

# Knights of Columbus - Community Cook-Off

## “Let’s Help a Neighbour in Need!”

### Malachi VanWoudenberg & Family



On November 9, 2016 12:59 pm, Malachi John was born weighing 1 lb 14 oz. Malachi was born at 25 weeks and 2 days. Malachi and his siblings were whisked away by a team of doctors and health care professionals. They were all intubated and put on breathing support, and put on special IVs through their umbilical cords. Many monitors and probes were attached to their tiny bodies to monitor different things like heart rates, temperatures, oxygen levels, etc. They were then taken to the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit).

As for the more medical and technical aspects of Malachi's breathing support... he is still on higher settings than when he came home because of his cold. We hope to visit his pediatrician and complex care team this week to get some bloodwork to assess his blood gases (CO<sub>2</sub> in the blood, etc.) and hopefully be able to turn down the amount of support he is getting by a very small amount. We know it will take a long time to slowly wean off of the breathing support (likely multiple years), so we are struggling to stay patient and thankful for the tiny steps we do get to take.

With this year’s cook-off we are hoping to assist Malachi and the VanWoudenberg family with ongoing medical supplies, respiratory equipment and treatments necessary for his development & survival. **See you at the Chilli Cook-off on Saturday April 21, 2018 from 4 to 8 pm at MacKinnon Park School in Caledonia.**