



COMMUNION

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

November 2025



GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

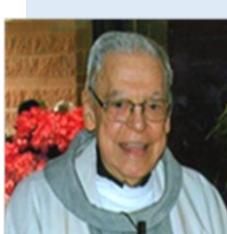


Brothers: Consider November as the driver of a car: It starts out checking its mirrors to reflect on remembrance of our war fallen before proceeding forward in anticipation to the onset of Advent at month's end. Along the monthly journey, it will pass several attractions: Holy Angels' Gala, our Memorial Mass, 'social communion' via roast beef dinner, Remembrance Day wreath laying, an installment of the Men's Faith Series, Christmas Tree campaign set-up and sales, and another installation of the faith series. You're to be forgiven if you feel winded by month's end, only to have to pick up your socks and embrace December's Advent and Christmas preparations.

I found and want to share with you this information from the [Catholic Culture](#) website, "*The month of November is dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory, whose feast is celebrated on November 2. With the exception of the last two days, the entire month of November falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time. The last portion of the liturgical year represents the time of our pilgrimage to heaven during which we hope for reward. The last Sunday, which marks the beginning of Advent, the liturgical color changes to purple, representing a time of penance.*" So, as autumn weather turns green leaves to red, yellow and brown, to be raked and deposited in composters or leaf bags (and to cause aches and pains amongst rakers and composters), most of us can draw comfort knowing that while winter's snows 'bury' the landscape, all will be resurrected with the arrival of spring and then to flourish through next summer. But not all of us will, as each year exacts its toll on human life.

Let us remember then our fallen, and this month in particular **SK Jim Lumley**. Let us remember how blessed we are for the fraternity we draw from each other each and every day. Be charitable ... but most importantly **be a friend**.

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
- Patrick Houston, Chancellor
- Robert Weir, Recording Secretary
- Regis Trudel, Financial Secretary
- Orio Ortins, Treasurer
- Donald Henry, Advocate
- Luc Audet, Warden
- Peter Kuntz, Trustee (3 yr.)
- Steve Wachowiak, Trustee (2 yr.)
- Jim Dewan, Trustee (1 yr.)
- Michael Kilborn, Inside Guard
- David Primeau, Outside Guard
- E.J. Adiole, 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>

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields*

*Written by
John McCrae
1872 to 1918*



Holy Help Wanted

Brother Knights, your commitment to service & faith is a powerful witness to our parish community, and Holy Angels' Church warmly invites you to consider deepening that witness by becoming a Eucharistic Minister or Lay Reader. These sacred roles offer a meaningful way to participate more fully in the liturgy, sharing the Word of God and the Body of Christ with fellow parishioners. Your presence at the altar and ambo would be a blessing to all, reflecting the values of charity, unity, and fraternity that define the Knights of Columbus. If you feel called to serve in this way, please reach out to the parish office or speak with Father after Mass or contact **Bro. Dennis Collins** (dtcollins@rogers.com).



FS CHAT

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

Terry Carroll, Edward Cibulka, Keven Grantham, Thomas Intven, William Lee, Michael Lukasik, Douglas Mactavish, Larry McCaffery, John Thomas, Peter Tobola, Christopher Van Raay, Simon Vink & Radovan Zovko.

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.



November Assignments

- Wed. 12th, 1 – 3 p.m.: Bill Walker & Carl Pearson
- Tues. 18th, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Jim Dewan & Tom Carr

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.

Ladies Auxiliary

Fall has finally arrived and we are already making plans for Christmas festivities! We will gather to decorate the hall on Sunday, November 23rd at 12:30 p.m. Many hands make light work. Please come and join us.

All Knights and Ladies from our family of parishes are invited to a festive **Christmas Dinner** (both turkey and roast beef) on **Sunday December 7th** catered by The Back Alley. Entertainment will be provided by Brian May, and there will be a cash bar, door prizes, and more. Tickets are \$40.00 per person and are available at the hall or from the Hoffers. For more information call me at 519-317-1468. Hope to see you there.

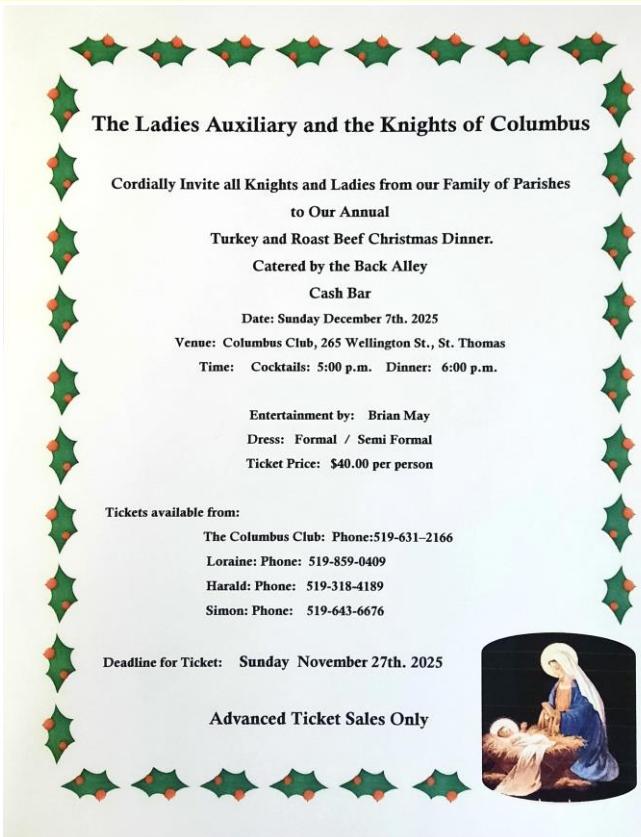
Blessings,
Sandi Hoffer, Past President

MARK THE DATES NOVEMBER EVENTS

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

- 1st: Holy Angels Gala (**6:30 p.m. – SA Center**)
- 2nd: Corporate Communion Mass (**9 a.m., HA**)
- 3rd: Bishop Cody Assembly mtg.
- 5th: Evening with Fr. John (**6:30 p.m., St Anne's**)
- 10th: FED Exec. Mtg / Ladies Aux
- 17th: Columbus Club Directors
- 19th: Soup Brothers (**9 a.m.**)
- 22nd: Catholic Men's Faith Series (**8 a.m. @ HA**)
- 24th: FED Business Meeting
- 26th: Christmas Tree set-up (**10 a.m.**)
- 28th: Christmas trees arrive (**9 a.m.**)

Time-sensitive announcements can be e-blasted to members, please email your message to GK Harald Schraeder (hschran623@rogers.com).



Please Pray for the Intentions of:

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, Gary Beckwith, Ray Bernicky's mother Marion, Maurice Brennan, Ron & Barry Buchanan, Randall (Otis) Clifton & his daughter Genevieve, Gerry & Miriam Costello, Dino DeAngelo, 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 Kroeplin, John & Debra ('Deb') Laverty, Michael Lukasik, Cliff Marentette, Barry MacMillan, Larry McCaffery's brother 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 & Joan Vachon, Louie Van Hooydonk's brother Marcel, Steve Wachowiak, Rob 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 **SK Jim Lumley**, that through God's mercy they have been 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.



Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467 presents
**TURKEY RAFFLE
2025**

the
TURKEY
shoppe

Win a \$50 gift certificate

Five (5) certificates will be awarded to lucky winners redeemable for any of the many turkey products available at the Oegema Turkey Farms, Talbotville.

The St. Thomas Knights are once again raising funds for their charitable mission in our city.

Tickets are \$5 each!!!

Only 250 available & available, while supplies last, from:

- Columbus Club (519-631-2166)
- Harald Schraeder (519-318-4189)
- Steve Wachowiak (226-984-9563)
- John Goossens (519-631-3118)
- Fric's Car Repair (253 Edward Street, 519-631-6042)

Draws will take place at the Columbus Club
265 Wellington Street, St. Thomas
at 5 p.m. on Friday Dec. 5, 2025

City of St. Thomas
Raffle Permit # M875184



POT ROAST DINNER

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8th, 2025

Hosted by Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467, Knights of Columbus

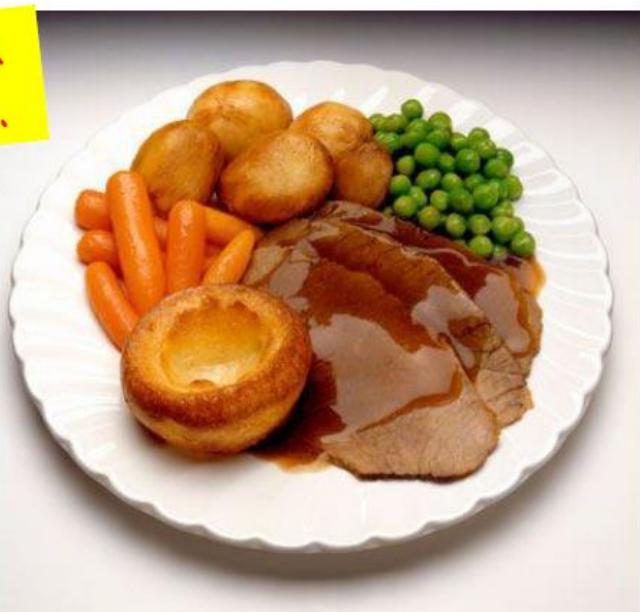
We'll be serving delicious, slow-cooked Pot Roast of Beef, with Yorkshire, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables & dessert at the **Columbus Club**, 265 Wellington Street.

Take-Out: 4:30 - 5:00 P.M.
Dine-In: 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Tickets \$20 / person

ADVANCE ONLY (while available)

- Columbus Club (519-631-2166)
- Ray Bernicky (519-207-3168)
- Roy Ewart (519-719-7693)
- Harald Schraeder (519-318-4189)



Catholic Men's Faith Series

LET'S COME TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEN
TO LISTEN, LEARN, AND DEEPEN OUR FAITH.
(Welcoming all men 16 and older.)

ETERNAL REST: THE ART OF DYING WELL

(A four-part series from The Augustine Institute)

Where: Holy Angels' Church and Hall

When: Mass at 8:00 a.m., then gather downstairs for refreshments and our morning's session, ending by 11:00

Saturday September 27th

The Story of Death

Saturday October 25th

The After Life

Saturday November 22nd

The Hour of Our Death

Saturday November 29th

The Faithful Departed

To assist in preparation, we would appreciate you notifying us of your planned attendance by contacting:

Bob Bray. bob.bray@ymail.com 226-376-6157.

or

Regis Trudel registrudel@rogers.com 226-688-6060

CHRISTMAS TREE CAMPAIGN 2025

Once again, we need volunteers for the Christmas tree sales. Key dates are:

- **Wednesday November 26th**: The 'Tree Yard' will be set up starting at 10 a.m. at the Columbus Club.
- **Friday November 28th**: The trees will be delivered & unloaded at 9 a.m. Sales of the trees will start and continue daily under the stock is sold.

We always need some strong, youthful help with off-loading trees, set up and tear down this year so if you can assist with any of the above activities, please contact: **Bros. Henry Valks** (hvalks111@hotmail.com) / 519-631-4498; **John Laverty** (cjohn.laverty@gmail.com); or **Patrick Houston** (see contact details below).

- **November 28th until stock is sold**: **Bro. Patrick Houston** will again be coordinating 2-hr shifts to fill the calendar of sales dates. He asks all members, including those whom in the past have abundantly given their time as volunteers but may not be up to the challenge this year, to contact him and ask other brothers, family and friends to contact him directly (email: pghouston@sympatico.ca; res: 519-633-0724; cell: 519-281-6400) to schedule a convenient shift and in a way that covers them all. Thanks to all our members and past volunteers for the support you have given us through the years and especially this Christmas season.



COMMUNITY PROGRAM

SOUP BROTHERS: The Brothers made **96 24-oz containers** of **Potato Vegetable** soup on Wednesday October 15th for the St. Thomas-Elgin Food Bank (The Caring Cupboard). The next soup day is **Wednesday November 19th**, 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club, and all brothers are welcome!

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.

ELIMINATION DRAW: Tickets for this annual project are selling out fast and only a handful remain. If you have yet to get yours, please contact **Bro. Ray Bernicky** (cell: 519-902-3640). The \$40 ticket includes the May 22nd dinner and weekly draws for a \$50 prize will begin Monday December 1st and each Monday thereafter until the main draw during the dinner (and, yes, weekly winners go back into the drum for the main draw).



Several Knights helped out with **The Grace Café's Thanksgiving Brunch** on Saturday, October 11th. Shown above (L – R): **Bro. Joe Hicknell** focused on scouring the pans; **Bro. Bill Walker** dishing dessert; & **Bros. Peter O'Donnell, Patrick Houston & Case Hoffer** entertaining the guests. **Bros. Otis Clifton & Roy Ewart** cooked the turkeys and **GK Harald & Bro. Doug Mactavish** also lent hands at the event.

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, please email Bro. Regis (registrudel@rogers.com) to request the weekly ZOOM link.

Living In The Eternal Love of Christ

My Brothers in Christ: [Sister Mary Boere](#) has been, and continues to be, a great blessing to our Elgin Catholic Parishes. She was recently recognized for her 70 years of religious life, as well as her birthday. This message cannot start without first taking time to talk about the impact she has had on all of us. She still makes a difference in the lives of those who have been blessed to know her, whether causing the smile on the face of a young child being blessed or receiving communion from her hand at an early morning Mass, her tireless work to raise money to help restore historic Holy Angels through her recycling program, or the help she has given to our priests. We all have our own stories about the blessing she has been on our lives. We get tired just trying to keep up with her. We saw it when she walked from Aylmer to West Lorne during the Parish Pilgrimage. She genuinely cares about each person in the Parish. Thank you, Sister.



There is a second person we need to say 'Thank you' to: [Blair Ferguson](#). Over the years, Blair has written 40 articles for Communion, no easy task. My recent time has been spent reading through each of his essays and appreciate how it would not have been easy for him to tackle some of his topics. It takes much prayer to know how to speak boldly. You can know the topic, yet struggle with how to present it. Blair has gone out of his way to be a significant help to me in taking on the new role as Council's Faith Director. Thank you for your advice, prayers, counsel and words of encouragement. We all say thank you, and look forward to seeing you smiling at Mass. Well done, Blair.

Now it's time that I share some personal information. While I am not a person to open up about myself, I will this one time. I was born in the late fall of 1948; a home birth. I was a preemie, also a 'blue baby' that had birth defects. I spent the first month of life in hospital. My mother was Catholic, my father Mennonite, and together they made for a very strict upbringing. I was read scripture from my earliest age. We went to Sunday Mass with my mother in the morning and prayer meeting with father in the afternoon. Nighttime was for Bible study and prayer. I read my bible daily and can not recall a time I was not a believer. **Faith is believing in your heart, in a Lord, that you cannot see with your eyes. Eternity is seeing with your eyes, the Lord that you always believed in with your heart.** Those who know me well will tell you that I do not go into a room without saying hello to everyone. I believe that you must show your faith by being a person filled with outward joy in Christ. When people ask what is so different about you, that is your opening to tell them about your faith and to share ministry.

My wife [Sandra](#) and I have been married for 55 years and have three sons, one daughter, and six grandsons. We have lived in Fingal for 35 years. If you want to know more biographical details, you will have to introduce yourself to me so that we can talk and get to know each other. If you don't know me yet, then please say hello. I still struggle with names. Please remember I am a senior (that's my excuse and I'm sticking with it). I read bible daily and my favorite prophet of the Old Testament is [Micah](#). He was never afraid to speak boldly and, inspired by him, I am going to be discussing some difficult subjects over a series of articles. Please know that I have been praying for days as to how bold to be. While I have known for some time what is on my mind, I have asked others for advice. My wish is to be sensitive but I am going to address subjects that I cannot, and will not, hold back on. Subjects that I cannot hide from.

The first is the role of seniors in the world and, more specifically, in a faith community. I do not believe that the role our Lord planned for seniors was to be retired and to slow down, to act 'past their prime'. Sister Mary exemplifies what I am saying. I believe the exact opposite, that our Lord gives us a lifetime of gaining experience, wisdom, a time to grow in our faith, and to prepare for our final years. The present time is a time when our world needs the faith God has given us for our final years. This is a time when the world desperately needs the faith that God has given seniors through the trials, tribulations, grief, and hope that our lifetimes have given us. Seniors can still be workers of the harvest (Matthew 9:37). Age equips us well. Our prayers have incredible power. **We should always conclude our day with prayer. Let prayer be our final act of surrender to God's will.** Age also prepares us for some of the most significant years of life. Cultivate a heart of trust. Jesus taught that seeing him is seeing the father, so the studying Christ life in the gospels can be a way to understand God the Father better. We live by our faith that embodies the historical teachings of our biblical forefathers as set out in New Testament scripture. Our purpose is not yet fulfilled and while our bodies may not work the way they used to, let not age rob us of our purpose in God's plan. [Moses](#)

was 80 years old when God chose him to lead the people Israel out of Bondage and deliver to us the Ten Commandments. The **Apostle Paul**, in his later years and in prison, wrote scripture and planted new Churches. The **Prophetess Anna** was 84 when she foretold Jesus. Let God use you as his willing vessel. You can do his work to help others. An advanced age is the time for you to increase your mission. It is the time for prayer. God's mission for you is never over. Your hair is not just grey, it is your crown of Glory (Proverbs 16:31). I will now ask seniors to pray for, and reach out to, the amazing young men and women they encounter at Mass. **Rachell**, who sat and quietly prayed while placing her arm around a man crying in the back row at St Anne's during his first time back to Mass after his dear wife's funeral. The young mothers and fathers caring for their young families. The young men we see serving at Mass. I am extremely impressed by the young men who serve at the Hebrew Latin Masses, especially a young man who talks about his dream of becoming a priest. The young men on the football team at St Joseph. We are surrounded by so many amazing young people. Yes, they need our prayers. They also need our respect and to be included and mentored in our mission as Knights. These young people are the future of Catholic Faith. They will be the caregivers of Holy Angels and it will be their stewardship that will sustain Holy Angels for future generations. Among them are our future priests. Our youth, adolescents and young adults face extremely dangerous and troubled secular times. Indeed, a dangerous time for any leaders who speak boldly the teachings of our faith. I saw all generations line Talbot Street in front of Holy Angels recently to silently pray for the unborn and to display Right to Life signs. It was a proud and moving moment for me to watch.

I mentioned the Prophet Micah and his boldness. Be warned, then, that I am about to make some very strong statements. Recent events in the United States demand my comments. The murder of two innocent young children on their knees praying at early morning Mass is something I will not be quiet about. The first child was a boy, named **Fletcher Merkel**, the second a girl named **Harper Moyski**. Thirty others were shot. This senseless act was carried out by a coward who lacked the courage to stand up about his own issues. He murdered innocent children instead; a parent's worst nightmare. It is time to do more to protect the innocence of our children. Not just against violence, but against what they are taught in the classroom. We in Ontario also have to fight to protect our young minds. The other murder took the life of **Charlie Kirk**. With my generation, it was the assassination of **John F. Kennedy**, that we remember exactly where we were and what we were doing at the time. These two men had much in common, Kennedy was president and Kirk a presumptive future one. They both had a beautiful young wives become widows, and each two young children now fatherless. The assassination of Charlie Kirk may be a defining moment this generation remembers. To give full disclosure: I have followed Charlie Kirk's Turning Point for many years. I know that there were comments that Charlie made that would turn some heads as I am sure I have turned heads in my past. Most of us have, and yet I was impressed by his knowledge of scripture, especially of the Old Testament. Most of what he said was based on scripture as he spoke clearly and passionately about abortion and assisted death. He was against the teaching of sex to young children. Whether someone agrees or disagrees with him, he did not deserve to be murdered. Please pray for the families of those impacted by these senseless murders

Before wrapping up, there is one more message. It is time to talk about boldly sharing our faith. Our faith is God's gift to us. Our faith is not for hoarding; it is for sharing. I am here today because Pope Leo XIV reached out to all Catholics who had left the Church, and invited us home. That is what brought me back to your doorsteps. While our natural tendency is to have fear and to be timid during dangerous times, it is also time to be bold. As we find in **Timothy 1:7**, God's spirit encourages believers with the power to live boldly, to act out of genuine care for others needs, and to make wise decisions. Always be ready to pray or to share your love of Christ with the people you meet at school, at work, anywhere. I personally attend Mass as often as I can. It helps me to refresh the spirit of God's love in my heart. This is important to my faith. So is confession. I told Father Peter the first time I met him that I needed a shepherd and I found three at Holy Angels: **Fathers Peter, John, and Robert**. For helping me deal with personal pain I recently experienced, I need to say a special 'Thank You' to Father Robert. We are so blessed by all of our priests and our morning prayers should start with prayers for them all. Sister Mary has also been such a blessing and deserves our prayers as well. In closing, my next article will be focussed on early morning prayers and planning your day with prayerful guidance.

May the love of our Lord be with you always, Douglas Mactavish Faith Director 

Pope Leo's November Intention: For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Reflection

November is a month dedicated to remembrance and commemoration of those that made the ultimate sacrifice that we may live free. While loss, including that of friendship, typically begets grief, we are blessed to be able to find passages in scripture that console. Ecclesiastes (3:6), for example, reminds us of the reality of mortal human existence, “**A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away**.” The lesson: have hope, rely on your faith, and be charitable (even forgiving trespasses against you) as you move forward.



Losing a friendship can have deep impact. It runs counter to Proverb-ial insights: “**A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity**” (17:17), and “**Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another**” (27:17). These reflect our Order’s principles of fraternity, unity and charity, which call on each member to support his fellow brothers and especially during their times of distress.

All of us are subjected to the trials and tribulations of life. While each of us is resilient, our capacity to cope, to bend with the winds of change before we break, is not inexhaustible. Aging, for example, exacts its own particular tax on our both our physical and mental health. Financial and relationship stresses often severely test our hopes, our inclinations to charity, and even our ability to love. These worldly conditions and circumstances, when not abated, can eventually dull our faith. It is when we find ourselves ‘stuck in a rut’, ‘tuned out’, or withdrawn and apathetic, whether due to ‘bad luck’, ‘karma’, or our own shameful or humiliating actions, that we most need the friend that “**loves at all times**” or the brother that is born to handle adversity. **It is then that we need the men in our lives that God has created to be His whetstones to bring the keen edge back to our worn-down faith.**

As I wrote this, I was notified of the passing of **Brother & SK Jim Lumley**. Jim suffered me kindly, as they say, and for that I will always be grateful. Was he ‘crusty’? Oh yeah ... like when he yelled at me for leaning outside of a train car during **Days Out With Thomas** (I know he was concerned about my safety and so I mean it according to the definition of the term: hard on the outside but with a soft interior). This part of his obituary really resonated with me, “*After his retirement Jim fought cancer many times and this led to his involvement with many charities. Jim considered himself a professional volunteer and in 2014 he won a local volunteer award from the City of St Thomas for being a volunteer with Holy Angels Church, Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign, Day out with Thomas, Great Lakes International Air Show, Relay for Life and helping to make Soup with the “Soup Brothers” branch of the Knights of Columbus for the Caring Cupboard and Inn Out of the Cold. He was proud to be a fourth degree Knight with the St Thomas Knights of Columbus Branch #1467.*” “How so?”, you ask. Well, because I honestly feel Jim led a life that exemplified the evangelist John’s assertion (15:13), “**Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.**” Don’t get me wrong, Jim’s volunteerism didn’t kill him, but I wonder whether we fully appreciate the sacrifices he made for the ‘Good of the Order’; for the benefit of others. We should feel a deep debt of gratitude to Kathy, in particular, and his family for sharing Jim with us over these many years.

And, so, I reflect and am haunted: If God has endowed me with the gifts to be His instrument to relieve the distress that affects so many of my fellow men daily, why aren’t I more like Jim?

Faternally,
Harald Schraeder, GK, PGK

Every Remembrance Day I pause and remember what the Canadian soldiers did for Holland. That country and its people are forever grateful to Canada, and Canadians. I visited one of the cemeteries where soldiers lay row upon row. The cemeteries are well kept. At that time, I was told that classes of school children attended to sections of the cemetery and kept them weeded and looking beautiful. Being born in 1937, I have a lot of childhood memories of the war especially the later years of 1943-45 as do other Sisters, when we were school-age. Mind you, we had to be educated during the winter of 1944 by a minister of our village who would come to our home twice a week to teach us our reading and math. I have vivid memories of that time. Another scary event occurred when the railroad behind our house was bombed. For the longest, time, whenever I heard airplanes go over our head, something fearful triggered in me. In our evening prayers tonight, the first prayer was powerful, “You laid down your life that we might live; be present to those on battlefields.” These words certainly convey a concrete image, especially when we know that wars and strife and battlefields still rage in the world’s countries. We remember them all in prayer.



Coats for kids

Bro. SK Jim Dewan delivered coats for kids to St. Anne's Catholic Elementary School principal **James Welch**.

The Knights purchased 72 coats that were given to five elementary schools: **St. Anne's, Mitchell Hepburn, Lockes, Forest Park & Southwold**; to three secondary schools: **St. Joseph's, Arthur Vauden & Parkside**; and to **Fresh Start Services**.

The Knights earn money for charitable work such as this through their partnership with **Jackpot Time**, St. Thomas. If you'd like to help raise money for Council's charitable mission by assisting at Bingo, please contact Jim (519-633-3673).

40 Days For Life

SK Simon Vink accompanied **Leire Douros** (Executive Director, **4LifeLondon**) and her husband, **Paul**, to provide a steady presence of prayer and support at the NW corner of the intersection of Wellington and Commissioners Roads, London, Ontario, during the 40 Days for Life campaign this year.

For more information about 4Life London, visit their website (<https://4lifelondon.ca/>) or their FaceBook page (<https://www.facebook.com/LondonRightToLife/>).





The Elgin Patriot

Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879 / November 2025

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



Sir Knights:

And the weather won't quit, lucky us. The horses have had enough of the flies, but Lady Ruth and I sure are enjoying the extended summer. I hope we don't pay for it later in the year. **SKs Orio Ortin, John Kana, EJ's family** and I attended the Exemplification of **Brother Doug Mactavish** and **Sir Knight EJ Adiole** at St. Ursula's in Chatham on Saturday September 27th. The Fourth-Degree ceremony is quite long, and I was so impressed with EJ's children. I probably fidgeted more than they did.

At our last meeting I brought up the topic of name tags. **Roy Esbaugh** will be collecting the \$20 price and the name you wish to have on the badge (see example below). All SKs should be wearing their name tag at meetings. As is our new custom at our monthly meetings, a light snack will be served and a good-will donation will always be appreciated (cost usually comes to about \$3 per person).

While the **November 1st Holy Angels Gala** may be behind us by the time you receive this, our **Corporate Communion Mass is at Holy Angels on Sunday November 2nd** and please see my recent eblast for full details. Don't forget Roy Ewart's famous **roast beef dinner on Saturday November 8th** at the Club; a fantastic meal at the ridiculously low price of \$20. I'm in! Please plan to attend **Remembrance Day ceremonies on November 11th**. Our next **Evening with Father John will be at St. Anne's on Wednesday November 12th** (confessions 6:30 p.m. / Adoration 7 p.m.). The Ladies Auxiliary will again be organizing a **Christmas dinner at the Club on Sunday December 7th** with entertainment & prizes for all Knights and their spouses. It's always a great time so please buy your \$40 tickets early. We are always looking for able-bodied men to be pall bearers. If you are willing to be added to the list, please call SK Case Hoffer, SK Bill Walker or myself.

Mother Theresa: "**If we can accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?**" Something to reflect upon as we near the end of 40 Days for Life and thank you to those that did find time for prayer and support at London Health Sciences.

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Vivat Jesus!

SK Simon Vink, FN



SK 'E.J.' Adiole with his beautiful family, Lady Uzo, son Obiora & daughter Zikora at his exemplification in Chatham accompanied by SKs John Kana, FN Simon Vink, Orio Ortins & Deacon Dan O'Connor.



SAMPLE NAME BADGE

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

Navigator Simon Vink

Admiral Jim Coveny

Purser Jim Dewan

Sentinels Don Nolan / John Kana /

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Catholic Corner

What are you searching for? **The Search** is a faith-seeking course that is currently underway at our Family of Parishes. It precedes the RCIA course and is open to all parishioners interested in seeking more faith. I was fortunate to be "called" to participate last year with small group discussions and again this year. I was so excited to answer the call as I was praying for more purpose in my faith. I grew so much in my faith last year and drew closer to answering, "**What are you searching for?**" The session starts off talking about, "**Why are we here?**" and "**What is our purpose?**". It then proceeds to ask if you have a spark of faith, to ask God to show Himself more to ignite that flame. As you know with the year I have had (losing my mother in January, my wife in June, and now breaking my leg in October), I am grateful for my deepening faith. A week ago, was one of my favourite **Search** sessions, about '**The Science of Religion**' (my title, not the actual one). We talked about science supporting religion through proving the truth. Speaking of truth, did you know that the Vatican used to have several telescopes around Rome and that many stars and galaxies were found and named for Catholic priests or men of faith? The Catholic Church now owns and operates a scientific telescope on Mount Graham, Arizona (it was relocated from Rome due to an increase in 'light pollution' that interfered with star-gazing). Before last year's **Search**, I was under the popular belief that science and religion were opposites, moreover that science was trying to disprove religion. On the contrary, I have now found the truth.

Through **Search**, and especially the small group sharing, I continue to deepen my faith. I am sure people would understand if I was angry or upset and questioned God about my current situation and the year I've had. Thanks to my faith, I am not. I don't blame God but rather thank Him for all the blessings He has given me: 36 years with Lisa, and 58 with my mother. As I continue to learn and believe, I understand God is not a punishing or a vindictive God. He is all-powerful and all-loving. We, his people, must believe that and seek our purposes in completing His will. I firmly believe, as written in **2 Timothy 4:7**, that Lisa finished the race, ran a good one, and completed God's will that He had for her. He was not punishing me by calling her home and instead rewarding her for her good deeds in completing His will. That is something we all need to strive for: a reward in heaven by completing God's will for each one of us. This calls for prayer and reflection, something I am growing and learning about as I journey with our RCIA candidates. I speak openly and often about seeing the face of God in many people, and I would like to thank and ask prayers for the many friends and family who, once again, have brought meals over or taken the time to call or message to see how I am. I ask also for prayers for my continued healing and growth as well as for our RCIA candidates as they move closer to the fullness of God and the Catholic Church.

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



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