



# The Sikorian



*A Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus*

July 2024 Volume 43 Issue 1

**Father Vincent S. Sikora**  
**Council 7992**  
**Burke, Virginia**

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## Grand Knight's Message

Brothers,

Attached is an excerpt from my speech at the this year's Installation Ceremony where I, along with my fellow elected officers, were officially sworn in to serve you, the Fr. Sikora Council 7992, our parish, and our community for the coming Columbian Year. Please pray for us as we take the reins this month.

"I'd like to take a few minutes to remind us of our mission as a Knight, and introduce our focus for this year.

There is a well known and maybe apocryphal story about President Kennedy's visit to NASA where he met a man carrying a broom in the hall. He went on to ask the man what he did at NASA, and the janitor replied "I'm helping to put a man on the moon, Mr. President." This story is frequently used in leadership courses and business seminars to demonstrate how, in high functioning and well led organizations, everyone from the top to the bottom understands and supports the organization's mission. Fr. Sikora Council isn't putting a man on the moon. Rather, our mission is much more consequential. We are bringing Jesus to His people. The impact of this work is eternal. So, no matter what our role in the order is, whether flipping burgers at a school barbeque, sweeping up after the fall festival, building a home in Appalachia, cooking corned beef for St. Patrick's Day, or distributing food to the poor, we are bringing Jesus to His people.

This year, I'd like to emphasize 3 ways we can bring Jesus to His people and do the work of the Knights of Columbus. Brothers, This year PRAY, SMILE, and INVITE. This message is as much for me to hear as for all of you.

Prayer should be the foundation of all that we do in the Knights. In order to bring Jesus to others, we have to know Him. We can't give what we don't have. How do we get to know Jesus better? We must speak with him, and more importantly listen to him. There are many opportunities for communal prayer in Nativity parish, men's prayer groups, Exodus 90, That Man is You, Bible Studies. Many brothers are already participating and leading these groups. Individual prayer alone and with our families is also critical. This year we will devote our second meeting of the month to Cor (Latin for Heart) faith formation which is a new Supreme initiative to deepen the faith life of Knights. (continued on next page)



Check out our Web Site: <https://nativityburke.org/knightscouncil7992/>



## Grand Knight's Message (continued)

I'd like to encourage every brother to ask Jesus to teach them how to pray this year, and ask the Holy Spirit to be at the center of all the work we do in Fr. Sikora Council. Ask God to increase your faith in Him, that our prayers are heard and that He responds to us in our weakness and vulnerability .

Smile Brothers! The Holy Spirit is indeed alive in Nativity parish and our council and we should have the Joy of Gospel in our hearts when we are bringing Jesus to His people. St. Teresa of Calcutta encouraged people with these words "Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love." Brothers, If God is Love, and Jesus is God, then when we bring Jesus to His people we are bringing them Love. Smile brothers, let everyone who sees you wonder to themselves "what's he so happy about?" I want every Catholic Man to be a Knight and every non-Catholic man to become Catholic. Start with a smile brothers, and drawn by God's love more men will join us on our mission.

Personal relationships and invitations are some of the most powerful tools we have to accomplish our mission. Invite brothers! Invite current Knights to participate in our activities. They are much more likely to help out with a project because you ask them, rather than answering the 10th email this week from the Grand Knight. Brothers will respond when asked. I know this from personal experience. It's the reason I'm standing up here talking to you. Invite men of the parish to become Knights. The answer you'll get may be that they are too busy. "Your response is easy, all knights are too busy. Do what you can." Don't be afraid of rejection. Jesus didn't shy away from calling His Apostles, because he knew they would betray Him. Rather, he called them knowing that sometimes they would say No to his offer of Love. Invite men to get to know Jesus! In our neighborhoods, workplaces and communities, let men know where that smile comes from. Invite them to share in the Joy of the Gospel, and don't fear embarrassment or rejection. The Holy Spirit will give you the words you need, when the time comes.

So, Brothers, Pray, Smile, Invite and fulfill our mission of bringing Jesus to His people!

Vivat Jesus!

Chris Odell

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### Invite Someone to Join the Knights!

Brothers, help us grow our order by inviting at least one person to join the Council this year through the E-Member program. Ask if they're a member. If so, invite them to a Council event. If not, encourage them by saying "Let's take care of that right now" and open your phone to the E-Member form at <https://www.kofc.org/joinus>. Explain that they can experience the Knights free for one year without obligation. Enter the Code "BLESSEDMCGIVNEY", click "Add" and complete the form (the Code provides the complimentary Membership). Be sure to enter our council #7992 for local information when they register. Finally, ask them to open their email and click through the validation link. This process will take two to three minutes and it could make a lasting impact on the new Member and our Council.



Five reasons to become a knight: (1) Put your faith into action; (2) Become friends with your fellow Catholic men; (3) Protect your family; (4) Strengthen your parish; and (5) Evangelize the community.

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## Pray, Smile, Invite!

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## Membership

### July Council Meetings

Two Council meetings will be held in July on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Please join us on July 2 and 16 at 7:15 pm to pray the Rosary, with the meeting following thereafter at 7:30 pm. A spiritual lecture for the good of the order concludes each meeting, followed by refreshments and fellowship.



### REMINDER: Event Scheduling and Announcement Form/Procedure

A new KofC 7992 Event Announcement form has been established. Worthy Chancellor Vince Augelli is in charge of all events scheduling and announcements. For any event leads, please use the form at the link below to get the word out to the Council about your event. Any and All SUGs should also be sent to the Worthy Chancellor at [CH7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:CH7992@nativityburke.org) as he is now Master SUG Keeper.

<https://forms.gle/eP4vDf5BPegnDRqz8>

**After Action Report Procedure:** The council requests that **all event leads** fill out a short form after-action report after every council event. After-action reports can be made using the form at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/KbonVzPQDvdinvco9>.

If you have additional report content that doesn't fit in the form, forward it in an email to the Chancellor at [CH7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:CH7992@nativityburke.org).

### Honorary Life Membership — Gold

A member who has attained the age of 70 years of age and who has been a member of the Order for 25 consecutive years or who has been a member of the Order for 50 consecutive years regardless of age, shall be designated as Honorary Life in his council. Priests and religious brothers are permitted access to all KOC functions with only the Honorary Life membership card. Parish Priests and religious brothers are automatic Honorary Life Members and are treated as such. There are no member dues charged for Honorary Life members.

### Honorary Membership — Silver

A member who has attained the age of 65 years of age and who has been a member of the Order for 25 consecutive years shall be designated an Honorary member in his council. Member dues are reduced to \$10.00 per fraternal year.

### Fr. Sikora Council Social Media Links

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/kofc-nativityburke-sikora7992>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KofC.NativityChurch>

X: <https://twitter.com/KofC7992>

### Name Tag Assistance

If you do not have a name tag, please email our Worthy Warden, Br. Lenny Richoux, at [WAR-DEN7992@nativityburke.org](mailto:WAR-DEN7992@nativityburke.org) and he will order one for you.

## Show your pride and wear your council name tag



## Membership

### Happy Birthday, Brother Knights!

We wish a “Happy Birthday” to our brothers who are celebrating their birthdays in **July**: Jeffrey Karrenbauer, Frank Purchiaroni, Gabriel Santillan, Joseph Corrigan, William Lorenz, Paul Rowson, Colin Beach, Eric Cotton, Thomas Gladstone, Christopher Barbuschak, Steven Fisher, Richard Hubbard, John Landy, James Del Polito, Alan Terpolilli, Edwin Franco, Murray Rupert, Barry Dysart, Dennis Jimenez-Moreno, Carlos Perez Jr., Anthony Rozga, Bruce Ladino, Adrian Santillan-Lecaside, Dennis Scott, Mike Suchodolski, Christopher Thomes, Armando Tiba-buzo, Patrick Colton, Michael Gannaway, James Parslow, David Zivich, Charles Jachim, Richard Miserendi-no, Samuel Morthland, John Peterson, Paul Piraino, Richard Kelly, Paul Maiers, Jesse Singh, Juan Aguirre, Christopher Bauer, Kevin Crouch, and Joe De La Concepcion.



### Knight of the Month Award

The award for Knight of the Month of April was presented to PGK Philip Puckett in appreciation for his leadership in several BBQ events for the Nativity School and for the Council. Br. Phil’s culinary talent at the grill demonstrates why he truly is a Grillmaster!

Pictured left: Past GK Pat presenting award to Br. Phil

### Family of the Month Awards

The award for Family of the Month for May was presented to Br. Felipe Colon’s family for their service to our Council and parish community.

Picture right: Past GK Pat presenting award to Br. Felipe



The award for Family of the Month for June was presented to PGK Bill and Janet Canavan in appreciation for their continuing service to the Council, parish, and community.

Pictured left: Past GK Pat presenting award to Br. Bill





## Membership

### End of Year Council Awards Dinner

The council held its end of year dinner on 15 July. This was an opportunity to celebrate a great year, thank the officers who served the council, and recognize our annual award winners. Also recognized was our Worthy Chaplain Fr. Bob who was a finalist in the Virginia State Fr. McGivney Award competition for council chaplain!

Picture right: Past GK Pat presents the Young Man of the Year Award to Mr. Andrew Tremell, whose passionate faith is a model for his generation and his community.



Pictured left: Past GK Pat presents the Young Woman of the Year Award to Ms. Elise Ladino, whose faith and love of God spurred her actions to help her community and parish.

Pictured right: Past GK Pat presents the Knight of the Year Award to Br. Bob Corsi for his leadership in the Apalachia Home Building Project, having completed a 26th home this past month. More information on this project can be found in this newsletter under Community.



Pictured right: Past GK Pat presents the Family of the Year Award to Br. Steven and Margaret Fisher and family for their continued commitment of time, talent, and treasure to the parish community.

**Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**



## Membership



### Check out the Council Calendar and Activities

Please note that the Council calendar is now available on-line as well hanging on the LinkTree link, here:

[https://linktr.ee/fr\\_sikora\\_council\\_7992#257443879](https://linktr.ee/fr_sikora_council_7992#257443879)

## Community

### Appalachia Home Building

Brothers, we completed our 26th home, 1,100 SF in size, in one of the poorest counties in our country from May 29-Jun 10 (including travel). We started with a crew of 19 from Nativity and teamed up with an additional 11 (including 2 cooks from Nebraska) to complete the build effort ahead of schedule. We had a great weather start for the first three days and then had to deal with intermittent rain for the next seven days. We were again faced with higher costs for construction material which will put



this home costing over \$110,000 even though it was a 3-bedroom home.



The house was built in McCreary County, KY, located in the SE part of the State, about 570 miles from Burke. We again had two crews this year to ensure that we were able to do more of the finishing work and at the same time achieve two benefits of reducing the home costs and getting the family in earlier. Our goal was to complete the house with plumbing,

electrical, sheetrock, doors, trim, painting and kitchen cabinets, and we succeeded! We again sub-contracted with local licensed plumbing, heating and air conditioning, and electrical craftsmen who worked through the night over the first weekend to ensure we were done in time for the inspectors on Monday.



While this adds significant costs to the project, we have built a tremendous partnership with the local craftsmen...and more importantly it is keeping these skilled craftsmen in the county. No matter how many build efforts I've been on, and I say it every year, the seamless team effort of the combined crews are truly a sight to see.



**We pray that Christians of all ages may respond to the baptismal call and follow Jesus with open hearts.**





## Community

My thanks go to the 19 brother knights that made this happen: BJ Dysart (24th home) , Dave Perales (19<sup>th</sup> home), Pat Colton (23rd home), Eric Colton (14<sup>th</sup> home), Jerry Leonard (20<sup>th</sup> home), Pat Bradshaw (19<sup>th</sup> home), Thinh Nguyen (20<sup>th</sup> home), Bill Gordon (18<sup>th</sup> home), Mark Sawyer (9<sup>th</sup> home), Barry Basselgia (5th home), James Kocsis (4th home), Paul Piraino (11th home), Bob Colella (9<sup>th</sup> home), Brian Barry (3<sup>rd</sup> home), Bill Finerfrock (2<sup>nd</sup> home), Mark Biwer (10<sup>th</sup> home), Wade Wiegel (2<sup>nd</sup> home), and Bob Corsi (28th home). We also had Peter Zolper who joined us for the first time. A special thanks to Jerry Leonard and Bob Colella who stayed an extra week to lead the Finishing Crew. A big thanks to all the Crew for giving up their time away from family and friends for this important outreach effort!



Good Shepherd Chapel selected the Perry family who clearly had some challenges. The family was living on around \$21,000/year. The family of two, a father raising his teenage son, could never afford to live in a decent home and were living in a single bedroom in the father's parent's home.

Before we arrived, the foundation was completed by a subcontractor, the subfloor was installed by a charitable group from Cincinnati, and the plumbing rough-in was completed by another subcontractor. The site was about 17 miles from where we stayed and added significant time in our daily commute to the site. We've been very lucky for many years with a short commute in the past, but this added about an hour roundtrip to our commute. Our normal workday schedule was to be on the site at 6AM and depart between 5-6PM. With COVID sensitivities reduced, we attended mass at the Good Shepherd Chapel with a special mass for the first crew on Saturday night and the second crew attended mass on the following Sunday with the rest of the parish.

While the site was relatively flat, we had to deal with significant mud around the site for about the last seven days. On Thursday, the first day, we had about 70% of the interior framing completed, front porch framing, and started on the siding. On Friday, we completed the interior framing, raised the trusses, and continued with the siding and porch construction.



**Follow Christ by working for others with extraordinary love.**



## Community

Saturday, we completed the roof sheathing, and got tar paper on to weather proof the structure, and for the first time completed the framing of the front porch. We were hoping to have the ladderator again this year to bring the shingles up to the roof but the older homeowner who provided it in the past was undergoing surgery and we needed to find a workaround.

With the help of Blake, the homeowner, and ten of the crew members we devised a way to minimize the lifting impact on the crew and had all the shingles up in about 15 minutes. On Sunday, completed the entire roof during intermittent rain, and made great progress on the siding. Also, the Support crew completed all the porches. We started insulating on Monday after the plumbing and electrical inspectors signed off and began installing the sheetrock that afternoon. On Tuesday afternoon, we completed installing the sheetrock and had the house blessing by Father Carlos, from Somerset, KY.



We re-started the tradition of having the family over for dinner with the crew where we present them with the keys to their new home. It was a very emotional event for the family who could not thank the crew enough for their work. The father was in tears thanking everyone and his mother gave one of best heartfelt remarks we've ever heard. Bob Corsi presented gifts to the family and showed the family the entire truckload of household items that were donated from Nativity. That was in addition to the new beds that Nativity also provided. From Wednesday through Sunday, the Finishing crew took over and essentially finished the inside with kitchen cabinets, trimming, painting, door installation, et al. We actually finished up a day early and it was great to finish early. After we departed, the floors, electrical fixtures, and HVAC contractors were completing their work. We expect the family to move in before the end of June.



A huge thanks to Ann Benson for collecting a trailer load of household items donated during the Christmas holidays using the Giving Tree. The family was absolutely overwhelmed when they picked up the items. We are actively working with Good Shepherd Catholic Mission to select the family to receive Nativity's 27<sup>th</sup> home. (Bro Bob Corsi)



**Walk by faith, not by sight.**





## Family

### Food for Others – More Volunteers Needed for Thursday and Friday Food Distribution



Our sincere thanks go out to our Brother Knights who help each and every month collecting and delivering food to Food for Others and for distributing food to those in need within our communities every Thursday and Friday.

On June *Thursdays*, Hugh Wilson and his wife, Mark and Kathy Sawyer, and Jim and Chris Housel distributed 1,878 lbs of food to 145 families with 575 members in the 7 Corners area.

On June *Fridays*, Jim Barrineau, Jim Batrla, Paul Downey, Pat McCormac, Matt Bubak, Marc Laverdiere, and Matt Stockburger distributed 1,311 lbs of food to 62 families with 204 members in the Springfield Gardens area.

We need drivers and others for the **Thursday and Friday** Food for Others pick-up and distribution. We need additional drivers (you would need a van, pickup truck, or medium to large SUV) and non-driver volunteers. Pick up is from the warehouse on Prosperity near Rt 50 and distribution is at two sites in the 7 Corners area (Thursdays) and Springfield Gardens (Fridays). Your time commitment would be from about 4:45 to 7:15/7:30. You will be scheduled for one or two Thursday's or Friday's per quarter. If interested in helping on Thursday please contact PGK Mark Sawyer at [sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net](mailto:sawyerkoc7992@verizon.net). If interested in helping deliver on Friday, contact Br. Matt Stockburger at [mstock\\_w@yahoo.com](mailto:mstock_w@yahoo.com).

## Feature Article

### The Life and Legacy of Father Michael J. McGivney

In mid-August of 1890— over 100 years ago—one of the largest funerals in the history of Waterbury, Connecticut took place. The throngs who attended were grieving the death, at age 38, of Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. Delegations were present from almost every one of the 57 K of C councils which had sprung up in the Order's first eight years. The bishop of Hartford and more than 70 of Connecticut's Catholic priests were joined by many civic leaders. It was reported that every available carriage for miles around had been rented for the great procession.

Father McGivney's funeral was an indication of the love and respect the people felt for this hard- working, holy, parish priest. It also reflected the deep personal appeal that immigrant Catholics immediately found in the Knights of Columbus. The Order has never since ceased to grow. Today it is the largest society of Catholic men in the world, with more than a million and a half members in the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, and several Central American and Caribbean countries.

To mark their hundredth anniversary in 1982, the Knights of Columbus brought the remains of Father McGivney from Waterbury back to St. Mary's Church in New Haven, where he had founded the Order. There he now rests in a setting in which daily Mass is offered for the deceased members of the Order and prayers are said in his honor. (To be continued next month)

**Be The Light!**



## Culture of Life

**Delivering Cribs to Moms in Need.** In support of *A Woman's Choice* (AWC), Brs. Jesse Singh, Dan Thomas, Rick Loffredo and Darren Randall delivered 12 brand-new baby cribs to local Falls Church area moms in need through a program called "Project Manger—Cribs for Life." AWC provides compassionate, confidential support for women in at-risk pregnancies. Visit <https://awomanschoicecenter.com/> or call 703.538.4305.



### **Praying the Pro-Life Rosary and Witnessing for the Weak and the Vulnerable.**

Brs. Joe McKane, Darren Randall, Juan Aguirre and Rick Loffredo (not pictured) praying the Pro-Life Rosary for mothers in need and for the protection of at-risk unborn and newly born children. Join us in the future. We usually go on Friday mornings after 7:30 am Mass. Know that your peaceful, prayerful presence on the sidewalk at 900 S. Washington St, Falls Church abortion facility makes a difference to parents who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies. Contact [rick-loffredo@outlook.com](mailto:rick-loffredo@outlook.com).



### **From the Unborn Child to the World!**

Back in 1869, the feminist icon Susan B. Anthony intuited, "When a woman destroys the life of her unborn child, it is a sign that, by education or circumstances, she has been greatly wronged." Ponder these viewpoints and consider becoming more active in the pro-life movement. By doing so, you will be saving lives and souls. What could be more noble?



**"I Was Gonna Be".** If you haven't heard the moving pro-life song, "I Was Gonna Be" by 18 years old Rachel Holt, here's your chance. It provides a stirring witness from the point of view of an unborn, aborted baby girl. Ms. Holt's song, <https://bit.ly/4clppgC>, has skyrocketed to one of the top country songs in the world. Share this song and its message with those around you.

**How to get trustworthy help if it happens. Project Rachel.** It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion. It can form a hole in one's heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the emptiness. You are not alone. Whether it was yesterday or 40 years ago, Project Rachel can help! Peace starts here. <https://hopeafterabortion.com/> 888.456.4673.

**Where to turn for help if you're considering it. Gabriel Project.** Gabriel Project offers emotional, spiritual, material, and financial support through a pregnancy helpline and parish-based volunteer "Angel" support. Gabriel Project: Empowering Women to Choose Life. <https://helpforpregnantwomen.org/> 703.841.3810



## Culture of Life



### **Prayers you can say to help end this tragedy. Pro-Life Rosary.**

Priests for Life's *Pro-Life Rosary Meditations* provide powerful and insightful reflections for us Knights from different perspectives.

Consider these poignant examples:

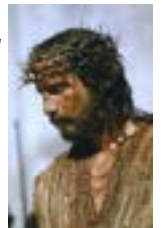
**The Visitation.** *John the Baptist leapt for joy in his mother's womb. We pray that people may realize that abortion is not about children who "might" come into the world, but is about children who are already in the world, living and growing in the womb, and are scheduled to be killed.*



### **Christ proclaims the Kingdom of God and Calls All to Conversion.**

*"Repent and believe the Good News." Let us pray that these first words of Jesus' public ministry may be heard by all who have committed abortion. May they know that the Lord calls them to conversion, and may they experience life-giving repentance.*

**The Crowning with Thorns.** *Jesus suffered the pain of thorns in His head, and did so silently. We pray for the mothers and fathers of aborted children. So many of them suffer deep grief and regret over a choice they can never reverse. So many suffer in silence, because others tell them it's no big deal.*



**The Carrying of the Cross.** *Jesus was not condemned by the power of wicked people. He was condemned because of the silence of good people. Silence always helps the oppressor, never the victim. Let us pray that we may never be silent about abortion, but rather will clearly speak up to save babies from death.*

**The Assumption.** *The Blessed Virgin Mary was taken body and soul into heaven because she is the Mother of God. Mother and child are united. The Assumption reminds us that they belong together. We pray that society will see that it cannot love women while killing their children, and cannot save children without helping their mothers. We pray that people will be touched by the pro-life question, "Why can't we love them both?"*



**Gender Ideology.** As Bishop Burbidge indicated in his recent document, *A Catechesis on the Human Person and Gender Ideology*, *"In the past decade our culture has seen growing acceptance of transgender ideology, that is, the claim that a person's biological sex and personal identity have no necessary connection and could in fact contradict each other. This situation presents a serious challenge for all members of the Church because it presents a view of the human person contrary to the truth. It is of particular concern for our young people, as Pope Francis has warned."*





## Culture of Life

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Close to home, gender ideology/transgenderism is spreading like wildfire and is more dangerous. Some example activities this past month:

Our very own Fairfax Public Library at Pohick Library—less than one mile from Nativity School and Church—just hosted TRANS 101, a workshop taught by the TransGender Education Association (TGEA). TGEA advertises that it meets monthly to education and promote individuals transitioning and communities preparing for transitioning individuals—not only for adults, but also “educating”, promoting and preparing teens and even tweens—children between the stages of childhood and adolescence—to transition.

Fairfax County School Board members are now researching to determine if a recommendation for instruction of gender identity should be included in elementary school’s Family Life Education program.

Regarding gender dysphoria, John Bursch points out in [Edify - Gender INSANITY](#)

Gender dysphoria: faith, religion, science, and objective truth vs. propaganda.

Example: we would never tell someone suffering from anorexia to eat less or have surgery to become thinner because they were diagnosed with anorexia.

Science is on our side and science and church teachings are aligned. Suicide rates actually go up not down for those that transition according to Europe studies that track patients over course of their lives, so the results are solid.

When questioned, the American Medical Association (AMA) had no good answer why gender dysphoria is the only dysphoria in which they recommend allowing a person to change their body to match how they feel at the moment rather than to work towards aligning their mind to match their body. AMA cannot show proven positive results.

Many people have vested interest in perpetuating this myth: one political party, AMA, some in the medical field, those that transition and their parents who don't want to admit it was a mistake, and of course the trans community. Money, power, attention, celebrity status, etc, which explains the rampant rise is gender dysphoria, for example, 274% increase in Virginia in last four years.

Sex transitioning hormones and surgeries are very lucrative for medical field and is fastest growing revenue stream for Planned Parenthood right now. Surgeries cost roughly around \$70,000 and insurance companies are starting to pay for it.





## Faith: Vocations

### Council Seminarian Support

Fr. Sikorian Council 7992 provides spiritual and financial support to five seminarians each year. Congratulations to three of our seminarians, Revs. Alfredo Tuesta, Richard Malebranche, and Jordan Evans, who were ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at St. Theresa Catholic Church! Please remember each of our newly-ordained Deacons and all our seminarians by name in your prayers and, of course, in addition to our beloved Fr. Zinjin Iglesia and former sponsor Fr. David Witherow, our very own Deacon Christian Njodzela (studying at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, now visiting home in Cameroon).



**Rev. Mr. Alfredo Tuesta**, Theology III, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

**What advice would you give to a young man thinking about the seminary?**

This ultimately comes down to one of the best pieces of advice I have ever received: it is not what God has made you to do, but who He has made you to be. I could list a few skills or attributes which I think may qualify me but those would be answers for a job posting than a vocation. Rather, I want to be the man God created me to be and I suspect that may be a priest.



**Rev. Mr. Richard Malebranche**, Theology III, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

**What advice would you give to a young man thinking about the seminary?**

Whether it is a calm dialogue or an emotionally driven argument, any communication with God is positive. He wants the best for you and will patiently wait until you learn, accept, and follow His will.



**Rev. Mr. Jordan Evans**, Theology III, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

**What advice would you give to a young man thinking about the seminary?**

Your vocation is a great gift and one that should be discerned intentionally. However, the best thing to do when thinking about seminary is to seek the Lord whole-heartedly; let your discernment be centered on knowing the Giver and not just the gift.



**Mr. Ryan Malanga**, College IV, St. John Paul II Seminary, from St. Patrick

Starting in June, Mr. Malanga has been attending a summer long program of priestly formation in Nebraska.



**Mr. Luke Helbling**, Theology I, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, from St. Patrick

**What advice would you give to a young man thinking about the seminary?** Approach discernment with prayer and patience: patience with God and with yourself. There will likely be excitement, joy, consolation, fear, anxiety, doubt, frustration, or any mix of emotions along the way. Hopefully our own weakness and inadequacy are revealed in the midst of all these things, reminding us of our total dependence on God and leading not to discouragement or fear but to a more complete surrender to his will for our lives.



## Faith

### Other Resources

- Eucharistic Adoration, every Tuesday from 5-8 pm in the main church
- Bible in a Year podcast, <https://bibleinayear.fireside.fm>
- Catechism in a Year podcast, <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>
- Virtual State Rosary occurs on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.



### Annual Corpus Christi Procession

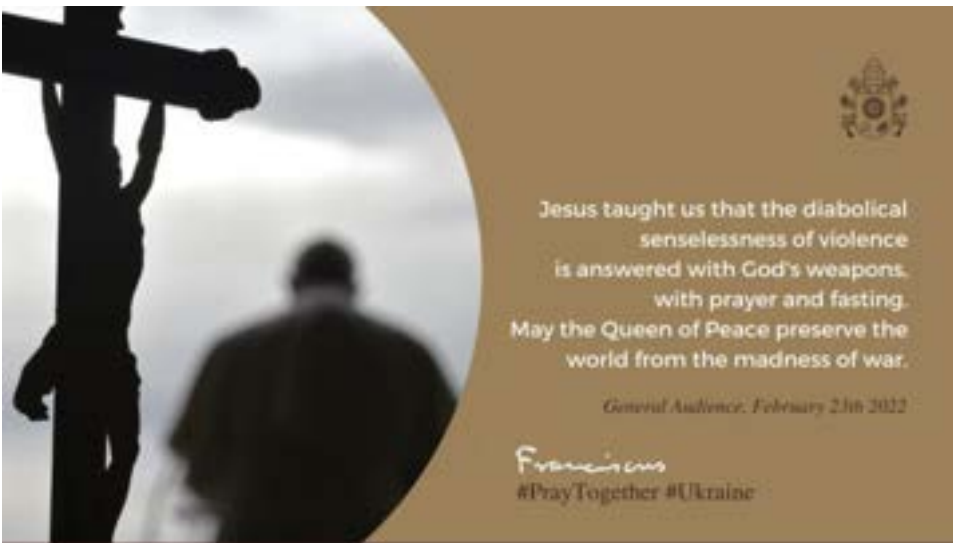
Member of the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard, assisted by our Council's brother knights, lead Nativity's Corpus Christi procession on Sunday, 2 June. This 6th annual procession began with an Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a procession route around the parish property, and concluded with the Benediction and Reposition inside the Church.

### Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).



Blessed  
**Michael McGivney**



## Pray for Vocations!





**Knights of Columbus Council Officers 2023—2024**

Officer Positions	Name
Grand Knight	Chris Odell
Financial Secretary	Paul Gorham
Deputy Grand Knight	Michael Bender
Chaplain	Father Bob Cilinski
Chancellor	Vince Augelli
Lecturer	Mark Sawyer
Recorder	Nathaniel Lee
Treasurer	Tom Goodwin
Advocate	Mike Johaneck
Warden	Lenny Richoux
Inside Guard	Jim Housel Daniel
Outside Guards	Stephen Resch
One Year Trustee	Dave Zivich
Two Year Trustee	Tom Siepmann
Three Year Trustee	Pat Delatte
Financial Professional	



If you would like to contact us, please send a note to [gk7992@vakofc.org](mailto:gk7992@vakofc.org).

**Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, and Special Projects 2023—2024**

Project	Name (Co-Chair)
Program Director	Vince Augelli
Faith Director	Bob Sands
Community Director	Jim Batrla
Family Director	Glenn Caron
Membership Director	DGK Michael Bender
Life Program Director	Rick Loffredo, Jim Housel
Widows Committee	Bob Corsi
Recruitment Committee	DGK Michael Bender
Recruitment Committee	PKG John Ostrowski
Retention Committee	PGK Dave Zivich
Retention Committee	PGK Tom Siepmann
Retention Committee	PGK Pat Delatte
Vocations Chairman	Vince Augelli
Charity Committee	Lenny Richoux, PGK Tony Rozga
Charity Committee	Jim Seymour
Health Services	Maiquel Sampaio de Melo
Fraternal Committee	PGK John Landy
Fraternal Committee	PGK Bill Canavan
KOVAR	PGK Mark Sawyer
Newsletter	Jim Housel
Communications	Bob Sands

**NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*MISSION STATEMENT*

“WE, THE PEOPLE OF NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH, BY OUR BAPTISM, ARE JOYFUL DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST. WE STRIVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, AND FORM NEW DISCIPLES. WE CELEBRATE JESUS CHRIST IN WORD, SACRAMENT AND SERVICE.”



## July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Officer Installation/ Yard Sale Item Disposal	2 <b>Council Mtg/</b>	3	4 <b>Independence Day</b>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Exemplification Ceremony	16 <b>Council Mtg</b>	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## August

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 INOVA Blood Drive
4	5	6 <b>Council Mtg</b>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Adopt-a- Highway
18 Back to School Movie Night	19	20 <b>Council Mtg</b>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### August Newsletter Submissions Due 28 July

Please submit announcements, articles, and pictures to our editor, Br. Jim Housel, at [jchousel.60@gmail.com](mailto:jchousel.60@gmail.com) by 28 July. Early submissions are always welcome and encouraged!