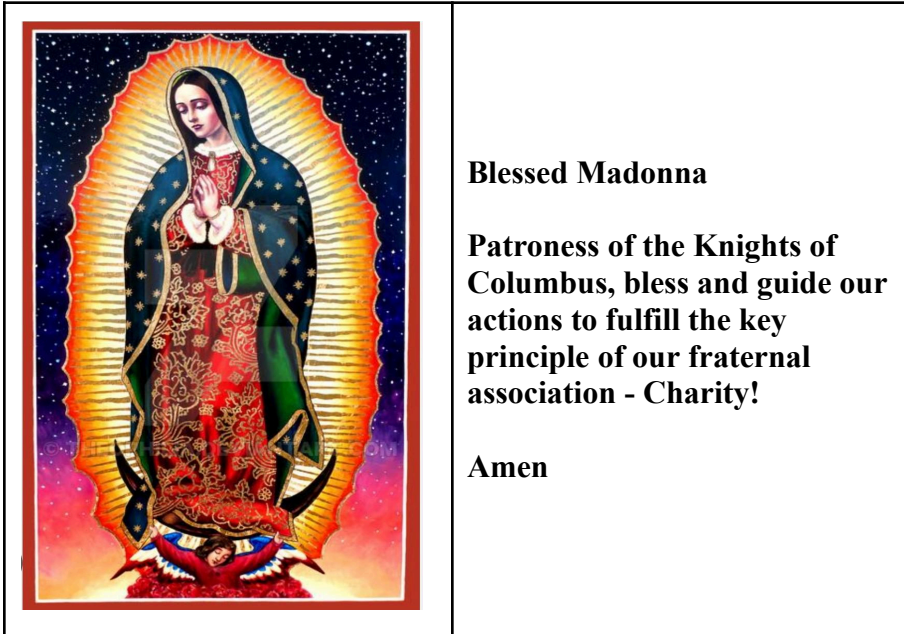




Knights of Columbus

St. George Council 10843

October 2024 Newsletter



Blessed Madonna

Patroness of the Knights of Columbus, bless and guide our actions to fulfill the key principle of our fraternal association - Charity!

Amen

Opening comment:

Recently I became our council's Communications Director - part of that job involves our periodical newsletter. What follows will hopefully provide news of interest to you - it will not be artistic!

*There is a lot to cover, so don't let the number of pages put you off! **Please take a few minutes to look it over.***

Comments and assistance are welcome - Bob Gallant KofC10843@gmail.com

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers, in this Council newsletter for October 2024, you will hear wisdom from our Chaplain, our Deputy Grand Knight, our Lecturer and Communications Director.

I will therefore keep my words simple and succinct.

First, a belated welcome back to our 2024/25 Fraternal Year, another busy year with the focus of supporting our Parish Team and bringing service to our Faith Community and to those who we know are "In Need", today, in so many ways.

I will again state my pride in being a member of this Council. My pride comes from the privilege of knowing you, your Faith, your integrity and your compassion for All our Brothers and Sisters, no matter their heritage nor their station in life - You Serve!

I pray that in this, my third year as G.K, that I can fulfill the role, following your example. I am a collector of quotes and with your indulgence, I will share with you a favourite.

"As we grow older, real beauty travels from the face to the heart, appeal turns to charm, hurt to wisdom and great moments to shared memories. The true beauty of life is not how happy you are now, but how happy others are because of you. (reference unknown)

Frank Galizia

Words from our Deputy Grand Knight

Welcome back to a new year of service, continuing the great work we do!

A reminder about the upcoming 3rd annual Boler Tubing Night event. Hoping everyone can come out and support this great evening, where we continue to build our community through a fun family activity. Date to be determined...

Remember as well that our annual Basketball Free Throw Competition will be coming up in the early new year. Hoping we have lots of Brothers attending such an awesome Knights event!

Please help us sell tickets for the Elimination Draw (buy off me not Wim 😊😊). Information coming soon.

Lastly, please join me in praying:

"Dear Father, thank you for making me a part of something that is living, dynamic, powerful, and eternal. Thank you for giving me special abilities and gifts to use in the Body of Christ. Please help me find and use my gifts and abilities for the good of your people and to glorify you. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

Chaplain's Message

Brother Knights,

When I served as Deputy Grand Knight for council 10436 in Chatham, our parish was going through a challenging time, with many upset at the pastor.

United as Knights of Columbus we made a firm commitment to make it our duty to support, defend and pray for our priests. These past few months, the priests and parish team has definitely experienced this same support from your council. I am very thankful for this, but I have another request. I need help with vocations work.

When I was in my twenties, I was wandering in my faith. It was the spiritual mentors among the Knights who helped bring me to the altar. If you meet a young man who you feel would make a good priest, invite him for a coffee and get him busy helping in your council. Like myself, that might be the turning point in his vocational path.

Vivat Jesus,

Father Rob Renaud
Associate Pastor, Springbank Catholic Family of Parishes

Lector's Message

Autumn; A Time of Reflection and Transition

Autumn, with its vibrant colors and crisp air, serves as a powerful testament to God's glory through the beauty and majesty displayed in the changing landscape. As the lush green of summer gives way to an array of reds, oranges, and yellows, it is a reminder of the wondrous creativity and artistry of the Divine Creator. The transformation of the trees symbolizes the cycle of life and death that is inherent in the natural world, showcasing the intricate design and order that God has woven into the fabric of the universe.

Moreover, autumn also serves as a season of reflection and introspection, a time when nature slows down and prepares for the coming winter months. In this period of transition, the earth seems to pause and take stock of all that has transpired throughout the year. This contemplative atmosphere encourages us to do the same, to reflect on our own lives and give thanks for the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. It is a time to acknowledge God's presence in our lives and marvel at the beauty and abundance that surrounds us.

Ultimately, autumn embodies God's glory in its ability to demonstrate both change and constancy, reflection and renewal. The season serves as a reminder that despite the fleeting nature of time and the changing of the seasons, God's presence remains steadfast and unchanging. Just as the autumn leaves fall to the ground and create a carpet of vibrant colors, so too does God's glory blanket the world in beauty and grace, inspiring awe and wonder in all who behold it.

Coats for Kids Campaign

Brothers,

Again this year, all Parishioners can donate to the Coats Campaign and receive a tax receipt by writing a cheque to St. George Church and note: St. George Knights Coats For Kids, throughout October and November. Please invite and share this information with friends, neighbours and fellow Parishioners.

An even more successful Springbank family of Parishes Golf Tournament

Thank you for all who supported this worthy cause in any way - the result was a donation of over \$10,000 from each parish to:

- Ark Aid Mission
- St. Joe's Cafe
- St. Vincent de Paul

all of whom are dedicated to help the marginalized in our London community.

Highlights:

- 144 golfers
- 103 donors, including hole sponsors and prize donations
- 50 passport prizes, 22 of which from sales at St.George, 15 from St.John, and 13 at the tournament.

Photos of the donations will include a number with whom you are familiar.

Harold Stewart

Lead volunteer - St. George

[See photos at end of newsletter](#)

Note of thanks from Brian Radcliffe - London Food Bank:

A number of you volunteered for the food drive at Metro a couple of weeks ago. A brief thank you follows:

*Your Council collected 381 bags of donated food product. The conversion rate (ah, inflation!) is now \$3.52 per pound of food. And we still use the ration of 11 lbs of food per bag. That would come to 4191 lbs, worth a total of **\$14,752.32** Congratulations on a job well done!*

Introducing Lorenzo Smith - recent addition to our Council

Scott Smith, who am I?

I like to be called Lorenzo, but it is okay to call me Scott. I was born in Ottawa in 1975, and at the age of one, my dad was transferred to Toronto, so off we went. "We" means my mom, dad and myself. At the age of three, my dad was transferred again, this time to Calgary where I lived with my parents until we moved to London, Ontario this August.

While in Calgary, I attended grades 1-12, then a special four year program at the University of Calgary. Growing up, my mom's father passed away when I was five so she used to tell me stories about him. She would tell me about how kind and thoughtful he was, that he was a very honest and generous man, that he was a member of the Knights of Columbus. She would mention that his brother, my Uncle Roy, was also a member of the Knights. I would go back east every summer to visit with relatives, including my Uncle Roy. Although I am told that my Uncle Roy had a completely different personality than my grandfather, they had similar qualities which I liked and wanted to be like.

I made up my mind that I too wanted to be a Knights of Columbus someday. My mom knowing about this desire and one day at Church, talked to a friend, Don, that was a Knight at our Church. She asked Don if it would ever be possible for me to become a Knight. He listed to her story as to why I wanted to be a Knight and said he would talk to his Brothers about this. Soon after, the Knights asked to meet with me. At that meeting, they asked me why I wanted to become a Knight and why I would make a good Knight. I guess I did okay with the answers because they soon asked me to join the Knights of Columbus at Corpus Christie Church in Calgary. Don was a big help to me while getting to be a 4th Degree Knight.

I am very proud to be a Knight of Columbus and honoured to be following in my Grandfather's footsteps.

Identifying Our Challenges and Taking Action

As we reflect on the founding principles of the Knights of Columbus, it's clear that our mission has always been to support families in need through **Charity****. However, the world has evolved significantly since our inception, and the need for charity is more pressing than ever.**

The Growing Need for Charity

Today, we face stark realities:

- Homelessness is rampant.
- Food bank usage has dramatically increased.
- Support for the mentally and physically disadvantaged is dwindling.

In response to these challenges, our council has stepped up. In the last fraternal year, we've donated over **\$30,000** to 15 charities and five community support activities. This year alone, we've already contributed over **\$11,000**, thanks in large part to **Brother Harold Stewart's** effort in successful fundraising for the golf tournament.

Where Our Funding Comes From

Our financial support stems from various initiatives:

- **Golf Tournaments:** Over \$8,000 last year; an impressive \$15,000 this year!
- **Elimination Draw Lottery:** Generated over \$7,000 last February.
- **Parish Breakfasts:** Proceeds typically support designated causes like Coats for Kids.
- **Garage Sales:** Proceeds shared with the Catholic Women's League.
- **Bottle Drives:** Held in spring and fall.

While these funds are significant, they only happen through your contributions, your participation, and community support. It's essential to recognize that our council organizes and manages these events.

Acknowledging Our Achievements

We should be proud of what we've accomplished. However, the demands on our resources are increasing. As our Trustees—**Brothers Gord de Val, John Nuvoloni, and Craig van Doren**—can attest, many requests for assistance cannot be met fully due to limited funds.

The Challenges We Face

1. **Communication:** We need to ensure that not only Knights but also our parish and community are aware of our efforts.
2. **Participation:** We struggle to staff our current activities effectively; a core group of fewer than 40 Knights often shoulders the burden.
3. **Membership:** While we have about 150 members, many are aging—only 15% are under 50 years old, and 35% are over 75!

What's the Plan?

Improving Communication:

- We've initiated discussions on relevant topics like estate planning and internet security, open to both members and the community.
- Regular announcements in parish bulletins will keep everyone informed about upcoming events.
- Utilize Flock Notes to share longer articles with parishioners.

Enhancing Participation:

- Consider sponsoring daycare during Mass to support families and increase visibility.
- Collaborate with the Catholic Women's League to establish a youth group at Springbank.
- Make Knights more visible in church activities by wearing distinctive attire at events.

Engaging Members:

- Organize monthly card games or investment discussion meetings for members interested in learning together.

We need to attract new members to help us meet our challenges.

CALL TO ACTION

I am committed to leading our communication efforts but welcome your suggestions and assistance! **Brother John Nuvoloni** is eager for help in organizing Knight-sponsored activities. **Deputy Grand Knight Jason Howlett** is collaborating with the CWL on youth initiatives and would appreciate support.

Our bottle drives have only scratched the surface of potential fundraising. With your creativity and leadership, we could significantly increase our contributions to local charities.

Let's harness the diverse talents and wisdom within our council. I encourage each Knight to step forward—share your skills and ideas. Remember, **“What you do for the least of Mine, you do for Me.”**

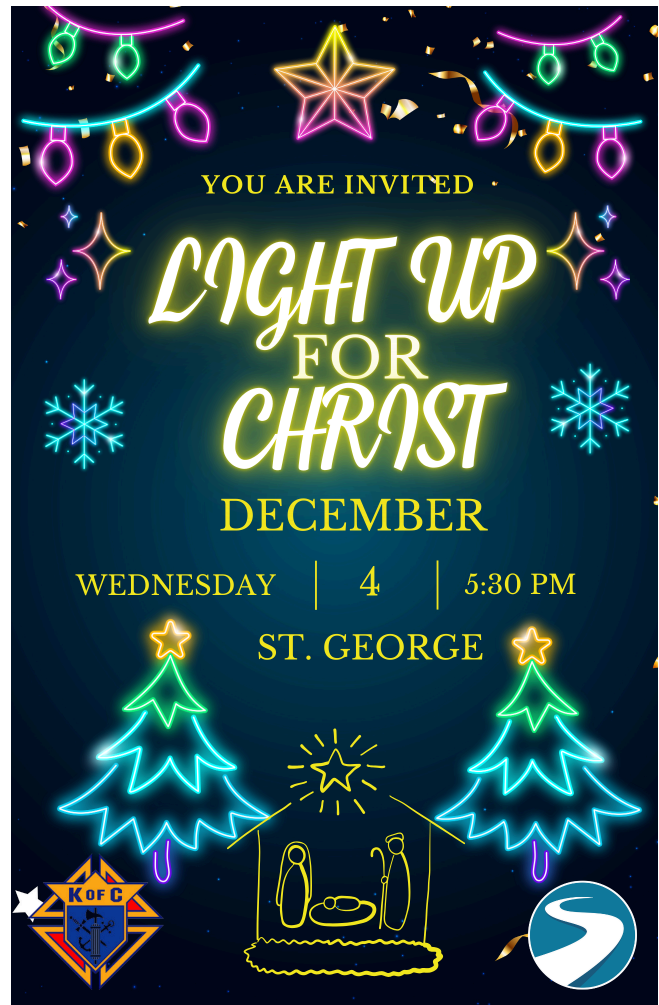
Together, we can strengthen our mission of charity and service.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this appeal!

Bob Gallant
519-473-6132

Happy Birthday Wishes to:

<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
Jonathan Wolfs Patrick M. Callaghan Jeremy J. Mahood John J. Nuvoloni Rev. John Jasica John A. Wolfs Paul F. Loreto Stephen Kedves David M. O'Brien Philip John Valiquette Jason Frolov Andre J. Lisowyk Peter J. Vanwiechen Michael V. O'Malley Larry D. Marks Gerald W. Cole Philip M. Schmidt Terence J. Lyng	Patrick L. Noonan Frank Galizia Robert N. DeRyk Dr. Terence J. D'Souza MD Lawrence T. Nuvoloni Paul J. Bushey Sandy Peter Massaro Robert G. Cashen John Joseph Soares Charlie Renaud Shaun F. Udovic Mathieu Rochon	Scott W. Smith Shawn Charles Ethier T. Brent Shea Michael J. Harasym Alex Masciotra Craig VanDoren Adrian Buttazzoni Christopher J. Udovic	Edward Divers Deacon Robert Hartman Manny E. Mariano John Michael Carter Vince J. Bonduro Hendrik Willem Schweer Luigi G. Candusso Vaughan B. Belisle Daniel A. Wybo Bradley J. Mahood Paul R. Hobin



HEY ! I NEED A SPACE FILLER...

Tip of the day:

Many of you are probably familiar with all the hype about Artificial Intelligence. You may have even used some of them, like chatGPT, Co-Pilot, and others.

For most of us, we use them as a "search engine on steroids"! I know I do, but sometimes apply them to do slightly more difficult tasks - for me that is.

A friend of mine recently recommended a program (or app) called Perplexity. I tried it and was pretty amazed with it. Why?

- It provides results, without ads, unlike Google, Yahoo or others.
- The answers are written out just as if a "person" was responding to your question.
- And, it also gives the sources from which it has drawn the information.
- Additionally, you also get a few potential follow-up questions you may use.

This is the free version - there is a paid version which I have not explored.

Give it a try - you will be pleasantly surprised!

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS ST. GEORGE KNIGHTS (10843)

2024-25 MONTH	Officer's Mtg. 7:00PM 2ND Tuesday	General MTG.7:30 PM 4Th Monday	Parish Breakfasts	Special Events
September '24 Labour day - 2ND	Install Officer's August 20TH **1ST Mtg Sept. 10TH	23RD	CWL Brunch - SERVE - 8TH	BOTTLEDRIVE ON 7TH 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM
October Thanksgiving-14TH	8TH	28TH	#1 Breakfast 27TH CLEAN Kitchen 24TH	7-11 Thanksgiving Food Drive 12-6:00 Newsletter??
November	12TH	25TH	#2 Breakfast 24TH	CHRISTMAS CARD Sales Nov/Dec TBD
December	10TH	Social w/ Spouses 5TH		LIGHT UP LIGHTS FOR CHRIST 4TH Newsletter TBD
January 2025	14TH	27TH	#3 Breakfast 26TH	Family Event @ Boler Council BB Freethrow (end of Jan.early Feb) ** MULTI CULTURAL EVENT Jan3RD or 10TH
February Valentine's 14TH Family Day 17TH	11TH	24TH	#4 Breakfast 23RD	Elimination Draw/Din/DJ Feb 8TH @ 7:00 PM
March Shrove Tuesday-4Th March Break 10-14	4Th (to avoid March Break)	24TH		St. Paddy's Day 17TH *** Party on 14TH
April Easter - 20TH	8TH	28Th	#5 Breakfast 27TH	Easter Food Drive 14-17 12:00-6:00 PM Newsletter TBD
May Victoria Day weekend - 19th Mother's Day - 11th	13TH	26TH	ROSE SUNDAY 11TH Baby/Infant Drive TBD Pasta Dinner TBD	CWL GARAGE SALE 10TH BOTTLE DRIVE - 24TH 9:30 am-2:00 pm
June	10TH	Social @ Legion on 26TH	#6 Breakfast on 1 ST Kitchen CLEAN UP 17th ??	Newsletter TBD
September 2025 Labour Day - 2ND			CWL Brunch 7TH	BOTTLE DRIVE - 6th

NOTE: August Golf Tournament with St. John Divine Council.

Please note these on your personal calendar!

PRESENTATION OF GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS
Springbank Catholic Family of Parishes



The golf tournament is a joint effort of both Springbank Catholic Family of Parishes: St. George and St. John the Divine.

Presentation to St. Joe's Cafe - top right

Ark Aid Mission donation - center

On your left - donation to St. Vincent de Paul

You will know a few faces!