

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1394

The Vanguard

COUNCIL 1394 - 235 CHURCH STREET, ST. CATHARINES, ON L2R 3E8

WEBSITE: www.kofccouncil1394.org

December 2020



"Keep Christ In Christmas"

Featured on the cover of the January 2020 Vanguard is artwork from Brother Vivian Pereira's Grand niece (Daughter of his nephew). This was a project for school with the theme of "Keep Christ In Christmas".



Today is born our savior,
Christ the Lord



Today our Savior is Born

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

Table of Contents

Keep Christ In Christmas	1
Table of Contents	2
Faithful Chaplain's Message	3
Grand Knight's Report	4
Deputy Grand Knight's Report	5
Pro-Life Coordinator Report	6
Continued	7
Continued	8
In Memoriam	9
Christmas Greetings	10
Knights of Columbus—Coats for Kids	10
Joe Pizzati - My Favourite Christmas Gift	11
Knights of Columbus Training Opportunities	12
St Catharines Council 1394 - Officers for 2020 - 2021	13

Faithful Chaplain's Message

The Vanguard – December 2020
Father Stephen Innamorati

God is truly with us

This past year of 2020 has been a year to either remember or forget. Most people would prefer to forget and move forward into 2021.

The season of Advent presents a beautiful opportunity to take stock of this past year and to look ahead to the new church year and calendar year of 2021. We do not just look ahead but do so with peace, joy and hope. How can we be peaceful, joyful and hopeful in this time of pandemic? Christmas points to the answer as found in the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ who as the Gospel of Matthew tells us, is Emmanuel. This title literally means God is with us. The birth of Jesus reveals that God is not resting quietly in a far-off hideaway but is present and involved wherever human lives unfold, no matter how complicated or turbulent life's events may be.

The message in the name Emmanuel is not incidental or inconsequential but is the ultimate expression of God's willingness to be with us. The Incarnation of God as human at Christmas brings forth the peace, joy and hope that cannot be found anywhere else. The peace, joy and hope of God who has come to save his people and bring them back to himself. This is not some harsh and isolated God but rather our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we encounter God's tender, loving kindness. The harshness and chaos of our world needs this message now more than ever. May we be the beacons of that message of peace, joy and hope in our troubled world with our words, actions and lives this Christmas and new year.



Father Stephen Innamorati

Faithful Chaplain, Council 1394



Grand Knight's Report

The Vanguard – December 2020

Carl G. Pearson

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

One would say that due to CoVID-19 not much has happened since our June 2020 newsletter; truth be told, many of our members continue to manage and work on various portfolios.

For instance, annual high school awards have been presented to graduates, and thank you letters have been received from recipients.

Denis Morris Catholic High School

Culture of Life Scholarship – Gabriella Gadsby

Wrist-watch – Amy Battista

Wrist-watch – Michael Conlon

Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School

Culture of Life Scholarship – Lara DiLuigi

Wrist-watch – Grace Gill

Wrist-watch – Blake McGowan

Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Culture of Life Scholarship – Michela Belchior

Wrist-watch – Kajta Murray

Wrist-watch – Matthew Cernecca

As in past years, our council has donated winter coats to Community Care, via the Knights of Columbus "Coats for Kids Program". This year we increased our contribution to 48 coats.

It is true that the less fortunate cannot eat on the premises, but St. Vincent de Paul Ozanam Centre (Niagara Training) and, Start-Me-Up-Niagara (Out of the Cold) have adapted to brown-bag programs and distribute food at the front door of our hall.

Knights of Columbus, Council 1394 has once again entered a team into Start Me Up Niagara's "Coldest Night of the Year" fundraiser. The walk (2 km or 5 km routes) will take place February 20th with strict health & safety guidelines. The membership has an opportunity to help by sponsoring and/or participating as a member of our team.

Thank you to all Brother Knights that continue to work for our council, behind the scenes, to ensure our building is maintained, bills are paid, use of facilities are scheduled, annual awards are presented, and our dearly departed are remembered.

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

Stay healthy my friends!

Vivat Jesus

Carl G. Pearson

Grand Knight, Council 1394



Deputy Grand Knight's Report

The Vanguard – December 2020
Fred Gratton

Brother Knights;

As I sit here thinking about the year gone by, I reflect about tomorrow and pray for my fellow Brothers and families that this pandemic gets to leave us soon so we can resume our regular lives.

I hope we can overcome this with our thoughts and prayers as salvation will come to us in the love of God and our Faith. I hope in 2021, we will be together to mingle and rejoice.

God Bless and Keep us Safe

In Fraternity your Brother,

Fred Gratton

Deputy Grand Knight, Council 1394



Pro-Life Coordinator Report

The Vanguard – December 2020
William R. Mathie, Past Grand Knight

Brother Knights;

Though many things have been slowed down or stopped because of Covid-19, some have not. An increasing number of Canadians die at the hands of those trusted to care for them. Euthanasia became lawful in Canada less than ten years ago by a court decision. A legal framework to regulate that procedure with safeguards to prevent its abuse was made law¹ in 2016. This year the Government has proposed a law that would dangerously extend that practice and weaken the safeguards established in 2016. That new law awaits approval by Canada's Senate in the next few weeks. I urge you to defend life by writing our Senators to amend or defeat Bill C-7, the law before them. (Senator Denise Batters might not be a good choice to address as she has shown a strong interest in this issue. Her email address is this: denise.batters@sen.parl.gc.ca



In what follows I have tried to show you where we are and how we got here. For more information see what is available on the web site of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (EPC). The director of EPC is a Brother Knight, Alex Schadenberg. Here is a link to EPC. <https://alexschadenberg.blogspot.com/2020/12/euthanasia-bill-c-7-is-likely-delayed.html>

William Mathie

Pro-Life Coordinator and Past Grand Knight, Council 1394

In its Carter decision of February 2012, Canada's Supreme Court threw out Canada's long-standing law that prohibited helping another person to commit suicide. The Court ruled that assistance in committing suicide or active euthanasia was the right of those suffering pain that was to them intolerable for which there was no remedy that they regarded as acceptable. The Court did not call the action it justified assisted suicide or euthanasia.

Continued on page 7

Pro-Life Coordinator Report

The Vanguard – December 2020
William R. Mathie, Past Grand Knight

The Court preferred to call both “Medical Assistance in Dying,” though many doctors insisted that they had always helped their patients who were dying with various palliative measures. The Court also ruled that death did not need to be imminent to justify the help that they claimed was everyone’s right. The Court recognized that legalizing euthanasia might lead to abuse or coercion of the vulnerable, and granted Parliament a limited amount of time to devise a reasonable legal framework.

In June 2016, Parliament passed Bill C-14 to authorize euthanasia and assisted suicide at the hands of doctors and nurse-practitioners while claiming also to prevent its abuse. Bill C-14 called for a waiting period between the request for euthanasia and the carrying out of the request. The new law required that patients clearly indicate that it was still their wish to be euthanized when the request was carried out. The law also required that that request be in writing if possible, witnessed by two individuals who were not in charge of the care of those making the request, and that two medical caregivers approve the request. Finally, eligibility for euthanasia or assisted suicide was to be restricted to those whose natural death was reasonably foreseeable. Bill C-14 did not allow euthanasia for “mature minors,” as some had hoped. Nor did it permit “Advance Directives” whereby a patient could authorize euthanasia at some future time after that person had lost the capacity for consent to the procedure.

Bill C-14 called for a review in five years, i.e. in June 2021, that would assess the operation of the law and access to palliative care and consider possible revisions to the law. Parliament also claimed, as had the Supreme Court, that the conscience rights of doctors and nurse practitioners would be respected. Subsequently in fact, the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons told doctors they must kill their patients when requested to do so or send them to someone who would.

Since this law was enacted in June 2016, more than 14,000 Canadians have died under its terms, mostly by lethal injections at the hands of their doctors. 1 in 50 deaths in Canada are now so “assisted.”

In 2019, Canada’s Justice Minister David Lametti announced his intention to proceed at once with changes to the law that would expand eligibility for euthanasia and remove some of its safeguards. Lametti justified what he was doing as a response to the decision by a Quebec Court that Bill C-14’s requirement that natural death be “reasonably foreseeable” was unconstitutional in light of the Supreme Court’s Carter decision. Lametti did not defend the law Parliament had enacted in 2016 as he was urged to do by the former Justice Minister and Health Minister who had authored the 2016 law.

Continued on page 8

Pro-Life Coordinator Report

The Vanguard – December 2020

William R. Mathie, Past Grand Knight

He ignored their claim and the claim of others that doctors generally approved the “reasonably foreseeable” death requirement. Nor did he wait for the review that would have commenced in June 2021 as stipulated in the 2016 law.

Lametti did not merely remove the “reasonable death” requirement. His new law, Bill C-7, eliminates the general requirement of a 10-day waiting period before any euthanasia, requiring instead a 90-day period of assessment only for requests where death is not “reasonably foreseeable.” As critics charged, the new law makes it possible for same-day death on demand. Lametti’s government ignored the evidence that those requesting euthanasia have sometimes change their minds during those 10 days. The new law proposed also lowers the safeguards on witnesses of a euthanasia request, reducing the number required to one, and allowing the witness to be the requester’s caregiver. And the new law allows for Advance Requests. Under Bill C-7, patients facing a “reasonably foreseeable” natural death can authorize their own future death by lethal injection at a time when they are no longer able to give consent. Nor is there a requirement in these cases for the practitioner to inquire whether the patient’s wishes have changed or to confirm consent at the time of causing death.

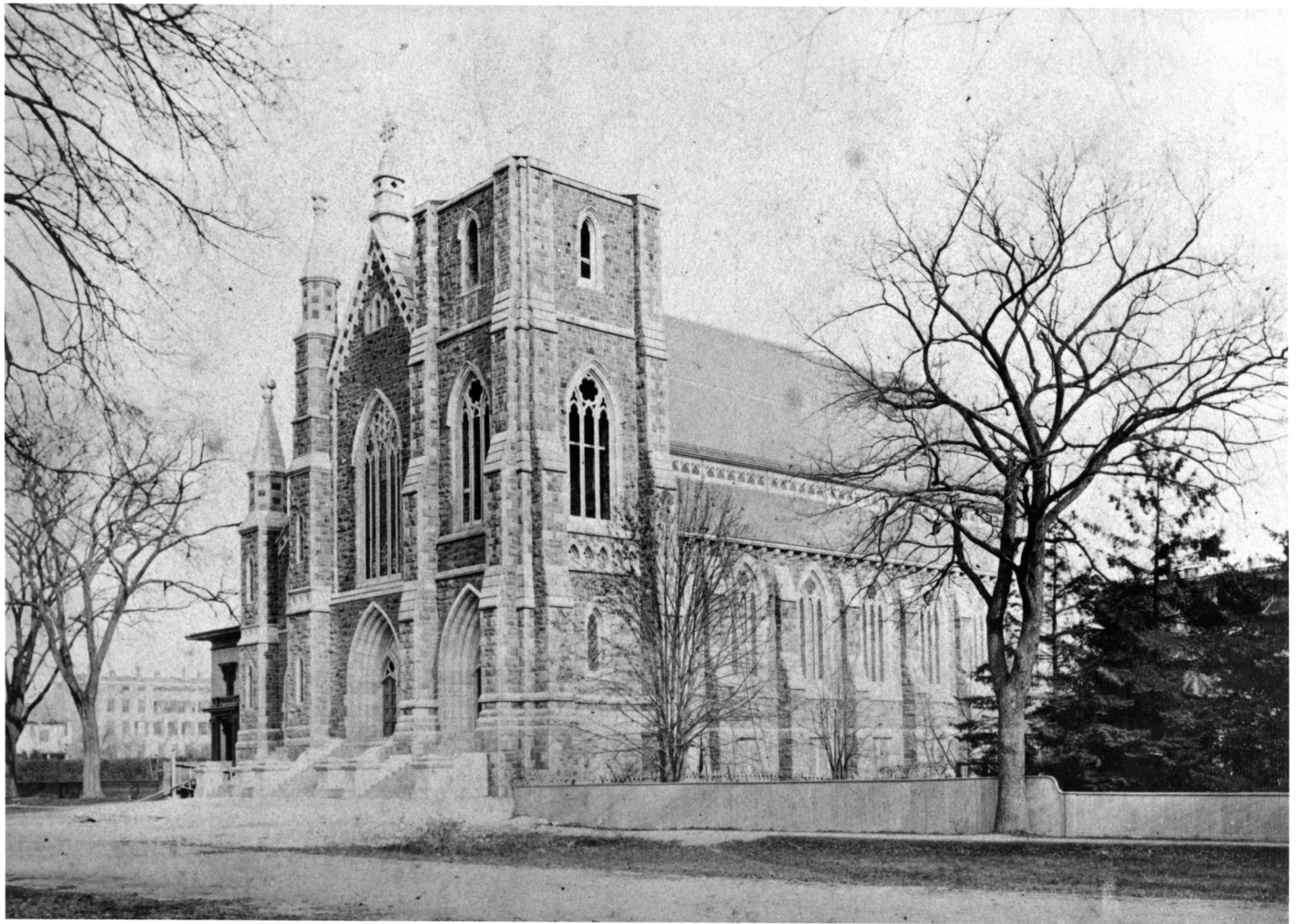
In only one respect did the new law claim to tighten the restrictions for euthanasia. Bill C-7 does not allow for euthanasia where the sole basis for the request is psychological. Here Lametti may have deferred to psychologists, who are generally unwilling to declare mental illnesses “irremediable” and reluctant to endorse euthanasia to patients for whom suicidal delusions are common symptoms. On the other hand, Lametti has indicated his own hope to see euthanasia expanded in this direction and the law itself points towards this development. Since Canadian law has based the right to euthanasia on a patient’s own judgment that her suffering is intolerable and available treatments are unacceptable, critics have observed that the inclusion of mental illness would extend euthanasia in Canadian law beyond the limits adopted by any other country.

The law I have described was passed by the House of Commons on December 10 by a vote of 212 to 207. It now awaits approval by Canada’s Senate. That decision has been deferred until mid-February.



In Memoriam

The Vanguard – December 2020
Brian Whittaker



As a Catholic organization, departed Brothers are remembered daily in a special Mass offered for the repose of the souls of all our Brother Knights at St Mary's Church, the birthplace of the Order, in New Haven Connecticut.

Ian "Nick" MacDonald, deceased December 14, 202 - worthy member for 36 years

Michael Jackowitz, deceased November 8, 2020 - worthy member for 32 years

Joseph Beaulieu, deceased September 21, 2020 - worthy member for 15 years

Patrick McConville, deceased April 12, 2020 - worthy member for 29 years

PGK Michael D'Amelio, deceased March 27, 2020 - worthy member for 21 years

John Balsom, deceased February 5, 2020 - worthy member for 68 years

VIVAT JESUS

Christmas Greetings

The Vanguard – December 2020
Vivian Pereira

To All My Brother Knights " This Christmas, give the gift of Love and the gift of joy, and you will receive the Gift of the Lord.

My Wife, Florence and I wish you all a Holy and Blessed Christmas and a healthy 2021.

Brother Vivian and Florence.

Vivian Pereira, 2nd Year Trustee

Knights of Columbus - Coats for Kids

The Vanguard – December 2020



On December 9, 2020 Council 1394 donated 48 winter coats to Community Care St Catharines & Thorold. From left to right in the picture are: Don Mikulinski, Financial Secretary - Council 1394; Betty-Lou Souter, CEO - Community Care; Carl Pearson, Grand Knight - Council 1394.

Joseph Pizzati - My Favourite Christmas Gift

The Vanguard – December 2020

My Favourite Christmas Gift

1951. I'm eleven years old.

Princess Elizabeth is in Toronto. My Stanley Cup champs put on an exhibition game for her pleasure. Christmas season arrived. Again I helped Mother decorate our tree. The cotton she used hugged the branches like snow. Then came the tinsel. It was beautiful. I loved the tinsel and I still think of Mother's tree every year when my beautiful wife Janet decorates ours. I put the tinsel on

My brother and I collected papers door to door and sold them to Mr. Hunka the junk dealer. Our dollar thirty five could not buy us a four dollar tree. We bugged the tree dealer to unload his truck in exchange. Dragging our tree for two blocks we arrived home. It wasn't the best looking tree – but Mother made it so.

Being an altar boy I kept this comforting thought to myself. The thought that God helped Mother with the beautiful tree.

With Dad being a chef there was never a lot of money to use, but we had the best tasting meal in town.

Sitting down and admiring Janet's tree I close my eyes and visualize Mother's tree. Putting Mario Lanza's rendition of his song Trees on my record player only heightened my cherished memories.

Only God can make a tree and somehow I still believe that God helped Mother.

My favorite Christmas gift
No bows... no ribbons... no ties
The image of Mother's divine tree
That keeps glowing every Yuletide.

It's my memory that I cherish
Forever giving my heart a lift
I thank God for allowing me
To see my favorite gift.

Happy Holidays
God Bless Everyone
Joseph Pizzati

Knights of Columbus Training Opportunities

The Vanguard – December 2020

While our membership is isolated this is an opportunity to access programing being offered to Knights of Columbus membership.

Fraternal Training

<https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/fraternal-training.html>

- Fraternal Webinars & Video Resources
- Fraternal Video library
- Officer Resources
- FAITH IN ACTION – RESOURCES
- Quick Tips From Fraternal

Safe Environment Program

<https://www.kofc.org/en/safe-environment-program/index.html>

It is beneficial for all members and essential for leadership including potential leaders of the council to participate in Safe Environment Training. This training is available at the link listed above, to participate Scroll down the page to find two available presentations one for Council Leaders and the other for our Membership.

Safe Environment Program



Safe Environment Program

Officers for 2020 - 2021

Chaplain: Father Stephen Innamorati
Grand Knight: Carl G Pearson
Deputy Grand Knight: Fred Gratton
Financial Secretary: Don Mikulinski
Treasurer: Derek Pavlakovich
Recording Secretary: PGK John Nixon
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: Walter (Walt) Cybulak
2nd Year Trustee: Vivian Pereira
1st Year Trustee: Brian LeBlanc

Columbus Club 2020 - 2021

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

Committees

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

THE VANGUARD

Knights of Columbus

St. Catharines Council 1394

235 Church Street

St. Catharines, ON L2R 3E8

Tel & Fax: (905) 688-1394

Website:

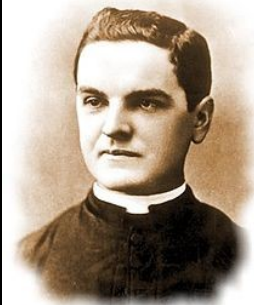
<http://www.kofccouncil1394.org/>

Email:

contact@kofccouncil1394.org



**CHARITY
UNITY
FRATERNITY
PATRIOTISM**



Thank you to the many contributors that made this edition of *the Vanguard* possible.

Sincerely, your Vanguard Committee.