

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



In Service to One; In Service to All



Grand Knight: Henry Van Vroenhoven 905-648-0754,  
[vanvr@sympatico.ca](mailto:vanvr@sympatico.ca)

Deputy Grand Knight: Michael Moss 905 928 2750,  
[m63moss@gmail.com](mailto:m63moss@gmail.com)

---

## **GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT**

Brother Knights:

Congratulations to Father Lobsinger on his appointment, by Pope Francis, as the Bishop-Elect for the diocese of Hamilton. He will start in the new year. We thank Bishop Lobsinger for his constant and positive support to our council and his amazing pastoral leadership of our parish especially during these nine months of Covid restrictions. We wish him much success in his new role. We are donating \$500 to the deMazenod Door Program, assisting the very needy in the city, in his name. His replacement as acting pastor will be the Very Reverend Michael King.

Thanks to all who assisted with the transportation and assembly of the Nativity Scene.

Thanks to the Bishop for presiding in a virtual mass for all deceased members of the Knights of Columbus.

Consider attending our virtual zoom meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Check your emails for the link.

Wishing you and your families a joyful, healthy and blessed Christmas and New Year. Best wishes for a new and safe return to normal in 2021 with the arrival of the vaccines and continued care and safety of all.

Thank you, God Bless, Be Safe, Fraternally yours, Henry Vroenhoven GK



## ***Christmas Messages:***

From our Bishop Douglas Crosby

<https://hamiltondiocese.com/christmas2020/>

Please check the Christmas letter from Bishop-Elect Wayne Lobsinger included in this newsletter. You will have received it if the parish has your email. If they do not please call the office to give it to them or contact

[info@st-anns-ancaster.com](mailto:info@st-anns-ancaster.com).

Look for Pope Francis' Christmas Message on Christmas Day on the internet.

Christmas masses at St. Ann's Ancaster will be live streamed on Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m. and midnight and on Christmas Day at 11 a.m. ON January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, mass will be streamed at 11:00 a.m. Regular daily masses will be streamed at 8:00 a.m.

## ***Events and Issues:***

**Tastes of Ancaster:** Scott Rastin, there are no plans at this time for the continuation of this event for 2021

**Golf Tourney:** Paul Henderson said no planning activity scheduled as yet. It too may not occur in 2021. The event originally scheduled for August 15, 2020 was postponed due to Covid19. Again this event will be reviewed on a regular basis to determine the feasibility as we progress through the Coronavirus issue.

### **Food Drive Proposal**

Michael Creaghan & John DiLiberto: Contrary to popular belief Ancaster is not a city where only the privileged live. We do have many families in need of financial and community support. The Ancaster Community Services is one organization assisting these needs. Melanie Barlow is no longer the director there. The position is now held by Kalee Norwood. As we were not able to participate with the Ancaster Food Drive in February it was suggested the knights conduct a Food Drive for the parish during Lent. We will need discuss this with our new pastor Father King to conduct this event in the new year as Lent is in early February in 2021. Bishop-elect Lobsinger did this, as pastor of St. Thomas parish, each week in lent with a concentration of specific food products each individual Sunday. These goods will be provide to the Ancaster Food Drive.

### ***Council Website***

Our web page needs updating. This has not been any updating for the last 2 years. Our District Deputy has graciously agreed to take on this project.

## ***FROM THE DESK OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY***



We have a candidate who will become a member of our council thanks to Br. Dan Marranca who is responsible for signing him up. He is Dan Galvin who will be taking his degree virtually.

We are always looking for new members for our council. If you have somebody who wants to become a Knight of Columbus let somebody know.

The Covid 19 is still a major problem in the Hamilton area as it has been on the increase at the present time. There are too many not

following the rules that have been put in place. A vaccine has arrived with more on the way. It will be the spring or early summer before many get vaccinated. Stay safe wear your mask, social distance and don't attend large gatherings.

If you change your e-mail, mailing address or phone number please let me know as this information needs to be changed on the council website the Supreme website and I also need this information to contact you. This is very important that this information is kept current as the newsletter and many important broadcasts are sent out by e-mail. Your phone number needs to be correct to let you know about upcoming events or meetings. You can contact me at [nlast@cogeco.ca](mailto:nlast@cogeco.ca) or 289-238-8017 for any changes.

Our membership is at 131 members with a couple members who still have to pay. This needs to be looked after ASAP.

Any insurance questions you may have our Field Agent for Knights of Columbus Insurance is SK Grant Okpere at 289-426-2277.

A Merry and Blessed Christmas to all our Brother Knights, their wives and families and wishing to all the very best in the New Year.

Stay Safe

SK Nick Last PFN

### **For the Good of the Order**

Pray for Mike Hanmer who has the coronavirus. Mike was in the hospital in Florida and was flown home.

Pray for Kevin Kelly who needs our prayers at this time.

Pray for any of our members should they have or had the coronavirus. Pray for all who are sick with the coronavirus and also that when a large per cent of the population get vaccinated for this virus that it will go eventually away.

Pray for all the members of our armed forces serving our country

If you know of any of our Brother Knights or members of their family who are sick or have passed away. Please let somebody know from the Good of The Order.

SK Joe Laposa PGN PFN FDD 905-648-6610  
SK Nick Last PFN 289-238-8017

## ***St. Ann's Parish Online***

Visit the parish website [www.stannsparish.ca](http://www.stannsparish.ca) to keep up to date on parish offerings and protocols. Masses continue with mask and distancing requirements with room for 90 at each of the three weekend masses. Because of the lockdown in our gray area status, Christmas masses will be online as will daily masses.

Make sure the parish office has your email as you will receive weekly correspondence from Father Lobsinger as well as bulletins sent to you. Weekly bulletins outlining the events and activities in the parish community and weekly homilies are also available on the parish website.

Also St. Ann's Parish is on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/stannparishancaster/>

## **Executive for the 2019-2020 year**

**Grand Knight:** Henry Van Vroenhoven, 905-648-0754, [vanvr@sympatico.ca](mailto:vanvr@sympatico.ca)

**Past Grand Knight:** Todd Hornby, 905-648-5183, [thornby3@cogeco.ca](mailto:thornby3@cogeco.ca)

**Deputy Grand Knight:** Michael Moss 905 928 2750, [m63moss@gmail.com](mailto:m63moss@gmail.com)

**Chancellor:** Gregg Husband, 905-648-5376, [gregghusband@hotmail.com](mailto:gregghusband@hotmail.com)

**Financial Secretary:** Nick Last, 289-238-8017, [nlast@cogeco.ca](mailto:nlast@cogeco.ca)

**Advocate:** Ron Broadfoot, [lemmy70@cogeco.ca](mailto:lemmy70@cogeco.ca)

**Treasurer:** Cliff Bowman, [c\\_ybowman@yahoo.ca](mailto:c_ybowman@yahoo.ca)

**Recorder:** Lionel Ferro, [ferrolionel@hotmail.com](mailto:ferrolionel@hotmail.com)

**Warden:** Moe Forget, [forgetmj@mcmaster.ca](mailto:forgetmj@mcmaster.ca)

**Lecturer:** Michael Creaghan, [michaelcreaghan2@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcreaghan2@gmail.com)

**Outside Guard:** Otto Gris, [annagris@sympatico.ca](mailto:annagris@sympatico.ca)

**Inside Guard:** Glen Herrell, [gherrell5@cogeco.ca](mailto:gherrell5@cogeco.ca)

**1 Yr Trustee:** John DiLiberto, [johndvp@gmail.com](mailto:johndvp@gmail.com)

**2 Yr Trustee:** Paul Henderson, [henny4037@gmail.com](mailto:henny4037@gmail.com)

**3 Yr Trustee:** Mike Floren, [mafloren22@gmail.com](mailto:mafloren22@gmail.com)

**Worthy Council Chef:** Alan Wong, [algewo4348@gmail.com](mailto:algewo4348@gmail.com)

## **DIRECTORS**

We have a number of director positions open. This is your opportunity to take a more active role in the council. Please contact Henry if you would like to take on one of the positions. Henry Van Vroenhoven 905-648-0754, [vanvr@sympatico.ca](mailto:vanvr@sympatico.ca) or Michael Moss 905 928 2750, [m63moss@gmail.com](mailto:m63moss@gmail.com)

## ***Lecturer's Talk: Michael Creaghan - Blessed are the Peacemakers, December 2020***

Over 70 million people voted for Trump in the last election. No matter what information was given to them they either didn't believe or didn't care. This electorate is so polarized that it supported Trump regardless of what he did or said. Trump has a narcissistic personality as shown in his total disregard for truth, moral values, human rights, racial justice, the family and the environment. Among those 70 millions who supported Trump many are Catholic. And many of these are single issue Catholics who oppose abortion. Since Trump, supposedly, opposes abortion they voted for him along with the fundamentalist Christian right. He attracted all the self interest groups such as ultra right, the NRA, Americans for Prosperity, the Kato institute, racists and white supremacists. Trump found millions of new voters as well as driving millions to the other side. Polarizing risks repelling more than it attracts. The GOP is now in shambles controlled by self serving factions. Hopefully, Joe Biden can unify Americans with renewed hope and opportunity. And hopefully, those single minded Catholics will now open their minds and hearts and see the Church as universal and welcoming to all.

Abortion is on one side and Pro Life and Pro Choice is in the other side. The right to abortion is the law and is not going to change. All the rallies and marches opposing abortion have done more harm than good, for all they have done is polarize each side. Pro Life supports life in all its stages from conception to natural death. Pro abortion says all women have control over their body and a bunch of foolish old men are not going to tell them otherwise. These positions are presented as black and white, right and wrong, good and bad , vice and virtue with no compromise.

Pro Life and Pro Choice are not opposites or at least they should not be opposites. The foundation for all societies is the family and children. This is natural law. It is not a moral issue. Western societies are in serious trouble because the birth rate is dropping. Consequently the population is aging and will soon not be able to sustain itself.

Women in our society are having abortions because they believe they have no choice. In their minds it is not Pro Choice but no choice. Their decisions appear rational, for bringing a child into this world could be raising a child with no hope and no opportunity for either mother or child . She is condemned to live a life on welfare and in poverty. Many in our society and our churches have made this a moral issue. It is wrong to have an abortion and yet on the other hand we don't want to look after you if you have the baby. It's condemning the poor.

Post second world war was the baby boom. There was lots of work and the economy was growing. There was a large middle class where families could afford a house on one income. Most mothers stayed home while their children were young. Food was relatively cheap as there were few expensive prepared foods. Education was free, health care was affordable, kids played outside and were on lots of teams. Churches were full and church related activities were strong. The result was having families of three or four children was the norm. Children were desired and were the most precious element in our society.

What has changed? Rural communities are disappearing and cities are growing. The result is that affordable housing in large municipalities is out of range for many families. To afford a home requires two incomes. Success today requires more education which increases student debt which in turn delays having families. Women are more career oriented and having children may inhibit their progress. The result is a delay in having their first child and rarely having more than two children. There is a difficult and unfair decision placed on women now, who are having to balance having children and/or having a career. The other reality is excessive consumerism of wanting everything now. This has greatly increased personal debt. The result is that people cannot afford to have children.

The total fertility rate (TFR) for women (according to Stats-Canada) in 2019 was 1.47 births. In comparison the TFR for women in 1959 was 3.94 births. The maintenance rate is 2.1 births. The average age of women having their first child now is between 30 and 34, where in 1959 it was 20 to 24. To have a thriving economy we need children. Priorities have to change. Our society has to put families and children first.

Canada is a wealthy country yet it has 1.3 million children living in poverty, that is 1 in 5 . In single parent families it rises to 1 in 3. In our First Nations the poverty rate is even higher. Certainly, this is not putting families and children first.

There are no simple solutions, but there are solutions. Families, neighbourhoods, communities and all levels of government have to make children their number one priority. This may appear to be a socialist agenda but in the long run it will create wealth. Every child is entitled to healthy food, shelter , education, play and health care. Having a child shouldn't automatically put the mother and child into poverty which is too frequent now. She needs support from her partner and extended family. She will also need the help of community and outreach organizations. She needs affordable housing, food and daycare. She needs the opportunity to work and/or continue her education. Her children need places to play and grow.



In future owning your own home may not be possible for most Canadian families, but affordable housing should be available. There should be a minimum family income where people are not dependent on food banks. There should be affordable day care. In Quebec, for example, where daycare is very cheap mothers are able to go back to work and this has created wealth.

Pro Choice is choosing to have and raise children in a community that welcomes, cares and values children. Remember “It takes a village to raise a child”.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.”

Michael Creaghan December 2020