



Knights of Columbus

June 2022 Newsletter

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

Grand Knight's Comments: Martin Healy



As most of you know, our dear brother **John Chidiac died this week after a prolonged illness.** Since January, John has been in hospital and was receiving palliative care last week. He was in no pain and died peacefully. We have been praying for John at our meetings and I ask that you all continue to pray for him, his wife Elsbeth, and the rest of his family. **John's funeral mass will take place on Friday, June 10th at 2 p.m. at St. Peter's Cathedral.** The Church will be open at 1 o'clock for a short visitation period.

It has been a busy month for our Council with the Spring Cleaning for a Cause **Electronics Recycling event** that ran for five weekends and wrapped up at the end of May. We



have not yet heard the final weight total, but the bin was almost full. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped Man the bin, and to those who "donated" their old electronics!

Brother Raf returned safely back to Canada after his planning trip to Ukraine. I have not talked about his time there. I am sure he will fill us in soon.



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We will be hosting a Fraternal Benefits Night with our Insurance Field Agent Brother John Noonan on Tuesday June 7th at 7:00 PM in our Chambers. This will be our first in-person event this year in our Chambers! Please show Brother John Noonan our support by attending his information session.

For the first time since March 2000, we will be holding our first In-Person General Meeting for our Council! **The meeting starts at 7:00 pm on June 9th in our Chambers. *We will vote to elect our Executive for next Fraternal year.*** Please take time to come to the meeting and enjoy reacquainting with each other at a social afterwards.

Lastly, as was announced in January, **Fr. Jim Mockler will be Retiring at the end of June after 18 years as Pastor and Rector of St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica and 51 years of ministry in our Diocese.** During Fr. Jim's ministry at the Cathedral, he has served as our Council Chaplain for 15 plus years. By far the longest-serving Chaplain in our twenty-year history! We have benefitted from his wisdom and spiritual guidance.

Thank you Fr. Jim and we wish you a happy and peaceful retirement!

In Christ, Martin Healy

FIRST-TIME SINCE MARCH 2000!!!!

**Council 13404 June General Meeting
Election of the 2022-23 Executive
In-Person in the Parish Centre in our Chambers!
Light snacks and Drinks Provided.
Time: June 9, 2022, 07:00 PM**

=====EVENT TEXT =====



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FRATERNAL BENEFITS NIGHT

Our Council's Outreach to Present and Potential Members

Where: St. Peter's Basilica Parish Rooms – Our Chambers In PERSON!

When: Tuesday, June 7th

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm (refreshments will be provided)

Who: Insurance Agent Br. John Noonan

Contact: GK Martin Healy (226-927-3749)

Reverent Father Chris Pietraszko's Message

The Church has been emphasizing the need to *evangelize* for many years, beginning with St. Paul VI. There has been recognition of a type of diminished zeal from within the Church to pass the faith on, and to explicitly share the faith with others. In many ways, the culture has sought to suppress the public expression of faith in replacement of secular and relativistic values. Thus, we have been wrongly encouraged to make our faith private.



On the other side of this extreme is what Pope Francis calls proselytizing, whereby the faith is reduced to some mere ideology or moral ethic and imposed upon others in a demoralizing manner. The Church has a middle position when it comes to evangelization - we first recognize that our relationship with God is a necessary component to ***all people's salvation***. Secondly, we recognize that a relationship is not something imposed, but entered into freely from both sides. And finally, that the faith of the Church is not meant to be anonymously expressed, but explicitly. That is to say words matter. I'll never forget when I heard a young man ask, "Why is that man on the plus sign?" It reminded me that we have taken for granted the importance of actual doctrine and words that describe the beautiful deeds our God has accomplished.

But evangelization doesn't really come down to words and deeds. Amidst all such discussion where these two external behaviours of the faithful are often pitted against each other we have forgotten the most important dimension: ***witness***. A witness is a person who is not merely doing external activities like *feeding the poor*, or *worshipping at mass*, or *saying correct things about God*. The witness is a



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person who is interiorly united to both their words and deeds. Jesus gave harsh words to the Pharisees who were acting like *whitewashed tombs*. They had an exterior that was beautiful, but interiorly there was only death.

How do we *check-in with ourselves* in regard to witnessing to the faith? It first means that we ourselves have a relationship with God. What type of relationship? It might be best to describe that relationship as being His disciple. We are leaning into hear every word that comes from His mouth - and we are imitating His own interior dispositions. We are trying to learn Christ's spiritual disciplines.

Yet all of this seems like an individual effort. Holiness however is never disconnected from the community and task of evangelization. If we are truly learning the discipline of Christ' interior life, then we begin to well up with an ache for the poor, both in temporal matters and most especially spiritual matters. Christ *thirsted* for the faith of the woman at the well. He looked into her soul and recognized the absence of a relationship that would bring peace and satiate her deepest appetite for meaning. St. Thomas Aquinas would say that Christ was aware of her *intellectual appetite* and sought to feed her with Himself - whereby she would hunger no more. Do we as a Church peer into the soul of all who *universally* hunger for Christ? Or do we only recognize the surface types of hunger?

To be motivated towards a healthy type of evangelization that avoids a politicization of the gospel, the dream of our secular culture to *hide it*, we must come to know that thirst of Christ at the well for all those who do not believe or have fallen away. The best way to come to know that thirst is to have experienced Christ seeking to satiate our soul with Himself. If we have experienced that *spiritual poverty* then to some extent we have come to know what all desire.

Aging – One Liner: I was thinking how people seem to read the bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me – they're cramming for the their final exam.



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Insurance Agent's Message: Br. John Noonan

Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus 140 years ago with two purposes in mind: To strengthen men in their faith and to provide for the widow and orphan if the breadwinner died or could not work. Our Order continues his mission today. That two-pronged approach to the young Catholic men of New Haven, Connecticut was important then and even though much has changed in our society since 1882, I believe that approach is important now. I am honored and blessed to be a part of continuing that mission.



While we work together to strengthen our brother Knights in their faith, I am able to work to secure the future for those who are left behind. For those who know me and the indispensable work I do for our members, you already have a good idea of how I do that work. But I'd like to take a minute to explain my approach.

My approach is to help members solve problems. **The most important thing I can do for you is listen:** listen to what you want to accomplish, listen to what keeps you up at night, listen to the plans you have for you and your family's future. And the first step is to take stock of where a family is at the present...a snapshot of this time in your life. The Order has equipped me with a financial needs analysis platform to help you take that snapshot. We plug in the numbers and it does the calculations, taking any bias out of the process.

If your analysis shows there are gaps, we can discuss how to fill those gaps. We have a wide range of life insurance products that can be tailored to your needs if that is where the gap is. We have fixed rate annuities that are designed for retirement savings. Long-term care insurance and disability income insurance can provide peace of mind for the unexpected that life throws at us.

Stepping back and taking stock is not a difficult process and I try to make it as easy as possible. I can meet with you face to face or if you prefer, we can meet virtually. My goal is to fulfill Fr. McGivney's mission of taking care of every member and his family in this Council. But I want to further his legacy and offer membership to every man eligible in the parish. His goal was to protect Catholic families... that's my goal, too. Vivat Jesus!

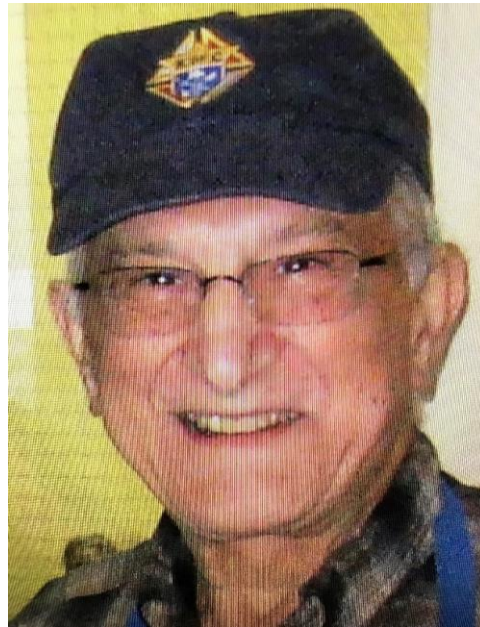


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In Memory of John Chidiac



Editors Note:

Our Fraternal year ends the last day of June. The next newsletter will be in September 2022.

Thanks to Martin Healy for the great job he did on taking on the Grand Knight's duties. He certainly deserves the Knight of the Year Award.

Also thanks to Martin, Fr. Jim, Fr. Chris and John Noonan for their excellent articles for our Council's newsletter. Very much appreciated.