

Knight of Columbus

Mon-Valley Chapter 2017 Annual Report



President's Message

The Mon-Valley Chapter is part of the Western Section along with the Beaver, Greensburg, and Pittsburgh Chapters. As a proud member of the Western Section, we are honored to participate in all of the Knights of Columbus projects that make our order so necessary. On behalf of the Mon Valley Chapter, I want to thank our State Deputy Charlie Vagnerilli, and all of the state officers for doing a great job. I would also like to express our appreciation to all of the state chairmen and directors. Thank them all for their hard work and dedication to keep the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania of the Knights of Columbus moving forward. A chapter is only as strong and active as its councils. That said, the Mon Valley chapter is as strong as any in our state. In the Fraternal Year of 2015-2016 of the 15 councils within the chapter; 12 of those earned an award from Supreme; We had a double Star, 2 other councils earned Star, 9 earned the Columbian award; with three of those 9 also earning the McGivney award. In addition we had a council earn 3 Supreme awards from the state for Church, Council, and Family. We had a council earn the state award from division three for Church. We also had a council earn a state membership award for highest net gain in division three. Later in this report you will read some of the activities and achievements of the individual councils. It is under the leadership of our Chapter officers and three dedicated District Deputies; that the chapter continues to move forward on Our journey to Columbiansism. We would also like to thank our Chaplain Father Pierre "Bud" Falkenhan for spiritual guidance. I would like to extend our best wishes to all of the councils and their delegates for a successful convention and a blessed and prosperous fraternal year to come. In closing, the Mon Valley chapter is committed to carrying on the tradition of Columbianism inherited from past leadership. May Father Michael J. McGivney guide us in all that we do.

Vivat Jesus,

Ken Santoro

President Mon Valley Chapter

Chapter Officers

Chaplain..... Father Pierre “Bud” Falkenhan

President..... Ken Santoro

Vice President..... David A. Roessler II

Secretary..... Bob Gorman

Treasurer..... Frank Kovscek

District Deputies and the councils

District 109 Adrian Gordon

3291 Canonsburg ** Mem

5826 Bentleyville C Church

3440 Burgettstown

13421 Holy rosary, Muse C/M

District 110 Frank Kovscek

954 Monessen C

956 Fr. William D. Fries, Charleroi C

1941 Archbishop Elko, Donora *(1st time ever)

2600 St. Damien of Molokai C

3026 Belle Veron C

13832 St. John Paul the Great, Finleyville C/M

** = Double STAR * = STAR C = Columbian F = Founders M = McGivney

District 111 David A. Roessler II

1083 Washington * SAC SACH SAF

3461 Holy Innocents, Brownsville

3569 John F. Kennedy, Carmichaels C

4261 Masontown (Greensburg Chapter)

12703 St Ann’s, Waynesburg C/M

13767 St. Thomas, Clarksville

State Awards: SAC=Council overall SACH=Church overall SAF=Family overall Mem=Division3 membership NET Church= Division 3 Church

Past Presidents of the Mon Valley Chapter

SK Stan Glowaski 1992-1995

SK John A. Dudas 1995- 1997

SK Frank Lukas 1997-1999

SK John J. Petritis Jr. 1999-2001

SK William E. Jobes 2001-2003

SK Robert H. Clark 2003-2005

SK Joseph Greco 2005-2007

SK Archie Trader 2007-2009

SK Gary Damich 2009-2011

SK Jack Rosati 2011-2013

SK Larry Pettit 2013-2015

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The Mon Valley Chapter's primary charity continues to be our annual presentation of a scholarship to seminarian. This \$1,000.00 scholarship is presented at the Western Section Columbus Day dinner. This past year we also sponsored an additional seminarian for \$500.00.

The Chapter also participates in the Diocese of Pittsburgh Bishop's Project which supports two regional schools for exceptional children in the Pittsburgh Diocese. Those schools are the St. Anthony School and The McGuire Memorial Home. For the year of 2016/2017 the project raised \$186,000.00 the most for a project year. The chairman this past year was Jack Rosati who is a past president of our chapter. Since the program started in 1959, this project has raised over 6.4 million dollars in support of these two institutions. For our councils within the Greensburg Diocese, the chapter annually contributes to Clelian Heights, another school for exceptional children.

While our chapter meets on the last Tuesday of every month, we annually hold a rosary recitation at the Tomb of the Unborn in lieu of our July meeting. This ceremony commemorates the anniversary of when we erected the Tomb at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Monongahela, Pa in 1997. In December, we have a Christmas party.

The Mon-Valley Chapter has donated funds for the Western Section Ultra-Sound project. The project raises money to purchase Ultra-Sound machines for caregiving facilities that advocate "LIFE" instead of abortions. With matching funds from Supreme the project has been able to place 9 machines located in South Western PA. in the first 5 years.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Burgettstown 3440- Sponsor a Seminarian, are Catechists for CCD, Alter Server recruitment and appreciation, have a movie night showing different films about the Catholic faith, pancake breakfasts supporting the 4 parishes they serve, 5th Sunday rosary, and have a chicken roast with proceeds going to Wounded Warrior.

Canonsburg 3291- Set up the city's creche, collected 65 coats, started a council newsletter, along with Bishop Boyle Assembly 922 participated in 4th of July parade, work parish fish fry, helped the family promise program to aid local families without homes, participated in discover Christ series, and collected food for 40 cans for lent.

Fr William D. Fries 956- Participates in Blood Drives for the American Red Cross. The council had a sweater drive. The collected sweaters were given to the Washington City Mission. Awarded two \$500.00 scholarships to high school graduates. Sponsor a Seminarian and Participate in the Western Section Ultrasound Project.

Archbishop Elko 1941- purchased 400 little blue advent and Lenten meditation booklets, which were distributed after Mass. Donated money towards the "Keep Christ in Christmas" billboard. Participated in the Soccer Challenge. Provided funds for the construction of a handicap ramp.

John F. Kennedy 3569- Participates in the Bishop Project. Supports a Seminarian through RSVP. Have a spaghetti dinner for graduating seniors from area High schools. Have monthly socials after Mass either coffee and donuts or a small cookout of hotdogs and drinks. Host a Super bowl party and the council has a steak fry.

ST. ANN 12703- Main fundraisers are Lenten Fish Fry. Work the County Fair concession stand and have many breakfasts and dinners that support the students of Waynesburg University. Donate yearly to the Bishops Project. Have a Baby Bottle Campaign where money goes to the Western Section Ultra-Sound Project, and Catholic Charities Have a Spaghetti dinner for the Waynesburg University football team. Raised money for Gary Marten a maintenance man for St. Ann's parish.

St. Damien of Molokai 2600- This council hosted the annual Rosary for the unborn at Sacred Heart Cemetery. Sponsor a Seminarian. Donated money to the Ultrasound Project. Marched in Veterans Day Parade.

Bentleyville 5826- Gave support as six local parishes merged into one and became St. Katharine Drexel in January 2017, donated and installed canopies for the church hall, rebuilt

and installed a ten-foot crucifix, built and installed a marble altar, ambo, and tabernacle table for the new chapel which is used for daily masses.

Holy Rosary 13421 Involved in Keep Christ in Christmas. Sponsors a men's retreat and a seven-church bus tour on Holy Thursday. They were the lead council for Wreaths across America for the Mon Valley Chapter; which could place 973 wreaths this past December.

ST. John Paul the Great 13832- RSVP for 3 Seminarians, Financial support for a young lady in India for a Catholic education, donated to the western section ultrasound project, members are both actors and stage hands for "Journey to Jerusalem", during Christmas season help with decorating of the church, lead the Rosary prior to Mass.

Monessen 954- Provided 48 coats from coat drive, donated \$500.00 to local food bank, donated over \$4,000.00 to upgrade the lighting in the chapel, provided the meals during "Christ Life" program, participate in "Meals on Wheels", are altar servers for weekday Mass.

Belle Veron 3026- raised money for homeless shelter. Participated in Hope in a Bag. Donated money to a local agency that helps Mothers who choose Life. Military Chaplain's fund.

Holy Innocents 3461- participated in "The Holy Family Icon" program. Participated in the wooden crosses for the Christian refugee fund from Supreme.

Washington 1083- RSVP, Work John F. Kennedy family festival, Work concession stand at the PONY(Protecting Our Nation's Youth) World Series, Present rosaries to 1st communion classes, donated to Toys for Tots. Keep Christ in Christmas, The money raised from the Christmas cards purchased winter coats, Had a thank you breakfast for the CCD teachers, Had walk in my shoes where men wore women's and women wore men's shoes to bring awareness to domestic violence. Sponsored a youth baseball team.



ASK ANOTHER MAN TO BE A KNIGHT