



Chaplain	SK Fr. Michael Alber	Grand Knight	SK Brian Brown
Deputy Grand Knight	Doug Smith	Chancellor	SK Rich Schneider
Financial Secretary	SK Rex Waltersdorf	Treasurer	SK Dan Lawless
Recorder	SK William Christian	Advocate	SK Francis Vallier
Warden	SK Dan Arwood	Lecturer	Todd Davlin
Inside Guard	SK John Hengesbach	Outside Guard	Jeremy Newman
Trustees	SK Jacob Lowe	SK Robert Pline	SK Gary Fedewa

January, February, March 2024

Grand Knight's Report

1 Thess 1:2-3 – Gratitude

“We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

As I prayerfully consider what to share with the Knights of the Portland Council to open this newsletter, I find myself reflecting on a feeling of gratitude as we enter the Christmas season. This feeling is centered on what Jesus has done for us through His incarnation by becoming man and dwelling among us. I'm also finding myself reflecting on a feeling of gratitude for each brother Knight in our council, especially those who go above and beyond with their time, talents, and treasure to ensure this council remains active in its efforts to assist those in need. There are many names that could also have been listed, but below are some that came to mind as Knights who I am truly grateful to serve alongside.

Bill Vallier - Leading the kitchen in several events throughout the year as well as ordering Council 2168 polos to give us an opportunity to help spread what the Knights do in our community.

Bill Christian - Heading up efforts for the food drive and as a key supporter with the MI Drive.

Jacob Lowe - Leading the effort for the card party fundraiser for a family in need and with bingo.

Gary Fedewa - Leading the building corporation that has many recent improvements to the Knight's Hall and grounds as well as the MI Tootsie Roll Fundraiser which raised the most money in the Grand Rapids Diocese for two years in a row.

Dan Lawless & Doug Smith - Accepting leadership roles within our council.

Tom Klein - Heading up the Fish Sale and PSIC Drive.

Rex Waltersdorf – Holding a very important support role for our council and a willingness to do many things behind the scenes that go unnoticed to most of us.

If you see any of these gentlemen, please give them a huge thank you for what they do for our council and community. Is God calling you to take on a more active role within the Portland Council? We would love to have you at any of the events listed in the calendar section below. If you would like to learn more on how you could donate your time and talents as these Knights continue to do on a consistent basis, I would love to talk with you!

Vivat Jesus, Brian Brown

Message from Our Insurance Agent

WONDERFUL CATHOLIC TRADITIONS

What special celebrations we have in the month of December! Our Lady's feast, the feast of the Immaculate Conception when we honor Mary as having been conceived without original sin. What an honor, too, for her mother, St. Anne, and father, St. Joachim, to have that blessing, literally the grandparents of our Lord! Then we celebrate Christmas and the Word made flesh who dwelled among us. "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." (Isa 9:5)

I'm sure your family, like mine, has its traditions at Christmas. There is decorating a tree and the house both inside and out, shopping for that perfect gift, and the preparation of the special meal. Maybe you start the real celebration by attending Midnight Mass. And perhaps this year it will mean a return to a houseful of relatives around your Christmas dinner table. I hope and pray that you and your family find peace and joy during this season!

As we approach the end of the year I want to thank each of you for the trust you've placed in me. I have been able to help so many brother Knights and their families with the services and products that the Order has available to protect Catholic families. I consider it an honor to be able to serve you as your agent.

Have a very Merry Christmas! Let's be thankful for all the graces and gifts that God has blessed us with, especially the gift of his Son!

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Thelen, FICF, LUTCF

Member of MDRT & NAFIC

(989) 593-2200 michael.thelen@kofc.org



*Permanent and Term Life, Disability Insurance, Dualife,
Mortgage and Long Term Care Insurance, IRA's, Roth IRA's,
Annuities, Estate Planning, Fraternal Benefits*

Call to Serve

If it is to be, it is up to me.

Thank you to the many Knights that are serving as His hands in our council. Where are you being called to serve? Please consider volunteering and serving our council and parish in new ways. Experienced Knights will walk you through and be available for any questions. Contact GK Brian Brown, Bill Vallier, and Gary Fedewa for more information.

If you are interested in developing a fundraiser for the council, please reach out. There are many local and diocesan organizations that need help.

Annual Knight's Fish Sale

The Portland Knights of Columbus will be having an Alaskan walleye fish sale fundraiser. The fish are frozen filleted skinless Alaskan walleye and come in 10-pound bags. Each 10-pound bag cost \$60.00. To purchase the fish, make check payable to Knights of Columbus and add "Fish Sale" on memo line and mail payment to: Knights of Columbus, 690 Maynard Road, Portland, Michigan 48875. Payment must be received by Monday, January 9, 2023. The fish will be available for pickup on Friday, January 27, 2023, at the K of C Knights Hall from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Any questions please send email to Council2168@gmail.com. *The order form for the fish sale is included at the end of this newsletter for your convenience.*

PSIC Donation Drive

On the weekend of January 20 & 21, 2024 the Portland Knights of Columbus will be having its annual collection for Pregnancy Services of Ionia County. There will be Knights before and after each mass in back of church collecting. PSIC is in need of formula & cereal & size 3, 4, & 6 diapers & pull-ups & diaper rash ointment & baby wash & baby wash clothes & NB-4T winter coats & size 6, 9, 12 month, 3T girls long sleeve tops & size 12-month boys onesies & size 2T-4T boys shorts & pacifiers & plastic baby and toddler eating utensils & baby monitors & toddler bed & single stroller & double stroller & newborn car seat & toddler car seat.

Council 2168 Polos

Knights of Columbus short sleeve polos are available for purchase. These are available in a variety of sizes at \$43 which includes the 2168 Council and K of C logo information. Please see Bill Vallier or Brian Brown for more information.

Honors

When you see these men and families, thank them for their service.

<u>2023</u>	<u>Knight of the Month</u>	<u>Family of the Month</u>
October	Jacob Lowe	Jason & Jennifer Chamberlin
November	David T. Simon	Jeff & Dawn Fedewa
December	Dan Lawless	Sean & Stacy Fox-Elster

Please pray for these Knights and their families.



*Strengthen them with Your love and Your grace.
Console them with Your blessed Presence.
Grant them the courage to persevere.*



Bill Clark	Romane Lay	Father Mike Alber	The Alber Family
Jude Kramer	Eleanor Peake	Gary Hodge	Tom Keusch Jr.
Dick Manning	Dick Brown	Ken Schrauben	JoAnn Spitzley
Stephen Fabiano	Ronald Elston	Randy Hodge	Dorothy Keusch
Mike Keusch	John Russman	Jeff Davlin	Dan Schrauben
Don Gross	Bob White	Diane Beachneau	Jim Escott
Jane Scheurer	Don Pohl	Larry Leik	Tom Leik
Doug Schneider	Rex Waltersdorf	Brent Drake	Jerry & Jeanette Kramer

Building Corporation News

Thanks to all who donated to our annual Fall garage sale. Also, Thanks to John Vallier and all the volunteers who helped make it run smooth. We made a profit of \$3300.

Thank you as well to the group of 8 volunteers who rolled out an additional layer of insulation above the hall ceilings with the hope of reducing our utility bills.

4th Degree News

The Spring Exemplification will be held on Saturday April 20, 2024, in Brighton MI. This is a great opportunity for completing your journey as a Knight of Columbus, Contact Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956). Are you Ladies wondering what to get your 4th Degree Knight for Christmas? Help him join the Color Corp! The new 4th Degree uniform can be ordered on Kofcuniform.com. The Assembly has some swords available for new Color Corp members. If you need any assistance, Contact Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956).

Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive

The Annual Tootsie Roll Drive had a profit of \$7358.97. This is the best we have ever done. Thanks to all the captains, volunteers, local business owners and generous members of our community who made this project such a huge success.

Senior Euchre Party

Knights of Columbus Senior Euchre Parties coming up at 1:00pm include Jan 03, Jan 17, Feb 07, Feb 21, Mar 06, Mar 20, Apr 03.

Bingos

Knights of Columbus Bingos coming up at 1:00pm include Jan 07, Jan 21, Feb 04, Feb 18, Mar 03, Mar 17.

Building Corporation Raffle

We really appreciate the help of all the ticket sellers and buyers. The funds raised from this raffle help to support the upkeep of the hall. Contact Gary Fedewa if you have any questions.

2023	\$100	\$75	\$50
October	Gary Pasikowski	Dave Lefke	Jim Gensterblum
November	Dan Schafer	Tony Pung	Jim Leik
December	Jacob Lowe	Eileen Schrauben	Cari McElmurray



Upcoming Events
Save this page for future reference

Any changes to the events below will be announced in
the St. Patrick Parish bulletin, time permitting.

Portland Council #2168
Grand Knight
SK Brian Brown
gk2168@mikofc.org
517-526-1674

Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Please consider finding the time to spend some quiet time with our Lord.

January 2024

Wednesday	1/3	Euchre	1:00 PM
Saturday	1/6	Free Throw Contest	8:30 AM
Sunday	1/7	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	1/8	Business Meeting (Moved from New Year's)	7:00 PM
Monday	1/8	Fish Sale Order Form Due	
Sat/Sun	1/20-21	PSIC Collection (Details Above)	At Masses
Sunday	1/21	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	1/15	Social Meeting	7:00 PM
Wednesday	1/17	Euchre	1:00 PM
Thursday	1/25	Fish Sale Pickup	2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

February 2024

Sunday	2/4	Bingo	1:00 PM
Wednesday	2/7	Euchre	1:00 PM
Monday	2/5	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday	2/13	Blood Drive	11:30 AM-5:30 PM
Sunday	2/18	Bingo	1:00 PM
Wednesday	2/21	Euchre	1:00 PM
Monday	2/19	Social Meeting	7:00 PM

March 2024

Sunday	3/3	Bingo	1:00 PM
Wednesday	3/6	Euchre	1:00 PM
Monday	3/4	Business Meeting	7:00 PM
Sunday	3/17	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	3/18	Past Grand Knight's Banquet	7:00 PM
Wednesday	3/20	Euchre	1:00 PM
Monday	3/25	Letter Stuffing	6:00 PM

Knights Hall, 690 Maynard Road, Portland			District #301	
Hall Rental	Jude Kramer	517-647-2274	District Deputy	SK Donald Gunderman Portland Council #2168
Building Corporation	(Francis) John Vallier	517-647-6409	Lake Odessa Council #14404	SK Joseph Hickey
			Pewamo Council #8071	GK Ron Simon
State Council of Michigan MIKofC.org			Portland Council #2168	SK Brian Brown
Worthy State Deputy	Christopher Kolomjec		Saranac Council #11113	GK Mike Lamphere



Knights of Columbus

Portland Council 2168
690 Maynard Road
Portland, Michigan 48875

Alaskan Walleye Fish Sale Thursday, January 25, 2024

The Portland Knights of Columbus will be having an Alaskan walleye fish sale as a fundraiser.

The fish are filleted skinless frozen Alaskan walleye and come in 10-pound bags.

Each 10-pound bag of fish cost \$60.00.

To purchase the fish, make a check payable to **Knights of Columbus** and complete the below form.

Mail order form & payment to: Knights of Columbus
690 Maynard Road
Portland, Michigan 48875

Order form and payment must be **received** by Monday, January 8, 2024

The fish will be available for pickup on Thursday, January 25, 2024 at the Knights Hall from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The K of C Knights Hall is located at 690 Maynard Road, Portland, Michigan

Any questions please send email to Council2168@gmail.com

_____ cut here & return below section _____

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 FISH SALE ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number of bags = _____ X \$60.00 = _____ Total