



# Knights of Columbus

St. Mary of the Hills Council 13950  
2675 John R Road Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Volume 02 Number 01

December 2008

<http://www.smooth.org/kofc/index.html>

## Officers for 2008-2009

### Grand Knight

Ed Ratzenberger  
248-693-7692

### Chaplain

Rev. Stan Ulman

### Deputy Grand Knight

Tim Polulak  
248-601-4638

### Chancellor

Joe Bono  
586-731-8272

### Financial Secretary

Paul Thorn  
248-852-1758

### Lecturer

Deacon Gene Kowalski  
248-299-5509

### Recorder

Frank Walkiewicz  
248-608-2720

### Treasurer

Bill Travnik  
248-652-1533

### Advocate

Robert Jackson  
248-652-8115

### Warden

Paul Blanchard  
248-656-8738

### Inside Guards

Bob Choma  
586-726-0494  
Bob Sheldrick  
248-853-0004

### Outside Guards

Mike Blake  
248-852-6071  
Gil Dutilly  
248-650-1936

### One Year Trustee

Bill Sabanos  
248-852-1452

### Two Year Trustee

Richard Diem  
248-709-2058

### Three Year Trustee

John Hundiak  
248-652-3433

### District Deputy

John Dunlap  
248-248-652-7627

### Membership

Brian Huber  
586-254-5819

### Insurance Representative

Tom Preslow  
586-739-4742

Publisher - John Hundiak

Greetings Brother Knights!

As we reflect on our intentions and plans during Advent in preparation for a Joyous Christmas time we should spend a few minutes in prayer each day asking the Lord what we might do during this holy season. During this quiet time you may gain a different perspective on what you can do to make Christmas time more meaningful and enjoyable for your family yourself and others. This is a great time of the year for most people for which we have much to be thankful and many of you share your gifts with others who have fewer blessings. Let us also say a prayer for those who are ill or are having financial problems. We have several Knights who are sharing giving people who help others all year long. Frank Walkiewicz works hard helping the Manna Soup Kitchen and other families, Paul and Sue Thorn fight for the unborn and help with numerous parish activities, Rick Diem works diligently for the MI Drive/Special Olympics and John and Elizabeth Hundiak help with many activities for the Parish all year long. They and other Knights not mentioned do wonderful things.

You are welcome to join your fellow Knights in the Rochester Christmas Parade on December 7 and at the Birthday Party for Jesus on December 20. Your participation or support of these events will help make them a success and give you a gratifying feeling for the experience. You have received an email from Paul Thorn promoting the yard signs "Keep Christ in Christmas". Contact Paul if you want signs.

Please also offer prayers for those who have lost a loved one. Two years ago my wife went to Heaven and I received a prayer which was consoling during the holidays. I offer it now in case it may be a source of strength for someone.

## My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below, with tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow.

The sight is so spectacular, Please wipe away the tear. For I am spending Christmas With Jesus Christ this year.

I hear many Christmas songs That people sing so clear, But the sounds of music can't compare With the Christmas choir up here. I have no words to tell you, The joy their voices bring, For it is beyond description to hear the angels sing. I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart, but I am not so far away, we really aren't apart

So, be happy for me dear ones, You know I hold you dear. And be glad I'm spending Christmas With Jesus Christ this year

I sent you each a special gift, From my Heavenly home above, I sent you each a memory of my undying love

After all, love is a gift, More precious than gold It was always most important In the stories Jesus told. Please love and keep each other, As my Father said to do, For I can't count the blessings or love He has for each of you. So have a Merry Christmas And wipe away the tear, Remember, I am spending Christmas With Jesus Christ this year.

My family and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ed Ratzenberger  
Grand Knight

**ANNIVERSARIES  
DURING  
December**

- 26 Bob & Debbie Reblin  
33 Years
- 26 Jim & Marylal Karbowski  
21 Years

**January**

- 15 Ron & Mary Ann Ziegler
- 18 Robert & Kathleen  
Armstrong 11 Years
- 27 Jonathan & Julie Rea



**WE NEED YOUR  
ANNIVERSARY  
INFORMATION**

As you can see on the anniversary list, we do not have the year of marriage for everyone. Please email our Financial Secretary, Paul Thorn, with the date and year of your marriage. This will allow us to acknowledge the anniversaries of all.

Paul Thorn  
redwng47@aol.com

**From the Financial Secretary**

Each December, it is my responsibility to send out the billing notices for the coming year. The bills will be placed into the mail in early December. The dues this year are set at \$40. Lifetime members, Clergy and those with 25 consecutive years of membership and at least 70 years old, are exempt from paying dues and will not receive a billing notice. Please pay your dues as soon as you can.

If you are unable to pay dues because of unemployment or other circumstances, please contact Grand Knight Ed Ratzenberger and discuss with him.

Included with your bill is a request to help us with three programs. Each is optional. You can support any combination or none at all. The programs are:

- Pennies from Heaven: add \$3 and you can help our Council support our Seminarian.
- Michigan Charities: add \$5 and you can help support charities throughout Michigan.
- McGivney Chair in Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Seminary: add \$12 and you can help support the Culture of Life at Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Sheets explaining Michigan Charities and McGivney Chair are included in your billing. Lifetime members may support these programs if they so desire.

For those who have not gone through your 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree ceremonies, please consider doing so.

If any of your information changes, please contact me with the change. These include address, phone number, email address, marital status. If you notice that I have missed a birthday, anniversary, or years married.

Sue and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Paul Thorn  
Financial Secretary

**BIRTHDAYS DURING**

**December**

- 02 Bill Travnik
- 03 Mario Angelo
- 03 Ron Norton
- 05 Dan Azarovitz
- 06 Carrie Maffey
- 09 Rose Marie Polulak
- 13 Julie LaPointe
- 16 Pearl Kotter
- 17 Carl Lanfear
- 18 Gilda Nicosia
- 20 Dan Medved
- 24 Carol Gunther
- 25 Jesus
- 31 Marylal Karbowski



**January**

- 02 Eric Chisholm
- 02 Jeffrey Sacdalan
- 03 Jim Grawburg
- 03 Tamela Braun
- 03 Sue LaFaivre
- 04 Carl Piontkowski
- 05 Paul Grandy
- 05 Debra Wiseman
- 06 George Phillips, Sr.
- 07 Mary Ann Ziegler
- 17 Debbie Reblin
- 22 Andrew Fadanelli
- 23 Deb Valot
- 25 Clem Valot
- 27 Bob Reblin
- 30 Ken Corrian

**COUNCIL PRAYER LIST**

- Joe Bono, Jr.
- SK Jim Karbowski
- SK Bill Sabanos
- Delores Rogell
- Brian Huber



If you know of someone in the council family who is in need of prayer, please contact John Hundiak at jhundiak@gmail.com to have them added to the list.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Saturday, December 20, 2008  
Noon until 2:00 PM  
Fr. Strain Gymnasium

**Birthday Party for Jesus!**

Join Us at the Rochester Christmas Parade  
Sunday, December 7, 2008

Meet at the Rochester Community House  
By 11:30 AM

Children's Party after the Parade  
At the Community House (around 3:30 PM)

## COUNCIL EVENTS

### December

Sun 07 Blood Drive at St. Mary of the Hills 8AM to 1PM  
 Sun 07 Rochester Christmas Parade and Party  
 Sat 13 Christmas Caroling at Sanctuary at Bellbrook  
 Sat 13 Weekend Recruiting Blitz after all Masses  
 Tue 16 Monthly Meeting - Officers 6:30 General 7:30 PM  
 Sat 20 Birthday Party for Jesus at Noon

### January

Thu 08 First Degree at Council 5436 in Clarkston  
 Sat 10 Council Free Throw Tournament 1:00 PM  
 Tue 13 First Degree at Council 5452 in Rochester  
 Tue 20 Monthly Meeting - Officers 6:30 General 7:30 PM  
 Wed 21 Washington DC Right to Life Trip Begins  
 Sat 31 District Free Throw Tournament at St. Anastasia

### Why Should You Join The Fourth Degree?

I invite all members of our council to join the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus. Why? Since I joined the 4th Degree, I have experienced a greater sense of pride in the order. I have found that the 4th Degree unites K of C members across many councils, states and countries in the common goal of promoting patriotism, which is needed now more than ever.

The next opportunity to join the 4th Degree is March 7, 2009. That may seem like a long way off, but it will be here sooner than you think. To join, you must be 18, a citizen in the country you reside in, a member of the Knights in the First Degree for 12 months and also obtained your 3rd Degree.

If you would like to meet more 4th Degree members and their families, I would invite you to attend an annual 4th Degree Christmas Party on Thursday, December 18, 2008 at the Fr. Lynch Hall in Clawson. Contact me for details.

Let us remember all those who have served our country, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

John Hundiak, PGK, PFN  
 (248) 652-3433



### Council Officer Change

We have received the resignation of 2 Year Trustee SK Jim Karbowski. This is due to Jim's health issues. We thank Jim for his service and continue to pray for his recovery.

Richard Diem has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Richard has been the MI Drive coordinator for the past years and will make an excellent addition to the officer group.

Ed Ratzenberger, GK

### State Raffle Tickets

The last issue of the Michigan Columbian you received contained tickets for the next State Raffle. For each ticket that you sell or buy, the Council receives \$1.00 back. Please consider purchasing or selling tickets and return sold tickets and checks directly to the State Office in the envelope provided. All prizes and cost of tickets is included on the tickets.

This is the easiest fund raiser that we will have this year. Please participate.

Paul Thorn, Financial Secretary

### Knight of the Month

July	Scott Wiseman
Aug	Rick Diem
Sept	Arnie Vandercruyssen
Oct	Rick Diem

### Family of the Month

July	Dutilly
Aug	Josefowicz
Sept	Corrion
Oct	Thorn