



St. Michael's Message



Official Publication of Knights of Columbus
St. Michael the Archangel
Assembly 3410

St. Lawrence Catholic Church and St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church

Newsletter Date

February 2024

Assembly Event Summary

by Faithful Navigator

2024 is already underway and a new year usually means looking and planning ahead. We are already into Ordinary Time. LENT ... FISH FRYS...EASTER ... are on the horizon already for our Councils and Assemblies as we support our Pastors. One of the major issues facing many of our Parish families, and some Knight's families, is the EDUCATION of our young children, our teens, our young adults. Recently our Fourth Degree District Master gave us guidance on supporting Catholic Education by utilizing the GRACE SCHOLARSHIPS here in Georgia and the TAX Benefits available. YES ... I think most of us realize that what is absolutely an important factor for our Catholic Faith community is not just education ...but a CATHOLIC EDUCATION. Most of my age group had the benefit of Parish Schools for learning about our Faith. Usually not as available now as in those days. Learning about our FAITH as we grew up was often vital to what we do, and how we comport ourselves today. We want those same benefits for our children and the children in our Parish. This issue is dedicated to providing a few answers to assist in that forward planning for families. I hope it helps them as they set their course for their Pre-Ks to K-12 ... with maybe the GRACE SCHOLARSHIP program. Maybe, one of the many Knights of Columbus undergraduate scholarships if you're a KofC family. We pledge ourselves to the principles of our Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. As such we should outreach to any of our Parish young military families and make sure they know what scholarships are available to them and their children. Dreamers in our Parish need to know about available scholarships. So, buckle up as we take a look at some of what's available.



Knights of Columbus to save the Papal Baldacchino of St Peter's Basilica

The Vatican announced that the soaring baldacchino over the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini 400 years ago will undergo an ambitious restoration and conservation project, expected to be completed just before the start of the Catholic Church's jubilee year in December 2025. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, the head of the Knights of Columbus, was in Rome on Jan. 11 to announce the (about \$768,000) restoration in the basilica, calling the project "one of the greatest restorations" of the many that the Knights have funded at the Vatican in the past 40 years.

Pope Urban VIII commissioned Bernini in 1624 to design and build the enormous canopy over the Papal Altar of the Confession, located directly over the tomb of St. Peter the Apostle.



Bernini's baldacchino at the papal Mass on Jan. 1, 2024. | Credit: Vatican Media

Next Assembly Meeting

Next Assembly Meeting Will Be At 7pm, Thursday February 15, 2024
At St. Matthew Catholic Church, Education Building Rooms 1-2 ,
25 Wilkins Rd SW, Winder, GA 30680

KofC UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Awards Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria, John W. McDevitt, about \$ 1.5 MILLION of endowed Scholarships annually.

In many cases, eligible recipients are Knights themselves or Columbian Squires. Their wife, sons, daughters, also widows and children of members that died in good standing. For Attendance at Catholic universities or Catholic colleges in the US, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, or the Philippines. Examples: John W. McDevitt Scholarships ... 22 new scholarships, 78 renewed in the US.

Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarships (17 new, 32 renew US / 8 new, 33 renew Canada.

Percy J. Johnson Scholarship ... 4 new, 18 renewed for US Catholic Universities.

Frank L Goularte Scholarship ... (need based) 2 new, 6 renewed for the current academic year.

Anthony J LaBella Scholarship ... 3 new undergraduate scholarships

Dr Arthur F Battista Scholarship ... (+ grandchildren) Canadian council 12 new, 4 renew.

Sister Thea Bowman Foundation (Afro-American religious) ... 2 new Afro-American students (these are 4-year grants at \$25,000 per year)

GRADUATE Fellowships ... 6 new for Catholic University of America, and 2 more new for specific studies at the Pontifical John Paul II Institute

MORE Scholarships awarded ... Puerto Rico / 12 new, 24 renew Philippines / Mexico 7 new, 13 renewed.

Francis P Matthews and John E Swift Trust ... for children of members killed or permently disabled by hostile action in armed forces, or as full-time LEOs, or Fire Fighters. (Applications within 2 years of death)

Information about the many KofC Scholarship Programs visit kofc.org/scholarships



NOT JUST FOR EMERGENCYS / BUT ALSO SCHOLARSHIPS

What about Knights of a PATRIOTIC ASSEMBLY seeking to assist a current ARMY SPOUSE in one of their Parishes. The Mrs. Patty Shinseki Spouse Scholarship Program is a "need based" scholarship program established to assist ARMY spouses in obtaining an Undergraduate degree or similar professional certification. Almost every Parish bulletin lists current ACTIVE MILITARY YOUNG FAMILIES. AER (ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF SERVICES) can provide scholarship services for our military spouses and children in our Parishes. ACTIVE duty, deceased active duty, retired, deceased retired, medically retired, "grey area" retiree, ACTIVE Guard or Reserve under Title 10 orders. (\$ 13 MILLION in just 2022-23 Scholarships). Some of the amazing scholarships include the "Top 8" ... for Female Service members, a "Top 10" ... for African American students, a "Top 12" ... for Women in

STEM (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics).

<https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/>

ARMY : <https://www.nmcra.org/our-services/scholarships>

NAVY & MARINES : <https://afas.org/air-force-scholarships/>

AIR FORCE:

<https://coastguardfoundation.org/scholarships>

COAST GUARD



GRACE (Georgia Residents Assisting Children's Education)

What Is GRACE (Georgia Residents Assisting Children's Education) ... the State of Georgia passed the Private School Education Tax Credit allowing up to a limit of \$150 million of annual tax money to be used for **PRIVATE** pre-K to 12th-grade education using Student Scholarship Organizations (SSO) in Georgia.

Georgia taxpayers can contribute to GRACE in exchange for a 100% (one-for-one) tax credit. The donations collected become scholarships for students with financial need. GRACE supports participating schools (SSOs) in the **Archdiocese of Atlanta**. **St. John Neumann Regional School**, Lilburn is a participating Catholic SSO. You can also designate the general Economically Disadvantaged Family Fund (EDFF) serving the poorest of our Archdiocese families based on need.



Am I eligible for a "tax credit?" Any Georgia taxpayer can participate:

- Married, filing jointly - lesser of tax liability or \$5,000 (filing separately \$2,500)
- Individuals or Head of Household - lesser of tax liability or \$2,500

- Pass through entities (S Corp, LLCs, partnerships) - up to \$25,000 of the taxpayer's tax liability from pass-through entities selected by the taxpayer. The tax credit is 5.75% of the taxpayer's Georgia estimated income from pass-through entities.
- C corporations and fiduciaries or pass-through business making HB 149 election – up to 75% of estimated state income tax liability, not to exceed \$1 Million

How can I contribute? The first step is to register for the tax credit at www.gracescholars.org SELECT St John Neumann (or another) as your designated (SSO) school. GRACE will submit your registration to the Department of Revenue for approval. **Upon approval, the DOR will send you a confirmation letter** through the U.S. Mail with details on payment.

Many SSOs then use FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment Service to process financial aid applications. The web address for the online application <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid> (Spanish and English). For questions contact FACTS at 1.866.315.9262 or email help@factstuitionaid.com Tuition Assistance Applications are due by March 1, 2024.

You can also designate your contribution to the Board Choice (BC) fund or the Economically Disadvantaged Family Fund (EDFF), which serves the poorest of GRACE's families and students. BC and EDFF funds are allocated to our CATHOLIC schools by the GRACE Board of Directors.

DON'T MISS YOUR TAX CREDIT ...START EARLY .. USUALLY CLOSED BY 1 JANUARY

PLEASE NOTE: Registration for the 2023 Tax Credit is now closed. Registration for 2024 opened on July 1, 2023. Please visit www.gracescholars.org for more information. Register early so you do not miss out on this tax credit opportunity.



TheDream.US - Building the American Dream One Graduate at a Time.

What about the possibility that one of our BROTHER KNIGHTS (Caballeros de Colon) has a highly motivated student in their family that is still in undocumented status? and unable to afford the college costs. They may have NO ACCESS to Federal Aid, limited access to State Aid, or sometimes face Out-Of-State Tuition costs. THEDREAM.US is the largest college and career success program for undocumented immigrant youth. Over 10,000 college scholarships to DREAMERS attending 80 partner colleges. Students with or without DACA or TPS who came to the U.S. before the age of 16 and before Nov. 1, 2018. The National Scholarship Award will cover your tuition and fees at one of the Partner Colleges up to a maximum of \$33,000 for a bachelor's degree. This year's process closes on February 29th. The Partner Colleges listing is over-weighted towards Catholic Universities.

St Lawrence Council 13052 Update

by SK Nelson Rivera

St. Lawrence Youth Group attended a Confirmation Retreat – Seven Gifts, in preparation for their Confirmation this summer. 130 youths, along with their Ministry Leaders & chaperones, attended the 3-day celebration at Covecrest in Tiger Georgia. Braving the cold weather and brief power loss, we ended our trip with an evening of Adoration in the Chapel at the facility. We were joined by Deacon Rick Hogan and our Seminarian, Jacob Butz, who shared their stories and reflection to our group.



Our Council is preparing for our Annual Lenten Fish Fry. Raffle grand prize is a Biltmore Estates Deluxe Weekend Getaway. First event will be held on Friday, February 16th.

*St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus
Annual Lenten Fish Fry
Every Friday During Lent
5:30PM – 8:00PM in the Gym
Raffle - Weekend to Biltmore Estates
or Cash Option!
Kids Prizes – Drawing Each week!*



TAKE OUT

Lenten Fridays

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
3:00PM & 6:30 PM
VIA CRUCIS
7:30 PM



FISH FRY
5:30-8:00 P.M.



EAT-IN
TAKE-OUT

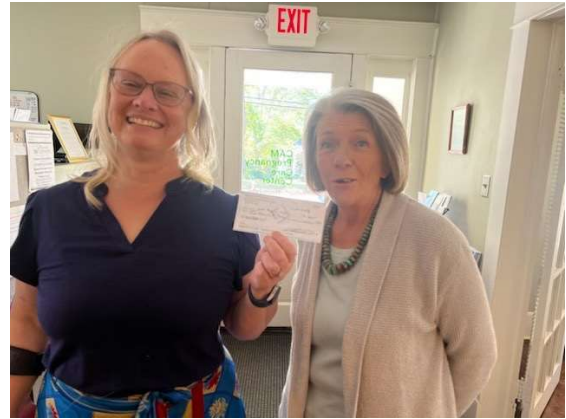
Family Promise Week – One of our Outreach Ministries at St. Lawrence is Family Promise – a program for helping homeless children were families get shelter and food as they work to transition back to self-sufficiency. Our parish will host the home from January 21-27 at the Family Promise Haven on Moon Road in Lawrenceville

St Matthews Council 13229 Update

by SK Mike Miller

Saint Matthews Council 13229 brief summary of what the council has been doing:

- Support for Pro-Life Billboard on Highway 78 going toward UGA.
- Donation to Wreaths Across America
- Getting ready for Lent Fridays Fish Fry
- Named Knight of the Year and Family of the Year for 2023
- Donation to the local pregnancy support center



March For Life Event

A promotional poster for the Georgia March For Life event. The left side is white with red and purple text. The right side is a purple-tinted photograph of a crowd at a rally with various signs. The text on the poster includes:

GEORGIA MARCH FOR LIFE

WHEN THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2024

WHERE ATLANTA, GA LIBERTY PLAZA

SCHEDULE
10:00 A.M. RALLY
11:00 A.M. MARCH

SAVE THE DATE
ATLANTA
FEBRUARY 22, 2024

marchforlife.org/georgia

Logos for 'MARCH FOR LIFE' and 'GLA GEORGIA LIFE ALLIANCE' are at the bottom left. A 'RSVP' button is at the top right of the photo area.

Prayer Intention for the Lord's Grace and Protection

- DD10 Ken Boone Wishing for a speedy recovery
- For the repose of the soul of our Assembly member SK Armand Cote
- For the repose of the soul of Council 13052 member Chase Simpson

Calendar of Up Coming Color Corps Calls to Service

- 4th Degree Exemplification on Saturday -2/24/24 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 3401 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta GA 30068

Announcement's

St. Lawrence is havin their Fish Fry on Friday February 16 through March 22, 2024

Pot of Gold Raffle

The assembly will conduct a 'Pot of Gold' raffle at each meeting. The cost to participate is \$1. Following are the rules:

- Potential winners name will be picked from the 50 plus assembly members.
- Winner must have participated in the raffle and be present at the meeting.
- In the event a non-present member or a non-participating member's name is selected, the prize will roll over to the next meeting until an eligible member is picked.
- Assembly splits the prize with the winner

Member's Name DRAWN for September was SK Kenneth Lucier, Kenneth was NOT present so the POT CONTINUES TO GROW

UPCOMING FEASTS AND MEMORIALS

- | | | | |
|---|------|---|---|
| • | 2-2 | Presentation of the Lord | F |
| • | 2-3 | St. Blaze, Martyr, Bishop | |
| • | 2-5 | St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr | M |
| • | 2-6 | Paul Miki and Companions | M |
| • | 2-8 | St. Jerome Emiliani | |
| • | 2-10 | St. Scholastica, Virgin | M |
| • | 2-11 | Our Lady of Lourdes | |
| • | 2-14 | St. Cyril and St. Methodius | M |
| • | 2-17 | Seven Founders of the Order of Servites | |
| • | 2-18 | FIRST SUNDAY of LENT | |
| • | 2-21 | St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor | |
| • | 2-22 | Chair of Peter, Apostle | F |
| • | 2-23 | Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr | M |
| • | 2-25 | SECOND SUNDAY of LENT | |

4th Degree Exemplification**SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

HOSTED BY: Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly 2161, Marietta Georgia
 Located at Holy Family Catholic Church, 3401 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta GA 30068

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00 – 11:00, Registration

11:00 – 12:30 pm, Exemplification

12:30 – 1:30, Lunch

Near Future 4th Degree exemplifications:

- April 20, 2024 in Albany, Ga
- June 8, 2024 in Norcross, Ga

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATE*** Candidate fee to participate is \$90.00**

- * This includes: Social Baldric
- * 4th Degree Membership Pin
- * Certificate suitable for framing

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: St Michael the Archangel ASM 3410
COMPLETED FORM 4 AND ALL FUNDS MUST BE RECEIVED

NO LATER THAN SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11**QUESTIONS: Contact SK Mark Winsor 770.634.3966****Dress Code: Candidates as described below:**

Dark Blue, Grey or Black business suit (Slacks and sport coats are not acceptable), white dress shirt with lay down collar (no collar buttons); tie; dark socks; and dress shoes.

Assembly Information

Faithful Navigator: SK Ralph Staunton, Faithful Captain: SK Mike Miller, Faithful Friar: Rev Henry Atem, Faithful Comptroller: SK Mark Winsor, Faithful Pilot: SK Paolo Palmas, Faithful Purser: SK Desmond Donlin, Faithful Admiral: SK Nelson Rivera, Faithful Scribe: SK Joe Perez, Inner Sentinel: SK Ken Dalton, Outer Sentinel: SK Ken Jacobi, One Year Trustee: Dcn Edward Wilson, Two Year Trustee: SK Dan Dant, Three Year Trustee: SK Anthony Annarelli, Color Corp Commander: Todd Morrow