

Knights of Columbus
Bishop Foley Council 2660
Dearborn, MI

Est. Nov 27, 1927

It was in 1927 that the parishioners of St. Alphonsus and the ushers of the church began to realize the need for a Knights of Columbus Council. Under the direction of Father John Klich and church leaders, they began to organize and commence the procedures for chartering a council. After a successful membership drive, on November 27, 1927, Knights of Columbus State Deputy Frank O'Hara of Port Huron proclaimed the establishment of FORDSON COUNCIL 2660.

In 1936 the name of the Council was changed to BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL in honor of Bishop John S. Foley who served the Diocese of Detroit from 1881 to 1918. Meetings were originally held in the St. Alphonsus Auditorium. The location was moved to a rented furniture store on Maple, but in 1949, after an extensive fund raising campaign, the BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL entered their own permanent clubhouse at 15800 Michigan Avenue.

Starting in the late 1980's, fraternal organizations began taking a hit on membership as family life was changing. There were less stay-at-home moms, so men were called to take on more responsibilities at home and organized sports of all-kinds became the new family activity. As the membership fell and the aging building became the focus of all Council activity, it was decided the best form of action was to sell the building. In 2000, the Council got out of the hall rental and lounge business and became a parish based council of St. Clement Parish in east Dearborn.

Without the expenses of maintaining a building, BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL was able to concentrate on the mission of the Knight of Columbus. The Council continued to shrink in membership as the demographics of the area changed. When the Archdiocese decided to close St. Clement Parish in 2016 the Council was forced to find another home. The Council rented facilities at Our Savior PNCC in Dearborn Heights until a permanent arrangement could be made.

In early 2017, BISHOP FOLEY leaders began working with Church of the Divine Child Pastor Father Jim Bilot to facilitate a small office and meeting space for our members. It was announced in April of 2017 that BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL would again become a parish-based council of the Knights of Columbus, based out of Divine Child Parish.

July 12, 2017 marked the inaugural meeting and the beginning of a partnership between the Church of the Divine Child and BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL 2660. The Council will continue to work with the parish in the many programs offered by both groups. BISHOP FOLEY COUNCIL has refocused its objective to align more closely with the mission of the Knights of Columbus and the needs of our parish. As the Council nears its one-hundred years of existence, its membership is growing and its reputation remains strong as a valued organization within the Dearborn Community.