



Knights of Columbus

December 2020 Newsletter

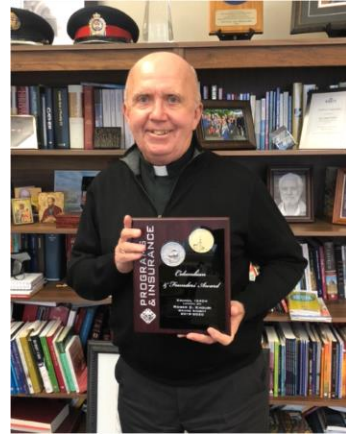
ST. PETER'S PARISH COUNCIL 13404 – 533 CLARENCE STREET, LONDON, ONTARIO, N6G 3N1

Grand Knights Comments



In Advent, as we await our Lord's coming at Christmas, we have a unique opportunity available to us. Do you know what it is? No, it's nothing to do with any upcoming sales or promotions, but rather, we can step away from the noise of life into the silence. Once there, we can "listen" to what the Lord impresses on our hearts. Fr. Jim has regularly spoken about "listening" to the Lord speak to us and I have found it to be a very rewarding exercise. Rather than always trying to focus all our efforts on what things we should say to the Lord, we can turn our gaze on its head by giving more time for the Lord to speak to us. By doing this, I have experienced Advent anew and I feel that this will lead to a new Christmas too

Congratulations to all our members for your hard work during last year. **We have received two recognitions: The Columbian Award and the Founder's Award.** In honour of the beatification of Fr. McGivney on October 31st, **I had asked Fr. Jim to receive the awards upon our behalf.** Bless Fr. McGivney who was instrumental in starting our Order and Fr. Jim who is absolutely critical to our council as our chaplain.



Bro. Gio Susini made a great suggestion about getting together to pray with brother Knights. **So, we have organized the tele-conference for Wednesday December 16th at 7 pm to pray the Rosary.** **Bro James** will lead us in the Scriptural Rosary. This will give us an opportunity to strengthen our brotherhood as catholic men and to pray for the needs of all our families. No RSVP required. The tele-conference details are listed below.

Plans are in the works for the **outreach dinner that we will host for Sunday February 7th 2021.** **John Bulsza** will take the lead on this project so please make time to join our upcoming tele-conference General Meeting for up-to-date info on this council project. **We would prepare a meal for take-out and it will be done at St. Paul's Cathedral.**

Serving Our Church And Community



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And, speaking of a General Meeting, please join us on Thursday December 10th at 7 pm via tele-conference. This time of the year is quite busy so our goal is to have a one hour meeting.

Tele-conference details:

- 1. Dial 1-866-931-8417**
- 2. When prompted, enter the Conference Number: 8020**
- 3. When prompted, enter the PIN: 875985**
- 4. You will then be prompted to record your name and then you'll be connected into the conference.**

May Advent be fruitful for you, may Christmas be joyous, and may the New Year be filled with good health and happiness! God bless always!

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We are called by God to carry out a task for him in making this world a better place. We do that by serving others in need. We all have something to give. It might not be everything but it doesn't have to be. Jesus invites us to use what you have been given, and he will do the rest. At all times but especially during Advent we can pray that God will open our eyes to see what God wants us to see. Look around...where do you and I find the places where people struggle in the midst of the pandemic, racial injustice, loss of work, alienation, and insecurity. Do whatever you can. Everything can make a difference.



Also, as we serve others God understands you and me. We can bring and he wants us to bring to him whatever weighs us down, whatever is causing hunger, thirst or anxiety in me personally, where we live.

Find some quiet time...Christmas will be different but it will still be Christmas. So, ask God what you most want to happen this year at Christmas? Maybe it's needed change, help with a difficult decision, more time in prayer and reflection.

**Along with all the members of our parish staff, I wish you a Merry Christmas – one that will bring you hope and joy and peace.**



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In previous years this is the time we may have been shopping for that special present, getting a tree and preparing to cook the traditional Christmas meal. This year will be different. Many will be reluctant to travel, so many may be celebrating with just the household instead of a house-full! Instead of crushes of people at the mall, our Christmas presents will be dropped at the front door by UPS, USPS or Amazon Prime. No 22 lb. turkey this year for the family members visiting from far and wide; just a small one for the few of us. While this year may be different, it may get us to slow down a bit and perhaps savor the special time of year and what we really celebrate.

We turn our thoughts to themes of “Peace on Earth” and “Goodwill to Men!” We think of our Savior’s birth in Bethlehem and the beginning of this chapter of salvation history. We think of family, both the ones we celebrate with this year in person and those who might only be present on Zoom. But we’ll make it through the season; we’ll have even more to celebrate next year.

Each year I remind my readers of some important financial issues as we move through December and hit year end. As you slow down here are some financial issues to consider at the end of the calendar year.

1. Because we’re so late in the year, you may have met your individual or family deductible on your health insurance plan. Financially this may be the opportune time for some minor procedure to be scheduled; or that visit to a specialist you may have put off. The same is true about dental insurance and sometimes even for vision coverage.

2. Speaking of health insurance, do you have a Health Savings Account? Do you have to spend the money that’s in there by year end? Some plans have a “use it or lose it” feature. Do you have to make a decision about how much to contribute next year? These are a couple of time sensitive issues.

3. If you have earned income for the year, what amount will you want to contribute to your RRSP or TFSA? Are you eligible to contribute much more based on the “catch up” provision? You won’t have to make that contribution until before March 2, 2021, however, now is the time to start making plans.



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4. Speaking of RRSP's, have you put them into a RRIF and received your required minimum distribution for this year (for those turning 71)? If not, Revenue Canada's penalty is a hefty % of the amount you should have received!

All of these issues come with lots of rules and regulations, so don't go it alone. Give me a call and I will be happy to discuss any of these issues...and you can do it safely, virtually with me on the computer from the comfort of your home.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! "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." Isaiah 9:5

Vivat Jesus!



As you all know, our council has been active in "Coats For Kids". The photo shows **Mike Butler**, one of our council members and Vice Principal at Sir Arthur Carty Catholic School accepting nine children's coats donated by our council. Thanks Mike.

Also thanks to **Martin Healy** for taking on this important project for the past two years.





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## 2021 Membership Fees Are Due in December

*Please pay your annual \$50 membership fees by December 31, 2020*

*You can direct your payments to our Financial Secretary, James Vollmer, 411 Scenic Drive, London, Ontario, N6Z 3A9. Make your cheque payable to: "Knights of Columbus, Council 13404."*

### OR BY

- Setting up the following email, [finsectkoc13404@gmail.com](mailto:finsectkoc13404@gmail.com) in your on-line banking account/app you can pay our dues by electronic transfer from your bank account.
- Locate the spot in your online bank account /app where you can set up e-transfers/sending money electronically.
- Add our email address above allowing you to send money to us.
- Now complete the transfer process in your line bank account/app.
- Next, send an email from your email account to [finsectkoc13404@gmail.com](mailto:finsectkoc13404@gmail.com) advising:
  1. How much money was just sent.
  2. The purpose of the transfer – membership dues or another reason.
  3. Provide the answer to the security question that you have added for the e-transfer/send money, allowing our Treasurer to complete the transfer of money to our account

Then the e-transfer/send money email from your bank account is opened by our Treasurer where he will accept the money directly to our council account.

*In the event there are extenuating circumstances where you are unable to pay, please contact Grand Knight Roger Khouri in confidence.*

*Email: [roger@roger.ca](mailto:roger@roger.ca)*

*Phone: 519-280-1643*





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*For The Good Of The Order*



*Remember in your prayers  
those who are ill and pray  
for the repose of the  
deceased souls*



*This Christmas as we celebrate the miraculous gift of Christ, may  
we share with others the joy that it brings.*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

*Larry Barrett, Newsletter Editor*

Serving Our Church And Community