

THE SHIELD

Official Publication of Fr. James B. Heary, O.P. - Council 7239 Knights of Columbus
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<http://www.kofc7239.org>



Vol. XL, No. 4 • April 2025

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Ghost written by Shield Editor

Brother Knights,

Vivat Jesus!

Our worthy Grand Knight is still out of town, but here are some things that I am sure he would want to pass along.

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

The BIG event this month is the Charity Poker, April 11th-13th. We can always use help, so if you are an able-bodied person, this is a fairly easy event to work and help with.

The next coffee and donuts, I believe we are sponsoring, but I don't have the date. Keep your eyes open with the Church paper.

Lastly, we will need able bodied persons to help the Building Corp with their spring council clean-up on Saturday April 19th. Our focus will be painting the baseboards in the basement and the attic cleanup.

I wish all our members had a Happy Easter!!

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Your Friendly Neighborhood Shield Editor

Charity Poker Update

By Darren Gray

By the time of the meeting, I will have the update on the March Charity Poker Event. Our next one is right behind it, April 11th-13th. The new, 3-day schedule works out really well, so if you've never helped before, these are good events to get your feet wet.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 7, 2025

Building Corp Meeting - 6:15 p.m.

Membership Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**** Meeting In-Person at Council ****

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting -- 7:00 p.m.

**** Meeting In-Person at Council ****

April 11th-13th, 2025

Next Charity Poker Event

Contact Darren Gray if you can help

Shield Deadline:

Sunday, April 20, 2025

editor@kofc7239.org

(Always 3rd Sunday of Month)

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

OFFICER ROSTER

State Deputy
 Barry Borsenik (989) 295-1266
District Deputy
 Darren Gray (248) 302-8918
Chaplain

Grand Knight
 Samual Lamerato (248) 885-1847
Deputy Grand Knight
 David Hopcroft (248) 585-7771
Financial Secretary
 Craig Massman (586) 506-8077
Chancellor
 Ron Bertolini (248) 399-9261
Warden
 Randy Carlisle (248) 585-8069
Advocate
 Glain Guilmette, PGK (586) 419-4641
Treasurer
 Ryan Thompson (248) 561-7122
Recorder
 Robert Pasternak (586) 264-5994
Guards
 Ken Witkowski (248) 546-0867
 Mario Limon (248) 561-2269
Trustees
 Duane McLaughlin, 1 YR (248) 855-3153
 Ronnie Thompson, 2 YR (248) 561-3360
 Joe Miller, 3 YR (248) 439-0441
Program Director
 Darren Gray (248) 302-8918
Membership Chairman
 Ron Bertolini (248) 399-9261
Church Activities Director
 Joseph Miller TBD
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
 Ronnie Thompson (248) 561-3360
Treasurer
 Tim Oparka (248) 585-7296
Recorder
 Robert Pasternak (586) 264-5994

LADIES AUXILIARY

Hi Ladies!

Hi ladies and Happy Spring!

Thank you to Joe Miller and Marge McLaughlin for hosting the St. Patrick's Day Dinner, and to everyone who helped with set up, bringing the sides, drinks, and deserts, and with cleanup.

At our last meeting, the ladies discussed the charity raffle item for the Mackinac Island Convention in May and decided to donate a \$100 gift card to go with the wooden Michigan cutting board. We will be voting on the name for the raffle item at our meeting.

We also discussed having a meatball dinner at our Potluck dinner in June. The ladies also discussed the Ladies birthday dinner. The date will be May 8th at 6:00p.m. at Madhouse Bar and Grill in Madison Heights.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, April 10th at 7:00p.m. The hostesses are Nancy Oparka and Janice Polan.

We are still in need of donations for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Bank. They are in need of plastic and paper shopping bags, please bring them to our meeting.

We are also accepting donations for Madison Family Planning in Madison Heights (diapers, baby wash, diaper rash ointment. etc).

Happy Anniversaries to Tim and Nancy Oparka and Janice and Gene Polan.

Please pray for our Prayer List.

Happy belated Easter!
 Happy Easter!

Amber Thompson
 President



Convention Delegate Elections Update

Congratulations on the Delegates for the 2025 Michigan State Council Convention. Your District Deputy looks forward to seeing you on the island.

1st Delegate – Sam Lamerato, GK
2nd Delegate – Dave Hopcroft

1st Alternate – Craig Massman
2nd Alternate – Duane McLaughlin

Building Corp News

Several things in regards to the Building Corp:

1. Once again, if anyone has left over White or Off-White paint available that can be used to paint some of the outdoor items, please drop them off in front of the garage in the back.
2. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!** Summer Clean up of the Council will be Saturday, April 19th. Planning on between 8am-Noon. Many hands make light work. The plan is to do some painting in the basement of the baseboards and clean the attic.
3. If we have enough garbage to get rid of, we will be loading it up on Saturday, May 10th for the Madison Heights Spring Clean-up Day. If you have a truck available, please let us know.

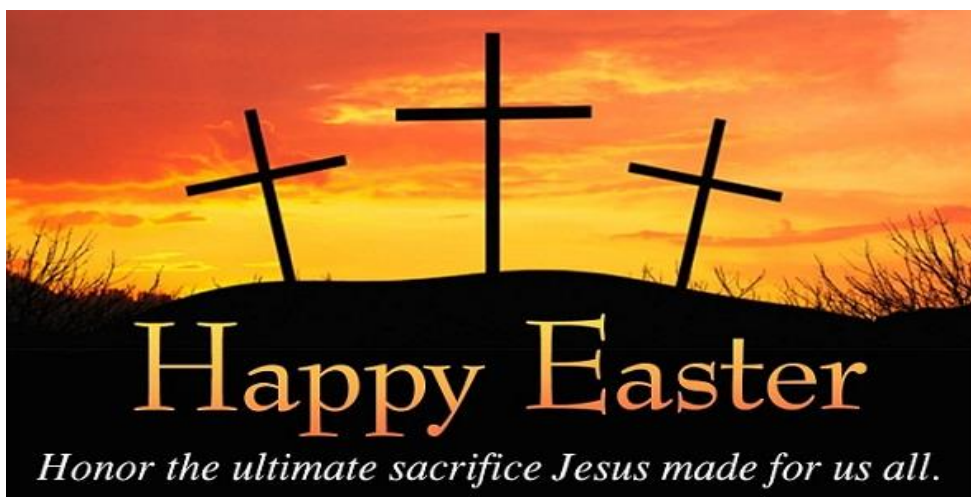
PRAYER LIST

Deloris Bail, Gene Bosetti, Ann Brunk, Larry Bunting, Diane Emerick, Jessie Giszczak, Shirley Hopcroft (Dave's Mother), Heather Lang, Silvio Marchesi, Sharon McCoy (Ken Witkowski's Sister), Ron Ploskonka, Yvette Ploskonka, Stefanie Olszewski, Richard Salvatore, Ernie Schied, Tony & Jeanette Szeliga, John Turchin, Matt Ventimiglia, 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

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”

Update Your Beneficiaries

Sometimes it is easy to overlook the simplest of things. Take, for example, the beneficiaries on your life insurance policies. If your policy was applied for and issued several years ago, it may very well be that the person you originally selected as the beneficiary is no longer the person you would want to receive the policy proceeds. If you bought the policy when you were single, for example, you may have named your parents as beneficiaries. If you have since married, your policies should be updated to reflect your spouse as beneficiary. Maybe you’ve had children since, who are not named on the policies.

Most people list a primary beneficiary, who is specifically designated as the first in priority to receive policy proceeds. We also encourage the naming of a contingent beneficiary, an alternate person designated to receive policy proceeds, usually in the event that the original beneficiary pre-deceases the insured.

I routinely call all of my policyholders for annual review appointments, usually near the anniversary date of your policy – that is, the date it was originally issued. One of the matters that I’ll discuss during this review is the status of your beneficiary designations. If they need updating, and they often do, I can complete the paperwork during that appointment.

I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss your family’s needs.

**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*



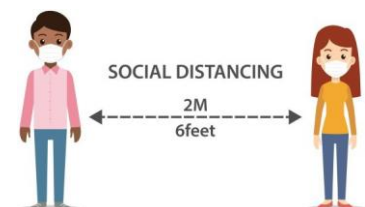
APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

**If we missed your birthday
or the date is wrong, please email
me at editor@kofc7239.org .
Thanks.**



April 2025

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

**HOPCROFT
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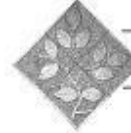
FUNERAL HOME

30351 Dequindre
Madison Heights, MI 48071

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Dennis C. Swanson

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

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The office is located on Dequindre
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Career Opportunity:

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. They offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please contact, Benji Borrelli, General Agent, at 877-857-6237, or Benji.borrelli@kofc.org