois (Louie) Van Hooydonk, Steve Wachowiak, Rob & Lisa Weir, and Priests and ERCFP staff. Please also pray for condolence for our widows and surviving family members.

Please pray for all our recently faithful departed, especially **Bro. John ('Jack') Sims**, Bro. Rob's mother **Elizabeth Weir**, Bro. Gary's mother **Joanne Slaght**, and Bro. John Laverty's sister **Patricia Hinatsu**, that through God's mercy they be welcomed by Jesus and are at peaceful repose in Heaven. Please pray as well for our brother Knights and their families impacted by the war in the Ukraine.

# How Are You Supporting Your Club?

While we all know the adage, “*Use it or lose it*”, it seems also true that “*words speak louder than actions*”.

“Wait, what? Shouldn’t that last part read the other way around?” Admittedly, it should, but it has become very noticeable that Council members, namely you, me and our fellow brothers, are frequently absent from Club and Council events. Moreover, very few book the Hall for family- / work-related occasions.

One might think some of us are embarrassed to be seen at our ‘club house’ or to show it off to our family and other guests. Just saying. Shouldn’t have to, of course, but ...

Look, I know, there are many ~~excuses~~ reasons underpinning this situation. And while it is not my intent to simply ‘guilt’ others to ‘do as I say’ (as opposed to what I regrettably also don’t do enough of), we all need to reflect upon our duty to contribute to the ‘Good of the Order’. As Knights, we took an oath to abide by our core principles of *unity*, *fraternity* and *charity*. A key way to deliver on that is to actually go to the place where there is a strong likelihood of connecting with fellow brothers either socially (in the spirit of *unity* and *fraternity*) or to inform the business of council (to advance our mission of *charity*).

Let me be blunt: We all need to pick up our game and here are some tips to help:

- Review the ‘*Mark The Dates [Month] Events*’ in this and every issue and actually mark them down and make plans to attend as many as you can.
- Attend a *Friday ‘After 4’* ... the open social at the Club every Friday. ‘After 4’s’ are a great way to wind down the week ... before winding it up again with your weekend plans.
- Call **Laurie Elford**, Club Booking Manager (226-927-0375), and give her the opportunity to ‘sell’ you on why the Club is **THE** place to host your family- / work-related events. Laurie has been empowered by the Club’s Board of Directors (volunteer Knights like you) to infuse a ‘*Good of the Order*’ element in all business dealing with Council members (that are also club members by the way). Should you expect preferential treatment? Yes ... but that doesn’t extend to getting a ‘free ride’ or bumping other bookings ... so best you connect with her as soon as possible for your party plans.
- **Volunteer**: Go to the club ... during an *After 4* ... and let someone know you’re interested in getting *Smart Serve* certified or that you’d simply be available to open, monitor and close the place up on those occasions that groups book the hall for meetings and don’t need any bar or kitchen service.

Council is blessed to have brothers that volunteer to act as club stewards ... to attend to building maintenance and repair, and to present it as a most desirable venue for banquets and gatherings of all types. We all need to step up to support and assist them; to reciprocate in any small way for the gift of time and effort they donate for your and each and every Council member’s behalf. So, I’ll leave you with this: Doing *something* is better than not doing *anything* ... search your heart for your ‘*something*’ ... and then act on it.

Fraternally, GK Harald

## FED Scholarship 2025

Council 1467 awards two \$1,000 scholarships each spring to graduating Catholic secondary school students that will be pursuing post-secondary education. Interested students are invited to download the application and guideline at: <https://www.kofc1467.com/fed-scholarship>.

**Applications must be received by end of day Monday June 9, 2025.**



Sunday 6 April 2025

# Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

In Support of the Perez Family, all are welcome!

Live entertainment by Kevin Gorman

Doors open at 4:30pm

Live music and dinner service to begin at 5:00pm

Tickets are \$20

St. Thomas Columbus Club, 265 Wellington Street St. Thomas

Tickets available at the Columbus Club

Thurs 6:30pm - 9:30pm and Fri 4pm - 6:30pm

Event Hosted by Mike Butler at 519-777-4491



## COMMUNITY PROGRAM

**SOUP BROTHERS:** The Soup Brothers made **94 containers** (24-oz) of **Tomato Vegetable Soup** for the St. Thomas - Elgin Food Bank on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The next soup day is **Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup>**, 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club and all are welcome.

**ELIMINATION DRAW:** **Weekly \$50 winners for January** were: Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> John Goossens, Ticket #0043; 10<sup>th</sup> John Waite, #0165; 24<sup>th</sup> Linda Karn, #0089; and 24<sup>th</sup> Greg Ladd, #0015. March 31<sup>st</sup>'s winner will be included with April's winners in next month issue. Congratulations to our winners so far. Good luck this month!

**ST. ANNE'S FESTIVAL:** Contrary to recent announcements, the festival is on! A renewed group of parishioners and friends have stepped up and are busy planning this signature community-based festival that will take place the first week of June. Our Pastor, Fr. Peter, has asked the Knights to also step up to take on volunteer roles and to attend weekly evening meetings at St. Anne's Centre from now until the carnival begins. For additional details, please see your ERCFP bulletin or call the parish office (519-631-3640).

**KINSMEN CRAFT BEER & STEAK DINNER:** See the poster in this issue for the event on April 26<sup>th</sup>, a partnership with the Columbus Club, and get your tickets from Bro. Roy Esbaugh while supplies last!

**BENEFIT EVENT FOR ST. ANNE'S FAMILY:** See above poster for the April 6<sup>th</sup> Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser at the Columbus Club. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with live music to start at 5 p.m.

**ROSE SUNDAY CAMPAIGN:** Will occur during the masses over the May 3-4 weekend.



# Lent and how to transform our lives through it

Lent is a sacred season in the Catholic Church, lasting 40 days, during which we prepare for Easter through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. For Catholic men, this period offers a unique opportunity to deepen our faith, strengthen our relationship with God, and reflect on our lives. By engaging in meaningful practices and adopting a spirit of humility and repentance, we can make this Lent a transformative experience.



**Embrace Prayer** - Prayer is the cornerstone of a fruitful Lent. We should set aside dedicated time each day for personal prayer, including traditional prayers like the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, or the Stations of the Cross. Additionally, we can incorporate Scripture reading into our daily routine, focusing on the Gospels to draw closer to the teachings of Christ. Group prayer, such as attending Mass or participating in a men's prayer group, can foster community and accountability, enhancing the spiritual journey.

**Practice Fasting** - Fasting during Lent serves as both a physical and spiritual discipline. Catholic men are encouraged to abstain from meat on Fridays and consider additional fasting practices that resonate with their lives. This could include giving up certain foods, reducing screen time, or setting limits on hobbies that distract from spiritual growth. The key is to choose sacrifices that challenge them and bring them closer to God, allowing the discomfort of fasting to remind them of Christ's sacrifice.

**Engage in Almsgiving** - Almsgiving is a vital aspect of Lent that encourages us to share our resources with those in need. This can take many forms, including donating to charities, volunteering time at local shelters, or supporting parish initiatives. We can also consider reaching out to family and friends who may be struggling, offering support and encouragement. By practicing generosity, we embody Christ's love and compassion, reinforcing our commitment to living out our faith.

**Reflect on Personal Growth** - Lent is an ideal time for introspection. We should take time to examine our lives, identifying areas in which we struggle, such as pride, anger, or lack of patience. Keeping a journal can be beneficial for documenting thoughts, prayers, and reflections throughout the season. This practice encourages accountability and self-awareness, enabling us to recognize our weaknesses and work towards personal growth.

**Seek Spiritual Guidance** - We are encouraged to seek spiritual guidance during Lent, whether through a confessor, spiritual director, or trusted mentor (Father John's reflection group fits this bill nicely). The Sacrament of Reconciliation is especially important during this time, allowing us to confess our sins and receive grace. Engaging with a spiritual guide can provide insight and help men navigate their Lenten journey with purpose.

**Foster Community** - Lent is not a solitary journey; it is a time to build relationships with others in faith. We can participate in Lenten retreats, small group discussions, or community service projects. Sharing experiences and insights with fellow parishioners strengthens bonds and provides encouragement. Building a sense of brotherhood can be particularly impactful, as men support one another in their spiritual endeavors.

**Conclusion** - Lent offers us Catholic men an opportunity for renewal and growth. By embracing prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, engaging in self-reflection, seeking spiritual guidance, and fostering community, we can deepen our faith and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. As we journey through this sacred season, let us remember that Lent is not only about sacrifice but also about transformation, leading us closer to Christ and enriching our spiritual lives for the years to come.

Peace my brothers & sisters in Christ,

SK Blair Ferguson, Faith Director

## Holy Angels Restoration Update

Last year, I sat at a Knights of Columbus business meeting with a visiting knight from a neighboring Council beside me listening to a report on the situation at Holy Angels. At that time, we heard that **\$500,000** was still owed on the debt incurred to do the renovations and repairs needed on our Talbot Street church. The visiting knight gasped at the fact that half a million dollars was still owed. After the meeting, he shared with me his solution which was to sell the church and be done with it. I did my best to control my temper and calmly walked away. Later, after collecting myself and taking a deep breath, I told him that Holy Angels is more than just a church, it is the spiritual home of many and has been for many generations. I continued to say that the debt would indeed be paid off because I had faith.

Well, we can now jump forward from that exchange to a time two months ago when the debt had decreased to **\$250,000**. Soon thereafter to **\$150,000**, and as I write this it stands at **\$130,000**. What an incredible example of faith in action!

Many people love Holy Angels and consider it their spiritual home. They are clearly willing to step up to the plate to get rid of the debt so we can then move forward and start raising funds to start repairs like the front steps. I will plan to provide you further updates as the fundraising campaign progress.

Bro. Blair Ferguson, HA Fundraising Committee Member



**Father Halligan** and his winning baseball team from Holy Angels School in 1908.



1921 communion class at the side of Holy Angels, **Monsignor West** is on the left and **Father Moran** on the right





# Reflection

Are you feeling helpless these days? Like you're trapped in the back seat of a vehicle called 'current world affairs' that is hell-bent on accelerating towards a granite wall? If so, you're not alone, my friend, and while misery does indeed love company, perhaps now is a good time to reflect on who rules the world and why we must be vigilant in resisting him.

I hear you, "We have a world ruler?!" Apparently yes, and I was recently surprised to learn it's the devil. "How so?", you ask. Well, it came to me upon reflecting on Luke's description of the temptation of Jesus in the desert (4:5-7), soon after Jesus' baptism at the beginning of His earthly mission, "**And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours.'**"

I also found recognition of the devil as world ruler in "**The Promise of the Holy Spirit**" (John 14:15-31) at the end of Jesus' time with us, wherein He states, "**These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace, I leave with you; my peace, I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I go to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.**"

If my reading of the gospels is not wrong, what should we make of the above passages? On the one hand, we may concede the history of human misery seems to give credence to the devil having bestowed authority and infamy (if not 'glory') to world leaders that are, and have been, aligned with his 'values'. Many names surely come to mind, from Caligula (Roman emperor from AD 37 until his assassination in AD 41) through to our modern age. On the other hand, even if Jesus apparently foretold the arrival of the devil as ruler of the world, He did so while also promising His Father would send us the Holy Spirit to help us focus on complying with His essential commandments: **Love God and love your neighbour as yourself**. Moreover, He saw to it that we would be equipped with no less than the graces of **faith, hope** and **charity** ... powerful armor against the forces of evil while we exist on earth under the influence of whomever the devil elevates.

And yet, we must wait, even as we may daily petition God with "**Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven**" to intercede against the havoc wreaked by the devil through those he favours. While we wait, however, we may also draw comfort from St. Paul's message to the church at Philippi (Philippians 3:18-21), "**For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power which enables him even to subject all things to himself.**" **'Elbows Up!'**, while we wait indeed.

So, let us persevere despite the malice and evil that consumes those world leaders and oligarchs bent on infamy. Let us also heed St. Paul's advice to the Thessalonians (5:2-11), "**For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When people say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them as travail comes upon a woman with child, and there will be no escape. But you are not in darkness, brethren, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night; and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But, since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we wake or sleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.**"

As a Knight, **you** are numbered among the **sons of light**. Together with your fellow brothers, it is your mission to bring the light and peace to others.

Fraternally, Harald Schraeder, GK, PGK



# Catholic Corner



How's your Lenten season going? I am not here to judge, as there is only one judge, but instead to reflect on my own and ask you to do the same. Lent, as we know, is a time of prayer, fasting (abstinence – no meat on Fridays), and alms giving. Personally, my Lent began well, as I was more prayerful and more deliberate in my prayer time. While I gave up time on social media, I did take the time to send a daily message to a friend or family member to let them know how much they mean to me. I also visited neighbours, to reconnect after this long winter of hibernation, and also dropped in on a 'shut-in'. So, while the first week and half was great, I have stalled lately. That's okay, however, and I'm convinced there's need to give up. I just need to get back to more deliberate prayer and giving of my time to others.

Prayer is, for me, a huge deal as I have experienced firsthand the power of prayer. Recently, during a session of the RCIA program of which I am a sponsor, we learned about our Mother, Mary. It was revealed that Mary was given to us by Jesus as He was expiring on the cross when he instructed John, the disciple that He loved, "**Behold, this is your Mother and Woman, behold your son**" (John 19:26-27). Jesus wasn't just giving his Mother to John but to the church and, by extension, to each one of us. Wow, what a beautiful gift!

Mary is our Mother, as she remains the Mother of God, Jesus Christ. She is seated at the right hand of Jesus where she intercedes for our prayers. When we recite a **Hail Mary**, we ask her to "**pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death**". It is through this prayer that we ask Mary for our prayers to be put forth at the foot of our Lord Jesus Christ, her son. Mary is our Queen Mother and ruler. Like every good son, Jesus listens to and respects His Mother. He hears her intercessions for our prayers. Who better to pray to during this Lenten season and the entire year through than our Mother Mary?

I must give credit for my renewed passion for prayer this week to my Ohio fishing buddy, Don. In a recent email detailing the Christening of his newest granddaughter, he shared how he was upset at how two attendees had acted during Mass. One isn't a Catholic and while some allowance on that account could be made, he found their actions disrespectful. He told me how he was initially angry and consumed with negative energy. Later, as he reflected, he found the Holy Spirit speaking to him to give up the anger and resentment and to instead pray for this couple. Such a beautiful use of prayer and something we should all take to heart. Jesus challenges us in scripture, asking us to not only pray for those we like and who like us but to pray for those who are our enemies, those that make us upset and angry. It is not an easy task but it is one that is renewed through Don's words. I am going to dedicate time to pray for Mary's intercessions and I ask you to do the same and to pray for me. Reflect on who has hurt you, who you might hold a grudge against, gossip about, or ignore. Simply ask Mary to intercede, that her Son reveal himself to these people, to send out His love and compassion to them. You will be amazed at how good you feel, giving up to the Lord your anger and hatred, and in so doing allowing more room in your heart for the Love of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, and our Mother, Mary.

I must also thank **Fr. John** for his Marian presentation at a recent RCIA class. Even as a 'Cradle Catholic', I am not too old to learn new and wonderful things about Mary to help me get closer to her Son. So, thank you Father.

Have a very Happy and Blessed Easter and may God Bless you and your families!

Faithfully Your Brother in prayer, 🙏  
SK. Bro. Rob Weir

## Pope Francis' April Intention: For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



# The Elgin Patriot

Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879 / April 2025

Membership consists of Sir Knights from Councils 1467, 4189 & 6495



Sir Knights:

Hear ye! Hear ye! I am excited to announce that **SK Mike Butler** will be stepping into the position of Commander. I am sure we will be in very capable hands considering Mike and his family's military background. So, please buy that uniform and step up to be part of the Colour Guard. The Colour Guard could be present at Liturgical Processions, Eucharistic Adoration, Wake or Cremation Services, Funerals, Graveside Honours, Flag Day, Canada Day, Remembrance Day and other functions where we can display our pride and love for God, Canada, and our Catholic Faith.

We are looking for a SK to fill the position of Faithful Purser and **SK Orio Ortins** will be more than happy to guide you in the learning process. Orio will be moving to the position of Comptroller unless elections dictate otherwise. To all SK's that are stepping down from their position, please help us find your replacement.

We had a full Exemplification on Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup> when four of our SK's attended (**Steve Wachowiak**, **Mike Butler**, **Ray Bernicky**, and myself). Thank you to SKs **John Kana**, **Orio Ortins**, **Roy Esbaugh**, **Deacon Dan O'Connor**, and their Ladies (and the Candidates Ladies) not only for their support but their participation in all the day's events. It was truly memorable.

Evening with Father John will be **Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 7 p.m. at St Anne's church. Our next 4th Degree meeting will be Monday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm, at the Columbus Hall. The essence of Lent is ultimately to come into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. Happy Easter to all. Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally yours, SK Simon Vink, FN



March 22<sup>nd</sup> Assembly Exemplification attendees (L to R): **SK Orio Ortins**, Purser; **SK John Kana**, Sentinel; **SK Mike Butler**; **SK Deacon Dan O'Connor**; **SK Steve Wachowiak**; **SK Ray Bernicky**, PGK & 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree District Deputy; and **SK Simon Vink**, Faithful Navigator.

**For These We Pray:** *[Please refer to the prayer intentions section of Communion]*

**Faithful Friar** Fr. Peter Keller  
**Pilot** Tom Carr  
**Scribe** Case Hoffer / Rob Weir  
**Trustees** Otis Clifton / Roy Esbaugh / Francis Dadzie

**Navigator** Simon Vink  
**Admiral** Joe Fleming  
**Purser** Orio Ortins  
**Sentinels** Don Nolan / Peter Dion / John Kana

**Captain** Dennis Collins  
**Comptroller** James Coveny  
**Website & Historian** Martin Evers  
**Commander** Larry McCaffery / Jim Dewan



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### Dear Columbus Club Members:

I would like to introduce myself; my name is **Laurie Elford** and I am the new Columbus Club Booking Director. Last December, I stepped up and promoted the **Family New Year's Eve Party**. Pulling families together it turned out to be a sold-out event! This past February, I decided to organize a **Valentine's Day Dance** that was open to the public. It also did great as another opportunity to keep our community engaged in our banquet hall amenities. I continue to find tremendous satisfaction meeting new people while also enjoying an evening out.

The Club is open most Fridays to the public during the '**After 4**' social that usually winds up by 6:30 p.m. After 4's are a great time to meet new people, reconnect with friends, and try your luck at our featured meat or 'toonie' draws. Throughout the year, a number of Pot Lucks are also scheduled to coincide with an After 4.

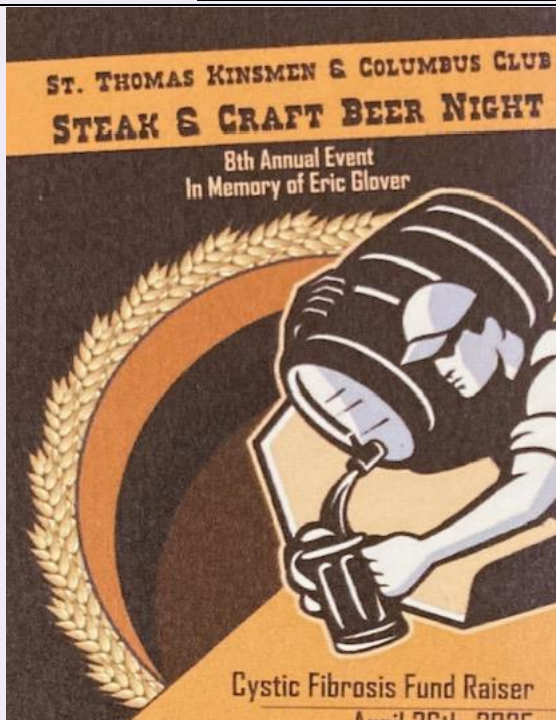
### Some upcoming events to look forward to include:

- Car Show
- Fathers' Day BBQ
- SummerFest

Keep an eye out for dates and details on the Club's advertising sign on Wellington Street facing 'front lawn'.

I would be pleased to help provide that special place at the Columbus Club for all your events: Baby Showers, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Retirements, Stag & Does, or events such as business-related or professional development meetings to name just a few.

Just call me, **Laurie Elford (226-927-0375)**, and I'll get on it right away!



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