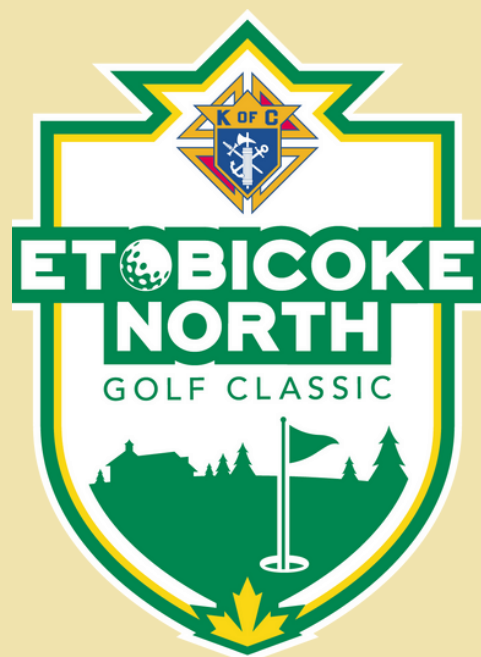


*The Official Newsletter of St. John Bosco Council #14327
2194 Kipling Ave. Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 4K9*



Look Out For

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**From time to time we
feature and introduce you
to a fellow past or present
member of our Council**

WHO'S WHO IN OUR COUNCIL

By Pat Loduca

Instead of targeting another victim for this edition's Who's Who section, I decided to get a taste of my own medicine and bore you with my unremarkable story. If you dish it, you should be ready to take it I have heard. So, the following is a little about me, my journey and 'bouts' with God and eventually how I became entangled with these merry men called Knights.

*Grand Knight,
PAT LODUCA*



A son of Italian immigrants, I was born and grew up in Toronto in a hard-working family and ethnic community that sought protection from this new world by sticking together as much as possible in those early years. Every penny my dad and mom made early on went to paying off the mortgage and making sure the table was adequately provisioned with food for one, two, three, then four boys coming into the world in a fairly spread-out manner between 1963 and 1976.

We were like most immigrant families; parents hopeful they made the right choice in this new land but finding it hard to give up the old, and children trying to make sense of who we were as we attempted to reconcile why our parents were so different from other kids' parents. Food, Italian food to be precise, and family, including getting together with extended family, were important. 'Canadian' dishes were few and far between and when we did have the odd hotdog, I made sure to dress it up with tomato sauce, of course, lol!

We grew up Roman Catholic but our faith was not very strong or prevalent. Yes, we went to Mass in my younger years, but that quickly changed as I grew older and Mass was prioritized only for special events. That's right, we became CNE (Christmas, New Year's & Easter) Catholics; sometimes just C or just E. Throw in First Communion and Confirmation obligations and that formed the basis of our tenuous connection with God. Oh, my dad would mention His name once in a while when he would get upset; but I won't go there. However, it was during the Catechism of First Communion that I felt there was something more to this interesting and abstract belief in God.

Firstly, I didn't receive the Sacrament of First Communion at seven years of age or so like most boys and girls at that time. Because we were not avid churchgoers and because I attended public school, it wasn't until my brother, three years younger than me, turned seven that I jumped on that wagon and we got the two for one deal! We enrolled in Catechism at the same time—he at seven years old and me at 10. You can say that the family's frugality bled into our religious life as well.

Armed with a Catechism prayer book no more than 20 pages or so—more like a pamphlet as I recall—I took to actually paying attention to the prayers and little stories within it. And for some reason, they caught my attention. I guess it was the first time God was telling me, “I am here.” However, this didn’t always help with improving my attendance at Mass. For example, there were a couple of times when my brother and I—as part of our First Communion preparations—were sent by my mom to Sunday Mass and I, as the eldest, was given some change to drop into the Sunday collection. We conveniently agreed to skip Mass and go to the local convenience store to buy some treats! I can’t recall if it was my brother influencing me or me him to do this but we made a good team for my parents didn’t find out for quite some time. They were not amused when they did!



First Communion and associated festivities completed—shared with my brother of course—life went on like any so-called ‘normal’ kid would live. Off and on, however, there would be a little spark of recalling that God is around through occasional arguments with friends about the existence of God—we didn’t have PS5 and Switch back then, lol—and the odd questions that many kids, and adults, may have enquired from time to time in silence like, “Who really are you, God and why are we here?” I remember I always defended God vehemently for some reason when arguing with friends who didn’t believe. I guess He had etched something into my heart notwithstanding my adverse impact on Sunday collections!

Later on, another two-for-one deal! Yep, this time at Confirmation! Now, I was 15 and had to visit our parish priest once a week for Catechism. He was fairly black and white when it came to attending Mass during Catechism so I did not dare to miss it. He was taking tabs. I actually found the Catechism pretty cool and this parish had a vibrant youth group which I also found cool. So, I joined it. The priest knew a Catholic group that had some youth members in Toronto who would hold various events throughout the year. He invited me and others from our parish youth group to a weekend retreat staged by what I later learned to be the Focolare Movement. Besides youth, this movement, also called the Work of Mary, had members of all ages around the world.

There were a number of things that caught my immediate attention after meeting these souls. They truly believed in living the Gospel and lived it as best they could. They were down to Earth with a great zeal for God, and they enjoyed sports and music which appealed to me too. I slowly learned more about the Movement’s key pillars of the Gospel: *Love one another as I have loved you; That all may be one; Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst; My God, my God, why have you forsaken me;* and more. I attempted to also live this ideal, as they called it, and God hit me like a bolt of lightning. I could not unsee what I had seen or ‘unfeel’ what I had felt.

Long story short, I became very involved with them to the point of attending their two-year study and work program in my early twenties in a small town just south of Florence in Italy, the birth country of the movement. I had decided God was number one in my life and this is what He was calling me to do. Looking back, I was very immature in my relationship with God and with living the Gospel. This trek to Europe was initially more about running away from the unsatisfied life I was living than focusing on improving my life as a Christian. The two-year program led me to discern my calling as a single lay person within the Focolare living and spreading the Gospel in regular daily life. I did that for a couple of years after the two-year Italy sojourn in a ‘Focolare House’ but God was increasingly becoming distant to me. Or, no, I was distancing myself from Him. I didn’t feel I could live this life. I didn’t feel up to par. I was immature.

“

I guess He had etched something into my heart notwithstanding my adverse impact on Sunday collections!

I left the Focolare and moved back home. By this time, I had begun my work career as an accountant at a company I would stay with for almost 25 years, leaving it when it was sold to a competitor. The new career, the lure of worldly gain, the comfort of not having to answer to this God I couldn't see had me slowly replace Him and the beauty that He had shown me with other stuff. And I ran. I ran from Him... as far as I could. Looking at it now, it was like the Parable of the Sower, like the seed with my name on it fell on rocky ground. I received it with great joy, but soon the roots were unable to latch on to anything.

In one way I felt freedom—false, I believe—and in another, a contrasting hollowness I could not reconcile. However, I did eventually find my calling in marriage. I met the love of my life, Fifina, and soon afterwards we married—our kids say, “Really soon afterwards,” lol! For me, it was love at first sight and we built a family with two amazing children. I ran from God, but I couldn't run away from God's amazing gifts. He was always there waiting for me with outstretched arms, looking after me no matter where I was. And gifting me Fifina and our two children, Alessia and Daniel, was beyond what I could have ever imagined receiving. I learned so much and failed many times as a husband and father but little by little I felt myself growing closer again to God. My career was blossoming, I had few worries. Life was smooth.



The family clan with Father David on occasion of our 25th Wedding Anniversary at St. Benedict.

Until...my 37-year-old brother passed away in a freak water-related incident leaving a wife and three young children behind. Yes, this was the younger brother with whom I had shared my First Communion and Confirmation. We had actually grown far apart at one point. You see, we were very competitive as children and yet, whether we wanted to admit it or not, very close. I didn't realize how close we were until I left for Italy for those two years when he said, “You don't know how much I love you and will miss you.”

“

*I had few worries.
Life was smooth.
Until...*

At that time, he wasn't a churchgoer and we hardly spoke about God, but I later learned that he had reached out to the same parish priest whom I had earlier met. However, my brother had also met a fellow co-worker who was a Protestant and he left the Catholic faith. He married and had three awesome children who were aged 8, 6, and 1 when he passed away. His death hit me hard. I didn't always show it but deep down I didn't understand why. I think this drew me a little further away from God as I didn't understand how these things would be allowed to happen with a so-called loving God at the helm.

Anyway, life moved on—happily enough, for sure—with a wonderful family, but something was still missing. I continued to have what seemed a sometimes on, sometimes off relationship with God. It got to the point where I became so upset internally. Upset because I kept turning away from Him and then lured back, like some spiritual cat and mouse tug of war that I felt I was losing or becoming way too tired to continue to wage. I learned that He doesn't give up. He keeps planting. So, I asked him, “Show me what you want! Are you really there? SHOW ME!!!”

Oh, He showed me all right. Soon thereafter I was diagnosed with stage four prostate cancer. It put life into a whole new perspective, a whole new paradigm. What seemed trivial before became hyper-relevant; what was taken for granted before became all-important. I may never ever ask Him to “SHOW ME” again, lol!



With my uncle Domenic. The one who led me to the Knights!

I should note that I had become a Knight of Columbus several years before this episode on the friendly urging of my dear uncle Domenic D'Amico who, on many occasions thought out loud—while I was within hearing distance—that I should become a Knight. I would respond by changing the subject or remarking with the proverbial “We’ll see” until he got me to the point of saying, “Okay, I will try it out;” partly to help him cease thinking out loud and partly because I was a little curious about what this was all about. After I joined, I must admit I was not a regular mostly because of work and family duties. My work had me travelling often and my family, especially my son who was playing hockey at the time, needed my presence. I did find what the Knights did and what they stood for refreshing. It all came from a good place and seeing a group joining together to help their church and community was appealing.

Now back to the “SHOW ME” narrative... you can imagine the impact this had on the world around me and on those who loved me dearly beginning with my wife and children and with my parents and siblings. But I must say, their stiff upper lip and huge support carried me, especially in those critical early days and weeks. You know, sometimes we get down on ourselves and maybe even wonder why we are here and maybe even think, ‘Who notices?’ Believe me, each one of us is like a small thread woven into a fabric with others that we meet and deeply touch and, sometimes, even inspire. And we don’t even know it.

So, yes, this was a wake-up call, to say the least. My oncologist and team at Sunnybrook Hospital were also amazing and he suggested that we should tackle this head-on beginning with six rounds of chemo. This was in the Fall of 2017. Chemo and hormone therapy were successful in delaying the spread of cancer which had already reached some parts of my spine and certain lymph nodes and this was followed by a treatment regimen that continues in one form or another until today.

In the meantime, after chemo and after thanking God for this wake-up call, I wondered what more I could do to give of myself to those in need. Shortly thereafter, the opportunity popped up to throw my hat in the ring in respect of answering the call to serve as Grand Knight of our St. John Bosco Council at St. Benedict Church in Etobicoke. I fought this at first. The usual suspects—those having done a marvellous job leading the Council during its 12 years or so of existence—were looking to pull back a bit to rightfully spend more time with family.

So, the role of Grand Knight was left open with no takers for a while leading up to nomination time. I tossed and turned and told myself (or was it God I was arguing with?), “I have no business being Grand Knight. For one, I really don’t know these fellows all that well. This is not my parish. I don’t live in this community. Blah, blah, blah...” The more I argued the more it seemed He was saying, “For crying out loud, just do it!”

With the support of my family, I did and am now in my fourth term serving as Grand Knight. And, I wish to accentuate the word “serving” because whether one holds this office, any other office, or is a member with no office, we are here to serve our God, our family, our church, our community, and our world. With His help—because we can’t do it on our own—and through the pillars of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, we strive to help each other to become better men, better husbands, better fathers, better sons, better brothers. This is why I joined and am still proud to be a Knight.

“

I may never ask Him to "SHOW ME" again, lol!

As I mentioned, I believe we are but threads weaving a path that criss-cross each other's lives; often we “screw up” and end up in intersections we have no business being in and once in a while we find the strength to let Him unstitch us and weave us back to where we ought to be. Just like it is said that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, so too the fabric of our world is only as strong as its weakest thread. As Knights, we are called to strengthen ourselves as well as those that are weakest. If not us, then who? If not now, then when?

In past Who's Who articles, I asked interviewees about their favourites. I won't spend too much time boring you with mine except to quickly list:

MUSIC - 70's Rock (Rush, Eagles, Boston, Supertramp)

SPORTS - Hockey, Soccer, Baseball, Football (TEAMS - Leafs, AS Roma, Blue Jays, Raiders)

FOOD - Home-made lasagna

SAINTS - Saints Joseph, Matthew, Monica, Maximilian Kolbe, Teresa of Calcutta, and Rita of Cascia

HOBBY - Filling blank pieces of paper with... songs (very amateurishly), poems, words that speak to life

On that last note, I wrote some words a while ago that I've been trying to put to a song and that speak to a little bit of my story. Here they are:

So many times I've turned away
From the sweetness of your gaze
And yet you stand by me
There everywhere
To catch me when I fall
You answer every call

So many times I didn't care
Or threw my arms up in despair
And yet here you are
No road is too far
To catch me when I fall
You answer every call

So many times I've passed you by
Looking back I wonder why
Cause each time it's you
Waiting to get through
I see you in their eyes
I hear you in their cries

So many years have come and gone
Yet you've been here all along
And every day is new
Frozen in time
I see you in their eyes
I hear you in their cries

Lord, show me your ways
Lord, teach me to pray
Lord, give me this day
Lord, tell me what to say to you
When I find you in front of me
every day



So many people look to you
Others don't believe it's true
How you turned the other cheek
Loved your enemies
Lived so we could see
Died so we could be

So many times we couldn't see
How to move from me to we
Yet you've buried in our souls
A seed that can grow
You give so we could see
You love so we could be

Lord, show us your ways
Lord, teach us to pray
Lord, give us this day
Lord, tell us what to say to you
When we find you in front of us
every day

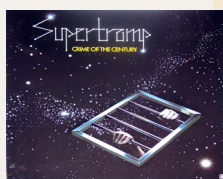
So many times
Yet you're by my side

So many years
Yet you're standing here

So many people
Yet you're always there for us

So many times
Yet you're by our side

Lord, tell us what to say to you
When we find you in front of us
every day



'PROCLAIM THE DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN LIFE'

STATEMENT FROM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPREME KNIGHT PATRICK KELLY
FOLLOWING THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT DECISION IN *DOBBS V.*
JACKSON WOMEN'S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly issued the following statement following today's historic decision by the United States Supreme Court in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* case.

"The 2 million Knights of Columbus and their families are grateful and encouraged by today's United States Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, one of the most significant advancements in human rights in our nation's history. Since our Order's founding by Blessed Michael McGivney in 1882, the Knights of Columbus has been dedicated to the protection of mothers and their children, which makes us rejoice all the more for today's monumental ruling.

The Knights of Columbus believes in the dignity and worth of every human life. We work tirelessly, through prayer and action, to protect the sanctity of life.

For the past 50 years, *Roe v. Wade* has allowed abortion on demand, including late-term abortions up to birth. This poorly reasoned legal ruling has resulted in over 60 million lives lost and does not represent the view of the American people. Our extensive polling with The Marist Institute for Public Opinion has shown consistently, over the last 14 years, that there is a consensus among Americans to limit abortion. Most recently, the Marist Poll found that a vast majority of Americans—80%—continue to believe that laws can be crafted that protect both the health and wellbeing of a woman and the life of the unborn. And a majority said abortion should either be illegal or returned to the states for regulation.

(Photo by GettyImages)



The Supreme Court's decision rightly offers correction to a deeply flawed set of previous decisions and makes clear that neither the Constitution nor our nation's history provide a fundamental right to procure an abortion.

The Knights of Columbus has always known that human life is precious and worthy of protection, and we were involved with the pro-life movement since the very beginning, joining Nellie Gray at her kitchen table when she organized the first March for Life in 1974. Knights of Columbus and their families have been an active part of every March for Life in Washington, D.C., ever since.

Today's decision is a testimony to the hard work of countless people over many years and an inspiration for the work that lies ahead. We are keenly aware that the reversal of *Roe* won't be the end of abortion in America. But we pray that it will be the beginning of the end. Now, the fight will evolve at the state level and we urge lawmakers — both state and federal — to recognize the value of 'unborn human beings' and pass laws that protect both the mother and her unborn child.

It is a crucial time for us to come together and continue to express our love and support for unborn children, and for women who are in difficult pregnancies. We must continue to grow the pro-life safety net the Knights of Columbus has long supported. In a post-*Roe* world, the Knights will continue to be there for mothers and their children, and we will continue to proclaim the dignity of every human life."

K OF C CAMPAIGN TO EXPAND AID FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

INITIATIVE WILL PARTNER WITH KNIGHTS COUNCILS TO ENHANCE LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTERS AND MATERNITY HOMES

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has announced the launch of a new Knights of Columbus campaign that greatly expands the organization's already robust support for pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes to assist mothers and children. The new Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) initiative is a call to action for Knights across the United States and Canada to increase financial support to pregnancy resource centers, maternity homes and other organizations which give direct assistance to new mothers and/or babies.



Mothers and children need our help now more than ever



The goal is for the Knights — through gifts from councils, as well as direct gifts from the Supreme Council — to donate at least \$5 million through the fraternal year ending June 30, 2023. The Knights' ASAP initiative will enhance the significant resources the Knights and local councils already provide to mothers and their children, both born and unborn.

“Mothers and children need our help now more than ever,” said Supreme Knight Kelly. “As Knights, we are called to courage and self-sacrifice. Standing for life means making personal sacrifices for women and children in need — being willing to give of our time, skills and financial resources, and accepting the fact that the fruits of our labors are often hidden.”

Knights of Columbus councils are already strong allies with the approximately 3,000 pregnancy resource centers in the United States. In addition to placing ultrasound machines in pregnancy resource centers through the organization's Ultrasound Initiative — more than 1,550 since the flagship program launched in 2009 — Knights provided more than 1.7 million volunteer service hours and gave over \$18 million in funds and supplies to pregnancy centers and maternity homes from 2018 to 2021 alone, supplying maternity and baby clothes, diapers, food and other items to women and children in need.

The Knights also have a long legacy of support for mothers and children through life. Aside from its foundational work for widows and orphans, in recent years the organization has distributed over 100,000 coats to kids in need through the Coats for Kids program and provided families with over 3.5 million pounds of food through its Food for Families Program.

NOTE & CHALLENGE FROM PAT LODUCA - GRAND KNIGHT

BROTHER KNIGHTS AND FRIENDS OF OUR COUNCIL - I CHALLENGE YOU!

In response to the two articles above, we as Knights are of course happy with the outcome south of the border. However, we can't sit still and be happy that mothers in certain situations will continue to feel they have no choice but to abort a live fetus and do so also at the risk of their own health. While Canadian laws differ from those of the U.S., we must find a way to show our support for those pregnant women who find themselves in what may seem hopeless situations.

What can we do as a Council to concretely bring hope? To show love? To save lives? I challenge our Council to come up with fundraising initiatives or any idea in response to our Supreme Knight's call to action. For, yes, raising our voices and our placards in defence of life is always a start, but direct action is always what Jesus prefers; for we must always be men of action as He was. Please send your thoughts/ideas to stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com and thank you!

THE SAINTS COME MARCHING IN!

No, Not the Football Team!

We are all called to be saints. Yes, even you and I. God calls us all and if we respond, we become the ones we ought to be, the ones we were created to be. Nothing is impossible to Him.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

- Matthew 17:19-20



The following highlights the lives of a few saints whose name day coincides with the time period of this newsletter.

Spend some time getting to know them and the lives they lived. It's amazing to know that many saints were just common folk like you and me who one day took it upon themselves to love and follow the Lord even with the many deficiencies they knew they had.

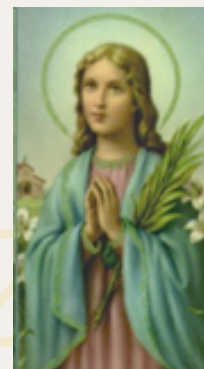
ST. MARIA GORETTI - Feast day July 6th

Born: October 16, 1890 - Corinaldo, Italy

Deceased: July 6, 1902 - Ancona, Italy

Patron Saints of: Catholic youth, girls and teenagers

One of the largest crowds ever assembled for a canonization—250,000—symbolized the reaction of millions touched by the simple story of Maria Goretti. She was the daughter of a poor Italian tenant farmer, had no chance to go to school and never learned to read or write. When Maria made her First Communion not long before her death, she was one of the larger and somewhat backward members of the class.



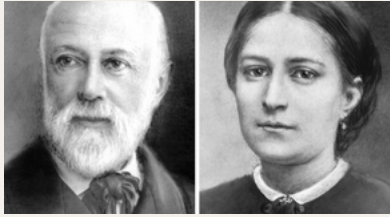
On a hot afternoon in July, Maria was sitting at the top of the stairs of her house, mending a shirt. She was not quite 12 years old, but physically mature. A cart stopped outside, and a neighbour, 18-year-old Alessandro, ran up the stairs. He seized her and pulled her into a bedroom. She struggled and tried to call for help. "No, God does not wish it," she cried out. "It is a sin. You would go to hell for it." Alessandro began striking at her blindly with a long dagger.

Maria was taken to a hospital. Her last hours were marked by the usual simple compassion of the good—concern about where her mother would sleep, the forgiveness of her murderer (she had been in fear of him, but did not say anything lest she cause trouble to his family), and her devout welcoming of her last Holy Communion. She died about 24 hours after the attack.

Alessandro was sentenced to 30 years in prison. For a long time, he was unrepentant and surly. One night he had a dream or vision of Maria gathering flowers and offering them to him. His life changed. Released after 27 years, his first act was to beg the forgiveness of Maria's mother.

Devotion to the young martyr grew, miracles were worked, and in less than half a century she was canonized. At her beatification in 1947, her 82-year-old mother, two sisters, and her brother appeared with Pope Pius XII on the balcony of St. Peter's. Three years later, at Maria's canonization, a 66-year-old Alessandro Serenelli knelt among the quarter-million people and cried tears of joy.

STS. LOUIS MARTIN & ZELIE GUERIN - Feast day July 12th



Born: August 22, 1823 & December 23, 1831 - Bordeaux & Normandy, France

Deceased: July 29, 1894 & August 28, 1877 - Alençon & Lisieux, France

Patron Saints of: Marriage and parents

Born into a military family in Bordeaux, Louis trained to become a watchmaker. His desire to join a religious community went unfulfilled because he didn't know Latin. Moving to Normandy, he met the highly-skilled lace maker, Zélie Guérin, who also had been disappointed in her attempts to enter religious life. They married in 1858, and over the years were blessed with nine children, though two sons and two daughters died in infancy.

Zélie died from breast cancer in 1877 and Louis then moved the family to Lisieux to be near his brother and sister-in-law, who helped with the education of his five surviving girls. His health began to fail after his 15-year-old daughter entered the Monastery of Mount Carmel at Lisieux in 1888. Louis died in 1894, a few months after being committed to a sanitarium.

The home that Louis and Zélie created nurtured the sanctity of all their children, but especially their youngest, who is known to us as Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Louis and Zélie were beatified in 2008, and canonized by Pope Francis on October 18, 2015, becoming the first spouses to be canonized together in the church's history.

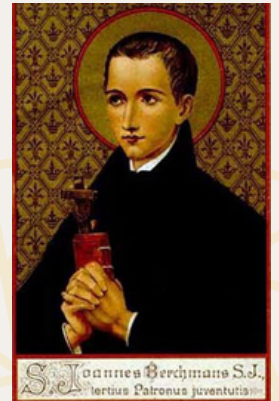
ST. JOHN BERCHMANS - Feast day August 13th

Born: March 13, 1599 - Diest, Belgium

Deceased: August 13, 1621 - Rome, Italy

Patron Saint of: Altar servers and students

John Berchmans took as his spiritual model his fellow Jesuit Aloysius Gonzaga and he was also influenced by the example of the English Jesuit martyrs. It was his realistic appreciation for the value of ordinary things, a characteristic of the Flemish mystical tradition, that constituted his holiness. He had a special devotion to Mary, mother of Jesus; and to him is owed the Little Rosary of the Immaculate Conception.



At the time of Berchmans's death, his heart was returned to his homeland in Belgium where it is kept in a silver reliquary on a side altar in the church at Leuven (Louvain).[5] Berchmans was declared Blessed in 1865, and canonized in 1888.[2] Statues frequently depict him with hands clasped, holding his crucifix, his book of rules, and his rosary.

The miracle that led to his canonization occurred at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. In 1866, one year after the Civil War, he appeared to novice Mary Wilson. Mary's health was poor, and her parents thought that the gentler climate of south Louisiana could be a remedy. However, her health continued to decline, to the point where for about 40 days she had only been able to take liquids. "Being unable to speak, I said in my heart: 'Lord, Thou Who seest how I suffer, if it be for your honour and glory and the salvation of my soul, I ask through the intercession of Blessed Berchmans a little relief and health. Otherwise, give me patience to the end.'" She went on to describe how John Berchmans then appeared to her, and she was immediately healed. When the Academy opened a boys' school in 2006, the trustees named it St. John Berchmans School. It is the only shrine at the exact location of a confirmed miracle in the United States.

ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA - Feast day August 15th

Born: October 28, 1550 - Rostkowo, Poland

Deceased: August 15, 1568 - Rome, Papal States

Patron Saint of: Poland, students, and seminarians

One of seven children born to a noble family in Poland, Stanislaus was a kind, intelligent and pious young man, but his piety was disdained by his older brother, who continually bullied him, lashing out at him verbally and physically. At age 16, Stanislaus became very ill and feared he was going to die. It was his great desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, but the young man was living in the home of a strict Protestant who would not allow the Blessed Sacrament to be brought into his home.



Stanislaus turned in prayer to St. Barbara, asking for her help in receiving the sacrament. His prayer was answered and he also learned that it was God's desire that he should enter the Jesuit order. Stanislaus knew that his family was strongly opposed to his decision to become a Jesuit and that he was too young to enter the order without his father's permission. He devised a plan to travel on foot, disguised as a beggar, some 400 miles to the Jesuit Order in Bavaria, where Father Peter Canisius, now a saint and Doctor of the Church, served as provincial and accepted Stanislaus into the Jesuit order at age 17. He would spend 10 months as a novice and his great love of Jesus in the Eucharist showed as a light on his face whenever he received the Sacrament during Mass.

Soon, the saintly novice became gravely ill once again. He wrote a letter to Mary, asking that his death be on the anniversary of her Assumption. His prayers were answered. He died on August 15, 1568, the Feast of the Assumption and was beatified in 1605 and canonized on December 31, 1726.

ST. MARY OF JESUS CRUCIFIED - Feast day August 26th



Born: January 5, 1846 - Ibillin (Galilee), Israel

Deceased: August 26, 1878 - Bethlehem, Israel

Patron Saint of: Carmelite Nuns

Miriam (later Mary) was born into a poor Greek Melchite Catholic family. Twelve of her thirteen brothers died in infancy, and Mary's birth was an answered prayer to Our Lady. Her parents died when Mary was only two and she was raised by a paternal uncle who moved his family to Alexandria, Egypt when Mary was eight years old.

Betrothed in an arranged marriage at age 13, she refused to go along with it, insisting on religious life. As punishment, her uncle hired her out as a domestic servant and a Muslim servant with whom she worked began to act as her friend with an eye to converting her from Christianity. On September 8, 1858, Mary convinced him she would never abandon her faith; in response, he cut her throat and dumped her in an alley. Mary lived, an apparition of the Virgin Mary treated her wound, and she left her uncle's house forever.

She supported herself as a domestic, working for a Christian family. In 1860 she moved in with the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Supernatural events began to occur around her, and the Sisters would not let her stay. In 1867 she was taken to the Carmel at Pau in France and became a lay sister. She then entered the cloister, taking the name Mary of Jesus Crucified.

She fought off a demonic possession for 40 days, received the stigmata, was seen to levitate, and had the gift of prophecy and knowledge of consciences. She helped found the missionary Carmel of Mangalore, India and built a Carmelite monastery in Bethlehem in 1875.

PAST, CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS!

OUR SQUIRES AT THEIR 2022 CONVENTION!

Keep up the amazing work guys!



Want to learn more about the Columbian Squires?
Contact Warren Fernandes at warrenfernandes@gmail.com.

BBQ & GAMES NIGHT FOR THE SYLVENIE LINDOR FOUNDATION

On June 11 we got together to raise money for a local charity run by one of our own, Bro. Amikley Fontaine! Great food, great fun for a worthwhile cause and we raised \$600! The Foundation helps Francophone youth in our community become better integrated economically and socially by organizing sports activities, youth forums, and more.



CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER!

Every year we invite out for dinner the clergy from our home parish at St. Benedict church. We missed being together the last two years because of the pandemic, but made it out on June 29th and had a great time of food and fellowship!



Thank you Fr. Jim and all the St. Benedict Parish clergy for your continuing support of our council and all your thoughts and prayers as we move forward together to help make our parish and community stronger.



SAVE THE DATE - SUMMER FEST/BEER GARDEN SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 2022!

Brother Knights and Friends!

Please make note of the event date above to be held in the St. Benedict's Church parking lot. More information will be forthcoming as we look to raise money for our good friend and future Salesian priest, Deacon Branden Gordon.

WELCOME BACK TO THE 3RD ANNUAL ETOBICOKE NORTH GOLF CLASSIC!

Preparations continue in full 'course' for our 3RD ANNUAL ETOBICOKE NORTH GOLF CLASSIC!

To be held on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH at
MILL RUN GOLF CLUB in Uxbridge, ON



CHECK OUT THE NEXT TWO PAGES FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FOR THE TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION FORM. YOU MAY REGISTER ONLINE AS DIRECTED ON THE LETTER AND REGISTRATION FORM BELOW AND PAYMENT MAY BE MADE BY E-TRANSFER TO stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com OR AS DIRECTED BELOW!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 2021 – MILL RUN GOLF CLUB
Shotgun Scramble starts at 11:00 AM – BBQ Dinner at 5:30 PM

Dear Past Golfer and Friends of the Etobicoke North Golf Classic!



“A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.”

Our community speaks to who we are. In fact, the least fortunate of us paints the picture of our community's soul. When we give to those in need, we strengthen the bond that is Etobicoke North, we enhance our neighbourhoods, we lift each other up, and we declare that we are strong.

Your support will elevate our entire community. It will help the Knights of Columbus support over 55 community programs organized by St. Benedict Parish. It will also assist the works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul where 97 cents of every dollar are used to support hundreds of local families, The Sara Elizabeth Centre, providing art-based programming for young adults with special needs, and many more needs.



We hope you can join us this year for golf and dinner. You and your friends will reap the reward of seeing a whole community come together for one another. Thank you in advance for your generosity! The registration card follows on the next page or you can register online by clicking this link:

<https://forms.gle/LbjSgH4zXwqM9m8C7>



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Where: Mill Run Golf Club – 269 Durham Road 8, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R1

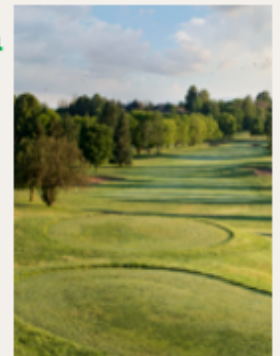
When: Saturday, September 17th, 2022

Schedule: Shotgun Start – 11:00 AM
BBQ Dinner – 5:30 PM

Registration Fee \$175 per golfer and includes (see Registration Card on next page):

- Green fees for 18 holes of Golf
- Power golf cart
- Use of Driving Range
- BBQ Dinner Reception & awards

Passports: Bonus games of skill also available for \$25 purchase



ADAM MUSCAT
Program Chair
C. 416.428.9828



PAT LODUCA
Communication Director
C. 416.738.1269



ROBERT BROWN
Sales Lead
C. 647.335.3107

etobicokenorthgolf@gmail.com

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2022

MILL RUN GOLF CLUB - 269 Durham Road 8, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R1

Shotgun Scramble Starts at 11:00 AM – BBQ Dinner 5:30 PM



GOLF & BBQ DINNER REGISTRATION

Sign up as a Single, Twosome, Threesome, or Foursome by clicking this online link:

<https://forms.gle/LbjSgH4zXwqM9m8C7>

Or, by filling out the form below and emailing to etobicokenorthgolf@gmail.com

Golfer #1 Name:	Phone:	Email:
Street Address:	City, Province	Postal Code
Golfer #2 Name:	Phone:	Email:
Street Address:	City, Province	Postal Code
Golfer #3 Name:	Phone:	Email:
Street Address:	City, Province	Postal Code
Golfer #4 Name:	Phone:	Email:
Street Address:	City, Province	Postal Code

of Golfers _____ x \$175 = \$ _____

of Passports _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Registrations due by August 17th, 2022

Make Cheques payable to: **ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL**

OR Send E-Transfer to stjohnboscl4327@gmail.com

Please mail/deliver completed forms & cheques/cash to:

Knights of Columbus c/o St. Benedict Parish
2194 Kipling Ave. Etobicoke, ON M9W 4K9

We so appreciate your generosity, and we look forward to a fun day of
“fore”, food, and friendship with you on Saturday, September 17th, 2022!

For more information, contact us at etobicokenorthgolf@gmail.com



ADAM MUSCAT

Program Chair

C. 416.428.9828



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CONGRATULATIONS!

BROTHER AMIKLEY FONTAINE RECOGNIZED BY ONTARIO MINISTRY OF FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS

On March 24th of this year, Brother Amikley Fontaine was recognized as a 2022 Francophonie Award Winner in the Francophone Category. Here is an excerpt of the award presentation:



Through his foundation, Amikley Fontaine works to empower young black immigrants to Canada economically and socially and helps them to overcome language barriers. Since 2019, Amikley has supported Toronto Youth Action for Change, a Foundation initiative that builds leadership capacity and entrepreneurship among racialized Canadian youth. Over the past decade, Amikley Fontaine has distinguished himself through his tireless work with the Sylvénie Lindor Foundation, a not-for-profit organization he founded in 2011. The organization focuses on Black youth of Francophone origin, and other youth, to help them develop the leadership skills needed to better succeed in Ontario.

It is also with integrity and the utmost dedication that he has distinguished himself through his foundation by making the issue of homelessness in Toronto a major social issue. In November 2021, his foundation held the 3rd edition of his dinner for the homeless as part of the Semaine nationale de l'immigration francophone 2021 that centred on the theme Une francophonie aux milles couleurs (A Francophonie of a thousand colours). Over 700 meals were delivered to shelters and parks in downtown Toronto.

He has been involved in the debate on access to justice in French, service in both official languages, social justice for youth from minority communities, and racial equality. Amikley has participated in several marches to protect Franco-Ontarian assets, including the Université de l'Ontario français.

"I learned about his efforts to improve the lives of young people by attending some of his events and following his remarkable work on social media. I was impressed with his integrity, compassion, and dedication. His sustained and thoughtful work must be honoured." - Rosemary Sadlier, Order of Ontario.

BROTHER DON SMITH AND WIFE CRIS BECOME GRANDPARENTS FOR THE SEVENTH TIME!

Congratulations go to Brother Don Smith and his wife Cris along with proud parents Donny and Sarah Smith on the birth of Elias Theodore Smith!

Elias was born on May 11th, 2022 at 11:51 AM weighing in at 5 lbs 12 oz. This is Don and Cris's seventh grandchild! May God bless the entire family!

If you have an event you'd like to have announced here, please send us a note to stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com



IN LOVING MEMORY

SLAWOMIR GRYCZAN

July 23rd, 1952 – June 9th, 2022
Beloved father of Brother Mike Gryczan.



Slawomir Gryczan passed away on Thursday, June 9, 2022, after several months of declining health, losing a battle with cancer. He was 69 years old and is survived by his wife Teresa of 44 years, son Michal, daughter Monika and four grandchildren Sofia, Arianna, Maya and Milo. Slawomir was a loving husband, grandfather, and friend to everyone.

In his early twenties, he fell in love with Teresa and it was love at first sight. Shortly after getting married, Slawomir became a father, having two beautiful children. Determined to provide them a better life, he immigrated to Canada in 1992. Slawomir spent most of his career with Maple Leaf Foods. He had an incredible work ethic and earned the respect of so many of his peers.

Though Slawomir lived in the city, he found solace in nature. He was the most connected to his family when exploring the biking and walking trails surrounding Etobicoke. He spent a lot of his weekends gardening and spending time with his children whenever he could.

Let's pray for the repose of his soul and for his family. May he Rest In Peace.

WELCOME TO OUR COUNCIL!

Welcome JOSHUA DINSHAW and OLUSEGUN GEORGE, the newest members of our council. Thank you for joining us. We look forward to working alongside you to help those in need in our community!

NEXT KOFC GENERAL MEETINGS

The general meetings of the Knights of Columbus will resume in September and the next meetings are scheduled to take place inside St. Benedict Church Hall on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st and WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19th

both to start with Mass at 7:00 PM.

Members will receive notices a few days before each meeting with more info.



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL #14327 2194 KIPLING AVE. ETOBICOKE, ONTARIO M9W 4K9

Published bi-monthly by the Communications Committee of St. John Bosco Council #14327
Pat Loduca, Tony Di Felice, Wolf Hartmann, Daniel Loduca

IF NOT US, THEN WHO? IF NOT NOW, THEN WHEN?

Founded on the principles of charity, unity, and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus was established in 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., and a group of parishioners. Their intent? To bring financial aid and assistance to the sick, disabled, and needy members and their families. Today, Father McGivney is being considered for sainthood.

Our Council strives to live the values of charity, unity, and fraternity every day and in every event we organize, whether to fundraise for a worthy cause or to bolster our Spirituality. We voluntarily assist our home parish St. Benedict Catholic Church in Etobicoke and we raise money for many other needs in our community and city.

Meetings:

General - Every 4th Wed. of the month except December, July, & August (April & May meetings respectively include the nominations and the election of officers)

Officers - Every 3rd Wed. of the month except July & August

Events:

Annual Golf Tournament - This year on Saturday, September 17th

Faith Forum - Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

Other Events - Multiple dinner dances, sports viewing parties, and game nights one day when God wills it so! Stay tuned.

Have any questions or comments? Have any ideas for future newsletters and possible fundraising events, or know someone who would like to learn more about what we do and stand for? Feel free to contact us at stjohnbosco14327@gmail.com.

Council Officers and Committee Leaders:

Pat Loduca <i>Grand Knight</i>	Fr. John Mariapragasam <i>Chaplain</i>
Tony Di Felice <i>Deputy Grand Knight</i>	Adam Muscat <i>Chancellor</i>
Denzil Fernandes <i>Financial Secretary</i>	Alberto Sala <i>Recorder</i>
Jim Bradbury <i>Treasurer</i>	Adam Muscat <i>Lecturer</i>
Don Smith <i>Advocate</i>	Ray Gallant <i>Warden</i>
<i>Inside Guard:</i> Dominic Peresso, Tony Mazzei, Victor Bacchus	
<i>Outside Guards:</i> Joe D'Sylva, Warren Fernandes, John Simoes	
<i>Board of Trustees:</i> Wolf Hartmann, Chris Timson, Joe Muscat	
Tony Di Felice <i>Program Director</i>	Adam Muscat <i>Membership Director</i>
Deacon Peter Takaoka <i>Faith Director</i>	Don Smith <i>Recruitment Director</i>
Don Smith <i>Community Director</i>	Chris Timson <i>Fraternal Designate</i>
Alberto Sala <i>Family Director</i>	Pat Loduca <i>Youth Chair</i>
Chris Timson <i>Life Director</i>	Pat Loduca <i>Communications Chair</i>
Warren Fernandes <i>Counsellor - Squires</i>	Adam Muscat <i>Fundraising Chair</i>