

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

August 2018 Issue

**Knights Bid Farewell To  
a Sister Columbiette**

# Farewell, Sister Columbiette

*By Rita Joyce, Past President Auxiliary 14084*

St. Stephen Auxiliary 14084 sadly, but yet joyfully, lay to rest one of its beloved Charter Members, Ellen B. Stanton on Tuesday, July 31, 2018. Ellen was the mother of our dearly departed Sister Columbiette, Mary Ann Smith, who passed away in November 2010 just a few months after our Institution.

Our deceased Sister Ellen was also mother of Ed Sleyzak, Past Grand Knight of Council 14084 and current Worthy District Deputy and mother-in-law of his spouse (and our Sister Columbiette) Tina.

Ellen, who served as Chapter Delegate for two years, will sincerely be missed by all who knew her.

Saint Stephen Auxiliary 14084 offers its most sincere condolences to the entire Stanton/Sleyzak family and join them in their grief for the loss of their loved one.

Monday, July 30, 2018, the night of the Visitation, Deacon Ed Dodenhoff of St. Stephen Parish lead the well-attended viewing in a moving Prayer Service. Following

the Prayer Service, the Columbiettes, joined by their Worthy Brother Knights, presided over the recitation of the Rosary of the Most Blessed Mother.



Sister Ellen's funeral was celebrated by Father Emery Longanga, Pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Church in St. Petersburg, FL. Father Emery was a former Assistant Pastor at St. Stephen Parish for 4 years and a close friend of the family. He was assisted by Deacon Ed Dodenhoff and Deacon Dan Gratkowski, both serving St. Stephen Parish.

Knights' Color Guard members from four Councils added to the solemnity of the moment as well as the St. Stephen Auxiliary 14084 Columbiette Honor

Guard and delegation.

Ellen B. Stanton, Sister Columbiette, was laid to rest next to her beloved daughter in Serenity Meadows of Riverview, FL. May she and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



# Let Your Light Shine!

By WGK Guillermo Bambach

**B**rothers, I hope you enjoyed the summer months and had a chance for a little rest & relaxation and recharge your batteries. Many of us with school-age children will start getting reasonably busy as our kids begin the new school year and get re-engaged in the many extra-curricular activities. Being a Knight is a commitment to our God, our Church and each other. Throughout all the busyness, we need to make an effort to at least support one of the many activities our great Council is engaged in.

The “Faith in Action” initiative affords us an opportunity to serve our God, our Church and our greater community. Our Program Directors, Faith-**Chuck Alaynick**, Life-**Bob Kines**, Community-**Ed Veronick** and Family-**William Torres** need your help.

If a Brother Knight takes on the coordination of just one event under our Programs, it will help us fulfill our mission as a Knights of Columbus Council. This can be as simple as taking on the coordination for a one-time event such as the “Ladies Appreciation Dinner” or “100 Knights for Life” or if you have more time maybe the on-going “Vocation Chalice Program” or the coordination for the quarterly “Road Clean-Up.”

We are an extremely active Council and every month you have the opportunity to support the great works of our Order. August and September are no exceptions.

There are many activities for you to share fraternity with you Brother Knights and the Parish Community.

Starting off with the Monthly Pro-Life Payer Vigil, the second Saturday of every month, Corporate Mass with Coffee & Donuts on Aug 12th and First Degree Exemplification on Aug 18th which gives you the opportunity to invite your fellow parishioners to join our Order. You should also show your support to our Sisters Columbiettes by attending their Columbiettes Officer Installation on Aug 21st and the parish at the Day at the Rays on Aug 26th.

Major events taking place in September include the Parish Ministry Fair on Sep 8/9th and will need many hands to man the tables after each Mass, Blue Mass on Sep 11th and Soccer Challenge on Sep 12th.

A few other items that you should be aware of are changes to our Right to Life program. The Ministry will be moved under the Parish and will be re-named Life Team. Jeanne

Lewis wife of Brother **Chris Lewis** will be heading up the ministry and the goal is to infuse new ideas and young blood to rejuvenate the life mission. There will be a meeting to discuss and review the proposed changes and calendar of events on Aug 16th at 7:00 PM and everyone is welcome to join the ministry.



For our Degree Advancements, requirements will be instituted for 2nd and 3rd Degree advancement that will have to be documented and verified by the Sponsor. This will include activities such as supporting a Program Committee event, attending the minimum number of Business Meetings and Degree exemplifications.

Under the “Faith in Action” Initiative, the Family of the Month program will change and is redesigned to stimulate and support the development of strong and vibrant families. Local councils have to establish a committee to recognize a deserving Family of the Month and Family.

Each month, the council Family of the Month committee selects one from the entire Parish family that models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day. Once a year, each participating council also chooses one of the previous twelve Family of the Month winners to represent the council/parish as the potential international Family of the Year.

Thank you for all you do and the contributions to our Council. I am confident that your support to our Program Directors and the greater community will enable us to fulfill our mission under the “Faith in Action” initiative.



# Annual Beefsteak Dinner for RJS Volunteers



# Voting is a RIGHT, and a DUTY

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican, or Independent, Conservative, or Liberal it's time that you voice your opinion by voting in the Florida's Primary Election. It is your right and duty to cast votes for your favorite candidates that you want to run in the regular Election in November.

## There are three way to vote in The Primary Election.

First, by mail. Go to [Https://votehillborough.org](https://votehillborough.org) under "Vote by Mail", select "Track my Ballot" button and fill out the info. A ballot will be mail to you. Fill it out. Send it back and it must be received by 7 pm on Election day, August 28, 2018.

Second, Early voting. Staring August 13, 2018 and ends August 26 2018, you can vote between the hours 10 am and 6 pm daily at any of the voting centers. We have listed a few in the area: Bloomingdale Public Library, Riverview Public Library, Southshore Public Library, and Valrico Recreation Center. For a complete list go to the site



mentioned above.

Third, Election Day - August 28. You can find your voting place at the site above, by pressing the "Find my Precinct" button. Fill in the necessary info and you will see where you need to vote.

Don't be the guy that does not vote because you don't like who is running for Office. Voice your vote now! Remember Voting it is not only a RIGHT, but a DUTY.



*The following members of St Stephen Council 14084 completed their journey to full Knighthood (3rd Degree) on Saturday, July 28, 2018. Pictured from left to right: T Hart Fisher III, Gerardo Rivera, Michael F Melanson, B. Lee Elam, Christopher J Gordon, RJ Milbrandt and Robert C Milbrandt.*

# The Dignity of Every Human Life

By Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

In my Columbia columns for January and April earlier this year, I reflected on Blessed Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* and its enduring messages on marriage and the gift of life — messages further discussed throughout this issue. The following month, on May 25, Irish voters repealed the Eighth Amendment to that country's constitution, which for decades had protected the lives of countless unborn children from abortion.

Providentially, Pope Francis had the courage to place the World Meeting of Families in Ireland next month. He has set the stage for the meeting with the recent publication of his apostolic exhortation on the call to holiness, *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and Be Glad).

There is much to reflect upon in *Gaudete et Exsultate*. In one section, the pope writes: "Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly.... We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in (the) world" (101).

No organization knows this better than the Knights of Columbus. We have been "clear, firm and passionate" in our defense of the dignity of every human life.

Our Ultrasound Initiative alone, which has sought to protect the lives of both mother and child by providing more than 950 ultrasound machines to qualified pregnancy resource centers, has already saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

Pope Francis goes on to write in *Gaudete et Exsultate*, "We often hear it said that ... the situation of migrants, for example, is a lesser issue. Some Catholics consider it a secondary issue compared to the 'grave' bioethical questions. That a politician looking for votes might say such a thing is understandable, but not a Christian" (102).

The pope is right. These are not "secondary" issues because there are no "secondary" people. There are public issues that involve intrinsically evil acts, such as the intentional killing of an innocent human being as in the case of abortion. And there are other issues that involve prudential judgments about which reasonable people may disagree. But that does not mean such issues are "secondary." In most countries, poverty and disease are the leading causes of death. In the United States, it is abortion:

approximately 60 million since *Roe v. Wade*.

Here again, the Knights of Columbus has been a leader — during the last fraternal year providing more than \$185 million and more than 75 million hours of volunteer service to charity.

St. John Paul II, in *Evangelium Vitae*, explained the strong link between life ethics and social ethics: "A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized" (101).

Catholics have a responsibility to insist that those responsible for the public good focus public debate where it belongs: on respect for the dignity of every human being and the sanctity of every human life.

This is why Pope Francis reminds us that holiness, evangelization, charity and human development are profoundly linked. And as will be apparent during the upcoming World Meeting of Families, all of these aspects of the Christian life find their home in the family.

The Order has always sought to evangelize and strengthen the spiritual life of our Catholic families.

We are now strengthening our Building the Domestic Church initiative through our new Faith in Action program model, which encourages councils to do even more in the areas of faith, family, community and life.

As Knights of Columbus, we will more clearly live in a way that witnesses to the Christian call to holiness, evangelization, charity and social justice.



*Vivat Jesus!*



# Building the Domestic Church

**“Jesus then said to the Twelve, ‘Do you also want to leave?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.’” (Gospel for Aug. 30, Jn. 6:67-69)**

I don’t know about you, but I can look back on moments in my life when Peter’s words have been personal and I have said to Jesus in prayer: ‘Master, to whom shall I go?’ I hope that you likewise have reached a point in your life where you know with certainty that there is nowhere to go but Jesus: not to power, to money, to sex, to alcohol, or anything else that can become a false “master” in our lives. My brothers, we have come to believe that Jesus is the Holy One of God, and our lives must bear evidence of this. Let us become men who, with Peter, can truly say, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

## Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month I challenge you to make a daily examination of conscience, probing your heart to find the false “masters” (e.g., comfort, power, appearance) to whom you go. Take a few minutes before bed to review the day, including both your blessings and sins. Second, I challenge you to eliminate one of your vices and when you are tempted to participate in that vice pray, “Jesus I trust in you.”

## From the Family Program

Brothers, the family program is looking to conduct a Family Fun Day within the fall timeframe. School is back in session, and this would be a great opportunity for everyone in the parish to unwind, have some fun, and enjoy some fellowship with friends and families of the church.

We will have food, games, and events for children of all ages. We are also going to be conducting a quarterly potluck dinner for the families of the parish. These will be sure to provide good food and fun for all.

### Family of the Month Change

Under the “Faith in Action” Initiative to stimulate and support the development of strong and vibrant families,

local councils have to establish a committee to recognize a deserving Family of the Month and Family of the Year with potential for recognition on the international level.

Each month, the council Family of the Month committee selects one parish family that models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day. Once a year, each participating council also selects one of the previous twelve Family of the Month winners to represent the council/parish as the potential international Family of the Year.

The Knights of Columbus Family of the Year is chosen by the Supreme Council and recognized each year at the annual Supreme Convention.

## Life Team Leadership

Right to Life Ministry will be moved under the Church and will be named *Life Team*. Jeanne Lewis will be heading up the Ministry and the goal is to infuse new ideas and young blood to rejuvenate the life mission.

There will be a meeting to discuss and review the proposed calendar of events on Aug 16th at 7:00 PM



# Thank You Correspondence

KOC;  
 Thank you so much for all you guys do.  
 I am happy and proud to be a member of  
 the Knights  
 Thank you all again for your most  
 generous gift and the "Appreciation Dinner."  
 You are in my daily prayers  
 YBiC,  
 Deacon Dan

From Deacon Dan

Dear Nick,  
 Thank you so much for the K of C  
 3rd Degree Membership card.  
 I have fond memories of all of you at  
 St. Stephen Parish!  
 All is well here at St. Cecilia Parish -  
 Prayers,  
 Fr. Bob Schaud

From Father Bob

Dear Knights,  
 I am so humbled by your  
 generous gift! I can't  
 tell you how much this  
 is helping me after this  
 unfortunate event. You  
 guys were there 5 yrs -  
 boys. ago for Patrick  
 and now - I am in  
 awe of your generosity  
 and love. God bless  
 you all and if I can  
 ever do anything for  
 you, I am there. St.  
 Stephens is an awesome  
 parish + I am proud to be  
 a part. Sincerely,  
 Sylvia Albert

From Sylvia Albert

Thank you to all Brother Knights  
 for all your support & prayer  
 over these past 3 years.  
 I was truly blest to share the  
 journey with you here at  
 St. Stephen's with some  
 extraordinary events in the  
 life of a parish.  
 Thank you for all your  
 service and presence to  
 the larger community of  
 St. Stephen. May the Lord continue  
 to bless St. Stephen.  
 Many blessings,  
 Fr. Curtis

From Father Curtis



**St. Stephen Council Officers  
Fraternal Year 2018-2019**

Chaplain

**Father Dermot Dunne**

Grand Knight

**Guillermo Bambach**

Deputy Grand Knight

**Alex Czopek**

Chancellor

**Ed Skrobacz**

Warden

**Chris Hobbs**

Advocate

**Jerry Coffey**

Lecturer

**Matt Preszler**

Recorder

**Peter Depa**

Financial Secretary

**Nick Turco**

Treasurer

**Bill Ruppert**

Trustees

**Bruce Czaja**

**John Berrie**

**Mark Lovejoy**

District Deputy

**Ed Sleyzak**

Field Agent

**John Ruckart**

Guards

**Carl Alerta Jeff Stepanz**

**John Hollingshead**



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Program Director

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Communications

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**Monsignor John F. Scully  
Assembly #3418 Officers**

Friar

**TBD**

Faithful Navigator

**S/K Steve Haines**

Faithful Captain

**S/K Ed Sleyzak**

Admiral

**S/K Rick Hughes**

Faithful Pilot

**S/K Mark Lovejoy**

Faithful Comptroller

**S/K Nick Turco**

Faithful Scribe

**S/K John Berrie**

Faithful Purser

**TBD**

Trustees

**S/K Julio Alvarez, Jr.**

**S/K John Cirello**

**S/K Pete Card**

Faithful Inner Sentinel

**S/K Randy Lee**

Faithful Outer Sentinel

**S/K David A Morone**

Color Corps Commander

**S/K Rick Gnatowsky**

**August Birthdays**

Anthony Barreto, Brian L Le Strange, Christopher Pasquariello, Frank E Wuco, Frank V Kruk, James J Piotrowski, Kurt A Badertscher, Lorenzo P Billante II, Mark A Vega, Michael F Melanson, Michael G Barger, Osa D Penny, Paul F Archer, Paul J Dufraine, Rev Eva C Nnamene, Ricardo Ponce De Leon, Richard A Armstrong, Richard Collins, Robert C Milbrandt, Robert S Ward, Timothy J Donahue

## Upcoming Events

August 18	First Degree, FLC
August 21	Columbiettes Installation
August 26	Day at the Rays
September 8&9	Ministry Fair, FLC
September 11	Blue Mass
September 12	Soccer Challenge
September 15	Second Degree, FLC
October 6	Columbiettes Bunko Night
October 20	Day of Recollection

Please check your Council website calendar for more details regarding these events: <http://www.kofc14084.org/>

### KNIGHTLY NEWS

This newsletter is a publication of St. Stephen Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Council 14084.

To make a contribution, submit an article or pictures, please send content to: [communications@kofc14084.org](mailto:communications@kofc14084.org)

For more information on our Knights of Columbus Council, visit our website at: [www.KofC14084.org](http://www.KofC14084.org)



This month, **William Torres** has been selected as the Knight of the Month. William is fairly new to our Council and joined the Knights as an eMemeber. He has fully embraced the principles of our Order, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. He has participated in several council events to include RJS Fundraising as well as degrees and rose up to the challenge to lead one of our "Faith in Action" programs as the Family Director. Please join me in congratulating William Torres as the Knight of the Month.



This month Family of the Month is the **Lewis family**. Chris and Jeanne actively participate in numerous Parish and Council activities throughout the year and avid supporters of all Right-to-Life activities. These include participating in Monthly Prayer Vigils at the abortion mill, March for Life rallies, Life Chains and personally assisting pregnant mothers in need. The Lewis family has made a big difference in the lives of several mothers who chose life for their unborn babies. They will also now be heading the new Life Team Ministry for St Stephen Catholic Church. Please join me in congratulating the Lewis family (Chris & Jeanne) as the Family of the Month.