



FR. JOHN M. GRADY COUNCIL #503
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MESSENGER

JULY 2026

327 WESTCHESTER AVENUE - PORT CHESTER NY 10573 - 914-939-4343

COUNCIL OFFICERS

CHAPLAIN

Fr. Felix Levin SDB

GRAND KNIGHT

Philip Dorazio

DEP. GRAND KNIGHT

Fred Meyers

CHANCELLOR

PGK Carl Bencivenga

WARDEN

Miguel Villafane

RECORDER

Patrick Carty

FIN. SECRETARY

FDD Charles Sacco

TREASURER

Scott LaDore

ADVOCATE

Patrick Carty

LECTURER

Sonny Padavil

INSIDE GUARD

Angelo Ponzi

OUTSIDE GUARD

Nicholas Dorazio

TRUSTEES

1-PGK Thomas Tempesta

2-PGK Tony Mendicino

3-PGK Mark Scocchera Sr.

CORPORATION BOARD

Scott LaDore

PGK Tony Mendicino

PGK Henry Ruffler

PGK Thomas Tempesta

LADIES PRESIDENT

Toni Sacco

1-914-318-6545

DISTRICT DEPUTY

Anthony Fiore

1-914-879-7568

FIELD AGENT

Daniel Hooker

1-845-735-2652

**The Council Elects Philip Dorazio
To Serve As Our 59th Grand Knight**



“My Brother Knights,

I am truly honored and humbled by the trust you have placed in me through my election as Grand Knight. Thank you for your confidence and support. As we move forward together, I am committed to leading our council into the future by embracing new ideas, strengthening our presence in the community, and modernizing where needed. At the same time, we remain firmly grounded in faith, charity, fraternity, and traditions upon which the Knights of Columbus was built.

Together, we can build upon the strong foundation laid by those who came before us while ensuring our council remains vibrant and relevant for future generations of Catholic men and their families.

Thank you again for this opportunity to serve. I look forward to working alongside each of you for the next year.

Vivat Jesus!”

-Newly elected Grand Knight Philip Dorazio

COUNCIL MEETINGS

1st & 3rd Thursdays at: 7:00 PM



COUNCIL HALL RENTALS

Call : 914-939-4343

Rentals@KofC503.org



LADIES AUXILIARY

2nd Wednesday - 7:00 PM

Our Ladies Auxiliary Reelects Toni Sacco To Serve As Our President



At their monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 10th, our Ladies Auxiliary unanimously re-elected Toni Sacco to continue serving as President. She thanked the membership and challenged everyone to support the many social activities and charitable events. The Annual Installation of Officers ceremony will take place in September. Additional information will be available in future issues of the Messenger. Toni encourages everyone to participate in our charitable and social activities. Please include your family members when considering attending our events

Knights Prepare Dinner At Ronald McDonald House



On Thursday, June 11th two Brothers from our council went to Ronald McDonald House, in Valhalla, to help prepare dinner for the residents. The menu featured Barbequed Chicken, Rice and a Tossed Salad. In this photo we see Lecturer Sonny Padavil and Financial Secretary Chas Sacco. They are pouring a batter for a Cornbread into the baking pan. Our council cooks on the second Thursday of each month for the families of patients in Maria Fareri Hospital. Any brother that is interested, can join us. No cooking or baking experience is necessary. Please consider joining us. All brothers are welcome.

Raffle To Benefit Holy Rosary Food Pantry

In an effort to help our neighbors, the council will be selling 50-50 raffle tickets to benefit the Holy Rosary Food Pantry. Chances are \$5 each. Three tickets for \$10 and Eight tickets for \$20. We will be selling at Port Chester Day and outside the churches in September. For information, contact Financial Secretary Chas Sacco.

Knights of Columbus
To Benefit the Holy Rosary Food Pantry

50-50 Raffle

Donation \$5

3 Tickets for \$10 - 8 Tickets for \$20
Drawing will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2026

Thank you for your support.
Winner need not be present to be eligible.

N^o 0443

**Come Join the Knights of Columbus, Ladies Auxiliary &
The Port Chester Italian Heritage Club**

For a Family Barbecue



When: Sunday, July 26th, 2026 at 1:00 pm

**Where: Knights of Columbus, 327 Westchester Avenue
Port Chester, New York 10573**

RSVP: Debbie Scocchera 914-447-1322, by July 16th 2026

Adults - \$20

Children under 16 - \$10

Where God and See Come Together



Men's Retreat Weekend
San Alfonso Retreat House, Long Branch, NJ
Friday, September 11 - Sunday, September 13, 2026

RETREAT THEME

Come Home: Opening Your Heart to Unconditional Love, Mercy, and Forgiveness.

The Cost of the Retreat

\$325 includes a private room,
2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches and 2
dinners.

Registrations are required

Reservations may be made online at
[www.sanalfonso retreats.org/2026-
events-registration-form](http://www.sanalfonso retreats.org/2026-events-registration-form)

or registration forms can be picked
up at the rectory office and mailed
to the retreat house with payment.

Transportation

Transportation is provided at an
additional fee of \$95 roundtrip
payable to St. Gregory the Great
Church. The bus will leave from St.
Gregory's School parking lot (94
Broadway) on Friday, 9/11 at 1 p.m.
and leaves San Alfonso Retreat
House at 1 p.m. on Sunday 9/13.



Very Important: If you plan to attend,
contact our Retreat Captain, Joe Scocchera at
mcdogwod@yahoo.com or 914-760-4503
to be part of our group and to reserve a seat on
the bus or for more info.

A retreat is a time to come away from the busy world and
reflect on your spiritual life in a variety of ways in a peaceful
coastal setting. ***Come Join us!***

Church of St. Gregory the Great

215 Halstead Ave, Harrison NY 10528 | 914-835-0677 | stgreggreat@gmail.com



The First Annual Gloria Morelli Memorial Tea

Our Ladies Auxiliary hosted their first “Ladies’ Tea,” on Wednesday, June 10th. The event was dedicated to a Past Auxiliary President and longtime member, Gloria Morelli. There was a wonderful turnout of women and the atmosphere was exciting. There were scones, a variety of tea sandwiches and loads of mini colorful confections. The mixed and matched teacups and saucers added a Victorian look to the meeting room. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped to make this day a fantastic success.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The origins of the Carmelite Order can be traced back to Elijah and his hermitic disciples. In the 13th century, during the Crusades, St. Simon Stock joined a group of hermits on Mount Carmel during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. In 1247, he was elected the 6th superior-general of the Carmelites at the first chapter held in Aylesford, England. However, the order had difficulty gaining general acceptance and suffered much persecution and oppression from secular clergy and other orders which prompted the monks to have recourse to the Blessed Virgin in the year 1251. On Sunday July 16th, 1251, as Simon Stock knelt in prayer, Our Lady appeared to him, holding the Child Jesus in one arm and the Brown Scapular in the other. She uttered the following words: *“Hoc erit tibi et cunctis Carmelitis privilegium, in hoc habitu moriens salvabitur”* (This shall be the privilege for you and for all the Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall be saved).



Council Business & Events



July 2nd... Knights Business Meeting... Please make every effort to participate.
Dinner at 7:00 PM. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM.

July 9th... Cook At Ronald McDonald House... Meet at the council hall at 3:00 PM.

July 26th... Port Chester Italian Heritage Club Picnic... Downstairs at 1:00 PM

Aug 16th... St. Joh Bosco Parish Ministry Fair... We need men to work the grill.

Aug 22nd... Dinner Dance... All are encouraged to attend.

Aug 29th... Annual Port Chester Day Celebration... Help sell raffles and recruit new members into our council.

Our Council's Attendance Raffle Is Now \$81.50

Attend the meetings and events! Our raffle continues to grow. Every Knight has a chance to win!



Annual Chicken Barbeque Earns \$1,698 For Honor Flight

Many thanks to all the volunteers and guests who came out on Saturday, June 20th to support this event. This event has grown to 39 guests! As you can imagine; a whole lot of hours of planning, shopping, and preparation went into making this fundraiser successful. Brother Chet Edwards and his wife Mary did a fantastic job. The veteran testimonials were very touching. Seen to the left is our newly elected Inside Guard Paul Mauro. Not seen was our Grand Knight Mark Scocchera, who made sure that every chicken was grilled just right. Our veterans deserve the best!

Recruit New Brothers... All You Have To Do Is Ask

Many of our members were asked why they waited so long to join the Knights of Columbus. All too often the answer was "nobody ever asked me." A direct result of recruiting is its charitable impact in our parish and community. While there are many different examples of recruitment activities, all are meant to inspire you into action. By recruiting new members, our council is continuing Fr Michael J. McGivney's vision and commitment of providing assistance to people in the St. John Bosco Parish and the Port Chester and Rye Brook communities. Please offer the gift of Knights' membership to your sons, brothers, co-workers, and neighbors.

Please Schedule Your Family Events For The Fall Now

Our grand ballroom can accommodate 75-100 folks, with a dance floor! If you are considering having your family gathering or event at our facility, now is the time to contact our Hall Rental Team. The room rental rates are reasonable and there is a significant discount for Knights of Columbus members. Please call the council hall at: 914-939-4343 or email the rental team: Rentals@KofC503.org We will do all we can to assist you.