



Knights of Columbus Newsletter



Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

Official Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 12, NO 11

“Honoring Faith, Serving Community”

JUNE 2026

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR CHUCK PAQUETTE

Thank you to all the members of the Missouri State Knights of Columbus for your incredible support over the past two years. It has been an absolute honor serving as your State General Program Director. I am profoundly grateful to State Deputy Michael Auchly for placing his trust in me and guiding our leadership team.

In July, I will transition into my new role as the State Membership Director. I look forward to following our current State Membership Director, Brian Ziegler. Brian has done an outstanding job and leaves Missouri membership in excellent shape.

Right now, we need to finish strong in membership as we strive to achieve **Pinnacle Status** for the first time in Missouri history! As we cross the finish line of this fraternal year, Missouri is in great shape across all of our state programs. Please take the time to read my fellow Directors' columns in this issue to see their full program updates and look ahead at what is coming next.

It is going to be a busy summer. Our state calendar features a fantastic lineup of fellowship events. Please join us, bring your families, and enjoy these activities, including our upcoming state events:

- **Family Fun Fest** June 27th – Stephens Lake Park, Columbia, MO
- **State Golf Tournament:** July 18, 2026 – Poplar Bluff, MO
- **State BBQ Cook-Off Contest:** July 24–25, 2026 – St. Vincent De Paul Parish Picnic Grounds, Perryville, MO
- **State Horseshoe Tournament:** August 14–16, 2026 – Washington, MO
- **State Sporting Clays Shoot:** September 18–19, 2026 – Old Monroe, MO (Hosted by Sacred Heart Council, Troy)

Thank you again for an incredible two years, and let's make history together this summer!

Vivat Jesus!

Chuck Paquette

State General Program Director

Chuck@ShopProbe.com

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
Sainthood**

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



2026 Golf Tournament

July 18, 2026

Hosted by : St. Jerome Council #1572
Location : Ozark Ridge golf course Poplar
Bluff, MO

Contact : James Deken
1-573-778-6682



2026 Horseshoe Tournament

August : 14-15 & 16, 2026
Hosted by :Fr. Seisl Council #1121
Location : Washington, MO
Contact : Kyle Mantle
Phone : 636-221-1313

STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR JOHN “ROCKY” GAMBON

Welcome to summer, almost. It's been a busy year for many councils, ladies' auxiliaries and assemblies and I realize that your focus turns to family, vacations, and other events. Before you do those things, consider the following.

Now would be a good time to start talking about the Developmental Disability Drive at your councils. Getting your locations locked down will be paramount to having a successful drive. For those who solicit at Walmart, Dierbergs, HyVee, or other locations, make sure you have contacted them, some of these require you to go online and fill out an application to reserve the date. If you are on the eastern part of the state and have a Schnucks store in your area, we have reserved every Schnucks store in the state of Missouri for two weekend, October 9-11th and 16-18th. **To get one of these locations you need to contact our new State Community Director, Anthony Jansen after July 1st. Before that, you can reach out to me, John “Rocky” Gambon. Do Not contact Schnucks.** We have made it super easy to get a store, just email me at JGambon3645@gmail.com or by phone at 417-830-6389 to get it reserved. After July 1st, contact Anthony Jansen at Anthony.jansen@toyodagosei.com or phone at 573-768-0294.

Our webpage, www.MOKOFC.ORG continues to grow. If you haven't checked out the site, you need to do so. You can find information on events going on throughout the state including the upcoming State Golf Tournament, State BBQ competition and Cardinals baseball game in St. Louis. Additionally you will find a calendar listing Unified Degrees (formerly known as the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Degree), upcoming (4th Degree) Exemplifications and Financial Investment Seminars. You will also find a directory of every District Deputy, council and assembly throughout the state. State Program Director Chuck Paquette and State Webpage coordinator Chris Nelms have put together an amazing website. Check it out!

Some of you might know this, but Missouri Knights of Columbus has a Facebook page! We put up pictures and events on this site all the time. As of this writing, the state baseball game in Kansas City just took place and pictures are already posted to the page. To make sure you are up to date open your Facebook and search the Missouri Knights of Columbus and Join our page. Finally, this summer as you are taking vacations, stop by the State Knights of Columbus Museum. So much history, pictures, relics. State Archivist Tony Dohmen over the last few years, has collected an amazing historical archive of more than a century of Knights history in Missouri. Located at the Father Helias Council #1054 in Jefferson City. Put this on your route and let them know you are coming to check out the Museum.

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STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR BRIAN ZIEGLER

Greetings Brothers

What a fraternal year we have been having. Our charitable programs are doing great, and we are on fire in inviting new members into the order. But we still have the month of June to go and let's end this fraternal year with a bang.

We have a great opportunity in June to invite more men into our order and that is Father's Day weekend. What a better time to invite men than the weekend we honor fathers. The Knights will make men better Catholic men and better husbands, fathers and grandfathers. They will still get the first year free by going to www.kofc.org/joinus and using the PROMO code Blessed McGivney.

We have another great event in June to introduce and invite men to our order and introduce them to our programs and our faith at the 1st ever Faith, Family, Fun fest to be held June 27th from 1000-2pm at Stephens Lake Park in Columbia. This is a totally FREE event hosted by the State Council. There will be food, games and informational booths along with live music and Everyone is Welcome and Everything is FREE.

This will be my last article as membership director, and I must say a huge Thank You to my membership team as they have worked their tails off and it shows as we are trying to get Missouri to Pinnacle status in order which has never been done before. These men have been instrumental in getting men invited, forms completed and information about programs out to you.

It has been a privilege and honor to work with these men the last 2 years. So lets go out and finish up June strong by each of you brother Knights inviting 1 man to join our order to honor all our past State Deputies for all their hard work in building Missouri to the level it is now in the order.



Like us on Facebook!
@MissouriKnightsOfColumbus



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



STATE FAMILY DIRECTOR JOHN CLARKE

The Family Team and I were grateful to see so many attendees at the 2026 State Convention. The meetings were informative and made for a productive weekend. Thank you to everyone who attended and will share this information with your councils.

The children’s activities at the convention were also well attended. On Friday evening, the children enjoyed games in the expo center. Saturday included morning crafts and in the afternoon we had a presentation on mammals by the Missouri Department of Conservation. That evening featured pizza, a movie, and a scavenger hunt. Thank you to the Knights and wives who helped make the activities such a success.

Please visit the State Website for information about these upcoming events:

- July 18: State Golf Tournament, Ozark Ridge Golf Course, Poplar Bluff, Missouri.
- July 24–25: State BBQ Contest in Perryville, Missouri.
- August 14-16: State Horseshoe Tournament in Washington Missouri
- August 29: St. Louis Cardinals vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Busch Stadium
- September 19: Sporting Clay Shoot, Black Hawk Valley, Old Monroe, MO

Please consider attending one or more of these events as a participant, spectator, or volunteer. We always enjoy great fellowship when we gather with brother Knights from across the state.

I would also like to say how much I have enjoyed serving as Family Director for the past two years. I could not have done it without the support of my chairmen:

- Ennis Hinkebein – Athletics and Events
- Steve Rozier – Food for Families
- Dave Dillon and Jeff DeMarco – Family Involvement (West)
- Michael Koehler – Family Involvement (East)
- Marvin Doerhoff – Knight/Family/Youth Recognition
- Paul O'Brien – Scholarships
- Ron and Regina Mackenberg – Ladies Auxiliary Chair Couple

My greatest support, however, was my wife, Julie. She encouraged and supported me in my position of State Family Director. She played a key role in the children’s programs at each meeting, helping with everything from event setup and meal planning to shopping for Christmas gifts. I could not have served nearly as effectively without her by my side.

A big thank you also to all the Knights and Ladies that assisted with the Children’s activities over the past two years. I would also like to thank Ennis Hinkebein for his 16 years as State Athletics Chairman and wish him well in his new position as Columbian Delegate at Large.



STATE LIFE DIRECTOR TONY JANSEN

Greetings Brother Knights and Your Families!

June is the month of the Sacred Heart – culminating with the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 27. Spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and pray for Our Lord to make his heart our own, so that we may see and love in others what he sees and loves in us. The Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome. The reproduction bears the blessing of Pope Francis, through the Papal Almoner, and is one of more than 300 icons traveling across the world, from council to council, for veneration and use in prayer services beginning in 2025 and finishing in 2026. You can also visit kofc.org/sacredheart for resources and reach out to your state’s Pilgrim Icon chairman David Mitchel at 417-830-8000 to reserve the icon.



We continue to promote our 2nd phase to the Meet Life Campaign which started in 2011 and was targeted to reach a goal of 2 million dollars along with decreasing abortions in Missouri in half by the year 2016. Since the Supreme Court struck down Roe v. Wade and returned the decision-making power to the states, Missouri has taken a strong stance thus eliminating abortions statewide. However, surrounding states such as Kansas and Illinois still allow abortions to continue so our work is not yet done. The Meet Life Campaign has found itself in a quandary as councils who have made donations to Meet Life in the past have now donated funds instead to the Aid and Support After Pregnancy program.

The Missouri Knights of Columbus have decided to award credit towards the Meet Life Campaign for those who choose instead to donate to ASAP. For example, if a council donates \$500 to ASAP, they will receive a \$500 credit towards the Meet Life Campaign. Currently, the Meet Life Campaign in Missouri has received over \$212,000 this year in cash donations for ASAP, Ultrasounds, and the Meet Life General Fund. Thanks to all who have donated.

Please remember that at the 2021 State Convention a resolution was passed to ask every council and auxiliary to voluntarily donate \$5.00 per member to Meet Life Phase 2. Should your council still wish to make a donation, there are several ways to acquire funds for the Meet Life Campaign such as a Baby Bottle Campaign, Corn Hole Tournament, Casino night, fundraising dinner or just a second collection with your priest’s permission. If you need bottles for your campaign, contact the Meet Life Chairman, Greg Elsey at Glesey@sofnet.com. We know that you will do your best to help save the lives of the unborn!

I want to remind everyone of our continuous support for Special Olympics Missouri. We have committed to building a pavilion at the Training for Life Center in Jefferson City. If you or your council would like to be involved with this very important project, please see the information cards below. We also want to encourage everyone to get involved with Special Olympics in your area. If you see an event in your area, please reach out to the coordinator and see how we can support them. They especially love to see our Honor Guard, but they are in constant need of volunteers so they would appreciate anything we can do. The best place to stay in touch is somo.com. There is also an official SOMO App will allow you to stay connected with all things Special Olympics Missouri right from your phone! Get the latest updates, event schedules, athlete stories, and exclusive content—all in one place. Track your favorite teams, sign up for events, and never miss an important announcement.

STATE FAITH DIRECTOR JOSH NEUWEG

June Newsletter - Josh Neuweg Faith Director

As we come to a close of the Fraternal Year here are a couple of quick reminders.

Your council’s RSVP forms are due to Supreme by June 30th to be eligible for the \$100 reimbursement for your seminarians that you supported this year with prayer and financial contributions of \$500. This is for a maximum of 5 Seminarians.

All Cor reports of councils participating with a Cor program at their Parish need to be in by the end of June. Please copy Jason Kehl when you send any Cor Reports to Supreme. Jason has been doing an outstanding job sharing Cor information councils. He needs the information from your councils to identify which councils are doing Cor and which are not. This way he can focus on helping those that are in need to start their own Cor event.

We still need your help in supporting the Missouri Religious Vocations Fund. The money from this fund goes to the Diocese of the State to help identify those individuals that are discerning the priesthood and religious life. If we can’t help identify those discerning priestly vocations we will not be able to see the increase into seminaries that we desperately need to keep our Churches open.

I hope to see many of you and your families at the Family Faith and Fun Fest on June 27th in Columbia at Stephens Park from 10am to 4pm. It will be a great time for all who attend. Everyone Welcome - Everything Free.



Pray Three Hail Marys To End Abortion

