

The Cross and Compass

Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council #7528



Joey Romero, Grand Knight

Tim Philomeno, FFS—Editor

From The Grand Knight

Good news: The outstanding debt owed to the IRS has been forgiven. This is a savings of \$6088!

Bad news: The crab feed is in jeopardy. Of course, this is our major fundraiser. Obstacles include:

1. The cost of crab. It's prohibitive.
2. The price of tickets is likely prohibitive.
3. Getting help. Boys Scout troop has disbanded, etc.

Crab feed was tentatively scheduled for early February. Likely Feb. 3rd.

Good news: We would be allowed to serve and charge for alcohol.

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From Your Lecturer

This month's article is provided in my role as Life Director for our council. Since 1973, the Catholic Church in the United States has observed October as Respect Life Month. This year, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, invites Catholics to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Respect Life Month by embracing "radical solidarity" with women facing difficult or challenging pregnancies. Following is Bishop Burbidge statement.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH STATEMENT
LIVING RADICAL SOLIDARITY
October 2023



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FS Notes

This month I am sharing with you a memo received from Kevin Fraley, WSC Administration and Finance Director to all the Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries. Brother Kevin asks that this information be passed on to all the members of Council #7528.



From Brother Kevin, with *edits* from Mike Fay.

Supreme per capita, *at \$6.50 per member*, is not changing and I don't expect it to change in the near future.

State per capita, *currently at \$9.00 per net member*, is going up in each of the next seven years, a change that passed at the 2022 State Convention after years of discussion (it had remained the same for over 20 years and the state council had

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Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

Since 1973, the year the Supreme Court legalized abortion nationwide in *Roe v. Wade*, the month of October has been set aside by the U.S. bishops as a time to focus on protecting God's precious gift of human life. While we thank God that the terrible reign of *Roe* has ended, we also recognize that abortion still continues in most states and is aggressively promoted at the federal level. A great many prayers, sacrifices, and good works are still desperately needed to transform a culture of death into a culture of life. Our public witness, our marching, and our advocacy must continue, yet laws alone will not end the tragedy of abortion.

While ending legalized abortion remains our preeminent priority, the most immediate way to save babies and mothers from abortion is to thoroughly surround mothers in need with life-giving support and personal accompaniment. This is radical solidarity.

St. John Paul II first defined "radical solidarity" in this way: "In firmly rejecting 'pro-choice' it is necessary to become courageously 'pro woman,' promoting a choice that is truly in favor of women. ... The only honest stance, in these cases, is that of radical solidarity with the woman. It is not right to leave her alone."¹

Being in radical solidarity with women who are pregnant or raising children in difficult circumstances means putting our love for them into action and putting their needs before our own. Pope Francis reminds us that solidarity "refers to something more than a few sporadic acts of generosity. It presumes the creation of a new mindset," a transformation within our own hearts.²

This new mindset requires that we come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It means addressing the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her.

This includes collective efforts within our dioceses, parishes, schools and local communities, engagement in the public square, and pursuit of policies that help support both women and their preborn babies. It all the more so requires our individual, personal commitment to helping mothers in our own communities secure material, emotional, and spiritual support for embracing the gift of life. Radical solidarity means moving beyond the status quo and out of our comfort zones.

Our parish-based and nationwide initiative, *Walking with Moms in Need*, for example, provides easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions to help transform our parishes into places of welcome, support, and assistance for pregnant and parenting mothers facing difficulties. Melissa, a North Carolina

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gone broke). For 2024 the increase is \$2.00, followed by a \$0.50 increase in each of the next 6 years, making a total increase by 2030 of \$5.00.

What this means for your dues is this:

Honorary Life dues are of course zero.

Honorary dues for 2024 are \$15.50, no more or less, for all WA councils, and after that increasing by 0.50 every year until reaching \$18.50 in 2030.

Regular dues are set in your council bylaws, *currently at \$32.00 per member*, and can only be changed by a formal bylaws revision.

A bylaws revision is somewhat involved,

First you must prepare new bylaws following the Supreme template.

Next these must pass by a simple majority at a council business meeting.

Following that you must send a copy in writing of the proposed bylaws to all your members with the time and place of your next monthly business meeting.

At this meeting the proposed bylaws must pass by a two thirds majority. They still have not gone into effect.

Next you must submit them to the Supreme Advocate's office (our legal department) for approval. Only when they approve them do they go into effect.

What does this information mean for the members of Council #7528?

For the ten (10) honorary members (<70 years old with 25 years in service), their dues will increase to \$15.50 for 2024, increasing by \$0.50 each year until reaching \$18.50 in 2030.

During the Oct 3, 2023, General Business Meeting a motion will be made to increase the dues from \$32.00 to a greater amount, unknown as of this writing.

The council will follow the steps as outlined above to seek a change in the bylaws.

If the approval is obtained by Dec 1, 2023, the dues notice for Dec 15, 2023, will reflect the change.

If the approval process is obtained after Dec 1, 2023, then an increase in dues will be reflected in the 2025 dues statement.

Pennies for Heaven and LAMB1882 are voluntary, any amounts for these on your state billing statements are strictly a suggestion and not something that you owe. We recommend that \$3.65 per year be assessed for PFH on a voluntary optional basis on all regular members (not Honorary or Honorary Life). There should be no assessment, not even voluntary, for LAMB 1882. *It is suggested that members voluntarily contribute \$18.82 to LAMB each year.*

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Vivat Jesus!

(Continued from page 2) Lecturer

mom3 with young children and a busy job, attended a parish informational session for Walking with Moms in Need, thinking she might help out here and there. But she felt the Lord's call and "by the end of the session she had volunteered to be the ministry's coordinator." Her parish now holds "Hand Up Days" once a month during which families can "shop" free of charge for baby and toddler items they need that have been donated by parishioners.

Melissa shared some powerful words of encouragement: "I think for too long we have been comfortable leaving the work of accompanying women in crisis situations – pregnant or parenting – to others in the nonprofit and government sectors. It is very clear in the Gospel that this is our job — all of us! A woman in a pregnancy center once told me that most women considering abortion are wrestling with a financial matter less than \$250 and that has really stuck with me. If we can lighten the burden just a little, what a difference we can make — it is literally life or death."

God has given each of us particular gifts, and with those gifts He entrusts us with a role and duty within the Body of Christ. Embracing an attitude of radical solidarity calls us to honestly reflect on some challenging questions and to consider specific actions we can take to foster an authentic culture of life. Some questions we might ask ourselves could include: Do I know what efforts are happening in my area to help women who are pregnant or parenting in difficult circumstances? What are the needs? What are my gifts and talents? How can I adjust my schedule or budget to assist efforts to help moms in need and their children? Radical solidarity can be lived out in countless ways, including volunteering at your local pregnancy center; helping an expectant mother find stable housing; babysitting so a mom can work or take classes; providing encouragement and a listening ear to a mom without a support system; or speaking to your pastor about beginning Walking with Moms in Need at your parish.

In addition to enshrining pro-life laws and policies, the transformation of our culture also requires continual conversion of our own hearts, so that we can recognize in every person the face of Christ and place their needs before our own.

And so, this October, I invite all Catholics to think about building a culture of life in terms of radical solidarity. We are the Church. Our prayers, witness, sacrifices, advocacy, and good works are needed now, more than ever. We are the hands and feet of Christ in the world today and we each have a personal responsibility to care for one another.

For more information on how to celebrate Respect Life Month and stand in radical solidarity with moms in need, please visit respectlife.org/celebrate.

1 Pope John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, p. 207.

2 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), no. 188.

2 Elizabeth Ascik, "One of the Best Ways to Walk with Moms in Need," *Aleteia*, March 23, 2023, <https://aleteia.org/2023/03/22/one-of-the-best-ways-to-walk-with-moms-in-need/>. Excerpts from

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The pros and Cons of other ideas were discussed, such as a Mardi Gras party, several smaller events that would bring in less revenue but would require significant resources,

A Valentine's dinner and dance. As we were brainstorming, other ideas were also bandied. No conclusions. One other option is to cut back on our offerings to some of our charities.

William was to head up the Tootsie Roll event. We will need some more help.

A \$2,200 Coats for Kids payment was made.

The rat problem was discussed extensively. Again. Bottom line: Joey has graciously decided to box in our storage area. That will help, yet mitigation efforts and ongoing inspections will need to be tackled by Father JP and the church facility director.

The Ukrainian family is happily pursuing a more normalized life. Children are attending TJ High. Kate has gained a position as a para-educator with the school district, and Igor is pursuing a job that pays better than his current position. The family has become a successful member of our community.

A Raising the Flag ceremony will be held Wednesday, September 27th, after the 9 a.m. mass. The event will take place at the school flag pole (an excellent location for this type of celebration.)

The first Spaghetti feed to support our seminarians will be on Saturday, October 7th, after the 5 p.m. mass. The location is the parish social hall. Please "talk it up" to family and friends so we can get off to a good start and gain return customers for future dinners. We will need all hands on deck to help.

Nativity House Breakfasts have begun. Watch the calendar for future events and consider pitching in.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for October

Member Birthdays

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 1st | Joseph Conner |
| 1st | Julius Rabara |
| 3rd | Albert Hartman |
| 6th | Jerome Koch |
| 7th | Paul Savino |
| 9th | Jeffrey Markwith |
| 11th | Terance Toensfeldt |
| 12th | Frank Zink |
| 16th | Martin Rewa |
| 16th | Timothy Philomeno |
| 19th | Reuben Morales |
| 20th | Joseph Armstrong |
| 24th | Michael Rutland |
| 26th | John Mills |
| 29th | Richard Peterson |

Member Birthday contd...

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 30th | Siyagunekosgodeg Fernando |
| 31th | Dennis Robb |
| Wife Birthdays | |
| 2nd | Sheri Howell |
| 6th | Stella Nnanabu |
| Anniversaries | |
| 4th | Michael and Marilyn Courtney |
| 5th | David and Gina Sakamoto |
| 12th | Garnett and Sharon Beadle |
| 19th | James and Kimberly Freyberg |
| 20th | Tito and Lisa Alfiler |
| 20th | Nicholas and Teenamarie Callahan |
| 30th | Thomas and Clara Kachman |

Good of The Order

The following is a list of those Brother Knights or family members who are sick or in distress that we have been asked to pray for:

Pete Anderson, Margie wife of Gary Fredrickson, Mary Garcia wife of Ray Garcia, Ralph & Peggy Horner. Jerry and Kathy Koch, Bill Miller brother of Don Miller, Katherine Myers mother of Dave Myers, Larry and Ann Neville, Ralph Osman, Mike Rutland Jr., Marianne Savino. Dean Smith, Anita Spicer Mother of Frank Spicer, Fr. Tom Vandenberg, Jim Yokum

Pray for the people of Ukraine and an end to the strife.

Pray for our Brother Knights of Columbus, Church members and families that we remain strong in our faith and pray that the Holy Spirit guide and protect us during these troubling times.

Pray for all priests and clergy that the Holy Spirit strengthen them and help them cope with all the changes as they minister to the faithful.

Pray for Our Country and leaders that the Holy Spirit descend upon us and lead us back to One Nation Under God for without Him we will not survive as a nation.

2023-2024 Council Leadership

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Knight of the Month - August/Sept/Oct

TBA

Nativity House!

Come help feed the homeless Saturday October 21st. Everyone will be meeting in the church parking lot at 7:45 and leaving promptly at 8AM. From there everyone will be heading to the Tacoma Nativity House to feed the homeless pancakes and sausage! This is a great opportunity to help those in need!

Contact Ted Colby at nhb@kofc7528.org for any additional information.

Family of the Month - August/Sept/Oct

TBA

Pennies for Heaven

Our goal for this year, as always, is a penny a day for Vocations, \$3.65/yr. Please support our priests!

Contact FS Mike Fay

Upcoming Events!

October

3rd General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm
7th Spaghetti Dinner after 5pm Mass
16th Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm
21st Nativity House

November

7th General Meeting—South Narthex 7:30pm
18th Nativity House
21st Planning Meeting—South Narthex 7:00pm

Knights of Columbus
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Member One