Brother Knights,

As Christmas is approaching, even though as I write this it is still the month of November, driving to work in the mornings the radio already is talking about Christmas shopping. My memory is taking me back 55 years, to how our family celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ. I can’t recall that we ever had a big present exchange. On December 6th — St. Nicolas day — the children cleaned their shoes and put them at the entrance door, and we would find some small toy in them. Christmas is left for the traditional celebration. December 24th was fasting and we decorated the Christmas tree after we went to St. Michael the Archangel Church for Midnight Mass. On December 25th tasty food came out of the cold room and we had a great celebration. We didn’t feel we needed some extra presents, the entire world around us was peaceful, calm and relaxed. Christmas wasn’t about shopping, Christmas was about the birth of the Savior. Unfortunately, the world has changed and we have to except what we have now.

Since the last edition of the Echo, Council 1504 was very busy. On November 11th we had the annual Memorial Mass for our deceased Brothers and the 4th Degree Honor Guard was present. Many members attended to pray for those Brothers who left us in the past year. In October the Clergy of the area received our appreciation, with a steak supper. Also, in October we had the annual Sisters Oktoberfest who were very thankful that we did not forget them and had a wonderful time. This year we honored two Brothers with the Dan Dineen Award of Distinction. Frank Troupe and Wayne Curry. Since he retired 18 years ago Frank and his wife Joan are in the mall selling the Ontario State Charity tickets. Frank is also one of our members who attends Council’s 4th degree events. I can’t remember ever seeing an Honor Guard and Frank not part of it. Wayne Curry is a member who is active in every capacity. With his wife Marilyn they were spending countless hours working on the Christmas decorations. Wayne also visits the Hospital as part of Our Everyday Heroes representatives. For several years, both couples have been responsible for preparing the K of C Children’s Christmas Party. Brothers thank you for your dedication, God Bless you. In November we had a very successful recruiting campaign. It is hoped to have a dozen new members by the end of the year. In December we plan to visit several Parishes to sell the Kof C Christmas decorations. I believe we had a successful year.

On behalf of Council 1504 I wish my Brother Knights and their families a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Vivat Jesus

Mike Szabo
Grand Knight

The Lord does not take away from your span of life the time you spend at the Knights of Columbus!
Greetings Fellow Knights and Families,

As we begin another calendar year, I was curious to see what international designations UNESCO had given to 2019. It is the UN International Year of Indigenous Languages and the UN International Year of the Periodic Table. The one designation recognizes the vast number of languages in the world (a little over 7,000 according to www.timeanddate.com) and the threat to small indigenous language groups and the loss of particular languages from human society. It speaks of certain indigenous languages as ‘endangered’ and the threat of loss of one language from human society every two weeks!

The other International Year recognizes the vast number of fundamental elements (118 at this point) as building blocks of the material world and the common basis they have as described by the Periodic Table. One site (www.iypt2019.org) describes the Table as a ‘Common Language for Science’.

Interesting that both international year topics regard diversity in the midst of unity. Many diverse languages and their value in uniting us in communication and the many fundamental elements held together with deep meaning by the language and significance of the Periodic Table.

It is much like our Catholic Church – catholic being ‘universal’. One universal message of Good News and Salvation proclaimed in many languages and cultures. Indeed, the very act of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was to re-create unity not by wiping out peoples’ different cultures and languages but instead empowering the Apostles to proclaim the One Word in many tongues. In the Church today, Christ’s message and works of the Kingdom continue in many languages and cultures but all in the one reality of His Body. One Lord, One faith, One baptism (Ephesians 4:5) proclaimed to all nations. “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.” (Mark 16:15)

As Knights of the largest international fraternal organization in the Church today, we are a significant part of Christ’s ongoing proclamation of the unity of the Word in the diversity of human society. May we be reminded and encouraged this year of the great honour and the great responsibility we share in proclaiming one Gospel in the Church and in the world.

God bless,

Fr. Larry Parent
Council 1504 Chaplain
Deputy Grand Knight’s Message

Brother Knights,

The calendar says it’s December and I know one thing: when you stop believing in Santa Claus, is when you start getting clothes for Christmas. The anticipation of the big day should still be flourishing in you regardless of age. May Christmas be about what’s in your heart and not what's in your pocket.

It was encouraging to see the results of a successful membership campaign recently held at Blessed Sacrament Parish welcoming several new members to Council 1504. Appreciation to our Brothers who acknowledged the clergy and the youngsters at the Hospital celebrating the Sister’s Oktoberfest, the Clergy Steak Fry and Our Everyday Heroes. The K of C Christmas elves were busy increasing our supply of Nativity Scenes and other festive ornaments sold after Mass at several parishes, at the Christkindl Market and The Schwaben Club Christmas Bazaar.

The Annual K of C Charity Cars Draw is on the horizon and, as your DGK, I will appreciate your ticket selling skills in the Stanley Park Mall as we strive to sell out again this year. Your input by investing personal time and energy to ensure the Kitchener Knights of Columbus succeeds does not go unnoticed. With God’s blessing we anticipate a successful 2019.

“They saw the child and his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.” (Matthew 2:11)

As you celebrate Christmas and God’s goodness, may He bless your home and family in many beautiful ways.

Vivat Jesus,

Gary Megaffin
Deputy Grand Knight

2018 Sisters’ Oktoberfest

Sunday, October 14th was an afternoon of fine German music, dancing and authentic cuisine, as 30 Reverend Sisters thoroughly enjoyed the 48th Annual Kitchener K of C and District 35 Sisters’ Oktoberfest at the Waterloo Knights Hall.

District Grand Knights from St. Mark’s, Waterloo and Kitchener Councils and their wives also played host for the occasion as did District Deputy Ted Jasica, who was rumoured to have given dance lessons to one of the sisters. It was reported the nuns are looking forward to next year’s event.

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Receiving their PGK pins from GK Mike Szabo (centre) are Past Grand Knights Brothers Jim Padgett (left) and Brian Schmalz (right).

Keep Your K of C Membership in Good Standing
2019 Membership Dues are required by December 31, 2018

NOTICE

THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE 2019 DUES

Paid on or before December 31, 2018:
Regular Membership – $77 (HST included)
Full-time Students under 30 – $30 (HST included)
Honorary Membership – $36 (HST included)
Honorary Life Membership – $0

Paid after December 31, 2018:
Regular Membership – $92 (HST included)
Full-time Students under 30 – $45 (HST included)
Honorary Membership – $51 (HST included)
Honorary Life Membership – $0

Contact Brother Michael Wilhelm at financialsecretary@kofc1504.com

GK Mike Szabo (left) presents PGK Jack Nolan with his 50-Year Pin, recognizing Jack’s dedication and contribution to the Kitchener Knights of Columbus over the past fifty years.

An Irish Prayer:
May God give you, for every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share,
For every sign, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day
Our Everyday Heroes is a program that is run in conjunction with the Kitchener Firefighters. It started several years ago when Brother Kevin and PGK Brian Schmalz brought the fire truck to Grand River Hospital to visit the children in the hospital at Christmas time. Out of this came the idea that a visit to children in the hospital should occur throughout the year and so Our Everyday Heroes program was born. Our Everyday Heroes are, of course, the children we visit. Brother Knights who currently make the hospital visits are Wayne Curry, Mike Begin and PGK Mario Paretti. Brothers PGK Brian Hughes, Fernando Melo, GK Mike Szabo and PGK Reinhart Schreiter have also helped out in the past.

Every two weeks, two Firefighters and two Knights visit the children in the hospital wards or the CAIP Unit (Children and Adolescent In-Patients). We visit both the out-patient and in-patient wards once a month and children in the CAIP unit every two weeks plus a day so that new children can be seen. A child in the wards may range in age from several months to 17 years old. For the very young, we visit with the parents. We work with the hospital staff to prepare a gift for the child, usually a toy and plastic firefighter hats along with an Our Everyday Heroes T-shirt, to give to the child while the firefighters visit with him or her. We also give the parents a Tim Hortons $5 gift card.

In the CAIP unit, we are usually joined by Brother Mike Begin and his seeing eye dog, Dudley, who is a great success with the children. The children range in age from 10 to 17 years and all are most anxious to pet Dudley. They are very inquisitive about what the role of the firefighter is and what makes their job interesting and challenging. Some discussions become quite lively and at the end of the discussion, we present each child with an Our Everyday Heroes T-shirt, a stuffed animal and a Tim Hortons $5 gift card.

The staff in the CAIP unit look forward to our next visit in two weeks. Our Everyday Heroes program is completely voluntary for both the Knights and firefighters. The T-shirts are provided by the Knights of Columbus as are the stuffed animals, which the Knights collect from the Kitchener Rangers stuffed toy drive. The Waterloo Knights also contribute with their toy drive and the Kitchener Firefighters Association also give monetary support. The Tim Hortons Cards are now being donated by some of the local Tim Hortons stores.

Our Everyday Heroes is a great program that brings a smile to the face of a child who is facing some medical hardship. It will continue into the future.

- submitted by PGK Mario Peretti

The 2018 Schwaben Club Christmas Bazaar

Monday, November 26, 2018

KITCHENER — It was the K of C snowmen decorations that appealed to shoppers at this year’s Schwaben Club Christmas Bazaar. PGKs Jim Padgett, Reinhart Schreiter, Brian Schmalz and Gerry Kelly displayed their salesmanship on a busy Sunday November 25. A small profit was realized as the small hanging snowman was the most popular item this year with an order for more. Despite their sales efforts, all sizes of the Nativity Scenes were passed over for other ornaments.

Shoppers saw a wide assortment of K of C Christmas decorations on sale at the Schwaben Club Christmas Bazaar. Salesmen on hand were PGKs from left Jim Padgett, Reinhart Schreiter, Brian Schmalz and Gerry Kelly.
Annual Memorial Mass
Monday, November 12, 2018

KITCHENER — The Annual Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass, held this year at Blessed Sacrament Parish on Sunday, November 11th, honours our Brother Knights from Council 1504 who have passed away in the past year. The families from seven deceased Knights were recognized and were presented with a Memorial Plaque by Grand Knight Mike Szabo and Council 1504 Chaplin Fr. Larry Parent. Assisting at the Mass serving as the Honour Guard were 4th Degree members Sir Knights Max Salman, Whit Husk, Frank Troup, Pat McGrath, Wayne Curry and Gerry Kelly. Following the ceremony, everyone enjoyed a delightful reception hosted by Fr. Larry. Much credit goes to chef Mike van Lammeren and his household for setting up and preparing a large, delicious lunch buffet. The families and K of C members enjoyed the spread following the Memorial Mass and plaque presentations. Mike’s mother Betty van Lammeren and mother-in-law Sharan Thomson toiled in their kitchens baking a selection of pies, tea biscuits, corn muffins, devilled eggs and salad trays. Mike’s wife Lori and his sister Sandra Langstaff were on the Tim Hortons coffee detail. To make sure there was enough, PGK Jim Padgett paid a visit to Tim’s as well. Clean up was mastered by all including children Gabriel and Dominic van Lammeren and Bridget and Kelton Langstaff. Kudos to everyone who provided a very successful and delightful menu. ■

Chef Mike van Lammeren busily preparing a delicious lunch, ably assisted by his mother, Betty van Lammeren.

Following the Memorial Mass and presentations, a delicious buffet was served to the families and K of C members.

Council 1504 Chaplain, Father Larry, blesses the memorial plaques presented to the families of our fallen Brothers — a recognition of their membership in the Knights of Columbus.

The K of C Memorial Mass Honour Guard (left to right) Sir Knights Frank Troup, Wayne Curry, Pat McGrath, Max Salman, Whit Husk and Gerry Kelly.

The daughter of Brother Gregory Moser, Sandra Reid is receiving the Memorial Mass Plaque from GK Mike Szabo. The presentation is one of seven families honoured at the celebration.

DGK Gary Megaffin accepts the memorial Plaque on behalf of Carole Cameron, the wife of Honorary Life Member Don Cameron.
The first scheduled dedicated Membership Recruitment Drive was recently held at Blessed Sacrament Parish. Headed by PGK Gerry Kelly, the organized high-profile appearance of a K of C display and member Knights were at four Masses fielding questions and receiving the names of a number of prospective members for Council 1504. Brothers supporting Gerry representing Council 1504 were GK Mike Szabo, DGK Gary Megaffin, DD Ted Jasica, PGK Brian Schmalz, PGK Dave Obermeyer, PGK Jim Padgett, PGK Whit Husk, Mike Van Lammeren, Wayne Curry, Mike & Chris Detzler, Sean Meaney, Pat McGrath, Manfred Aulich and Bill Barrett. It is hoped that concentrated efforts for future organized membership campaigns will be as successful.

The Bishop’s Banquet — Over 150 guests enjoyed dinner at the Old Community Centre in Acton attending the 2018 Bishop’s Banquet Sunday, October 28. Bishop Douglas Crosby was speaking about the healing powers of the pilgrims. Members of Council 1504 joining the Bishop for dinner were GK Mike Szabo, Brothers Dave Hudder, Frank Troupe, Wayne Keffer, Wayne Curry and their wives. As well as enjoying an excellent meal, supporters raised $3,150 dollars to aid the Bishop’s charities.

Each year the Kitchener Knights of Columbus has a history of successfully completing their State Lottery Cars Draw realizing a substantial sales commission for their charitable works. Much of the credit for Council’s success is the display of a vehicle donated by Parkway Ford in Waterloo which encourages K of C ticket sales. To recognize the dealership’s support, GK Mike Szabo presented a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Jim Reid, Commercial Fleet Manager for Parkway. Parkway Ford has agreed to continue to support Council 1504 in future Lottery campaigns.
Santa Came Early

Monday, December 3, 2018

KITCHENER – Santa and Mrs. Claus were the centre of attraction at the 2018 K of C Children’s Christmas Party at St. Francis Parish Hall on December 2nd with 26 children and their parents attending.

All enjoyed an afternoon filled with games, crafts, cookie decorating, face painting, prize table and a visit from Santa Claus, who gave gifts to all the children.

Thank you to Brother Wayne and Marilyn Curry for organizing and for all who volunteered their time to make the Children’s Christmas Party a success. Santa plans to return next year!

We’re Expanding!

In September 2012 the Kitchener Knights of Columbus began a new venture serving the community when Council 1504 moved into our new home at 797 Guelph Street in Kitchener. The blessing of the property by Bishop Douglas Crosby in November of that year, only endowed the Knights with the energy and determination to continue our many charitable works.

It has been an active six years for Council 1504 and now more room is required to properly carry out our planned programs and to ensure an inviting and appealing home for both our young and senior Knights.

Meeting with PGK Brian Schmalz, Vice Chair of the Columbus Corporation and Chairman of the Building Committee, Brian said that instead of moving to new premises, it was decided to expand the current Columbus House. Planned construction is to include an increase in the main level with a basement. Pending City approvals, it is hoped construction could begin next Spring and completed before then end of 2019. The project will create a more handicapped friendly facility at 797 Guelph Street, making it more accessible including a much larger meeting room and additional new washrooms.

The expansion will be used solely by Council 1504 with no plans to permit renting the premises for any third-party events. The lower hall is expected to be used for recreational activities such as card and darts.

This energetic project will not only enhance the appeal for the Kitchener Knights of Columbus but should result in an increase in our membership. As Corporation Chairman PGK Brian Hughes said, it will give Council more storage space. “Anyone who has been in the basement or attic knows that we badly need a bigger storeroom because of the number of Council events that we are producing.”

If you wish to see what is planned there are proposals in the house at 797 Guelph Street which you are welcome to view.

With the project going forward this opens up opportunities for membership involvement, such as donations. We are thinking of stained-glass windows displaying the K of C logo and the 4th Degree emblem. If you would like to donate to help produce the windows or have your name on an honour wall please let us know. We will try and keep the membership up to date as this endeavour moves forward.

If you have any questions or suggestions please call Brian at 519-578-3401 or e-mail hughesbrian@hotmail.com

- submitted by DGK Gary Megaffin

Big things are happening at Columbus House!
Watch the game on the new TVs.
Enjoy good times at 797 Guelph Street.
Brother Knights are invited to socialize and experience K of C fellowship in the relaxing Columbus House Lounge Saturday afternoons...
Don’t be a stranger, it’s Open House!
The Dan Dineen Award of Distinction

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

KITCHENER – The late Brother Dan Dineen (1940-2015) was a tireless promoter and supporter of the Kitchener Knights of Columbus, Council 1504. His devotion to the Knights was unsurpassed. To honour a Brother Knight for dedication to the Knights of Columbus, Council 1504 instituted the Brother Dan Dineen Award of Distinction. The Award is to recognize a member of Council 1504 who faithfully supports Council 1504 and his Brother Knights when help is called upon. GK Mike Szabo held the pleasure of awarding Brothers Frank Troupe and Wayne Curry the Dan Dineen Award of Distinction at a recent General Meeting. Recognizing their timeless contributions to both Council 1504 and the 4th Degree Assembly, Brothers Frank and Wayne could always be counted upon when needed. Unheralded in the K of C support, both Brothers are well-deserved winners.

Sir Knight Br. Frank Troupe receives his Dan Dineen Award of Distinction from GK Mike Szabo.

Sir Knight Br. Wayne Curry receives his Dan Dineen Award of Distinction from GK Mike Szabo.

On October 22nd over 250 guests enjoyed dinner at the Carmelite 2018 Annual Dinner Reception at Conestoga Place. Honoured guest speaker was His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, D.D., who said it is our duty to live a Christian life, not just the clergy. Supporting the Carmel fund raiser, the Kitchener Knights of Columbus were there with dinner guests GK Mike and Anna Szabo (standing) PGK Whit and Carol Husk (left) Sir Knight Frank and Joan Troupe.

The bank must be next door. You wanna stay for Communion?

A must-see for the latest NEWS and VIEWS of a very active Council 1504! It’s what’s happening.

If any Brother Knight has a business they want to promote, please contact:

Reinhart Schreiter
519-570-3469
rkschreiter@hotmail.com
Keep Them In Your Prayers…

Please remember in your prayers the good health of the following Brother Knights and their spouses:

Roger & Pat Cann
Patrick Cann
Zigmund & Isabelle Coulas
Charlie McEvoy
Jean-Paul Munroe

All praise and glory are yours, Lord our God. For you have called us to serve you and one another in love. Bless those who have grown in your service and give them courage and strength in their faith.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

If you know of any Brother Knight that would like a visit, please contact BR. MANFRED AULICH at 519-576-1443.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES
WE EXTEND MANY HAPPY WISHES ON YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

If you are celebrating an anniversary during one of the months listed here, and your name does not appear, or is incorrect, please advise the editor so the correction or addition can be made.

JANUARY
15 Lino & Angela Santarossa
19 Bruce & Rosemarie Bowman
Baby & Cicily KolliMakkel

FEBRUARY
1 Ronald & Barbara Bernardo
14 Michael & Betty Begin
19 Gerard & Jean-Marie Dietrich
20 Gerard & Joan Stockie
28 Stephen & Jean Constant

MARCH
7 Charles & Anne Ostrander
10 Lawrence & Val Rotar
24 Gerard & Marie Kelly

IN MEMORIAM
To you, Lord, we humbly commend our brothers:

† Harold Gregory — Jan. 26, 2018
† Gerald Moser — Feb. 17, 2018
† Bob Bowman — Feb. 22, 2018
† Claude Lapointe — April 23, 2018
† Eugene Spieker — May 28, 2018
† Donald Cameron — June 7, 2018
† Richard Simon — Sept. 5, 2018

In this mortal life you loved them always with a great love. Now that they have been freed from all evils, bid them enter into Eternal rest. Amen.