

# THE SHIELD

Official Publication of Fr. James B. Heary, O.P. - Council 7239 Knights of Columbus  
30191 Dequindre, Madison Heights, MI 48071  
Phone: (248) 588-3430  
<http://www.kofc7239.org>



Vol. XXXVIII, No. 4 • April 2023

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

*By Glain Guilmette*

Brother Knights,

Vivat Jesus!

At the last meeting, we have decided to hold off with the Palm Sunday Tootsie Roll drive this year. In place of that, we ask that all members consider donating directly to the MRAW.

Our District Deputy is also setting up a couple of Poker Events this year to help with the funding of the council and the MRAW. Please consider helping out with this EASY and profitable fundraiser. Details to come soon.

We will be nominating officers for our next fraternal year at this meeting. Please consider serving as an officer for your council!!

I wish all our members a Happy Easter!!

Fraternally,  
Glain C. Guilmette  
Grand Knight

## Program Chairperson Report

*By James Morrison*

I do not have any activities planned for April. Dorothy and I want to wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

## PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

*By Darren Gray, PGK, DD*

Bless those who risk their lives to help their community. Police, fire, doctors, nurses, EMTs, store associates, Amazon workers, and anyone else still working to make our daily lives better during this worldwide crisis.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 3, 2023

Membership Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting In-Person at Council\*\***

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting -- 6:00 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting In-Person at Madhouse \*\***

**\*\* Planning Meeting \*\***  
(All are welcome)

Monday, April 10, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.  
**\*\* Meeting In-Person at Council \*\***

**Shield Deadline:**

**Sunday, April 16, 2023**  
**[editor@kofc7239.org](mailto:editor@kofc7239.org)**  
**(Always 3rd Sunday of Month)**

**\*\* Find us on Facebook \*\***

**OFFICER ROSTER**

**State Deputy**  
 Christopher Kolomjec

**District Deputy**  
 Darren Gray (248) 302-8918

**Chaplain**

**Grand Knight**  
 Glain Guilmette, PGK (586) 419-4641

**Deputy Grand Knight**  
 Open Position (248) 302-8918

**Financial Secretary**  
 Craig Massman (586) 506-8077

**Chancellor**  
 Ron Bertolini (248) 399-9261

**Warden**  
 Randy Carlisle

**Advocate**  
 Ronnie Thompson, PGK (248) 561-3360

**Treasurer**  
 Ryan Thompson (248) 561-7122

**Recorder**  
 Robert Pasternak (586) 264-5994

**Guards**  
 Nicholas Woodward (248) 224-4072  
 Mario Limon (248) 561-2269

**Trustees**  
 Lynn Figg, 3 YR (248) 808-6226  
 Duane McLaughlin, 2 YR (248) 855-3153  
 Joe Miller, 1 YR (248) 439-0411

**Program Director**  
 Open Position

**Membership Chairman**  
 Ron Bertolini (248) 399-9261

**Church Activities Director**  
 Joseph Miller (248) 399-0262

**Boysville Chairman**  
 J. Turchin, PGK, FDD (248) 547-0854

**Vocation P.R. Director**

**Youth Director**  
 Darren Gray, PGK (248) 302-8918

**Mentally Impaired Drive Chairmen**  
 Randy Carlisle  
 Ernie Scheid (248) 544-2739

**Right-to-Life Chairman**  
 Jim Morrison, PGK, FDD (248) 585-2324

**THE SHIELD Editor**  
 Darren Gray editor@kofc7239.org

**Auxiliary President**  
 Cindy Podgorski (810) 395-8926

**General Insurance Agent**  
 Benji Borrelli, FIC (877) 857-6237

**BUILDING CORPORATION**

**President**  
 R. Carlisle C: (248) 703-4136 (248) 585-8069

**Vice President**  
 Lynn Figg (586) 202-9628

**Treasurer**  
 Tim Oparka (248) 585-7296

**LADIES AUXILIARY**

Hi Ladies!

I want to thank Darren Gray and all who helped with the corned beef and cabbage dinner.

Our Ladies Birthday Dinner is April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Madhouse restaurant at 6:00pm. Hostesses are Earlene Carlisle and Janice Polan.

We will be giving a charity item to the Mackinaw Island charity fund. Our theme this year is Michigan-made item(s). We still need to think of a name.

Happy April Birthday to all the Ladies!

Please pray for our Prayer List.

Happy Easter!

Cindy Podgorski  
 President

**CORN BEEF DINNER**

I wanted to thank everyone who came out to the Corned Beef Dinner in March. While we had a lot of people missing, it was still a decent turnout and a nice evening. And I especially thank Joe Miller for giving me pointers on making my first corned beef dinner. Hopefully, I did not disappoint anyone. And thank you to Jim and Dorothy Morrison, Janice Polan, and Barb Miller for providing dessert/bread.

Thank you!

Sincerely,  
 Darren Gray  
 PGK, FDD



## A CALL TO ACTION

Brother Knights, several years ago, we held a series of meetings called 'The Way Forward', with the idea that we needed to make some hard decisions about the direction of the council and the building. At that time, there was a lot of discussion and several ideas that were brought forth but none of them really ever came to fruition. The last several years have been hard on the council. COVID has thrown a wrench into the works of many organizations, the Knights included. Our council has also lost several active members over the last couple of years, may their souls rest in peace.

Brothers, it is time to start these meetings up again and have some serious discussion on what to do about the council. Do we sell the building? Should we try to merge with another council? How do we get members to come back and get more active? What do we do to get new members? If we sell the building, where do we meet? Do we rent or buy a new location? If we keep the building, do we bite the bullet and put some upgrades/renovations into place? All of these questions are hard to answer without input from the membership.

We don't have a date set yet for these meetings, but keep your eyes open in the SHIELD for these announcements. And if you're able, please try to come to our monthly meetings on the first Monday of the month. 7pm.

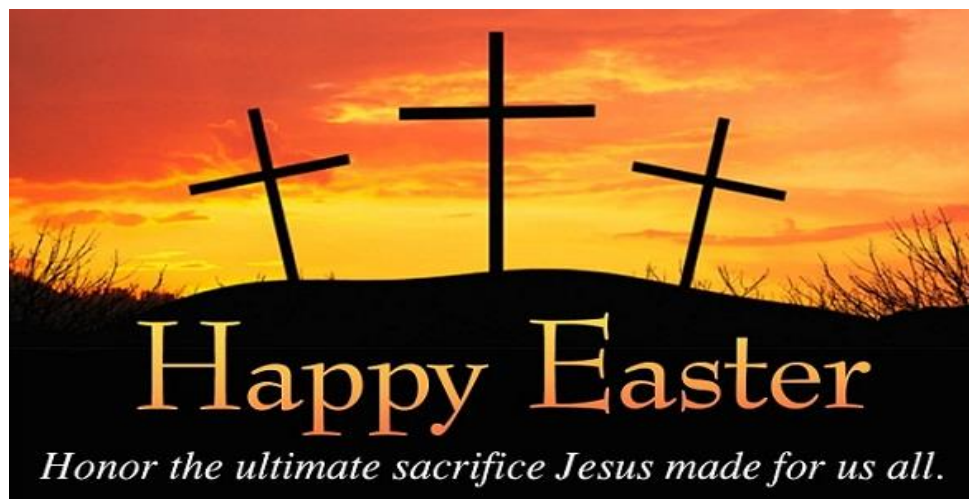
## PRAYER LIST

Larry Bunting, Heather Lang, Silvio Marchesi, Sharon McCoy (Ken Witkowski's Sister), Yvette Ploskonka, Ernie Schied, Ceceilia Slonina, Marie Szlag, Tony Szeliga, Matt Ventimiglia, Regis Welsh, Jean Witkowski, Ken Witkowski

**NOTE:** I have cleared out the Prayer List for the new year, except for those who have been added at the last meeting. If you wish to have someone added to this list, please send an email to: [editor@kofc7239.org](mailto:editor@kofc7239.org)

**And please pray for all of the men and women of our Armed Services. Also please pray for the recently deceased.**

**NOTE: Just a reminder. Please make sure to write names clearly so that I can add them correctly to the sick and deceased list.**



## Knights of Columbus “BENEFITS NEWS”

### LAWS and RULES of the ORDER

The laws and rules of our Order, as well as state (provincial) laws, specify that the Knights of Columbus may accept insurance applications only from Knights of Columbus members. As a member, you may apply for insurance on yourself, your wife and your dependent, minor children.

The Order’s Board of Directors has taken action, though, to assure that a brother Knight’s widow maintains the right to purchase additional insurance for a limited time. This can be of great benefit and comfort to those we leave behind.

This “right to apply” is available only to the widows of insured members. If a member has not availed himself of our top-rated life insurance program, or purchased an annuity or long-term care policy, Disability Insurance, this benefit is not available to his widow.

But if the member was an insured member, his widow has the right to apply for additional insurance on her life and on the lives of the member’s minor children. This right can be exercised for up to one year following the Order’s receipt of proof of the insured’s death.

Know two things. First, I’ll assist your widow and children in any way possible if you should die, both with your Knights of Columbus insurance and any other life insurance you may have. Second, I’ll provide them my best professional advice and service, to assure that they continue to have adequate insurance protection.

As a professional agent and a brother Knight, I have no greater responsibility.

*\*Receive a complete Family Needs Analysis at my expense.*  
Ask about our GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES,  
LONG TERM CARE & DISABILITY INSURANCE

In Christ,

*Benji Borrelli, FIC  
General Agent  
Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Insurance  
113 W Michigan Ave, #846, Jackson, MI 49204  
Office: 877-857-6237  
E-mail: benji.borrelli@KofC.org*

---

### **THE ROSARY** *An Editor’s Request*

As we come out of the Lenten season, I think it’s important to reflect on our journey. If you are not doing so, please consider taking out your Bible and your Rosary and say a special dedication to all that the Holy Spirit has graced you with over this Lenten time. God Bless and stay safe.

*Darren Gray, PGK, FDD*

*The Shield Editor  
editor@kofc7239.org*



### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

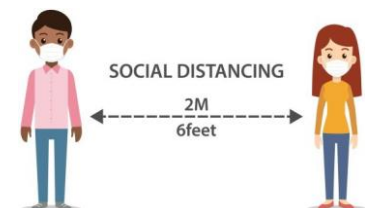
**04/02 John Turchin  
04/04 Robert Pasternak  
04/04 Thaddeus Zakrzewki  
04/06 Darren Ambrosiewicz  
04/14 William Baumgart  
04/22 John Hanser  
04/27 Timothy Pompo  
04/30 Silvio Marchesi**

### **LADIES AUXILIARY APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**None for April**

**Please pray for Ron Bertolini, and his sister Linda, on the passing of their brother, Gary Bertolini and Linda’s husband, Richard Collins.**

**If we missed your birthday or the date is wrong, please email me at [editor@kofc7239.org](mailto:editor@kofc7239.org) . Thanks.**



# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Happy Birthday John Turchin <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	3 <i>7pm Member Mtg</i>	4 Happy Birthday Robert Pasternak Thaddeus Zakrzewski	5	6 Happy Birthday Darren Ambrosiewicz	7	8
9 <b>HAPPY EASTER!</b>	10 <i>7:00pm Planning Mtg</i>	11	12	13	14 Happy Birthday William Baumgart	15
16 SHIELD DEADLINE	17	18 Friendly Reminder: TAXES DUE!	19	20 <i>6pm Ladies Aux Mtg At Madhouse</i>	21	22 Happy Birthday John Hanser
23	24	25	26	27 Happy Birthday Timothy Pompo	28	29
30 Happy Birthday Silvio Marchesi						

**HOPCROFT  
FUNERAL HOMES**

ART HOPCROFT, FOUNDER

HAZEL PARK  
23919 JOHN R.  
(248) 543-6687

MADISON HEIGHTS  
31145 JOHN R.  
(248) 585-7770

DAVID HOPCROFT, Owner

DANIEL FINLEY, Director

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED  
PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY  
FOR OVER 50 YEARS  
Family Owned and Operated



**GERALD'S  
FLORIST**

29131 DEQUINDRE  
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071

**(248) 398-2322**

Open  
Monday - Saturday

**Blase Raona**

Phone (248) 547-5440

Cell (248) 895-5714

Fax (248) 547-7073



**Carpet Repair • Commercial and Residential  
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning**



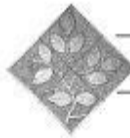
**EDWARD SWANSON & SON**

**FUNERAL HOME**

30351 Dequindre  
Madison Heights, MI 48071  
Edward C.  
Swanson

Happy Birthday  
Russell Joyce  
Dennis C. Swanson

**Marlow Family Dental**



Christopher T. Gorecki, D.D.S.  
Michele M. Tulak-Gorecki, D.D.S.

**"come and experience  
a true family practice"**

1905 Marlow  
Warren, MI 48092  
(586) 751-7777

The office is located on Dequindre  
@ 12 1/2 Mile

**Career Opportunity:**

***Are you bilingual and looking for a new career opportunity during this difficult time? Become a Knights of Columbus Field Agent where you can help Catholic families while providing for your own. Learn more at***

***<http://bit.ly/AgentCareers>***

***Detroit Metropolitan Area & Greater Thumb Area, MI***

***Contact:***

***Benji Borrelli, FIC***

***General Agent***

***Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Insurance***

***113 W Michigan Ave, #846, Jackson, MI 49204***

***Office: 877-857-6237***

***E-mail: [benji.borrelli@KofC.org](mailto:benji.borrelli@KofC.org)***

**Rising Storm Photography**  
[www.risingstormphotography.com](http://www.risingstormphotography.com)

*Marianne Podgorski*

Photographer

[map@risingstormphotography.com](mailto:map@risingstormphotography.com)

Find us on Facebook & Instagram

Text/Voice: 248-747-3762

Located in SE Michigan

