

November - December



*St. Francis Council  
13958 Newsletter*

## Grand Knight Report

Brother Knights –

October was a rough month for the Knights of Columbus. We lost two Brother Knights: Charles Harty and David Gatzke. Charles was a member of our Council and David was a member of Council 1213. They were both members of the Fourth Degree Assembly 499. Funerals are always sad for the families and friends of the departed but they do serve a useful purpose. They bring people together and I think this is good, I only wish we could get together under better circumstances. How many times has each of us said that? I think we should learn from this and plan to spend more time together with our families, our time here is way to short. Try and make a reason your whole family to get together. Thanksgiving and Christmas are a couple of good reasons. Make it happen for your family!

We will need a lot of help with the parish Christmas Festival, Fall Clean-up and our pancake breakfasts. The names and contacts will be provided for you in this newsletter, PLEASE pick an event or two and come and help. You will feel good about it and our Council will do a better job because you did!

Probably by the time you read this we will have four more Sir Knights. Skip DeMarsh, David Schlueter, John "Pat" Mclaughlin and Howard Super will be taking the Fourth Degree of "Patriotism" in Cheboygan on October 30th. I am proud of them for their dedication to the Knights of Columbus and by taking this degree they will show their love for our country also and I am honored to share this special day with them!

With the holidays approaching let's try to remember the real reason for this season and keep Christ in everything we do! When we feel like we are getting stressed out, just take a moment and reflect on how good we have it. Put things in perspective, you will feel better about yourself and it will make you want to help others more!

Vivat Jesus,  
Brother Dave Ski

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
November 1	<b>Social Mtg.</b> Wine Tasting @ Chateau Chantal
November 2	Memorial Mass 7 p.m.
November 6	Parish Fall Church Yard Clean-up 9 a.m.
November 7	Corporate Communion St. Mary Hannah 9 a.m.
November 13	K of C Spelling Bee 9 a.m.
November 14	Pancake Breakfast 9 & 11 a.m. Masses
November 15	<b>Business Meeting</b> 7 p.m.
November 24	Parish Dinner 5:30 p.m. in Family Ctr. before 7 p.m. Mass
November 25	"Happy Thanksgiving"
December 3 – 5	St. Francis Christmas Festival
December 11	<b>Social Mtg.</b> K of C Christmas Party @ ELKS Club
December 20	<b>Business Mtg.</b> 7 p.m.
December 19	Pancake Breakfast with Santa 9 & 11 Masses
Dec. 21 – Jan. 2	Christmas Break "Merry Christmas"
January 3	Social Mtg. "Polish Festival" Larry Blasius Insurance Talk

## Holy Cross Sweatshirts

It's Holy Cross sweatshirt time again. Each year our Council participates in collecting sweatshirts for children who have been taken in by the Holy Cross Brothers. Originally called Boysville of Michigan, they recently changed their name to Holy Cross Children's Services because they now help as many girls as they do boys. We are looking for **New, Adult sizes (L, XL, XXL, XXXL)**. Kids like them baggy! Respectful logos, emblems or pictures are OK, University logos are perfect. They can be hoodies. PLEASE avoid black. Place your donation in a decorated or unwrapped box. We will wrap and label them. There will be a collection box by the welcome center counter at St. Francis. Questions can be referred to Marise Matthis @ 941-1175 or Dave Sliwinski @ 645-0730.

**K of C Christmas Party December 11**

Particulars of the Christmas party are we will gather at 6 p.m. for a social with dinner to follow. The cost will be less than \$25 per person, beef, pork, chicken, salad, rolls, coffee, and desert. Bring a gift to pass under \$10; there will be entertainment by Mr. Fred and a surprise visit by Santa. What more could a couple ask for on a night out at Christmas time. All at the Elks Club in Traverse City. Space is limited so please call Howard Super ASAP at 231-275-7649 if you plan on attending.

**Baby Dresser**

Most of you know we are collecting new clothes for a baby boy and have a dresser in the Family Center to fill. We will be collecting up to Thanksgiving and then we will present the dresser to the Pregnancy Care Center so that they may distribute it to a new Mom in need. Please refer any questions to John Morse at 218-1113.

**Memorial Mass November 2 at 7 p.m.**

This year when our parish of St. Francis honors those who departed on All Souls Day, all Knights that have passed on will be remembered also. This will include all the Knights from our parish and the other Councils. The Knights of Columbus Color Guard will be present to remember those Brothers that have passed. Knights that attend are asked to sit wherever you can fit in among the parishioners. The only pews that will be reserved will be for the Color Guard in the rear of the church. The parish will provide cookies and refreshments after the service in the Family Center.



**Corporate Communion**

On September 25th. our K of C Council hosted a Corporate Communion at the 4 p.m. Saturday service. Thank you to all that attended, brought a dish to pass for our potluck afterwards and helped set-up & clean-up. It was wonderful! This is something to build on. I hope all Knights will try to make these dates a priority in the future. A special thank you to Brother Roger Sladek for preparing the pulled pork for the sandwiches.

**MI Drive**

This years MI (Mentally Impaired) Drive was held the weekend October 8, 9 & 10. We collected over \$3,100. All the money is sent to Supreme and when our share is returned for distribution, we will present a check to Mrs. Lorraine Laird's Special Needs Class for \$2,160.65. All Knights who helped should feel proud of their efforts and what it has done for the community. I would also like to thank our site Captains: Gary VanRaalte, Al Svec, Eric Denoyer and Larry Herman Jr. for filling in the schedule at their locations. Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 31 who assisted Larry Herman Jr. at the Wal-Mart location.

Thank you to Glen's on 8th. Street, Kmart at Cherryland Mall and Wal-Mart's at Grand Traverse Crossing who so graciously allowed us to stand in front of their establishments. Please remember to patronize these businesses.

Finally, a special thank you to Past Grand Knight Jim Hanes for organizing and managing this event for our Council. It is a lot to keep track of and we spoke briefly at our last business meeting about setting up a committee to improve on our future MI drives. Jim has agreed to chair this committee. If you are interested please contact him at 946-1382.

**Fall Parish yard Clean-up on November 6th**

The date is set November 6th at 9 a.m. The Knights will be assisting with the St. Francis Church yard fall clean-up and will also be helping put up the lights. Gary VanRaalte is organizing this work so if you can help please call him at 941-5361.

**Spelling Bee November 13th**

We will be sponsoring a spelling bee contest on November 13th. Volunteers will be needed to assist Al Svec with this event. Please contact Al at 223-4575 if you want to help. It will be held at Kohler Auditorium beginning with registration for Level I at 9 a.m. and competition at 9:30 a.m. Registration for Level II will be at 10 a.m. with that contest beginning at 10:30 a.m. A pizza and pop lunch will be provided by our Council immediately following the contest.

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: Discover a World of Good Things :  
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**Pancake Breakfast**

We now have Chairman for our next two pancake breakfasts: Howard Super for November 14th. and Jim Hanes for our "Pancakes with Santa (St. Nicholas)" on December 19th. Please call Howard at 231-275-7649 or Jim at 946-1382 And let them know how you can help.

**Christmas Festival December 3 - 5**

We have volunteered to help with the Christmas Festival again this year and many hands will be needed. On Friday, December 3rd at 5 p.m. we will be assisting with set-up in the gym (placing decorations, tables & chairs). We will also assist Roger Sladek with the Chicken Dinner on Sunday December 5th. We will need Knights from 10 a.m. to about 4:30 p.m. to clean pots and pans and help serve. We will also need Knights to help with final clean-up after it is complete. Contact Gary VanRaalte at 941-5361 if you can help.

**Day before Thanksgiving November 24**

Father Ken has requested our assistance with a Pulled Pork sandwich dinner the day before Thanksgiving. Knights will be needed to assist Roger Sladek (who will prepare the pulled pork). The meal will be at 5:30 p.m. and people will be asked to bring deserts and side dishes. Knights will be needed for kitchen help and clean-up. If you are not leaving town please come and help. There will be mass at 7 p.m. after the meal.

**Knights Birthday List**

<i>November 3</i>	<i>Joe Spitzley</i>
<i>November 11</i>	<i>Bobby Wise</i>
<i>November 13</i>	<i>Thomas Danz</i>
<i>November 23</i>	<i>David Schlueter</i>
<i>November 29</i>	<i>Donald Gauthier</i>
<i>November 30</i>	<i>Alfred Clous</i>
<i>December 8</i>	<i>Pat McLaughlin</i>
<i>December 11</i>	<i>Dr. Joseph Piche</i>
<i>December 12</i>	<i>Tim McGrath</i>
<i>December 16</i>	<i>John Rodes</i>
<i>December 25</i>	<i>Nicholas Beagle</i>
<i>December 26</i>	<i>Steve McKolay</i>

**Knight of the Month September, 2010**

We would like to congratulate Dave Jodway for being selected as the Knight of the Month for September. Dave can always be found helping out at each and every event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 13958. He is also very active in our parish and is a Eucharistic Minister. He is also very active in the community and has just become a Lifetime member of the Elks. Please thank Dave for his efforts in the Knights, our parish and the community.

**Family of the Month September, 2010**

In September we would like to recognize the family of Tony Glaza as our "Family of the Month." Tony, his wife Kathleen, and daughter Bridget have all been active in the 1st Annual K of C Pig Roast and Father Ken's 50th Birthday Party. They not only help to set up, but serve and clean up after each event. Tony and Kathleen can also be seen as ushers for Sunday mass at our own St. Francis Church.

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**Knight of the Month October, 2010**

We would like to congratulate Al Svec for being selected the Knight of the Month for October. Al is the Recorder for our council and maintains a true record of all actions and its correspondence. He also buys all the provisions for our pancake breakfasts, a huge chore. Al conducts an annual council wine tour/tasting at Chateau Chantal winery. In addition, he also conducts our annual school spelling bee. Al ushers the 11 a.m. Sunday Service. Please congratulate and thank Al the next time you see him for all he does for our Council and the parish of St. Francis.

**Family of the Month October, 2010**

For October we would like to recognize the family of John and Ruthann Morse. John serves as our financial secretary and has recently brought two new members into our council. John and Ruthann support and are at all of our family events. They also serve as coordinators of all Eucharistic Ministers at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday mass. They and their family are very active in the council, church and community.



**FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNCIL**  
**BENEFITS ADVISOR *Larry Blasius***

How are your CD'S, IRA'S, 401'K doing?

Are they paying 3% GUARANTEED for life?

Looking for a SAFE HARBOR for your family?

A tax deferred annuity from the Knights of Columbus will give you.....*PEACE OF MIND!*

**ELIGIBILITY** Available to members and their spouses up to age 85!

**YOUR INVESTMENT** We are now paying 3.25% on \$10,000 or more, or 3.0% on deposits of \$300-\$10,000. (This rate is guaranteed to December 31, 2011 on deposits made from October 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

**We guarantee 3% at all times**

- **STRENGTH AND SECURITY** - We have the highest possible ratings from A.M. Best (A++, Superior) and Standard & Poor's (AAA, Superior) - The two leading rating agencies for insurers.
- **NO TAX ON GAIN** - until it is withdrawn and NOADMINISTRATIVE FEES.
- **FLEXIBILITY** - You may deposit as much as you want for as long as you want, or simply make a lump sum deposit and let it grow.
- **CHOICE** -You may take an annual withdrawal of up to ten percent (10%) of your accumulated value once per year or you may take a guaranteed monthly income for life without any charges or fees.
- **I.R.A.** - An annuity may be set up as an I.R.A., S.E.P. or Roth I.R.A. and the Knights of Columbus can accept direct rollovers and transfers from other institutions as well.
- **SPECIAL SURVIVOR OPTIONS** - Upon the death of the annuitant, the surviving spouse can elect to:
  - A. Receive the lump sum distribution if needed immediately;
  - B. Take a monthly income guaranteed for life.
  - C. Continue the Knights of Columbus annuity for as long as you like with the same privileges as before.

For more information please e-mail or call Brother ***Larry Blasius*** F.I.C.F, CSA. at:

[larry.blasius@kofc.org](mailto:larry.blasius@kofc.org)  
989 614 6580 cell  
989 722 2887 Office

**The Final Thought**

It has been brought to my attention that we still have members that are delinquent on paying their dues. Gentlemen, for whatever reason, please take care of this responsibility, whether you realize it or not, we depend on those dues to help operate the Council and the Council still has to pay for you anyway! Please, now is the time, not tomorrow. I welcome any Brother Knight that has a hardship and cannot pay his dues to call me. If you have any questions about membership or you did not get your membership card or if you simply just want to talk. I want you to call me at 645-0730. We need to put this behind us so we can prepare for 2011.

Finally, the Christmas Season is drawing near and each of us has the chance to make it special for all those around us. This could be something as simple as a smile, shoveling the walk for a neighbor, volunteering Father Fred, visiting the seniors at the Pavilions etc. Take the time, remember the old saying, "Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today!" I am proud of what we have done so far but I also know we can do better! I want everyone to know that what you do for the Knights of Columbus and the parish of St. Francis is priceless and truly makes a difference! May God Bless you and your family this Christmas Season, let's keep Christ in Christmas and may the New Year 2011 bring you health and happiness.....

