



# *Knights of Columbus*

*Council # 7464*

**Father Markian Shashkevych**

*Charity*

*Unity*

*Fraternity*

*Inc. December 13, 1979*



## *Monthly Newsletter*

**MARCH**

**2021**

**Березень**

**Hamilton Ontario**

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***"Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God; trust also in me.  
In my Father's house are many rooms;  
if it were not so, I would have told you.  
I am going there to prepare a place for you.  
And if I go and prepare a place for you,  
I will come back and take you to be with me  
that you also may be where I am.  
John 14:1-3 NIV***

# Lecturer's Words of Wisdom

**FATHER ANTON'S WORDS OF WISDOM:** Let us listen carefully to a reading from Paul's letter to the Romans: "Brothers and Sisters... All who are led by the Spirit of God are God's children. You did not receive a spirit of slavery leading you back into fear, but a spirit of adoption through which you can cry out "Abba – Father" The Spirit itself gives witness with our spirit that we are children of God. But if we are children, we are heirs as well; heirs of God and heirs with Christ. We suffer with him so we can be glorified with him. I consider the sufferings of the present to be as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed in us. Indeed the whole created world eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God. Creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but by him who once subjected it; not without hope, because the world itself will be freed from its slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God."

These are powerful words and we need to breathe them in over and over again until they permeate our souls to the point where they become one with us. There really is no greater gift. Here at St. John's as in all our parishes it has been a trying year or so, with the Pandemic and all that has come with it. While at times it can be a bit overwhelming, we need to remember that to be one of God's children is to embrace not just the good times in our lives, but those times when illness and suffering and inconvenience comes uninvited and tasks become overwhelming. Human weakness isn't new to the story of humanity, but through the course of our lives we can see when we let it get the best of us.

In the Old Testament suffering was believed to be a punishment from God for the sins of humanity; if there was a catastrophe that couldn't be explained it was God's doing – he was showing the power of his vengeance. Jesus, in the New Testament gave us a much different image of God. Jesus teaches us that God is a loving Father that cares for His children. God is full of mercy and compassion – quick to forgive and that His love is unconditional. Over the years and throughout the history of the Church this image of a loving God has become a bit tarnished. Prior to the middle ages God was merciful and forgiving, and slowly the image changed through the "dark-ages" to an image of a vengeful and punishing deity who would go as far as He could to punish humanity and to inflict suffering and pain on a sinful world. Only since the Second Vatican Council has there been an effort to move hearts from fear to love, and to move to an understanding of God that was more in line with the teachings of Jesus. +Pope John the 23rd and now Pope Francis "opened the windows to allow fresh air" to come in – in other words to call on the Holy Spirit to bring renewal into the hearts of the faithful and the Church.

What is your image of God? Do you truly believe that He loves you just as you are? Do you accept His forgiveness by forgiving yourself? In other words can you accept and embrace your humanity? Paul encourages us to do just that "You did not receive a spirit of slavery leading you back into fear – but a spirit of adoption through which you can cry out 'Abba-Father.'" He gives us the image of a loving Father. Relationship is defined through love rather than through fear. Suffering is put into perspective – it isn't a punishment from God, no human parent would inflict pain and suffering on their child no matter what the circumstance, so how can we possibly reconcile the idea of a vengeful God with a loving Father?

Lent is the perfect time to reflect on our relationship with God through his Son Jesus. In the person of Jesus, God has chosen to walk with us through life, not to stand in front, nor to lag behind, but to stand beside us! Yes He is indeed God, but HE IS LOVING PARENT; not interfering in human affairs but being

with us through those times our decisions have brought confusion, and at times, pain into our lives. He is there not to say “I told you so,” but rather “I am with you.”

This is my God. This is the loving Father that I serve, and this is the image of God that I have tried to share with those entrusted to me throughout my years of my priesthood. I have gone through the desert; I certainly know what is to be tempted and believe it or not, we priests understand the concept of sin just as good as you do, because we too, are sinners. Through good times and bad I have witnessed and felt God’s presence, and through all the turmoil still experienced peace. I try to model my life after Christ – I try to be a servant rather than to be served, and all I do is out of love for those I care for. If I didn’t love what I do, and if didn’t believe in nor experience God’s unconditional love I would have left my ministry a good number of years ago. My life just as yours is a Lenten journey, it is a constant opportunity of self-discovery and renewal – it is a journey that calms my fears and assures me of a Father’s love for his children. I encourage you to make an extra effort to participate in the Lenten services offered to you (even of only on line); in these prayers you will be reassured of God’s love, come to understand the true meaning of sacrifice and suffering, and hopefully rediscover again the true meaning of faithfulness.

Let us pray: Loving God, often life seems overwhelming and situations arise that come uninvited and for which I am unprepared. Help me during this Lenten season to rediscover my relationship with you as a loving Father. May all my fears give way to love and trust, and may I have the courage to always journey with you through Jesus to the meaning of life – to live, to love, to laugh, to pray, to share, to forgive and be forgiven and finally at the end of my days to rest in your arms.

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### 2021 Ontario Charities 50/50 Raffle

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Draw date: April 1, 2021 | Please check Rules of Play



# Grand Knight's Message

**Dear Brother Knights:**

Our next Exec/General Meeting will be held **on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00pm**. This meeting will be held using the Zoom online technology. At this meeting I will also recite 1 decade of the Holy Rosary for our deceased Brother Knights that had previously passed away during the month of March. They are as follows: Rev. Fr. Emil Iskat; Steve Verestiuk; William Shugan; John Wasilishen and Ron Swiston. Memory Eternal!

Regarding the Covid 19 Virus Pandemic, Hamilton has been moved back to Red Zone, the following rules are to be followed: Organized public events, social gatherings and wedding, funeral and religious services, rites and ceremonies have the following limits: 5 people indoors; 25 people outdoors - Limits for religious service rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services, where physical distancing can be maintained (applies in any venue other than a private dwelling): 30% capacity of the room indoors (as in churches); 100 people outdoors (as in cemeteries).

For us Ukrainian Catholics following the Julian Calendar, the First Day of Lent will begin on Monday, March 15, 2021. Remember that this is the time for self reflection and contrition.

The Hamilton Trident Charities has not heard as yet when Bingos will start up again at the Princess Bingo Hall on Fennell Avenue. Also please note that our Perogie Dinner Event that is held at the Church of the Resurrection may resume again for takeout only orders on Thursday, March 25, 2021. That is only if we can get enough volunteers to help with the preparations and distribution. I will advise later in the month via email whether this will happen. Please come out and support our councils fund raisers.

There are still **a few Membership Dues that are past due**. Please make an effort to bring your membership dues up to date. Payment may be sent directly to Bro. John Mikitzel at 95 Goldenview Court, Waterdown, ON L8B 0L3. You can also use the Bank Interac e-Transfer method by emailing your payment to [john.mikitzel@gmail.com](mailto:john.mikitzel@gmail.com).

For any of our members, families or friends who are interested in purchasing the Ontario KofC 50/50 draw tickets please go online to [www.kofcontario5050.com](http://www.kofcontario5050.com) and make your purchase.

I wish to extend Birthday Greetings to the following Brothers having a birthday in March: Brs. Zenon Holadyk, Jerry Pekaruk, Fr Victor Nazartchyk and Stan Sulymka. I also extend Wedding Anniversary greetings to Brothers and their spouses celebrating this month. Mnohya Lita! May God grant you many years.

Again, let us not forget to offer prayers for Priests, Sister Servants, Brother Knights and members of their families, who are ill or in the process of recovery. May God bless them and restore them to good health very soon.

Thanking you for your continued support.

**Fraternally Yours,**

*Don Krochak – Grand Knight*

# News Updates & Events

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our dear brother Paul Holubowsky. Paul was called to the Lord on Tuesday February 9, 2021. Please keep Paul and his family in your prayers.



Here is an article of great interest submitted by our worthy Deputy Grand Knight Morris Hucal.

## COVID-19 SCHOOL UPDATES:

All students, children and staff are required to screen for symptoms of illness every day before coming to school or child care. As part of our efforts to strengthen health and safety measures and update guidance to reflect provincial trends and transmission risks, the government is making changes to the COVID-19 school and child care screening criteria.

This includes new provincial direction that staff, students and children with **any new or worsening symptom** of COVID-19, as indicated in the school and child care screening tool, even those with only one symptom, must stay home until:

- They receive a negative COVID-19 test result.
- They receive an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional, or
- It has been 10 days since their symptom onset and they are feeling better.

Schools in some public health units have been applying the single symptom screening criteria. The Chief Medical Officer of Health has now directed that the single-symptom screening criteria be applied province-wide.

To support the return to in-person learning and the ongoing healthy operation of schools, **voluntary testing** is being made available in select pharmacies that currently offer specimen collection for COVID-19 for asymptomatic school staff. Targeted testing for school staff is an important and additional layer of protection that is helping to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

## **DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?**

In the words of Pope Francis

1. FAST from hurting words and say kind words.
2. FAST from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
3. FAST from anger and be filled with patience.
4. FAST from pessimism and be filled with hope.
5. FAST from worries and have trust in God.
6. FAST from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
7. FAST from pressures and be prayerful.
8. FAST from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
9. FAST from selfishness and be compassionate.
10. FAST from grudges and be reconciled.
11. FAST from words; be silent and listen.

# Beautiful Masks from Ukraine

## FUNDRAISER

In support of our charitable initiatives,  
a portion of the proceeds from the sales will go to the  
UCWLC Branch, Holy Protection Church , Burlington



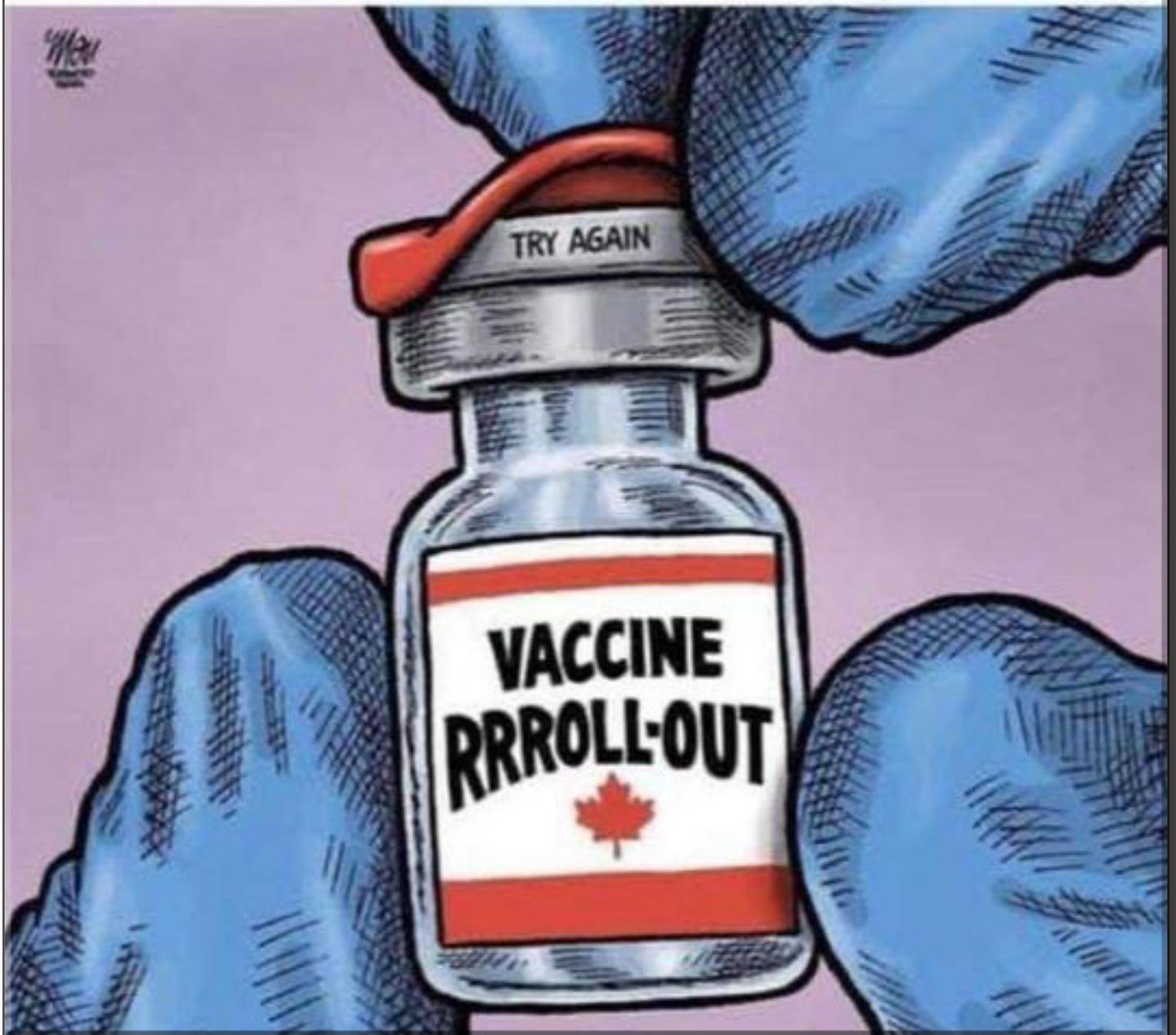
Masks are \$10.00 each  
Embroidered and 2 - ply

To Order  
Email [kebaloplatam@hdsb.ca](mailto:kebaloplatam@hdsb.ca)

# Monthly Smile

## Vaccine Rollup

You really have to be from Canada to get this one..



# NOTABLE DATES

March 09	Tuesday	Virtual Meeting on Zoom 7:00pm check your email
March 14	Sunday	Daylight Savings Begins
March 17	Wednesday	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	Saturday	Spring Equinox
March 28	Sunday	Palm Sunday
April 02	Friday	Good Friday
April 04	Sunday	Easter Sunday

## Happy Birthday to the Following Members

March 02	ZENON HOLADYK
March 03	JERRY PEKARUK
March 20	FR. VICTOR PETROYCH NAZARTCHYK
March 20	STAN SULYMKA

## Многая Літа

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told that I go and prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."*

**John 14:1-3**



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### Trustee (2nd year of 3)

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### Trustee (1st year of 3)

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