



Knights of Columbus Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism



Official Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 12, NO 5

“Honoring Faith, Serving Community”

NOVEMBER 2025



STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR BRIAN ZIEGLER

Greetings Brothers

November is here already, where has the time gone? Have you invited a fellow Catholic male to join our order yet? If no then why not?

This month we celebrate 2 major holidays here in Missouri

1-Thanksgiving

2-Deer season

Both of these provide perfect opportunities for us to grow our order by inviting in new brothers.

Thanksgiving - we will all be celebrating by starting the day with mass so what better time to invite a brother to join our order and if not there then around the dinner table or while we are watching football before we all doze off so I ask that you make it a point to invite 1 man that day.

Deer season - Deer camp is the perfect place to invite brothers to join us. As you are sitting around the campfire telling stories about how you are waiting for the “Big One”, look around the fire, if there is a catholic man there who’s not a knight Invite him to join our order.

These winter months are also perfect for holding watch parties at your hall or home and inviting non-Knights to come and tailgate with you and watch the game and while you have them there invite them to join and sign them up on line.

The Supreme Council is running an incentive through the end of **December**. For every two new members you bring into the Knights, your name will be entered into a drawing for the grand prize.

It’s simple: **two new members = one entry** for the cash prize. Let’s grow the Order and give a Knight a nice holiday bonus!

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving and if you are a hunter have a safe and bountiful season.

Vivat Jesus!

Brian

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR CHUCK PAQUETTE

The Gift of Brotherhood: Invite a New Knight This Holiday Season

As the holiday season approaches, consider giving a gift of profound meaning to a faithful Catholic man in your life: an **invitation to join the Knights of Columbus**.

The strength and future of our Order rests on our ability to welcome new members. A vibrant council, continually bringing in new Knights, ensures we can keep our projects running, from essential charitable works to popular events like our fish fries. If a council is not growing, its future impact is at risk.

Don’t let our momentum slow! Take a moment this season to **personally ask a good Catholic man to join the Knights**. This simple act is vital to the vitality of our council and our mission.

The Knights of Columbus “Faith in Action” initiative is designed to help men and their families live a richer Catholic life. These programs are organized under the 4 core areas of the Order: **Faith, Life, Family, and Community**.

These engaging and relevant programs have been particularly successful in attracting younger men and families looking to grow in their faith.

Learn More Today: Visit kofc.org, navigate to the “What We Do” menu, and select “Programs” to explore the many resources intended to help us all keep the faith strong.



STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR JOHN “ROCKY” GAMBON

The tootsie roll drives are now 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 brother Knights. Now is the time to get the Final report and the disbursement reports along with the money collected to Columbian Charities Treasure Jerry Herbert along with a copy to myself. You will find both of these forms on our state website.

1. Go to www.MoKofC.org
2. Click on programs at the top.
3. Scroll down to Community and click.
4. Once on the community page, you will see “Forms” off to the right side.
5. Click there and you will be in the Community Forms page where you will find what you need.

Please get these forms sent in as soon as you can. For any awards all reports and money must be turned in by December 1, 2025. Remember, those councils meeting the December 1st deadline will be in a drawing for one of three \$100 awards.

Finally, many of you wish to know how your councils did in terms of QR code donations. Jerry Herbert will soon be sending me weekly updates of how councils have done with their donations including their QR donations. When I get them, I promise to post them.

Along with the tootsie roll drives, the soccer challenge will be ending soon. This year’s prizes will once again include high quality drink bottles. My description doesn’t do it justice, but should you make it to the state soccer championship, you will see some nice prizes. Good luck to all who participated and are advancing thus far.

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. These two councils in the St. Louis area have already held Wheelchair Mission Sunday drives and have raised nearly \$20,000 combined! Way to go St. Louis!

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 started, 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 you can inspire young men and women in our country to consider the priesthood and religious life?”** Please get students from the local schools, PSR, to participate. For more information contact Bill Lueckenhoff at bill.lueckenhoff@gmail.com



FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025

HONOREE: SIR KNIGHT LEE ROY LASSITER

HOSTED BY: WEST PLAINS ASSEMBLY #3196

ST. MARY’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1551 BILL VIRDON BLVD., WEST PLAINS, MO 65775

This exemplification provides a rich history on how Catholics have and continue to play a significant role in the shaping of our American society, and implores us to continue to be religious patriots in our community today.

Wives and Families Invited to attend Ceremony!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:30 am – 9:30 am Registration
9:30 am Candidates Line-Up
10:00 am Exemplification

The Exemplification Fee for this degree is \$75.00 per candidate* because there will be **NO MEAL** following the degree.

- * The cost for a Priest to go through the Degree is \$47.00 (Deacons and Seminarians must pay \$75.00)
- The Dress Code for a candidate for the Fourth Degree is as follows:
 - A candidate should wear a black or dark (blue or gray) business suit, with black shoes, white dress shirt and dark tie. *Candidates should NOT wear a Tuxedo*
 - A candidate serving in the Armed Forces of his country, as well as fulltime police and firefighters, may wear a Class A or Dress Uniform.
 - A candidate who is a Priest, Deacon, or Seminarian may wear proper clerical attire.

Current 4th Degree members are encouraged to attend to support these new Sir Knights

All copies of the Form 4 - Fourth Degree Membership Document (**properly signed by Faithful Navigator, Faithful Comptroller and Financial Secretary**) - for each candidate should be mailed to:

Michael Grudzinski
611 Peaceful Way
Maryville, MO 64468

Make Checks Payable to
“Michael Grudzinski – Missouri District Master”

COMPLETED FORM 4s ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 15

KNIGHT’S LEGACY PROGRAM



STATE FAMILY DIRECTOR JOHN CLARKE

Family activities are slowing down a little bit here at the end of the Things are winding down for the year for the family activities. Athletics programs are completed for 2025. Athletics and activities contributed over \$34,000 to charity so far this year. The cornhole tournament in Ozark raised \$8000.00. The State Bowling raised \$4712.00. The State Golf tournament raised \$5500.00. The Bar-B-Que contest in Perryville raised \$4315.00. State Horseshoes in Oran brought in \$9060.00 and the Sporting Clays at Black Hawk Valley raised \$2450.00.

As for our scholarships, all Scholarships have been paid out for the Fall 2025 semester. The applications are being updated and will be on the website soon for any early birds that want to get started on the 2025-2026 school year applications. There will soon be flyers available with a QR code that links directly to the application forms on the State Website.

Our Ladies Auxiliary Meetings were well attended this year and we hope a lot of valuable knowledge was passed along. The first College Ladies Auxiliary was started this past year at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau MO. I am grateful to our Ladies Chaircouple, Ron and Regina Mackenberg all they have done for all our auxiliaries this past year.

Moving on from organizational activities to family events, we had a great year with games cheering on the Mavericks and Blues on the ice and the Cardinals and Royals on the diamond. A theatre event will be held in March of 2026.

We are seeing more applications for Knight of the Month but still need more applications for family and youth. 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 December 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. We have not had a lot of participation lately, yet I am sure there are Councils that are nominating 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.

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.

The Family team would like to wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.



STATE LIFE DIRECTOR TONY JANSEN

Greetings Brother Knights and Your Families!

Another beautiful season is upon us already! Time to get those summer projects done and get ready for winter.

Around this time in 2022, the ASAP or Aid and Support After Pregnancy program was just getting started. I know a lot of councils are taking on the task of raising money and/or donation items for their local Pregnancy Care center. That is wonderful! Please continue to keep the interest in the ASAP program going. Please do not ease up now. Through the Knights Aid and Support After Pregnancy program (ASAP), councils throughout the state can and are helping give at least \$500 or more to their area Pregnancy Care centers and then following up by filling out Supreme Form 11377. This form further helps pregnancy care centers by having Supreme make an additional \$100 donation on behalf of their council. If your council hasn't taken part in this program, then I urge you to do so and soon. Please make sure to mention ASAP as you go around your area educating people to vote no on Amendment 3. Many pro-choice people feel we do not do enough to support women after the baby is born. That is not true, but we need to do more to educate the public.

Though it still is a few months away, councils are asked to begin planning for Roses for Life weekend, January 3-4, 2025. Though the deadline for purchasing roses has passed October 1, preparing to distribute them needs to begin now. This is a wonderful way to help address the abortion issue by having your parishioners fill out these roses and send them to your local, state and federal legislators. Show them Missouri Knights Honor Faith, Serve the Community and Defend Life!

I strongly ask that all councils throughout the state who lose a member of their council or ladies' auxiliary please donate to the memorial board. These names can be submitted to the Chairman Michael Deamos either through the form in the directory or may be submitted on line via the State website. This is a beautiful way to re member with honor all our fallen Knights and ladies. Suggested donation amount is \$50. All deceased members will be added to the board and their names will be announced during the memorial mass at the state convention in April. For more information, please contact Mike Deamos at mdeamos@hotmail.com. All monies donated for the memorial board go to Msgr. Mancuso Catholic Education Fund. For now, always remember that life is finite and our call to action as Knights cannot wait.

Finally, 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. This vote next November will have life and death consequences in addition to restoring protection for women and restoring parental rights. History will judge us as to how hard we fight to protect the preborn, women's safety, and parental rights. Vivat Jesus!



STATE FAITH DIRECTOR JOSH NEUWEG

Brother, I hope all is going well in your councils and families. We just finished our Pilgrimage to Laurie and the Shrine of Mary Mother of the Church. We had a great turn out and the host council 10381 did a great job with the meal and event.

Building stronger men, husbands and fathers is essential to the strength of our families, communities and Parishes. Cor is the best way to create this. If you are in any need of help with starting a Cor program, our Chairman Jason Kehl has the help you may need. Jason has been Chairing the Cor program since the beginning and has lots of knowledge and can help you out. Please make sure that your council is getting the contact information to Jason as to who your EEF Chairman is. The Evangelization and Faith Formation Chair is the one who Jason can send information to and share ideas with all the councils in the state to help us grow this valuable program. I think I can safely say that there isn't a Pastor in the state that wouldn't be supportive of a program to bring men together to build their Faith and through that build and strengthen their Parish.

Here shortly you will be seeing letters and emails for financially supporting both the Missouri Religious Vocations Fund and the Religious Information Bureau. These two Programs are essential for the growth of our Catholic Faith. The MRVF helps with the promotion of religious vocations. Without Priests and those choosing consecrated life, how is our Faith to grow. The same with the RIB. These funds go to help promote and educate people in the Catholic Faith. The RIB not only helps in the education of Catholics but also those considering joining the Catholic Church.



Please
Do Not Forget
To Remember Our
Fallen Knights and
Ladies With a
Sympathy Card

Contact: Michael Deamos
1904 Pine Street,
Higginsville, MO 64037
D/N 816-405-7418
mdeamos@hotmail.com

DID YOU KNOW.....
AS A MEMBER OF THE MISSOURI KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS YOU CAN SHOW YOUR PRIDE IN YOUR ORDER BY PURCHASING A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS LICENSE PLATE. CONTACT: JERRY HERBERT herbert_jerry@yahoo.com



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Pray Three Hail Marys
To End Abortion

Visit Knights of Columbus
Historical Museum
Fr. Helias Council #1054
1822 Tanner Bridge Rd.,
Jefferson City, MO
Contact: Tony Dohmen,
(573) 635-1898
tonyedohmen@gmail.com



Please Pray
for a
Second Miracle
toward

For more information
contact
Chairman
Tom Broadbent
guild@mokofc.org