



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

April, May, June 2026 - Grand Knight's Report

Luke 9:23

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

Brother Knights,

As we draw nearer to Easter Sunday, we are reminded of Jesus's ultimate sacrifice on the cross where he conquered sin and death forever. Through His suffering, death and resurrection, the gates of Heaven were opened. This gives us hope for salvation and the promise of eternal life. Every day we are called to higher – to live according to His purpose. Let's take time to reflect on where we see Christ working in our lives, and how we can share that hope with others. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your homes this Easter season.

Vivat Jesus!
Doug Smith



Knights of Columbus Chasuble and Stole

Council 2168 purchased a beautiful chasuble and stole for Fr. Weber for Christmas. Father was incredibly appreciative of this generous gift which he will wear at future Masses commemorating the Knights.

Thanks for all you do for our parish, Father! We are so blessed to have you in our lives.

Message from Our Insurance Agent

Brothers,

Tax season is here! Whether you're ahead of the game and done filing, or you're putting it off for another couple weeks, this time of year is a good opportunity to consider whether your tax rate or bracket has changed. If so, do you know the implications for your long-term financial strategy?

People can end up in a higher tax bracket than they anticipate when their income fluctuates — for example, if your salary changed, or if you retired and are drawing on different income sources. Paying a higher tax rate may mean less disposable income or less money to leave to your family as you planned.

You can protect yourself against these potential losses and build dependable cash value through permanent life insurance with the Knights of Columbus. Permanent life insurance allows you to build cash value that you can access tax-free while you're alive. You can also create an income tax-free inheritance for your loved ones after you pass allowing permanent life insurance to be useful in a range of situations. Of course, we always recommend that you work with a qualified tax advisor or CPA in addition.

By helping to secure your financial future and legacy with the Knights of Columbus, you're living out the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney, who founded our Order 144 years ago this month.

Please don't hesitate to reach out!

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Thelen, FICF, LUTCF, WMCP, 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.

2026
January
February
March

Knight of the Month
Larry Schneider
Ben Cross
Duane Kransz

Family of the Month
Rick & Sherri Gensterblum
Kevin & Teresa Schneider
Fritz & Anne Russman

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.*



Diane Beachnau
Jeff Davlin
Paul Jandernoa
Dale Kramer
Dick Manning
Payton Russman
Jane Scheurer
Kim Weber

Mandy Borsenik
Joe Ellis
Dorothy Keusch
Romayne Lay
Noah Montpetit
Peggy Russman
Jim Simon
Bob White

Gary Brown
Ronald Elston
Mike Keusch
Lisa Lehnert
Joe Russman, Sr.
Bob Schafer
Richard Smith
Carol Wlodarczak

Mary Lue Brown
Gary Hodge
Tom Keusch, Jr.
Pope Leo XIV
John Russman
Marie Schafer
Fr. Logan Weber

*Please pray for the souls and families of deceased members of Council 2168:
Donald Pohl, Robert Pline, Gary Reisbig, Richard Brown, and Robert Mosser*

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- Spring Garage Sale: April 30 & May 1 (donation drop off on April 29)
- Mother's Day Breakfast: May 10

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 Doug Smith at gk2168@mikofc.org or 517-896-5718.

New Members

Congratulations to our newest 3rd degree Knights who completed the Exemplification process on January 11. They include *Simon Brown, Tyler Coyne, TJ Chamberlain, Jason Chamberlain, Doug Gross, Craig Schoenith, Cade Vallier and Mason Vallier*. Thanks for your YES as a brother Knight!

Admission Degree

Our next Exemplification (ceremony for joining Knights of Columbus #2168) is scheduled for Sunday, April 12 at 11:30 a.m. at Knights Hall. Look around you, who is not a Knight of Columbus? All Catholic men should be a member, please encourage them to join.

Patriotic (4th) Degree

Are you ready to complete your journey toward full Knighthood? The Spring Exemplification will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral in Lansing on April 18, 2026. Contact Gary Fedewa (517-927-0798) or Bill Vallier (517-526-2956) for more information.

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.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

A huge thank you to the Portland Area Community Fund for purchasing and donating an AED to the Knights of Columbus that is installed at Knights Hall. Also, thank you to Portland EMS personnel for the training they provided us.

Blood Drive

Our next blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14 from 11:30-5:30 p.m. Schedule your donation time at [Redcross.com/donate](https://www.redcross.com/donate).

Results of Winter PSIC Drive

Council 2168 held their annual donation drive to support Pregnancy Services of Ionia County (PSIC) in January. Through this fundraiser, our parish collected \$1,563 cash, as well as approximately \$2500 in donated items including diapers, wipes, formula, baby shampoo, diaper cream, clothing, car seats and other essential items. Many thanks to all parishioners who donated to this worthy cause – many families will be blessed by your generosity!



Results of Alaskan Wild Caught Fish Fundraiser

Many thanks to everyone who supported our fish fundraiser. The Council sold 2,000 pounds of fish with a net profit of approximately \$2,000. All proceeds are used to support various charities throughout the year.

K of C State Free Throw Finals

Congratulations to Patrick Austen who represented Council 2168 at the state free throw finals held at Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart on March 15. Patrick did an exceptional job making 20 out of 25 free throws; giving him the title of Co-State Runner-Up for the 14 year old age division! We're incredibly proud of your poise and sportsmanship, Patrick! He is the son of Terry and Carmen Austen.

Celebration of our Patron Saint

On March 17, following the 6:00 p.m. Mass, Council 2168 was pleased to host a parish meal celebrating St. Patrick's Day. The meal included kielbasa, hot dogs, sauerkraut, mac-n-cheese, and dessert. Many thanks to Taste of Heaven for providing the homemade mac-n-cheese. Another great way to bring our parishioners together to share fellowship.



Past Grand Knights Banquet

This year's annual Past Grand Knights Banquet was held on Thursday, March 19 at Knights Hall. We were incredibly blessed to have Mike Kissane as our guest speaker who spoke about his family's faith journey and where God is leading them on His path. Thanks for your YES! We appreciate all you do.

Many thanks to all brother Knights who continually step up to assist at our various events. We host many activities throughout the year that benefit those in most need. Your unselfish giving of your time and talent does not go unnoticed.

Knight & Family of the Year

Huge shout out to Dan Lawless as our Knight of the Year, and Brian and Nikki Brown as Family of the Year. Your dedication and service to our parish and community is nothing short of commendable! Congratulations!



Spring Garage Sale

Time to clean out those closets! 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 may 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.

Mothers Day Breakfast

It’s time to celebrate our Moms of the parish! Our 35th annual Mother’s Day Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 10 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Knights Hall. We’ll do the cooking AND the dishes! As always, Moms eat FREE! Ages 18+ \$10; ages 6-17 \$5; and little ones 5 and under eat free. If you’re interested in helping cook, serve, or set up/clean up, call Doug Smith (517-896-5718).

Summer PSIC Drive

Due to the overwhelming need in our community, as well as surrounding areas, Council 2168 will be coordinating another drive this summer to support Pregnancy Services of Ionia County (PSIC). Diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, new or gently used summer/fall clothing, and other essential baby items will be accepted. Please also consider donating deodorant and shampoo for moms in need. The drive will be held the weekend of June 27-28 in the back of church. Contact Tom Klein for additional info (810-588-3965).

Building Corporation News

Enclosed you will find the annual Building Corporation 50/50 raffle tickets. Please take the time to sell and/or purchase them. The raffle proceeds will help defray some of the cost for the replacement of the original wood accordion door (it’s slowly falling apart) between the small hall and the large hall. The cost is approximately \$5,000. Raffle tickets may be returned by April 20 to Gary Fedewa, 9975 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875.

Building Corporation Raffle

We really appreciate the help of our ticket sellers and buyers. The funds raised from this raffle help support the upkeep of the hall.

<u>2026</u>	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$75</u>	<u>\$50</u>
January	Al Schrauben	James Spohn, Jr.	James Wlodarczak
February	Gen Lehman	Jim Thelen	Mike Weller
March	Tom Simon	Al Schrauben	Jake Schafer



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.

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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

April 2026

Monday	4/6	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Sunday	4/12	Exemplification	11:30 AM
Tuesday	4/14	Blood Drive	11:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Monday	4/20	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
Wednesday	4/29	Garage Sale Donation Drop-Offs	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday	4/30	Garage Sale	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

May 2026

Friday	5/1	Garage Sale	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Monday	5/4	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Sunday	5/10	Mother's Day Breakfast	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Monday	5/18	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
Sunday	5/24	K of C Corporate Mass	8:00 AM

June 2026

Monday	6/1	Business Meeting <i>(Rosary 30 minutes prior)</i>	7:00 PM
Tuesday	6/9	Blood Drive	11:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Monday	6/15	Social Meeting/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