



Knights of Columbus supports restoration of baldacchino in St. Peter's Basilica

By Cecilia Engbert 1/2024

The Knights of Columbus will fund a yearlong restoration of Gian Lorenzo Bernini's iconic baldacchino above the high altar of St. Peter's Basilica, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly announced Jan. 11 at a Vatican press conference with Cardinal Mauro Gambetti, president of the Fabbrica di San Pietro.

The 10-story bronze, marble and gilded wood structure was commissioned by Pope Urban VIII and finished in 1633. Experts with the Fabbrica de San Pietro, the institution responsible for maintaining the basilica, plan to complete the comprehensive restoration — the first since 1758 — in time for the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope.

Announcing the Order's financial support, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly emphasized the spiritual significance of the baldacchino, which stands over the tomb of St. Peter the Apostle.

"On behalf of the Knights of Columbus and our more than 2 million members in 13 countries around the world, we are honored to lend our support to this project, which is more than caring for a magnificent piece of art," the supreme knight said. "It points to the reality of God's love for us and his coming down to earth to dwell with us and to build the Church upon St. Peter and his profession of faith."



Cardinal Mauro Gambetti, archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica and president of the Fabbrica di San Pietro, and Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly stand in front of the Bernini baldacchino in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City on Jan. 10. Cardinal Gambetti and Supreme Knight Kelly announced that the Knights of Columbus would underwrite the complete restoration of the baldacchino, the first such restoration since 1758. (Photo by Tamino Petelinšek)

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Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



OLQM Council Officers

	Grand Knight	Pat Thielen	
	Deputy Grand Knight	Sal Antonicelli	
Financial Secretary	Kevin Oatman	Chancellor	Steve Dardinski
Warden	Bob Petrelli	Recorder	Joe DeStefano
Treasurer	Mario Gallo Jr	Advocate	Jack Mc Neeley
Inside Guard	Franco Gagliardi	Outside Guard	Frank Grosso
Lecturer #1	Don Daly	Lecturer #2	Eddy Zappacosta
	Trustee (One Year)	John Fry	
	Trustee (Two Year)	Steven Anzalone	
	Trustee (Three Year)	Chris Maffettone	
	Chaplain	Fr. John Hoang	
	District Deputy	Kirk Brown	
	Benefits Advisor	Ron Moliterno	

Council #13639 Meeting Schedule

Officer's Meeting

Rm 10 / 7pm

~~Tuesday, July 11, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, August 1, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, September 5, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, October 3, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, November 7, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, December 5, 2023~~

~~Tuesday, January 2, 2024~~

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Council/Business Meeting

Flynn Hall / 6:15pm

~~Thursday, July 13, 2023~~

~~Thursday, August 10, 2023~~

~~Thursday, September 14, 2023~~

~~Thursday, October 12, 2023~~

~~Thursday, November 9, 2023~~

~~Thursday, December 14, 2023~~

~~Thursday, January 11, 2024~~

Thursday, February 8, 2024

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Thursday, June 13, 2024

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Lenten Fish Fry - 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29


























Baseball - 3/2, 3/4, 3/6, 3/8, 3/10, 3/12, 3/13, 3/16, 3/17, 3/20, 3/22, 3/23

Knights Meetings - 3/5(officer), 3/14(Council), 3/28(4th Degree)

St. Patrick's Day - 3/17

Holy Week - 3/24 -3/30

Easter Sunday - 3/31 - He is Risen!!

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 	2 
3	4 	5 	6 	7	8  	9
10 	11	12 	13 	14 	15 	16 
17  	18	19	20 	21	22  	23 
24 	25	26	27	28 	29  	30 
31 						

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Dr. Pietro Zander, head of the Necropolis and Artistic Heritage Section of the Fabbrica di San Pietro, will lead the project, which will involve state-of-the-art technology, including 3D modeling and drone videography.

"A prerequisite for planning the work is in fact the knowledge that we are dealing with a giant," Zander said at the press conference. "A giant of art of all time, but even before that, a giant in form and size."

The baldacchino's 66-foot-tall spiral columns hold up a massive bronze canopy topped by four larger-than-life-size angels. At its apex, a cross stands on a globe, symbolizing the world's redemption by Christ.

The Order has a long history of supporting the work of the pope and the Vatican, beginning with Pope Benedict XV's request that the Knights open sports fields to serve the poor youth of Rome following World War I. Since 1980, the Knights has sponsored 17 Vatican restoration projects, including the cleaning of the façade of St. Peter's Basilica in anticipation of the Jubilee Year 2000, work in the Vatican Grottoes, and the restoration of a 7-foot-tall 14th-century wooden crucifix that was present in the original St. Peter's Basilica.

"I'd like to thank our Holy Father, Pope Francis, as well as Cardinal Mauro Gambetti, for allowing us to partner in this project," the supreme knight said. "In addition to all the service we carry out for the poor, for our parishes and families, we Knights are very grateful for the privilege of serving the Church in this way."

KNIGHTS ON THE MARCH



When it comes to abortion, "So many times men are told, 'You don't have a voice. This is not your issue,'" Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly commented during the recent March for Life in Washington. The supreme knight, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori and other Knights taking part in the 2024 March speak to why that's not true — and why Knights of Columbus must stand "With Every Woman, For Every Child."

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OLQM GALA!

February 3, OLQM and CCW held their annual Gala! 240+ attendees! Lots of auction items, food, music and festivities!

Great time was had by all! Looking forward to see what they have in store for us next year.

The Gala was originally held to assist with the cost of the roof, which has since been fulfilled!!

Great job by everyone at OLQM and the CCW!



Photo Credit: Don J. Daly



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TRIVIA NIGHT

Quizmaster Larry Jessen will be hosting Trivia Night on the Second Saturday of each month in Flynn Hall starting at 5:45pm. Admission is \$5. Food will be served. Our brother Knights will be helping with the festivities! Stop in and share your trivia knowledge!!



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Birthdays

Patrick Bondy	Paul O'Brien
Floyd Culbreath	Petion Baptiste
Richard Malcomson	John Scalera
Pat Thielen	Carmine Mancusi
Jason Smotrski	

LENT BEGINS

Make this Lent a season of spiritual growth by "entering the desert" with Father Innocent Montgomery of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Sign up now to receive daily Lenten reflections from Father Montgomery's book *Born of Fire*, reflections that will help you assess where you stand before God so you can draw closer to him.

