



Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus Council 14696 exists to support charities, provide service and promote Catholic values. There is much good and necessary work to be done in this world, and that is what our Knights do every day.

<http://www.kofc14696.org>

kofc14696@gmail.com

The Knight Times

**The Official Publication of the St. Sebastian Council #14696
Summer 2021**

Volume 1, Issue 1

Council 14696 Meeting Information

Recitation of the Rosary will begin at
6:30pm followed by the meeting

General Meetings
1st Tuesday of Each Month
7:00-8:00pm

St. Athanasius Hall
7 Chalfonte Ave.
West View, PA 15229

Officer Meetings
3rd Tuesday of Each Month
7:00-8:00pm
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
800 Avila Court
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Grand Knight Report

St. Sebastian Council has placed #1 in PA for membership recruiting with over 600 Councils in our state. Our Council has been awarded Star Council (our highest honor) with a triple star rating for exceeding our quota over 900%



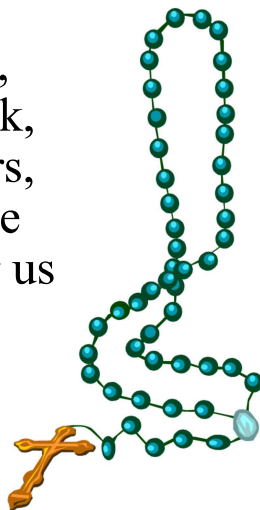
Special Intentions of Current Council Brothers

- Skip Bradburn
- Rich Dovi
- Paul Hauser
- Jim Kramer
- Paul McDunn
- Jim McDunn
- Guy Morello
- Jim Nordin
- Mike Santucci
- Dan Zykowski

General Special Intentions

- Matt Cellante (Mike Santucci)
- Dan Connors (Tom Fowler)
- Regis Fowler (Tom Fowler)
- Ruth Fowler (Tom Fowler)
- Bill Gaus Jr. (Robert Gaus)
- Nellie Jones (Gill Jones)
- Karen Kramer (#14696)
- Laureline (Jim Stitt)
- Mary Ann McDunn (McDunn Family)
- Donald Nordin (Jim Nordin)
- Judith Nordin (Jim Nordin)
- Carol Sargent (George Shaheen)
- Randy Schubert (Rocco Santucci)
- Carol Schubert (Rocco Santucci)
- Unborn Children (#14696)

Mother of God,
Health of the sick,
Refuge of sinners,
Comforter of the
afflicted, pray for us



A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of other and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection.
Amen.

***Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God. In our needs,
despise not our petitions, but deliver us
always from all dangers, O glorious
and blessed Virgin. Amen.***

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

Thoughts from our Lecturer, Dan Waruszewski

Saint Joseph: A Role Model for All Catholic Men

Pope Francis has designated this year as the year of Saint Joseph. Although not one word uttered by St. Joseph is mentioned in the Bible, his seemingly quiet life is truly an inspiration to all. The following reflection will focus on three virtues of this extraordinary, holy man - humility, trust, and obedience.

When St. Joseph found out that his future wife, Mary, was with child, he did not try to distract himself from what was a grave concern. He knew that the baby was biologically not his own. He may have momentarily experienced doubts and fears about what people may think or say. Ultimately, St. Joseph cared very much about Mary and was not going to allow her to suffer public ridicule and/or shame. But what to do? He did not display anger, resentment or hate but rather he was humble. He would take life in stride and put God's will first. By doing so, he showed that humility wins over selfishness and brings peace in all circumstances. The cost of not earning public approval or acceptance did not bother him.

Next, Saint Joseph was a man of trust. When the angel appeared to him bringing the good news that Mary's conception was by the Holy Spirit, this heavenly assurance must have brought grateful relief to St. Joseph. His humility was rewarded. It really bolstered his trust in God. He truly realized that God had blessed him with the great responsibility of protecting and providing a home for Jesus and Mary. As head of the Holy Family, St. Joseph's trust in God grew.

This implicit trust came to its ultimate test when God commanded St. Joseph to flee with Mary and Jesus to Egypt to avoid the murderous wrath of Herod. To leave at a moment's notice on a perilous journey to a strange land would cause the common man to doubt and to hesitate. But this was not the case with St. Joseph. He obeyed God's directive without hesitation. Questions regarding timing, provisions, and transportation were quickly given secondary priority. First on St. Joseph's mind was that God's will must be obeyed. God would help him work out the necessary details. God loved them and always had their best interest at heart. God's will be done!

Fellow Knights, St. Joseph is a terrific model for each and every one of us.

When we feel resentful, when a loved one dies, when life's downers exhaust us, we can recall St. Joseph's humility and request his intercession.

When we feel all alone in our troubles, when nobody seems to care, when we feel unloved, we can remember that St. Joseph felt the same way but his trust in God saw him through uncertain times.

When we are faced with formidable tasks at work or at home, when nothing seems to work, no matter how hard we try, when relationships are broken, we can open ourselves to God's will as St. Joseph did with obedience and without hesitation.

Summarily, humility, trust, and obedience will make the cold, dark nights of life warmer and brighter and the scorching, barren desert sands of life cooler and fruitful.

May God bless you! Amen.



Spiritual Director's Perspective

A little history of present day contraception/abortion.

Up until the 1930's, all Christian churches were unified in opposition to all contraception. The marital act is a way that husband and wife expressed the covenant of marriage, with the possibility of life being created through this act. By committing the marital act, is to do something sacred. By using contraception during the marital act, and thwart the life-giving power makes it profane (treating something sacred in a merely common way is to profane it by definition). Some of the sources that one may study this both historically or through the eyes of the church are "Rome Sweet Home" by Scott & Kimberly Hahn, "Birth Control and the Marriage Covenant" by John Kipley (retitled "Sex and the Marriage Covenant" in recent editions), and "Humanae Vitae" by Pope Paul VI.

Margaret Sanger, founder of American Birth Control League (ABCL) 1921, now known as Planned Parenthood, had motivations of eugenics and bigotry toward the African Americans as well as Catholicism. She mounted opposition to the Comstock Act which made it illegal to use contraception in all forms. Again, the Christian Churches were united in opposition to contraception.

Sanger found allies in some non-Catholic Christians to amend the Comstock Act and eventually permit birth control. She found other allies in the likes of Clarence Gamble of Proctor and Gamble and Mrs. John Rockefeller. Her aim was more about prevention than abortion. It was not until Alan Guttmacher who eventually led Planned Parenthood that it would change. Guttmacher was a major proponent of abortion and put the major push forward to Roe V Wade and it's legalization of abortion.

Roe V Wade when passed, denied any State's rights to make their own choice about the legality of abortion. Ironically, Norma McCorvey (Jane Roe) as she would later say, was not the behind the push for Supreme Court Challenge for abortion, but became its face. She recanted her role in Roe V Wade and became Pro-Life (and Catholic) until her death.

Another proponent of abortion and eventually a prominent opponent of abortion was Dr. Bernard Nathanson after being responsible for 75,000 or so abortions himself. What is not immediately obvious to everyone is that the abortion movement started with deception and even lies. Dr Nathanson has been very explicit on this and I am going to quote from his writings and speeches. He said regarding the campaign to legalize abortion in the US:

'We fed the public a line of deceit, dishonesty, a fabrication of statistics and figures. We succeeded [in breaking down the laws limiting abortions] because the time was right and the news media cooperated. We sensationalized the effects of illegal abortions, and fabricated polls which indicated that 85% of the public favored unrestricted abortion, when we knew it was only 5%. We unashamedly lied, and yet our statements were quoted [by the media] as though they had been written in law.' (quoted in John Powell, Abortion: the silent Holocaust. Tabor, Allen, Texas. 1981.)

The statistics of maternal mortality due to self-induced abortion were grossly exaggerated. Dr Nathanson writes:

'How many deaths were we talking about when abortion was illegal? In NARAL (National Association for Repeal of Abortion Laws) we generally emphasized the drama of the individual case, not the mass statistics, but when we spoke of the latter it was always 5,000 to 10,000 a year. I confess that I knew the figures were totally false, But in the "morality" of our revolution, it was a useful figure, widely accepted, so why go out of our way to correct it with honest statistics?' The official figures of maternal death due to illegal abortion before abortion was legalized was 160. Dr Nathanson estimates the actual figure to be around 500 maternal deaths per year. (Bernard Nathanson, Richard Ostling. Aborting America. Pinnacle Books. New York 1979.)

In a speech he said about his attempts to legalize abortion: 'There was only silence from the opposition. We fed a line of deceit, of dishonesty, of fabrication of statistics and figures; we coddled, caressed, and stroked the press. (...) We were calling ourselves pro- abortionists and pro-choice. In fact we were abortififers: those who like abortion. Let me digress and speak for a moment on the question of 'pro- choice', as they euphemistically call themselves now. I reject that phrase, that euphemism. It is misleading. It is dishonest. It implies that in the issue of abortion there is an ethical choice whether to have an abortion or whether not to have an abortion;...Of course... abortion is not an ethical choice.

Seminarians

Our council currently supports two seminarians,
Eric L. Pintar and Nicholas P. Wytiaz.

Please keep these men in your prayers, as spiritual support is a necessity in their lives. Our Council sends cards and small monetary gifts of thanks to them for Christmas and Easter, as well as for each of their birthdays. Please feel free to reach out to them with additional encouragement during their journey.

Erik L. Pintar
Saint Paul Seminary
2900 Noblestown Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Nicholas P. Wytiaz
Saint Paul Seminary
2900 Noblestown Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Council Outreach

Do you know a fellow brother that could use an extra hand? Maybe they have trouble shopping, driving or just need a friend to listen. We have a mission not only to aid others in the community but also to help our own brothers in need. Sometimes a simple “Thinking of You” card in the mail or a phone a call to them can be what the soul needs.

Our brother Jim Kramer is suffering from Dementia. Currently we are looking for brother knights to take Jim out for a lunch. The time we spend gives him a chance to experience brotherhood. This also gives his wife Karen a break as Dementia can certainly take its toll on the rest of the family.

His wife, Karen, tells us he would appreciate receiving personal notes of well wishes from his brothers. **Their address 230 Kinvara Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.**

Interested in being one of those brothers willing to reach out?
Contact our coordinator, Dan Zykowski, with questions. 412-486-0712.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Sebastian Council #14696 Elected Officers for 2021 Tem



**Grand Knight
SK George Shaheen**



**Deputy Grand Knight
and Program Director
Richard Dovi**



**Chancellor
Matthew Bomba**



**Financial Secretary
Carl Weinman**



**Financial Secretary
James Nordin**



**Recorder
Rocco Santucci**



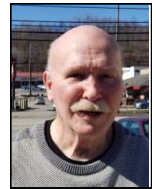
**Treasurer
Steven Gaus**



**Lecturer
Dan Waruszewski**



**Advocate
David O'Boyle**



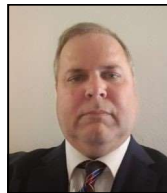
**Warden and
Membership Chairman
James M Stitt**



**Inside Guard
SK Gilbert Jones**



**Outside Guard
Daniel Zykowski**



**1yr Trustee
SK Timothy McClelland**



**2yr Trustee
Thomas Fowler**



**3yr Trustee
Robert Gaus**



**Chaplain
SK Rev John Rushofsky**

Funeral Assistance Application for COVID-19 Victims

If a person has passed away from COVID-19, an application can be filed with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to request reimbursement for certain funeral related expenses of the decedent. Some examples of covered funeral expenses include: costs for a casket or an urn, grave marker or headstone, cremation or interment, and burial plot. The deceased person must meet certain criteria including, but not limited to, that the person must have died after January 20, 2020 in the United States or in a U. S. territory.

The maximum reimbursement amount per deceased person is \$9,000, and the maximum amount that any one applicant is entitled to receive for several funeral assistance applications is \$35,500.

Documents that are required to support a funeral assistance application consist of a death certificate, listing the cause of death as COVID-19 or COVID-19 like symptoms, and receipts issued to the applicant for payment of qualifying funeral related expenses.

An applicant cannot file an application for funeral assistance on-line. Rather, the applicant must call 844-684-6333 from 9 am to 9 pm EST, Monday through Friday, to begin the application process. After an applicant has called and received an application number, the applicant can send supporting documentation through the website at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) or by mail or fax.

**More information is available at
[fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance](https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance)**

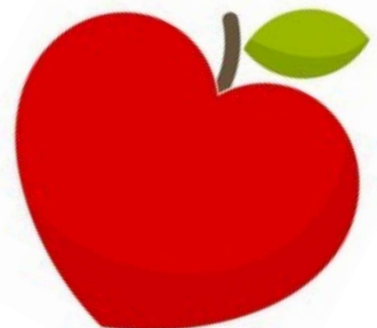
FOOD PANTRY

An important council commitment is the support of our Parish Food Bank. Your ongoing contributions help support 40 families in our parish.

Please remember to bring your non-perishable donation to our meetings.

Most Needed Items

Juice * Jelly * Pasta Sauce * Boxed Rice
Hamburger Helper * Canned Fruits and Veggies
Laundry Detergent



2021 Steeler Raffle

Fundraiser to benefit Knights of Columbus Local #14696 Charities

**1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will each receive:
2 Tickets for 3 Home Games (\$740 Value)**

Drawing based on PA Lottery Evening 3 Digit Number
Drawing Dates: September 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Tickets are available for \$10 each

Contact Rick Dovi to purchase a ticket or to help sell tickets
412.425.7512

Steelers are responsible for any changes to home game schedule



The Silver Rose Program

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for the Knights, parishioners, and community members to pay respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Our council will host the Silver Rose along it's route on August 11th. The ceremony will take place at St. Sebastian church after Noon Mass.

Please save the date and plan to attend.

For more information about the program, please visit:
[Silver Rose - Life Programs | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](https://www.kofc.org/Silver-Rose-Life-Programs)



St. Michael Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world, seeking the ruin of souls.

Prayer for the Canonization of the Venerable Servant of God Michael McGivney



God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Father Michael J. 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 your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (make your request).

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Membership Recruitment

Do you know a fantastic candidate that upholds Catholic values as well as giving service to the community? We want those men to be in our council. Need help convincing them the rest of the way? Our Recruitment Coordinator and Grand Knight can help.

Our council has set a goal in this fiscal 2021-2022 year of 20 new members. We added close to that total during a Pandemic year. Image matching or achieving that figure.

Please reach out to our coordinator Jim Stitt with questions. 412-512-0473.

Church Cleaning

Every 2nd Saturday of a new month from 9-10:30am we provide a sparkle and shine to St. Sebastian church. Our focus is the church and Narthex areas. This is our way to support the church that supports us. All cleaning materials will be provided. A fantastic way to spend a Saturday with your fellow brothers and collect some service hours.

Please reach out to our coordinator Jim Stitt with questions or to sign up. 412-512-0473.



Bishop's Project Update

Support of this worthwhile project allows us to fundraise for St. Anthony School and the McGuire Memorial Home. Donations collected help both organizations in their mission to provide opportunities for mentally challenged individuals.

Our council goal is \$5,000 each year. Last year, Covid made reaching this goal particularly challenging. Let's make this year a winner and donate more than expected.

We will be on-site collecting donations at both Kuhn's on McKnight Road and Sam's Club at Mt. Nebo. Dates and times for August collections will be communicated through Flocknote. Please consider volunteering and giving two hours of your time on a Saturday.

Any questions or concerns, reach out to Paul Hauser at 412-952-3195

To learn more on the Bishop's Project, please visit
[Knights of Columbus Bishop of Pittsburgh Diocese Project \(bishopsprojectkofc.org\)](http://bishopsprojectkofc.org)



We Are One Body (WAOB) is an organization that broadcasts a Catholic message.

The goal is to inspire and share the message of God through sacred music, Liturgy of the hours, the Rosary, a Mass or the writing of a Saint.

Please visit and explore the website. There you can listen to the message.

[We Are One Body® Catholic Radio, WAOB® 106.7 FM](http://www.waob.org)

WAOB-FM 106.7 FM – Covers Greater Pittsburgh, PA area including most of Western PA

WAOB-AM 860 AM – Covers Greater Pittsburgh, PA area.

WPGR-AM 1510 AM – Covers Greater Pittsburgh, PA area.