



COMMUNION

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

June 2025



GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Brothers:

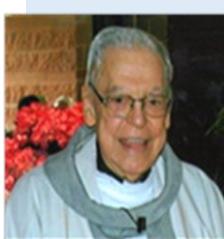
As this is the final issue for the 2024-25 Fraternal Year, I want to express my sincerest thanks to all the contributors of articles and information each month. I especially thank the assistance of Bros. Dennis Collins (mail list & address wraps), Henry Poirier (folding and mail drop), Martin Evers (website posting) & Gord Smith (proofreading), for their efforts to ensure you get your Council information 'fix' each month.

While I am honoured to have been elected to continue as your Grand Knight, I am deeply indebted to the support I received this year from current executive members as well as all Council members: Thank you, brothers. You'll find the complete slate of Fraternal Year 2025-26 executive inside this issue as well.

Our charity giving culminates in our donating several financial awards to graduating St. Joseph's High School students as well as the two \$1,000 **Fr. Ernie Deslippe 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>; **N.B. applications must be received by end of day Monday June 9, 2025**). Our June business meeting often features several motions to 'zero out' our annual Charity budget, pending any yet to be fulfilled items in the approved budget. The June meeting is also the last one until we reconvene at the end of September so I invite you to please make a special effort to attend to wish everyone a safe and joyous summer. Your executive will continue to meet each month (2nd Monday) to deal with time-sensitive matters and prepare the General and Charity budgets for members review and adoption next fall. All members are welcome to attend Council Executive meetings and especially to inform budget considerations.

In closing, I pray that you and yours do indeed enjoy a safe and peaceful summer break. See you soon!

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
- 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)

WEB SITE LINK: kofc1467

SITE ADMIN: 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>



GK Harald Schraeder awarding SK Jim Dewan his certificate and pin that recognize his achievement of Honourary Life Member status.



FS CHAT

HAPPY SUMMER BIRTHDAYS!!!

JUNE: Justin Buchanan, Randall ('Otis') Clifton, Roy Ewart, Malcolm Gooding, Robert Grindon, Joe Hicknell, John C. Jakobi, John W. Jakobi, Greg Ladd, Bryan Lee, David Lomond, Steve Miloloza, Mathew O'Gorman, Peter Ostoic, Doug Pardey, Carl Pearson, Jim Sheridan, Jan Sumera, Oscar Sunil & Sean Thomas.

JULY: Harold Berger, Ray Bernicky, Richard Borecki, Roberto Dala, David Elford, Roman Kuchmak, Ronald Kunz, Patrick McKenna, Jerry O'Brien, David O'Connor, Daniel O'Neil, David Regan & Ed Steer.

AUGUST: Steven Bailey, Ron Buchanan, Murray Clarke, Dennis Collins, Ken Couchman, Phil East, Wayne Elliott, Blair Ferguson, Joe Filipovic, Bill Hall, James Kennedy, Michael Keogh, Andrew O'Connor, Orio Ortins, Harald Schraeder, Alois Van Hooydonk & Pete Vergeer.

2025-26 Budget ...

Your Executive will be reviewing the results of our Fraternal Year 2024-25 General & Charity Budgets over the summer and discussing our priorities and plans for the FY that begins July 1st. If you have any suggestions please forward them to me.

Fraternally, Regis Trudel
FS1467@ontariokofc.ca, 226-688-6060

Have you moved or changed your contact information? If you change your home address, email address or phone numbers, please remember to email your updates to FS1467@ontariokofc.ca.



June Assignments

- Thurs. 5th, 1 – 3 p.m.: Otis Clifton & Jim Coveny
- Mon. 23rd, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Tom Carr & Bill Walker

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.

MARK THE DATES

JUNE EVENTS

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

- 2nd: Bishop Cody Assembly mtg.
- **4-7th: ST. ANNE'S FESTIVAL**
- 9th: FED Exec. Mtg / Ladies Aux
- **9th: FED Scholarship application deadline**
- 10th: St. Anne's Hot Dog Day (**10 a.m.**)
- 13th: Msgr. Morrison Hot Dog Day (**10 a.m.**)
- 16th: Columbus Club Directors
- **20-21: SUMMERFEST**
- 23rd: FED Business Meeting
- 28th: Canada Day BBQ @ Grace Café (**7a.m. -**)

PLEASE NOTE:

- No Soup in June (Summerfest prep instead)
- Evenings with Fr. John will resume in September
- No Council Business meetings in July & August

Knights of Columbus Weekly Rosary

Every Tuesday at 1 p.m., Brother Knights join together on ZOOM to pray the Knights' Spiritual Rosary. If you would like to join whenever you are available, please email Bro. Regis (registrudel@rogers.com) to request the weekly ZOOM link.

Ladies Auxiliary

A quick note from the Ladies Auxiliary to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. Once again, we have added some lovely baskets of flowers to beautify the Columbus Club. If you haven't seen them yet, come out to the [After 4](#) on Fridays and enjoy some fun and friendship. Hope to see everyone at Summerfest too!

Sandi Hoffer, Past President

Please Pray for the Intentions of:

His Holiness Pope Francis, Gary Beckwith, Ray Bernicky's mother Marion, 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, Michael Kilbourne, Dean Kitt's wife Ria, Carl & Barb Kroepelin, 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 our late **Holy Father Pope Francis**, **Brother Fr. Richard Tremblay**, Bro. Henry Valks' wife **Helen Valks**, and Bro. Donald Henry's father **Morris Henry**, 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.

Notice of Motion

Moved by FS Regis Trudel, that whereas our Fiscal Budgets approve expenditures from July 1st through June 30th each year, and whereas the Fraternal Year 2025-26 budgets will not be approved prior to the October 2025 Business Meeting, therefore Council Executive be authorized to spend up to \$10,000 from Council's Charity Accounts during the period July 1, 2025 and the October Business meeting to address any urgent or time-sensitive matters that may arise.

Membership is hereby advised the motion, in accordance with our Bylaws, is subject to seconding, debate and voting at Council's June Business Meeting.



Holy Angels' Harvest Gala
Saturday November 1, 2025
St. Anne's Centre
Food, Live and Silent Auction, Dancing
6:30 p.m. doors open
Tables of eight can be reserved for \$800
or \$100 per ticket
Purchase your tickets by contacting
Marlene Vizcarra at mvizcarra@dol.ca
e-transfer, cash or cheques accepted

A large orange pumpkin is the central image, surrounded by autumn leaves and acorns.

St. Anne's Community Festival
"Serving those in need since 1972"

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We couldn't do this without your help!
Thank you for your service

Food & Beverage <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Set up<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Serving meals<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean up<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Servicing Patrons<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attention to detail for special requests<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fun Sense of Humour :)	Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Checking "Hot Spots" such as bathrooms and entrances<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assist in Bag Checks<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report disturbances to head security<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kind and Empathic
50/50 - BINGO - Nevada <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assist Lead Volunteers in operating games<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assist Patrons as needed<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Set up and Clean up<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Loves to make work fun!	Floaters <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assigned duties as needed<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Empty garbage<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintain clean grounds<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assist other volunteers<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jack of all Trades!

If you wish to volunteer, please email Dan Simpson, and include the following:

*Subject Line "Volunteering"
*Your name and age
*Date(s) you are available
*Hours you are available
*Position you wish to fill
*If you have volunteered for the Festival previous

dansimpson04@gmail.com

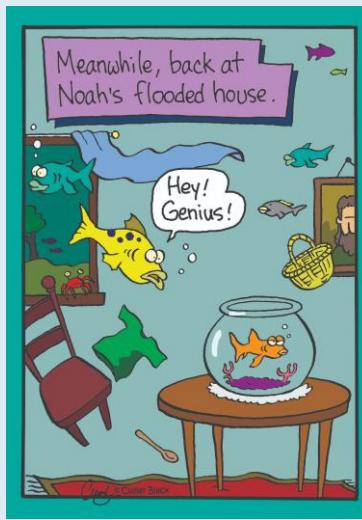
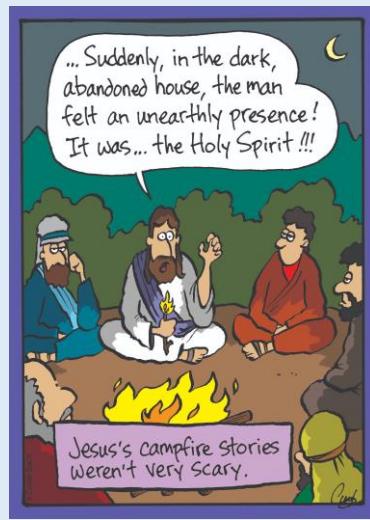


FR. ERNIE DESLIPPE COUNCIL 1467 EXECUTIVE for the 2025-26 FRATERNAL YEAR

The following brothers were elected to their respective positions for the 2025-26 Fraternal Year at the May Business Meeting: **Harald Schraeder**, Grand Knight; **John Kana**, Deputy Grand Knight; **Patrick Houston**, Chancellor; **Orio Ortins**, Treasurer; **Donald Henry**, Advocate; **Rob Weir**, Recording Secretary; **Luc Audet**, Warden; **Peter Kuntz**, Trustee (3-year); Steve Wachowiak, Trustee (2-year); Jim Dewan, Trustee (1-year); Michael Kilborne, Guard (Inside); and **David Primeau**, Guard (Outside).

Brother **Regis Trudel** continues as Financial Secretary and Brother **Ejike ('EJ') Adiole** accepted his appointment as Lecturer.

These brothers will assume their roles effective July 1, 2025 for the Fraternal Year ending June 30, 2026. Please extend them your thanks for accepting leadership positions and support them in their efforts on Council's stewardship for the next year.



COMMUNITY PROGRAM

SOUP BROTHERS: The Soup Brothers made 116 containers (24-oz) of **Vegetable Soup** for the St. Thomas - Elgin Food Bank on May 21st. The next soup day is **Wednesday September 17th**, 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club and all are welcome (no soup in June due to Club kitchen use for food preparation for Summerfest).

CMHA BBQ: **Bro. Roy Esbaugh** is pleased to report that Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council hosted the **Canadian Mental Health Association** annual BBQ at Pinafore Park again this year on Thursday May 8th. With thanks for the help provided by Brother Knights **Roy, John Kanna, Peter Tobola, Jim Dewan & Dennis Walters**, we served up 65 burgers to CMHA clients and staff which was well received.

ELIMINATION DRAW: Weekly \$50 winners for April were: April 28th **Dave Croker**, Ticket #0230; May 5th **Thea Long**, #0180; 12th **Joe Hoffer**, #0326; and 19th **Neil Flegel**, #0294. The May 23rd Elimination Draw & Grand Prize winners were:

- **\$1000:** Maria Collavino, Gary Rayner & Dianne Yeo
- **\$100:** Wayne Elliot, Wouter Manten, Gary Clarke & Steve Mandich
- **\$50:** Case Terpstra, Bob Jones, Rob Weir, Barb Molinaro, Susan O'Brien, Peter Kuntz, Lucille Nicili, Al Hughson, Joel Tarry & Phyllis Broadhead

Thanks to everyone who participated in this project and we look forward to another successful year in 2025-26.

ST. ANNE'S FESTIVAL: The Festival will run Wednesday June 4th through Saturday the 7th and operate from 4-9 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday, 4-10 p.m. Friday, and from noon until 10 p.m. on Saturday. Volunteers are still required for various activities. Please see the poster in this issue for further information including to email Dan Simpson (dansimpson04@gmail.com) with Subject Line "Volunteering" and then provide him: your name & age, dates and hours you are available, and whether you have volunteered at the Festival in the past.

HOT DOG DAYS: **Bro. Bill Walker** is pleased to announce St. Anne's will be on **Tuesday June 10th**, and **Msgr. Morrison's on Friday June 13th**. We need lots of help, as St. Anne's has about 900 total. Please be there by 10 a.m. at the latest, as there is lots of preparation work to be done. Thanks.

CANADA DAY @ THE GRACE CAFÉ: The Café's Canada Day celebration will occur the morning of **Saturday June 28th** and Council has been requested to assist with BBQ'ing burgers. Please contact GK Harald (519-318-4189) if you're available from about 7 a.m. to noon on that date.

MIGRANT WORKERS MINISTRY: The Diocese's **Migrant Workers Ministry** provides an opportunity for Migrant Workers from Mexico to attend a monthly Spanish mass and enjoy a dinner with fellow workers from the area. Locally, we organize drivers to take workers from Canadale Nursery to a monthly Sunday evening Spanish mass & dinner at St. Mary's in West Lorne. If you are able to occasionally assist to drive them to and from St Mary's, as well as enjoy the dinner, please contact **Bro. Regis Trudel** at 226-688-6060.

Reverend Captain Walter Leslie Brown



Walter Leslie Brown was born August 13, 1910, in Peterborough Ontario. He joined the Chaplin Corps of the Canadian armed forces on April 15, 1941, at the age of 31. He wasn't what most might expect a soldier to look like: 5' 10" tall and weighing 230 lbs. with premature gray hair. Certainly not the picture of a hero but a hero he would become. On May 15, 1941, Walter was attached to the **27th Canadian Armoured Regiment (The Sherbrooke Fusiliers)**, a French-Canadian Regiment of mostly French-speakers and Roman Catholics. On June 3, 1944, the Sherbrookes loaded onto transport ships to cross the English Channel. Walter's job was to keep the men calm on the rough seas and to help them come to terms with what they all knew they would soon face. Many knew they might never see home again or at the very least be wounded. Walter went from man to man offering prayers and hearing confessions as H-hour of D-Day (the time when the troops would actually land) would soon be upon them.

Reverend Brown wrote in a little book he kept that, *"As the sun broke, all of the men rushed to the deck of the ship to get their first view of France, planes flying overhead soon started pounding the coast. Many men started to cry, overwhelmed with emotions and thoughts of what was to come."* This is the point in any military action when a Padre really becomes an important asset to units going into combat: providing spiritual guidance and solace. Prayer can make the difference between a man who is unable to function and a man who will walk off a boat knowing full well what awaits. Captain W.L. Brown was the first Canadian Chaplin to set foot on Juno Beach on June 6th, D-Day. Instantly, men were dying all around him as German machine guns raked the beach and '88' shells flew all around hitting tanks and turning them into flaming infernos. Many men were killed before they even made it out of the Landing Craft Tanks (LCTs). Father Brown was on that beach giving last rites to the dying and helping medics offer field trauma treatment. If you were on that beach, you were a target and no white arm band with a red cross on it or a white collar around your neck would save you from being shot.

As the Canadians made headway against the Germans and developed a bridgehead inland (Canadians made it in first, and then farther inland into Normandy than the British or Americans despite what Hollywood has told you), they set up advance dressing stations to treat the wounded. Captain Brown helped stretcher-bearers carry wounded in and then made the rounds, helping to write letters home and offering last rites. He worked late until around midnight when he was asked to take a jeep back to the beach to load up on much needed medical supplies. He grabbed two corporals for assistance and headed out. The trio got lost in the dark and soon the jeep was stopped by a group of teenagers, all dressed in black with silver piping, double lightning bolts on their collars, and a silver death head cap badge on their field cap. These boys were all members of the **12th SS Panzer Division** of the **Hitlerjugend** (Hitler Youth) and their leader was **Standartenfuehrer Kurt Meyers**. These boys had been told to stop at nothing in their efforts to push the Allies back into the ocean, to take no prisoners and to offer no quarter. These young thugs surrounded Capt. Brown's jeep and instantly shot both corporals, killing one and wounding the other. Father Brown surrendered and put in his hands in the air, the internationally known signal of offering no resistance. The wounded Corporal crawled away and made it back to the dressing station where he told the officer in charge what had happened. He said that the Padre was last seen being led away with hands in the air (we should remember here that Chaplains didn't carry sidearms and at no time was Walter Brown armed).

Capt. Brown was never seen alive again. In July 1945, with Hitler and his Nazi war lords either dead or in captivity, search parties combed all of Europe looking for missing men. Captain Walter Brown's body was found in a shallow ditch with his hands tied behind his back and a bayonet hole in his throat, right through his Priest collar. Lying beside was his little brown suitcase labeled Capt. W.L. Brown, Canadian Chaplin Corps, and in the case were his Vestments and his Communion set, everything he would need to perform Mass.

John 15:12-14 says, ***"My command is this, love one another as I have loved you, greater love hath no man than this, to lay down one's life for ones friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."*** Capt. Brown did what Christ had asked him to do; he risked his life the minute his foot stepped on French soil. He risked his life on the beach to bring comfort to dying men. He risked his life to bring medical aid and he gave his life in what he believed in: freedom. He risked his all against hate, the greatest hate man had ever known.

He wasn't the only Canadian who surrendered on D-Day, and the days following it, that were murdered by the youth of the 12 SS Panzer Division. In all, they executed 156 Canadians who were all unarmed and had surrendered in the knowledge that by the conventions of war they would be taken prisoner and treated well. Kurt Meyers ensured that that was not to be the case. Five other members of Padre Browns regiment were also killed, as well as men

[... continued]

from the **North Nova Scotia Highlanders**, **Royal Winnipeg Rifles**, and the **Regina Rifles**. Some were shot, others bayoneted or beaten to death with clubs.

These historical events illustrate two extremes of humanity. Men, like Father Brown who dedicated his life to bringing the light of Christ to a world consumed in darkness, and others like the young men who embraced the darkness and choose the path of evil. And before anyone comes to the defense of these youngsters, they did choose to be in the 12th SS. Yes, while Hitlerjugend membership was mandatory, most did menial duties, like the late Pope Benedict XVI who operated a search light, or others that guarded buildings or even prisoners. Very few would mock a Priest for his faith and then stick a bayonet through his throat ... the definition of embracing evil.

As you read this during the anniversary of D-Day, one would think that the world would have learned a valuable lesson from the millions of deaths that occurred between 1939 to 1945. On the contrary, Fascism is on the rise all over Europe and even here in North America. Neo-Nazi groups grow in membership, and increasing numbers of people march down streets waving Swastika flags and giving the Nazi salute. People, whose grandfathers and great grandfathers fought against this evil, now spout off its hate. Political leaders blame immigrants for taking jobs, or voice slogans that put one race ahead of another. Apparently, others need to suffer so they can prosper. There are no winners with hate, only losers and only death. While I can tell you how many Canadian servicemen died in the war, I can't tell you is how many children died in bombed-out cities, how many families were ripped apart, or how many orphans were created. Jesus never spoke about going to war and killing your enemy. Indeed, he spoke the opposite and the same can be said that, while nowhere in the Gospels does it tell us to hate, it does on numerous occasions tell us to love. On June 6th, and through the summer months ahead, remember what occurred 80 years ago due to the absence of love and an open willingness to hate.

Your brother in Christ
Blair Ferguson, Faith Director

[Footnote: While no one was ever held accountable for the massacre of Canadians on D-day, Kurt Meyers was sentenced to death by a Canadian tribunal. However, British Field Marshall Montgomery overturned that sentence to broker good relations with the Germans.]

childcan
Facing Childhood Cancer Together

**Family and Friends
Golf Tournament**

Sunday, June 22, 2025
Starts at 8:00 am
at
FireRock Golf Club, London/Komoka

\$125.00 / player
This fee includes an 18-hole round with cart, coffee & muffins upon arrival, lunch, lucky draws, putting contest, online silent auction, driving range, and a \$10 gift card for FireRock's Pro Shop or Pub.

\$50.00 / Hole Sponsor

REGISTER before June 1, 2025, at:
<https://childcan.com/golf>

For further information, please contact one of the following organizers:
Larry Hamilton: 519-282-6764 or jmh58@bell.net
Bob Thibert: 519-641-4126 or bobthibert@yahoo.ca
John Goossens: 519-631-3118 or johngooossens14@gmail.com

Columbus Club
PRESENTS

SUMMERFEST
Under the Canvas

Columbus Club - 265 Wellington St. St. Thomas, ON

A weekend to support our community

in support of St. Thomas Elgin Food Bank

Fri. June 20th and Sat. June 21st

FRIDAY NIGHT **Fish Fry** **5 - 7 PM** **Lake Erie Perch** **\$12.50 Each**

RETRO DANCE PARTY **7 - 11 PM** **A&M Sounds Disc Jockey Service** **\$12.50 Each In Advance**

SATURDAY NIGHT **Randy Daively** **5 - 7 PM** **Wrif Wraf** **8:30 - 11 PM** **Chicago Transit** **8:30 - 11 PM**

Tickets Available at:
Columbus Club
265 Wellington Street
519-631-2166

Media Sponsor:
FM

Reflection

This year, Father's Day occurs on the 'ides' of June (the 15th). With that bit of trivia in mind, I thought to reflect on one of the Bible's most famous dads, **St. Joseph**, and then specifically on these passages in Matthew (2:213-15, 19-23):

Now when they [the Magi having visited Herod] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "*Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.*" And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "*Out of Egypt have I called my son.*"

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "*Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.*" And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archela'us reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "*He shall be called a Nazarene.*"

Two things immediately came to mind. First, why is it that only Matthew relates the above [*Mark and John begin their Gospels with the adult Jesus, and Luke, while giving us the basis for 'A Charlie Brown Christmas', complete with shepherds, Angels singing on high, and Linus' soliloquy ... makes no mention of Magi, Herod or trip to Egypt?*]

Secondly, why haven't I seen a movie version of the '**Escape to Egypt**'? Definite blockbuster material there.

But as I reflected on Matthew's account of Joseph's actions, I became mindful of the modern day 'Josephs', those in our own community, some members of our parishes, a few possibly fellow brother Knights, that have shepherded their families from dangerous and troubled areas of the world to find refuge in Canada. Substitute other people's names and places in the Matthew passages above and you get a sense that families have been escaping persecution and seeking refuge as long as there have been authoritarian and tyrannical regimes. How appropriate then that our national anthem includes what is essentially the prayer, "**God keep our land glorious and free!**", in other words, a place to call home for those "**From far and wide**" that join us to "**stand on guard for thee**".

So, perhaps this year we may consider Father's Day as kicking off a type of advent that culminates in Canada Day on July 1st, when we celebrate how blessed we are to live here ... and to welcome, moreover salute, the 'Josephs' from around the world that may have sacrificed so much to assure their families' welfare in a land that is glorious and free. Then, extend him a hand of welcome and friendship ... being the first step towards inviting him into fraternal brotherhood.

Fraternally, Harald Schraeder, GK, PGK

Late Pope Francis' June Intention:
That the world might grow in compassion

Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus and, from his heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

Catholic Corner

First let me offer my sincere condolences and sympathy to Bro. Henry Valk on the tragic loss of his wife Helen. Words cannot express the sadness at learning of this news. As I write for this edition, I want to express my thanks to all the RCIA candidates, sponsors and organizers. Theirs was an incredibly powerful faith development experience; exactly what I needed. I was very fortunate to sponsor candidate Paul Marshall who, along with a large class of candidates, became fully admitted to the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. It was a beautiful ceremony with a packed church and featured candidates stretched across the entire front of the altar. Definitely, the work of the Holy Spirit is alive in our parish and lives. My small group has remained in contact and we continue to share and grow closer through faith.

I will continue to ask for prayers for my wife, Lisa, myself and our family. At the end of last month, Lisa was not feeling well, struggled with day-to-day activities and had no energy. Testing and blood work showed an issue, a large blood clot in her liver. The result was an 8-day stay at STEGH. While she's been home a few weeks now, she has no strength and is retaining fluid (side effects of immunotherapy for her lung tumours). This has been a very trying time for our family and I have struggled through the month experiencing a wide range of emotions. It is very difficult to sit your spouse up and feed them. I did this for my parents before they passed but they were 85 & 90 respectfully so it was expected, something we do for our elderly parents. What has helped me is my faith and prayer. At one point a week ago, I couldn't sleep because I felt overwhelmed. I started to pray and asked the Lord to take my stress and burden. The more I pray, the better I feel, and the more I am able to continue caring for Lisa. I am reminded by the Gospel words, "[Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest](#)" (Matthew 11:28). I can't imagine how those without faith get through times like this. Family and friends have been wonderful with meals and visiting Lisa, but it is still so overwhelming. If I did not have my faith and the Lord carrying me, I would not be able to get through this. Please know Lisa is slowly recovering and we are hoping she will continue to get stronger each day. Please keep praying for us as I will pray for all of you. Keep your faith in our Lord and He will continue walking with you as well. God Bless each of you.

Faithfully, Your Brother in prayer, SK Rob Weir 

Who is Pope Leo XIV?

Born [Robert Francis Prevost](#) in Chicago in 1955, he made history on May 8th as the first American to ascend the papacy upon his election upon the death of Pope Francis on April 21st. Prevost's extensive experience includes serving as a missionary in Peru and holding significant roles within the Vatican, such as Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops and as president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. His diverse background and deep commitment to service have shaped his approach to leadership. Choosing the name Leo XIV, Prevost aligns himself with Pope Leo XIII who was known for the 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum* that addressed workers' rights and laid the foundation for modern Catholic social teaching. This choice signals Pope Leo XIV's dedication to social justice and the Church's engagement with contemporary societal issues. Leo XIV's pastoral philosophy emphasizes humility and inclusivity. During his formal assumption as Bishop of Rome at St. John Lateran Basilica, he declared, "[I am Roman](#)", highlighting his commitment to the people of Rome as well as the universal Church. He advocates for a Church that listens and collaborates, reflecting his Augustinian roots and missionary experiences.

His progressive stance on issues such as immigration, economic inequality, and climate change has drawn criticism from far-right factions within the Church, particularly those aligned with the "MAGA" movement. Nevertheless, he remains steadfast in promoting a vision of the Church that upholds universal human dignity and addresses global challenges through compassion and inclusivity. In the realm of international diplomacy, he has expressed a willingness to host peace talks between Russia and Ukraine, demonstrating the Holy See's commitment to facilitating dialogue and peace in global conflicts. His American heritage and approachable demeanor have resonated with many, particularly in the United States, where he is seen as a relatable figure. His background combines a deep understanding of both American and Latin American cultures, enriching his perspective on the global Church. As the Church navigates the complexities of the modern world, Pope Leo XIV's leadership is expected to sustain the trajectory set by his predecessor, Pope Francis, to emphasize a Church that is open, inclusive, and engaged with the pressing issues of our time.

In summary, Pope Leo XIV's election marks a significant moment in the Catholic Church's history and reflects a blend of tradition and progress. His leadership will be characterized by a dedication to service, a focus on social justice, and an inclusive vision for the Church's role in the world. While we will have to wait and see what the coming years bring, let us all pray that whatever direction he guides us in that he will do so through thoughtful prayer and reverence to our Lord's will.

Blair Ferguson, Faith Director



The Elgin Patriot

Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879 / June 2025

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



Sir Knights:

Thank you to all the Sir Knights that stepped forward to take a position on the Assembly (4th Degree) executive. We have a full roster and your Faithful Navigator is ecstatic that it went so well. They are as follows:

Faithful Navigator , SK Simon Vink	Captain , SK Dennis Collins	Admiral , SK Jim Coveny
Purser , SK Jim Dewan	Friar , Fr. Peter Keller	Comptroller , SK Orio Ortins
Pilot , SK Francis Dadzie	Scribe , SK Rob Weir / SK Case Hoffer	
Sentinels , SK Peter Dejong / SK John Kana / SK Don Nolan		
Trustees , SK Otis Randall (1 yr) / SK Tom Carr (2 yr) / SK Steve Wachowiak (3 yr).		

Thanks you to SK Dennis for running the elections and to all our members.

The Canada Day picnic on Tuesday July 1st will not be at my place. Joe Fleming has graciously offered to hold it at his, located at 42512 Sparta Line, Union, Ontario (next door to St Thomas Golf and Country Club). The Assembly will be supplying the meat.

We will be having sausage on a bun with kraut, fried onions, and mustard at our last meeting in June. Snacks will also be provided. Goodwill donations will be greatly appreciated.

I attended a Celebration Social put on by Indwell at Caso Station on May 15th. The Knights have supported them in the past and hopefully you will too. By the end of 2027, they will be housing 140 homeless people in St. Thomas. On a *per capita* basis, there is no city that comes close to what we are doing in St. Thomas. Also, the local cooperation among all levels of government, including the St. Thomas Police Service, is truly something to be celebrated. Check them out at www.indwell.ca.

Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. (Psalm 51:10-12)

Fraternally yours,
SK Simon Vink FN

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

Faithful Friar Fr. Peter Keller

Pilot Francis Dadzie

Scribe Rob Weir (Case Hoffer alt.)

Trustees Otis Clifton / Tom Carr /
Steve Wachowiak

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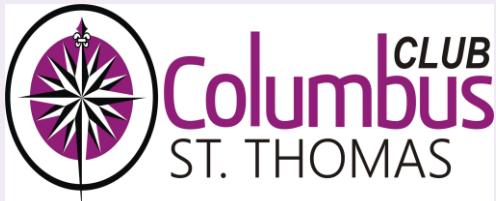
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As Grand Knight, I am an *ex officio* (non-voting) member of the Club's Board of Directors. Non-voting does not mean non-contributing and I attend the Club Directors' monthly meetings to add my voice to their discussions related to club stewardship and business. And, in accordance with Club President Bro. Dave Warden's approach, this month is my turn to compose something for this space.

You may recall my article "[How Are You Supporting Your Club?](#)" in the April issue of Communion. The gist of that arose from the adage: *use it or lose it*. I am now happy to be able to build on that invitation by announcing some very good news for club members, namely members in good standing with Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467, Knights of Columbus:

Effective immediately, the 'full day' rental of the FED Hall & Lounge (the whole main floor) for members is \$400 (+HST).

This represents a \$250 savings off the rate charged to non-members. But wait ... That's not all! Members wishing to also have bar service will pay a flat fee of \$100 (+HST) compared to the \$25 / hour (+HST) charged otherwise. In some cases, even this may be waived subject to the nature of the rental and availability of fellow knights to volunteer bar tending services. As always, hall use for funeral receptions for deceased members or spouses is free.

In all cases, please contact [Laurie Elford, Club Booking Manager \(226-927-0375\)](#) well in advance of your events. She has been empowered by the Club Directors to work with prospective rental customers to achieve mutually satisfactory outcomes. In that respect, the member rental rate above is an intentional action by the Club to reflect a '*Good of the Order*' approach to doing business with fellow knights. As your Grand Knight, I have expressed my appreciation to the club on behalf of Council. Now, it's up to you to show your appreciation by your actual booking of the hall for your family engagements.

I'll close here by repeating what I wrote in April: "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."

Fraternally, Harald Schraeder, GK



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