

The Columbus Crusader

Msgr. Patrick R. Dunigan Council No. 695, Knights of Columbus



ONE NATION UNDER GOD



COUNCIL MEETING 2ND TUESDAY

FOURTH DEGREE 1ST THURSDAY

Volume 85, Issue 12

December 2024

The Advent Season is Here!

Greetings Brother Knights,

This month we prepare for Christmas season, in this heavy retail society it is easy to get caught up in the urges to shop and spend money needlessly. We need to focus on the reason for the season and to Keep Christ in Christmas!

The Knights have an offer for Catholic men of faith, a gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus. Look for the ad in this paper if you are interested or you know someone who should be a member. Please visit website kofc.org/join and then enter the Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY to join online for free. Please list Council 695 as the Council that you or they have interest in joining and we will work out the entry process.

The Knights of Columbus "Leave No Neighbor Behind" program is alive and in need whereby we collect donated furniture, in good clean condition, to be distributed to the 160+ families on our list of needing items as well as several organizations providing services to the needy. The current biggest need is single beds for children that are sleeping on the floor. Last year alone, they delivered 4,064 items directly to nearly 380 families. All of those items were collected from others. For every trip to help fill someone's home, they are making another to pick up more items. That's something that is not cheap to do. The program does not charge for their services and everyone is a volunteer. There is no paid staff. Let me know if you have items to donate or want to make a financial contribution. Volunteers are also needed for pick-up and delivery.

Here are some of the upcoming Council happenings in December and beyond:

- December 7 & 8th Pick up Wreaths for Christmas all Flint Churches
- December 10th Council 695 Monthly Meeting 7:30 pm St John Vianney School
- Our Council partnered with other area Councils and Catholic Charities on November 9th for distribution of Coats for Kids. The distribution was well received, and only new coats were provided. The Knights also had a distribution of coats on November 27th. This distribution was not limited to kids and also provided "gently used, clean" coats.

Please look in the mail for your dues renewal notice which should arrive shortly. We are preparing for additional fundraising activities to begin in 2025 to support our various services.

As a reminder Council 695 supports St John Vianney Church & School, St Matthew Church, St Mary Mission and Food Pantry, St Luke NEW Life Center and Food Pantry, along with three Pregnancy Services Centers.

As we continue to celebrate Blessed Michael J. McGivney's Beatification, Council 695 wishes you all a Safe, Blessed and Joyful Christmas Season and praying for the best in 2025!

Please keep all who struggle in your prayers; and pray for World Peace.

Vivat Jesu!

Joe Goergen
Grand Knight
810-922-0539



December 2024

Calendar of Events

- 1 First Sunday of Advent
- 5 Assembly 510 Meeting, Holy Redeemer Family Life Center, 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- 9 Feast of The Immaculate Conception of Mary
- 10 Msgr. Dunigan Council 695 Meeting, St John Vianney Parish Center, 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 14 Wreaths Across America - Holly, National Cemetery
- 21 Angel's Outreach Christmas Event, noon, SJV Gym
- 25 Christmas Day
- 27 Feast of St. John, Apostle
- 29 Feast of the Holy Family
- 31 New Year's Eve

Council Connection

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Facebook: [kofcflint](https://www.facebook.com/kofcflint)
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 MSGR. PATRICK R. DUNIGAN
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+ paid through June 2025



The 4th Degree Color Corps participated in the groundbreaking for Sacred Heart Veterans Village on November 19. The project is spearheaded by Catholic Charities in Flint. Details can be found in this story: <https://bit.ly/3Z8DdFV>

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For \$15 a year, you can have your name and your wife's name, if applicable, listed among those who help underwrite the cost of The Columbus Crusader. For over 84 years, this monthly publication has brought news and advertising to council members. Complete the simple form below and mail with your \$15 donation to Council 695, 2415 Bagley St., Flint, MI 48504.

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Address _____

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in your daily prayers*

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On Saturday November 9, 2024, members of Knights of Columbus councils from across Genesee County gathered at Catholic Charities Center for Hope in Flint for the annual Coats for Kids distribution of coats, hats, and mittens to area children. The event ran from 9:00 am until noon. Over 500 coats were distributed this year. Local councils contributed funds to purchase the new coats through a program sponsored by Supreme. Council 695 donated \$500 to the cause. A second distribution of used coats collected locally was also planned for November 27, just in time for the cold weather heading into mid-Michigan.



Christmas Wreaths will be available for pickup after all Masses at St. John Vianney, St. Mary, and St. Matthew Saturday December 7 and Sunday December 8. If you have not pre-paid, bring payment to pickup. Checks can be made to K of C Council 695. Wreaths \$30. Stands \$10.

Ring the Bell for The Salvation Army

In a long-standing tradition, Council 695 members and family members will staff the Red Kettles at Sam's Club (Corunna Road) entrance and exit on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Program chair Dale Wangler has scheduled one-hour shifts to collect donations for The Salvation Army from 10:00 am till 7:00 pm on November 30th. With two teams per hour, a total of 18 members will be serving the community. Thank you to every one who has volunteered.

**Exemplification Ceremony
Sunday, December 8, 2024**

**After 11:00 am Mass at St. John Vianney
New members will receive the Degrees of Charity,
Unity, and Fraternity. Please invite Catholic men to
join the Knights of Columbus.**

December Birthdays

- 5 Steve Buszek
- 9 Paul Busque
- 19 Thomas Henthorn
- 22 Joseph Gildner
- 25 Nicholaus Josey

Anniversaries

- 10 Laurence & Carolyn Macdonald
- 11 Mark & Amy Plunkey
- 28 Mark & Wanda Davidek
- 30 Joel & Sharon Cuttitta
- 31 Greg & Aleta Alunit

May Peace and Joy Bless You this Christmas Season

Council News from October Meeting

October 8th meeting was attended by 10 members. Grand Knight Goergen reviewed events from September. Some Knights assisted the St. Joseph workers with moving the sisters from St. Matthew to their new home in Flint Township. The Greater Flint Area Men's Group continues to meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Matthew. Several members are involved. An October fund-raising committee meeting was scheduled for 10/21. Financial Secretary and Treasurer reports were given. Life Director Jack Tylus reported that 40 Days for Life was underway. Also, the Flint Pregnancy Center has offered to provide a visit by the mobile ultrasound unit. Consider coordinating with the parish. Mark Davidek reported for Assembly 510 several upcoming events including Veteran's Appreciation Dinner on 11/4, Wreaths Across America on 12/14, the Admiral's Ball on 2/8/25, the 2025 Golf Outing on 7/27/25. Also, 4th degree celebrates it's 125th Anniversary in February 2025.

In New Business, members voted to assist Tim Goodrich with his ministry discernment with a \$100 donation for his trip to Rome. Tim manages Dorothy's House of Coffee providing support to Catholic outreach ministry at the Flint colleges.

Lecturer/Warden Bob Ragnone read from the gospel of St. Luke. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm

Council News from November Meeting

The November 12th meeting was attended by six members. Grand Knight Goergen was out of town, so the meeting was led by FS Mike McCarthy. Coats for Kids took place on Saturday 11/9 at Catholic Charities. Bob Ragnone, Hans Gorka, Dale Wrangler, and Joe Goergen participated from 695. 500 coats were distributed. Christmas Wreath distribution will occur 12/7-8. Wreaths will be picked up at 10 am on 12/7. Bob Ragnone reported that 102 wreaths were ordered, along with 10 stands and 2 garlands. Dale Wangler reported the Religious Appreciation Dinner on 10/23 was a success. There were 30 attendees. End cost to council was approximately \$400. Ring the Bell for Salvation Army will be staffed by 695 members and families. Dale Wangler is coordinating the schedule for Saturday 11/30 at Sam's Club. The mowing season is over. Thanks to Joe Goergen, Dale Wangler, and Jack Tylus for mowing at Heartbeat this year. No new business was conducted, but there will be a proposal to support Angel's Outreach at the December meeting. After the Lecturer's reading, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Annual Dues Billing will be mailed in December. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Religious Appreciation Dinner

On October 23, Council 695 hosted an appreciation dinner for the priests, deacons, and religious sisters who have served the Catholic Community of Flint parishes this past year. A total of 30 guests, council members, and spouses attended the event held in the parish hall at St. John Vianney.

Doors opened at 6:00 pm for social hour and the buffet dinner began at 6:30 pm. Attendees enjoyed baked chicken, barbecue ribs, mostaccioli, salad, bread, and beverages. Dessert consisted of cheesecake bites and cookies. Council Chaplain, Father Matthew Bonk, led prayers and grace before the meal. FS Mike McCarthy thanked everyone for attending and expressed the council's appreciation for the service and work done by the clergy and religious.

The program was chaired by member Dale Wangler, who was not able to attend the dinner, and co-chaired by Mike McCarthy. Food was provided by Italia Gardens Restaurant. In its 5th year, the appreciation dinner has become one of Council 695's signature events. Fourteen council members and guests participated in the evening. They assisted with preparation of the hall, serving the food, and clean-up. Mainly, they were there to show their appreciation and support. Special thanks to brother Lawrance Morrison and staff for setting up the tables and chairs.

The total cost for the event including invitations, postage, food, beverages, and supplies was \$675.29. About \$125 was donated by council members and with the \$12 dinner charge for members/spouses/guests totaling \$156, the net cost to the council was about \$400.

The council looks forward to hosting the next appreciation dinner in October 2025. There is discussion on how to make this a bigger event by encouraging all council members to attend.



Council members (l to r) Tom Brooks, PGK Harvey Yee, and Tom Halligan collected donations for the MI Drive at St. John Vianney on October 13.

Christmas at St. Luke NEW Life Center

Council 695 once again will partner with St. Luke's NEW Life Center and the Christian Service Commission of St. John Vianney church to assist with Christmas gift distribution at St. Luke. Volunteers are needed for morning or afternoon shifts the week of December 16 - 19.

This is the 5th year of council involvement with this program. In 2020, the council was asked to assist with curbside pickup at St. Luke during the Covid pandemic. Curbside pickup worked so well that it continues each year.

If you are able to work a 2.5 to 3.0 hour shift one of those days, please contact Mike McCarthy at 810-620-5117 or by email at mjmone@chartermi.net. Mike will also be contacting individual council members requesting help.

This is a way that Council 695 helps support families in the Flint community.

Angel's Outreach Christmas for Kids

Council member, Deacon Tony Verdun, and his wife Susan have run the Angel's Outreach program for children in the Flint community for several decades. The program originated at Sacred Heart Parish but moved to St. John Vianney after the closing of Sacred Heart.

Deacon Tony and Susan are seeking volunteers and monetary donations to support the Christmas program and ministry. The event will be held on Saturday, December 21st from Noon to 2:30 pm. Christmas gifts are provided via the SJV Christmas Giving Tree. Donations help to cover other program expenses.

Help is also needed with setup on Friday December 20 from 5pm - 7pm. Please contact Susan at 810-965-9398 if you are able to help either day.

Council 695 makes an annual donation to help with this program.

Merry
Christmas

to
Brother Knights
and
Families
of
Council # 695



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS K of C POLISH SAUSAGE SALE

The K of C Flushing Council #8489 will be selling their secret recipe, homemade Polish sausage this Christmas season. The sausage is \$7 per pound, no credit card sales. To order, call Ed Warren at (810) 241-4847 or e-mail your order along with your name & number to kofcsausage@gmail.com. Please order by Monday, December 9th to assure availability. Orders will be available for pick-up in Angel Hall on Saturday, December 14th between 11 am-1:00 pm and in the Activity Center after the 5 pm Mass. Or in the Activity Center on Sunday, December 15th after the 8:30am & 10:30am Masses.

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