



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

Portland Council #2168

690 Maynard Road
Portland, MI 48875

gk2168@mikofc.org

Grand Knight SK Doug Smith

517-896-5718

Chaplain	Fr. Logan Weber	Grand Knight	SK Doug Smith
Deputy Grand Knight	SK Daniel Arwood	Chancellor	SK Rich Schneider
Financial Secretary	SK Rex Waltersdorf	Treasurer	SK Dan Lawless
Recorder	SK William Vallier	Advocate	SK Gary Fedewa
Warden	SK Tom Klein	Lecturer	SK Donald Gunderman
Inside Guard	SK John Hengesbach	Outside Guard	SK Dan Schafer
Trustees	SK Jacob Lowe	SK Robert Pline	SK Bob Fox

January, February, March - Grand Knight's Report

Isaiah 9:6

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. And he will be called Wonder Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Brother Knights,

Advent season is a time to prepare for Christmas – the anticipation of the birth of Jesus Christ and the hope for his second coming. Advent embraces hopeful waiting, deepened faith, resilient joy, and courageous peacemaking in our suffering world. When was the last time you sat quietly in adoration and truly reflected on your hopes for this season? Or what you long for Christ to heal in your life? Charity is one of the three virtues of our organization. We are called to share His divine love to others through generosity and helpfulness for those who are suffering or in need. Do you know someone who may be lonely that you can take time to visit? Perhaps providing a home-cooked meal or groceries to a family who is struggling financially. Whatever the need, do it in the spirit of humility – expecting nothing in return. Be vigilant, stay awake! "So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Knights In Our Community

Shout out to Steve Goodman and his crew for hosting the annual Halloween/Bingo party for adults with special needs on October 15 at Knights Hall. This annual event is always a highlight for so many attendees. An enjoyable time was had by all!

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- **K of C Free Throw Shooting Contest** (January 10)
- **PSIC Drive** (January 17-18)
- **Fish Sale Fundraiser** (January 29 - pickup)
- **Cooking for Annual Banquet** (March 19)

If one of these upcoming opportunities is of interest to you or if you have an idea for additional ways the Knights can support the youth, or those of any age, please reach out to me. I'd love to hear your thoughts. You can contact me at gk2168@mikofc.org or 517-896-5718.

Vivat Jesus!
Doug Smith

Message from Our Insurance Agent

Brothers,

A blessed Advent to you all.

As we anticipate the coming of Christ at Christmas, it's undoubtedly a busy time of year for so many of us. There are meals to prepare, gatherings to attend and gifts to buy, but we know, these are labors of love. We love our families and want this holy time of year to be special for them.

These moments we share with our families are precious, and they should cause us to reflect on what it is we cherish in our lives and strive to protect. What would life look like if the unexpected were to happen?

I invite you this season to consider protecting what matters most through the gift of life insurance.

The right life insurance coverage can mean financial security for your family. It can mean the ability for them to have income to help minimize the impact of an untimely death on their level of financial comfort. It can shield against debt or remaining mortgage payments, so your family is protected if you or your spouse dies unexpectedly.

Depending on your policy, it could also be the seeds of a growing financial legacy – a foundation to give your loved ones so they can continue to build upon what you've worked for. Simply put, life insurance is the gift of protection and stability for the most important people in our lives.

Let's schedule time to connect before the end of the year so we can explore affordable options together that can help make a big difference for your peace of mind in 2026 and for years to come.

Thank you!

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Thelen, FICF, LUTCF, CLU
989-593-2200
michael.thelen@kofc.org
Member of Million Dollar Round Table



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

Honors

When you see these men and families, thank them for their service to their families, church, council, and community.

2025
October
November
December

Knight of the Month
Ray Fedewa
Bill Christian
Pat Russman

Family of the Month
Aaron & Mashon Stahl
Herb & Eileen Schrauben
Chris & Janet Pung

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.*



Dick Manning
Marie Schafer
Noah Montpetit
Dorothy Keusch
John Russman
Harry Klein
Diane Beachnau
Larry Leik
Lisa Lehnert

Fr. Mike Alber
Gary Hodge
Dick Brown
Jeff Davlin
Don Pohl
Dale Cook
Fr. Logan Weber
Jim Simon
Bob Schafer

Bob White
Tom Keusch Jr.
Ronald Elston
Mike Keusch
Mandy Borsenik
Dale Kramer
Kim Weber
Mike Fox
Pope Leo XIV

Carol Wlodarczak
Peyton Russman
Mary Christian
Paul Jandernoa
Jane Scheurer
Romaine Lay
Gary Brown
Richard Smith

Please pray for peace throughout the world.

New Members

Please welcome Simon White as our newest Knight. He completed the Exemplification process on October 20. Thanks, Simon, for your YES as a brother Knight!

Funeral Honor Guard

Brother Knights stand together to honor our fallen members. Please make an effort to attend the funeral of our deceased Council members. We meet in the back of church, to stand as an Honor Guard, and after the Mass to support our deceased members' families.

4th Degree News

The Spring Exemplification date and location have not yet been announced. If you are interested in completing your journey to full Knighthood, contact Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956).

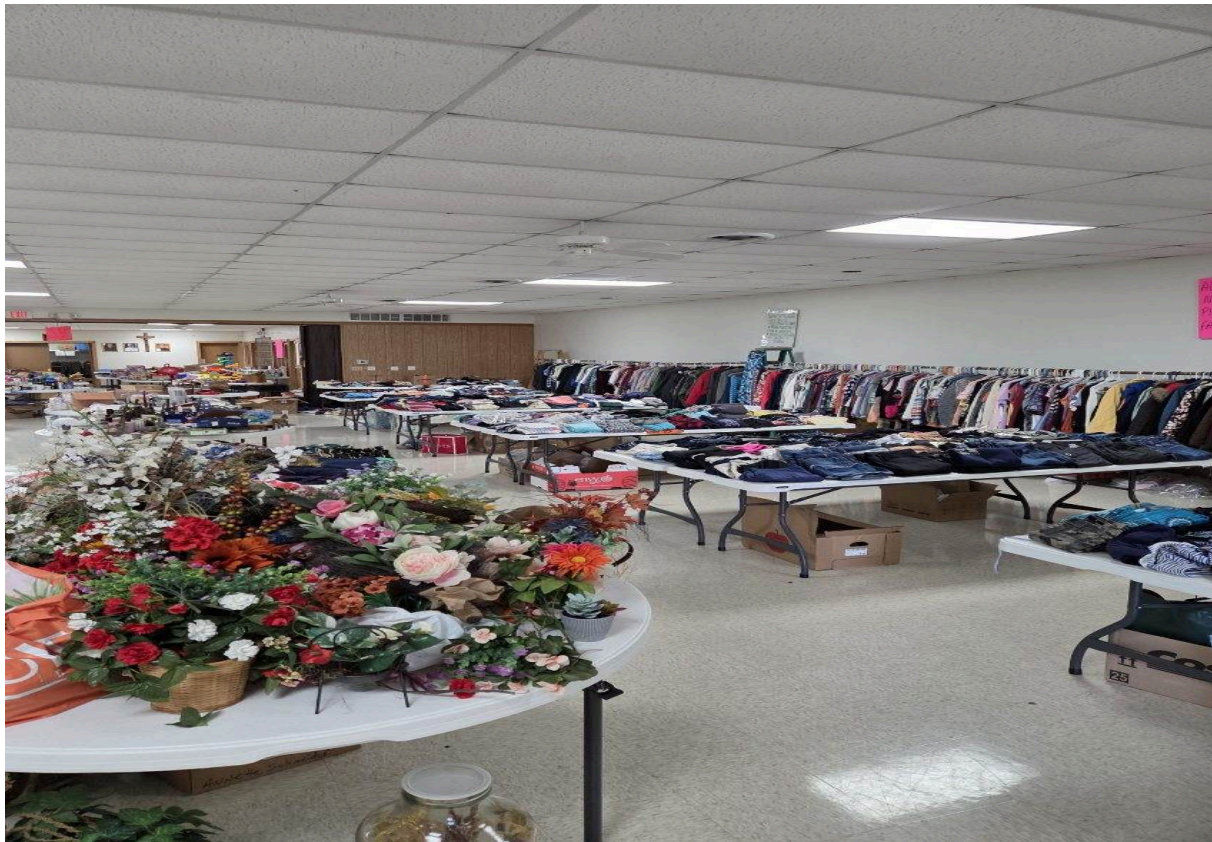
Are you ladies wondering what to get your 4th Degree Knight for Christmas? Help him join the Color Corp! The new 4th Degree uniform can be ordered on www.kofcuniform.com. The Assembly has some swords available for new Color Corp members. If you need any assistance, contact Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956).

Pregnancy Services of Ionia County (PSIC) Annual Fundraiser

Many thanks to those who sponsored tables and/or donated toward the PSIC annual fundraiser held in September. Over \$35,000 was raised to help mothers and babies in Ionia County. This is by far the most raised since inception of the fundraiser! Council 2168 was pleased to donate the use of the hall, as well as \$250. Thanks for serving as Christ's light to the vulnerable in our community.

Results of the Fall Garage Sale

Our Fall garage sale was once again a hit! The hall was packed with treasures for all ages. Thanks to all who donated to the sale. Total profit was \$3,388. Special thanks to the volunteers and their wives who helped make this a success. Proceeds are used for the upkeep of the hall. Unsold items are taken to Matthews House and Enrich in Ionia.



Results of Tootsie Roll Drive

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our recent Tootsie Roll Drive. This year we raised over \$7,500! Shoutout to our team captains, volunteers, local businesses, and generous members of our community who make this project a huge success. It takes a village, but what a worthy cause! The proceeds will be distributed to local special needs programs in Portland and Ionia County.

Free Throw Contest

The annual Free Throw Contest will be held on Saturday, January 10 at St. Patrick School gymnasium. Registration is at 8:30 AM. Contest begins at 9:00 AM. This is for ages 9-14 (boys and girls). You do NOT have to be a Knight for your child to participate.

Knight of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen as this year's Essay Contest winners for Council 2168. The essay question was: "*Out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why?*" The responses from these students were exceptional! They will now advance to the district/regional level.

9th Grade - Augustus Lewanski

10th Grade - Maria Austen

11th Grade - Siena Schafer

12th Grade - Maizie Pelc

"Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest

Each year, the Knights organize a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. It's a creative way for our youth to prepare for the anticipation of our Lord and Savior. We had many great entries! Congratulations to the following winners. They too will advance to the district/regional level of competition.

Kindergarten - Spencer Lowe

1st/2nd Grade - Holland Smith

3rd/4th Grade - Ruby King

5th/6th Grade - Griffin Brown

Annual PSIC Drive

Council 2168 will once again be coordinating our annual drive to support Pregnancy Services of Ionia County. Diapers, wipes, formula, baby shampoo, diaper cream, hats/mittens, new or gently used clothing, and other essential mother/baby items are being accepted. The drive will be held the weekend of January 17-18 in the back of church. Contact Tom Klein for additional info (810-588-3965).

Alaskan Wild Caught Fish Fundraiser

Our annual fish fundraiser is back! See attached form which must be received, along with payment, no later Monday, January 12. The fish will be ready for pickup on Thursday, January 29. Proceeds are used to support various charities.

Council 2168 Past Grand Knights Banquet

This year's annual banquet will be held Thursday, March 19 at Knights Hall. At this banquet, we honor our Past Grand Knights, as well as recognize Knights and Families of the Month. We also celebrate our Knight and Family of the Year. More info to follow.

Spring Garage Sale

The Spring garage sale will be held on **Thursday, April 30 from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM and Friday, May 1 from 8:00 AM until Noon.** Donations can be dropped off on Wednesday, April 29 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. We will not be accepting any large furniture items or TVs. If you have items that need to be picked up for donation, please call Bill Vallier or Gary Fedewa.

Building Corporation Raffle

We really appreciate the help of our 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.

2025

October
November
December

\$100

John Augst
Denny Hufnagel
Jerry Brown

\$75

Barry Kemmis
John Gross
Keith Cook

\$50

Jerry Brown
Todd Mc Elmurry
John Bengal



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 Doug Smith
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517-896-5718

We spread our faith through our deep love for our Lord and that all begins and ends with a beautiful relationship with Him. Please consider spending time adoring our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration.

- **Mondays** in the chapel: (across the street from the church): 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Tuesdays** in the church: 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM (ending just before Mass begins)
- **Wednesdays** in the chapel: 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Fridays** in the chapel: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

January 2026

Sunday	1/4	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	1/5	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Wednesday	1/7	Euchre	1:00 PM
Saturday	1/10	Free Throw Shooting Contest	9:00 AM
Sunday	1/18	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	1/19	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
Wednesday	1/21	Euchre	1:00 PM
Saturday	1/26	Corporate Mass	4:30 PM

February 2026

Sunday	2/1	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	2/2	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Wednesday	2/4	Euchre	1:00 PM
Tuesday	2/10	Blood Drive	11:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Sunday	2/15	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	2/16	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
Wednesday	2/18	Euchre	1:00 PM

March 2025

Sunday	3/1	Bingo	1:00 PM
Monday	3/2	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Wednesday	3/4	Euchre	1:00 PM
Sunday	3/15	Bingo	1:00 PM
Wednesday	3/18	Euchre	1:00 PM
Monday	3/16	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
Monday	3/23	Newsletter Stuffing	6:00 PM

Knights Hall, 690 Maynard Road, Portland			District #301	
Hall Rental	Fred Kramer	517-647-2274	District Deputy	SK Ron Carlotti
Building Corporation	SK Gary Fedewa	517-927-0798	Lake Odessa Council #14404	SK Andrew Coates
			Pewamo Council #8071	GK Dave Antes
State Council of Michigan MIKofC.org			Portland Council #2168	SK Doug Smith
Worthy State Deputy	SK Barry Borsenik		Saranac Council #11113	GK Mike Lamphere



Knights of Columbus

Portland Council 2168
690 Maynard Rd.
Portland, Michigan 48875

Alaskan Wild Caught Fish Sale Thursday, January 29, 2026

The Portland Knights of Columbus will be holding an Alaskan Wild Caught Fish Sale as a fundraiser. The fish are skinless and boneless frozen fillets and come in 10-pound bags. **Each 10-pound bag of fish cost \$60.00.**

To purchase the fish, please make checks payable to **Knights of Columbus** and complete the form below. Send order form and payment to:

Knights of Columbus
690 Maynard Road
Portland, Michigan 48875

Order form and payment must be received by Monday, January 12, 2026.

The fish will be available for pickup on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at the Knights Hall from 2:00-6:00 PM. The Knights Hall is located at 690 Maynard Road, Portland, Michigan.

(cut here & return section below)

Knights of Columbus Alaskan Wild Caught Fish Sale

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Bags _____ X \$60.00 = _____ TOTAL