

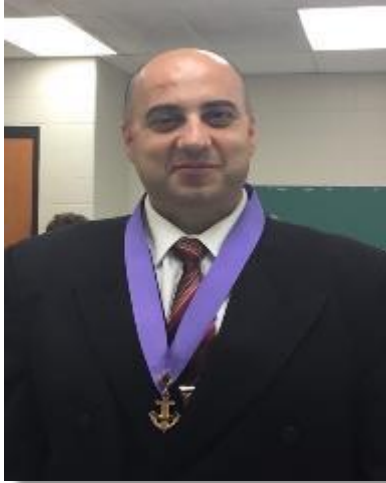


# Knights of Columbus

November 2022 Newsletter

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

## Grand Knight's Comments: Roger Khouri



A huge highlight for me was at the beginning of the month when we celebrate All Saints Day. It gives me the reminder that we have friends in heaven who are praying for us. They have made it across the finish line and then are rooting us on to be with them too. Then, the very next day, we celebrated All Souls Day in which we pray for our dead. From the Bible, we read: "It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins" (2 Maccabees 12:46 ). Let's keep our family and friends in prayer, even though they are no longer with us.

Thanks to **Bros John Bulsza and James Vollmer** who worked on the Semi-Annual Audit with the trustees. Also, thanks to bros **Martin Healy and Tony Zylstra** who have been working hard to prepare for our **Parish Breakfast on November 13th**. If you haven't already stepped forward to take on a role at the Breakfast, please do so. We will be talking more about the event at our General Meeting this Thursday at 7 pm.



The installation of officers took place at our October meeting lead by our **DD Gary Masters**.

Lastly, bro. **Matt Duffy** has agreed to take on the role of **Membership Director**. Thanks to bro. **Larry Barrett** for holding this position for many years and looking after our new members. I know that bro Matt will take on this task with dedication and energy. I invite you to attend our "General Meeting this Thursday at 7 pm.

May Our Lord bless you and your family!

**Serving Our Church And Community**



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## *Associate Pastor: Fr. Christopher Pietraszko's Message:*

One of the things my mother does very well is **make connections**. Whereas I tend to be very categorical, thinking of one particular thing at a time, in its own box, I sometimes fail to see the connection it has, or the overlapping reality that exists between two concepts. My mother asks, "Would anyone like milk?" I think of the question at face value - and do not consider that she is attempting to facilitate around the table an awareness of the fact that she has an empty glass, and would like me to pass the milk.



When we are thinking of the Church's teaching we must really do two things: **understand the definition of things, as well as understanding the interconnection they have to each other**. St. Thomas Aquinas, a *soft objectivist*, does not define things in such a way that they are understood without nuancing, without considering various angles. He is the type of philosopher who would say, "In this sense x is y, and in this sense x is not y." This is an important dimension to critical thinking, and it can be overwhelming. It demonstrates things are complicated, save God, and as a result we are not myopic fundamentalists.

All of this is a primer or a principle of critical thinking that I add when considering the two concepts of **holiness and evangelization**. It's been my experience that there is often a latent disjunction set up between the two, when in reality while distinct, are nonetheless overlapping vocations of the Church.



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## ***Definition***

Holiness simply means to be ***set-apart***. Evangelization simply means the **proclamation of the good news**. But it's very important to break these dimensions down beyond a mere nominal definition.

## ***Holiness***

**Jesus teaches us that *God alone is holy***. If we can be holy too, then it is only by a *participation* in God. I would suggest that holiness is taking on the *interior life of Christ* by grace. Our heart, our mind, and our will are so conformed to Him, that we regain our likeness to God by an interior imitation of Christ. We think like Him, we feel and desire like Him and we choose like Him. It is unhelpful to consider God only holy if we also do not realize that by His Holy Spirit He has given us the capacity to become Him (His body).

## ***Implications***

If we are called to have the interior movements, judgments, sentiments, authority, and vocation as Christ, then this means we are tasked to introduce others to the Father in the same way Jesus did. The great commission to baptize all nations in the name of the Trinity therefore is not a mere task of how the Church ought to operate, but is in fact a *participation* of heart, mind, and will in the mystery of God. God does not command any human being to perform a task for merely duty-bound extrinsic reasons. That is the nonsense of Immanuel Kant, and not part of our tradition. Rather, the very natural, organic, and interior movement of evangelization is nothing other than participating in the mission Christ Himself was given by the Father

## ***Final Implication***

St. Thomas Aquinas explains that evangelization must occur if the circumstances require it - namely in that we would deprive someone of the goodness of faith (which is an act of love) or we would not offer God the glory that is due to Him. This



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is all to say that if we do not evangelize, we cannot be holy. For this reason Pope St. Paul VI taught that a Church which does not evangelize cannot itself be saved. That is to say, without evangelization we cannot be holy.

Now there will be different ways in which this call to evangelize materially (extrinsically) manifests, according to the varied gifts, and vocation. Nonetheless, all members of the Body of Christ must enter into the interior life of Christ Himself on this task.

### ***Why am I saying this?***

When a dichotomous or lopsided emphasis occurs in regard to this two-fold mission of the Church, neither is present. If we seek to be holy while avoiding evangelization we are neither holy nor evangelical. If we seek to evangelize without doing it for the same holy motives of Christ, then we are indoctrinators not evangelizers.

When we privately celebrate our faith but are apathetic and divest ourselves of a concern for the salvation of others through faith (heresy of indifferentism) we are not participating in the very mind and heart of Christ. It's worth considering, and in considering may prompt us to see Christ as the starting point. We must, like St. John, lean on the heart of Christ and begin to understand the inner-workings of the interior life of Christ, and adopt them, in as much as we've been adopted by the Father.



This photo is of the 4<sup>th</sup>-degree members at the Byron Legion who participated in the Veterans parade.



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## *Insurance Agent's message: Br. John Noonan*



November is **national novel writing month** and I would ask you to seriously consider doing just that.

### ***Have you ever considered writing?***

It could be to share your story, or it could be to share the story you have always wished was yours, and wanted to tell?

In my opinion, *EVERYONE* has a story to share. Some of us have great imaginations and can conjure up faraway lands and eclectic characters. Others are fantastic at bringing life to our past experiences.

Others just need to start writing...

*...it is HIGHLY therapeutic.*

### ***The best way to start?***

No matter what you want to write, just start daily journaling.

Keep your journal posts private... and safe. Keep writing every single day of the week – even if it is just 15 minutes a day.

There are medical research studies that show the health benefits of journaling. And in honor of national novel writing month... I wanted to give you a kick start on this... and hopefully inspire you to start.

### ***Some thoughts on how to get going:***

- Pick the same time of the day to write. Early mornings are a great time for many. Nights work best for others. Try different times of the day and see which feels more natural and creative.



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- Pen and paper. Computers are wonderful, but not nearly as therapeutic as a good old pen on paper. It gives you more time to gather your thoughts... and something magical happens when pen touches paper.
- Pick your place. Find a place that nurtures your creativity and desire for “you” time. Sometimes that is a coffee shop. Other times it is that spare bedroom and a desk that you never use. Go back to the same place, at the same time, every day for a month.
- Set a timer. Start with 15 minutes at a time. Then go to 30. Then 45. Etc. You will find that this becomes one of your favourite times of the day.
- If you are stuck on what to write about... pick something in the room, anything, and start writing about it. Or just start writing about how you have nothing to write about. Writers block is all in the mind, so you need to get out of your head and just start writing. The words quickly start to flow when you ignore feeling ‘stuck’
- Pick your favorite ‘writing hat’ or sweater. Develop your own writing ritual.
- Put on some soothing music. Baroque usually is a great background for your creative writing time.

## *The key to any of this though?*

To just get started. It all sounds good in theory... and the best of intentions may be made. But you have to write. Every day. Think about having your book in print. The people’s lives you can touch. The relatives of yours that will love your legacy.

Writing is a wonderful thing and today is the time to start!

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## *Ideas for Subject lines or headlines for blog post:*

You, a published author?

It’s time to share your real story

The ultimate legacy you should leave





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Please remember in your prayers the passing of Brother William (Bill) Gibson on October 26, 2022, a former member of our council.

Over the years, Bill spent many Sundays cooking parish breakfasts for our council.



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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*



**Serving Our Church And Community**