



"The Council Courier"

MONROE COUNCIL 1266 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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FISH FRY FRIDAY

Our Lenten Fish Fry's will be starting on March 8th and continue each Friday until ending on April 19th. Dinner are from 4:30 to 6:30 pm With our new Square machine, we will be accepting credit and debit cards again this year.



We will also be selling 50/50 ticket throughout the Lenten Season to help raise funds for the "Casey the Teddy Bear" program.

As always, we could use a few extra hands to help with busing of tables, dishwashers and clean up at the end of the evening. Please stop down and lend a hand if possible.



Welcome New Members !

We had seven new members become part of our council on February 16th! Be sure to welcome them when you see them - *Elliot Alfredson, A J Ambrose, Dominick Castiglione, Brent Masserant, Matt Palys, Jim Rostash, & Joshua Thomas.*

Congratulations to three of 1st degree members who entered into full Knighthood -*Sean Jorgensen, Gary Thoma, & Sonto Zangara*



MONROE COUNCIL No. 1266
Knights of Columbus
202 West Front Street
Monroe, Michigan 48161
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From Our Grand Knight Greetings Brother Knights and Families,

I hope all is well and the New Year has found everyone healthy and in good spirits.

A lot has happened since our last publication so I will try and fill you in the best I can.

In December, we had our annual Clergy & PGK appreciation dinner. Before dinner, we celebrated the lives of all our departed bother knights with a memorial mass. Council Chaplain, Fr. David Burgard celebrated mass and the lives of our members who were called home by our Lord in 2018. After mass the Frenchtown Fiddlers once again entertained us. These young adults do an outstanding job and everyone very much enjoyed their music.

As you can see in the picture, we had a great turn out of Clergy and PGK's (3 Priest, 2 Deacons and 11 PGK's). We also had 13 Sisters from the IHM of Monroe in attendance.



A big thank you goes out to Leo, Sharon and the rest of the Schmelz family for another wonderful dinner. They seem to out do their selves every year. During our after dinner program, we had honored Steve Richardville as our Knight of the Year. We also honored Dick and Sue Lajiness as our Family of the Year. Both of these recipients were very deserving of their awards. Make sure to thank them for all their hard work.

Four of our officers attend our district meeting in January. As in the past, the main discussion was about membership and sustainability. It is all too often that we bring new members into our council then we never follow up and invite them to functions. I hope our email system is counter acting that last statement. Most all of our new members have email addresses and we can communicate in the new electronic age. We have 464 members but only have a little over 200 emails addresses. If you have an email account and are not currently receiving our emails, please send them to me at gk1266@mikofc.org. Our goal is to get as many email addresses as possible so we can keep everyone up to date on what is happening at the council.

Thank you to everyone who had submitted his dues on time. This year was the first year we offered an online payment option and all in all in went pretty well. We had over 30 members pay their dues via the online payment option and only had a couple glitches. We hope to have all the bugs worked out by next year. For those of you who experienced one of the glitches, I apologize and thank you for your understanding.

A couple of weeks ago we hosted a Major Degree at our council. We had a great turnout from various councils throughout the state. Council 1266 added 7 new members and 3 into the 2nd & 3rd degree! A very big thanks goes out to Grand Knight Anthony Mercurio and his degree team from Erie St. Joe's council for assisting us with the Admissions Degree. I would also like to thank the 2nd degree staff captain Steve Jacek and his team for the great work they did for the Formation degree and Ken Hanson the Conferring Officer for the 3rd degree. Ken traveled all the way from the UP to be here to educate all the new members on our faith and to Knight them into the Knighthood degree.

- Don't forget about our Lenten fish Fry's starting on March 8th. The dinner will be from 4:30 - 6:30 every Friday until Good Friday on April 19th.
- Also, our Desert Meal is planned for March 16th, don't miss the advertisement on the other page.
- March 24th we will have our Corporate Communion at St. Johns 10:30 mass. A coffee and doughnut social will be held afterwards. Hope to see you there!



Vivat Jesus, **Shawn Piedmonte**, Grand Knight

Please Consider Helping At The 2019 Tootsie Roll Sales!



A Note From Our Chaplain

As this newsletter goes out, we are tired of winter and looking to the change of seasons transitioning to spring. Everyday seems to be an adventure with the weather. As we look to warmer days, in the Church we are preparing to spiritually enter into Lent, leading to Holy Week, and culminating with Easter. This is the most important time of the year for Christians, as we strive to grow in faith, self-discipline, and love during Lent, and ask God to renew us through the suffering, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The heart of the Good News is that God never gives up on us, even though we may feel like giving up on God at times.

Please seriously take time to make realistic Lenten resolutions that will help you as a person and as a disciple of the Lord Jesus. Try something new as well as with tried and true Lenten practices that have worked for you in the past. Use whatever spiritual resources that you find to help you: daily reflections, the Little Black Books, Catholic apps, the daily Scripture readings, Eucharistic adoration and daily prayer time, Stations of the Cross and meditation on Jesus' sufferings out of love for us. Go to confession at least once during Lent, and be strengthened by the Eucharist.

I find it a privilege as a priest to lead and accompany people through this holy season. Through our Catholic liturgies and rituals, may we come to a renewed sense of hope in God's transforming and life giving love for us!

As I write this, the Supreme Knight has asked us to pray for and support our Church's spiritual leaders, especially our bishops, as they seek God's wisdom in dealing with the challenges of past abuse in the Church. They want to help regain trust where it has been eroded or lost. May we always have compassion, especially to those who have been hurt, and never make light of their suffering. May God use us to help bring healing to others, and in so doing, find healing ourselves.

Finally, may we have courage and wisdom to give witness to our faith in these politically charged times. Pray for our civic leaders, especially those who are newly elected to office. May they continue to form and follow their consciences, especially when they don't get support because they are "politically incorrect". Let us once again unleash the power of the Gospel, and in so doing, build unity and speak the truth with charity. Vivat Jesus!

Fr. David Burgard



Monroe Council #1226 Goodfellows Club

Brother Knights - Fellow Goodfellows

As can be expected the hectic pace of the Christmas Food program has slowed down but, things never stop for the Goodfellows.

We had an after action meeting with the Salvation Army to discuss the 2018 food program. As all who worked this year's event know we had a smaller amount of families to feed. It is with great joy that I pass on that the clerical problem we had last year has been rectified and we should be back to our 200 to 250 families again next season. THANK YOU to all who stepped aside and didn't get angry because we didn't have as many delivery routes.

I hope all of our members are checking out the Councils monthly "Knights In Action" articles in our Parish Bulletins. I also hope that you noticed last month's article that spoke of the Goodfellows monthly donations to each of our parishes. It read - Each month the Goodfellows Club makes a donation of \$ 100.00 to the St Anne's & St Charles - Food Closet, St John's & St Michael's - St. Vincent de Paul, and to St Mary's - God Works. This is the third year that we have made these donations. Please spread this to all your Parish members so they realize we are "Knights In Action!"

Finally after the Councils election of officers the Goodfellows will be conducting our annual election. Please attend if you have time.

Goodfellow President
Jay Jondro Sr. PGK

AFFORDABLE CATERING & ELEGANT DECORATING - Members get discount on hall rentals!

Sharon Schmelz 734-230-2526 Cell - 734-299-6374 E-Mail address: snlschmelz@yahoo.com



Desert Meal 2019 The Desert Formation Experience (DFE)

Our Council will be hosting our 3rd Desert Meal Fundraising Dinner Saturday March 16th. Doors open at 6:00PM, dinner starts at 6:30PM.

The dinner is to support first-year Graduate Seminarians with a Desert Formation Experience, a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. During this pilgrimage the Seminarians are able to see and witness what Our Lord saw and witnessed over 2,000 years ago. This Pilgrimage is a time for future Priest to connect with the passages in the Bible.



At 7:30 a presentation will be given by the attending Seminarians with a short video.

There will be a Silent Raffle and a Progressive 50/50 throughout the night. All proceeds will provided to the Seminarians Pilgrimage Fund.

Tickets are \$ 15.00 per person or \$ 95.00 per table. There are a limited amount of seats. There are 4 ways to purchase tickets - 1) call the council at 241-4640, 2) Via email atkcmmonroe1266@att.net, 3) Via our website at www.kofcmonroe1266.org, OR 4) stop by the Council.

To make the dinner a success we could use help. If you can assist by being a Greeter, Guest Checking In, Raffle Sellers for the 50/50 and 60/40 raffle, Raffle table assistance, and more. There will be sign-up sheet in the hall. If you are unable to make it to the lounge then send an email to kofcmonroe@att.net or call the Council.

Desert Meal Chairmen
Marc Sobol DGK



Monroe Council Building Association

Brother Knights, God's Blessings to you and your family.

Boy, what a wild winter. Not a lot of snow but cold and windy. Think spring as I know we are all ready just like previous winters.

Building News - We just replaced two duct heaters that supply the lounge as both had cracks in the heat exchangers. Hall rentals are good with events already scheduled for 2020. Each hall looks great thanks to Leo & Sharon. They are always adding a decoration to improve the atmosphere. Please thank them when you see them.

Be sure to check out the calendar in the Courier and join us when you can. It's up to you to get involved. I pray you have a very Blessed Easter. Don't forget Ash Wednesday is March 6th.

Finally remember the Knights of Columbus when planning your will.



Field Agent Report

Plan for this Tax Day and the Future

April 15 (tax day) is right around the corner. It's become popular this time of year to encourage the opening of an IRA or similar retirement annuity, or the depositing of additional funds into an existing account, as a tax-savings vehicle. Or perhaps someone has tried to convince you to open an account, touting the rate of interest that money in one of these accounts can earn. Let me join the chorus of folks encouraging you to open or add funds to an annuity, but for a different reason.

Certainly, contributing money to a Knights of Columbus annuity will allow you to save some money on your income tax return. And, our annuities do pay a very competitive interest rate, consistent with our primary goal of absolute safety of principal. Opening or adding to an annuity for these reasons, however, strikes me as taking a short-term view of a product that is designed to provide long-term security. How much security? How does retirement income that you cannot outlive — guaranteed — sound to you?

Here at the Knights of Columbus, you can open a retirement annuity for as little as \$300. Consistent and disciplined savings placed into that annuity over time can — properly structured — guarantee you an income at retirement that you cannot outlive. That guarantee — along with the fact that no one has ever lost money left in a Knights of Columbus annuity (remember — absolute safety of principal) — really will provide you with peace of mind.

I am happy to meet with you — at your convenience and in your home — to explain in detail the benefits of opening a Knights of Columbus annuity, along with the benefits of our top-rated life insurance, disability income and long-term care insurance plans.

Thomas F Jackson

734-778-9601

Thomas.F.Jackson@KofC.org

Fraternally
Dave VanAcker
President

Council #1266 Calendar



March 2019

- 2 4th Deg. Exempl. at DE Carlos in Warren, MI9:00 AM
- 5 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 6 Ash Wednesday All Day
- 8 First of 7 Lenten Fish Fry in the lounge 4:30 PM
- 10 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 12 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 13 Council Business Meeting 7:00 PM
No Building Association Business Meeting.....
- 15 2nd of 7 Lenten fish fry in the lounge..... 4:30 PM
- 16 Dessert Meal Fund Raiser in Halls #1 & #2 6:00 PM
- 17 St. Patrick's Day All Day
- 19 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 20 First Day of Spring
Goodfellow Meeting 6:00 PM
Fourth Degree Business Meeting at Monroe 7:00 PM
- 22 3rd of 7 Lenten Fish Fry in the lounge 4:30 PM
- 24 Corporate Comm. Mass at St. John Monroe 10:00 AM
- 26 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 27 Council Social in lounge – Bring a dish to pass... 6:00 PM
- 29 4th of 7 Lenten Fish Fry in the lounge 4:30 PM
- 30 Craft Show in Halls #1 & #29:00 AM



April 2019

- 2 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 5 5th of 7 Lentin fish fry in the lounge..... 4:30 PM
- 9 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 10 Council Business mtg. 1st nom. of officers..... 7:00 PM
Build. Assoc. bus. mtg. 1st. nom. of officers 8:00 PM
- 12 6th of 7 Lentin fish fry in the lounge..... 4:30 PM
- 13 Tootsie Roll Street Sale9:00 AM
- 13 / 14 Tootsie Roll Church Sales
- 16 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 17 Blood Drive in Hall #1 Noon
4th Degree Business Meeting in Monroe 7:00 PM
Fourth Degree 1st Nominations of Officers 7:00 PM
- 19 Good Friday 7th of 7 fish fry in the lounge..... 4:30 PM
- 21 Easter Sunday All Day
- 23 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM
- 24 Council Social in Lounge – Bring a dish to pass.. 6:00 PM
- 25 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 30 Council Bingo..... 5:45 PM



May 2019

- 2 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 4 Kentucky Derby 6:30 PM
- 7 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 8 Council Bus. mtg. 2nd officer nom. & election..... 7:00 PM
Building Assoc. 2nd nom. of officers (no election).... 8:00 PM
- 9 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 12 Mother's Day All Day
- 14 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 15 4th Degree Bus. Mtg. 2nd nom & election 7:00 PM
- 16 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 21 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 22 Council Social in Lounge – Bring a dish to pass 6:00 PM
- 23 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
K of C State Convention on Mackinaw Island
- 27 Memorial Day All Day
- 28 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 30 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM



JUNE 2019

- 4 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 6 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 11 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 12 Council Business Meeting..... 7:00 PM
Building Association Bus. Mtg. Officer Election 8:00 PM
- 13 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 16 Father's Day All Day
- 18 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 19 4th Degree Business Meeting at Monroe 7:00 PM
- 20 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM
- 21 First Day of Summer
- 25 Council Bingo 5:45 PM
- 26 Council Social in the Lounge – bring a dish to pass . 6:00 PM
- 27 Sharon & Leo Weekly Lounge Luncheon..... 11:30 AM

**AFFORDABLE CATERING &
ELEGANT DECORATING**
Members get discount on hall rentals!

Sharon Schmelz
734-230-2526 Cell - 734-299-6374
E-Mail address: snlschmelz@yahoo.com



Knights Insurance Field Agent :
Thomas Jackson - 734-778-9601
thomas.f.jackson@kofc.org
P.O. Box 865 - Trenton Mi 48183

Council Web Site : kofcmonroe1266.com
e-mail address : Kcmonroe1266@att.net