

# 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 87, Issue 1

January 2026

## Thanks Be to God

### Brother Knights,

Happy New Year! We have made it to 2026 and the Earth is still spinning (as of me writing this letter, at least). As you pop a champagne bottle, try some thawed shrimp cocktail, and try to guess the words to "Auld Lang Syne," take the time to thank God for another year you have made it.

This January, I challenge you to reflect a little on 2025 and consider the ways that God was with you during the year. Now, I cannot attest to whether it was a "good year" for any of you reading, and I know that for many of us, 2025 brought many challenges and even its share of suffering. However, while it is easy for the negative parts to consume our memory of a period of time, it is sometimes through those difficult parts that we are able to see God's working. Sometimes we need to wade through the boredom and the pain before we can see the light on the horizon.

In the popular Christian song "Graves Into Gardens," it is said that "...the God of the mountain is the God of the valley." It is easy to remember God's presence and love during the high parts of our lives, when we are doing well and we can say with confidence that God has been good to us. However, it goes without saying that feeling this way during the low parts is a bit more complicated. We might say that God loves us and is good to us, but we may not comprehend what this really means. Though it's a cliché to say that the Lord works in mysterious ways, it is true, and it is important that even when the darkness comes, we do not forget that God desires us and believes in us more than we believe

in ourselves.

As our 2025 comes to a close, we have much to be thankful for as a council. We completed yet another successful MI Drive, supported a slew of worthy events both for our community and for the Church, and we hosted our share of happenings, including our barbecue in the summer and our Clergy and Religious Appreciation Dinner. I must say that none of these events would have been remotely possible if it wasn't for your contributions of time, money, and ideas. All these events might have had the Knights of Columbus logo on them, but it is you all who gives that logo its meaning. Thank you, sincerely, for what you all have done to help our council and our community, even if it was a small contribution or an hour spent helping; every storm starts with a drop of rain.

We transition from an eventful Christmas season to a rather easygoing January. We will NOT be serving breakfast at St. Matthews on January 4th as this date does not work, but more details will be forthcoming. We have our meeting on the 13th and we are also planning to help Council #4090 with their Seminarian Dinner in February. Stay tuned!

In Christ,  
Ronan Streby  
Grand Knight  
(810) 444-6458



### January 2026 Calendar of Events

- 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 The Epiphany of the Lord
- 8 Assembly 510 Meeting, Holy Redeemer Family Life Center, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 The Baptism of the Lord
- 13 Msgr. Dunigan Council 695 Meeting, Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 Feast of St. Agnes
- 22 Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- 28 Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas

Council 695 is seeking a new editor for our webpage. Training provided. Build new skills. Make an impact on [www.kofcflint.org](http://www.kofcflint.org).

### Council Connection

Phone: out of service  
Email: [gk695@mikofc.org](mailto:gk695@mikofc.org)  
Website: [www.kofcflint.org](http://www.kofcflint.org)  
Facebook: [kofcflint](https://www.facebook.com/kofcflint)  
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Supreme: [kofc.org](http://kofc.org)

Happy New Year

Please remember  
in your daily prayers

## Assembly 510 Wishes You a Happy New Year!

A report from the Faithful Admiral for Fourth Degree Assembly #510

The next action event, at the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, is our Admirals Ball, happening on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at the St. Michael Byzantine Church. All Knights and guests are invited to attend. Bring your Valentine to the Ball and have a great time: dinner, dancing, friendly meeting of friends or friends to be. Don't let the love arrow hit you, bring them to the ball and have a blast! The event begins with Mass at 4:00 pm. Social and bar will open immediately following Mass in the hall. Dinner follows at 6:00 pm. The cost is \$35/person, a \$5 reduction from last year. Contact a 4<sup>th</sup> degree member for reservations and tickets.



Change is necessary to grow. Change allows for people and organization to adapt and become more innovative and stronger. Things Change from year to year, so we have to pay attention. In conclusion, Change can improve your overall life satisfaction by assisting with removing old habits and launching a new stance on life.

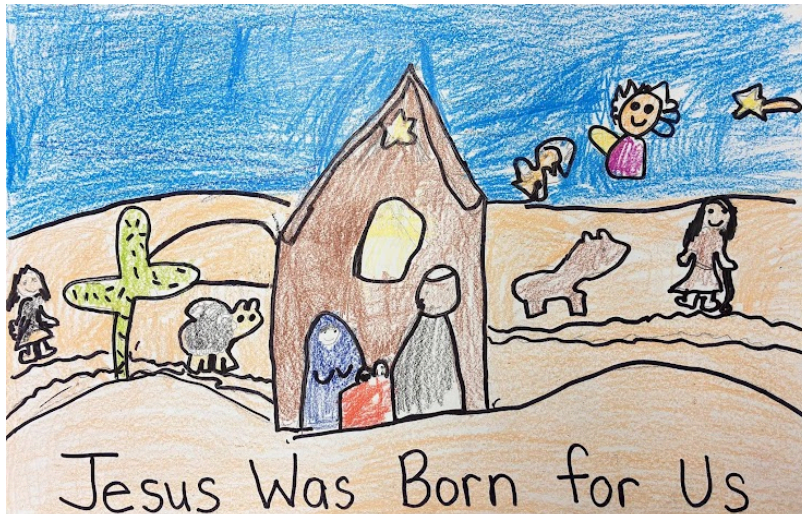
Changes for 2026 are: this is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence for our country; stand up and say Happy Birthday America! In China, this is the Year of the Fire Horse. The year 2026 corresponds to the number 1, symbolizing a new beginning and new leadership. This year is seen as a new beginning, because it marks the start of a new 9 tear numerology cycle. May God help us to do positive change in the new year.

Our next regular meeting is on Thursday January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. in the Holy Redeemer Family Life Center. We meet the first Thursday of every month. **Come and learn about the 4<sup>th</sup> degree.**

Blessed Michael J McGivney and Monsignor Patrick R Dunigan, pray for us!

Jack Tylus, PFN, PGK  
Admiral  
Patrick R Dunigan Assembly #510  
[Jtylus505@gmail.com](mailto:Jtylus505@gmail.com)  
810 938 2778

below: One of the poster contest winning entries from the 1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> grade division.



### Admirals Ball

Saturday, February 14  
4:00 pm Mass  
5:00 pm Social  
6:00 pm Dinner

St. Michael Byzantine  
2333 N Elms Rd, Flushing

Tickets: \$35/person  
All 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> invited

### January Birthdays

9 Fred Kay  
11 Nicholas Skellett  
15 Michael Burnett  
24 Carl Pendell  
25 Paul Plunkey

### January Anniversaries

12 John and Mary Ann Ploucha  
29 Joseph & Mary Lou Sullivan

Fr. Tom Firestone  
Dcn. Tony Verdun  
Fr. Tim MacDonald  
Linda Reynolds  
John Davidek  
Rose Gorke  
Peter Goergen  
Gloria Accardo  
Joel Cuttitta  
Maryanne George  
Mandy Borsenik  
Carol Goergen  
Santino Jamison  
Diane Gagne  
Dan Bishop  
Tom Argus  
Lawrance Morrison  
Mary George  
Stan Blood  
Rachel Pavone  
Duane Whitney  
PGK Tom Edelen  
John Sperla, Jr.  
George Plunkey  
Shane Church  
Philip & Cecilia Satkowiak  
Ray Rust  
Tom George  
Pat Goodall  
Michael J. Reuther  
Paul Busque  
Melba Barton  
Dean Haywood  
Mark Davis  
Jerod Fehy  
Larry Starnes  
Bill Krebs  
Barbara Cole  
Jonathan Smith  
Jim Jackson  
Robert Smith  
Carolyn Anderson  
Bob Johnson  
Roselynn Serra  
Charles Johnson  
Paul Zuwala  
Lucas Allen  
Vincent Pangori  
Marge Conley  
Ferris Williams  
PFN Neal & Claudia Roche  
Barbara Johnson  
Cathy Huber  
Duane Walters  
Family of Bob Lobakovich  
Jim Bonner  
Don O'Brien  
Doug McManus  
Don LaRochelle  
Sam Yanta  
John Koszegi  
Chuck Daley  
Jo Etue  
Edmund Evans  
Ken McDonald  
David Shaw  
Sue Zerweck  
Maureen Kelsey  
Marie Gillespie  
The Souls in Purgatory

## Council News from December Meeting

Council 695 met on Tuesday December 9 in the Knights of Columbus Council chambers in the basement of the rectory at St. John Vianney. The meeting was called to order by GK Ronan Streby at 7:35 p.m. with an opening prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Nine members were in attendance.

GK Streby thanked members who participated in the annual Salvation Army Ring the Bell event on Saturday November 29 at Sam's Club. He also reported that a successful Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest was run at St. John Vianney School and thanked members for voting online to choose contest winners. Thanks were given to Bob Ragnone, Matt George, Joe Goergen, and Dale Wangler for work on the annual Christmas Wreath program with distribution taking place the December 6 and 7. GK Streby announced that Council 4090 (Davison) is requesting our help with the annual Seminarian Dinner in February, including ticket sales, promotion, and other tasks. A tentative date for breakfast at St. Matthew is Sunday January 4 after 8am and 10am Masses (note: this has been postponed as of 12/28). Members are encouraged to bring suggestions for events/programs to GK Streby. Finally, we have been asked to let the parish office know when members will be working in the council chambers and to conclude activity in chambers no later than 9pm in respect of this being in the priests' residence.

Treasurer Greg Fixen reported status of council and building company accounts. Financial Secretary Mike

McCarthy reported council membership at 275. August semi-annual audit was submitted recently.

Other Reports: Assembly 510 reported the Admirals Ball will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup>. They are looking to offer a lower price than last year. Christmas Wreath program reported sales of at least 135 wreaths and a profit of over \$1000. Final numbers pending. The Building Company reported they are still looking to move investments from Morgan Stanley to Knights of Columbus Advisors. There is a possibility of putting the money in a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) managed by K of C. More volunteers are needed for the St. Luke Christmas Gift Distribution on December 15 and 17. The KCIC poster contest had 30 entries and voting continues to 12/15.

FS McCarthy asked about moving approximately 30 members to affiliate council status with the State Council, as a result of them being severely behind in dues and not active with the council. There was consensus to take this action by year-end, if possible.

There was no new business. Donations to the Cheryl Wangler Memorial have reached \$845. Lecturer Bob Ragnone read from the Book of Proverbs with a message to study and pray, and if you are too busy, slow down. What will you do in response to God's Love?

The meeting adjourned approximately 8:40 p.m.

Thanks to a generous donation from a council friend, a donation of \$1000 was made to Heartbeat of Flint and \$1000 was sent to Sacred Heart Major Seminary Scholarship Fund. Council 695 thanks the donor.

**K of C Lansing Diocesan Winter Meeting will take place on Tuesday January 20 at St. Mary Cathedral. Officers encouraged to attend.**



*Roger L. Sharp, President*

**Miller Road Chapel**  
Roger L. Sharp, Manager  
8138 Miller Rd • P.O. Box 69 • Swartz Creek, MI 48473 • 810-635-4411

**Fenton Chapel**  
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Advertising Renewal Notices  
will be coming out in the next  
week. We appreciate your  
support of this newsletter.



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Members and family,  
Thank you for your help this  
Christmas season  
at  
Salvation Army - Ring the Bell  
St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center  
Angels Outreach

*El Toro*  
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# The Columbus Crusader

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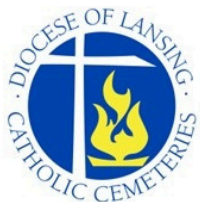
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Watch the Mail

Coming Soon:

Billing Notices for Annual Council Dues  
and Assessments.  
Honorary Life Membership Cards.  
Affiliate Member Notices.

Dues: Regular - \$40, Honorary - \$20,  
Honorary Life - \$0, Exempt - \$0

NOTE: This page is not included in the printed version of the newsletter but was added for the online website posting and electronic distribution.

# *The Michigan Singing Knights*

A Knights of Columbus affiliated men's choir



You are invited to an open house rehearsal  
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

We are recruiting new singers  
All levels of musical talent are welcome  
Come meet us to sing together

This is your chance to see what fun singing looks like

For more info Call Jim Lusty 810-618-2889  
or email [michigansingingknights@gmail.com](mailto:michigansingingknights@gmail.com)

This flyer was not included in the printed version of the newsletter. Council will consider sponsoring a table or two at the January 13 meeting. If you won't be attending the meeting, please let GK Ronan Streby know if you interested in attending the Admiral's Ball. Special pricing will apply.



♥ ADMIRAL'S BALL ♥



**VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE**

**Saturday February 14, 2026 @ 6pm**

**St. Michael Byzantine**

Location: 2333 N Elms Rd, Flushing 48433

**Organized by the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights of Columbus**

Assemblies: Msgr. Dunigan #510 and St Joseph #2211

Donation is \$35 per person or a table of 8 for \$250

Attire is Semi-Formal

For Men – Dark Suit and Tie

Proceeds will benefit Sacred Heart Veterans Village

You're are invited to join us for Divine Liturgy (Mass) before the evening begins @ St. Michael Byzantine Church at 4pm. Cocktail hour will begin after mass.

**Tickets must be purchased in advance:**

For more information Call Don Pollard 810-965-6011

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Number in party\_\_\_\_ X \$35/person: Table of 8 \_\_\$250 Enclose amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Please include your Name, Email and Mailing address and Ph. No.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly/Council No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Jack Tylus  
Knights of Columbus #510  
7060 Aldredge Dr.  
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

**Make checks payable to:**  
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