



COMMUNION

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

October 2025



GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Brothers: I want to first apologize for the numerous boo-boos in last month's issue: i.e., wrong / inconsistent / outright confusing dates, officer rosters not updated, etc., etc. My bad, no excuses and I've moved on ... and hope you have too. As we move along into October, we are mindful that this month is dedicated to the **Holy Rosary** and that the **Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary** is celebrated on October 7th. Upon becoming a Knight, you were reminded that "**One of the defining characteristics of the Knights of Columbus is its members' deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Every Knight receives a rosary when he joins the Order and is encouraged to turn to Mary as his own Mother, so that she may lead him closer to her Son.**" Let us then re-dedicate ourselves to Mary this month as we petition her to lead us closer to God.

By the time you read this, we will have had our September Business Meeting, featuring the presentation of our budgets for Fraternal Year 2025-26. Discussion and voting on the budget will occur at this month's meeting and I encourage all my fellow brothers to reflect on their right – **moreover their duty** – to inform how well our General and especially our Charity budgets respond to the spiritual and corporal needs of souls in the parishes and communities we serve. **Let me be blunt:** Council is poorly served by brothers that do not speak to advocate for the needy or for causes close to or relevant to them. So, I call on your to be my good brother and to tell me, and your fellow brothers, what is important to you. You are part of the solution when you create awareness of how we may use our treasure – and service - to alleviate suffering or to improve the dignity and well-being of our neighbours.

In closing, I need brothers to 'step up' to take service program leadership roles and I'm asking you, personally, to answer my call. I **know** you have gifts bestowed by the Holy Spirit ... it's time, brother, to unwrap them and put them to good use.

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>



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)

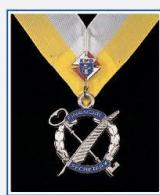
- Columbus Club (519-631-2166)
- Ray Bernicky (519-207-3168)
- Roy Ewart (519-719-7693)
- Harald Schraeder (519-318-4189)



Notice of Motion

Moved by **Financial Secretary Regis Trudel** that the 2025-26 General and Charity Budgets for Fr. Ernie Deslippe Council 1467, as presented at the September Business Meeting of Council, be adopted.

The motion will be subject to being seconded, debated and voted upon, including as amended if so moved, at the October Business Meeting of Council.



FS CHAT

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!!!

Luc Audet, Phillip Ballantyne, Roy Esbaugh, Ernest Fougere, Patrick Kelly, Wayne Krosnicki, John Lavreau, Carlorenz Manaig, Michael Peri, Henry Poirier, Rev. Mark Sargent, Gary Slaght, Darryl Sullivan & David Warden.

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.



October Assignments

- Wed. 8th, 9-11 p.m. (night): Jim Dewan & Donald Henry
- Thurs. 16th, 9-11 a.m. (morning): Roy Ewart & Otis Clifton

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

The Ladies Auxiliary celebrated their annual Mass and Potluck on September 10th. At the dinner, **Sister Mary** was recognized for her 70 years of religious life, as well as her recent birthday. Sister Mary has been, and continues to be, a great blessing to our faith community. Thank you to all those who attended and donated to the Food Bank in her name. A Mass for Sister Mary will be offered on October 11th at St. Anne's Parish. Please attend if you are able.

I know it may seem too soon, but hold the date, to help decorate our hall for the Christmas season. On Sunday, November 23rd, following the 1100 o'clock mass, we will meet and set up the decorations . Please come and help. I hope you enjoy the fall season, with all its beautiful colours and crisp, fresh air. God is so good to us.

Blessings,
Sandi Hoffer, Past President

MARK THE DATES OCTOBER EVENTS

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

- 6th: Bishop Cody Assembly mtg.
- 8th: Evening with Fr. John (**6:30 p.m., St Anne's**)
- 11th: Grace Café Thanksgiving Brunch (**7:30 a.m.**)
- 14th (**Tues.**): FED Exec. Mtg / Ladies Aux
- 15th: Soup Brothers (**9 a.m.**)
- 18th: Fish Fry (**Aylmer KofC Hall 5 p.m. -**)
- 19th: ERCFP Ministry Fair (**after mass HA & SA**)
- 20th: Columbus Club Directors
- 25th: Catholic Men's Faith Series (**8 a.m. @ HA**)
- 27th: FED Business Meeting
- 31st: Walk-a-thon for Food Bank (**3-6 p.m.**)

Time-sensitive announcements can be e-blasted to members. Should you require this, please email the relevant information to GK Harald Schreder (hschran623@rogers.com).



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, 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 & Debra ('Deb') Laverty, Michael Lukasik, Jim Lumley, Cliff Marentette, Barry MacMillan, Larry McCaffery's 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 & 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 **Sanford ("Sandy") Webster**, step-father of Bro. Roy Esbaugh; **Bro. Robert Millman**; **Robin Marazzi**, sister of Fr. Graham Keep; and **Shirley Eys**, Bro. Simon Vink's aunt, 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.



Holy Angels' Harvest Gala

Saturday, November 1st, 2025
St. Anne's Centre

Food, Dancing, Live and Silent Auction
6:30 PM Doors open

Tables of Eight for \$760
or \$100 per ticket

\$50 Tax Receipt per Ticket

Purchase your tickets online at
zeffy.com/ticketing/harvest-gala
or at St. Anne's Parish Office



Registered Charity Registration Number: 119109817RR0032

MEN'S FAITH SERIES

Brothers: I hope you had a great summer. We have now planned a new **Men's Faith Series** for this Fall (see poster above). This is a terrific 4-part series concerning "**death**", something none of us can avoid but which many may not fully appreciate what it means to "**die well**". As usual we will start each session by attending mass and will have some refreshments downstairs for the event. We look forward to welcoming you back and appreciate knowing beforehand to prepare for the event (please RSVP to the contacts specified at the bottom of the poster). Please share this with others who may wish to attend

Peace be with you.
FS Regis

NOTICE OF MOTION

Moved by Council 1467 Financial Secretary Brother Regis Trudel, that Council's General and Charity budgets for the 2025-26 fraternal year, as presented to members at Council's September Business Meeting, be accepted. The motion will be seconded, debated and voted upon at Council's October 27th Business meeting.



Holy Angels Harvest Gala 50:50 tickets
are available at the Parish Office.

3,000 \$5 tickets are expected to be sold out by
the draw that will occur during the Saturday,
November 1st Gala event at St. Anne's Centre.

You can do the math: **winner will get \$7,500.**

GK Harald has tickets ... contact him (519-318-4189) to arrange obtaining yours.

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



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 the Columbus Club
265 Wellington Street, St. Thomas
@ 5 p.m. on Friday Dec. 5, 2025

City of St. Thomas
Raffle Permit # M875184



Grand Knight Harald welcomed Brother Patrick Kelly to our Council and awarded him his certificate, rosary & pin, followed by welcoming applause by all in attendance at the September Business Meeting.



SK's John Kana, Orio Ortins, **Bro. Doug Mactavish**, GK Harald Schraeder & FN Simon Vink attended Bro. Doug's 3rd Degree Exemplification at St. Ursula's Church, Chatham, on September 27th.



COMMUNITY PROGRAM

SOUP BROTHERS: The next soup day is **Wednesday October 15th**, 9 a.m. at the Columbus Club.

GRACE CAFÉ THANKSGIVING BRUNCH: On **Saturday October 11th** (7:30 a.m. – noon) come out and serve food, coffee & treats; or simply sit with someone and authenticate them as a beloved child of God.

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. While first right of refusal is given to people that have purchased in previous years, a few become available each year so, if you are interested, please contact **Bro. Ray Bernicky** (cell: 519-902-3640) who can put you on his wish list. 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).

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.

Leaning on the Ever-Giving Love of Christ

My Brothers in Christ:

Like so many other men, I recently found myself facing the most painful periods of my life. I found myself in a situation where what I had believed in and supported since I was a young man, became the very thing that was separating me in my Faith and love of Christ. I knew that my very deep faith in Christ was at war with all I had cared about and supported since I was a young man. What I had believed in for so many years of life had changed so completely that its values no longer aligned with the core values of my faith. This world also included most of the friends that were important to me at the time. What I believed in my faith, and what they stood for, caused me to be at war within myself. I prayed endlessly for days. While in prayer my body would be shaking as tears rolled down my face. This lasted for days.



I know that such pain and despair is not something that only I have experienced. Life gives unimaginable pain to so many of the people we know and care deeply about. We lift them up in our daily prayers. I did what most Catholic men would do: I shared my battle and pain with a priest. We talked for hours; I shared in private what the battle I was fighting in my very soul. He gave me the prayerful direction, and the spiritual instruction I desperately needed. I clearly understood the painful decision that I had to make. That night I sat at a board meeting, and in a kind and gentle way, explained why I no longer shared their beliefs, and I resigned from this group. I did so with tears rolling down my face. Those I had considered my friends for so many years now saw me as a traitor, their enemy. I received endless angry emails, and phone calls for weeks. They were baiting me. Top officials showed up at my home, unannounced. It became so intense that I was forced to shut down my email. My wife answered the phone and refused their access to me. My battle with them had started. At the same time, my battle in faith had ended. I knew that the Christ I love was at my side and I would like to share my journey in faith with you; about how Christ showed me the pathway to peace in my heart.

I started wondering what Christ would say. As I looked into the word to see, I started asking myself what Christ would do. I knew the answer lay in Christ, and not myself. I started perusing the Old Testament, where I came upon **Deuteronomy 8:1-3**. I read how Moses led the people of Isreal into the desert for 40 years. He knew their faith needed to be tested. Moses climbed Mount Sinai on two occasions. He spent 40 days and 40 nights there in prayer asking God for guidance. The number 40 often symbolizes a period of testing, trial, judgment, transformation, preparation, and the time for new beginnings. We see that Christ fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. There are over 150 times that the number 40 is mentioned in the scriptures. God used the time in the wilderness to test the people of Israel in their faith. I knew that I likewise needed to be tested in my faith. They needed to be humbled, just as I needed to be humbled. They needed to be reliant on their faith, and trust in the word of God, just as I needed to. I was depending on my own strength and failing to put my trust in Christ. It was never about me, but of the work Christ can do through me. My peace was only in the hand of my Lord and Saviour. I had to learn to put my full trust in Him.

My journey then led me to look at the 40 days and 40 nights that Christ spent in the desert before he started His ministry. How Christ used God's words of the Old Testament, and not his own to speak when he was tested by Satan. I knew I had to start my own 40-day journey. I cut all ties with my old world and during these 40 days I focused on my own faith. I started every day in prayer, and I knew I had to be quiet so as to let my Lord speak to me. I also found myself led to volunteer with a faith-based community group, feeding the homeless. I went there to help others and found myself receiving emotional help. I soon encountered many new friendships all wrapped in a blanket of love. The anger I still had towards those of my old life, I turned to the Lord in prayer. They are now God's to deal with. I made a trip to confession, and then many more. By placing the problems in God's hands, I no longer needed to deal with them. **Ephesians 4:3** tells us that Christ seeks those who seek him. **Our Lord will use the periods of our deepest despair to provide us with our greatest periods of spiritual growth.** May Christ be with you.

Fraternally,
Bro. Douglas Mactavish

Catholic Corner

As most of you know I lost my wife of 30 years, Lisa, to cancer this past summer. It was a terrible disease and took a beautiful soul far too early. I took comfort in the first reading¹ at Lisa's funeral that talked about finishing the race and being called home early because she completed God's will for her. It doesn't ease the pain of losing your spouse and I don't think anything will. I am eternally grateful for my faith as well as all the outpouring of support by parishioners, Brothers, and their families. I have never eaten so many shepherds' pies and lasagna dinners as I did this summer, and I am not complaining. Each one was delicious and appreciated. The support for myself, Ellie, and Colin has been overwhelming. So many cards and letters and offers of prayers as well as several mass intentions. It really has brought me closer to each one of you, and through you I have seen the face of God. There is one story I would like to share with you as it touched me deeply and, through this, I truly saw and felt God's presence.

It was difficult for me to attend mass again after Lisa's funeral. I did not think I could go and after several weeks away, the Holy Spirit called me back. I walked into St. Anne's on a Sunday morning, early for a change. I knelt to pray in an empty pew halfway to the front. I began to weep and could only see Lisa's casket placed at the foot of the altar. St. Anne's was the last place I had seen her, and all the sadness and memories came flooding back in the way of tears. I knew I could not stay in the pew as I would be a distraction to all around me, so I got up and began making my way to the back. As I turned to sit along the back wall, I noticed a young lady following me. This young lady asked if she could sit with me, to which I replied, "I don't think you want to". She quickly introduced herself as **Rachell**, the daughter of a fellow Knight. She put an arm around me and whispered that I was never alone as long as I was walking with God. Rachell sat down and continued to comfort me eventually telling me her story. She had dropped her dad off at Lisa's funeral where he was assembling as part of the Honour Guard. She told me she was going to leave but felt a calling to park the car and attend, so she did. She was very moved by the funeral mass and music and wanted to share this with me. She signed up for the CWL at the end of the funeral. Speak about the Holy Spirit moving in someone! We sat together and hugged during mass, cried tears and together we made it through by letting each other know we were not alone. I was so moved by the courage and faith of this young lady that I had to let her father, **Bro. Donald Henry**, know what a beautiful faithful daughter he and his wife had raised.

Rachell and I have exchanged contacts and kept in touch, supporting each other and lifting each other up in faith. You can find Rachell on weekends at the Horton Market where she is working to get a small business off the ground. It just goes to show: **You never know how or when you will see the face of God, or through whom**. I am so thankful for her gift on my first day back to Mass. I still shed tears silently at mass but I am getting better and so glad to be called to attend!

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

¹ 2 Timothy 4:7-8

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 will start as well and continue daily under the stock is sold.

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** (pghouston@sympatico.ca).

Reflection

Matthew (1:18-25), arguably, provides the most 'husband-centric' take on Mary's role in our Saviour's birth:

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emman'u-el" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus." Matthew later relates Joseph's role in saving the baby Jesus from Herod's wrath by heeding an angel's instruction to escape to Egypt.

Where Mathew may give 'short shrift' to Mary, Luke jumps over the whole nativity account to begin his gospel with Jesus' baptism. Similarly, while John evangelizes (1:14), "*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father*", he too spends no time on Joseph's or Mary's role in that transformation (word becoming flesh).

Enter Luke, who goes to great lengths to 'fill in the blanks' left by his fraternal evangelists (1:26-35): "*In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you¹ shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no husband?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."*"

So, while Luke relegates Joseph to silent supporting cast, he notably shines the light on Mary when he recounts Simeon's prophesy (2:34-35), "*Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."*

And there we have it: **It is through Mary that the thoughts ... petitions ... of our hearts are revealed to God.** Mary is our strongest advocate for our prayers. Make use of that fact brother and especially during this month dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Take yours out of your pocket now and say a decade in her honour ... then continue as you pray often for her intercession on your behalf for whatever you need.

Fraternally,
Harald Schraeder, GK, PGK

¹ Noting that even though Matthew (see above) says Joseph was told how to name the child, we can be assured he and Mary were on the same page 😊

POPE LEO'S OCTOBER INTENTION:

For Collaboration Between Different Religious Traditions

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

What's Your AI IQ?



Following the last article, the intention of this article is to continue with more of the **Artificial Intelligence** (AI) theme, specifically more of a review of the Vatican notes¹. The September issue of Columbia arrived, and contained some further reference to AI usage in the world². While the concerning example use of AI, as presented in this message from the Supreme Knight², it does highlight an issue with at least one directive from the Vatican about what place AI should have in society. The directives were not part of the background review for the last article, but their discovery revealed some important points about what AI should be, all within the same umbrella of being a service or tool for human beings. Rome has invested time and attention to AI, even predating the **Antiqua et Nova** document¹, with the root messaging being that technology must be for the betterment of humanity³. The ethics of AI use are described in the 2020 document, **Rome Call for Ethics**⁴, which specifies the need for, “**Transparency, Inclusion, Responsibility, Impartiality, Reliability, Security and Privacy**”.

Returning to the article from Columbia², now with the context of these instructions from Rome, has AI changed, or at least some implementations, or has human attitude about the technology changed to ignore the proposed hierarchy? It would be irresponsible to make broad declarations about AI, based from some examples where the betterment of humanity is called into question for the technology. There are many examples where AI is helping us and our home, the Earth. These include: cancer screening in healthcare, precision agriculture, language translations, and others⁵. Knowing that there are indeed good outcomes from AI applications, there are also some concerning examples, which is probably to be expected. Many things in our world can be used for great things, and can also be for the opposite. In keeping with the idea that technologies, including AI, should be understood (consistent with the Rome Call for Ethics), yes, it is important to know about those concerning uses so that we can avoid those potential mistakes and keep focus to the proper hierarchy.

While the control of how people use the technologies is difficult, the availability of ethical guidance from sources such as the Vatican, should help to direct or set perspectives in order to maintain the balance where humankind receives the benefit of it. The examples of use where the technology is not providing a clear benefit to people, seems to be a symptom of other underlying issues. **Loneliness** is a significant issue within our society and, as described in the Columbia article², our Fraternal organization can help by providing many opportunities to be involved and participate in fraternal comradery. The question remains: while these opportunities are available, are people turning to the AI assistants because of convenience or because they do not know about the opportunities awaiting them?

Fraternally,
Bro. David Primeau

References:

¹ Víctor Manuel Card. Fernández, José Card. Tolentino de Mendonça, Msgr. Armando Matteo, Most Rev. Paul Tighe, (January 2025), “**ANTIQUA ET NOVA - Note on the Relationship Between Artificial Intelligence and Human Intelligence**”. See: https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_ddf_doc_20250128_antiqua-et-nova_en.html.

² Supreme Knight, Patrick E. Kelly, (Sept 2025), “**For the Greater Glory of God: An Antidote to Isolation**”. Columbia Magazine, September 2025, Volume 105, Number 7.

³ Pope Francis, (2024), “**Pope on AI: Welcome its benefits to humanity, but mitigate its risks**”. See: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2024-06/pope-thanks-centesimus-annus-for-work-to-welcome-ai-benefits.html>.

⁴ Rome, (2020), “**Rome Call for AI Ethics**”. See: https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_academies/acdlife/documents/rc_pont_acd_life_doc_20202228_rome-call-for-ai-ethics_en.pdf.

⁵ Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, (May 2025), “**Artificial intelligence ecosystem**”. See: <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/ised/en/artificial-intelligence-ecosystem>.



The Elgin Patriot

Bishop John C. Cody Assembly 0879 / October 2025

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



Sir Knights: We have been spoiled with a dry, but beautiful, September and now let the fall colours begin.

On a more somber note, I am losing heart due to how few replies I receive to my eblast requests. We need to fund raise but we also need Sir Knights to volunteer their time to causes that reflect what and who we stand for. Did anyone volunteer their time to attend **4Life London** at the Western Fair, or sign up for the **40 Days For Life** in late September, or support of our new member **EJ Adiole** as a Colour / Honour Guard at his Exemplification, or drive migrant workers to West Lorne for the Spanish Mass, and the list goes on. My phone has not been ringing off the hook, nor has my Gmail account been overwhelmed. Please find it in your heart to donate some time to causes dear to our hearts and support your Sir Knights in all their endeavors. Many hands make light work. More discussion will follow at our next meeting on Monday October 6th at 7 p.m. at the club.

Now, what is very pleasing to see, is the number of members attending our meetings and I hope that continues to increase. We hope to continue to have a light snack after every meeting and mingle with our fellow members. A good will offering is always appreciated but not expected. We had our **Installation of Officers** in Stratford and several of us drove together; a good time to chat and get to know one another better. Some of us even took the time to tour this beautiful town and then back to the Columbus Club for an hour visit before heading home. All in all, a nice afternoon out with the Sir Knights and their Ladies.

Confession 6:30 p.m., followed by Reflection and Adoration at 7 p.m. with Father John on Wednesday, October 8th. Please plan to attend our **Memorial Mass** on Sunday November 2nd at 9 a.m. and please pass this on to anyone you know that may not receive the Communion or the Patriot.

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:17)

Fraternally yours, SK Simon Vink FN



SKs (L to R) John Kana, Orio Ortins, Roy Esbaugh, Don Nolan, Jim Coveny, Simon Vink, Jim Dewan & E.J. Adiole (Dennis Collins took the photo), at the Sunday September 7th Installation of Officers in Strathroy.

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 / Peter de Jonge

Captain Dennis Collins
Comptroller Orio Ortins
Website & Historian Martin Evers
Commander Michael Butler Jr.



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Make plans to drop into your club **every Friday at the 'After 4' social**. Enjoy some good time connecting with friends over a beverage and complimentary snacks. Try your luck by entering the **Toonie & Meat Draws** that are run weekly to collect money that will be donated to the Food Bank each year.



Members of the Club's Summerfest Committee invited St. Thomas Elgin Food Bank staff to the Friday August 29th 'After 4' to receive their donation of \$10,500 representing proceeds from last June's live music festival.



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