



March 2021

## NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. LOUIS COUNCIL 3335



Our council has not met for an entire year because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet the knights remain active. Our parish and our council do everything possible to keep our people safe.....masking, social distancing, disinfecting, and of course prayer at the end of every Mass. Over 29 million people in the United States have contracted the virus, but thank God, a minimal number from our parish community. In the photo on the left, Sir Knight Matt Bokovitz fumigates St. Louis Church after the 10 am Mass, the last one of the day. In the choir loft in the right photo his wife, Lady Mary Ann streams the 10 am Mass every Sunday on Facebook for those who are more vulnerable to the Covid-19 virus. To access the streamed Mass on Facebook go to the parish website, [www.stlouiscatholicchurchgallia.org](http://www.stlouiscatholicchurchgallia.org) and click on the “F” symbol on the home page. Those who attend Mass on line can only make a Spiritual Communion. Let us pray that everyone gets vaccinated and we overcome the virus so that all of us will return when Sunday Mass becomes obligatory again (March 14 in Detroit and before long our diocese as well) and be able to receive the body and blood, soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sir Knight Keith Elliott, the City of Gallipolis Fire Chief, and his wife Lady Joy also work as a team to fumigate and clean the church on Sundays after the 10 am Mass. Brother Knights Chris Davison and Butch Leport disinfect after the 8 am Mass. Trudy Miller, our beautiful custodian, does it every weekday morning and Saturday after the 5:30 pm Mass except Sunday and Wednesday.

Through this pandemic our council continues to publish its monthly newsletter with the help of Lady Mary Ann and the parish. Please submit any news or commentaries to [paulrsebastian@yahoo.com](mailto:paulrsebastian@yahoo.com). Your feedback and suggestions for improvement are greatly appreciated. Recently, brother knight Josh Davison and his professional landscaping crew did considerable work on our cemetery. During Advent brother knight Mike Ours and his beautiful family again took charge of the Giving Tree. His family has been doing that for years now. They find out the needs of certain poor children and place a written need of each child on the Giving Tree. Then members of the parish choose one of the tags on the tree and provide the designated gift. This makes for a most satisfying Christmas for both recipient and donor. Thanks to all for their participation in the above services and activities.

**Four Year Knights of Columbus Scholarships to KofC members and their children**, who will be entering a Catholic college next Fall as freshmen. The amount is \$1,500 per year (total \$6,000). Write [jean.graney@kofc.org](mailto:jean.graney@kofc.org) for an application. Usually they award about 20 scholarships; the deadline is March 1.

# Supreme Knight Carl Anderson Receives Pro-Life Legacy Award

(For the complete text go to <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/communications/rose-dinner-remarks.pdf>)

At the virtual 2021 Rose Dinner pro-life gala on January 29, the evening of the virtual march for life, Carl Anderson was recognized for “a lifetime of exceptional work advocating for the inherent dignity of the unborn human person”.

Interesting is the talk he gave upon receiving the award. At the beginning he paid tribute to Nellie Gray, the founder of the March For Life and Congressman Henry Hyde of Illinois, a tireless fighter for the pro-life cause and proponent of the 1976 Hyde Amendment which prohibits any federal spending on abortion except in the case of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother. Currently, there is great fear that the new administration and Congress will repeal it. Anderson wrote two best selling books: “*A Civilization of Love: What Every Catholic Can Do to Transform the World*” and his most recent “*These Liberties We Hold Sacred*” on faithful citizenship, a collection of his speeches and essays on the confluence of faith and public life.

Anderson referred to St. John Paul II’s encyclical, “*Evangelium Vitae*” (*Gospel of Life*) and quoted the great Russian novelist, Fyodor Dostoyevsky: “If one begins with unlimited freedom, one will end up with unlimited despotism”. He also referred to the opinion of Dr. John Hart Feley of the Yale Law School that Roe v Wade is not constitutional law. Supreme Court Justice Byron White stated that Roe v Wade is “an exercise in raw judicial power” and is not settled law. One cannot judge the current by one moment in time, but over time the trend is pro-life. The Supreme Knight enumerated four principles of the Pro-Life cause.

**Commitment to Justice.** It is always wrong to kill a human being. If the Government sanctions abortion, it can sanction anything. Society tends to treat the baby, who is too young to exercise certain rights, as though s/he has no rights at all. Every human being has certain rights; the most basic of all is the right to life. However, the judges ruled that the right to privacy is implied by the Constitution and thus includes abortion in its shadow. Then a legal metaphor becomes legal reality. The framers of the Constitution protected us against non-enumerated rights which can be manipulated. The Supreme Court in 1973 said that it did not need to determine when life begins, but then assumed it begins at birth. It did not recognize the reality that life begins in the womb. Then justice is impossible and the rights of the parties cannot be determined.

**Government institutions must tell us the truth.** Untruth disrespects women. Segregation and its “Separate but equal” philosophy was considered “settled law”, but failed the test of time because it is a lie. The truth is that the fetus is a human being. Even though the so called “right to abortion” has been “settled law” for years, no unjust law is sustainable and will also fail.

**Commitment to Democracy.** That is peaceful petition and assembly. The legislative and judicial branches ultimately do what is right, but the majority does not decide what is right.

**Compassion, Love, and Generosity,** i.e., family solidarity.....to treat the stranger more like a neighbor, and neighbor more like family when in need. The hallmark is care for neighbor. As Orestes Brownson said, “Every great nation has its “special work, mission or destiny”. The Russian Theologian Vladimir Solovyov noted: “A nation is not what it thinks of itself in time, but what God thinks in eternity. Our pro-life journey is often slow, but will lead to victory.

**The Knights continue to sponsor and lead the rosary 25 to 30 minutes before the Masses of the first Saturday and first Sunday of the month. For March it's Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup>.** Make a sacrifice and come a little earlier. For those who are not attending Mass because of vulnerability to Covid, the rosary is streamed along with the 10 am Mass. We are offering the rosary for the conversion of sinners, peace, for the pro-life movement, for the renewal of our parish, for the strengthening of families, for an end to the COVID-19 Pandemic, for our Country, and for personal intentions.

**Men's Conference Cancelled in 2021 Because of Covid-19.** However, the Steering Committee is planning for the next one on March 19, 2022. The committee encourages the men to substitute other spiritual activities for a fruitful Lent. The Men's Conference Blog at <http://diosteubmen.blogspot.com> has many articles written by past speakers as well as summaries of past talks. In addition EWTN on cable and internet ([www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)) has special programming for Lent, Mass, rosary, the Chaplet for Divine Mercy, news, talk shows, papal events, and special programs for men, women, and children. See [www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule](http://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule).

**The Knights of Columbus Life Insurance**, top rated for financial security among all insurance companies, is your best buy to protect your family against the unforeseen and save for the future. Call Michael Williams, your local field agent, at 614-452-0492 or send him an e-mail at [michael.williams@kofc.org](mailto:michael.williams@kofc.org). He would be happy to assist you regarding your insurance needs. He loves his job and is anxious to serve his fellow knights and their families.

## **Video of 2020 Knights of Columbus Accomplishments.**

Supreme put out a great video reviewing what the Knights of Columbus did over a tough year, 2020. Watch it at <http://kofc.org/en//index.html> or go to the website at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org).