



# Knights of Columbus Newsletter

Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism



## Official Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 11, NO 9

*“Honoring Faith, Serving Community”*

MARCH 2025



STATE MEMBERSHIP  
DIRECTOR  
BRIAN ZIEGLER

[www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) promo code BlessedMcGivney equates to Free Membership. The above is what we need to be providing to all our Catholic male brothers who are not Knights as it is the link and the code to obtain a free year of membership in our

order.

The Lenten season is upon us and is a great opportunity to invite others to join us and strengthen our great jurisdiction. RCIA candidates are the perfect men to invite as they have already sought out the Catholic faith and are on fire with it. Fish Frys are another prime inviting spot. Place why join us cards in every carry out.

Why is membership important? Well without members who will be there to defend the Priests/Bishops and our Catholic Church? Without members who will support the Knights of Columbus center for developmental disabilities at Cardinal Glennon? Without members who will help support Special Olympics?

I challenge each and every one of our current members to invite 3 new men to join us this upcoming lent season and by doing that just imagine how strong our order will be and how much we can do for the less fortunate Vivat Jesus

### STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR CHUCK PAQUETTE

**Knights of Columbus in Missouri: Time to Shine!  
State Service Awards, and Blessed Michael McGivney  
Award Due March 31st**

As we move into 2025, it's time to reflect on the incredible work done by Knights of Columbus councils across Missouri. The deadline for submitting nominations for the prestigious Knights of Columbus State Service Awards is fast approaching – **March 31st**. This is your chance to showcase the outstanding contributions your council has made to your community, your church, and the lives of those in need. These awards recognize excellence in a variety of categories, highlighting the diverse ways in which Knights exemplify the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. **What kind of achievements are we looking for?**

- **Faith-based initiatives:** Programs that strengthen faith, promote spiritual growth, and support the Church.
- **Community outreach:** Projects that address local needs, provide assistance to the less fortunate, and improve the quality of life for all.
- **Family support:** Activities that strengthen families, promote family values, and provide support to families in need.
- **Life programs:** Initiatives that promote the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, including support for mothers and children, and advocacy for the unborn.

**The Blessed Michael McGivney Award.** This prestigious award is not simply about recognizing good works; it's about celebrating pastors that truly live out the spirit of Father McGivney. It's about acknowledging those who go above and beyond, inspired by his example of faith, service, and dedication to the Church and community.

**To Nominate a Pastor, or a council for service awards** please visit the Supreme website [https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state\\_serviceaward\\_p.pdf](https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state_serviceaward_p.pdf) for the service award and <https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state-blessed-michael-mcgivney-award.pdf> for the Blessed Michael McGivney award. Send these applications to [Chuck@shopprobe.com](mailto:Chuck@shopprobe.com)

**Remember, the deadline is March 31st, 2025.** Start gathering your information and preparing your nominations today! Let's celebrate the remarkable service of Knights of Columbus councils throughout Missouri.



### STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR JOHN “ROCKY” GAMBON

Oh what a crazy winter it has been but trust me when I say, spring is coming and along with that, the annual Knights of Columbus State Convention. The State Deputy and State Directors met recently to organize the weekend including numerous breakout sessions and state resolutions. I encourage every council to send a delegate. There will be a lot to learn with the breakout sessions, and important resolutions that need to be voted on. The Basketball free throw contest is going strong and with 7 regions across the state, all of them were well supported and many competed. The State Competition will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School, 3351 E. Gans Rd. Columbia Missouri. Registration for the state event starts at 12:00pm so I recommend coming early as there will be a lot of competitors and their families present. For more information contact Tim Vargenko at [TimVargenko@columbiaknights.org](mailto:TimVargenko@columbiaknights.org)

Missouri has once again come through on their annual Coat Drives. Currently over you delivered 312 cases of coats to kids in need this fraternal year of 2023-2024, with \$79,822.00 collected. This is an increase of 3% over last year of 307 cases. Just an outstanding job from everyone that was involved. To get involved contact John Myers at [jmyers@idd.net](mailto:jmyers@idd.net). We still have about 55 councils across the state that have not sent in their Developmental Disabilities Drive Final Report and the Disbursement form. There were a lot of councils that sent in the Final Report with out a Disbursement form, if we don't have the disbursement form, we can't send money back. Please check your records make sure you sent in the money along with the two forms, we need to finish this long before the state convention. If you are not sure, or you need help please contact Victor Bender [vbender5307@hotmail.com](mailto:vbender5307@hotmail.com). Chairman for Eastern Missouri and Ron Mathias [ron.mathias.kofc@gmail.com](mailto:ron.mathias.kofc@gmail.com) **Chairman for Western Missouri.**

The wheel Chair campaign is under way, giving people the gift of mobility is one of the best gifts that you can do, get involved in the American Wheel Chair Mission, many councils in the state have already helped and there is always a need for more. We have about 251 wheelchairs across Missouri, if you know someone that is in need, please contact Charles Leneau, [cmalenau12@spectrum.net](mailto:cmalenau12@spectrum.net) and he will help get a chair to you.



### 2025 Golf Tournament



July 19, 2025  
Mozingo Lake Golf Course  
Maryville, MO  
Contact: Ron Mathias 660-528-0767 or  
PSD Mike Grudzinski 660-582-2708

KEN LUDWIG'S

### Sherwood

The Adventures of Robin Hood  
Evening at the Repertory Theatre St. Louis  
April 5th 2025

4 pm  
\$43.00 per Ticket  
Contact: Mike Koehler 314-660-5759  
[mdoerkofc@gmail.com](mailto:mdoerkofc@gmail.com)

### 2025 Horseshoe Tournament



August 15-16-17, 2025  
Hosted by: Oran #4311  
Location: Oran, MO  
Contact: Randy Senciboy  
Phone: 1-573-380-4477

St. Louis Blues Hockey  
March 23, 2025

Purchase your tickets now  
Contact: Michael Koehler  
[dragon\\_1966@hotmail.com](mailto:dragon_1966@hotmail.com)



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STATE FAMILY DIRECTOR JOHN CLARKE

The Family group wishes everyone a happy and spiritual Lenten season. As we head into Lent, I would like to take this opportunity to mention a couple of Family programs from the Supreme website.

**Good Friday Family Promotion:** Despite Good Friday’s central role in the heart of Christianity, attendance at services remain low at many Parishes. In an effort to change this and set an example for their community, Knights are encouraged to attend Good Friday services with their families and work with their pastors to increase parishioner involvement at these liturgies. In conjunction with these efforts, Councils should work to educate their parishes about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land.

**Faith in Action:** During his visit to the Philippines, Pope Francis cited the need for “holy and loving families to protect the beauty and truth of the family in God’s plan and to be an example for other families” (Pope Francis, Address to Families at the Mall of Asia Arena, 2015). The Family Fully Alive monthly devotions are concrete ways that Knights of Columbus, in solidarity with Pope Francis, can support the growth of holy and loving families in the Church. The Family Fully Alive Program asks families to invite God into their homes and cultivate each family as a miniature domestic church. To this end, the program provides monthly themes, scripture verses and activities. Through prayer and reflection, families have the opportunity to grow in holiness together. This is a flexible program that can be started at any time of the year and continues year-round. Councils can order physical booklets to distribute or direct parish families to program resources on [kofc.org](http://kofc.org).

Looking for State Activities of fun and fellowship? Let me tell you about a recent activity and others that are coming up.

The State Cornhole Tournament was held Feb 22 in Ozark raising approximately \$8000 for Special Olympics of Missouri. Thank you to our hosts Council 10200 in Ozark with assistance from their brother Knights of Council 13748 in Nixa and all those participating Councils from across the state. The winners of the tournament were:

- First Place Casey Guenther and Nicky Politte of Desoto Council 1185
- Second Place Jordon Comer and Danny McMillan Scott City #6420
- Third Place Jeff Schott and Paul Lynch Scott City Council 6420
- Fourth Place Jeff Miller and Tim Scharfe Scott City Council 6420

Mark your calendars now for next year’s tournament that will be hosted by Council 8334 in Lees Summit on January 31, 2026.

I want to remind all of you about the Blues Game on March 23. You can now get your tickets online on the state website [mokofc.org](http://mokofc.org) by selecting the desired event and then the link “purchase tickets”, to pay by card. And yes, tickets are still available by sending the order form with check to Mike Koehler if you prefer that method. There is also an Evening at the Repertory Theatre St Louis on Saturday April 5 to see Ken Ludwig’s “Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood”. Please check the state website for this and watch for any upcoming



STATE LIFE DIRECTOR TONY JANSEN

Greetings Brother Knights and Your Families!

Welcome Lent! Please keep in mind to celebrate and utilize Lent to get yourself and your family prepared for the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!!!

Please make plans to join Knights from around the state on Thursday, May 1 for the Midwest March for Life in Jefferson City. Activities will begin at 8:00 AM with a Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy. The Rally will begin at 10:00 AM. You are encouraged to bring your own signs, but preprinted signs will be available. The March begins after the Rally with a fund-raising lunch from 11:45 AM till 1:00 PM. The March will close with Mass at 1:30 PM at the Proto-Cathedral of St. Peter with the main celebrant Bishop Edward Rice of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.

Missouri Knights of Columbus works together to purchase ultrasound machines for qualifying pregnancy centers. After the state and/or local council raises 50% of the cost, the Supreme Council will provide the other 50% to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound. Or, if the council raises 100% of the cost of a vehicle outfitted to serve as a mobile medical unit for a pregnancy center, the Supreme Council will provide 100% of the funds for an ultrasound machine to be used in that vehicle. This initiative is funded by Knights of Columbus state and local councils with matching grants from the Supreme Council’s Culture of Life Fund. For Ultrasound Initiative resources, visit [www.kofc.org/ultrasound](http://www.kofc.org/ultrasound). For two program credits toward the Columbian Award – Contribute 50% of the cost of an ultrasound machine for a pregnancy center approved by the Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Mission. If you have any questions, contact Life Services Chairman Greg Elsey or myself, Tony Jansen at 573-768-0294.

Finally, I ask you to continue to make plans to host one of the Sacred Heart icons that will be making their way around the state soon. Please talk to your priest how you can best promote the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sacred Heart appearing to French nun St. Margaret Mary Aloquette. Pope Francis blessed these icons and 350 of them have been shipped around the world. Missouri will receive 5 of these icons. We will be coordinating sending these icons around all of Missouri. David Mitchel is the chairman of this program. If you want to be involved, call or text David at 417-830-8000.

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On behalf of my family and me, I want to wish all of you a Blessed and Holy Lenten Season. Please pray for life as part of your Lenten sacrifices! Vivat Jesus!



STATE FAITH DIRECTOR JOSH NEUWEG



With the State Convention in April we will once again have perpetual Adoration starting at 5:00pm on Friday April 25th and finishing at the start of the Memorial Mass on Sunday morning April 27th. There will be a fillable signup sheet posted on the State website, [mokofc.org](http://mokofc.org) in the next few weeks. If you are unable to sign up on the website, my contact information will be on the sheet so you can contact me and I will put you in your time slot. If there are any open time slots you will be able to sign up at the Faith table in the atrium Friday evening and at registration Saturday. We will be looking for two people per hour to be in the Adoration room. Any Catholic can sign up for Adoration. It’s not just for Knights delegates for the Convention. Please prayerfully consider a time slot to be with our Lord.

Appeal letters reminders have been sent out through email for the MRVF. This fund goes to support Vocations in all 4 Diocese in the State. We as Knights do a great job supporting our Seminarians and Religious Information Bureau and we need to also help our Diocese in their efforts to foster in the youth of our State in the discerning of Holy Orders. If your Council hasn’t given to this fund yet please consider donating soon. Our goal is \$15,000 and we are only about a \_ of the way there. In closing please pray for our Pope, our Church, and all those who are in need of help

**Pray Three Hail Marys To End Abortion**

**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](mailto:mdeamos@hotmail.com)

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

STATE LADIES AUXILIARY CHAIRCOUPLE REGINA & RON MACKENBERG

State convention Ladies activities

Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> 2025  
9:00 am. After the General session with Knights. Awards meeting and bylaw discussion.  
1 pm. Ladies Round Table Sessions Hosted by Fran Kern Aux. 1587 and Beth Delano Aux 2269



New Auxiliary Information  
Fundraising  
Membership  
Working with the Knights  
Toot your horn!  
Craft Time  
Planned 20 minutes per round.  
Sunday 9:00 am. Bingo