



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**FATHER J.E. REGAN**  
**COUNCIL 3909**  
**APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER**

## Council Executive

GRAND KNIGHT	MEL CHOMIAK
CHAPLAIN	FR. ARULKUMAR
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT	ANDREW ONWUEGBUZIE
CHANCELLOR	JOHN LAForge
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	ROBERT WARD
RECORDER	LEN HAMEL
TREASURER	HECTOR VAILLANT
ADVOCATE	WILF TREMBLAY
WARDEN	RICHARD LAFLUER
INSIDE GUARD	CHRIS DIKRAN
OUTSIDE GUARD	RHEAL VAILLANT
ONE YEAR TRUSTEE	DON RISK
TWO YEAR TRUSTEE	RAY ST. JEAN
THREE YEAR TRUSTEE	CLAUDE SAUVE
LECTURER	ALLEN TESSARO
DISTRICT DEPUTY	DON LAROQUE

## Message from the Grand Knight

Blessed Father McGivney founded this Order, he wanted it to be a society of Catholic Men, to be present in every Parish, support the Priest in their vocation and Mission. Brother Knights an opportunity was given to us to grow in holiness while contributing to his parish and community. As leaders and members of our organization, we must remember that our purpose, first and foremost, is support of the Catholic Church.



As we enter the month of April, we continue to prepare to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and what it truly means to us as Christians. Easter will confirm for us that death has no power over the God of life. If we only believe in Jesus, all things are possible, including eternal life and salvation.

With a week left until Easter, we still have time to make a course correction if we find ourselves falling short in our faith. We can still make a difference by praying more, almsgiving and by performing acts of charity. All these things will bring us closer to our Lord. As Brother Knights, we need to set an example to our families and communities. Let the risen Jesus enter your life; welcome as a friend, with trust, he is life.

There is exactly three months left in this fraternal year as I am writing this message, this could be a good time to do a status check on where your council is standing to meet your goals, have you been recruiting towards your membership.

My wife Sonia and I wish you all a Happy Easter as we rejoice in the Lord, for He is Life.

Also Brothers, Council 3909 Brothers welcome His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Dowd to Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, I look forward to having His Excellency at our soon to be had dinner meeting.

Vivat Jesus!

Mel S. Chomiak PFN  
Grand Knight 3909

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## **Message from His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Dowd;**

Dear Brother Knights,

It is my pleasure to offer you a few words, both as the new Diocesan Bishop and as a fellow Knight (4th degree). Obviously, I am presently taking the time to get used to my new role as Chief Pastor of our Diocese. I have a lot to learn still, but I already know some of the challenges we are facing -- simply because we are facing the same challenges everywhere.



The most important initial element I have noticed is the challenge of Evangelization. For example, according to the National Household Survey of 2011, 18% of the population of Greater Sudbury reported that they had “no religious affiliation”. This rises to 25% in Sault Ste. Marie and in North Bay. This is the second-largest religious category after “Catholic” in 2011, and it is entirely possible it includes many former Catholics. The next census (this year, 2021) is supposed to ask the question again about religion. It will be interesting to see how the numbers will have evolved in a decade, especially under the weight of the pandemic, but no matter what it is clear our work is cut out for us.

I am convinced that the greatest resource we have as a Catholic Church is our people. As Bishop, I am committed to forming people as disciples of Jesus, equipping them for the apostolate, and training up new ministers to offer spiritual leadership to all. I am counting on the Knights to be partners in this approach as time moves on, and I know we will rise to the challenge.

God bless all of you!

Bishop Tom Dowd

## **DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT**

Brothers,

Nearing the fraternal year, what is expected of us to reach the council year end goals? The new candidates need to be contacted to increase the council’s membership, the member’s insurance plan to be reviewed, the documentation of activities to be reported to State and Supreme.

As the Covid protocol is lessened, it is still prudent to observe social distancing and close contacts. The council meetings are still virtual, to keep the members active in the council’s interests, to keep in communication with the brother knights and reach out to the community needs.

An exemplification of Unity will be performed if there are enough candidates to warrant the effort. Please contact your Grand Knight and Financial-Secretary about your candidate to start the ball rolling.

Don Larocque, DD 13

Council 3909 (your council) quietly continue to support the 4 pillars of the Knights of Columbus **CHARITY-FRATERNITY-UNITY-PATRIOTISM**

Charities and Bingo

Brother John Laforge, chair reported that ‘In 2021 our council donated \$17,000.00 to eight local charities. Unfortunately due to covid-19 we were unable to get group photo. Publicity was not our prime objective, assisting local charities in fundraising was our prime focus. Needless to say they were most appreciative,’ Examples: Childhood Enfance \$3,000.00

- Maison McCulloch \$3,000.00
- Alzheimer Society \$2,000.00
- Inner City Home \$2,000.00
- Elgin St. Mission \$2,000.00
- Infant Food Bank \$2,000.00
- Holy Cross School \$2,500.00
- Walden Food Bank \$ 500.00

Patriotism ( Support of Church)

Our council donated \$500.00 to support Seminarian, Chad Franklin, on his journey to Priesthood. His ordination will be sometime in the Summer of 2021.

In thanking the council for our support he stated ‘It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me’ (Galatians 2:20)

Our council donated \$500.00 to the Society of African Missions (S.M.A. Fathers) which is a Roman Catholic Organization. This helps them with their mission but also recognized the many Priests from Africa, in our Diocese, that help us ‘continue the mission of Jesus on earth’

The Knights of Columbus from St. Patrick Parish (some now members of our council) donated money for the purchase of professional equipment in order to establish a

Live stream program. This was done as a jester of support for St.Patrick parishioners that so supported the Knights for over 20 years.

Fraternity

In 2020 it was near impossible to actively support our many activities therefore I have used the report from 2019 to give you an indication of the work your council members do unselfishly in the community and only represent a small % of our members reporting. Over 2800 hours of volunteering, Over \$15,000.00 in donations.

Unity

Our Grand Knight, Mel Chomiak, conducted at least 24 virtual meeting, communicated numerous e-mail, letters, one on one contact.

Our telephone captain try to contact our members regarding up-coming meetings and other information as directed by the Grand Knight.

Chris Dikran, sick & distress chair, contacts members to get up date on how they are doing.



**Hear ye!  
Hear ye!**

Effective March 1, 2021

Patrick E. Kelly has been elected as the

14<sup>th</sup> SUPREME KNIGHT of the Knights of Columbus.

**ELECTIONS:  
NOMINATIONS IN APRIL**

If you are interested in having your name stand for an executive position or want to recommend someone (with his approval) please let our Grand Knight Mel Chomiak know.

**ELECTIONS in MAY**

## welcome

In 2020 the following gentlemen join our council.

### Michel Joly

- Originally he joined council 3909 in 1968
- Was recorder for the council in early 1970
- In 1974 his work carried him to Glendale then to North Bay, always involved in the Knights.
- Retired in 1993, drove school buses.
- Moved to Lively in 2020 and rejoin council 3909
- Held many positions in the Knights of Columbus.
- Celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary to Rose in 2020
- Has two daughters and one son.

### Jordan Tingle

- Parents are from Cork, Ireland, Born May 1992 in Toronto
- Has a bachelors Degree in Kinesiology and a Technical Diploma in Prosthetic and Orthotic Fabrication
- Moved to Sudbury in 2017
- Mel Chomiak invited him to join the Knights
- The Knights attracted him because of their involvement in the church and community.
- He received his 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in the Spring of 2020

### Efe Ivomi

- Work's at Vale Canada as a Reliability Engineer in their Sudbury Operational Base.
- A parishioner of St. Patrick Church, serves as a usher.
- Married to Ejiro Ivomi and have two beautiful children Oghenekerve and Oghenekaro.
- Happy to be a member of the Knights of Columbus so that with other brother Knights we can be service our community.

## NEW DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT MESSAGE

My name is Andrew Onwuegbuzie, I was born in Nigeria and moved to Canada 7 yrs ago.. I am an industrial mechanic. Blessed with a wife and 2 children. My expectations of being a knight is to be a role model to other members of the church, to promote charitable, social works, and to assist sick and needy members. Going forward I would like to see all our members actively involved with the works of the knighthood and together we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually.



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Any comments would be appreciate also any idea to add or improve our newsletter, contact me.