



Knights of Columbus Newsletter

Reverend Robert F. Houlihan S.J

Council 10937

Highlands Ranch, CO

December, 2003 Newsletter

Revised

Knights of Columbus Feeds Over 400 Families

The Saturday before Thanksgiving (11/23/13) was once again a chance for the Parishioners of Pax Christi Catholic Church to express their thanks for the blessings that have been bestowed upon them. For the 8th year in a row, the Reverend Robert F. Houlihan S.J. Council 10937 of the Knights of Columbus, which serves Pax Christi, organized a Parish Thanksgiving basket drive.

It began small, just 24 baskets, 8 years ago and, thanks to the generosity of your time and dedication, it grew into the success story of today. The 24 baskets were made by the Knights and they all went to the Denver Alternatives Pregnancy Center. There was no assembly line as in today's event.

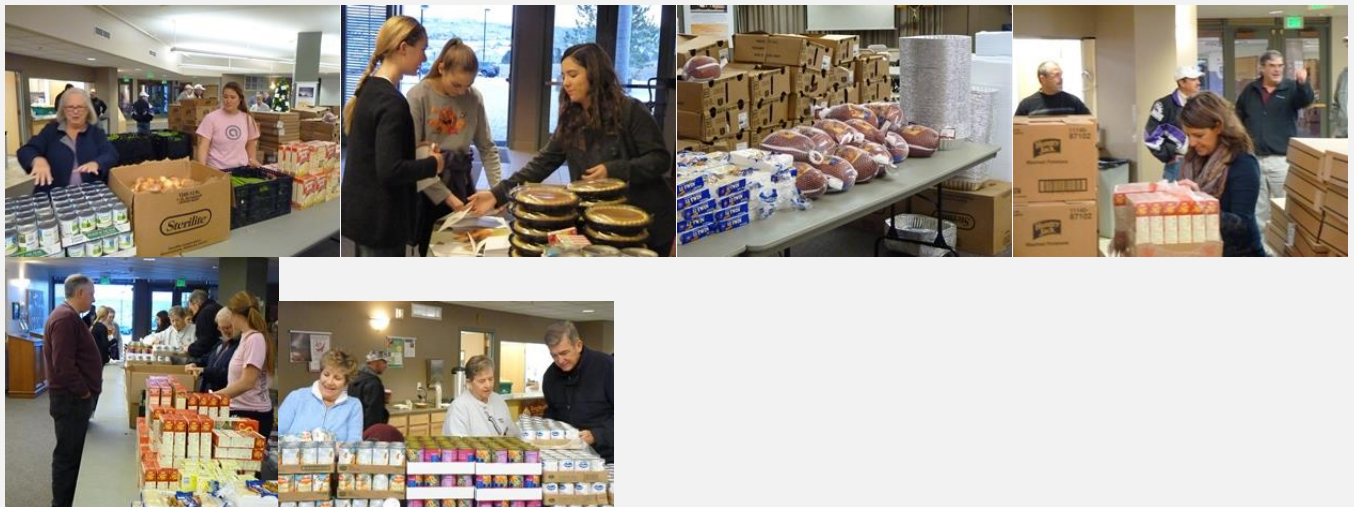
“I believe we should give special recognition to Jim Curcio, a member of our council who came up with the Thanksgiving baskets idea back when I was a Grand Knight – I remember him coming up with the idea at a planning meeting in our dining room. That first year, we obtained 24 baskets from families of the Knights. The next year we opened it up to the parish and, well, you can see what's happened. Just an excellent example of how one person can seed an unbelievably wonderful event.”

Chris Mosley

This year the Knights and Parishioners donated money and assembled baskets to provide Thanksgiving dinner to over 400 families. The Knights Collected money and commitments from Parishioners on the three weekends prior to November 23rd, when the baskets were assembled and delivered. The money received was used to buy the food that went into the baskets. Many parishioners made commitments to buy and assemble their own baskets which they delivered to the Church on Saturday morning.

Volunteer Knights bought and delivered the food on Friday night, then started setting up the assembly line at about 7:00 on Saturday morning.

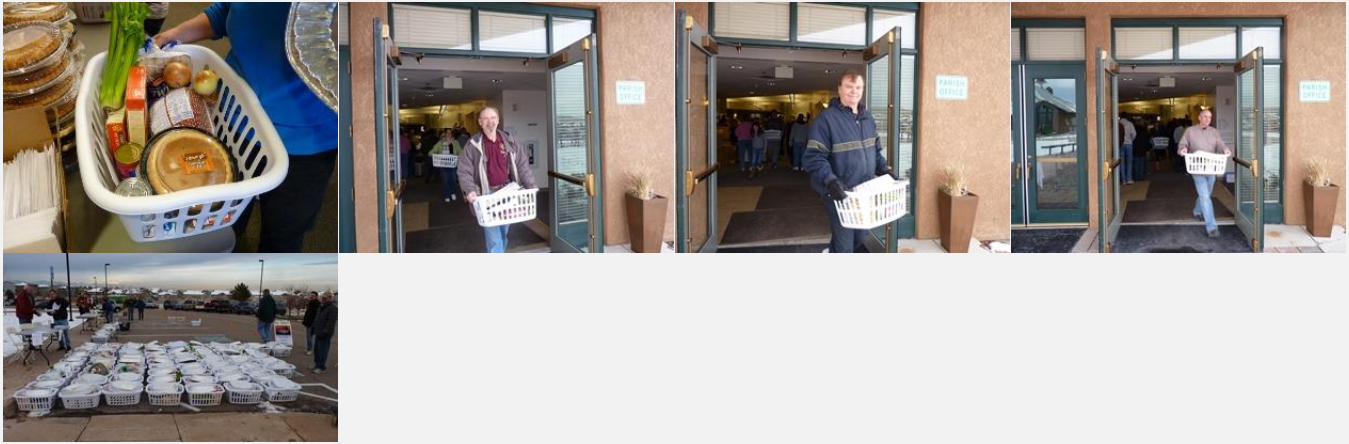






Over 100 volunteers put the baskets together in 27 minutes.





Parishioners who had pledged to make baskets dropped them off in front of the Church.



Here's the most important part of the program – delivery. Parishioners loaded up cars and trucks to deliver the baskets to local charities.



Distribution:

- **100 baskets distributed to Alternatives Pregnancy Center in Denver.**

Alternatives Pregnancy Center exists to care for Denver-area women and men in pregnancy-related crises and offer them a meaningful alternative to abortion. Following the example of Christian love, we seek to meet emotional, physical and spiritual needs, enabling and encouraging women and men to choose life every day.

Founded in 1982 as a faith-based organization, our goal is to counsel and live the gospel in front of one woman at a time and to preserve the life of one baby at a time. We offer women alternatives to abortion by providing practical care for them and their families through comprehensive education, counseling, material assistance, and referrals. In addition, Alternatives seeks to educate young people about sexual

abstinence before marriage and to help women find healing and grieve for their children lost through abortion.

Alternatives Pregnancy Center maintains its Christian witness in the secular world by upholding biblical standards of conduct in its ministry. We also desire to educate and involve the Metro-Denver Christian business community and churches on the issue of abortion and its ramifications.

- **100 baskets delivered to Gabriel Project in Denver.**



The Gabriel Project/House is an outreach program of the Archdiocese of Denver committed to helping pregnant women and women with young children in need with resources, clothes, supplies, and spiritual and emotional support. It is a network of volunteers and churches working together to assist women in our community.

- **35 baskets delivered to Joshua Station in Denver.**

Joshua Station (part of Mile High Ministries) is a transformational housing program designed to help families move from unstable housing situations to permanent housing and self-sufficiency. Families will participate in a life-building program through phases that help individuals develop and reach their goals. We offer affordable housing in a safe environment and support that is provided by working with a Family Advocate weekly.

Families must have children to be admitted into the program. Acceptance of a family into the program is contingent upon criminal background reports and clean drug tests. Those with sexual or habitual violent offenses will not be accepted into the program.

- **100 baskets delivered to the Colorado Springs Pregnancy Center.**

Located in Colorado Springs, Colo., Life Network is a nonprofit organization of the human life ministry. The organization includes the Colorado Springs Pregnancy Center, Education for a Lifetime and Bridges of Hope. It ministers people through prevention and teaching of sexual abstinence until marriage. Life Network also serves women in crisis pregnancies. The organization's pregnancy center offers a variety of medical services, including free and confidential pregnancy testing and ultrasound services. The center's emotional support services provide information on pregnancy and education on abortion and abortion alternatives. It also offers early pregnancy, childbirth and parenting classes. Life Network's healing support services include post-abortion counseling and support groups for those suffering from an abortion.

- **20 baskets delivered to Douglas County Battered Women's Shelter (Women's Crisis Center of Douglas County)**

Dedicated to reducing domestic violence and family conflict through advocacy, empowerment, violence prevention and intervention services and education.

- **5 baskets to Child Hospice Organization.**

The Butterfly Program, originally founded by [Children's Hospital Colorado](#) and [Porter Hospice of Centura Health at Home](#), has filled a unique and relatively empty niche in the Denver metropolitan community since 1999. The program was initially designed to provide comprehensive pediatric palliative care, serving children and their families who had been diagnosed with a life limiting illness. Since then, medical science and technology has enhanced the life of children with chronic and terminal diseases. The program once aimed to

help children primarily at the end of life is now inclusive of children and their families who are contending with serious illnesses.

- **9 baskets to Pastor Duane Brigman** and his wife JoAnna, of "The Ridge Community Church." This is a non-denominational church with about 75 families. It is located at 7462 S. Everett Street, Littleton CO 80128. They distribute the Thanksgiving Baskets to families of Stoney Creek Elementary School that cannot afford a traditional Thanksgiving celebration.
- **Several to local Pax Christi families.**

This event was truly the ultimate example of charity. Everyone was joyful and the camaraderie was superb knowing we were making Thanksgiving more endurable for over 400 families. The spirit of giving was not confined to Pax Christi members. We also received donations from people not associated with the Parish. Contributions continued to arrive even as we were building the Thanksgiving Baskets.

This amazing event was organized by the Knights Community Director, Bob Luckner with the help of over 40 members of the Knights of Columbus and their families.



Here are Bob's comments on the event;

We had a very successful Thanksgiving Basket Adopt-a-family event on Saturday!!!

We provided Thanksgiving baskets to feed 410 families!!!!

There were approximately 100 parishioners (40 Knights) helping at the event. Over 40 people donated their cars and time to drive the baskets to charities all over the Front Range.

Approximately 313 families within the parish donated \$11,885 and 150 baskets. We purchased enough food to assemble 260 baskets.

There are so many wonderful Knights, families and parishioners that generously donated their time and personal resources, that it would be impossible to list everyone.

I feel truly blessed to work with such a wonderful group and sincerely appreciate everything you do to support the Pax Christi Community!!

Thanks again! - Bob

Congratulations to Bob and his crew for a superb job. This is just one of many community events that Bob coordinated this year for the Knights. Others were two highway cleanup events, a very successful 40 Cans for Lent and the Tootsie Roll Drive. Every one exceeded our goals and expectations.

To see all pictures, open skydrive.com, type council10937@outlook.com in the account box, then Fratern1ty# in the password box.

Meet Our Officers:

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Important Links:

KofC 10937 Web Site	Pax Christi Web Site
KofC10937 Yahoo Groups	Pax Christi Bulletins
Post a Message	Catholic Radio Network -Listen online: www.thecatholicradionetwork.com
http://www.coloradokofc.org/index.php	
Knights of Columbus Supreme Site	How to Pray the Rosary

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



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