



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
"One Family Under God"
5918 Express



[HTTP://WWW.KOFC5918.ORG](http://www.kofc5918.org)

Robert P. Connelly Council #5918 - Woodridge, IL



2019 - 2020 Officers

Grand Knight

Jerry Munley (630) 852-8819

Chaplain

Deacon Tom Fricke (630) 985-5266

Deputy Grand Knight

John Piotrowski (630) 415-9637

Chancellor

Dennis Bik (630) 783-9501

Recorder

Vacant

Financial Secretary

Mike Wagner (630) 810-8880

Treasurer

Jim Schmidt (630) 985-6053

Lecturer

Eric Wood (773-715-5291)

Advocate

Jim Leifel (630) 969-9212

Warden

John Zang (630) 985-7728

Inside Guards

Pete Gavlin (630) 222-1762
Oscar Cervantes (630) 699-9535

Outside Guards

Tim Gontarz (630) 991-8769
Vacant

Trustees

Joe Testolin (630) 901-5952
Ken Bastuga (630) 985-0963
George Reiber (630) 969-2007

K of C Insurance Field Agent

Joseph R Spada (630) 703-9110

The 5918 Express is a monthly publication of the Robert P. Connelly Council. The article submission deadline is the 10th of the month. Please send articles to:

*mjmggm@aol.com or
piotrowski@hotmail.com*

for information contact:

John Piotrowski, (630) 810-0199

From The Grand Knight

Brothers,

March has been a month the likes of which we have never seen in our lifetimes. Everything that we do, or wanted to do, has been structured by the onslaught of the Coronavirus, or as it is also called, COVID-19. Meetings cancelled, events cancelled (including the Council's Annual Easter Egg Hunt), schools closed, restaurants and non-essential businesses closed, church services cancelled, even Holy Week Services cancelled. Residents of Illinois and other hard-hit states have been directed to "Stay Home" to limit the spread of the virus. Countries around the globe have been affected by this new and deadly virus, and the United States is no different. In fact, the fight to control this virus, to slow its spread (or to "flatten the curve," according to the current jargon) is just getting started.

While no current council meetings or programs are planned, council officers are committed to keeping council members in touch with each other through suggestions offered by Supreme Knight Carl Sanderson in his March 11th Letter to Fraternal Leaders. In addition, there are several actions we can take: We can pray for those affected by the virus, and we can certainly pray for family and friends. In this regard, I would direct brother Knights to prayers that have been conveyed to members by the State Office (i.e. email information received from Illinois KC). These communications have included online links to Sunday Masses (See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyi6NTr14ZY>). A link for Stations of the Cross will be available soon. "A Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic" has also been distributed. From Supreme, we have received information about a "Novena for Protection in Time of Pandemic." Although it concluded March 23rd, a Prayer invoking the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe can be still prayed beyond the end of the Novena (See email from Supreme on March 15th.) I encourage all brother Knights to check on family members and neighbors. In fact, we are especially encouraged to check on elderly neighbors, and perhaps offer to make a grocery run for them since they may be unable, or fearful, to venture out from their homes on their own.

On a more pleasant topic, I want to congratulate our new brothers, Daniel Herrera and John Lausas who were inducted into the Knights of Columbus using the new Exemplification of Charity Unity, and Fraternity. The ceremony took place just before the council's February Meeting, and it was officiated by Marshall Ed Szefc, a brother Sir Knight from the Blanchette Assembly. I want to wish our new 3rd Degree Knights best wishes, and we look forward to the contributions they will make to the many charitable activities conducted by our council.

Finally, though we are unable to worship Our Lord and Savior in person during Holy Week, we can do it through online and TV resources that are available to us. As our dear departed GK John Koys said two years ago, “We have many opportunities for spiritual reflection and growth as Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday lead us to the highest holy day on our calendar, Easter Sunday.” May all brother Knights and their families enjoy a Happy and Blessed Easter. And remember to tell a Catholic man about the Knights of Columbus, and invite him to join us in the good works that we do for our parishes and the community.

Vivat Jesus! **Jerry Munley, Grand Knight**

Jerry Munley making a donation, on behalf of the Council, of Easter toys to the West Suburban Pantry. The value of the toys was around \$90.00, and originally purchased for distribution as prizes at the Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks,



April Birthdays

Antonio Abellera 4/1
Joseph Bregin 4/9
Billy Buchholz 4/11
Dan Cantillon 4/16
Deacon Jerry Christensen 4/13
Leroy Jarka 4/21
Larry Kubacki 4/23
Brian Lee 4/14
Ken Luczynski 4/25
Christian Nkemeh 4/24
Dale Patti 4/25
Eric Pradin 4/8
Russ Retterer 4/18
John Smykowski 4/8
Val Svirtun 4/23
Art Wagner 4/16



chaplain's

From Deacon Tom Fricke

C O R N E R

The feast of St. Joseph was celebrated last Thursday on March 19. I found this Meditation in the *Word Among Us* and I would like to repeat that article since it helps those who have to make important decisions in their life.

Say you're faced with a big decision—whether to say yes to marriage or an adoption, to a religious life, a career change, or a move. Or you're wrestling with a relationship issue, like how to respond to a friend whose lifestyle goes against God's commands. What do you do? Well, you reason it out. You seek counsel—from Scripture, church teaching, and competent advisors. You pray for guidance. A lot. Maybe you ask others to pray too. And finally, you settle on a course of action.

But what if, after you had arrived at your carefully considered decision, God asked you to overturn it? Could you let it go? This is the hard choice that “righteous” Joseph faced.

Scripture doesn't say much about Joseph, but that “righteous” speaks volumes. It means that he had set his heart on seeking God and doing as will. Undoubtedly, he had focused his life on the two greatest commandments: “Love the Lord, your God” with your whole being and “Love your neighbor as yourself”. And so, faced with an unthinkable dilemma—a fiancée who was beyond reproach but was pregnant—Joseph struggled to find a solution that did right both by Mary and by the Mosaic law. A quiet divorce seemed the only way to go.

What courage it took to scrap this prayerful decision and say yes to an inscrutable plan! No wonder the angel's first words to Joseph are “Do not be afraid”! Ignore the gossip surrounding Mary's pregnancy. Accept the fact you can't penetrate God's ways. Don't worry about the job being too big for you. Joseph responded in faith. He surrendered his whole life to the demands of receiving God's own Son in this home. And God, who is never outdone in generosity, rewarded him with a unique experience of what it means to know Emmanuel, “God is with us”.

Do you want to know God is with you? Then follow Joseph. Put God first, and seek him with all your heart. Bring him your decisions and dilemmas; listen for his guidance. And don't be afraid! Just as surely as he was with Joseph, God is with you too.

“Lord. I have so many plans and expectations for my life. I bring them all to you. Show me your way, Lord. I'm ready to hear and obey.”

Vivat Jesus!

Deacon Tom



Knights of Columbus



Robert P. Connelly Council #5918
P.O. Box 5144
Woodridge, IL 60517

LEONARD M. JARKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Robert P. Connolly Council # 5918 of the Knights of Columbus in the community of Woodridge is proud to announce the **Leonard P. Jarka Memorial Scholarship** program. Mr. Jarka is a dedicated member of the Knights of Columbus who continues to demonstrate the highest degree of involvement in the community through volunteerism, particularly in the areas of youth and senior citizen activities. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's fraternal organization that provides assistance to handicapped and retarded citizens, as well as supporting church, community and youth activities.

There are 3 separate scholarships that will be awarded. Two awards (\$500.00 each) are for incoming or current Catholic high school students. One award (\$1,500.00) is for a high school senior who will be attending an accredited university, college or trade school, or an individual who is currently enrolled in such an educational institution.

These are financial need based scholarship awards. To be considered for one of the awards, the student must:

- Be in good standing at their current school.
- Complete the scholarship application form.
- Furnish a letter of recommendation from the student's guidance counselor or another school official acting in that capacity.
- Attach a clear handwritten or typewritten essay on the topic of volunteerism as stated on the application.
- Attach a clear handwritten or typewritten essay on why you believe you should be considered for this scholarship.
- Also attach a letter of recommendation from a member of the Knights of Columbus, who is in good standing.

The application form for awards can be obtained from the Christ the Servant or St. Scholastica parish offices, downloaded from our website <http://www.kofc5918.org> (click on scholarship tab) or by contacting our Scholarship Chairman Jim Schmidt, listed below. All applications must be submitted by **April 15, 2020**. Entries can be submitted via email on our website, printed and mailed to our Post Office Box listed above, or given to any Council 5918 officer or our Scholarship Chairman. The scholarships will be awarded at the end of May.

For additional information please contact our Scholarship Chairman:

Jim Schmidt at (630) 728-4784

**O Mary,**

You always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide so that,
as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties
owe who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

COUNCIL 5918 CALENDAR

APRIL 2020

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3	4
5 Palm Sunday	6	7	8	9	10 Good Friday	11
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Council Meeting @ 7:00	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



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Place
Postage
Here