



The Columbian Gazette

Of Ashburn

VOL. 2 ISSUE 2 – JUNE, 2022

ASHBURN, VA

A Message from Deacon Paul

On June 5, we celebrated Pentecost Sunday, the last day of the Easter Season. In the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit is bestowed on a group of God’s sons and daughters who surrender their own lives to God’s love. Jesus tells his disciples, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and then you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

They received that power in the deepest recesses of their hearts. It was an experiential faith. There is a difference between intellectual faith and experiential faith. For many Christians, their faith is often just intellectual knowledge, not experiential firsthand knowledge. Even though we call them both faith, there is a difference between intellectual belief and a belief that is based on real trust that allows the God to be in control. There is a difference between *talking* about the transformation of God’s love and stepping out in confidence to live a loving life. Only the second is biblical faith, when our walk matches our talk.

The Holy Spirit teaches us this new walk. When Jesus died, the apostles didn’t have a Spirit-filled faith. Though Jesus’ mother Mary and Mary Magdalene stayed, all but one of the men deserted Jesus on the cross. The apostles were demoralized. They had lost their leader, and they had lost their aim or purpose. But shortly afterwards on Pentecost, they were transformed. They were changed from within, and they acted, lived, and walked in a new way. These lukewarm followers began to act like people “on fire,” as we read in Acts 17:6, “These people who have been creating a disturbance all over the world have now come here.”

As Knights, we can perform all sorts of charitable works and do them with just intellectual faith. We are called to not only be the hands of Christ in our acts of charity for

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A Farewell Note From our Grand Knight

Dear Brothers:

My parents and grandparents built a loving home where Faith and **Charity** were at the center of everything. **Unity** was built over 12 years of Catholic School, four at an all boys high school. Faith, Charity and Unity would be reignited by Carina, my amazing wife of 28 years and mother to our three extraordinary children. **Patriotism** was always part of my life and strengthened over 25 years by working alongside selfless patriots and heroes.

In April of 2015, several brothers invited me to join the Knights of Columbus and opened the doors of **Fraternity**. Initiation into the First Degree occurred on the 20th of that month. I have made great friendships in the Council and many brothers have been an inspiration

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New Slate of Officers for 2022-2023

| Office | Agreed to Serve 22-23 Fraternal Year |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Grand Knight | Rob McNamee |
| Deputy Grand Knight | John Hegarty |
| Chancellor | John Beauchesne |
| Recorder | Eric Ciliberti |
| Treasurer | Steven Shields |
| Advocate | Tony Gizzi |
| Warden | Mike Boyle |
| Inside Guard | James Sinnott |
| Outside Guard | Stephen McLaughlin |

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and challenged me to do more, pray more and give more. Last year, you trusted me to be your Grand Knight.

Together this Fraternal Year, as the many fibers of a strong cable, we have renewed the face of Ashburn and impacted the world beyond our parish borders. We raised over \$5000 in donations for eight charities and seminarians by flipping pancakes and serving meals, led the donation of nearly 50,000 lbs. of food to Catholic Charities, Marched for Life, embraced the intellectually disabled at Golden Helmet, raised over \$17,000 for KO-VAR, served our priests, led Advent and Lenten retreats, revamped our communications and so much more. We also welcomed over 20 new brothers into our Council!

YOUR “small” and unspoken acts of Faith, Charity and kindness with your neighbors and parish is what truly make the men and families of this Council the loving face of Christ in our community.

As we move into a new Fraternal Year, there is no doubt that under Rob’s leadership our Council will prosper and continue to positively impact our parish and community.

Brothers, thank you for your hard work, support and inspiration over the past year. Thanks to our Worthy Chaplain, Fr. Hudgins, who always said yes to our last minute pulpit announcements and enlightened us with his poignant messages. A hearty thanks to our priests and deacons for their support. And of course to Carina for your patience, prayers and solid counsel.

I have really loved serving as #15256’s GK and look forward to contributing from the trenches in the years ahead.

Vivat Jesus!

Miguel Rodriguez,

Grand Knight



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others; we are also called to be the love of Christ in our dealings with others. Living the love of Christ means being a person of compassion, mercy, and forgiveness, which is hard to do when we live in a culture that is self-seeking, judgmental, and quick to take offense. We can only do it when we surrender our hearts and our egos to the love of Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us in following the example Jesus set for us in his short life on Earth. As evidence that we are on the right track, we can look to see if we display the fruits of the Spirit that Paul lists in Gal 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

As we move into Ordinary Time, let’s focus on opening our hearts to the Holy Spirit and surrendering our egos to the love of Christ. Let’s take the words of John the Baptist and make them our mantra: “He must increase; I must decrease.” (Jn 3:30).

Deacon Paul Konold

Where are they now?

By Doug Smith

With Memorial Day now behind us on the calendar and summer activities ramping up into full gear, a question to ponder -- Where are they now?

But who is the “they” in that question? On Memorial Day, we honored all of the members of our military who served our country but never returned. They “never returned” in two different ways. Yes, they were killed in action so they were not fortunate enough to arrive back in the United States either wholly alive or wounded.

The second sense of “never returned” is that many of the bodies of these soldiers never made it back to the United States to be buried in their hometown, perhaps in the family plot. Rather they were buried in or near the country in which they were killed. Fortunately today, when a service member is killed, the military utilizes, with great respect shown, a method of transporting the remains back to the United States for burial.

However, with the sheer number of soldiers killed in action during World War I (116,516) and World War II (405,399), and the methods of preserving and shipping the remains state-side lacking, thousands of U.S. military

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members were buried overseas. It was the best that the United States could do considering the circumstances.

So where are these cemeteries and who maintains them? In March of 1923, Congress established the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) and made the new agency responsible for the construction of monuments honoring the American Expeditionary Forces of World War I. Soon after, Congress directed ABMC to construct memorial chapels in the eight permanent military cemeteries in Europe, which were at the time maintained by the War Department. In 1934, President Franklin Roosevelt issued an Executive Order that shifted the responsibility for the management and maintenance of these hallowed grounds to ABMC.

ABMC administers, operates and maintains 26 permanent American military cemeteries and 32 federal memorials, monuments and markers, which are located in 17 foreign countries, the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the British Dependency of Gibraltar; four of the memorials are located within the United States. These cemeteries and memorials, most of which commemorate the service and sacrifice of Americans who served in World War I and World War II, are among the most beautiful and meticulously maintained shrines in the world.

Thanks to the Internet, you can virtually visit these memorials to our fallen military members. Visit <https://www.abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials> to see all the cemeteries and their locations. You can also visit <https://www.abmc.gov/burial-and-memorialization-statistics> to learn about the number of men and women we honor around the world. In addition to our local Arlington National Cemetery, our Government does a great job maintaining 155 cemeteries here in the United States. To find out more, go to <https://www.cem.va.gov/>, or scan:



Eighth Grade Sunrise Breakfast

Our Council provided an early breakfast to the Graduating eighth grade class at St. Theresa School on June 2. The breakfast was attended by about 60 eighth graders, their teachers, some parents, and about eight volunteers from our Council who prepared and served a breakfast of pancakes, eggs, hash brown potatoes, and sausage. A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this event a success, and best of luck to the graduating class as they enter their high school years.



Awards Dinner Held On June 16, 2022

Our Council held it's annual Awards Dinner at St. Theresa School on June 16. The following awards were presented in recognition of this past year's accomplishments and the exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

In Recognition of Brother John Beauchesne

For Outstanding Achievement with Youth Programs

This special recognition is to honor Brother John Beauchesne's many years of service to St Theresa community and our council with his leadership of youth activities. The annual programs include Soccer Challenge, both council and district-level Free Throw Contests, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, and the kids' arts and craft table at our Parish Breakfasts. John has tirelessly organized and executed these events. His success is exemplified in the smiles seen of the faces of kids and parents at these events as well as the number of brother Knight volunteers that want to be part of John's activities.

In addition to the annual programs, John was instrumental in involving the Youth Ministry with our monthly Food Drives. As we restarted the program during Covid, John took advantage of an unfortunate situation. First, the food donations had to be quarantined in the Parish. Second, the Catholic Charities Food Pantry had lost their volunteers that processed the donations. For years, John and our Parish Youth Minister, Paul Dwyer had been searching for opportunities to get the Upper Room Squad involved with the Knights of Columbus. John saw an opportunity. The kids could help organize the donations for the pantry and filter out expired items. He facilitated initial communication between our Family Program Director, Erich Stefanyshyn, and Paul. He assisted Erich and Paul with organizing this new activity. The Upper Room Squad is now an integral part of the Parish Food Drives, and John continues to participate and assist.

The impact of John's outreach to the community on the Knights of Columbus and our council cannot be understated. Dads can become Knights. Moms encourage dads to become Knights. Boys grow to become dads and girls grow to become moms. The positive energy ripples generated by John's efforts are an investment on the future of our order.

The Saint Theresa Community and Ashburn are a better place because of John. His achievements are admired, and they inspire. John's passion to make our community a better place for kids is unmatched.

Your Brothers thank you.

Vivat Jesus

Knight of the Year 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 Knight of the Year exemplifies the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity and is a fine Catholic gentleman. An Honorary Life Sir Knight in the Fourth Degree he joined the Order over 25 years ago. A husband of over 35 years, father and grandfather, this Knight was an active member of his initiating Council where he held several positions and served that parish as a Eucharistic Minister, Lecturer and Usher. Fortunately for us, our Knight of the Year retired and moved to Ashburn over 5 years ago upon which he transferred to the Saint Louis Martin Council. The following are just a few highlights of his meaningful contributions this Fraternal Year:

-His leadership of the Pancake Breakfast Program generated \$ 5150 in direct donations to our Seminarians, Divine Mercy Outreach, The Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, Christian Refugees in the Middle East and three other charities.

-He identified a need to overhaul Council communications and developed our monthly and Quarterly newsletters. These publications update members on our activities, provide links and resources to Catholic websites and feature articles by our Deacons to enlighten us with their message.

-He writes the Knights Corner for the weekly bulletin.

-He worked on the redesign of our awesome Website and Facebook page and photographs all of our events.

-He is a Monthly Food Drive participant and Parish Picnic volunteer.

-Led the 8th grade Sunrise Breakfast

He was also nominated by this Council as Knight of the Year for the State of Virginia

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Our Knight of the year is a loving husband, father and grandfather, Faith centered Catholic gentleman and dear brother to us all.

Brothers, our Knight of the Year 2021-2022 is Rudy Flores.

Family of the Year 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 Saint Louis Martin Council Family of the Year are a model of the Holy Family and proudly promote their strong Faith in our community. The family has been a backbone of St. Theresa's Parish life for over 20 years. Mom and Dad have been married 36 years and raised six children. This family has richly contributed to our parish. She has taught Catholic education over 40 years. She currently teaches two religious education classes at St. Theresa's and is on the Catholic Distance University faculty. The family also participated in Work Camp as adult leaders and campers. They enrich our Sunday Mass by playing musical instruments and singing, a ministry they have contributed to for many years. The family has been involved with numerous programs at our Parish including URS and helping with the parish Pic-Nic. All five of their boys served as Altar Boys and were Eagle Scouts. Their youngest child, a daughter, is an honors student and a member of the high school band. This family is committed to the sanctity of life and has faithfully participated in The March for Life for decades. There was a time when you could not walk through the halls of the school, Choir loft or Adoration Chapel and not find a member of this family living out their Catholic Faith.

After much hard work and recruitment efforts by many brothers in the Council this Catholic gentleman finally became a Knight 2.5 years ago and has serves as our Faith Committee Chairman. He has led and organized our parish wide Lenten and Advent retreats and monthly Rosary program during the Covid era. He and his family have contributed to our Respect Life efforts, Rosary Program, KOVAR and pancake breakfasts. The Stalcup Family was also nominated Family of the Year for the Virginia State Council.

This brother is a friend to all of us.

Brothers, our Family of the Year 2021-2022 is the Stalcup Family.

Young Man of the Year 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 Saint Louis Martin Council Young Man of the Year has contributed to our parish and community, excelled

academically and in extracurricular activities and is an all-around good son and brother.

This young Catholic gentleman graduated from Riverside High School where was on the Honor Roll for 8 semesters, was an AP Scholar, recipient of the Academic Excellence Award and earned a 4.3 GPA. He was inducted into the National Honor Society and was a member of the Latin Club, Young Americans Club and Future Business Leaders of America. He was a co-founder of Declan's Army, a group formed following a friend's cancer diagnosis. Our Young Man of the Year provided support to Declan and his family and raised funds to raise awareness of childhood cancer and Declan's fight. He is a soccer stand-out and achieved much success on the pitch. He was also a US Air Force Cyber Patriot Platinum Level Award winner during high school.

He is an Upper Room and Rock Squad member and leader and volunteered in the monthly Food Drives, Merciful Harvest, and Youth vs. Hunger. He is a certified soccer referee and is first on the scene to shovel snow for residents in his neighborhood who cannot.

The 2021-2022 Saint Louis Martin Council Young Man of the Year is Alexander Thissell.

Young Woman of the Year 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 Saint Louis Martin Council Young Woman of the Year has had a significant impact on our parish and community, excelled academically and in extracurricular activities and is an all-around good daughter and sister.

Our Young Catholic Woman was the 2022 Class Valedictorian at Riverside High School where she earned a GPA of 4.83. She was a National Merit Scholarship Competition Commended Student, AP Scholar with Distinction, Academies of Loudoun Outstanding Student and was selected to the 10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership Program. She is the Founder of BrainSTEM-Neuroscience. This is an independent research project leveraging social media to share knowledge about neuroscience and the connection between mind and body in sports and academics with fellow students. She is a soccer player

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and earned many accolades for her prowess on the field. She also earned the Girl Scout Silver Award.

She is an Upper Room and Rock Squad member and leader and volunteered in the monthly Food Drives, Merciful Harvest, and Youth vs. Hunger. On her spare time, she tutors her siblings on the SAT.

The 2021-2022 Saint Louis Martin Council Young Woman of the Year is Isabella Thissell.

See photos below and next page.

Handyman Crew

Our Handyman Crew consists of Doug Menders, Joe Potak, Tom Dumouchelle, Tyler Hardy, Don Burnham, Paul McKenzie, Ken Moore, John Kirincich, John Beauchesne, Doug Smith, Rusty Byrne, Tony Gizzi, and is led by Jim Sinnott.

The crew, with the help of weekly publicity in the St Theresa Church Bulletin, were able to complete a number of projects in the past year, which included helping our parishioners with moves, appliance installations, and general handyman projects. Additional work will continue on the Women's Shelter in the coming year.

Great work gentlemen!

Key Accomplishments for the Quarter

Among the many fundraising activities our brother knights took part in over the past three months are the following:

Food Drives:

- 15,041 lbs. of food delivered in the last quarter
- Year to Date (Jul '21 - May '22): 48,351 lbs. of food delivered

KOVAR:

- Collected in the last quarter: \$4,500
- Columbian Year to Date (Jul '21 - May '22): \$12,483

Fish Fry:

- Raised \$2,100 for the Knights of Columbus Ukrainian Solidarity Fund.

Pancake Breakfasts:

- For the last quarter (Mar-May): \$2,700 in donations.
- March (\$1,400 for Divine Mercy Outreach); May (\$1,300 for Work Camp 2022).
- Columbian Year to Date (Jul '21 - May '22): \$9,925 in donations.
- Benefited our Seminarians, Christian Refugee Relief Fund, Archdiocese for the Military Services, Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter, Focus on Faculty Thunder Appeal (+ Divine Mercy Outreach and Work Camp 2022)).

Thank you to all who helped and made these events successful!

Awards Dinner, June 16, 2022



Awards Dinner, June 16, 2022



Knights of Columbus Council 15256

Calendar of Events

Grand Knight Miguel Rodriguez



COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2021-2022

| 2022 | | June | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 |
| 06 Business Meeting | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 Final 365 updates for current year DUE | 16 Awards Dinner | 17 LCPS Last Day Of School | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Food Drive | 26 Food Drive |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 All forms received by Supreme Office Columbian Award Application DUE | 01 | 02 | 03 |
| 04 | 05 | Notes: | | | | |

Chaplain
District Deputy
Grand Knight
Deputy Grand Knight
Chancellor
Financial Secretary
Warden
Recorder
Treasurer
Advocate
Trustees

Father Hudgins
Cole Slattery
Miguel Rodriguez
Rob McNamee
John Beauchesne
Attilio Manzano
John Hegarty
Jack Hayes
Mike Boyle
Steve Rogers
Manny Galvan
Joseph Potak
William Lehner
Vincent Tranchitella
Lem Kemanya
Kyle Dumouchelle
Steve McLaughlin

Lecturer
Inside Guard
Inside Guard
Outside Guard
Fraternal Benefits
Field Agent

Benny Perez

| 2022 | | July | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------|---|-----------------------------------|
| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 FRATERNAL YEAR START | 01 | 02 | 03 |
| 04 Independence Day Holiday | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 |
| 11 Officer Installation and Business Meeting | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Kovar Collection after Mass | 17 Kovar Collection after Mass |
| 18 | 19 Fraterna Event TBR time | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Event: FOCUS presentation Food Drive | 24 Food Drive |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 01 | 02 | Notes: | | | | |

Faith Director
Community Director
Life Director
Public Relations

Dana Stalcup
Stephen McLaughlin

Family Director
Membership Director
Recruitment Committee

John L. Hayes
Rudy Flores
Dave Scheder
Eric Ciliberti
Erich I. Stefanyshyn
John Beauchesne
John L. Hayes
Francis O'Gara
James Sinnott
Donald J. Smaltz
Anthony Gizzi
William Lehner

Construction Team Lead
KOVAR Team Lead
Technology Team
Parish Picnic

| 2022 | | August | | | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 Service Program Personnel Report DUE |
| 08 Business Meeting | 09 139th Supreme Convention | 10 139th Supreme Convention | 11 139th Supreme Convention | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Death of Fr. McGivney | 21 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Council Audit DUE |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Blessed Carlo Acutis Tour: Arrival and setup | 26 Blessed Carlo Acutis Tour: Exhibit open 0900-1000 | 27 Blessed Carlo Acutis Tour: Exhibit open 0900-1000 and 1830-1930 | 28 Blessed Carlo Acutis Tour: Exhibit open 0830-1400 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 LCPS First Day Of School | 02 | 03 Food Drive | 04 Food Drive |
| 05 | 06 Fraternal Benefit Nights; time and room TBD | Notes: | | | | |

Visit our Website: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/>

CLICK OR SCAN BELOW TO SEE OUR FULL FRATERNAL CALENDAR

<https://a7fbd55-0810-4f2d-b6c5-682b42712b41.filesusr.com/>

