

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1394

The Vanguard

COUNCIL 1394 - 235 CHURCH STREET, ST. CATHARINES, ON L2R 3E8
WEBSITE: www.kofccouncil1394.org



June 2021



Christopher Columbus lands in the West Indies (America) in 1492

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS ARE ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE CoVID-19 PANDEMIC

Love: Our Greatest Miracle

As we have gone through over a year of this pandemic, dear brothers, more and more people are longing to see a miracle from God. The problems in our world and at home seem so insurmountable at this present moment. We need our Lord to come down at once to intervene and set things right. But in his unfathomable wisdom, God may not do it as he already done his share. Our Lord has already revealed and given to us the miracle-producing formula, "love one another as I have loved you."

Love perhaps is one of the most misunderstood words in our society and culture. Love is often reduced to vague romantic notions and sappy worn-out clichés. The greatest miracles in our lives, however, were fruits of love. The way that our parents nursed and cared for us is one such example. Stories of heroism and courage, told and untold, abound throughout human history and countless sacrifices have been offered on the altar of love. We only have to look to our Lord Jesus on the cross. "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Miracles do happen because of love.

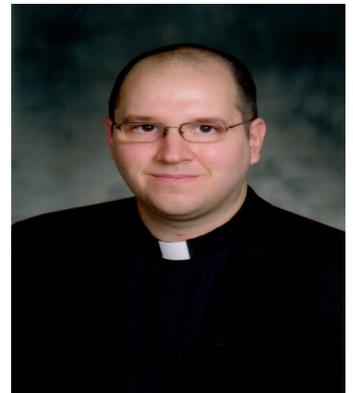
Love cannot be reduced to some passing emotion or vague romantic idea. Love by its very nature is an action word. St. John expressed this best in his first letter when he says: "Children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." (1 Jn 3:18). Love is an action word. We cannot talk of love without action. This is the miracle that should happen everyday in this world: when we learn to love in deed and in truth. We only need to use our imagination for a brief moment to see the many wonderful possibilities if we are able to do it: because of love, enemies are reconciled, warring countries re-establish peaceful and harmonious relationships, families are united and happy, the poor and hungry are attended to, criminals mend their ways, resources and blessings are generously shared among people, the truth is proclaimed, justice and peace prevail, kindness and generosity rule in society.

This may all sound too unbelievable, unreal, utopian and idealistic but is it? Would this work if given the chance and opportunity to? We must remember that at one point in human history this was proven true and doable. The early Christians did this and it was recorded in the Bible in the Acts of the Apostles: "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own...There was no needy person among them" (4:32,34). As Christians, we should be reminded that this is the greatest commandment of Jesus: "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another" (Jn 13:34).

The first action in relation to love is obedience to God's commandments. "If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my father's commandments and remain in his love" (Jn 15:10). The commandments of God are not meant to make our life difficult but rather are meant to help us practice love more readily. The handrail on the stairs, for instance, is not meant to limit our movement but to help and protect us in going up and down the stairs. Through obedience to God's commandments, we show not only our love of God, but also express our renewed relationship with him: "You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves...I have called you friends, because I have told you everything that I have heard from my Father" (Jn 15:14-15). Jesus revealed to us the innermost core of God's being, which, according to St. John, is love: "Love is of God...for God is love" (1 Jn 4:7-8).

Dear, brothers, we are experiencing unprecedented challenges and trials in life, particularly due to this ongoing pandemic. Life can be difficult and be full of troubles. This does not give us reason to complain to God but may these difficulties and troubles in life be opportunities to practice and show love and to prove once and for all that we are true followers of Jesus: "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:35). Love done and practiced is the greatest miracle we hope and pray for to happen in our world today. Then, and only then, will our joy be complete.

Council 1394 Chaplin: Father Stephen Innamorati



Grand Knight's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

I am hopeful that we will return to some normalcy in the next few months, it will be comforting to see you all once again!

On February 22nd, Start Me Up Niagara hosted its Coldest Night of the Year event, and Council 1394 participated. Our team consisted of PGK William Mathie, Brother Derek Pavlakovich, Brother Brian LeBlanc, and myself. Thanks to the support of many, our team surpassed its goal! Knights of Columbus, Council 1394 donated \$1610.00 from 37 donors; one donation was from St. Helen of the Cross, Council 15999 in Beamsville. Thanks Brothers!
Thank you, from your Coldest Night of the Year Team!

In January, an intoxicated person was arrested by Niagara Regional Police for spray painting buildings as he walked down Church Street. During this escapade, the brick façade next to the front door of our hall was tagged with red spray paint (an area approx. 6 feet by 5 feet). I am pleased to inform you that this graffiti was successfully removed from the Columbus Hall.

The Knights of Columbus Ontario Virtual State Convention was held on May 1st, and it was my privilege to represent our Council.

2021-22 Elected Ontario State Executive:

- **State Deputy** David Peters
- **State Secretary** Marcel Lemmen
- **State Treasurer** Bruce Poulin
- **State Advocate** David Gelinias
- **State Warden** Joe Bodnar

Congratulations to our new Ontario State Executive!

I am pleased to assure you that Student Graduation Awards from our Council will continue to be presented for the 2020-21 school year. As in the past, awards will be presented to selected graduates from Denis Morris Catholic High School, Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School, and Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. Unfortunately, all graduation events will be virtual.

Our Council held its elections for the 2021-22 term of office, on behalf of the Council I would like to thank Past Grand Knight William (Bill) Perry for Chairing our Nominations!

As always, Brother Bill did a great job! Thank you to all who participated in the election process and congratulations to our new Executive. Unfortunately, Past Grand Knight John Nixon has stepped down from the Office of Worthy Recorder, on behalf of the membership I want to thank PGK Nixon for his service and commitment to our Council. If you are interested in holding the position of Worthy Recorder, please contact a member of the executive at your earliest convenience.

With strength in our faith, we will survive this pandemic and once again be reunited.

Stay healthy my friends!

Vivat Jesus

Brother Carl
Grand Knight, Council 1394



Pro Life Report

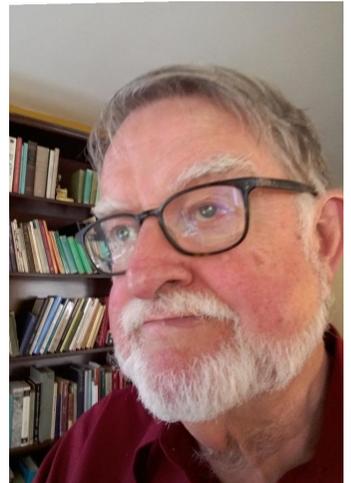
Brothers;

Here is a brief update on some developments of special concern to us as Order dedicated to the protection of all human life from conception to natural death.

Canada's Parliament has passed Bill C-7 that expands eligibility for euthanasia and assisted suicide. The new law removes some of the safeguards included in the law enacted in 2001 and weakens others. The new law eliminates the requirement one's death be "reasonably foreseeable" to qualify for euthanasia. The new law removes the waiting period between a request and its implementation. The new law allows for a request for death in advance, to be carried out when one is no longer capable of confirming that this is still what one wishes. The new law will also permit euthanasia where a mental illness is the sole reason for the request though this change is to be postponed for two years. Bill C-7 also calls for a review by a Parliamentary committee of how our assisted suicide law is working. This committee was to begin at once and report in 60 days. Who is on the committee or how to contact its members we do not know yet. Since the law allowing euthanasia and assisted suicide was enacted in 2016 some 15 thousand Canadians have died at the hands of doctors. How many will die this way under the new law is hard to imagine?

Bill C233 that would have made abortion illegal when the reason for it was sex-selection was defeated by the House of Commons last week. The Bill was supported by 82 members and opposed by 248, though polls showed that 84 % of the public approved the idea.

William Mathie
PGK and Pro-Life Coordinator



In Memoriam

As a Catholic organization Our departed Brothers will also be remembered in the daily Memorial Mass at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut to commemorate all deceased Brother Knights around the world.

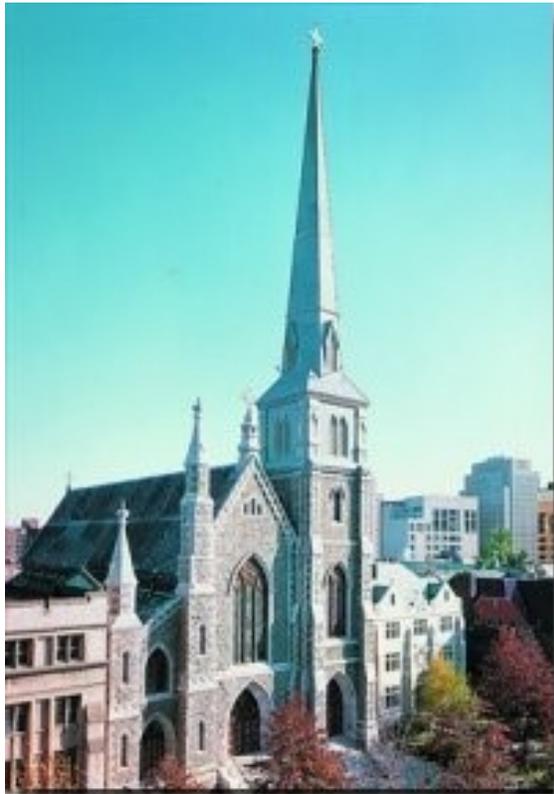
Dr. Francis "Frank" Coholan Deceased May 25, 2021 worthy member for 61 years.

Norphy A. Rossetto Deceased May 5, 2021 worthy member for 65 years.

Ian "Nick" MacDonald Deceased Dec. 14, 2020 worthy member for 36 years.

Michael W. Jackowitz Deceased Nov. 18, 2020 worthy member for 32 years.

Joseph W. Beaulieu Deceased Sept. 21, 2020 worthy member for 15 years.



**VIVAT
JESUS**

Officers for 2021 - 2022

Chaplain: Father Stephen Innamorati
Grand Knight: Carl G Pearson
Deputy Grand Knight: Fred Gratton
Financial Secretary: Don Mikulinski
Treasurer: Derek Pavlakovich
Recording Secretary: **Position Open**
Warden: Frank Koch
Advocate: PGK Mike Carroll
Lecturer: PGK William Mathie
Chancellor: Geoff Haimes
Inside Guard: Alcide (Sid) Michaud
Outside Guard: Joe Pizzati
Outside Guard: Stephen Pluhar
3rd Year Trustee: Brian LeBlanc
2nd Year Trustee: Walter Cybulak
1st Year Trustee: Vivian Pereira

Columbus Club 2021 - 2022

President: Walt Cybulak
Secretary: Brian Leblanc
Treasurer: Don Mikulinski
Director (3) Years: George Saranchuk
Director (2) Years: Brian Leblanc
Director (1) Year: Frank Koch

Committees

Bingo: PGK John Nixon
Columbus Club: Walt Cybulak
Membership: Fred Gratton
Pro-Life Coordinator: PGK William Mathie
Senior's Coffee: De Kennedy
Upcoming Degree Ceremonies: PGK Ron Adams
Vanguard: Carl Pearson & Brian Whittaker
Visitation: Stephen Pluhar

THE VANGUARD

Knights of Columbus

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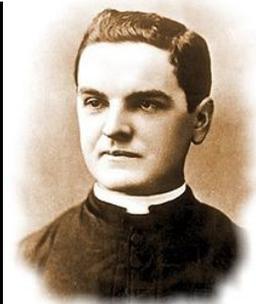
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**CHARITY
UNITY
FRATERNITY
PATRIOTISM**



**Thank you to the many contributors that made this edition of *the Vanguard* possible.
Sincerely, your Vanguard Committee.**