



# The Knight's Shield



St. Paul of Tarsus - Knight's of Columbus Council #11689

January 2024

**Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism**

Volume 29

## A Word from Grand Knight Vince Ursini

It's a new year. Wow 2024 is already here. My wife Andrea and I moved to Detroit area in 2002, when my nephew was 1 year old. He just graduated from Central Michigan University! We also attended another ceremony recently for another nephew who is 20 years old and just graduated from the Police Academy. He will be joining the Roseville police force to "Protect and Serve". He was just a sparkle in his Mother's eye when I first moved here. You get the point, our mission is great and time doesn't wait for us. We have little time to make an impact in this world. Let's get out there and make use of our God given talents.

Some reflection on words from the Roseville Commander who talked about the Good, the Bad and the Ugly. When you can do something good for people and help them in their journey, celebrate those accomplishments loudly. He talked about the Bad where you are unable to help or assist people in need. And he didn't need to talk about the Ugly (we all know what that looks like). The fact is that we must learn from those bad experiences and apply the lessons moving forward to further help people. Take action. Take your wins where you can get them.

That's a call to participate in this Council's awesome programs. Proceeds from the Pancake breakfast in January will go towards our SPOT Pantry and their mission to feed those in need. We have 180+ Knights in this Council and I'd like to see a majority come out in support of this worthy cause. Get with our Brother Knight Kurt Buhlinger to sign up for a task. And don't forget the Charity Poker Event in January, contact Michael Hartel our Worthy Program Director for that duty. If you enjoy playing cards, you'll love this duty.

The Council's biggest fund raisers are coming up in February and March with the Fish Fry event and the MI Drive. We will need all you Brothers for these activities. The Social Hall Fish Fry takes several prep people, cooks, dinner

sales personnel, servers, take out organizers and dining room support. Bring your spouse along as the "Ladies of the Knights" do a great job and find a way to enjoy their time while serving. These programs provide great opportunities to recruit and evangelize as well. Plus, you are raising money for our multiple charity organizations.

Let's get 2024 started off on the right foot. I've confidence this Council will do an excellent job to make these programs successful.

Welcome, to our newly exemplified Council member Robert Hurlbert. Looking forward to working with you in this next year.

Wishing all of you Brothers and your families a most blessed and successful new year!

God bless our Council and God Bless the Knights of Columbus

HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Just One Time

Throughout history it is evident that no one person can do everything all the time. However, one person can make a resounding difference at any one time.

The success of any organization is based on the collective ability of its members who support each other at different times.

When you can be at a function, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference**.

When you can carry the jug during the MI drive, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in charity for so many people.

When you show up for the road clean-up, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in adding to the beauty and well-being of our community.

When you help in any capacity, at the pancake breakfast or fish fry, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in promoting charity in our community.

When you attend a meeting and have a kind word or suggestion for another brother, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in the fraternity and unity of our council.

When you see a huge warm, happy smile on a child after you give them a coat, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a charitable difference** in their young lives that lasts forever.

When you fill one of the positions on the degree team, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in supporting our council's unity.

When you recruit a new member to our council, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in the unity and longevity of our council and create long-lasting friendships.

When you supervise a game or pass out candy at a Trunk or Treat function, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** by providing a unique and fun experience to so many kids in our community.

When you support the MCREST program at our neighboring church, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in charity in our community by providing your time to many homeless people.

When you help collect donations for the annual baby bottle drive, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make an incredible difference** to so many young struggling mothers. When you volunteer to help at the ice cream social, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** by putting a little sweetness into someone's day.

When you attend our corporate communion mass, **just one time**, and I can't, **you make a difference** in showing support for our church and our council.

On any given day, working together, collectively, we can do many things that support our church, community, council, and each other. **Together we can make a difference, only because each one of us can make a difference JUST ONE TIME.**

## BE THE DIFFERENCE "JUST ONE TIME"

24 hours a year to change lives.

## Corporate Communion Masses



March 16, 2024  
4:00 pm Mass

## Monthly Prayer Intention



### For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

## A Prayer For Our Country

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life.  
AMEN

## Knight of the Month and Family of the Month

The **Knight of the Month** is selected by the Board of Officers, as a Knight who exemplifies in his daily life the principles of Catholic Life, and is instrumental to the success of our Council, Church and Community.

The Knight of the Month for December: **Jerry Hund**

The **Family of the Month** is selected by the Board of Officers as a Family who exemplifies the principles of the Catholic Family Life and who contributes to the success of our Council, Church and Community.

The Family of the Month for September: **"Steve Theresa Szypa Family."** In recognition of their outstanding service to the Parish.

## The Apostles Creed

I, *your name*, Believe in, MY 22

1. God
  2. The Father Almighty
  3. Creator of Heaven and Earth
  4. And in Jesus Christ
  5. His only Son, Our Lord
  6. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
  7. Born of the Blessed Virgin Mary
  8. Suffered under Pontus Pilate
  9. Was Crucified
  10. Died
  11. And was buried
  12. He descended into Hell
  13. And on the third day He rose again
  14. He ascended into Heaven
  15. And is seated at the right hand of the Father
  16. From where He will come again to judge the living and the dead
  17. I believe in the Holy Spirit
  18. The Holy Catholic Church
  19. The communion of Saints
  20. The forgiveness of sins
  21. The resurrection of the dead
  22. And life everlasting
- AMEN!!!!!!

## Motions Passed

Motions passed at the December Meeting:

- \$325 for a New Space Force Military Branch flag jointly with the Men's Group
- \$300 for Christmas Gift Certificates for the clergy

## Vets Returning Home



Vets Returning Home will open a Resale store by June 1, 2022. They will accept clean clothing of all kinds (including children's clothing), furniture, housewares, kitchenware, bathroom accessories and large appliances. Appliance donations will be reviewed for need.

The Resale Store is located at 29523 Gratiot in Roseville about a mile north of their office location. Their telephone number is 586-285-5606, and their office location is 17955 E Eleven Mile (on the corner of Gratiot next to COSTCO).

Thanks,

Phil Kwasny

## The Lighter Side



OUR RESOLUTION LAST YEAR COULD HAVE BEEN "LESS FRUIT", BUT NO ... WE WENT WITH "TRUST PEOPLE MORE"

## E-Mail Communications



Brothers:

One of the methods we use to communicate various events for the Knights is an e-mail list. As coordinator for the list, I want to ask any of you that haven't been receiving these messages to send me an e-mail from your home account. This will give me the correct and current e-mail for you, and I will keep you on the list.

Fraternally,

George Loewen

gjl047@gmail.com

Community Director, Knights of Columbus

## Knight's Clothing



If you are in need of Knights of Columbus clothing, please contact me at 586-871-8450...or see me at the meeting.

Prices are as follows and are subject to change due to the fluctuating market. When the order is placed, I can confirm the cost.

- T-Shirts — Royal Blue printed with logo \$14
- Short sleeve polo in black or gray w/logo and name embroidered \$30
- Long sleeve polo in black or gray w/logo and name embroidered \$30
- Sweatshirts in black or gray w/logo \$30
- Stocking hats black w/logo (one size fits all) \$15
- Baseball caps black w/logo S-XL \$25

\*T-shirts must be ordered at least 12 at a time. I am currently putting an order together, so if you are interested call me.

If you had ordered any items recently and did not receive them, please contact me and I will reorder them for you. There are currently no orders at the supplier.

Joe Phillips  
586-871-8450

**Everyone deserves  
KINDNESS!!**



## Happy New Year !

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a joyous and Merry Christmas.

All of us start the new year afresh. We make resolutions. Let's plan now to look back at the end of 2024 and be able to say, "I kept those resolutions to improve myself, to improve my relationship with my family and friends, and my relationship with God!" An improved prayer life is the goal of many. I know I've made that resolution almost every year. Some years I do better than others.

But here are a few things I've found about making resolutions that helped me.

First, I don't want to make a resolution that is not possible to keep. I've got to be realistic. I can't go to an extreme. For example, to improve my prayer life, I can't go from praying for 15 minutes in the morning to reading a chapter of the Bible, attending daily Mass, reciting the rosary, and saying the Liturgy of the Hours each day. For me, that's too much of a jump. I'm going to follow that for a day or two, and then something will get me off track. Myself, I need to take baby steps. Maybe start with saying the rosary each day. I've got to make my resolution achievable.

The same is true of all those other resolutions we make.

I can't go from being a couch potato to running six miles a day...but I could start by walking a mile each day as an achievable step in that direction.

I can't starve myself trying to lose weight...but I could cut out snacks between meals as a start. Again, an achievable step.

I might want to read more, so I can start by reading a chapter a day in a book.

You get the idea. The resolution has to be reasonable, achievable and specific.

Now here is one resolution that is reasonable, achievable and specific. Resolve to meet with me to update the information on your family's financial needs analysis. (Or maybe you need to complete a financial needs analysis.) Let's see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. As your field agent, I'm charged to meet with each of my members each year. We can take a look at your goals and aspirations and make sure you're on track to keep your family appropriately protected.

I'll contact you soon to see if an appointment should be our next step

Vivat Jesus!

Ask about our **GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES, LONG TERM CARE & INCOME DISABILITY INSURANCE**



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Dale G. Jacks, Field Agent  
Office: (586) 419-0276  
46355 Rockford Drive  
Shelby Township, MI 48315-5626  
dale.jacks@kofc.org



## Quick Notes

If you move or have a change in phone number, please notify Financial Secretary, George Sakorafos at 586-610-3576.

Please visit our sick and shut-in Brothers. If you are unable to visit, please send a card with a note. It will be very much appreciated.



**Our State Motto  
for 2022/2023**

**"Faith and Family First"**

## Protecting God's Children

Online Webinar  
Wednesday, January 3, 2024  
5:30 pm

Online Webinar  
Thursday, January 11, 2024  
5:30 pm

Online Webinar  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
5:30 pm

Online Webinar  
Thursday, January 18, 2024  
5:30 pm

St Christopher Parish (Marysville)  
Saturday, January 20, 2024  
9:00 am

St Moses the Black Parish  
Saturday, January 20, 2024  
10:00 am

St Thomas More Parish (Troy)  
Saturday, January 20, 2024  
10:00 am

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish (Emmett)  
Saturday, January 27, 2024  
9:00 am

Online Webinar  
Monday, January 29, 2024  
5:30 pm

Online Webinar  
Monday, January 29, 2024  
5:30 pm

Online Webinar  
Wednesday, January 31, 2024  
5:30 pm

NOTE: Please check to see if you've been assigned a module on Protecting Gods Children and Vulnerable Adults as evidence of completion will be needed to participate in future events.

Also, background checks will be occurring annually. Please fill out your authorization forms and return to the church office.

## Prayer for the New Year 2024

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered upon us. We beg your pardon in our many failings and trespasses. Make the new year a more fruitful and blessed one.

We also thank You for every test of time that has brought us stronger in faith and trust in You. Bestow upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.

## Calendar of Events

### JANUARY

6		Christmas Light Take Down & Store ( Time TBD)
11	6:30 pm Dinner	General Membership Meeting
	7:30 pm Meeting	
16	6:00 pm Dinner	Detroit Diocesan Meeting at Sacred Heart Seminary
	7:00 pm Meeting	
22	7:00 pm Meeting	Officers Planning Meeting (Conference Room)
22-25	11:00 am—	Charity Poker at Cicerelli's
	6:00 pm	
27	9:00 am Start	District Free Throw Contest (St Thecla Hall)
28	6:30 am Prep	Pancake Breakfast
	8:00 am to 11:00 am	



## Happy Birthday!!



Richart Dutts	January 2
George Francis	January 6
Lorrayne Thielmans	January 7
John Anderson	January 8
Vincent Cusumano	January 11
Thomas Hudson	January 12
Thomas Murray	January 14
Donald Duff	January 15
Phillip Bryant	January 15
Joseph Frontera	January 16
Kenneth Grobbel	January 17
Daniel Gildner	January 18
Harold Meerschaert	January 19
Roger Gulick	January 20
William Pirrami	January 21
Kevin Kennedy	January 23
Dr Robert Amsler	January 27
Dean Pascaretti	January 29
David Wisneski	January 29
Kim Murphy	January 31

If you'd like to see your birthday posted, please send an e-mail to Chris Gapczynski at [spotknights11689@gmail.com](mailto:spotknights11689@gmail.com), or call at 586-263-5942.

## Happy Anniversary!!



Jim & Joann Daris	December 28
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If you'd like to see your anniversary posted, please send an e-mail to Chris Gapczynski at [spotknights11689@gmail.com](mailto:spotknights11689@gmail.com), or call at 586-263-5942.

## For the Good of the Order



**Please keep the Knights,  
Relatives or Acquaintances of  
Knights below in your prayers.**

Dayna Abraham	BK Jim Lambertus
Sue Alderman	John Lechene
Carol Alexander	Katie Lechene
Kevin Bondra	Peggy Lewis
The Brown Family	BK Chuck Loewen
SK Frank Burda	Pat Loewen
Susan Burian	Leanne Mackay
Eric Burns	Dan McGraw
Connie Colosimo	Ronald McGraw
BK Ralph Colosimo	BK John Minicuci
Sherri Czarny	Patty Morgan
SK Ted Czarny	Elizabeth Morrison
Micheal Denomme	Mary R Olejniczak
Claudia Dombrowski	Fr Dale Orlik
Kelly Ellis	Ed Peoples
Rochelle Everhart	Judy Perreau
Christine Gapczynski	Justin Pietsch
Gregory Gapczynski	BK Geno Pirrami
SK Angelo Garavaglia	Ilene Porto
Janet Gennani	Esther Robidou
BK Ken Gonko	Kurt Scharapimski
Christopher Hageman	Joanne Smail
Jill Hageman	Eva Sokol
Brandon Hale	Tom Sokol
Shirley Haysh	Patricia Stonehouse
Barbara Hickner	PGK Karl Szissz
Katie Hickner	William Szya
BK Mike Hoste	Gary Tarbuck
Beth Hund	Jim Tarbuck
SK Jerry Hund & Family	Laura Thomson
Sherri Ignatowski	Bob Williams
Dolores Kendall	Lynn Williams
Fr John Kiselica	Deacon Ed Wilson
Joseph Kook	BK Dave Wisneski
SK Art Krygowski	Cathy Wisniewski
Janice Krygowski	Barney Young
David Kwasny	Violet Candela
Patricia Labadie	





# Please Remember our Beloved Deceased Brother Knights



Carl A. Owen	March 5, 1997	Thomas Hayes	September 9, 2018
Frank C. Kava	October 3, 1998	Anthony Valentine	September 16, 2018
Chester E. Raszkowski	August 8, 2000	Lawrence Novak	November 19, 2018
Robert A Post	August 1, 2001	Joseph Roehrig	January 8, 2019
Martin W. Rosenau	September 24, 2001	Joseph Marheineke	January 10, 2019
Julius T. Abraham	October 8, 2001	Giuseppe Riera	January 21, 2019
Clemente Truden	December 7, 2001	Clarence Gajewski	February 3, 2019
Walter W. Kawka	December 25, 2002	Paul Ross	May 25, 2019
James P. Koss	May 4, 2003	George Trapp II	July 14, 2019
Dominic Morello	March 12, 2005	Neil Norat	November 25, 2019
John P. Banas	April 16, 2005	Ben Candela	December 27, 2019
Catan W. Bernardo	June 13, 2006	Robert C. (Chuck) Lomasney	May 15, 2020
Robert W. Majkowski	June 28, 2006	Alton Obrecht	August 17, 2020
Alfonso Carvajal	March 11, 2007	Joseph Hopersberger	August 19, 2020
Brian R. McGinnis	October 24, 2007	Leon Eggers	November 18, 2020
Arthur J. Hug	January 17, 2008	Guido Fracassa	January 19, 2021
James Bischoff	February 11, 2008	Ronald Serefino	November 22, 2021
Russell J. Licovoli	April 2, 2008	Donald Szlezzyngier	March 10, 2022
Donald Lynch	May 1, 2008	George Francis	March 19, 2022
Joseph Anthonucci	November 18, 2008	Natalino DiFalco	April 21, 2022
John Billotti	May 20, 2009	Henry Leflere	December 11, 2022
Morris Demetsenare	July 9, 2009	Joseph Kish	December 13, 2022
Conrad Leder	September 5, 2009	Raymond Ignatowski	February 12, 2023
Joseph T. Frontera	September 7, 2009	Vito Guzzardo	September 13, 2023
Gary Golec	April 4, 2010		
Walter Baumgart	August 15, 2010		
Robert Serafino	January 16, 2012		
Guy Serafino	March 7, 2012		
Thomas Saura	April 3, 2012		
Frank Gaal	January 12, 2012		
William Carron	July 8, 2012		
Gregory Kropidlowski	May 11, 2014		
Vincent McInnes	August 16, 2014		
Joseph Ricard	September 22, 2014		
Albert Johnson	January 22, 2015		
Joseph Godell	February 5, 2015		
Raymond Dawson	February 25, 2015		
Michael J. Francis	February 28, 2015		
Donald Duff	July 30, 2015		
Harold Patterson	October 20, 2015		
William Galbraith	November 22, 2015		
Donald Badowski	March 16, 2016		
Fr. Louis Grandpre	February 20, 2016		
John Marotta	March 26, 2016		
Ralph Labadie	March 27, 2016		
Reginald Topolewski	June 28, 2016		
James Kaza	September 26, 2016		
John Russo	March 15, 2017		
Ed Marcinkowski	August 30, 2017		
Ross Vizzaccerro	September 6, 2017		
Joseph Bono	September 28, 2017		
Bruno Belline	January 28, 2018		
James Lisuzzo	February 1, 2018		
Harry Motta	February 26, 2018		
Carl R. Maron	May 9, 2018		
Ken Dombrowski	June 8, 2018		
William F. Gowland	August 31, 2018		

## Officers of S.P.O.T. K of C Council #11689

District Deputy	Dan Nowakowski	586-722-8225
District Warden	Ed Perkins Harry Barriger	586-940-0148 810-488-2724
Chaplain	Fr. John Kiselica	586-228-1210
Grand Knight	Vince Ursini	248-635-4366
Deputy Grand Knight	Gary Skarb	586-612-3329
Chancellor	Paul Parker	586-805-1120
Financial	George Sakorafos	586-610-3576
Recorder	Ron Marrese	586-481-1168
Treasurer	Ray Coughlin	586-980-4483
Warden	Tony Guido	586-201-4409
Inside Guard	Stan Labuda	586-286--1038
Outside Guard	Larry Bukowski	586-286-9891
1 Yr Trustee	Rich Miller	586-465-6933
2 Yr Trustee	Kurt Buhlinger	810-794-0833
3 Yr Trustee	Tom Gray	586-805-0150
Advocate	Ken Krause	586-263-7115
Lecturer	Frank Burda	828-400-1816
Program Director	Mike Hartel	586-263-0544
Church	Tom Pardo	586-263-8187
Community	PGK George Loewen	586-731-5299
Council	Gary Skarb	586-612-3329
Family	Ron Marrese	586-481-1168
Youth	PGK Art Krygowski	586-322-9411
Membership	Phil Mularski	586-876-9060
Field Agent	Dale Jacks	586-419-0276
Vocations	PCGK & FDD Jeff Gapczynski	586-337-5942
Pro-Life Chairman	Sal Ales Leon Berdy	586-263-3483 586-201-1990
Communications	Phil Kwasny	586-469-1997
Webmaster	Ken Dudley	586-553-2007



We realize that when illness strikes, it may be difficult to attend our meetings. Please let any member know if another Brother Knight or his family should be added to our prayer list at each meeting.

To place articles in the newsletter contact:

Chris Gapczynski at (586) 263-5942 or at

[spotknights11689@gmail.com](mailto:spotknights11689@gmail.com)

Articles for the February newsletter must be submitted by no later than January 22, 2024..

**K of Supreme:** [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

**K of C Michigan State Council:** [www.mikofc.org](http://www.mikofc.org)

**Michigan District #1:** [www.michigan district1.com](http://www.michigan district1.com)

**St. Paul of Tarsus:** [www.stpauloftarsus.com](http://www.stpauloftarsus.com)

**SPOT Knights:** [www.spotknights.com](http://www.spotknights.com)

Our Council newsletter is now available on-line on the St. Paul of Tarsus Parish website, [www.stpauloftarsus.com](http://www.stpauloftarsus.com).

Anyone who wishes to receive their newsletter via the Internet instead of by regular mail should contact Chris Gapczynski at 586-263-5942 or at [spotknights11689@gmail.com](mailto:spotknights11689@gmail.com). Doing so would save our Council a great deal of money for printing and postage.



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



COOKIES WITH SANTA PROGRAM  
w/ Men's Group









*Please join us for our upcoming*  
**INTERFAITH VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS**  
**COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024– 1pm-3pm**

**at MacDonald Public Library**  
36480 Main St, New Baltimore, MI 48047

**Speaker Denise Johns**  
**Disability Network of Eastern Michigan**



**Prevention of Elder Abuse, Neglect, & Exploitation**

During this presentation, we will be discussing the prevention of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation as it relates to the intersection of abuse and disability. We will take a closer look at how to identify abuse when we see it followed by a discussion on the prevalence of abuse. We will also explain how abuse affects individuals. We will highlight resources available to prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. Objectives of the presentation include:

1. Define abuse
2. Identify abuse
3. Abuse prevalence
4. Effects of abuse
5. Loneliness and Social Connection
6. Resources

**Free of charge - All are welcome!**

**\*\* Please call (586) 757-5551 or email  
outreach@ivcinfo.org to RSVP . . .  
and feel free to bring a friend! \*\***

**Light refreshments! \* Door prizes!**

# MICHIGAN



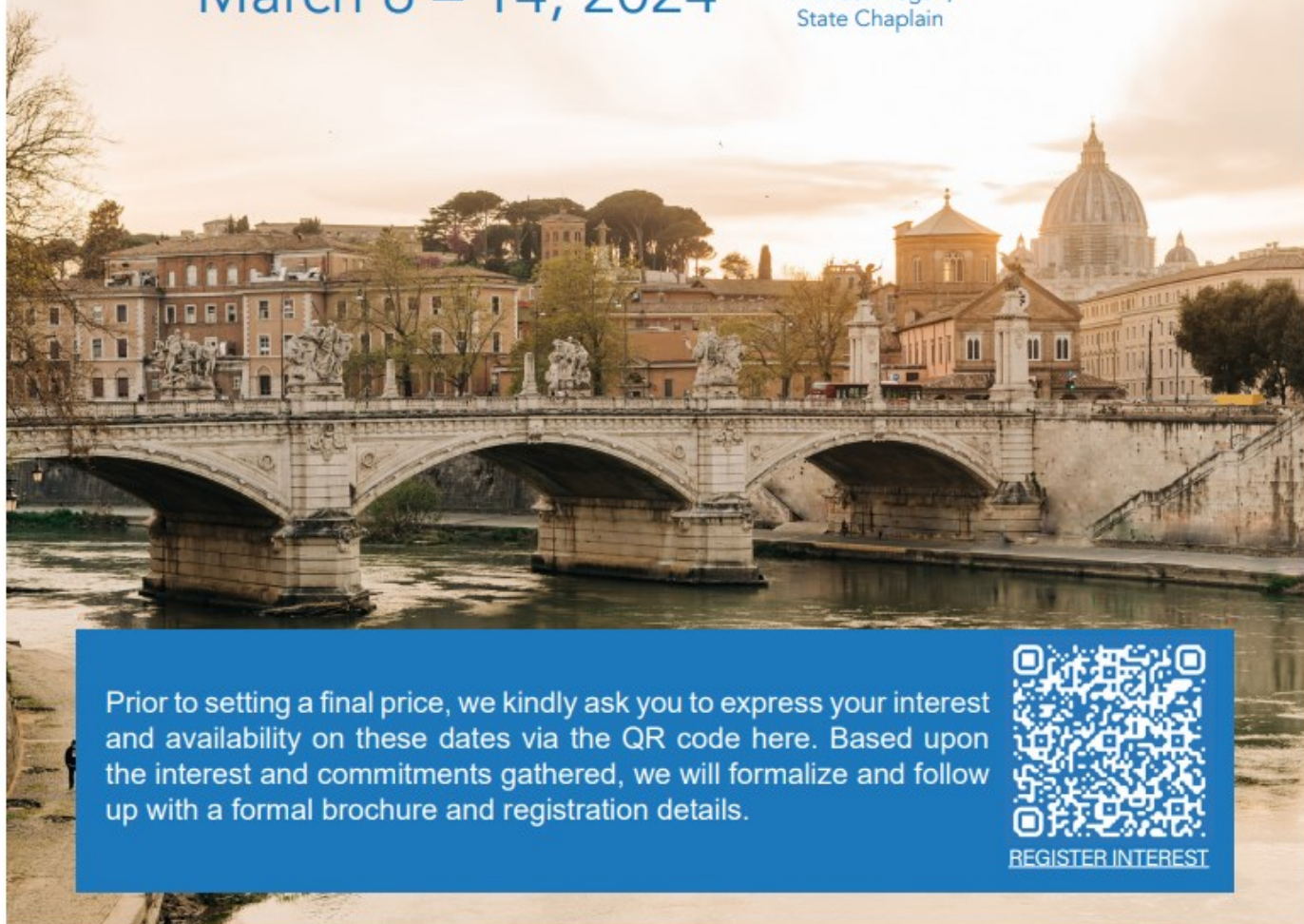
## Knights of Columbus®

### State Chaplain's Lenten Pilgrimage

March 6 – 14, 2024



Fr. Aidan Logan,  
State Chaplain



Prior to setting a final price, we kindly ask you to express your interest and availability on these dates via the QR code here. Based upon the interest and commitments gathered, we will formalize and follow up with a formal brochure and registration details.



[REGISTER INTEREST](#)



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BY CORPORATE TRAVEL

41780 W Six Mile Road, Suite 100, Northville, MI 48168

P: 866.468.1420 | [ctscentral.net](http://ctscentral.net)



# Itinerary

## PRE-NIGHT: TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH | DETROIT MEETING

Optional hotel night near the Detroit airport. Long-term parking services can be arranged.

## DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH | DEPART FOR ITALY

Pending flight schedule, celebrate a send-off Mass near the Detroit Airport (possibly St. Mary's in Wayne) with the Knights of Columbus. Then, transfer to the Detroit Metropolitan Airport for your overnight flight(s) to Rome, Italy.

## DAY 2: THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH | ARRIVE IN ROME 🍷

Benvenuti a Roma! After baggage claim, meet your Italian Tour Manager in the Arrivals Hall. Board a private motorcoach and depart for the Vatican neighborhood to check-in to your hotel. Celebrate a Welcome Mass at the Basilica of St. Lawrence Outside the Walls. Finally, enjoy a traditional Italian dinner hosted by the State Deputy! Return to your hotel for overnight

## DAY 3: FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH | SCAVI | ST. PETER'S BASILICA | SWISS GUARDS ☕

Celebrate an early morning Station Church Mass at the Basilica of Saint Lawrence in Lucina. Return to the hotel for breakfast. The group will then take part in the Scavi tour - the ancient Roman excavations below the Basilica of St. Peter's culminating at the tomb of St. Peter (pending availability). Tour the beautiful St. Peter's Basilica with Fr. Logan. Then, spend the afternoon around the Vatican taking lunch on the Borgo Pio, where many religious items can be purchased for the Papal blessing on Sunda. Finally, take a special tour of the Swiss Guard Barracks and learn about the oldest and smallest military unit in service to the Holy Father. The remainder of the evening is free for you to explore. Overnight in Rome.

## DAY 4: SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH | DAY TRIP TO CASTEL GONDOLFO ☕ 🍷

Celebrate an early morning Station Church Mass at the Church of Santa Susanna. Return to the hotel for breakfast before departing on a day trip to explore the splendid papal summer residence of Castel Gandolfo. Upon arrival, enjoy a beautiful lunch at Pagnanelli's before touring through the residence, Papal Gardens, and private Vatican Farm at Castel Gandolfo. Return to Rome for an evening on your own. Overnight in Rome.

## DAY 5: SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH | ANGELUS WITH THE HOLY FATHER | PNAC ☕ 🍷

After Mass, join Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square to pray the Angelus and to receive a Papal Blessing. After lunch on your own, transfer by motorcoach to the Pontifical North American College located on the Janiculum Hill. Meet with some of the American priests and seminarians studying in Rome and join them for evening prayer in their Chapel. Enjoy a beautiful cityscape of Rome and the Vatican from their rooftop. Return to Vatican area for dinner and overnight.

## DAY 6: MONDAY, MARCH 11TH | ST. JOHN LATERAN BASILICA | HOLY STAIRS | ST. MARY MAJOR BASILICA ☕

Celebrate an early morning Station Church Mass at the Basilica of Santi Quattro Coronati. Then, visit the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome, as well as the Holy Stairs, which were brought to Rome by St. Helen. Finally, visit the first Basilica dedicated to the Blessed Mother, St. Mary Major. Spend time in prayer before returning to your hotel for a free evening and overnight in Rome.

## DAY 7: TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH | WALKING TOUR OF ROME | CATACOMBS | AFTER-HOURS VATICAN MUSEUMS ☕ 🍷

Celebrate an early morning Station Church Mass at the Basilica of San Lorenzo in Damaso. Then, take a walking tour of Rome to explore Piazza Navona, the Pantheon, and the Trevi Fountain. This afternoon, enjoy a special lunch at Cecilia Metella. Continue onto St. Callixtus Catacombs, which once contained the tombs of several popes from the 2nd to 4th centuries. This evening, experience a special after-hours tour of the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, where you will view some of the most inspiring works of art, including Michelangelo's magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment.

## DAY 8: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH | ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALL BASILICA | SAN CLEMENTE BASILICA | HEART OF ROME WITH FR. LOGAN | FAREWELL DINNER ☕ 🍷

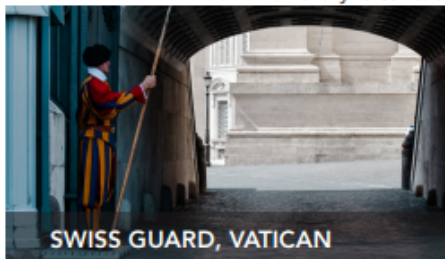
Celebrate an early morning Station Church Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Wall, the resting place of the Apostle to the Gentiles. Then, make a visit to the Basilica of San Clemente to see the three-levels of the Church, corresponding to a major era of Roman history. Continue on a walk through Ancient Rome to view the Colosseum and Roman Forum with Fr. Logan. This evening, celebrate the conclusion of our pilgrimage with a Farewell Dinner hosted by the State Chaplain.

## DAY 9: THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH | RETURN TO USA ☕

Check out of the hotel and depart for the Rome airport for your return flight home to Michigan

☕ = CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST | 🍷 = LUNCH | 🍷 = DINNER

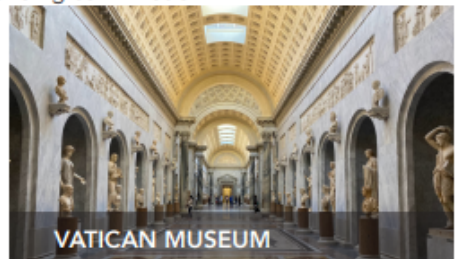
\*Itinerary is tentative and subject to change; specified Masses pending confirmation



SWISS GUARD, VATICAN



CASTEL GANDOLFO



VATICAN MUSEUM