

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1394



# THE VANGUARD

EASTER 2015  
ISSUE

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GENERAL MEETINGS ARE AT 7:30 PM ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH!

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

*The homily delivered by Bishop Bergie at the Respect Life Mass on the Solemnity of the Annunciation March 25, 2015 at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria.*

We all know that food is a staple of life. It is a source of nutrition and energy and without it we eventually starve and cease living. In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus states, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to complete His work". ( Jn 4:34 ) For Jesus, doing His Father's will is what energizes Him, nourishes Him and gives Him life. Doing the Father's will is not unique to Jesus as we find this same desire in the saints, especially our Blessed Mother Mary. At the Annunciation she states, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." She is a servant of God's will. We too are called to follow God's will in our lives. This is not always easy because of the sin of pride, the first of the Seven Deadly Sins. Pride makes our own will supreme and rejects the Divine Will.



The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal order firmly committed to respect for life from the moment of conception to natural death. Clearly, it is God's will that life must always be respected and protected. Today it is the sin of pride that acts as a strong force against life. The person that believes, "this is my body and I can do with it whatever I want" easily succumbs to the sin of pride and this can lead to even greater sins like abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide.

St. Augustine states, "It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men angels". If humility is the greatest remedy to pride, then our Blessed Mother Mary becomes our greatest ally. She is the model of humility who only wanted to do the will of God in her life. Let this be our spiritual food and do the same. "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word."

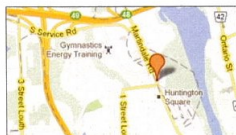
Bishop Bergie

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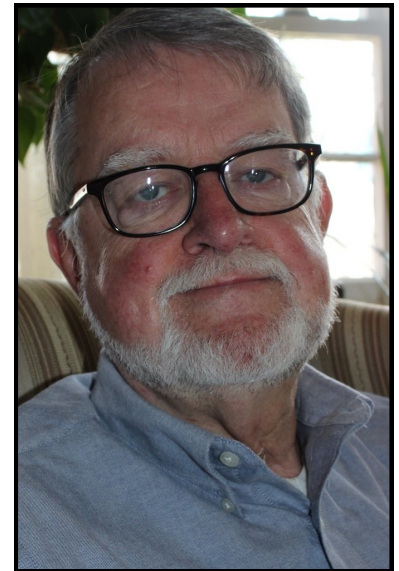


GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

As my service as your Grand Knight ends, I want above all to say thanks. Thanks for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your Grand Knight. Thanks for all you have done to make this a wonderful experience. Thanks for all you do to make this an extraordinary Council. Thanks for what you have done to build and maintain a culture of life. Thanks for all that you do for your Brothers, for our priests, for our community and for our God. Thanks for giving concrete meaning to our slogan: Charity, Fraternity and Unity.

William



COUNCIL NEWS



*A picture of our member Sean Innamorati at the Bishops Right to Life Mass at the Cathedral where Sean was part of the Honour Guard.*

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COUNCIL NEWS

Basketball Free Throw

The annual free throw competition was held on Sat. Jan.17th. at Holy Cross High School, over 120 students from 20 public and separate schools were finalists from their respective schools. The five high scorers from each age group ( boys and girls ages 9-13 ) went on to the District Free throw event held on Feb. 28th. at Holy Cross H. S. to determine the overall winners in each age group from St. Catharines, Grimsby, Niagara Falls, Fort Erie. Trophies and medals were awarded to winners of both the Council and District competitions. The K.of C. Free throw event was well covered by the media: Cogeco T.V. and Standard paper. Council 1394 was this years host council and provided lunch for the Brother Knights helping run the Jan.17th. Competition.

Ron Adams P.G.K.



One of the many winners in their respective age group. Ally Sentence being awarded a trophy by Free throw Director Gilles LaRoche, and advancing to the District level.



Seniors Coffee

Our "Seniors Coffee Meeting" was well attended and we were blessed with a visit from Toronto of our P G K Mike D'Amelio who enjoyed his visit.

NOTICE: By special request all future "Senior Coffee Meetings" at Fairview Mall will be at 2pm not 2-30 pm as before.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ST. PATRICK 'S DAY



Logo of the Knights of Columbus (K of C). Text: JOHN SCHERER, FIC FIELD AGENT. PHONE: (289) 239-7206 john.scherer@kofc.org www.uknightinteractive.net. AGENCY DEPARTMENT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. 19 CRANSTON STREET ANCASTER, ON L9K 0E3

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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ST. PATRICK 'S DAY



BASKETBALL FREE THROW



*Brother Knights Geoff Haimes and Johnson Moraes selling car raffle tickets at the free throw event.*



*Ron Adams P.G.K. and Don Mikulinski F.S. doing the registration of the students that advanced from the school level to the Council competition.*



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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Mar. 29/15

To Whom it may concern

Worthy Madam/Sir

My name is Michael Carroll. I am a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council 1394. We, through the support of the Niagara Knights, will sponsor the 7th. Annual Dinner in support of The Wells of Hope to bring clean water to the poor.

I am asking if you would like to make a donation to this worthwhile cause, in the form of a door or raffle prize, or with your attendance.

The event will take place at Club Capri, 36 Cleveland Street, Thorold on Saturday May 23/15. Cash bar 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30p.m. Cost is \$25.00 per person and \$250.00 for a RESERVED table of 10. Entertainment -

Please contact ASAP  
 Event Chairman - Mike Carroll  
 905 682-5216 or e-mail [mikebannet@yahoo.ca](mailto:mikebannet@yahoo.ca)

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**APRIL, 2015**

			1 WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK	2 THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK	3 FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	4 HOLY SATURDAY
5 THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER	13 Meeting Hall 7:30 pm	14	15	16	17	18
19 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER	20	21	22	23	24	25 ST. MARK Lapel Roses St. Denis
26 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER Lapel Roses St. Denis	27	28	29 ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA	30		

**MAY, 2015**

					1	2 ST. ATHANASIUS
3 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER	11 Meeting Hall 7:30 pm	12	13	14 ST. MATTHIAS	15	16
17 ASCENSION OF THE LORD	18	19	20	21	22	23 Lapel Roses St. Al- fred's
24 PENTECOST SUNDAY Lapel Roses St. Alfred's	25	26 ST. PHILIP NERI	27	28	29	30 Yard Sale and BBQ@ Hall
31 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY						

**JUNE, 2015**

	1 ST. JUSTIN	2	3 ST. CHARLES LWANGA and Com- panions	4	5 ST. BONIFACE	6 Lapel Roses St. Vin- cent de Paul
7 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST Lapel Roses St. VdP. TBC	8 Mass and Installation of officers @ Hall 7 pm	9	10	11 ST. BARNABAS	12 THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	13 ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA Divine liturgy Cyril and Methodius 6pm
14 11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	22	23	24 THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAP- TIST	25	26	27
28 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	29 SAINTS PETER and PAUL, APOSTLES	30				

**JULY, 2015**

			1 Canada Day	2	3 ST. THOMAS	4
5 14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6	7	8	9	10	11 ST. BENEDICT
12 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	13	14	15 ST. BONAVENTURE	16	17	18
19 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	20	21	22 ST. MARY MAGDA- LENE	23	24	25 ST. JAMES
26 17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	27	28	29 ST. MARTHA	30	31 ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA	

## REV. HUGH GIBSON ON ASSISTED SUICIDE

*A few days after Canada 's Supreme Court struck down Canada 's Law against assisted suicide our Chaplain spoke to Council 1394 in these words:*

Euthanasia simply put means an action or an omission which of itself or by intention kills a person to end suffering. It's important to recognise, though, that the suffering to be ended is not necessarily that of the person who is killed. Increasingly. . . the rationale for euthanasia is based on the need to end the emotional or economic burden on family members or society in general.

Saying it plainly euthanasia and its contemporary synonyms - "the right to die" - "death with dignity" and "aid in dying" mean directly and intentionally killing a person. Jim is dying of cancer. The disease has invaded his liver, bones, and lungs. He needs morphine at regular intervals to keep the pain under control; the time between these intervals is growing shorter and the dose higher. But he still manages a toothless smile ( his false teeth don't fit anymore ) and a joke. He knows he is dying, and that the cancer has progressed too far for more chemotherapy. It is becoming increasingly difficult for him to get enough nourishment by mouth. The only question remaining for Jim and his family is: how long?



For the past year, Rosa has been living in a nursing home. A long series of small strokes have brought her life to a standstill. What is left of her memory is like an old photo album with faded snapshots of long ago times and people. She weeps easily, but forgets why she is crying seconds after the tears appear. She can no longer look after her most basic needs, and must be fed, washed, and diapered. When her adult children visit, she smiles, but cannot remember their names.

Jim and Rosa are familiar to most of us. They are our parents, spouses, sisters, brothers, grandparents, co-workers, or neighbours. All of us have faced illness, suffering and death. How are Catholics to respond to the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide?

[T]he Catholic church has consistently taught that all life begins at conception and ends at natural death. If we look at the ministry of Jesus we see that the gospel of life is at the heart of his message. Jesus sees those who are affected with illness as gifts, Jesus says: Whenever you give a lunch or dinner, do not invite your friends or . . . wealthy neighbours. They might invite you in return and thus repay you. No, . . . invite beggars and the crippled, the lame and the blind. You should be pleased that they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.

As Catholics, we are convinced that God creates each and every one of us out of love. We do not own or control our lives or that of others as we do a piece of property. All life is given to us as a sacred trust. All our lives have natural limits. We know that death is part of the human condition. For someone like Jim in our story, very little time remains. There are some days when he longs for an end to the struggle. But even at those times he recognises the blessings of his life – above all, in the people who surround him with loving care. They are his strength and his consolation. With their support he waits, knowing that his life and death are in God's hands.



Each one of us wants to be treated in a way that recognises our worth and dignity as human beings. This worth does not lie in our accomplishment or our contribution to society. Our dignity lies in our origin and destiny. We come from God and return to God. We are created out of love and for love.

[Some say] euthanasia and assisted suicide . . . are private decisions that an individual should be able to make in a free society. But there is a balance that must be maintained between the rights of individuals and the good of society. Human freedom has limits. To kill another person, even out of a sense of compassion, or to assist someone in ending his or her life, is not a private matter. Such decisions affect medical caregivers, family members and friends, and indeed, the whole of society. Each death by euthanasia dims our vision of ourselves as a compassionate human family.

What would Jesus say about euthanasia in Canada? He would undoubtedly approve the Church's long tradition of providing hospitals, hospices and proper treatment and care for the sick and dying. He would approve . . . palliative care for those for whom cure is no longer possible. Jesus is close to those who alleviate pain, visit the sick and give home care. He himself was the healer par excellence. Nobody reading the gospel could question Jesus' compassion. The evidence of his concern is imprinted on every page. No person ever passed through history with such a healing touch. His every touch was a touch of compassion. It would be impossible to imagine Jesus deliberately ending a life. His mission was to make us whole, whether that be physical, emotional or spiritual. That same mission is entrusted to us his followers.

Jesus showed us how to live, how to suffer and how to die in the greatest dignity - a dignity he maintained in the most undignified of circumstances; nailed to a cross. He showed us that it is quite acceptable to ask that the "cup" of suffering be removed - and in the face of sure suffering to say "thy will be done". He had to deal with abandonment by his closest friends and accept help from a stranger, Simeon, to carry his cross; as we might have to do in hospital. In spite of this he kept praying for his friends, and providing for them the memories of love that they and we would need, to live our own lives with true dignity.

Jesus, who healed the sick, comforted the dying, reassured his friends and the criminal on the cross, would say no to euthanasia of any kind. When we as Christians reject euthanasia in Canada, we are speaking to protect the little ones, the weak, in our society. When we visit the sick, care for our aged, provide for the less able, accompany the dying with our prayers and our presence, we are loving as Jesus was and we can hope that on the last day he will welcome us by saying, "whatever you have done to these, the least of my brethren, you have done to me".

Let us pray: God of all goodness, you have entrusted us with the gift of life. Help us to appreciate that gift from the first moments of conception to the last breaths of old age. Send your strength to all those who defend the unborn, the weak, and the dying against attempts to cut short their lives. May your holy spirit touch the hearts of those who are tempted to choose the way of death rather than life. Grant that your people may always be a sign of your love in the world. We ask this prayer through Christ our lord.

Amen.

Rev. Hugh Gibson, Pastor. St. Alfred Church, St. Catharines, Ontario

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



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### PERSONALITY PAGE: Des Kennedy

Des Kennedy, the quintessential Knight; Des has been a member of our council for over 29 years. He was born in the Northern Irish town of Lurgan, County Armagh some 20 miles south of Belfast, and emigrated with his family to Canada in June 1979.

Des has held several offices on the executive of our council but has assiduously avoided personal edification in seeking election to the office of Grand Knight being devoted to service in more unassuming ways.

He has been either solely or jointly responsible over the years for the commencement of or the continued orchestration of the November and February breakfasts, the Turkey Draw, the St Patrick's Day Corn Beef and Cabbage event and many other fund raising events, was Chairman of the Centennial Committee which was responsible for the complete reorganising of our clubrooms and has contributed to the swelling of the coffers of council 1394 over many years.

For these efforts Des has been awarded for his voluntary contribution to our community and continues to be held in high esteem for his generous contribution to his council, his parish and the community.

Des has been an active member of the Parish of St Thomas Aquinas in St Catharines for over 30 years and his contribution has similarly helped the Parish in many ways. More recently he has, with the help of other members of our council and the ladies of the CWL, organized the Parish breakfasts which raises funds for the improvement of the parish church.

Des is married to his wife Isobel with whom he will celebrate 50 years of marriage on July 10<sup>th</sup> this year, 2015. He has a son who lives in Michigan, another son and a daughter who live with him in the family compound of three adjoining homes in Thorold together with 9 grandchildren. Now retired (2007) he spent his working life in Canada as a Leather Manufacturers rep, with his territory being all of Ontario.

Canvassing his peers to elicit a description of Des's talents in service to his council, it was unanimously expressed by most as follows: "Des can sell anything to anybody, even refrigerators to Eskimos"



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PROFILE: Peter Uko

Peter Uko has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2009. He has been part of the editorial team for the Vanguard newsletter since 2013. He joined the Knights of Columbus while attending St. Mary ' s University in Calgary Alberta. St. Mary ' s University is an independent Catholic liberal arts university. Peter earned a 4 year Bachelors degree in English Literature at St.Mary ' s University. Prior to moving to in Calgary 2006, Peter had lived in Ontario since 2000 and returned to Ontario in 2010. Born in Nigeria, Peter has lived in Canada for 15 years.



Peter is self employed: He is the sole proprietor of Kaizal Project Services, an Internet marketing business that provides consultancy and support services. Kaizal Project Services custom designs lead generating solutions for small businesses with Internet marketing challenges. Peter works in collaboration with clients to create and execute a solution for their businesses. Kaizal Project Services covers a number of web marketing streams including: Search Engine Optimization ( SEO ); Sponsored Search Advertising; Social Media Marketing; Mobile Marketing; Email Marketing; Content Marketing; Domain Names & Hosting; Advertising Networks; Web Design & Programming; Analytics.

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