



Grand Knight's Report



Welcome back again to all. We have had a fairly wet spring which is great for all the lawns and gardens, and it looks like the summer will continue the same way. This is a reprieve from the hot dry weather last year. The outlook is that with the snow build up in the mountains and wet spring, all the reservoirs at full and we

should not have a water shortage this year. But we don't want to tempt karma as the weather can change suddenly.

The council had it's elections in June and I am pleased to announce that most of the existing council were willing to let their names stand for another term. The only change was that **Brother John Henderson** will take over position of **Outside Guard**. Thank you **Brother Dave Pittman** for holding this position for several years.

I hope that everyone will have an enjoyable summer and that you are able to spend time with your families and friends.

As is usual for the summer months of July and August, we don't hold a separate executive meeting. For the next two months we will have a combined **Executive/General meeting** on the second Tuesday of the month. The dates are **July 14th at 7:45 PM** and **August 11th at 7:45PM**. Please attend if you are able to ensure we have a quorum and are able to pass any necessary business items.

Our bingo dates for the next two months are **Wednesday July 1st at 5:00 PM** (unfortunately we got Canada Day this year) and **Wednesday August 5th at 5:00 PM**. Due to the average age of our council getting increasingly older, it becomes more difficult to get enough members volunteering for Bingo. If you can help out for this, please contact **Bingo Chairman Brother John Murray at (403) 715-7490**.

We have a special Friday Night Social coming up on Friday July 3rd. See details inside the newsletter.

Vivat Jesus
Manfred Poehlmann

Email: GK@knightsforcolumbus5726.org

Sick & Distressed Knights



Please pray for all our sick Brother Knights and their spouses. May they return to good health.

Your prayers and visits will be appreciated by:

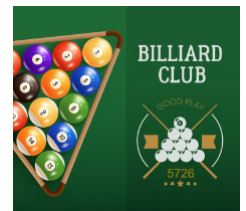


Brothers Garry Bishoff, Stan Herbst, Rory Wright, Douglas Miller, Mary Kusalik, our adopted child Patrick, and the Family of Ken Tratch.

Games Knight

**Join us in the Clubhouse
every Monday Evening at
7:00 PM**

for some billiards, shuffleboard, darts or foosball. Everyone is welcome. Join some of your brother knights for a great evening of **Games Knight!**



From The Desk Of The Financial Secretary



From the Desk of the Financial Secretary

Greetings, we are halfway through our budget year and finishing up our Fraternal year. As your Financial

Secretary, the Council is in good shape.

Our membership stands at Active Members of 86 of which 40 are Honorary Life members and two Exempt members or just under 50%. We lost another long-time member. We have two prospects on potential new members, but we need more new members, if you know of someone who is looking for a way to express their Catholic faith, let them know that it is easy to join, just have them go to kofc.org/joinus. Remind them it is free to join using the Promocode.

The Executive made the decision that I am not mailing out any membership cards unless there is a definitive need to have one. If this is the

case, just email the reason and I will mail it out to you.

From the financial perspective, it was decided to transition to an annual audit versus the semi-annual one. In this case our first audit of a complete fraternal year is being conducted this month. I do not foresee any issues.

The cancelling of Pancake breakfasts is showing in our Budget, but fiscal management, such as not mailing our Membership cards, is lightening the impact. If this continues, we may need to review more of our expenditures.

Many Blessings in Christ

Deacon SK T Peter Lilienthal

Financial Secretary
Fs5726@kofc.ab.ca

Mary, Holy Mother of God...Pray for us!

St Joseph, husband of Mary and earthly father of Jesus...Pray for us!

Ken Tratch

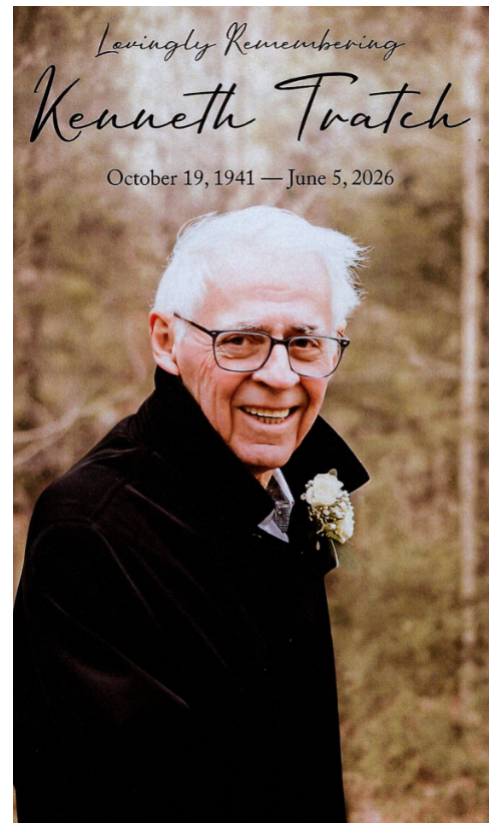
We sadly announce that we lost a long time member of our council on June 5th

Brother Ken Tratch was an active member for 29 years. Ken was not only a **Grand Knight** from 2012 to 2014, and from 2020 to 2021, he was an active bingo volunteer and breakfast volunteer (chief egg scrambler) for many years.

Ken is also remembered as being active in public service as a past city council member and school trustee.

He will be greatly missed by all the members that knew him well and worked with him these many years.

*Eternal rest grant unto Kenneth, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



Words From The Pulpit



Here we are into the heat of summer and the long season of Ordinary Time. The longest of the seasons in the Church year. You may think that Ordinary means nothing special is happening, and yet each Sunday we celebrate a mini-Easter, so how can it

be termed nothing special?

In fact, the term Ordinary stems from the Latin root of Ordo and means "regular, customary, belonging to the usual order or course, conformed to a regulated sequence or arrangement." You will notice that each of the Sundays in Ordinary time is ordered or counted, and we start this two-month period with the 13th Sunday. As well, we use the term Order to denote our Knights of Columbus when we refer to it generically. Finally, the normal ministers for our celebrations are termed Ordinary Ministers, such as Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, while those who are asked to help periodically are termed Extraordinary Ministers, meaning extra (outside) the ordinary.

Our readings on the 12th Sunday talked about Jesus telling us 'not to fear.' A good quote I heard recently reflects directly on Jesus' teaching. "Neutrality in the face of evil helps only the oppressor." Jesus tells us to act when we see bad things, to not fear. Avoiding difficult conversations or problematic topics does not solve the problem; in fact, it allows the bad things to happen when they possibly could be stopped. Never feel that your voice is just too small to solve the issue, for many small voices have solved many big problems. The Church through our Bishops provides us with enough teaching to know where we should stand on different topics; do not shy away from their

instruction, rather embrace it so that you can act when called upon.

I would be remiss if I didn't talk about the Encyclical Pope Leo just issued. For it speaks to the above instruction. Be wary of teaching which seems a bit off. The evil one is working against the Church through AI and social media as well as some news sources to have us bend our Catholic teaching. Jesus gave us one rule: Love God above everything, love your neighbour as yourself. If the teaching you see counters this in any way, dive deeper to find out where it is coming from.

In the end, forgive people, show mercy, stand for justice, be generous, be humble, and try to leave the world just a little bit better than when you found it. This is all God wants of us. Be involved and not complacent, do not be afraid, do not shy away. Be involved!

Some major celebrations which will occur over the next two months:

- ☐ July 1st – Canada Day
- ☐ July 3rd – Feast of St Thomas, Apostle
- ☐ July 22nd – Feast of St Mary Magdalene, Disciple
- ☐ July 25th – Feast of St James, Apostle
- ☐ July 26th – World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
- ☐ July 29th – Memorial of Sts Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, Disciples
- ☐ August 6th – Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
- ☐ August 10th – Feast of St Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr
- ☐ August 14th – Memorial of St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest, Martyr

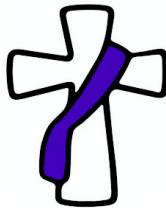
Cont'd . . . page 4

Words From The Pulpit
cont'd from page 3

- ☐ August 15th – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- ☐ August 22nd – Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- ☐ August 29th – Memorial of the Passion of St John the Baptist

Deacon T Peter Lilienthal
peter.lilienthal@calgarydiocese.ca

Mary, Holy Mother of God...Pray for us!
St Basil...Pray for us!
St Patrick...Pray for us!
All Holy Men and Women...Pray for us!



Friday Social Club



All knights and their spouses are welcome to join us at the clubhouse every **Friday from 5:00 till 7:00 PM** for some refreshments and camaraderie with your fellow knights and friends!

We have a special event scheduled this Friday July 3rd!

This Friday, July 3rd all the guests who attend will be treated to complimentary pizza! This is thanks to the social organizers, **Brother Ben Rainault** and **Brother Alex Misak**. If you will be attending please advise Brother Ben Rainault at **(403) 635-1466** so that he can arrange for enough pizza.

Camp Columbus



It looks like we will have an exceptional year. To date we are at 230 campers, which is the biggest number in 10 years I have been told. We have a great staff heading up the camp again this year.

We were worried that with Canyon Creek opening we might be down in numbers, but we are looking good. We set our fees at \$385.00 and that may have been a big factor as Canyon Creek is at \$425.00 to \$450.00 for campers. We have families sending multiple children to camp so cost may have been a big factor in our numbers.

We had to upgrade our water purification system to meet new Alberta Health requirements. It was very costly at \$13,000.00 but it is up and working really well. The contractor also provided daily, weekly, and yearly instructions to make sure we comply with AHS standards.

Camps are set to start on July 5 with everything in place and ready to go.

Thanks to all the brothers for your help in keeping this camp running. Please keep on volunteering to help maintain the camp.

Brother John Henderson
Camp Columbus Treasurer



Feast Day of St. Anne - Patron Saint of Canada - July 26

Saint Anne, honored in Christian tradition as the mother of the Virgin Mary and grandmother of Jesus Christ, holds a cherished place in Catholic devotion around the world. **In Canada, she is especially beloved as a patron saint of the country**, a spiritual mother

whose example of faith, perseverance, and trust in God has inspired generations. Though the canonical Gospels do not record details about her life, early Christian tradition—particularly the Protoevangelium of James—preserves her story and shaped centuries of devotion.

According to ancient tradition, Anne and her husband, Joachim, were a devout Jewish couple who longed for a child but remained childless for many years. In their culture, infertility was often seen as a sign of divine disfavor, and this trial would have caused deep sorrow. Yet Anne remained steadfast in prayer and confidence in God's mercy. Eventually, according to tradition, an angel announced that she would conceive a daughter who would be blessed among women. That daughter was Mary, who would become the Mother of Jesus. Thus, Anne's faith and perseverance prepared the way for the Incarnation, making her an important figure in salvation history.

Devotion to Saint Anne spread widely in the early centuries of Christianity, especially in the Eastern Church, before becoming firmly established in the West during the Middle Ages. She came to be regarded as a model of motherhood, patience, and holiness within family life. Artists often

portrayed her teaching the young Mary to read the Scriptures, symbolizing the passing on of faith from one generation to the next. This image of intergenerational faith would become particularly meaningful in Canada, a land shaped by diverse cultures and strong family traditions.

Saint Anne's connection to Canada began in the early seventeenth century with French missionaries and settlers. When explorers and colonists arrived in New France, they brought with them a deep devotion to her. In 1658, a small chapel was built in her honor at what is now the town of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, near Quebec City. Reports of miraculous healings soon followed, and the site became one of the most important pilgrimage destinations in North America. Today, the magnificent [Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre Shrine](#) stands as a testament to centuries of faith, drawing hundreds of thousands of pilgrims each year.

The shrine's walls are lined with crutches and braces left behind by those who claim to have received healing through Saint Anne's intercession. Whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, these healings have strengthened the devotion of countless believers. Pilgrims travel from across Canada, the United States, and around the world to pray at her shrine, seeking comfort, guidance, and renewed faith. For many Canadians, the shrine is not only a religious landmark but also a symbol of the country's spiritual heritage.

Saint Anne also holds a special place in the hearts of many Indigenous peoples in Canada. Missionaries often presented her as a compassionate grandmother figure, and this image resonated deeply within Indigenous cultures that highly value elders and the wisdom of grandparents. In some Indigenous languages, she is affectionately called "Nokomis," meaning grandmother. Annual

pilgrimages, such as those held by First Nations communities, blend Catholic devotion with Indigenous cultural expressions, reflecting a unique and living faith tradition. Through this relationship, Saint Anne has become a bridge between cultures, symbolizing unity and shared spirituality.

Her feast day, celebrated on July 26, is observed with particular solemnity at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré and in parishes across Canada. Special Masses, novenas, candlelight processions, and communal prayers mark the occasion. These celebrations highlight her role not only as a historical figure of tradition but as an active intercessor in the lives of believers today. Families often pray to her for strength in raising children, for healing within relationships, and for steadfast faith during trials.

As patron saint of Canada, Saint Anne represents more than a single cultural or linguistic group. Canada is a nation known for its diversity, spanning vast geography and encompassing many peoples and traditions. Saint Anne's identity as a mother and grandmother speaks universally across these differences. She embodies values that resonate deeply within Canadian society: family unity, perseverance in hardship, respect for elders, and quiet, faithful service. Her example encourages Canadians to nurture faith within their homes and communities.

In addition, Saint Anne's life story offers hope to those who experience disappointment or delay in their own lives. Her years of childlessness remind believers that God's plans often unfold in unexpected ways and according to divine timing. Her trust in God during uncertainty provides comfort to anyone facing personal trials. In this sense, her patronage extends beyond national identity to touch individual hearts.

The basilica at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, rebuilt after a devastating fire in 1922, stands as a powerful symbol of resilience. Its towering spires and beautiful mosaics

proclaim faith that endures despite hardship. This resilience mirrors Canada's own history—a country shaped by challenges, growth, and renewal. Just as the shrine rose again after destruction, so too does faith continue to thrive through changing times.

Although historical details about Saint Anne's earthly life remain rooted in tradition rather than documented history, her spiritual legacy is unmistakable. For centuries, she has been invoked as a protector of families, mothers, grandmothers, and those in need of healing. In Canada, her presence is woven into the fabric of Catholic life, especially in Quebec but also across the nation.

Ultimately, Saint Anne's importance as patron saint of Canada lies in her quiet yet profound witness. She did not preach publicly or perform recorded miracles in Scripture; instead, her greatness rests in her faithful motherhood and her role in preparing Mary to fulfill God's plan. Through her example, Canadians are reminded that holiness often grows in the hidden places of daily life—in prayer, in family love, and in patient endurance.

For believers across Canada, Saint Anne remains a spiritual grandmother watching over the nation. Her shrine continues to welcome pilgrims, her feast day continues to inspire devotion, and her story continues to offer hope. As patron saint of Canada, she stands as a symbol of enduring faith, intergenerational love, and trust in God's providence for all who call upon her.



Feast Day of Blessed Michael J. McGivney - Founder of The Knights of Coulumbus - August 13

Blesswed Michael J. McGivney - Founder of the Knights of Columbus,



was a parish priest whose quiet determination and pastoral vision transformed the lives of countless Catholic families in North America and beyond. Born on August 12, 1852, in Waterbury, Connecticut, to Irish immigrant parents, he grew up in a hardworking

family shaped by faith, sacrifice, and a deep love for the Church. His father worked in a brass mill, and young Michael learned early the struggles faced by immigrant laborers striving to build stable lives in a new land. These experiences profoundly influenced his future mission.

From a young age, McGivney sensed a call to the priesthood. After studies at the College of St. Hyacinthe in Quebec and later at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, he was ordained in 1877 for the Diocese of Hartford. His first assignment was at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, a bustling parish filled with working-class Irish Catholics. The social conditions of the time were harsh. Many Catholic men labored in dangerous jobs with little security, and anti-Catholic prejudice was widespread. If a breadwinner died, his family often faced poverty, debt, and even the breakup of the household.

Father McGivney encountered these tragedies firsthand. As a young priest, he ministered to grieving widows and orphaned children who had no financial support. He also witnessed the spiritual and moral dangers confronting men

who lacked strong community ties. Secret societies and fraternal organizations were popular in the nineteenth century, offering insurance benefits and camaraderie, but many required oaths incompatible with Catholic teaching. McGivney saw the need for a Catholic alternative—an organization that would unite men in faith while providing practical assistance to their families.

In 1882, with the approval of Bishop Lawrence McMahon and the support of parishioners, Father McGivney founded the [Knights of Columbus](#). Established in New Haven, the order combined mutual aid with spiritual formation. Its original purpose was simple yet powerful: to provide financial assistance to widows and orphans of deceased members. At the same time, it aimed to strengthen Catholic identity and encourage men to live out their faith actively in society. The name “Knights of Columbus” reflected both a spirit of chivalry and pride in Catholic heritage, invoking Christopher Columbus as a symbol of Catholic contribution to the New World.

The early years were not easy. Recruiting members required patience and trust, and financial resources were limited. Yet Father McGivney's sincerity and pastoral heart won people over. The order grew steadily, expanding beyond Connecticut into other states. Its principles—charity, unity, fraternity, and later patriotism—became the foundation of its identity. These values helped Catholic men integrate their faith with civic responsibility, countering prejudice by demonstrating loyalty to both Church and country.

Tragically, Father McGivney's life was brief. In 1890, at just thirty-eight years old, he fell seriously ill during a flu pandemic and died on August 14. His death shocked his parishioners and the young order he had founded. Yet his vision endured. The [Knights of Columbus](#) continued to grow, eventually becoming one of the largest Catholic fraternal organizations in the world. Today it counts

millions of members across numerous countries, providing billions of dollars in life insurance coverage and charitable assistance.

Beyond financial aid, the Knights have become known for their charitable works, supporting disaster relief, pro-life initiatives, education, and parish life. They sponsor scholarships, fund hospitals, and contribute to countless local and international causes. This vast charitable network traces its origins directly to the compassionate concern of Father McGivney for struggling families in nineteenth-century Connecticut. His pastoral sensitivity became institutionalized in a global movement of lay Catholic action.

For many decades, devotion to Father McGivney grew among members of the Knights and ordinary Catholics who admired his example. They saw in him a model parish priest—humble, devoted to the sacraments, attentive to the poor, and creative in responding to social needs. His cause for canonization was formally opened in 1997. After thorough investigation into his life and virtues, Pope Benedict XVI declared him “Venerable” in 2008, recognizing his heroic virtue.

A significant milestone came in 2020 when Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to Father McGivney’s intercession: the healing of an unborn child in the United States who had been diagnosed with a life-threatening condition. Following this recognition, he was beatified on October 31, 2020, at a Mass celebrated in Hartford, Connecticut. From that moment, he became known as Blessed Michael McGivney. His beatification affirmed what many faithful had long believed—that his life exemplified holiness in action.

Blessed Michael McGivney’s legacy speaks powerfully to modern times. In an era marked by economic uncertainty, family pressures, and social division, his vision remains relevant. He understood that faith must be lived concretely, especially in service to families. By empowering laymen to take responsibility for charity and fraternity, he anticipated later developments in Catholic social teaching and lay apostolate, particularly those emphasized at the Second Vatican Council.

His life also underscores the importance of priestly leadership rooted in humility and practical concern. He did not seek fame or grand achievements. Instead, he listened to the struggles of his parishioners and responded with creativity and courage. His solution—a fraternal benefit society grounded in Catholic values—addressed both spiritual and material needs. It showed that holiness can flourish in administrative meetings and financial planning just as surely as in prayer and preaching.

Today, Blessed Michael McGivney is remembered not only as a founder but as a spiritual father to millions. Statues and portraits of him appear in parish halls and council chambers worldwide. His remains were moved to St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, where pilgrims come to pray. Members of the Knights often invoke his intercession for their families and charitable missions.

Ultimately, the story of Blessed Michael McGivney is one of faith put into action. He recognized suffering and refused to remain passive. Guided by prayer and pastoral love, he built a structure that continues to protect families and strengthen Catholic identity more than a century after his death. His beatification confirms that ordinary parish ministry, lived with extraordinary charity, can bear fruit far beyond a single lifetime.

In Blessed Michael McGivney, the Church honors a shepherd who saw a need and answered it with courage, compassion, and unwavering trust in God. His life invites believers today to do the same: to build communities of charity, to defend the dignity of family life, and to transform society through faithful service rooted in Christ.



2025-2026 Executive Team

Grand Knight	Manfred Poehlmann
Deputy Grand Knight	Justin Dormer
Recorder	Rory Wright
Treasurer	Wendlin Wandler
Warden	Henry Holst
Advocate	Vacant
Chancellor	John Murray
Inside Guard	Konrad Galts
Outside Guard	John Henderson
Trustee 3 Year	Kaz Sznerch
Trustee 2 Year	Ben Rainault
Trustee 1 Year	John Gleason
Chaplain	Vacant

Support Our Brother Knights in Business

Brother Andy Gruninger - Master Electrician
Sudden Shock Electric Ltd.
Phone 403-330-6345

Brother John Henderson - (Scott & Shawn)
Master Image Ltd.
549 - 30 St. N.
Phone 403-320-7334
masteri@telusplanet.net

Appointed Officers / Positions

Financial Secretary	Deacon Peter Lilienthal
Lecturer	Ben Rainault
Bingo Chairman	John Murray
Clubhouse Manager	Ben Rainault
Breakfast Coordinator	Vacant
Public Relations, Newsletter, Website	Manfred Poehlmann
Retention Chairman	Vacant
Parish Council Rep, Faith Director	Phil Pothier

Knights of Columbus Insurance**FIELD AGENT**

Warren Klug
(587) 757-8525
warren.klug@kofc.org

Life Insurance Long Term Care
Retirement Annuities Disability Income Insurance

Protecting Catholic Families Since 1882

Contacts

Grand Knight - Manfred Poehlmann
(403) 360-4857
GK@knightsofcolumbus5726.org

Financial Secretary - Deacon Peter Lilienthal
(403) 308-4005
fs5726@kofc.ab.ca

Treasurer - Wendlin Wandler
(403) 382-0520
treasurer@knightsofcolumbus5726.org

Clubhouse Manager - Ben Rainault
(403) 635-1466
bmrainault@gmail.com
clubhouse@knightsofcolumbu5726.org

Newsletter/Website Editor - Manfred Poehlmann
(403) 360-4857
newsletter@knightsofcolumbus5726.org

Council 5726 Web Page

Please continue to check out our web page. If there is anything that you would like added to the web page or any suggestions, please contact me.

Manfred Poehlmann
GK@knightsofcolumbus5726.org



**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Our Lady of Peace
Council 5726
Lethbridge, Alberta**

<https://knightsofcolumbus5726.org>





Council Calendar of Events

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 	1 Bingo 5:00 PM	2	3 K of C Social 5:00 PM	4
5	6 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	7	8	9	10 K of C Social 5:00 PM	11
12	13 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	14 Combined Meeting 7:45 PM	15	16	17 K of C Social 5:00 PM	18
19	20 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	21	22	23	24 K of C Social 5:00 PM	25
26	27 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	28	29	30	31 K of C Social 5:00 PM	1

© Calendar-12.com

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3 	4	5 Bingo 5:00 PM	6	7 K of C Social 5:00 PM	8
9	10 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	11 Combined Meeting 7:45 PM	12	13	14 K of C Social 5:00 PM	15
16	17 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	18	19	20	21 K of C Social 5:00 PM	22
23	24 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	25	26	27	28 K of C Social 5:00 PM	29
30	31 Game Knight 7:00 PM Santa Maria Clubhouse	1	2	3	4	5

© Calendar-12.com