



Knights of Columbus MARINER



Official Publication of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 95, NO 2

"Honoring Faith, Serving Community!"

DECEMBER 2025

Missouri Knights To Continue To Protect the Sanctity of Life Will Collect Roses on January 3-4, 2026

CARDINAL GLENNON COLUMBUS DAY MASS



After the Columbus Day Mass at Cardinal Glennon Hospital, the Honor Guard gathered with Fr. Ferrar, Gerry Matis-Ward VSM Marquette Province, State Deputy Michael Auchly, State Secretary Lucas Volkman, along with other state officers and chairman in remembrance of the great Christopher Columbus and great work at Cardinal Glennon Hospital.

Bishop Ralph O'Donnell Installation In Jeff City



On October 28th at St. Joseph Cathedral, the Missouri Knights of Columbus welcomed Cardinal Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio of the United States of America as the Jefferson City Diocese gathered for the installation of Bishop Ralph O'Donnell.

Harrisonville Christ The King Mass



It was a privilege for the Sir Knights of Assembly 3080 in Harrisonville to gather with Fr. Dan Reardon and the parish for the Christ the King Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes in Harrisonville.

January 3rd and 4th 2026 is an important weekend for the Missouri Knights of Columbus. We once again reserve the first weekend in January to distribute over 60,000 Roses for Life to parishes and other churches in our communities across the State. By signing these Roses, Knights, parishioners and Pro-Life supporters show their commitment to human life in all stages, from conception until natural death.

These Roses have been distributed to our District Deputies for delivery to their Councils. As a suggestion to the members of the parishes and Christian churches that distribute these roses, please remove the paper from the stem of the Rose, keeping the beautiful flower as a reminder to pray for the end of abortion. By placing the signed slips in the mail without the Rose makes a much smaller package and eliminates the tangled wires. By signing the papers from the Roses, which symbolize our commitment to life, should be sent directly to your elected officials, pro-choice legislators in particular. Our goal is to remind them of the thousands of Missouri Pro-Life supporters; we once again start the battle to support the victims of abortion. We remember the unborn with our daily prayers, but we also pray in support for the families who are troubled by their past decisions. By distributing these Roses on January 3rd and 4th gives time for delivery to your State and U.S. Representatives before January 22nd, 2026, which is the 45th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision. As Catholics we suffered a defeat at the ballot box last year. Unfortunately the enormous amount of money coming from out of state narrowly passed a ballot initiative Amendment 3, which allowed no regulations on the abortion industry in protection of mothers, it also allowed abortion up to the date of birth.

We as Catholics will now start to pickup the pieces. We will strive to protect the unborn and the mothers who make a difficult decision at a difficult time.

On November 3, 2026 we take up the battle to ensure changes are being made to limit the amount of last years ballot loss

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Repeal the 2024 voter-approved Amendment providing reproductive healthcare rights, including abortion through fetal viability;
- Allow abortions for rape and incest (under twelve-weeks' gestation), emergencies, and fetal anomalies;
- Allow legislation regulating abortion;
- Allow legislation to regulate abortion providers and facilities to ensure health and safety.
- Ensure parental consent for minors' abortions;
- Prohibit gender transition procedures for minors? A "yes" vote will repeal Article I, Section 36, of the Missouri Constitution approved by the voters in 2024 which provided reproductive healthcare rights, including abortion through fetal viability; continue to ensure women's ability to access medical care for medical emergencies, ectopic pregnancies, and miscarriages; allow legislation to regulate abortion providers and facilities to ensure health and safety; require informed and voluntary consent for an abortion, including parental or judicial consent for minors; allow restriction of abortions to cases of medical emergency, rape and incest under twelve weeks gestation, and fetal anomalies; prohibit public funding of abortions except in limited circumstances; and prohibit gender transition procedures for minors including gender transition surgeries, cross-sex hormones or puberty-blocking drugs, with exceptions for specific medical conditions. A "no" vote will leave Article I, Section 36, of the Missouri Constitution approved by voters in 2024 in place; will not limit abortion to cases of medical emergency, rape and incest under twelve weeks gestation, and fetal anomalies, but leave access to abortion available through fetal viability; will not prohibit gender transition procedures for minors.

As Supreme Representative - PSD John Appelbaum spoke so eloquently at the Missouri Mid Year meeting, "this ballot initiative is not perfect, but we have to pick our battles." State Deputy Michael Auchly so aptly stated "If ever there was a time for the Knights to be the strong right arm of the church, the time is now. We are the boots on the ground in defense of our Catholic faith. We have an opportunity to right this wrong but only if we use our voices to be heard."

Editor's Note: Please read Life Director Anthony Jansen's Page 5 article explaining how the Missouri Knights and associate organizations are laying the ground work on how we will lay the "ground work" in passing Amendment 3 in November.

We reprint the prayer previously printed in a 2017 Mariner issue contained in a article by then Life Chairman (current Columbian Charities Treasurer) Jerry Herbert....

PRAYER TO END ABORTION 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.



Please use QR codes to receive information or watch the recently released video in regards to KNIGHT'S LEGACY Program.





Chaplain's Message

by Fr. Greg Oligschlaeger

Dear Brother Knights,

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection... And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful! [Colossian 3:12, 14-15]

All of us have had mornings when we just stand in front of our closet and debate what clothes you will wear today. St. Paul, in the scripture verse above, is encouraging us to get up every morning and choose- to literally, make the choice- to put on Virtue and turn away from evil. Let the Holy Spirit give you what you need every day to be clothed to face the world and look attractive enough to draw others to the goodness of God.

As Advent begins this new Liturgical year, trust in your baptism and know that each of us is God's chosen son or daughter -Holy and Beloved. Then choose each day to put on heartfelt compassion kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. It is a wardrobe that needs to be modeled in our critical and divisive communities in which we live. Bearing with one another, and forgiving one another. As the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also do.

Over all these virtues, like your most comfortable hoodie or well-worn jean jacket, put on the GREATEST of the Theological Virtues-Put on Love /Charity models Self-Giving Love. Love that strives to serve rather than be served.

It is a challenge in our world today to give thanks and at the same time, to truly, be grateful. We can say "Thank you" but do we show gratitude for what we have received.

Jesus wants us to experience the joy that Gratitude helps to perpetuate. Neurologist's have shown that Anxiety and fear activate the brain's threat center, while gratitude activates the area in the brain associated with calm, peace, and joy, making it difficult for both states to exist at the same time in that part of the brain. The more one practices gratitude, the stronger these positive neural pathways become, making it easier to access feelings of gratitude and calm.

Yes, gratitude can push fear out of the brain because the brain cannot simultaneously hold intense feelings of both **fear** and **gratitude**. This makes a person more resilient to fear, stress and anxiety.

Gratitude helps us to love God and our neighbor as the greatest commandment compels us to do. We trust God who only wants what is best for us. Unlike Adam and Eve who wanted to become like God, a grateful child of God truly appreciates the many talents one has received from God and shares the gift. That appreciation leads to trust and faith and a belief that God is never outdone in generosity; so that we can boldly proclaim as the prophet Joshua did in Chapter 24 "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." [Joshua 24:15]

During this Christmas Season and into the New Year of 2026, let us share the blessings and grace God has lavished upon us so other will come to know the Love of God. As we flow from the celebrations of Thanksgiving that roll into the Christmas Season and the resolutions we make for 2026, may our celebrations lead us to an attitude of gratitude that breaks down divisions by focusing on our neighbor before ourselves. Let us choose to bear with one another ... and forgive one another... as the Lord has forgiven us. Each day we are compelled to Choose to 'Put On' for all to see the Self-giving love that is the **Divine gift** of Charity. Prayers and Blessings this Christmas Season and may you have a Happy, Holy and Healthy New Year!

Fr. Greg Oligschlaeger

DD Mike West Sends Greetings from District 40!

The Councils have all completed the Drive for People with Developmental Disabilities. Thanks to all who supported this important event.

Council 846, Edina - The Council conducted the Quails Unlimited Banquet in October. This is a major fundraiser for the Council.

Council 2526, St. Patrick - The council held our annual Hayride/ Wiener Roast on October 12th. Many from the parish and community attended. We are planning our annual Christmas Party. The Council is currently planning the fraternal year. Street bowling is always a big event.

Council 3375, Kirksville - The Knights of Columbus, Willaim Eagen Council 3375 in Kirksville, Missouri helped obtain a new state of the art Ultrasound machine for the Lifeline Pregnancy Center lo-

cated in Kirksville, Missouri.

Council 3375 contributed \$9500.00 toward the purchase of the \$36,000.00 machine, with the remaining funds provided by the State and National Councils of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus are honored to support the efforts of Lifeline Pregnancy Center to provide options for Women that may otherwise choose to abort their child.

We held our annual fish fry for the Council at the Don Westhoff farm for our September meeting. We are going to assist a Boy Scout with his Eagle Project on November 22nd. This project was earmarked to help with an improvement to the playground at Mary Immaculate Catholic School.

We hosted the Silver Rose on October 5th. We are conducting the

IN MEMORIAM

Bishop Emeritus John R. Gaydos ..	1054
Jack W. Poston	1111
Thomas R. Elder	1263
Joseph V. "Joe" Lottes, Jr.	1263
Edgar C. "ED" Ponder	1263
Cletus M. Schnurbusch	1263
Leon B. Schumer	1263
Paul F. Kemner	1927
Norman J. Schwoepple	1927
Michael P. Henggeler	1931
Steven L. Hoff	2262
John S. Wood	2240
Robert E. Hollis	2951
Deacon James H. Reynolds	3430
Joseph A. Greco	3977
Jesse M. Urhahn	3977
Patrick Q. Carr	4387
Richard "Dick" J. Carr	4387
Jerome D. Menke	4429
James M. O'Day	4429
Lawrence J. Billy, M.D.	6401
Richard R. Conley	6405
Kenrick J. Gibbar, Sr.	6405
John F. Knaup	6405
Thomas L. Kohm	6405
Robert P. Wilson	6405
Raymond C. Maher	6794
Michael A. Mayo	6794
Deacon James H. Reynolds	6794
Dr. John W. Huffman	9533
William D. Summers	9533
Paul E. Kessler	11656
Thomas M. Bushold	12022
Kenneth A. Laborde	12332
Mark E. Mancuso	12332
Michael A. Hamm	12676
Bruce L. Bax	12992
Donald E. Meyer	12992
Kent R. Welch	13748

If your Council has Knights who have passed away, please contact State Memorial Board Chairman Mike Deamos at 816-405-7418 or MDeamos@hotmail.com for more information.

STATE DEPUTY MICHAEL AUCHLY SAYS:

My Brother Knights and Ladies. Joyful Advent, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and all of your families. We are now in one of the most joyous times of the year as we await the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Can anyone receive a better gift than this? We all should thank God our Father for caring that much for us! It has been a wonderful first half of the year attending so many Council functions and activities and to have the honor of meeting so many wonderful Brother Knights and their families.



One of the highlights of the year so far was attending the Installation Mass for Bishop Ralph O'Donnell as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Jefferson City. We look forward to working with him to build on the success of our partnership with those who have gone before him. We pledge our cooperation and our best efforts as the strong right arm of the church to helping you bring God's great plan to the Diocese of Jefferson City and sharing such with the rest of the great State of Missouri.

Our year is off to a great start as I want to thank you for helping us reach our membership goal for the first quarter of the year. This gave us a 2.5% reduction in our membership intake goal for Circle of Honor. We know that we can reach this lofty honor and we will as long as everyone keeps inviting men and their families to join us!

This Christmas give a gift that will last a lifetime, the opportunity to be a member of the Knights of Columbus. You can do this by asking them along with their family if they would like to join you. The majority of Catholic men claim they have not been asked but would consider it if asked to join. Please take the time this holiday season to reach out to that fellow Catholic sitting next to you in church and ask them to come join in an activity and allow them to experience the joy of becoming a Knight this Christmas season.

Mark your calendars for the State Convention next April 24-26, 2026 as it will be our 125th State Convention. We will be kicking off our yearlong celebration that weekend that will culminate at the State Convention in 2027 when we will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Missouri Jurisdiction. The celebration committee has been working very hard at preparing special events and activities for these celebrations. Stay tuned for details as we get closer to these anniversaries.

It may seem like it is a long way off but the annual State Convention will be here before we know it. I know, I know, we haven't even made it to Christmas and here we are talking about Convention. That's because we have a lot of planning to be done between now and April in preparation for the State Convention. Now is the time to start thinking about any resolutions your council might want to submit for consideration by the Delegates. Speaking of Delegates, who will represent your Council at the State Convention? I can't express to you enough the importance of making sure that your council has representation at the State Convention.

Please take the time to read all of the articles from your State Program Directors in the Mariner as they have great information in them regarding their programs and what is going on in the State. As well, the District Deputies always have great recaps of the outstanding programs and projects that their local councils have been doing. The Missouri jurisdiction has always been strong in programming serving our communities.

From Ruth Ann and I, we wish all of you a very Joyful Advent, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope to see you over the next several months while we travel across the state attending as many events as we can to help promote and celebrate being a member of the Knights of Columbus. As always, I ask you to Celebrate Everything!



The 2025 state soccer challenge winners are as follows: Kyle Seitzinger girls age 9 first place winner, Audrey Kretzer girls age 9 second place winner, Hazel Kirchhoff girls age 10 first place, Brock Carr boys age 9 first place winner, Alex Hunter boys age 9 second place winner, Kyler Old boys age 10 first place winner, Ben Detweller boys age 11 first place winner, Cooper Johnson boys age 12 first place winner. This year we had 24 score sheets turned in for districts and state. There were 8 trophies awarded to first and second place winners. The Jefferson City soccer group won 6 of the 8 trophies awarded. Nicework!!! Not all the winners made the picture that is attached. Dressing for the weather and not for show, DD Rich Wieberg (L), Worthy State Deputy Michael Auchly (R). (not all winners in photo)

STATE SECRETARY LUCAS VOLKMAN SAYS:

Brother Knights and Ladies:

I hope that this article finds you and your families well. As we reach the halfway point of the fraternal year, it is often a good point to take stock of things. How are our Councils, auxiliaries, or assemblies doing so far? But as individuals, how are we doing in our faith and our efforts? Certainly, everyone is busy and must balance a lot of things in our lives. But we should be proud of our accomplishments and always be looking for ways to improve.



Of course, things do not always go how we hope they do. Even when things do not turn out as we like, the words of St. Therese of Lisieux may be helpful here. She explains that "Everything is a grace, everything is the direct effect of our Father's love – difficulties, contradictions, humiliations, all the soul's miseries, her burdens, her needs. ... Whatever be the character of life or its unexpected events – to the heart that loves, all is well." So when things do not go as we hope, we should always remember that God's grace is available for us and we can still use those situations for the good. Moreover, God gives us exactly what we need, even when we struggle. But if we love Him, all will be well. Though, when we are in need, we should always seek out our Mother Mary and ask her for her help and intercession.

In early December the delegate letter for the 125th State Convention was sent electronically to your councils. It is also posted on the state website and is being mailed as well. With the deadlines being moved up to February 15th, it will help facilitate us getting the other convention materials to your Council sooner. Likely the convention will be discussed at your council meetings in the near future. The auxiliary chair couple will be in touch with the auxiliaries as well. But if your Council/Auxiliary has not sent someone in some time to the State Convention, this year and next year would be good meetings to attend – you can certainly volunteer as a delegate if you are interested in attending and no one else is able to go. This year is our 125th Convention, and we have some special things planned. In 2027, we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Missouri State Council, and that will be something that you will not want to miss.

As always, thank you for your work and I hope that you and your families have a blessed Advent and a good Christmas season. May the blessing of Mary, our Mother and Patroness, along with that of Blessed Michael McGivney, be upon your councils, auxiliaries, and assemblies. Vivat Jesus!

All Councils In District 25 Are Hard At Work and Doing Some Very Good Works In Their Communities

Once again, this year every council in the district has participated and completed their Developmental disabilities drive for this 2025-2026 fraternal year. We are still waiting final numbers but all councils felt that they did well.

Council 2547 Owensville - Council and members continue to help their parish. This year's big projects were for the parish hall. First the Council installed a new exhaust hood for the fry Shack with fire suppression system and secondly the Knights also installed a new retaining wall on the alley side of the building so none how would driving down the alley would hit the back side of the building. Once again, the Knights hosted turtle races for the local youth at the Annual Owensville 4th of July celebration with a record number of youth turning up to participate.

Council 4858 Sullivan - Hosted its annual memorial mass for deceased brother Knights and ladies. This year, the mass was held on Sunday November 2nd during the regular Sunday mass and a dinner was provided for the widows and families of their deceased brother at the hall following this mass.

Again, this year, in December the Council will host its annual Impact Group Christmas Dinner. Impact is the local sheltered workshop in the Sullivan area. This year not only the Council but also its Ladies Auxiliary sponsored a table and at the Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center fund raising banquet dinner held in Bourbon Missouri. The Council is continuing hosting blood drives at the council hall utilizing the American Red Cross for this service. Faith Activities the Council continues to host the Rosary Program from the Supreme Council at every 5th Sunday.

Council 8920 Cuba, Bourbon, and Steelville - This Council has been very busy with both old and new fund raisers. Of course, our weekly Thursday night bingos, continue to do well to help fund these programs and so far this year at bingo, if players bring in food to help support our local food pantries through out the county so far the Council was able to deliver 2119 pounds of food. If bingo players bring in food, they receive a free tally sheet to play on what ever game they choose except the progressive games.

We will be starting the annual Kids Christmas party on Sunday Dec. 14th. This event is also open to the public and we have a terrific turn out each year. Kids in the area get to see Santa and receive a stocking with small toys, candy, and fruit, we also provide hot dogs, chips, and cookies for all in attendance. The Council will also doing our Free Throw competition and this year's date has not yet been set but will be in the middle of January on a Sunday late afternoon, and will be held in Steelville and this will be for all youth in the Crawford County area.

Finally, the Council is continuing its partnership with Impact Blood Services and host one blood drive every quarter, and average pints collected at these blood drives is approximately 12 pints. This year the council membership along with the help of our ladies Aux., set a record of \$7092.38 earning during our recent DD drive which is a Council all time record. Thank you, brother Knight Kendall Garner and Ladies Aux., Vickie Dunakey for chairing this record-breaking year.

District 46 News

by DD Dave Diveley

Cape Girardeau #1111 - Continuing towards Star Council Award. Four new members joined in October. A fund raising chili supper was held on November 8 with the proceeds going to Backstoppers in memory of fallen Sikeston DPS Officer Henry Franklin. Coats For Kids will be at the hall on November 29. The Council prayed 1493 Rosaries in the Month of October.

St. Isidore Leopold #5898

Also working toward Star Council Award. They will be having Coats for Kids again this year at their Council Breakfast with Santa was held on December 4. Always well attended and a great event. The Council prayed 1354 Rosaries in the month of October.

Bishop Timon Jackson #6405

The Council had their annual Columbus Day banquet. This Council had their annual breakfast on November 2. This event is always a delicious breakfast served by the Council.

The Council will be participating in the Coats For Kids event again this year.

The Ladies Auxiliary reported praying 257 during the month of October.

St. Joseph Scott City #6420

The Council had their annual Columbus Day banquet where the Knight of the Year and the Family of The Year were awarded.

The Council also presented newly ordained Deacon Brian Berger with a Knights of Columbus chasuble. This Council will be participating in the Coats For Kids event.

Fr. Marquette Cape Girardeau #11205

The Council has opened a new hall and really has a functional place to have their events. The Council had a church drive in November and is hoping to add new members. The Council will be participating in the Coats For Kids event.

St. Thomas Cape Girardeau #15294

The college Council continues to grow and is a welcome partner with the Newman Center. The Council had a presence at the back-to-school event on Southeast Missouri State campus. New members were recruited and the Council is expected to obtain Star Council again this year.



FR. MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

For more information contact
Chairman Tom Broadbent
thomasb040@hotmail.com

*Please Pray for a
Second Miracle
toward Sainthood*

December 2025 – THE MARINER – Page 3

STATE PROGRAM DIR. CHUCK PAQUETTE SAYS:

The Supreme Knights of Columbus, "Faith in Action" programs, provide local Councils with specific, organized ways to live out the Order's founding principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The programs are grouped into four main categories: **Faith, Family, Community, and Life**. The following is a list of prominent programs, categorized by their focus, along with a brief description of each:



I. Faith Programs These programs support the spiritual lives of Knights and their families, as well as the needs of the parish and clergy.

- Into the Breach:** A spiritual formation program encouraging Catholic men to embrace virtues, often using study groups to discuss the Apostolic Exhortation *Into the Breach*.
- Cor:** A new initiative centered on developing a Christ-centered brotherhood through consistent, intentional gatherings focused on prayer, formation, and fraternity.

- Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP):** Councils "adopt" seminarians or postulants, providing them with financial aid and moral support on their journey to the priesthood or religious life.

- Rosary Program:** Promotes devotion to the Rosary within families and parishes by scheduling regular communal prayer services.
- Building the Domestic Church Kiosk:** Provides engaging, faith-based literature and Catholic Information Service booklets for councils to distribute to members and the public to strengthen family faith life.

II. Family Programs These initiatives aim to strengthen Catholic families and foster family-oriented fraternity.

- Family of the Month:** Honors a deserving family in the parish each month who lives out Catholic values and sets a good example through their faith and service.
- Family Week:** Encourages councils to sponsor events and activities that promote family togetherness, prayer, and fun.
- Consecration to the Holy Family:** Guides families to formally dedicate themselves to the Holy Family through prayer and reflection.
- Adopt a Widow (or Similar Support):** Programs designed to offer social contact, assistance, and support to the spouses of deceased members.

III. Community Programs The focus here is on serving the local community, especially those in need, through various forms of assistance.

- Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids®:** Provides new winter coats to children in need across the United States and Canada.
- Global Wheelchair Mission:** Raises funds to donate wheelchairs to people with disabilities worldwide, often done through matching grants.
- Habitat for Humanity:** Partnering with the global organization to build homes for families in need of affordable housing.
- Food for Families:** Councils organize food drives and provide material support to local food pantries and soup kitchens to combat hunger.
- Special Olympics:** Supports the Special Olympics through volunteering, fundraising, and helping to celebrate the intrinsic worth of all people with intellectual disabilities.

IV. Life Programs These programs promote the culture of life, supporting mothers, children, and people with special needs, from conception to natural death.

- Ultrasound Initiative:** Councils and the Supreme Council partner to raise funds to purchase and donate ultrasound machines to pro-life pregnancy centers.
- Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP):** Provides material and spiritual support to pregnant women, new mothers, and their babies through local pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.
- March for Life:** Organizes and encourages Knights and their families to attend pro-life marches and rallies to show public support for the right to life.
- Novena for Life:** Leads the community in prayer, typically over nine days, to spiritually fight to establish a culture of life.
- Christian Refugee Relief:** Provides aid, often financial and material, to persecuted and at-risk Christians and other religious minorities facing crises globally.

Visit the Supreme website for more information and resources that will help bring these programs you and your Council. www.kofc.org

Kirchner State School Benefits From Triple DDD Drive

The funds from the 2025 Triple DD Drive in Freeburg benefit the Kirchner State School for the severely handicapped.

Joining the three teachers and students are Fr. Gerald Kaiser Council #9700 Knights John Locker and Bernie Welschmeyer. In the words of John, God Bless these Kids! Remember Brother Knights, we are making a difference!



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR BRIAN ZIEGLER SAYS:

Greetings Brothers

It is hard to believe the Advent/ Christmas season is already upon us. We are having a good year thus far in Missouri with our membership and programs but as always it could be better.

This Christmas season presents us numerous opportunities to invite fellow Catholic men to join our order as there will be novenas, Christmas programs, family gatherings and of course we all know that the churches are always overflowing at Christmas masses.

What a better gift to give a Catholic man than a free years membership in the Knights. They simply need to go to www.kofc.org/joinus and enter the promo code BLESSED MCGIVNEY. They need to make sure it states valid code before proceeding they then need to watch their email for a confirmation email from the Knights and they then have 24 hours to confirm that and then they are members of the Missouri Knights Of Columbus.

People ask why is getting new members so important. Well there are a few reasons.

1- Without new members who will replace the members we lose due to deaths or transfers?

2- The more members we have the stronger we are in supporting our Catholic church and our Priests

3- The more members we have the more support we can give and more funds we can raise for our charities. From my family to yours we wish you a Blessed Advent and Christmas season And we urge to remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!

**STATE FAITH DIRECTOR JOSH NEUWEG..**

As we get ready to start the holiday time of year, now is a good time to remember all the things we are thankful for. I think one of the most important things we should be thankful for is the gift of our Catholic faith. The Catholic Church has for the past 2000 years has provided us with the sacraments to help us on our spiritual journey towards salvation and eternal life with the Holy Trinity in Heaven. The Knights of Columbus Council members in Missouri have been very generous in supporting the Catholic Churches in the state through the Missouri Religious Information Bureau (RIB), Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), and the Missouri Religious Vocations Fund (MRVF).



I get asked several times a year about the difference in these 3 programs. The Missouri RIB has been established to help in the educating of people interested in the Catholic faith as well as educating Non-Catholics in our faith. The RSVP program is set up to help financially support Seminarians in their education to become Priest for our Churches. The MRVF is used to help those who are considering Priesthood, Religious and Consecrated Life. The MRVF is probably the lowest funded program of the 3. I ask everyone to consider this for a moment. If we don't help our Diocese in the state identify and help those considering a call to serve the Catholic Faith as Priests, Monks, and Nuns how long will it be before we have even more Parish consolidation due to lack of Priests? How many Catholic Schools will be short teaching staff without Religious Brothers and Sisters taking on the role of teacher? I ask that every Council consider donating to the MRVF especially if your Council has never given before. The larger this fund grows the more we can help our Diocese reach those who have a calling to serve our Catholic Faith.

The Msgr. Joseph Mancuso Catholic Education Grant Applications are available on the State Website MOKOFC.org. The Application and criteria for the grant are under the Faith section and then click on the Catholic Education Grant Program link on the right side of the page. Only online applications will be considered and are due by March 1st 2026. Please reach out to your Parishes and Parish Schools to inform them of the Grant. Cor programs our growing in the State.

Cor programs help build stronger men through prayer, fellowship and Scripture. Stronger men mean stronger families, churches, and communities. Our Cor Chairman Jason Kehl has ideas, and pulpit announcements that you can use to get a program started. Although I can't imagine a Pastor not wanting a Cor program in his Parish he has talking points to talk to your pastor about starting a Cor program at your Parish. For those that have Cor programs remember to get you Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) directors contact information to Jason so he has good contacts to share success stories with and help answer any questions that may come up. You can contact Jason via email at jasonkehl@spiritmachinery.com .

Mike Violett Reports District #2 Heading For Success

Winter is here but things have not cooled down up here in the Northwest part of the state. We had a district meeting in conjunction with our second mouse race meeting and are planning a Mass at the Cameron Veterans home on November 9th at 2:00 p.m. We have also been asked to help Catholic Charities with a veterans event on November 10th at 3:00 p.m. We were blessed to host the Silver Rose for two days, would loved to have had it a week. Our Councils have been praying the rosary in support of our State jurisdictions initiative.

St. Joseph #571 - We have been hosting the monthly Mariners luncheon, held our Tootsie Roll Drive, and had a loin dinner to support our seminarians. By the time the Mariner is posted we will have helped with the St Mary's fall festival, and have a memorial mass for deceased members on November 13th. We have our biggest fund raiser our annual Turkey shoot on November 21st starting at 6:00 p.m. We will hold our Council Christmas party in December, remember Christ in Christmas and support the Knights essay contest.

St. Munchins #1110 in Cameron - We have a church breakfast every month on the second Sunday Morning and use it as a recruiting opportunity. We Continue to say the Rosary before our meetings to help support our Cor program. We were able to purchase 2 cases of coats for our local school to support coats for kids. We had our Tootsie Roll Drive, and are planning our Roses for Life campaign. We will be helping with our District Veteran's day mass. We also fund raise by selling trash bags.

Bishop Leblond #5067 - We host Bingo every Wednesday night, doors open at 4:30 P.M. Making plans for our Memorial Mass on November 6th, we did a Tootsie Roll Drive and help the open door food kitchen monthly. We collected 147 coats and gave them to the Grace House a local non profit supporting the community.

St. James #12463 - Helped with the annual St. James Auction to support our parish and school. Working on coats for kids. We prayed the rosary over the Silver Rose and are working on having a recruitment event along with a parish picnic. We have a men's group and are looking to incorporate Cor into it with our new EFF director.

St. Francis #15126 - We are still having our monthly 10 point pitch tournament with all the proceeds going to local charities. Our bi-monthly blood drive was held and we received 27 units of blood. Had the Silver rose available for our Council meeting and said the rosary over it. Held our Tootsie Roll Drive and on November 1st took 114 coats, 32 pairs of gloves, four bags of hats and some baby clothes and diapers to the St Joseph Catholic Charities facility. We are putting 60 Thanksgiving baskets together and taking them to Catholic Charities on November 22nd. These baskets consist of breakfast items as well as everything needed for a thanksgiving meal with either a turkey or ham, and at the recommendation of Catholic Charities, hygiene products such as shampoo, tooth brushes, tooth paste and soap products.

Ladies Auxiliary #571 - We had a fund raising chili supper in October to raise money for several projects we have coming up. We attended the regional Auxiliary meeting and received a lot of good information.

Assembly #569 - We're having our annual Veteran's mass at the Cameron Veteran's home at 2:00 p.m. on November 9th everyone is welcome and our Honor Guard will be there to support Father Tom Ludwig. We will be supplying an honor guard for all the memorial masses for the Councils. This year we are also supporting a veteran's event with Catholic Charities on November 9th at 3:00 p.m. We have also recently finished 3 years of compiling veterans information on our assembly, and bought grave markers and took them to 3 different cemetery's and placed them on deceased past faithful navigators graves to Honor them for being veterans. We hope some day we might be able to do it for all our members. Right: Honor Guard gathers at the grave of Past Faithful Navigator Veteran SKt Francis Talbot.

**State Council Supports Springfield Area Pregnancy Care Center**

Wonderful news from the Knights of Columbus State Council who recently gathered with Springfield Councils #9533, #698 and #13681, along with DD Craig Henely #50, DD Andy Garcia #53, Worthy SD Michael Auchly, PSD Doug Kissinger, State Community Director John "Rocky" Gammon, State Family Director John Clarke, and Past State Chaplain Fr. David Hulsoff, were honored. They came together to purchase a brand new ultrasound machine for the Pregnancy Care Center in Springfield, MO. This Collaborative effort will make a significant difference in the Springfield area community.



St Francis Xavier Council #15126 hosted the Silver Rose on Oct. 7th



Greetings Brother Knights and Your Families!

Advent is here! We all are waiting for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Some of us are more patient than others. What a Blessed time of year! It is also a time of preparation for 2026 and how we can be better Catholics, husbands and fathers. Now is the time to reflect on what we will do better in 2026.

We have two huge opportunities in our Life activities. First is our political fight in the renewed Amendment 3 on the ballot. We were all disappointed with the close race we lost in November. We have a chance at recovering some of the damage that was done. Amendment 3 2026 will restore some safety protocol to women, some parental rights, and some rights of the preborn. In addition, it will also protect our children from the ever-pushed gender transition debate.

So, our strategy will be much the same as in 2024. We must educate ourselves on the subject so we can educate our circle of influence being family, friends, and co-workers. The key difference is we are following up. I am looking for leaders in each of the 8 Congressional Districts to follow up with Grand Knights and District Deputies to understand what resources we need to win in 2026. We must have 100% of our Councils active. We know it will look different in each Council based on their relationships with various Pro-Life organizations around the state. BUT do what works in your neighborhood. WE cannot be silent! If you or someone you know would be a good Pro-Life leader, please call me at 573-768-0294 or email me. We all can do something.

Another opportunity that I am extremely excited about is our Special Olympics challenge. The Special Olympics Training for Life Center in Jefferson City is developing their “Back Nine” for Bochy ball, Pickle ball, softball, kickball, and many other activities. We have accepted the challenge to provide the with a “Knights of Columbus Pavilion”. This will provide the multiple necessary amenities several hundred feet from their main building. It will provide restrooms, shade, concessions, and some much-needed storage. Councils and individuals can help as much as they like. Councils will be recognized on a permanent plaque that show their commitment to SOMO. This is going to be a beautiful addition to help God’s special children. More information is at the end of this article.

Lastly, I want to remind you all to enjoy and celebrate our Advent Season with your families and Councils. From my family to yours, please enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I ask for your prayerful consideration for our 2 challenges in 2026! Vivat Jesus!!!

Well, ready or not, it is time for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! What a beautiful time of the year. Again, I want to remind all Brother Knights, if your Council has not done so, please reach out to your pastor on how the Knights can help educate members of your community as to the evils of the new Amendment 3 for November 2026. Make sure he knows we will support him in any way needed. It is not too early to start planning and fundraising to protect the preborn. History will judge us as to how hard we fight to protect the preborn, women’s safety, and parental rights.

Knights worldwide have raised over \$1.6 million for Pregnancy Resource Centers this fraternal year! We are on track to reach our goal of \$5 million for FY 25-26. Keep up the good work and encourage your Councils to not only support their local pregnancy centers and maternity homes but also apply for the ASAP grant as soon as possible to get the money from Supreme to the centers. As always, resources can be found at kofc.org/asap and councils can order KofC-branded baby bottles from Supplies Online to use for baby bottle drives. All of these activities can be used as marketing events to educate people on the need to vote yes on Amendment 3.

As the weather cools down, many Special Olympics organizations are transitioning to indoor sports or cold weather fundraisers like the polar plunge. Now is the time to plan for these activities and encourage Councils to report their participation in Special Olympics programs through the online Fraternal Programs Report Form (#10784). All participation taking place in calendar year 2025 must be reported through the online form by January 31st, 2026, to be considered in annual jurisdictional rankings. Rankings will be determined, and checks will be issued, by April 2026. Contact your local Special Olympics organization to get involved! If you would like to get involved, give Special Olympics Chairman Gary Beussink a call.

The schedule for the National March for Life on January 23, 2026 in Washington, D.C. is now available. Go to marchforlife.org for a brochure on preparing for a March for Life and for information on how to organize attendance the march. In addition, Supreme is seeking volunteers to help distribute signs for the March for Life on that day from 9am - 12pm. Any amount of time you can volunteer is welcome! Participants will receive free K of C apparel. Go to kofc.org to sign up. Also, please mark your calendars for the Midwest March for Life on April 30, 2026 in Jefferson City. Go to midwestmarchforlife.com for more information and to get registered.

On behalf of my family and me, I want to wish everyone a very Blessed Advent Season, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Vivat Jesus!

The Knights of Columbus Roses for Life program is back again this year. Councils placed their orders for the iconic roses earlier this year and they were distributed to District Deputies at the mid-year meeting at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach December 14-15.

Once District Deputies have given their Councils the roses they ordered, Grand Knights will consult with their parish priests to work out when to hand them out to parishioners. Parishioners fill out their information on the tag attached to the rose and those tags are passed along to state lawmakers to show support for the Pro-Life movement. People keep the paper rose as a reminder of our belief in the dignity of all life. This year, Knights will distribute approximately 23,700 roses at masses all across the state.

Another opportunity to affirm life is the Midwest March for Life. The Midwest March for Life is our regional opportunity to advocate, demonstrate, and lobby for respect for all life, especially the vulnerable pre-born of our state. This year it will be May 1 in Jefferson City around our state capitol. The Midwest March for Life features nationally recognized speakers and organization leaders as well as booths of statewide pro-life organizations, educational opportunities, a youth rally, and spiritual formation opportunities. The Office of Life & Justice organizes a bus trip to the Midwest March for Life. You can find more information at MidwestMarchForLife.com.

Many Councils around the state provide Life-affirming activities to raise money to protect life as well as educate individuals on the Pro-abortion propaganda. Perryville Knights of Columbus Council 1263 will host a “Run for the Roses” on January 11 at 6:00 PM. The evening will feature several horse races where you can place your “bets”. Admission is \$25 each with sponsor tables available. For more information email 1263kofc@gmail.com or call Dave Schumer at 573-768-9758. All proceeds go to LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, Options for Women, and the Knights of Columbus Meet Life Campaign.

SEPTEMBER KNIGHT OF THE MONTH:DAVE ROBERTS

Dave's involvement with the many different aspects of being a Knight. From preparing meals, contact with Mother Refuge in Independence, MO to student scholarships. His support of the many functions of St. Jude and of our Council has proven that he is worthy of this nomination.

He is the chair on the Scholarship committee that updated the scholarship application and selection process ensuring that 2 deserving students were given aid to attend local Catholic schools that expand their spiritual knowledge and general education.

Dave assisted during our Sacred Heart Holy Hour in June by leading a section of the church in responses, as well as an Usher at numerous times of the year.

He has co-chaired working with the Oak Grove Community Center to get them needed items to help residents. Such as fans to help during summer heat.

Brother Roberts is part of our COR program committee, This Man Is You (TMIY). He was instrumental in establishing the welcoming part of the program. Dave has prepared the breakfast for 18-23 men during the two TMIY sessions, about 23 total. Dave's input and support of the program helped make it a huge success. He took charge of the June St. Jude Fellowship and once again made it a great gathering. All of Brother Robert's actions and support in the activities of the St. Jude the Apostle Knights of Columbus Council #14097 makes him worthy of this award.



Become a "Champion of SOMO" Today!



Individual Knights can be recognized for supporting Special Olympics Missouri Back Nine Project in raising money towards the Knights of Columbus Pavilion.

- The Gold "Champion of SOMO" lapel pin will be awarded to Members who make a \$250 minimum contribution.
- The Silver "Friend of SOMO" lapel pin will be awarded to Members who make a \$100 minimum contribution.

Your council will also receive credit for your contribution.



Thank you for supporting Special Olympics Missouri!

Knights of Columbus Back Nine



Donor Gift



- Recognize me as a Champion of SOMO based on my (\$250 minimum contribution)
- Recognize me as a Friend of SOMO based on my (\$100 minimum contribution)
- Enclosed is my one-time gift of \$ _____

Name(s): _____ Telephone: _____

Mail Address: _____ Council #: _____

Please make check payable to Special Olympics Missouri. <Include Council Number on the memo line. >

Please mail this card and your contribution to: Special Olympics Missouri Attn: Carol Griffin, 305 Special Olympics Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101



Missouri State Council Knights of Columbus Special Olympics Missouri Back Nine - Challenge Agreement



We, Knights of Columbus Council # _____, accept the challenge to achieve: *These Recognition Levels are to be achieved over the next 3 years.

- Platinum Level Recognition (\$100) per member
- Double Gold Recognition (\$45.00) per Member
- Gold Level Recognition (\$22.50) per Member
- Silver Level Recognition (\$18.00) per Member
- Bronze Level Recognition (\$15.75) per Member

*Please include the number of Members that are in your Council: _____

Knights of Columbus Councils that achieve Platinum, Double Gold, Gold, Silver, or Bronze Level Status will receive permanent recognition in the Special Olympics Missouri Back Nine. The space that will display levels achieved will be named the Knights of Columbus Pavilion.

Please check the following strategies that apply to your Council:

- A) We are designating that a portion or all of our Tootsie Roll Drive turnaround funds go to Special Olympics Missouri and the building of the Back Nine Pavilion:
 - A1) If checked above, please write a percentage or amount given: _____
- B) We are hosting a fundraiser (eg. Dice Run, Horseshoes, Washers, Golf events, etc.):
 - B1) If checked above, please write an amount raised or that you hope to raise: _____
 - B2) Please give date of fundraising event(s): _____

Please sign and date this Challenge Agreement and return to:

Special Olympics Missouri
Attn: Carol Griffin
305 Special Olympics Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____



If you have questions, please call Carol Griffin, Health Partnership Director at 573-469-7831

Special Olympics Missouri is proud to return 85% of every dollar directly to program services. We would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for your continued support for SOMO athletes and for helping to make the Back Nine a reality.

Participate (Trisha) Crowder Named YoFM

Patriciae (Trisha) Crowder is an active member and leader in the Impact Youth group at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, part of the Disciples group that serves and evangelizes other young people. She is a volunteer with the Ladies Auxiliary of Council 11382 and a PSR aide for the second grade. Trisha is also an altar server.

Trisha is a member of the Seedbearers team, which is a group of adults and teens who annually provide home repair services to persons who could not afford to have such work completed without such assistance.

Trisha is an outstanding student, active in the music program and theater program at school, as well as being an accomplished pianist. She is also in the process of joining the Tennis Team for Duchesne. Trisha is unique among persons of her age in that she has taken the initiative to seek Spiritual Direction from the Associate Pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

Trisha is, with the support of her parents, discerning a call to a vocation as a Carmelite sister. She is a model to her peers in demonstrating what joy comes from an intentional effort to come to know the LORD.



L to R: Fretzie Crowder, Ken Crowder, Chairman Marvin Doerhoff and Trish Crowder September Youth of the Month.

STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR ROCKY GAMBON SAYS:

The Drive for Developmental Disabilities, a.k.a. the Tootsie Roll Drives, are basically done and I hope all had a safe and satisfying time. Thank you to all brothers that stood out and collected for those with developmental disabilities. I know the Knights of Columbus Developmental Center will be thrilled with the fantastic effort that was completed by our brother Knights.

As a reminder, copies of all final reports sent to me by December 1st will be in the drawing for one of three \$100 awards. Remember to send a copy to Columbian Charities Treasure Jerry Herbert along with a copy to myself. You will find both of these forms on our state website under Services, forms, Community. Please get these forms sent in as soon as you can.

May I also commend those Councils who purchased an A-frame sign to help market their Tootsie Roll Developmental Drive. These signs had QR codes allowing patrons to donate directly to their Council through the Continue to Give website. Last year, QR codes helped bring in \$2,000 total. This, that amount has increased to \$6,000! If you and your council want to learn more, please email me at JGambon3645@gmail.com.

Along with the Tootsie Roll Drives, the soccer challenge is coming to a close. By the time you read this, the State Soccer challenge will have been held. Thanks to all who took part at the Council, district and state levels. This year's prizes were updated for the state winners to include high quality drink bottles. My description doesn't do it justice, but if you made it to the state soccer championship, you probably saw some nice prizes. Once again, congratulations to all who participated. The state winners will be announced in the next electronic Mariner on the MoKofC.org website.

The Global Wheelchair Mission provides aid to those who lack the freedom of mobility in our communities and around the world. Whether councils are presenting wheelchairs to local veterans and neighbors in need or donating funds to benefit those abroad, mobility brings with it independence and dignity. Obtained at discounted prices, these wheelchairs change the lives of their recipients. Working with the Global Wheelchair Mission is a perfect opportunity to put your faith into action and involve the entire community in the rewarding charitable work done by your council. If you have any questions or wish to hold a Wheelchair Mission Sunday event, please reach out to Chairman Charles Lenau at cmalenau12@spectrum.net

The Coats for kids' program continues throughout the state. If you have not purchased coats for distribution, I strongly urge you to do so soon. These coats come in Boys and Girls sizes for Youth, teen and lightweight. Last year supreme ran out of coats so I want to encourage all councils/assemblies/chapters to get their orders in as soon as possible, don't wait for winter. Questions, please contact Bill Lueckenhoff at bill.lueckenhoff@gmail.com.

Essay contest should have started. If your council has not begun this exciting contest, I hope you are getting ready. Councils must judge local entries and submit only their top one essay per grade level for the State judging. This year's topic is **"Given the fact that Pope Leo XIV was born and raised in the United States, how do you think that can inspire young men and women to consider the priesthood and religious life?"** Please get students from the local schools, PSR, to participate. Remember, this topic is the Missouri topic so please do not send any winners to Supreme for judging. For more information contact Bill Lueckenhoff at bill.lueckenhoff@gmail.com

A Knight's Journey From Council #2044 To The Naval Academy

Beckham Cothren, a member of Immaculate Conception Parish in Montgomery City, MO and recent member of Knights of Columbus Council 2044 was inducted into the Naval Academy Class of 2029 on June 26, 2025. He is currently in his Fourth Class (4/C) year at the academy where he plans to major in Aerospace Engineering. Beckham joined the Knights of Columbus in his local parish prior to departing for the Academy.

Beckham places high importance on his new membership and even with his busy schedule continues his membership at the Knights of Columbus Council at the United States Naval Academy. He is also a member of the Catholic Midshipman Club, the Trap and Skeet team, ARES (Adaptive Rapid Engagement Squadron), and serves as the Seventh Company class of 2029 Honor Representative.

Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen. In 2025, U.S. News and World Reports rated the Naval Academy as the #1 public school, #5 undergraduate engineering school, and #3 national liberal arts college. Midshipmen learn from military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and extracurricular activities.

They also study subjects such as leadership, ethics, small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weapons, and military law. Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a Bachelor of Science degree and go on to serve at least five years of service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

The Brigade of Midshipmen is comprised of approximately 4,400 students from every state in the union and a handful of international students. Each year, approximately 1,200 young men and women are admitted to the Naval Academy's incoming class.



MOScholars Tax Credit Program

By: Brad Grill, PSD

In 2021 legislation was passed by the State of Missouri establishing the MOScholars Tax Credit Program. Businesses and individuals can redirect up to 50% of state income tax liability to an education organization, for example the Bright Futures Fund in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau & Joplin, www.BrightFuturesFund.org. The individual or business can purchase a tax credit to be used in the payment of state tax obligations. The tax credits may be carried forward for four additional tax years and are equal to 100% of an eligible contribution and can be used for up to 50% of the donor's annual tax liability. All of these funds provide Catholic school scholarships to eligible families based on income or if the child has a learning challenge, furthering the legacy each student carries forward in their faith life. All across the State of Missouri efforts are underway to assist eligible individuals in parochial schools with the assistance of the MOScholars Tax Credit Program. The Msgr. Joseph Mancuso Catholic Education Grant Program Fund under the "Perpetual Funds" will work hand in hand with the MOScholars Tax Credit Program in furtherance of a "Knight's Legacy". The following for each Diocese is the contact individual regarding information pertaining to the MOScholars Tax Credit Program for reference:

Archdiocese of St. Louis – Today & Tomorrow Foundation

Pete Cirone, Executive Director
314-792-7732 - petercerone@archstl.org



Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph
Christy Gruenbaum, MOScholars Development Coordinator
816-714-2338 - gruenbaum@diocesekcsj.org



Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau & Joplin
Deacon Rob Huff, Superintendent Springfield Catholic Schools
417-866-0841 - rhuff@dioscg.org
Tim Garner, President Notre Dame HS - Cape Girardeau
573-335-6772 x320 - timgarner@notredamecape.org
Jess Sickman, Director of Schools - Joplin
417-624-5003 - jsickman@jacschools.org

Diocese of Jefferson City
573-635-9127
2207 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914



Please make every effort to learn more about the MOScholar Tax Credit Program which does not cost a business or individual, but only allows for the transfer of tax payable funds to be used in furtherance of transforming lives through Catholic education.

District 9 Wishes Everyone A Very Happy Holiday Season!

By DD# 9 Bill Remshak

As the Holidays unfold, it affords each of us the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of everyone we serve. The Councils are turning to Holiday activities and charitable events. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

ArchBishop O'Hara Council #4387 - We will be holding our annual Mass for Deceased Members in the main hall of our building. We read off all of the names of our deceased members and remember them during that Mass.

Pope John XXIII Council #5586
- Our Council recently raised money for Missouri Special Olympics. We also raised money for our Parish

Office renovations and donated and volunteered to help in the Parish Garden to help feed those in need.

Fr. Puetz Council #6550 - Our Council has been very busy the past couple of months. We had our food trailer at the community fall festival which raised \$2600 for our charities. We held three separate events for the Triple D drive which raised \$3300. We worked at the Shiloh Pregnancy Resource Center in town disassembling and moving items to their new location. We also distributed coats and gloves for the children of our community.

St. Bridget Sons of Mercy Council #13113 - Our summer "Cruise Nights" cookouts raised

\$1300 for the local food pantry- just in time. The pantry had recently lost a major supplier and was struggling to keep the shelves stocked, so the contribution provided a timely boost to help them continue serving local families.

St. Thomas More Council #14270 - Our Council held a Texas Hold'em Tournament and provided pizza and beer. Everyone had a great time and we raised money for charity while doing it.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Council #14972 - The Knights of our Council have been mowing weekly at the Catholic Charities Serve and Lift Center. We will host a BBQ and Bingo for the Triple D drive.



Kevin Casel's District 4 Has "Sweet" Fall Activities

Top Left: The Knights of Council #3414 did not take the field at St. Pius High School's football game, but they were on a team to assist Children with Developmental Disabilities.

Bottom Left: Knights of Columbus Council #7064 Kansas City and Columbiettes teamed up to help serve at One City Cafe in Kansas City. We are blessed to serve others together.

Top Right: A great tradition in Smithville Council #9272 was observed again this year in the "Good Ole Boy Shootout." This day of trapshooting brings Brothers together to establish bragging rights for the next year of who is the best shot!

Top Center: Smithville Council #7292 members harvested over 1650 pounds of sweet potatoes from Brother Ken Hansen's farm to donate to a local charity.

FAMILY DIRECTOR JOHN CLARKE SAYS

Merry Christmas from Family Activities.

Our Family Activities East Chairman, Mike Koehler, has set up a Theatre Event in St. Louis for Saturday March 28, details will be coming soon.

Other upcoming family events are the Kansas City Mavericks taking on the Lake Tahoe Monsters Saturday, March 7. We will have the usual pregame tailgate in the parking lot with good food and fellowship. We are negotiating with the Blues to have a game later in the spring.

We're excited to invite you to the State Cornhole Tournament at Holy Spirit Church, located at 1800 SW State Route 150, Lees Summit, MO! This fun-filled weekend kicks off on Friday, January 30 with a public tournament open to everyone—bring your family, friends, and neighbors for a great time. Registration for individual players will be from 5–6 PM, and at 6 PM, all participants' names will go into a hat for a random partner draw. Games begin right after the teams are set. Winners of the public tournament will take home gift cards and trophies, and every participant will be entered into a raffle for additional prizes. Plus, enjoy a delicious pulled pork dinner with sides available for purchase on Friday night.

On Saturday, January 31, the Knights of Columbus State Tournament is reserved for Knights and their families. Team registration will run from 8–9 AM, with games starting promptly at 9 AM. Breakfast will be available for purchase, and concessions will be served for lunch. The entry fee for the State Tournament is \$40 per team. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other Knights and families from across Missouri and share in the spirit of friendly competition and community. Whether you're a seasoned cornhole player or just looking for a fun way to spend the weekend, we'd love to see you there. Join us for great games, good food, and the chance to win fantastic prizes. Let's make lasting memories together—everyone is welcome!

On March 7 and 8 the State Bowling tournament will take place at O'Fallon Bowl, hosted by O'Fallon Council #2269. Please contact Kevin Hudnut with any questions, entry forms are available on the State Website.

Keep your eyes open for Knights and families of your Council as well as Parish youth that help with the Council and Parish. Recognize these individuals and families by nominating them as a Knight, Youth or Family of the Month. Show them off not just at the Council level but send the applications to the State Council. The next applications are due February 15th and the forms are available on the state website under Family and then family forms. Help us to recognize the families and individuals that support our Councils and Parishes. Marvin Doerhoff, State Chairman, will be eagerly waiting for your nominations of those Knights, families and youth within the Council. Please go to the state website and submit an application for your local candidates for consideration by the State, <https://mokofc.org/programs/family/>

Scholarship Chairman Paul O'Brien is working on scholarships for next year. All applications are on the State Website. Applications need to be postmarked by February 20, 2026. They can be sent via email or post, please get your applications in soon.

Please see the calendar on the state website for upcoming activities and events along with entry/order forms and detailed information as these become available. I have added all the sporting events for next year to the calendar.

The Family team would like to wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas with your family and friends, please stay safe if you are traveling.

Busy Summer and Fall For Councils In District #34

By Wayne Grenard DD#34

We began the new fraternal year by having a Combined District 31, 32, 33, 34 Meeting at **St. Charles Council 823**, on Monday, August 4th. From July 26th to September 6th, the 5 Councils in our District hosted the Sacred Heart Pilgrim Icon Program at our Parishes. Official visits by the District Deputy were scheduled from August 5th to October 14th. Three Exemplification Ceremonies for the new Unified Degree were held recently by Councils **1376**, **2951**, and **4429**, bringing in 11 new members to the Order. Installation of Officers were held for Council **4429** and **2951**, as well as the **Ladies Auxiliary 2951**. I had the unique honor of swearing in my son as the new Grand Knight of Council **2951**.

Council **1376** held a very enjoyable 25th Annual Religious Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, September 20th, to show appreciation to our Sisters, Priests, Deacons and

Religious in the local communities. The 5th Annual Mike Koch Memorial Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, September 27th, at Eagle Springs Golf Course. It was sponsored by **Bishop John Wurm Council 1376**, Holy Spirit Council 3977, **Bishop John Wurm Assembly Ladies Auxiliary 2012**, and **Bishop John Wurm Assembly 2012**. Proceeds benefited the Special Olympics of Missouri and the Missouri Veterans Home.

Council **2951** sent 8 teams to the 44th Annual State Horseshoe Tournament in August. The team of Larry Schuettenberg and Mike Conizoles brought home a second place trophy for Men's Class E.

The Annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, September 20th, at the Florissant Golf Club. 19 teams and 76 golfers played in a scramble team format to fund the Council's general fund.

On Sunday, October 26th, the

Council conducted a Church Drive at the 9:00 and 11:00 masses at Sacred Heart Church in Florissant, followed by a Town Hall Meeting and Meat Shoot at the Duchesne Hall in the afternoon. John Heithaus, State Advocate, and Ray Lopez, Supreme Regional Growth Coordinator, were the pulpit talk speakers. In December, the Council will acknowledge their 80th year.

Council **4429** held their 5th Annual Car Show on Saturday, October 11th. thirty-nine vehicles participated. This was followed by the Florissant Fall Festival Car Show on Sunday, October 12th, hosted by the Florissant Police Welfare Association on the Duchesne Home Association Grounds, where Council 2951 meets.

Councils **2951** and **4429** will buy, pack and distribute 92 food baskets together for the local St. Vincent DePaul Conference and food pantries, the third week of November.



Council #7841 Centralia donated many Coats for Kids again this fraternal year, with a separate effort to Cardinal Glennon Hospital. Brian Korb and Jason Kehl of #7841 joined Bill Luckenoff Coat for Kids Chairman at the hospital to personally deliver the 5 cases earmarked for the hospital. Representing Cardinal Glennon was Becca Polizzi, Community Outreach Coordinator.



St. Clement Council #13604 prepared 15 care packages for the Church's soldiers serving our great country. The annual event which is completed after every December monthly meeting.



December 2025 – **THE MARINER** – Page 7

STATE LADIES AUXILIARY CHAIRCOUPLE REGINA & RON MACKENBERG

The Auxiliaries had an exceptionally good year. We will not be posting donation numbers till next quarter.

Regina and I chaired 6 Area meetings including Harrisonville, Columbia, Wildwood, Ozark, Leopold and Desoto. It was great to see the ladies enthusiasm.

Next years Area meetings will be posted as soon as refinements are finished.

There are three new Auxiliaries that started this year. These are Bloomsdale, Our Lady of Sorrow in the KC area, and St. Thomas Aquinas in Cape Girardeau. This last one is our first college auxiliary.

Recently Regina emailed changes to the end of the year reporting dates. The year will now match the Knights and run January 1 to December 31.

When you turn in your time and talent hours also send a copy to the Knights they will also count the hours when reporting to the Supreme Council.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in Columbia in April. There will be awards, discussions and games.

Ron and Regina. Chairpersons, Ladies Auxiliary.



Pat Greenwell Reports In From District #29

KC District 29 Councils Monroe City Holy Rosary Council 1165, Indian Creek St. Stephen Council 1971, Shelbina St. Mary Council 2241 and Macon Immaculate Conception Council 3769. All had very successful KC Tootsie Roll Campaigns in 2025. All 4 KC Councils are planning on holding various activities during their KC Councils week. With the Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon. March 15th 2026 to April 18th 2026 in KC District 29. Each KC Council participated in the October Rosary Count.

Monroe City Holy Rosary Council 1165 - has been busy with their fall 2025 youth basketball league. Also planning has started for their spring 2026 basketball league too. Held their, KC Annual Gun Raffle to help raise money for maintenance of their 2 Holy Rosary Knights of Columbus Buildings. Help with the Annual Holy Rosary Fall Dinner. Plan on holding their Annual Knights of Columbus Christmas Party inviting the Indian Creek KC Council. They are working on the KC Essay Contest with the Holy Rosary School. Have been having a meal at their meetings helping to increase members coming to the meeting. Helped working on various Holy Rosary School & Parish Projects. Will be holding a KC Live 1st-2nd-3rd Degree Ceremony in December following a Sunday Morning Mass.

Indian Creek St. Stephen Council 1971 - had a very successful Fall Football Raffle. Money raised will help with various Knights of Columbus Council projects during 2025-2026. Working with Holy Rosary School on the KC Essay Contest. Making plans for spring 2026 KC Council Activities. Plan on working with the Indian Creek Parish on various projects this fall & winter.

Shelbina St. Mary Council 2241 - hosted a KC Fraternal Benefit Night for members of several KC Councils. Have served several meals to raise money for various KC Projects. Member Martin Spilker has been selling 2026 Calendars that he produces. Money raised goes towards various Pro-Life Causes. Donated money to Ray of Hope for its Pro-Life Activities. Helped with the St. Mary Altar Society Annual Turkey Dinner. Working on getting the St. Mary Community Garden cleaned-up for 2025. Working with the Shelby County Food Pantry in Shelbina. Donated money to the Shelby County Food Pantry. Working on Annual Shelbina Knights of Columbus Toy Show Saturday December 6th. Money raised funds various KC Projects. Held a Blood Drive in October. Helping Father Beckman with his Annual All Parishes Thanksgiving Dinner. Helping with other various St. Mary Parish Projects.

Macon Immaculate Conception Council 3769 - Held their Annual KC Golf Tournament proceeds going to IC School. Help with IC Octoberfest the first weekend of October. Held their, Annual Ham & Chicken Dinner to raise fund for various KC projects. Has been working with the Macon County Food Pantry. With members working at it. Along with donating money during the year. Helping and donating money to the local Ray of Hope Pro-Life Group. These are some of the activities and events that the KC Councils in KC District 29 have been doing.



St. Clement #13604 donated 60 high quality winter coats to Scott Hummel, Executive Director of Our Little Haven in St. Louis, Peter Baxendale, assisted by Bill Meirink acquired the coats thru the "Coats for Kids" program which they have been doing for the past 5 years. Mr. Hummel said the children were very appreciative when they receive the coat. Our Little Haven is a community based model in response to the need of the youngest victims of abuse, neglect, drug exposure, and HIV/AIDS in the St. Louis community.



Lifeline Pregnancy Center in Kirksville, MO received a new Ultrasound machine with the help of William Eagen Council #3375.

DISTRICT #41 IS MOVING TOWARD THE FUTURE OF THE ORDER

By: Charles Huey District Deputy

I am very proud of District #41 as every District Deputy should be with their Councils. The Councils in the District have stated that the one thing they would like to see is more communication in the district. So, I created a District newsletter that I send out monthly that highlights what Councils are doing as well as their fundraising efforts.

I have been very lucky to be able to attend every Council meeting of all the district Councils every month as well as attend the area meeting for the Ladies Auxiliary. As I remind all the Councils, I am here to serve you and help you but, we as a district can work together and when our district works together, we make the light of Christ shine ever so brightly as ever before. The greatest thing that the Councils in District #41 has is a passion for service for others and two of the Councils that stand out is two that I highlighted here. With service to the community and showing the children what are faith is about is what being a member of the Knights of Columbus is all about.

Pope John XXIII Council #6018 - has been busy this last month. The Council held the annual Developmental Disability Drive on October 10th-12th at the Schnucks and Mobile on the Run in Arnold. To kick off the week was the Grand Knight attending the Arnold City Council Meeting for the purpose of receiving a proclamation from the mayor honoring the Council for being the longest serving organization in the city even before the city was even chartered. The proclamation designated the weekend of October 10th-12th as Knights of Columbus Appreciation Weekend in the City of Arnold. On October 12th we held a church drive and were present at all masses and at the 10:30 am mass the Knights were honored with a mass dedicated to their service and to the people with special needs.



St. Margaret of Mary of Alacoque Council #14719 - Knights of Columbus Rosaries for 4th Graders PresentationThe Council has raised thousands of dollars for numerous charitable organizations including Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, Missouri Special Olympics, the SMMA tuition fund, SMMA Virtue Based Restorative Discipline program, the SMMA ACTION ministry, and a variety of pro-life organizations. The Knights also support their Eucharistic Adoration chapel by permanently committing to an hour each week. In October, the Council presented rosaries to their 4th grade students. They are always looking for ways to help promote, encourage, and assist the faith formation of the children in our parish. After discussions with school and parish staff, they came up with the presentation that is about to take place. The Rosary is a uniquely Catholic prayer form, and the timing could not be better, as the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7th.



Unified Degree held on October 8th at St. Ann Church in Normandy, home of Msgr. Sprenke Council, #12676, where Council Chaplain, Fr. Mark Madden, took part in putting on the Degree for candidates for multiple Councils in District 38.

Our Lady Of Guadalupe Icon Visits Southwest MO



By DD #16 Charlie Hackman

District 16 Councils had the great honor of hosting the Silver Rose on its journey through Missouri as all 5 Councils had the opportunity to display this beautiful tribute to our Lady of Guadalupe.

Nixa (13748) and Ozark (10200) hosted well attended services including the rosary to honor our Lady of Guadalupe and Kimberling City (7588) was able to display the rose in their adoration chapel the Friday before the weekend with many parishioners spending an hour with our lord and the rose.

Kimberling City (7588), Forsyth (7680) and Branson (6470) were able to host the Silver Rose on the weekend at their respective churches with Knights leading the rosary before mass and having Fr. J. Friedel, their pastor preside at each of the masses which allowed so many of the parishioners to see this beautiful rose and honor our mother, Mary!

What a privilege it was to be able to have the Silver Rose in our District and for all the Councils to find a way to take advantage of this opportunity to give honor to our Mother Mary with this "one rose, one life tribute" and carry on the mission that every human life is sacred and a gift from God!

Knights of Columbus #1576 Builds Handicap Ramp for Union Resident



In a true act of charity and community spirit, members of the Knights of Columbus Council 1576 in Union recently completed the construction of a handicap-access ramp for a local resident in need. The project provided the homeowner with safe, reliable access to their home—restoring independence and dignity.

When the Council learned that a Union resident was facing daily challenges entering and exiting their house due to limited mobility, the Knights immediately mobilized. Over the course of a weekend, volunteers worked side-by-side measuring, cutting, and assembling the structure—to ensure the ramp met both safety and accessibility standards.

"This is what being a Knight is all about helping our neighbors through faith in action," said John Jasper, Past Grand Knight of Council 1576. "We don't just talk about service; we live it. Every project like this reminds us of the power of brotherhood and compassion."

The recipient expressed deep gratitude for the assistance, saying, "The Knights gave me my freedom back. This ramp isn't just wood and nails—it's kindness, generosity, and love in action." Funding for the ramp was made possible through donations from Council members, local businesses, and parish supporters. The effort reflects the founding principles of the Knights of Columbus—Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism—values that continue to guide their work throughout the Franklin County area.

Council 1576, based in Union, regularly supports the community through charitable drives, parish events, scholarship programs, and service projects that help those in need. For more information or to get involved with the Knights of Columbus in Union, contact: Joe Gubbels, District Deputy, District 24, 636-390-4684, joegubbels@gmail.com

District #38 Continues To Lead In Their Community

By Jim Paunicka for DD Robert Morgan

Msgr. Sprenke Council 12676 – The Sprenke Knights participated in the Drive for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, and we want to thank the girls and staff at nearby Incarnate Word Academy Catholic girls' high school for also holding a drive at school one day and adding to our Council's contributions. We provided a \$500 gift to Kenrick-Glennon seminarian Ben Eusterbrock as part of the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) program. Our Council held a blood drive in mid-September at St. Ann Parish in Normandy with the ImpactLife organization and were able to secure a cash grant for our St. Ann Parish Grade School from ImpactLife due to getting a large enough number of blood donors for the drive.

In late September, our Council took part in the annual Religious Appreciation Dinner hosted by nearby Bp. Wurm Council #1376 in Overland, inviting our St. Ann Parish priests, an Incarnate Word sister from St. Ann Parish, the seminarian we are supporting, and 3 sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George from the nearby Mother of Good Counsel Catholic nursing home. On Priesthood Sunday, September 28th, our Council hosted a Donut Sunday in honor of the priests serving our home St. Ann Parish, our Pastor and Council Chaplain Fr. Mark Madden and Fr. Vincent Mwebe (from Uganda, living at St. Ann while attending St. Louis University). We took part in the October Rosary Challenge and also put together a Life Chain in front of St. Ann Church on Sunday October 6th for our Council members and St. Ann parishioners. Our Council supported the St. Ann Parish Men's Club by working the concession stand for the 64th Annual Msgr. Sprenke Soccer Tournament for young girls and boys, the oldest continuous youth soccer tournament west of the Mississippi River. This year was the largest Sprenke Tournament ever, with over 70 grade school soccer teams from across St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County participating.

During the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Stifel Charity Classic golf tournament, which was held at nearby Norwood Hills Country Club, we volunteered to work the parking activities, receiving charitable contributions for our Council from the tournament organization for our help. Special thanks to Bruce Gardiner for arranging for this fundraising opportunity, which he opened up to other Councils in our area as well as to Bp. Wurm Assembly #2012. We continued working security details as a fundraiser at St. Louis Enerziner Park soccer stadium for the St. Louis City soccer team. Thanks to our brother Knights from the Bp. Wurm Council #1376 for providing us the opportunity to work these games to support our philanthropy.

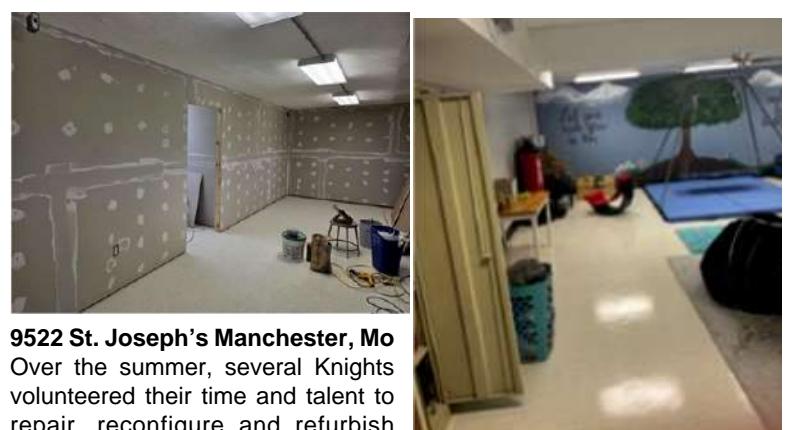
Sts. Gregory & Augustine Council 17355 – The Council's Unified Degree Team led the Unified Degree exemplification ceremony at St. Ann Catholic Church in Normandy, home of the fellow District 38 Msgr. Sprenke Council. Council members took actively took part in the October Rosary Challenge, including a Rosary Rally at St. James the Greater Parish in the Dogtown neighborhood in St. Louis. The Knights of Council 17355 continue their church cleaning activities at their home at the Oratory of Ss. Gregory & Augustine.

August Johansen DD #37 Report

District #37 has several new faces as all the Grand Knights are new and are doing a great job supporting their Councils. Through their support, DD#37 is tops in membership with a shout out to Sacred Heart Valley Park with 8 new members alone. The Councils have exemplified the four core principles of the Knights during the first quarter of the fraternal year: charity, fraternity, unity and patriotism:

- **Council 9522** (St. Joseph): Refurbished a room at the Academy of St. Louis Catholic School and re-erected a flagpole in the church courtyard.
- **Council 12022** (St. Alban Roe): Hosted a membership drive at Alban Fest 2025 and held the 25th annual Tee Off for Kids golf tournament.
- **Council 7119** (St. Clare of Assisi): Hosted the Silver Rose Prayer Service and built three wheelchair ramps.
- **Council 8887** (Sacred Heart Valley Park): Hosted the annual BBQ cook-off.
- **Council 10795** (Holy Infant): Hosted the acolyte service for David Denzer with Archbishop Rozanski presiding.

I would also like to thank the honor guard from 3588 and 565 for their participation at several of our district's events. There are exciting events coming up in District #37, please see the Knight's Missouri State calendar as we would love to see our brother knights in attendance.



9522 St. Joseph's Manchester, Mo

Over the summer, several Knights volunteered their time and talent to repair, reconfigure and refurbish rooms for the Academy of St. Louis, the Catholic school located at St. Joseph that provides specialized education for K-12 students with autism spectrum disorder, learning differences, and developmental delays. (Charity)



Knights were also refurbished and led to the rededication of the flagpole in the church courtyard. (Patriotism)



12022 St. Alban Roe Wildwood, Mo - St. Alban Roe Council 12022 had a Membership Drive tent at Alban Fest 2025. To bring awareness of the Knights, children were given baseball trading cards.



Also, #12022 hosted our 25th annual Tee off for Kids' golf tournament that supports Knights of Columbus Developmental Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. Below: 10794 Holy Infant Honor Guards and Assembly # 3588/565 Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski performed Acolyte Service for brother Knight David Denzer.



#7119 St. Clair of Assisi Ellisville, Mo / 12022 St. Alban Roe Wildwood, Mo with the Honor Guard from Assembly #3588 Councils 7119 & 12022 Hosted this year the Silver Rose Prayer Service at noon mass.



Scared Heart #8887 Valley Park Hosts Annual BBQ Cook-off

Journey For Charity

The 2025 Knights of Columbus Journey for Charity Tractor Cruise goes down in the books as another huge success. This effort supports 10 area food pantries in both Franklin and southern Warren county with \$40,800 raised.

Thank you to all the volunteers and who support this community event!



The Knights of Columbus Bishop Fulton J. Sheen Council 7442 of Sacred Heart Church, Willow Springs presented the Willow Springs Elementary School with 16 sets of new coats, hats and gloves. The Council Community Director Larry Simon queried the school system for their greatest need, and purchased the winter gear at Sams Club in Springfield. The presentation was made on October 28th, 2025. Pictured from left to right: Lonnie Daniels, Grand Knight Mike Chaney, Willow Springs School System social worker Patty Siler, and Larry Simon.



In October Bishop Timon Council #6405 in Jackson MO presented a check for \$3,400.00 to the LifeHouse in Cape Girardeau, MO. Photo (L to R): Mitch Miller Lifehouse representative receives the check from Grand Knight Dennis Ruch. LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home has a mission to provide a safe, nurturing home and supportive services for women who have chosen life for their unborn child. LifeHouse is not a shelter, but a comprehensive program with the goal of creating a better life for mother and child.



Photo L: Council #698 Sean Newton, Past Grand Knight (L), David Govero Deputy Grand Knight (R) present \$4,000.00 check to Patty Barchack for Coats for Kids. The funds were raised from a October 10th bingo.

Photo below: Grand Knight Greg Hilton and Deputy Grand Knight David Govero present a check for \$25,000.00 to Fr. Tom Kiefer of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church from Council #698



Fr. Michael McGivney had a personal devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. An image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was found among the McGivney family belongings after his death. Thirteen personal letters from Father McGivney are in the archives of the Knights of Columbus signed "Yours truly in the Sacred Heart". The Knights of Columbus have chosen a particular image of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus as a traveling pilgrimage icon painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni, and now venerated in the Church of the Gesu in Rome. Our Council Bishop John N. Wurm #1376 would like to share this inspirational and powerful shrine created by Father Anthony Ochoa who shares the same devotion to the Sacred Heart. This was displayed at All Souls Catholic in Overland MO during the first week of September including the first Friday adoration. May the adoration to this most beautiful shrine aid in elevating Blessed Father McGivney to sainthood.



Honor Guard joins Bishop Edward Rice, State Deputy Michael Auchly, John and Julie Clarke after the Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass at beautiful St. Joseph Church in Springfield. We heard proud Grandpa Clarke already has an admission form ready for the next generation Knight.

ATHLETICS 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Participating in the sporting events sanctioned by the Missouri State Council of the Knights of Columbus is a wonderful way to re-kindle old friendships and start new ones. It's a great family get away for a weekend not to mention the bragging rights for placing in the event. **The Following Is A List Of Scheduled Events, Dates and Locations:**

2026 Cornhole Tournament

January 30-31, 2026

Hosted by: Holy Spirit Council

Lee's Summit, MO

Contact: Jeff DeMarco

Phone: 1-816-286-9795



2026 Golf Tournament

July 18, 2026

Ozark Ridge Golf Course

Poplar Bluff, MO

Contact: James Deken

1-573-778-6682



Teddy Bear Drive

TBD - 2025

For More Information

website: Mstteddybear.com

2026 KC State Bowling Tournament

O' Fallon Bowl

O'Fallon #2269, MO

March 6-7, 2026

For More Information

Contact: Kevin Hudnut

Phone: 1-636-856-3296

2026 BBQ Contest

July 24-25, 2026

Hosted by: Wm. J Barnwell Council

#1263 Location: Perryville Picnic

Grounds Perryville, MO

Contact: Ken Wehmeyer

Phone: 1-573-846-6162



2026 Horseshoe Tournament

August 14-15-16, 2025

Hosted by: Fr. Seisl Council #1121

Location: Washington, MO

Contact: Kyle Mantle

Phone: 1-636-221-1313



2026 Sporting Clay Shoot

September 16, 2026

Hosted by: Sacred Heart Troy #6525

Location: Blackhawk Valley

Contact: Jacob Weinand

Phone: 1-636-358-7116

Location: Black Hawk Valley

Old Monroe, MO



Entry Forms Due Approximately 30 Days Before Most Tournaments. Call Host Chairman for Details

For Information or Questions about Hosting a Tournament Contact:

Ennis Wm. Hinkebein II – State Athletics Chairman

342 Hidden Meadows Drive, Jackson, MO 63755

Phone: (home) 573-243-3367 or (cell) 573-450-4719,

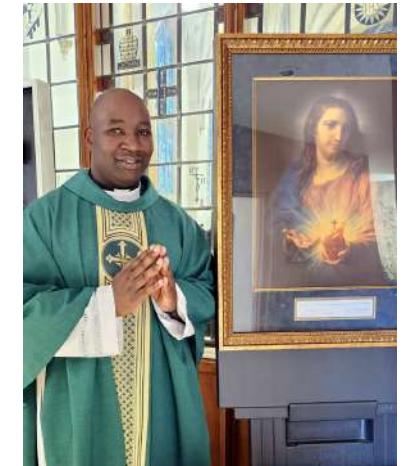
E-mail: eenie9@yahoo.com

St. Clement of Rome

Council #13604 teamed up with St. Vincent de Paul Society and sponsored a bounty bag drive for their Friends of the Poor Walk on September 27th. St. Clement received over 675 bounty bags full of canned goods, dry goods and non food items to help the tornado survivors. Grand



Knight Steve Kuryla proudly stands with a portion of the "bags" of needed items raised by his hardworking Council.



The Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon visited 3 parishes and 5 Councils in District 34 from July 26th to September 6th. The three parishes were Sacred Heart and Saint Ferdinand of Florissant, and All Souls of Overland.

Our Icon program commemorates the 350th anniversary of the Visions of St. Margaret Alacoque which began around 1674. The icon, blessed by Pope Francis, is a reproduction of artist Pompeo Batoni's 1767 painting in the Chapel of the Church of Gesu in Rome. Photo above: Fr. Thomas Sserwadda, priest in residence from Uganda, of Sacred Heart Parish in the vestibule of the Church.



Our Lady of Pillar Council #4751 held their annual fundraiser for America Can Wheelchair Mission on September 6th weekend and has raised \$7,343.00. Thanks to Bart Vatterott for chairing this worthy event.