

January 2026

The Knightly News



**Knights of Columbus
Father Hugh MacKinnon Council 8192
Elmira, Ontario**

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Jan. Meeting Date: Thursday, Jan 8, 2026. *(note the change due to New Year's day)*
Feb. Meeting Date: Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.
Meeting Location: Internet Microsoft Team Meeting
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING

Jan. Meeting Date: Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026.
Meeting Location: St. Teresa Parish Hall.
Meeting Time: 6:30 PM dinner and fellowship, General Meeting 7:30 PM.

If you need a ride, please call an executive member.

Grand Knight's Message

Brothers: I hope everyone had a blessed and holy Christmas season with family and friends and I want to wish everyone health and prosperity in 2026. With another calendar year ended, we point our efforts towards next year. If you are able to assist, we are about to embark on a busy spring with such upcoming events as a spaghetti dinner, Lenten fish fry and, of course, the Elmira Maple Syrup Festival, all happening before the middle of April. I look forward to working with you at these events as we continue to support our Knights of Columbus charities.

Rick Weishar
Grand Knight - Elmira / St. Clements
Fr. Hugh MacKinnon Council 8192

December Pot of Gold

\$82.50 – Geoff Kelly– not present

January Pot of Gold **\$108.50** You have to be present to win.

December 50/50 Winners

1st @ \$12.00 – Al Vodicka

2nd @ \$8.00 – Lee Fortney

3rd @ \$6.00 – Barry Lehmann

Knight of the Year

Brother Ray Denomme



At our December general meeting, Deputy Grand Knight Mike had the pleasure of presenting the Knight of the Year Award for 2025 to Br. Ray. Over the past year, Br. Ray has been a steadfast supporter of our Council, not only participating in the majority of our events but also serving as chairman for many of them. His leadership and dedication were evident in initiatives such as Roses for Life, Angel Tree, Soccer Treat Sales, the Woolwich Food Fund Drive, and our recent Christmas Party. A truly well-deserved honour! Congratulations, Br. Ray!



Tom Fahey

Brother Tom is now in his 28th year as a Council member. He has devoted many years to civic engagement, arts advocacy, and community service. In 2014, he served as Secretary of the Bio-en Community Liaison Committee, helping to inform the public on environmental initiatives. The following year, in full Scottish regalia, he participated as a 'Scotch Master' at a Community Care Concepts fundraiser, presenting his prized scotch in support of local care programs.

2017 was a particularly active year for Tom. He was a member of the Parish Finance Team that developed a fair and sustainable budget to support a Syrian refugee family, while also providing guidance on monthly budgeting and banking. That same year, he served as Treasurer of the Western Ontario Drama League, managing finances for the Regional Theatre Organization and supporting its mission to promote the dramatic arts.

In 2023, Tom continued his involvement with the league as a volunteer host, helping to organize and present the regional theatre festival at the Elmira Theatre Company. He has also contributed to parish life through his service as a Commentator and Lector.

Thank you, Tom, for your many areas of service!



Order Your Council Badges Today!

We're collecting badge orders now—deadline is January 15th at our meeting.

Final prices (tax + shipping included):

- Ladies' badge with pin: \$8.75
- Ladies' badge with magnet: \$11.75
- Men's badge with magnet: \$16.00

Council will cover any small extra shipping costs if needed. How to order:

Contact Brothers Tony or Mike at a meeting, by phone, or by email.

Don't miss out—show your Council pride with a new badge!



At our annual Christmas Dinner, Brothers Mike Noël and Barry Lehmann were awarded Honourary Member Status having reached age 65 and been members for 30 and 41 years respectively. Also awarded the same status were members Rob Shantz, Gord Dunn and Mike Snelling who were unable to attend.

Keep Christ in Christmas Winners

Our Council promotes the real meaning of Christmas by sponsoring a "Keep Christ in Christmas drawing submission. The contest is open to children attending St Teresa Catholic School. The grand prize winners receive recognition. Eight submissions are selected; two become the images on St Teresa Church Christmas cards for next year. The other six winners' submissions become the images on Christmas greeting cards that will be on sale at the school and church for Christmas 2026 as a fundraiser for our Council's charities and the school's use.

We present the grand prize winners (which you will see next Christmas as the St Teresa of Avila Church Christmas cards:



by Macy J, grade 5



by Matilda M-M, grade 5

Chalice is a Canadian, Catholic sponsorship organization dedicated to supporting vulnerable children in developing countries to complete their education.

More than a year ago, Council 8192 made a commitment to sponsor a boy in Kenya. We pay a nominal amount of money once a year so that Sabbath is financially supported in his life, education etc.

The Chalice program has also made accommodations for sponsors to email their letters, which will then be forwarded to their sponsored child. In this newsletter is the letter our Council sent in advance of Sabbath's birthday and Christmas as well as the annual letter he sends to our Council.



Dear Sabbath,

Hello from Canada! We are nearing the end of October, the leaves here have turned beautiful shades of red, orange, and yellow. Fall is in full swing, and the air is getting colder each day. Soon, we'll see snow covering the ground like a big white blanket up to one metre deep!

We wanted to wish you a very happy 11th birthday on December 12th! We hope your special day is filled with joy, laughter, and love. We also want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. May this season and the coming year bring you peace and happiness.

Our Knights of Columbus council has sent you a couple of small gifts—we hope they arrive in time and bring a smile to your face.

Keep up the good work you are doing in school. We're thinking of you and sending warm wishes across the miles.

With kindness and care,

Your friends at the Knights of Columbus Council #8192



BAK2142
 Sabbath Tejeu Kiua
 4156309
 Knights of Columbus #8192

Country	Kenya
Site	Baraka CCL

Name: Sabbath Tejeu

Beneficiary Code: BAK 2142

Sponsor Name: Knights of Columbus #8192

Sponsor ID: 4156309

Dear Knight of Columbus,
 Hello how are you? I hope you are doing well,
 I am also fine together with my parents and my
 siblings here in Kenya. I am also doing well in school
 last year I did my grade five assessment and I
 was able to upgrade to grade six.
 I am working very hard in school to achieve my
 dream of becoming a teacher. I believe that
 I will achieve this dream through your support
 and my hard work and determination.
 I wish you all the best in life and may God
 bless you for the support to me. Say hello to
 your family
 yours loving child Sabbath Tejeu

Author: Sabbath Tejeu

Translator: _____

Year: 2025

Letter Type	
Thank You Letter (TYL)	
Other Letter (OTH)	
Annual Letter (ASU)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Farewell Letter	
Grant Thank You letter (TYG)	

And the other winning submissions (which will become the Christmas cards found in the box sets for sale next Christmas season):



by Asher S, grade 4



by Caelen F, grade 5



by Jackson S, grade 4



by Maddie J-P, grade 4



By Fola A, grade 5



by Scarlett S, grade 6



A KNIGHT before Christmas On Dec. 9th, we were blessed to welcome Anthony Vollmer into the Knights of Columbus as we entered into the Christmas season. Brother Anthony is seen here standing beside his mother, Donna, flanked by S.K. Mike Szabo, Regional Membership Chairman for Ontario, and G.K. Rick.

Anniversaries in January



Birthdays

- 1 – Deacon Basis Markides
- 10 - Father Ray Reitzel
- 17 - Joe Gleason
- 27 - Steve Pond



Birthdays in January

Anniversaries

- 4 - Ray and Mary Mercey
- 10 - Steve and Lorela Anota Schill
- 12 – Scott and Audrey Stemmler



Knight of the Month October, 2025 Brother Adriano Stradiotto

In rising above his challenges, Brother Adriano exemplifies the spirit of true Knighthood through his unwavering courage, steadfast presence, and wholehearted dedication.

Beyond simply attending meetings, Adriano has generously volunteered at several recent Council events, most notably the fish fry and our food fund drive. Thank you for your outstanding efforts, Adriano. Your strength and commitment uplift us all.



Knight of the Month November, 2025 Father Peter Meyer

At our December meeting, Deputy Grand Knight Mike had the honour of presenting the Knight of the Month Award for November to our chaplain and pastor, Fr. Peter. In addition to his spiritual guidance, Fr. Peter has been a steadfast supporter of the Knights, regularly promoting our Council and its many events at the weekend Masses.

As we begin 2026, ...

“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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If you have a business, we invite you to email your business card to our editor, John Bruder, (bruderjr@yahoo.ca) for inclusion in *The Knightly News*. There is no charge for this.

Executive 2025-2026 (effective July 1, 2025)

Chaplain	Father Peter Meyer	519-221-0371
Grand Knight	Rick Weishar	519-577-5928
Past Grand Knight	Al Vodicka	519-654-3379
Deputy Grand Knight	Mike Noël	519-210-0723
Chancellor	Adrian Miltenburg	519-669-1414
Financial Secretary	Tony Vorstenbosch	519-669-8802
Recorder	Barry Lehmann	519-501-5056
Warden	Steve Pond	519-669-1941
Treasurer	Lee Fortney	519-837-5961
Lecturer		to be appointed
Trustees (3 year)	Phil McKee	519-588-2901
(2 year)	Tom Miller	519-699-4332
(1 year)	Kim Kinat	519-400-4102
Advocate	Paul Shutsa	519-574-0485
Inside Guard	Ed Kieswetter	519-669-5392
	Ray Denomme	519-669-3854
Outside Guard	Deacon Basil Markides	226-339-7912

Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, Jan. 8, Executive Meeting online (Microsoft Teams).

Thursday, Jan. 15, General Meeting, St. Teresa Parish Hall

Spaghetti Dinner – date to be determined.

Lenten Fish Fry – date to be determined.

April 11, 2026, Elmira Maple Syrup Festival.

Follow our Council on Facebook. Search Knights of Columbus, Council 8192.

May God's grace shine upon you in 2026.

Paper copies of this bulletin are available in the pamphlet/information stand outside the cloakroom at St. Teresa of Avila Church.