



Knights of Columbus  
 Ocean City Council #9053  
 9901 Coastal Highway  
 Ocean City, Maryland 21842

Ocean City Council # 9053 holds its general Council meetings beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland 21842, with the Officers holding their business meetings at 5:30 p.m. just prior to Council meeting. Council #9053 holds its social meetings on the third Wednesday of the month from September to March that have a varied agenda with topics of interests such as Community Suppers, Knights of Columbus Fraternal Benefits and Community Awards.

Council #9053 began its fiscal year 2023-2024 at the July 2023 meeting; however, the physical Installation of Officers occurred on 17 August in Columbus Hall at 9:00 a.m. followed by a breakfast. District Deputy SK Joseph Gangi installed the Officers, listed below, and these officers will serve until July 2024.

| POSITION            | NAME                 | POSITION       | NAME               |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| CHAPLAIN            | SK Lance Martin      | LECTURER       | K David Dancer     |
| GRAND KNIGHT        | SK James Matthews    | ADVOCATE       | SK Thomas Irwin    |
| DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT | SK John Sharkey      | INSIDE GUARD   | SK Richard Thomas  |
| CHANCELLOR          | SK Charles Lutz, Jr. | OUTSIDE GUARD  | SK Richard Fox     |
| WARDEN              | SK Edward Mardaga    | TRUSTEE 3 YEAR | SK Thomas Herwig   |
| RECORDER            | SK Robert Pellenberg | TRUSTEE 2 YEAR | SK Charles O'Brien |
| FINANCIAL SECRETARY | SK Dale Shepard      | TRUSTEE 1 YEAR | SK Bruce Coons     |
| TREASURER           | SK Thomas Foglesong  |                |                    |

**COUNCIL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: SIR KNIGHT THOMAS PERGOLA**

**FAITH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR: SIR KNIGHT STEVE MASTBROOK**

Council #9053 held/supported its usual Faith activities, e.g., ‘Spiritual Reflection-Retreats’, Memorial Mass, Weekly Rosary, RSVP, Support to our local Catholic Churches, Blessed Michael McGivney Masses and prayer hour, Building the Domestic Church-Kiosk, weekly Gospel discussions and Support to the Apostleship of the Sea of the USA. Council #9053 collaborated with St. Luke’s Religious Education Department and held our second Living Rosary relating each Luminous Mystery to a Saint. Council #9053 members who are Eucharistic Ministers took Communion weekly to seniors living at Brandywine Senior Facility. These visits helped the residents both mentally and spiritually.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR: SIR KNIGHT THOMAS HERWIG**

Council #9053 had a VERY active Community Program year, e.g., ‘Eat-in’ or ‘Pick up’ Seafood Nights, Lenten Fish Fry, Silver Bar Raffle, Coats for Kids, People with Intellectual Disabilities Campaign, Breakfast to support the Tunnel to Towers, Events for Veterans and various Charities, Blood Drives, Community Suppers, Soccer and Basketball Challenges, Helping Hand Program, Leave No Brother Behind, Community Recognition Awards, Easter Egg Hunt for the Community Children, and a Cornhole Challenge-Luncheon with neighboring Councils. Council #9053 donated to:

| ORGANIZATION  | AMOUNT              | ORGANIZATION                    | AMOUNT   |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| CATHOLIC CHURCHES<br>ST. JOHN NEUMANN,<br>ST. LUKE'S-ST. ANDREWS'S<br>ST. MARY STAR OF THE<br>SEA-HOLY SAVIOR | \$ 2,500<br>a piece | OCEAN CITY LADIES KNIGHTS AUX   | \$ 75    |
| 4 STEPS THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM  | \$ 500              | OCEAN CITY PARAMEDIC FOUNDATION | \$ 1,000 |

| ORGANIZATION                                  | AMOUNT   |
|---|----------|
| APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA                        | \$ 1,000 |
| ARCHBISHOP FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES          | \$ 1,000 |
| ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY                      | \$ 1,000 |
| BELIEVE IN TOMORROW                           | \$ 1,500 |
| BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE EASTERN SHORE | \$ 1,000 |
| BLOOD BANK OF DELMARVA                        | \$ 1,000 |
| BOARDWALK BUDDY WALK FUND                     | \$ 2,000 |
| COATS FOR KIDS                                | \$ 3,310 |
| CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH                       | \$ 500   |
| RSVP  | \$ 1,000 |
| GRACE CENTER FOR MATERNAL AND WOMEN'S HEALTH  | \$ 500   |
| JESSE KLUMP MEMORIAL FUND, INC.               | \$ 1,000 |
| MARYLAND SPECIAL OLYMPICS                     | \$ 1,000 |
| MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM     | \$ 1,000 |
| MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL                 | \$ 2,000 |

| ORGANIZATION  | AMOUNT   |
|---|----------|
| OCEAN CITY RECREATION & PARKS   | \$ 800   |
| OPERATION SEA'S THE DAY   | \$ 1,000 |
| ROSARIES & SCAPULARS INITIATIVE, INC.   | \$ 500   |
| SETON CENTER  | \$ 1,000 |
| ST. PAUL'S BY THE SEA   | \$ 500   |
| ST. VINCENT DE PAUL   | \$ 500   |
| THE CRICKET CENTER, INC.  | \$ 500   |
| THE JOSEPH HOUSE (A.K.A., LITTLE SISTERS OF JESUS AND MARY, INC.)             | \$ 3,500 |
| TOWN OF OCEAN CITY  | \$ 500   |
| VILLAGE OF HOPE   | \$ 1,500 |
| VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES- BETHANY BEACH, OCEAN CITY AND ROXANA - \$1,000 EACH | \$ 3,000 |
| WORCESTER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CENTER   | \$ 5,786 |
| WORCESTER COUNTY GIVING OTHER LIVES DIGNITY,                                  | \$ 500   |
| WORCESTER COUNTY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL  | \$ 500   |

As part of the Council #9053's Community Helping Hand Program Activities/Efforts, we visited homebound brothers, provided rides to and from stores and medical facilities, as well as, sent greeting cards to the assisted-living facility residents and held weekly bingo for them.

### **LIFE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR: KNIGHT KEVIN HUGHES**

Council #9053 knew first-hand of the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health (GCMWH) need for operating funds, so we held 'Bingo for Babies' and donated to GCMWH the profits of \$4,446. Council #9053 submitted an *Aid and Support After Pregnancy* Form to Supreme for an additional \$400 more to GCMWH. This year's physical support for Life, coordinated by Brother Kevin Hughes with Fr. Solomon (Holy Savior), was a Mass celebrated at Holy Savior Church. Brother Tom Foglesong emailed daily on-line links to the Novena for Life attended virtually by many. Holy Savior's Pastor wanted to create an environment free of stigma and preached about disabilities at all of his Masses one weekend in support of our *People with 'Special Needs'*, more applicable, *Mass for People with Disabilities*, Program. Council #9053 designed, printed and distributed prayers cards featuring St. Giles, patron saint of the handicapped/disabled, for reading aloud at all Masses. Locally, Council #9053 supported the 'Quality of Life' through donations to Believe in Tomorrow, Worcester G.O.L.D., Maryland Special Olympics, the Cricket Center, the Joseph House, Village of Hope and Worcester Meals on Wheels helping families with comfort, security and the ability to celebrate life's joys.

### **FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR: SK JOHN SHARKEY**

Brothers Ron Briggs, Chris Ciletti, Neil Foote, Ken Lamont, Joe Lazzari, Eddie Mardaga, David Melocik, John Sharkey, Jim Stone, Richard Thomas, Joe Zanetti and Auxiliary Ladies Jackie Denhardt and Kathy Foote collected over \$4,950 in cash and gift cards and 211 boxes (in monetary terms about \$10,550) of food and donated it to St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP), Diakonia and The Joseph House. Several Brothers worked as servers and caseworkers at the SVdP Pantry. Council #9053 received 193 'Keep Christ in Christmas' posters that Brothers John Gangi, Lou Guido, Tom Herwig, John Sharkey and Tom Pergola, and their wives/significant others judged based on: expression of the theme, artistic quality, accurate spelling and completeness of the posters. Council #9053 coordinated this year's *Consecration to the Holy Family* with St. Luke's, St. Mary's Star of the Sea-Holy Savior and St. John Neumann Churches leading the parishioners in reciting the Prayer for the Consecration to the Holy Family at all Masses celebrated on 6-7 January 2024.