



St. Paul's Knights of Columbus Council 15001
330 W Coral Gables Dr
Phoenix, AZ 85023
602-942-2608

January 1, 2023

Epiphany

The wise men followed the star,
And found Christ who is light from light.
May you too find the Lord
when your pilgrimage is ended. (Amen)



Epiphany also called **Feast of the Epiphany**, **Theophany** or **Three Kings' Day**, (from Greek *epiphaneia*, which means "manifestation"), Christian holiday commemorating the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of his divinity, as it occurred at his baptism in the Jordan River and at his first miracle, at Cana in Galilee. Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church (the other two are Easter and Christmas). Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, and other Western churches observe the feast on January 6, while some Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Epiphany on January 19, since their Christmas Eve falls on January 6.

The festival originated in the Eastern church, where it at first included a commemoration of Christ's birth. In Rome, by the year 354, Christ's birth was being celebrated on December 25 (Christmas), and later in the 4th century the church in Rome began celebrating Epiphany on January 6. In the Western church the festival primarily commemorates the visit by the Magi to the infant Jesus, which is seen as evidence that Christ, the Jewish Messiah, came also for the salvation of Gentiles. In the East it primarily commemorates the baptism of Jesus and celebrates the revelation that the incarnate Christ was both fully God and fully man.

In the West the evening preceding Epiphany is called Twelfth Night. The time between December 25 and January 6 is known as the Twelve Days of Christmas. Epiphany is celebrated with special pastries in many countries, and children often receive small gifts in their shoes in honor of the Magi's gifts to the infant Jesus. The holiday also has a number of traditions involving water as a reflection of Jesus' baptism, including the blessing of houses with holy water.

Ethiopian Orthodox Christians celebrate Epiphany, or *Timket*, with a major festival that begins the night before, on *Ketera* (January 18). In honor of Christ's baptism, celebrants escort a replica of the Ark of the Covenant, a *tabot*, to a local body of water with great ceremony. The night is spent in prayer and hymn services. The following morning the congregation is blessed with holy water, and the *tabot* is brought back to its church in a colorful procession.



January 1, 2023

Council 15001

Your Officers for 2022-2023

Grand Knight.....Francis Abijaoude
 Chaplain.....Fr. Dindo “Bruno” Cuario
 Asst. Chaplain.....Fr. Ishaya Samaila
 Deputy Grand Knight.....Dan McGinn
 Chancellor.....Charley Billingsley
 Financial Secretary.....Jack Swartz, PGK
 Treasurer.....Jim Cairo
 Trustee 3 yr.....Kirk LaPlante, PGK
 Trustee 2 yr.....Al Gillis, PGK
 Trustee 1 yr.....Richard Diefendorf, PGK
 Advocate.....Gary Schulte, PGK
 Recorder.....Ed Fischer
 Warden.....Artie Hauer
 Inside Guard.....Don Kolb
 Outside Guard (1).....Fred Cosme
 Outside Guard (2).....Nathan Duncan

Appointed Officers

Lecturer.....Gary DeGregorio
 Info. Technical Director.....Nelson Mayo
 Communications.....Jim Gentner
 Newsletter Editor.....Tom Karl, PGK
 Editorial Staff.....Jack Swartz, PGK
 Knights Website.....John Blome, PGK

Welcome to 2023—a New Year for you and me! How do we start this year off to be fruitful and meaningful? Well for one, we could try to go to Planned Parenthood on the second Sunday of each month to pray for the continued end to abortion! Then we could plan to donate blood if eligible to do so! Then we could make a promise to help out more with our parish and community. OK, now how many of us will break some of those promises that we make to ourselves to do those items mentioned as well as others we had good intention of doing?

New Years is not about making promises to do better than last year, but rather a chance to think about those things we promised to do but never got around to doing. It’s always easy to say “I’m going to lose weight or go to the gym or to pray the rosary daily”, but why do we get side tracked and do more fun things like eating one of our favorites pizza meals or having a DQ Blizzard (of course it has to be a medium because a large one would make us feel guilty).

Remember, promises are only words of hot air or transparent thoughts so easily broken. It takes a lot of discipline to follow through on our promises to do better and to help others in need. I’m not saying that you should not have a pizza or a DQ Blizzard, but cutting back on the number of times we do those things could bring about its own rewards—better health, slimmer waist line and a feeling of personal accomplishment of a better life style.

So, while we are thinking about a better physical lifestyle, how about if we think about a better spiritual lifestyle. As I mentioned above, praying the rosary daily can be of great comfort. In physical life we seek our mother as children when we are troubled and likewise, we should seek our spiritual mother Mary for help and to reflect on the wonderful life she led with great grace and her sacrifice to do the will of God. Emulating our lives after Mary should make us feel more peaceful and full of love for each other.

So, before you make those New Year’s Day promises, take time to think about the things you have not done in past years. We all learn from our past mistakes, so we have a cue as to where to look in the future doing more good and become better Knights and Catholics.

Again, welcome to 2023 which will be a great year for you and me! Vivat Jesus!

Remember—One new member, per Council, per month.

This is the desire of the Supreme Knight. Can you help us make it happen?

For Fraternal Year 2022-2023

**The State Theme is:
Protector of Life**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 IN SERVICE TO ONE
 IN SERVICE TO ALL

Insurance Field Agent Wes Casaus
 Wes.casaus@kofc.org
 (623) 640-0436



Rosary at Planned Parenthood

By: PGK Kirk LaPlante

Our Council remains committed to being a voice for the most vulnerable in our society; the unborn. A small but committed group of Knights and family members show up on the second Sunday each month in front of the Abortion Clinic on Eugie (behind – south of - Banner Thunderbird) to recite 3 mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious. “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matt. 18:19–20.)

Before the Supreme Court overturned Roe vs Wade Sundays were very busy at the abortion clinic. Post-Roe vs Wade thank God, the Clinic is closed on Sundays!!!



Attendees: Kirk LaPlante, Mike Aguilar, Artie and Mary Hauer.

Here is the current abortion landscape in Arizona.

Is abortion legal in Arizona?

Yes. Abortion is legal in Arizona. However, Arizona bans abortion after 15 weeks, 0 days of pregnancy and has some other restrictions on abortion access.

A new Arizona law that completely banned abortion in Arizona went into effect September 23, 2022. Right now though, that law is being challenged in the courts and therefore not in effect.

Council 15001's St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Christmas Family Santa's alternate sleigh delivering Christmas gifts to St. Vincent de Paul family

For a third year in a row our Council voted to participate in St. Vincent de Paul's Christmas Adopt-a-Family. Mary and Manny Gomez, from St Vincent de Paul local Conference, organize this amazing project where over 180 needy families in the area are provided some Christmas cheer aka food (gift certificates at Fry's) and presents.

KOC's family this year is a single mom and her 3 kids, ages 12, 7 and 4. The Council generously voted to provide a budget of \$500 for this family. Kirk and Janet LaPlante did the shopping (Janet 90% / Kirk 10%). Thank God Mary and Manny organized a present wrapping party in O'Carroll Hall, which was a HUGE help, since those percentages are reversed for the Christmas wrapping detail. Ho ho ho...

As Brothers in KOC you should feel good that we were able to make an otherwise sparse Christmas more joyful for this family.



DECEMBER DONUT SUNDAY A GOOD ONE

With rainy weather threatening early on things looked gloomy for our "first Sunday" Donut Sunday in December. However the rain held off and nice crowds showed up after both the 7:30 and 9:30 Masses. PGK Dief Diefendorf was ably assisted by his crew of James Wayne, DGK Dan McGinn, PGK Jack Swartz, PGK Al Gillis, PGK Kirk LaPlante.



Big Appreciation Note For Campus Lighting

I just wanted to send out a 'big thank you' for helping out with the lights in mid-December. In spite of the bad weather and the fact that we needed to check the lights, we still finished in less than 3 hours. For those who brought the wives along, thank you. Brothers who helped put up the outdoor Christmas lights and church lights: Tom VanBuren, Ray Rossetti, Tom Nash, Jim Soderland, Anthony Vechiola, Mike Aguilar, Gary Degregorio (& wife sue) , Greg Huelskamp, Ed Fischer, Gerry Surdakoski, Dave Earl, Tom Karl (& wife Jo) and Dief.

Again, thanks you for a job well done!!

God bless you and your family during this holiday season.

Sincerely,

John Van Cuyk

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C: (602) 524-8002

jjvancuyk@gmail.com



FATHER ISHAYA'S VILLAGE NEEDS HELP—AND KNIGHTS PROVIDE IT!

Father Ishaya Samalia, Associate Pastor at St. Paul's and Asst. Chaplain of Council 15001, recently had his 25th anniversary since being ordained a priest in Nigeria, Africa.

At that special event, Father outlined the desperate needs of his home village back in Nigeria, particularly pertaining to the school where the village children are educated.

One item on the list of needs was a "water well" for the school and village, and Council 15001 discussed how the Knights could be of some help. Finally it was decided that the Council would pay to provide the water well for the village at a cost of \$1,700. With a number of other costly projects in the works, at one of the meetings it was decided to see how many Knights would offer individual contributions to help achieve the \$1,700.

In short order, the total amount had been pledged. The Knights who contributed to reach the \$1,700 level were PGK Richard Diefendorf, PGK Tom Russell, Bob Waugh, Phil Tabbita, Charley Billingsley, Ed Fischer, Jim Soderlund and PGK Jack Swartz.

The contribution will be in the name of the full Council.



Example of what the well may look like when its finished.

YOUR ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW DUE

Hopefully all members of Council 15001 (with certain exceptions) received a dues billing notice on Dec.15th (exceptions being life members, honorary members and priests) from Supreme, with a statement to send your annual dues of \$36/00 to the Financial Secretary Jack Swartz, 625 W. Gibraltar Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85023. Some statements may have had a dollar figure different than \$36, but PLEASE just send \$36.00.

If you are reading this newsletter, and didn't receive a dues statement, please call the Financial Secretary at (602) 549-3788 so the records can be updated.

Some Office Staff, Sisters and Maintenance Workers Given Christmas Gift

As an annual tradition, Council 15001 provide a Christmas gift to our maintenance and office staff workers.

This year the Council gave out \$900.00 in gifts. Our Worthy Grand Knight Francis Abijaoude presented the gifts on behalf of our Council.



More Photos of Office Staff, Sisters and Maintenance Workers Given Christmas Gift



CHURCH DECORATED BY KNIGHTS

Saturday, December 17th, saw 9 Knights show up to do the annual interior church decorating at St. Paul's parish. Under the direction of Sister Georgina the following Knights participated: GK Francis Abijaoude, Mike Aguilar, Ted Cherekos, PGK Kirk LaPlante, PGK Tom Nash, Andy Picard (and son Jack), Richard Rael, Tom Roggenkamp, and PGK Jack Swartz.



[S.E.T. IMPORTANT](#)

Well, it's that time of year when we need to complete our Safe Environment training course for 2022-2023.

With your help, I'm hoping that you will be able to send me your certificate ASAP (meaning As Soon As Possible or yesterday)

Should you have any questions or need help, please feel free to contact Joseph Castellarin at IT@stpaulsphoenix.org or you can contact the diocese directly using their phone number 602=354-2000 during business hours.

Thank you for everything that you do for the Knight of Columbus at St. Paul's. It is because of you that Council 15001 is one of the best, if not the best, Council in Arizona!

VIVAT Jesus

John Van Cuyk

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[Inspire a generation to end abortion.](#)

[January 20, 2023](#)



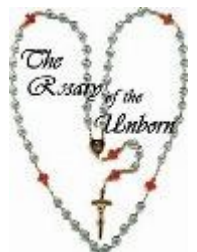
Since the Roe v Wade decision on January 22, 1973, over 60 million unborn babies have lost their lives to abortion. Currently, that's one million per year and counting. Despite the magnitude of this human rights atrocity, we never lose hope. Empowered by generosity, we will continue to march for life until abortion is unthinkable and the dignity of every human life is valued and protected.

Friend, as the largest annual pro-life gathering in the world, the March for Life is uniquely positioned at the forefront of this important moment in history. We have the opportunity to reach millions with the truth that children in the womb are equal in dignity and value and deserving of our protection.

Every year, we discern a theme for the March for Life that speaks to the most pressing need of our times. This year, the fight for a culture of life is facing a new frontier. At this historic turning point for life in our country, pro-abortion advocates are trying their hardest to drown out the truth about life within the womb with outdated and unscientific talking points.

The 2023 March for Life is this month,
and we can't wait to join you
on the National Mall in Washington, DC
on January 20, 2023.

**UNBORN
LIVES
MATTER**



Christmas Eve Rosary at Planned Parenthood 11:00 a.m. to Noon

On Christmas Eve, Bishop Nevares led an enthusiastic crowd, including several Brother Knights, who gathered at the Planned Parenthood in Glendale while reciting the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.

The Bishop told the group gathered that this is the 22nd year the Dioceses has recited the Rosary on Christmas Eve and the 11th year at this location, with the only exception being during Covid.

While the crowd was a bit smaller than in past years, possibly because of the Supreme Court victory overturning Roe vs Wade, Mike Phelan, Director of Respect Life Office at the Diocese, reminded us that abortion up to 15 weeks is still legal in Arizona and we must remain diligent in continuing to pray for the end of abortion.

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D. Kirk LaPlante



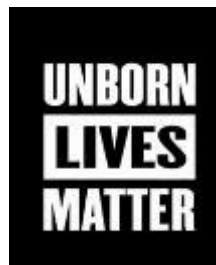
Boots Bouterie (parishioner), D. Kirk LaPlante, Bishop Nevares and Tom Nash



Bishop Nevares leads the group during the rosary



LIFE



KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS—YOUR SHIELD FOR INSURANCE FOR LIFE

With the start of a New Year, it is time to think about those important things in your life. Most of us begin by thinking about our income tax returns and all the effort it takes to fill out the forms. Since you are already thinking about taxes and money, will you think about what would happen to your loved ones if they did not have you there to fill out those necessary documents?

Too often we only think about what the government requires of us and how we can avoid the pitfalls of getting into trouble if we don't follow the rules. However, sometimes we forget the most important rule to protect those we love. Yes, we put food on the table and clothes on their backs, but do we provide for their security? I don't mean locks on the doors or a guard dog in the yard. I'm talking about the security of their future.

It is up to each of us to determine what is important in our lives and I think we all will agree that family is about everything! What would you do tomorrow if today you were informed that a loved one were taken from you? Would you be prepared? Would you know who to talk to and seek advice?

My primary job is to help each and every Knight in the Councils I am serving and I can only serve you adequately if you want to be served. What I mean by this is that I can talk to you about insurance and financial security, but it is up to you to decide if you want to accept my offer.

Nothing breaks my heart more that to hear from a Brother Knight and learn that he has lost a loved one whom he could have provided the necessary insurance coverage and then learn that the individual has no funds nor means to bury their loved one.

Too often, all of us in the insurance industry see or hear about the sad stories of how someone "meant to get insurance but just didn't get around to it". This is more devastating when someone dies far from home and the expense of bringing their loved one home is overwhelming and nearly cost prohibitive.

Think about this—do you have \$20,000 to \$30,000 readily available today to cover the cost of such a situation? This is where I come into the picture and can help you out. I can provide insurance that provides that level of protection and save you the anguish and pain of not being able to provide immediate attention to family needs while wrapped up in the circumstances of trying to resolve an expensive financial problem. I can help solve part, most or all of your problem.

Call me today and let's see what we can do to help you provide the care and love of your own loved ones, now and into the future.

God Bless,

Vivat Jesus

Wes Casaus, Sr.



Knights of Columbus®
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE®



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ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY

2022 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER WORKSHEET

INSTRUCTIONS TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES / FAITHFUL COMPTROLLERS / BURSARS

Note: Knights should separate reported assembly activities from their reported council activities.

Located on the lower portion of this page are individual Member Worksheets to assist you in determining the number of hours of volunteer service expended by members during the year.

To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return it at our next meeting. This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members.

COUNCIL HOURS

FAITH ACTIVITIES (where applicable) HOURS OF SERVICE

a. RSVP Program	
b. Church Facilities	
c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries	
d. Religious/Vocations Education	
e. Prayer & Study Programs	
f. Sacramental Gifts	
g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities	

FAMILY ACTIVITIES (where applicable)

a. Food for Families	
b. Family Formation Programs	
c. Keep Christ in Christmas	
d. Family Week	
e. Family Prayer Night	
f. Miscellaneous Family Programs	

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (where applicable)

a. Coats For Kids	
b. Global Wheelchair Mission	
c. Habitat for Humanity	
d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief	
e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities	
f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care	
g. Hospitals/Health Organizations	
h. Columbian Squires	
i. Scouting/Youth Groups	
j. Athletics	
k. Youth Welfare/Service	
l. Scholarships/Education	
m. Veteran Military/VAWS	
n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities	

LIFE ACTIVITIES (where applicable)

a. Special Olympics	
b. Marches for Life	
c. Ultrasound Initiative	
d. Pregnancy Support	
e. Christian Refugee Relief	
f. Memorials to Unborn Children	
g. Miscellaneous Life Activities	

OTHER FRATERNAL COMMITMENTS:

Visits to the Sick	
Visits to the Bereaved	
Number of Blood Donations	
Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled	
Member and their Families	

TOTAL 0

ASSEMBLY HOURS

FAITH ACTIVITIES (where applicable) HOURS OF SERVICE

a. RSVP Program	
b. Church Facilities	
c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries	
d. Religious/Vocations Education	
e. Prayer & Study Programs	
f. Sacramental Gifts	
g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities	

FAMILY ACTIVITIES (where applicable)

a. Food for Families	
b. Family Formation Programs	
c. Keep Christ in Christmas	
d. Family Week	
e. Family Prayer Night	
f. Miscellaneous Family Programs	

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (where applicable)

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Member and their Families	

TOTAL 0



Birthdays—January 2023

January 16	Fr. Gregory Schlarb		January 02	Mary Hauer
January 22	Ted Cherekos		January 11	Pat Peters
January 26	Ken Long		January 13	Terra Billingsly
January 26	Wayne Granger		January 19	Jane Nash
January 27	Allen Gillis		January 19	Amaris Salinas
January 31	Craig Cullity		January 24	Janet LaPlante
			January 28	Donna Gillis
			January 29	Karen Rael
			January 31	Michelle Bagley/Stapley

NOTE: Wives' birthday list was taken from the Council Membership Survey which was turned in by members of the Council.

*We would really like every member to complete this survey
so that we can have the most complete and accurate birthday listing available*

Our Knights In Action

During the past Fraternal Year, PGK Richard Diefendorf sent a full year listing of the types of volunteer service hours, in a form format, to each member. We will try to continue that by providing a two-month list for you to fill out and give to the Financial Secretary. **You may also include any ministries that your wife and family participate in.** This means that you may include time for any and all parish ministries: EM, Adorer, Usher, Lector, Altar Server, Dusting Angels, RCIA, teaching or assisting at Catechesis, prayer shawls, decorating the Church at Christmas and Easter, attending Degree ceremonies, and of course the picnic and Campus cleanup. These are only a few of the things we and our Families do.

Monthly Record of Volunteer Service Hours for Council 15001

December

Christmas Social Attendance _____
 Campus Christmas Lighting _____
 Christmas Altar/Church Decorating _____
 2nd Sunday P.P. Rosary _____
 Donut Sunday _____
 Servers _____
 EM _____
 Lector _____
 Adoration _____
 Other: _____

January

Christmas Altar/Church Decoration Removal

 Free Throw Contest _____
 2nd Sunday P.P. Rosary _____
 Donut Sunday _____
 Servers _____
 EM _____
 Lector _____
 Adoration _____
 Other: _____

Whether for Flu, RSV or Covid, be Wise and Immunize!



January 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 General Meeting Conference Room 7:00 p.m.	5	6	7
8 Rosary at Planned Parenthood Donut Sunday	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 PGK Meeting	16 Officers' Meeting 7:00 p.m. Conference Room	17	18	19	20	21 Parish Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Bingo
29	30 Semi-Annual Audit 6:30 p.m.	31				

Upcoming Events For January/February 2023

January 2023

- Jan. 01 - New Year's Day
- Jan. 04 - General Membership Meeting
- Jan. 08 - Donut Sunday
- Jan. 08 - Rosary at Planned Parenthood
- Jan. 15 - PGK's Annual Get Together
- Jan. 16 - Officers Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 21 - Parish Day
- Jan. 28 - BINGO!!
- Jan. 30 - Semi-annual Audit 6:30 p.m.

February 2023

- Feb. 1 General Meeting
- Feb. 4 Diocesan Men's Conference
- Feb. 5 Donut Sunday
- Feb. 7-16 Fr. Mark Aune visit
- Feb. 11 Potluck dinner for Fr. Aune
- Feb. 12 Planned Parenthood Rosary; Super Bowl
- Feb. 17 Diocesan Priest Appreciation Dinner
- Feb. 21 Officer's Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)



This applies to both the Flu Virus and Covid!

Remember: Hot water and soap will shorten the life of a virus. Also, wearing a mask may also make a difference.

Attention All Event Chairmen: After your event, please ensure that photos are sent to your Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the next newsletter.



Prayer to End Abortion

We often discuss in the newsletters and during General Meetings the need to have Rosary Saturday which is the second Saturday of each month. While many of you are able to take some time out of your valuable day, it would be a great example to yourselves, your family and your parish to make an appearance as often as possible. Every prayer is valuable to you and to our Blessed Mother Mary. It is through Her that we ask for God's intercession to stop the needless killing of convenience that is occurring. So once again, we ask you to try to come to as many of the Rosary Saturdays as possible during each year.

*Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,
And for the lives of all my Brothers and sisters.
I know there is nothing that destroys more life than
abortion,
Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death
by the Resurrection of Your Son.
I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.
Today I commit myself
Never to be silent,
Never to be passive,
Never to be forgetful of the unborn.*

*I commit myself to be active in the pro-life
movement,
And never to stop defending life
Until all my Brothers and sisters are protected,
And our nation once again becomes
A nation with liberty and justice
Not just for some, but for all.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!*

For Those Who Are Sick & Distressed

*Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness.
Hear the prayers we offer for our sick or distressed Brothers or their relatives:*

PGK Sean Cronkite (Cousin of PGK John Blome), Terra Billingsley, Mike & Chris Murphy, Rick Razzano, Bill Hintze, Cecile Calderon, Ave Marie Leonard, Diane Russell, Rebecca Cairo, Chuck Kime, Don Kolb, Manny Flores, Grae Fischer (young daughter of Brother Knight Ed Fischer) Lila Van Cuyk, Gary Parsons and Jonathan Hauer



*May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that
they are chosen to be saints and know that
they are joined to Christ in his suffering
for the salvation of the world,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, Amen.
Always keep in mind the unborn who were never given a chance of life.*

Catholic Prayer for those who have passed

*"Loving God our Father, Your power brings us to life.
Your care guides our lives,
and by Your command we return to the dust from which we came.*

*Father, those who pass on still live in Your presence,
their lives are changed but do not end.
I plead in hope for my family, relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known only to You.*

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**Submission of newsletter articles should be sent to your Newsletter Editor
not later than the 25th of the month.**