# Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter

(New Website - kofcchicago.org)

Editor: Thomas J Kaiser | September - October 2026 | Page 1


## Message from Fr. Paul:

**Congratulations DDs and Delegates**

There was a very positive response from those attending the District Deputy July weekend with the installation of officers. The delegates to the Denver Convention were also positive to the various sessions they attended. Many commented on the solemnity of the Opening Liturgy and other masses. I had planned on attending Supreme, but a serious medical issue developed on the Saturday of the DD meeting and worsened the following week that prevented me from going. I have recovered from most of the concerns since July 11th. I have never gone through so many tests and blood draws in such a short period of time. I would like to thank my brother Knights who attended my 53rd anniversary as a solemn professed religious Servite on August 23rd. I was surprised to see so many friends. We think of priest's anniversaries and limit it often to ordination. Taking the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience enabled me to be ordained a priest 21 months later. Pray for vocations to consecrated life from our young people at the Marian feast days celebrated in September.

Also, congratulations to so many more Grand Knights who achieved Star Council this past year and to District Deputies working on Star District. Chicago should be leading the way. It was your hard work that enabled us to achieve circle of honor two years in a row. Three years in a row will be difficult. New membership numbers are down for this year. Our membership director sent out incentives last week for each council, I hope you can meet your goal.

The calendar for officers and directors has been set for this fraternal year with our September meeting in Mattoon. Even the virtual session we had in August was over four hours long. The next time you see an officer or director thank them for their time and commitment.

There are many more options in Faith-Formation that a council can take advantage of. It's clear that participation in COR is an important one. Ask your council to consider hosting this program. The Supreme website has all the materials needed to begin and continue this reflective and prayerful experience.

Enjoy the weeks ahead as we prepare for Fall. Fr. Paul Gins, O.S.M. – Il Associate State Chaplain.

**Fr. Paul Gins, O.S.M. Illinois Associate State Chaplain**

## Chapter President Message

Brother Knights,

The Chicago Chapter exists to serve its members. Its members are the councils and District Deputies throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago. With a renewed focus on effective communication and education, the Chapter has become an improved and important resource for its members. Our new website, kofcchicago.org, is a great source of information about K of C programs and council events throughout the archdiocese. Our new Chapter meeting format incorporating training and/or town hall sessions was extremely well received by those attending our August Chapter meeting. At that meeting, the training session focused on the many changes to the requirements for the Star Council Award and was led by our Chapter officers. I am thrilled to announce that, for our **October 17th Chapter meeting**, the Supreme Council is sending a representative to conduct a formal training session for council leaders interested in learning more about the many great financial and administrative tools in Officers Online. **The training will take place at 10:00 am at St. Michael's Parish, 14327 Highland Ave, Orland Park, IL 60462 immediately following the Chapter's 9:15 am meeting in the same location.**

Supreme's officer training will include three parts: **Council Financial Officer Training, Member Management Basics, and Member Billing Basics**. This training will be relevant to both, new and long-tenured council officers (especially Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Treasurers, Trustees, and anyone considering becoming a financial officer of his council). The training will begin immediately after the Chapter's 9:15 am meeting at 10:00 am, and will last about three hours. Pizza and soft drinks will be provided for those attending the training.

Please email me at president@kofcchicago.org

to let me know if you and/or members of your council plan to attend this in-person training so the Chapter officers and I can plan accordingly.

Thanks to the incredible works of councils throughout the Archdiocese, the Knights of Columbus continue to build stronger families, stronger parishes, and stronger communities. The Chicago Chapter is here to help its councils keep their members' faith in action.
Vivat Jesus!
SK Robbie Gawronski
Chicago Chapter President

## Message from the Archdiocesan Chairman

Too many times, I hear Knights tell me that they don't do what they do for awards. This is an excuse for not taking the time to properly document and submit reports on the Council's activities.
In order for Councils to be vibrant and successful they need to be:

- active with programs that support their Church and Community.
- active in bringing in new members that will provide new ideas and support for the Council to grow.
- active in making sure that their members are knowledgeable about our Fraternal Benefits that provide financial security for their families.
- active in learning how they can protect children and other vulnerable individuals.

If a Council is successful in the previously mentioned actions, then Supreme will recognize them with Awards for each of those areas.
So, as Knights we don't do what we do for awards. But we are active in working to make our Councils successful. For this Councils are awarded and recognized.
District Deputies along with the Chicago Archdiocese team want to make sure that all Councils are successful and recognized for all that they do. All Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries need to work closely with their DDs so that they can receive all the recognition they deserve.
Fraternally
**Dan Davis**
**Knights of Columbus Chicago Archdiocesan Chairman**
**847-224-5470**
**danrph80@gmail.com**

**Ultra-Sound Program** If any Councils are raising funds for an Ultrasound, the Chicago Chapter has some funds that they can contribute. Please contact Dan Davis, Chicago Archdiocesan Chairman 847-224-5470, **danrph80@gmail.com**

## South and South Suburban Grand Knights and Past Grand Knights Club 68th Annual Friendship Dinner

## Congratulations to the 2026 Honorees

***Fr. Gary Graf,***
***Ronald Hrad,***
***Charles Copps,***
***Kevin Hickey,***
***Brian Mellonthin***
***& Dean Dalaly***

*****

The South & South Side Grand Knights & Past Grand Knights Club would like to invite everyone to the
**68th ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP DINNER on Thursday October 15, 2026 at Gaelic Park, 6119 West 147th St, Oak Forest, IL**
Cocktails will begin at 6:00 PM with one-hour OPEN BAR followed by

- A Great Complete Prime Rib Dinner
- Alternate dinner choices include Chicken Marsala, Pasta Primavera, or a Vegetarian Plate.

Please return the enclosed registration form before Wednesday October 7, 2026, with your check for $70.00 per person, payable to: SOUTH SIDE GK/PGKCLUB.
Gentlemen, please remember that Ladies are welcome. Bring your best girl to join us for our fabulous dinner as we Honor those who have served the Order,Community, and Church.
See flyer at end of this newsletter

## 2026 Exemplification of the 4th Degree October 24 2026

The next 4th Degree Exemplification of Patriotism in the Northern Illinois District will be held October 24, 2026 at St. Peter Catholic Church (1891 Kaneville Rd., Geneva, IL 60134). The Host Assembly is **Marquette Assembly # 188, Gary Stopka, Faithful Navigator**

Now is the time to ask our fellow Brother Knights to join us in the Exemplification of Patriotism.

- Candidates Ceremony Fee w/banquet ticket – $90.00 ($10.00 late fee)
- Priests ONLY -Ceremony Fee w/banquet ticket – $50.00
- Sir Knights, Ladies, Guests Ceremony w/banquet ticket – $50.00 ($10.00 late fee)
- Note: Each Sir Knight must submit their own registration form. Sir Knights should not be guests of others.
- Sir Knights, Ladies, Guests Ceremony ONLY – Free
- The deadline for Candidates Form 4's is Saturday, October 17, 2026, for names to be listed in the Program Book.
- To avoid the $10.00 late fee, Banquet reservations must be received by Saturday, October 17, 2026.

We still have time but we need to seriously promote the Fourth Degree and take the necessary steps to encourage membership in your councils. We cannot expect new members in the Fourth degree without gaining members in our councils.

Please encourage your members to obtain candidates for the Exemplification.
Vivat Jesus,
Patriotism with Passion, Purpose & Pride

**Ty Simmons, Master**
**Marquette Province**
**Northern Illinois District**
http://kofc4th-ndil.org
ty.simmons@comcast.net
H- 630-859-2112, C- 630-947-9404

Please see flyer at the end of this newsletter for full details and Candidate/Sir Knight dinner reservation form and Ad book contract. .

## New Master of the 4th Degree

Congratulation to **SK Dave Wolken** who has been appointed as the Master of the Northern Illinois District, Marquette Province for the period of September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2028.

In a note to his fellow Knights, WM Wolken extended his "thanks to Ty Simmons, Master, for his leadership and guidance for the past two years. His leadership pushed this District to the forefront of the Marquette Province. I am grateful for his time at the helm and wish he and Jane the best of everything from here on."

WM Wolken email address is david.wolkenmod@gmail.com. Please reach out to him if you have questions or an issue to work on.

## Supreme Master Newsletter

Please follow the link below to view the 2026 August Newsletter from the Supreme Master of the 4th Degree Michael R. McCusker.
2026_August_Newsletter.pdf

## Thank You from Former Master Ty Simmons.

Worthy's All,

I am deeply honored to have served as your Master of the Northern Illinois District and I am grateful for having been given the opportunity to lead in such a remarkable organization as the Knights of Columbus, with a storied legacy of service.

Thank you for the support you have provided to me during my term in office.

May God continue to bless you and your families!

Patriotically
***Ty***
Patriotism with Passion, Purpose & Pride

Ty Simmons
Former Master
Knights of Columbus
Marquette Province
Northern Illinois District

To recognize Brother Knights who "go for two", members who extend the invitation and get two men to join between September 1st and December 31st , 2026, will be entered into a drawing to receive a cash prize of $1,500!* 10 second place winners will receive a customized K of C branded item.

Invite four men who join in that time frame to be entered into the drawing twice!

Grow our Brotherhood while serving your community and win big!

This year let's kick start the giving season by growing our Brotherhood

and extending the invitation to have others join us in faith, charity and service to our local communities.

Fulfill your entire membership quota and participate in the Food for Families Program by November 30th to qualify! (with the Food for Families application being submitted no later than December 31st, 2026).

Councils who qualify will receive 8 sets of custom embroidered KofC aprons and hats and will have a chance to enter to win an additional $200 gift certificate to Knights Gear!

Please share these with your Council membership. These incentives award the individual who asks a new man to join the order, and a nice bonus prize for your Council for hitting its goal early and participating in the Food for Families Program.

See flyer at end of this newsletter

## General Liability Council Insurance

It's time for the October 1, 2026 Renewal/Enrollment for the General Liability Insurance Program offered to Councils through the Illinois State Council.

Coverage provided to participating Councils will automatically renew, provided they have paid the premium for the current policy term, and the Council will be liable for paying the premium to the Illinois State Council, unless the Council advises the State Fraternal Office no later than September 7, 2026, that they no longer wish to participate in the program.

If you have any questions, please reach out to State Advocate John Lough C: (773) 640-4768 E: jlough.illinoiskofc@gmail.com or Denny Shook, at Denny@IllinoisKnights.Org or (815) 592-4775.

Please see the letter at the end of this newsletter for details regarding this important program.

## Sacred Heart Icon Program

A powerful opportunity for faith, fellowship, and spiritual renewal has arrived!

Every Council across the state is invited to host the **Sacred Heart Pilgrim Icon** and lead their parish community in a transformative Holy Hour.

Since the Pilgrim Icon Program began in 1979 with Our Lady of Guadalupe, it has sparked a massive wave of devotion - uniting over 23 million participants across 191,000 prayer services! Now, your Council can carry this sacred torch forward.

Bring the Sacred Heart to Your Parish & Homes

Host a Council Holy Hour: Gather your parish community for an evening of prayer, reflection, and devotion centered around the sacred image.

Bring the Blessing Home: Encourage your Brother Knights and parish families to enthrone the Sacred Heart in their homes. Through a simple yet deeply moving ceremony, families can dedicate their households to His divine love, mercy, and protection.

Tools & Resources Ready for You

Everything you need to host a successful, spiritually enriching event is at your fingertips:

Materials & Guides: Access Holy Hour booklets, home enthronement guides, and prayer cards at www.kofc.org/sacredheart or order them directly via Supplies Online.

**State Icon Schedule & Details**: Visit the Illinois State Sacred Heart Icon Page to plan your event- Pilgrim Icon: Sacred Heart Holy Hour | Knights of Columbus

There are 2 icons to travel either in the Northern or Southern Councils of our Diocese.

To begin the process for scheduling the icon, please follow this link to a document for filling out this information: SacredHeartScheduling

Please contact State Icon Coordinator Mark Droste at cmd5316@att.net or [618] 660-9890 for further details.

## New Chapter Web Site !!

The Chapter's new web site is up and running. Many thanks to the efforts of Past President Jeff Griggs and Former Vice President Tim Griffin for researching different developers/providers and getting the site operational. The new link is – www.kofcchicago.org

## Supreme Knight's Circle of Honor Awarded to Illinois

State Advocate John Lough and his wife Heather recently accepted the Supreme Knight's 2024-2025 Circle of Honor Award on behalf of the Knights and ladies in Illinois who worked whole heartedly to accomplish this goal.

SA John Lough reminds all that it is important to remember not one, or a few, or a cohort made this happen alone, but rather all Illinois Knights, working together with a culture of invitation and open opportunity to be better in our lives, made this possible.

Thank you, all Illinois Knights of Columbus and your families, for accomplishing this goal

State Advocate, John Lough

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## Save the Date Columbian Boosters 40th Annual Honors Night Dinner, Thursday, April 1st 2027

Please save April 1st in 2027 for the annual Columbian Boosters Honor Night. Yes, we are a week later than typical due to the timing of Easter and Holy Thursday falling on the 4th Thursday of the month. But please join us the following week on April 1st, 2027 at the Lone Tree Manor to recognize and celebrate exemplary Chicago Knights.

Your presence would truly honor us and add joy to the celebrations!! Fraternally, the Columbian Boosters Committee.

See Flyers at the end of this newsletter.

## Divine Infant Council # 16641 Golf Outing

Divine Infant Council #16641 invites all to attend their Golf Outing on Wednesday, September 30th at White Pines Golf Course in Bensenville. Shotgun start at 8:30am. Entry fee $135 per person includes Golf, Lunch and prizes. Hole sponsorships available and Raffle donations welcome.

***Join us for a day of Fun, Fellowship and Fundraising on the Fairway***

See flyer at end of Newsletter for more info and QR code

## Council #11981 Holy Family Inverness Blood Drive and Café

Holy Family Council #11981 will be holding a Blood Drive on Sunday, September 13, from 8:15am to 1:00 at Holy Family parish – 2515 Palatine Rd, Inverness, Il.

To schedule a donation, call 877-258-4825 or use the link https://donors.vitalant.org and use the Group Code – ORD

There is a critical need for blood these days and 'Thank You' to all Councils for stepping up and holding Blood Drives.

Holy Family Council #11981 will also be holding a Café on Sunday, September 27th from 8:30 – 11:00 at Holy Family Parish – 2515 Palatine Rd, Inverness, Il. Adults $12.50, Kids – 3-13 $4.50. $5-00.oo of net proceeds will be donated to 'Viator House of Hospitality', which provides a safe home for up to 23 young immigrant men seeking asylum in the US.

Bring your family and join the Knights for a buffet style breakfast

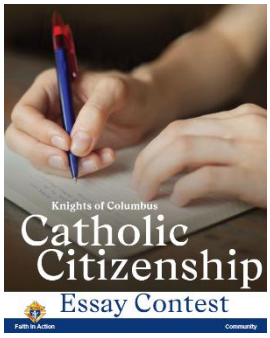
See Flyers and QR code at the end of this newsletter.

## Exemplification of Unity,Charity and Fraternity

District 11 along with Cardinal Cody Council 8070 will be hosting a Degree on Saturday September 5th after the 5:00 mass at St. John Vianney located at 46. N. Wolf Northlake Il. 60164. Registration will be at 4:30. Please send any interested candidates to make their Degree on September 5th. This Degree will be in English and Spanish.

Please contact DD Andy Smolen - with any questions – Cell/text -847-708-2963 or redhorde@sbcglobal.net

## Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest




Schools are in session and so are the Knights. Most Councils are finalizing their fraternal year programs and preparing an action plan for success.

Why not add 'Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest' to your Councils 'to do' list.

Discuss this at your District Deputy meeting and encourage other Councils in your District to participate. This contest is aimed at the older students and it is intended for 8th through 12th grades. Maybe a possible candidate is waiting to hear about the Knights.

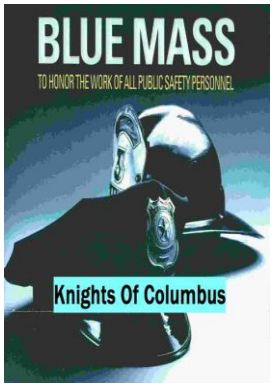
The schedule for the contest is:

- October/November - Council Level Judging (winners to District Deputy)
- November/December - District Level Judging (winners to State Chair)
- December/January - State Level Judging (winners to Supreme)

The 2026-27 topic is: "**The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God."** The goal of the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest is to give students an opportunity to define the role of a Catholic citizen in many different scenarios, and to strengthen the bond between the Knights of Columbus and local schools.

**Visit the Supreme website for full details: Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest | Knights of Columbus**

## Mt Prospect Council #6481 Sponsors Blue Mass




Council #6481 will sponsor a special Blue Mass honoring first responders and health care workers at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, at St. Emily Catholic Church, 1400 E. Central Rd., Mount Prospect.

The Blue Mass will recognize and honor the men and women who serve others in times of emergency, crisis, danger, and need. All first responders and health care workers, active or retired, are invited to attend, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, emergency room doctors and nurses, National Guard members, and all public safety personnel.

The event reflects the longstanding commitment of the Knights of Columbus to support those who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving their communities.

"The Knights of Columbus have a long history of supporting those who serve others in need," said Kevin Chapman of Knights of Columbus Council 6481.

"Our first responders and health care workers respond in service to others every day, often placing themselves and their own families at risk in order to protect the public."

For additional information, contact Kevin Chapman at 847-778-6743 or jkchapman@mountprospect.com See Flyer at end of this newsletter for more info.

## St. Francis of Assisi Council #16369 Blue Green Mass

St. Francis of Assisi Parish and Knights of Columbus Council #16369 will hold our 5th Annual Blue & Green Mass on Sunday, September 27, at 12:00 PM.

Our first Blue Mass was held in 2021 following the tragic death of Chicago Police Officer Ella French. It began as an opportunity to honor, remember and thank

the men and women who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities.

This year, we are expanding that recognition to more visibly include those who have served, or are currently serving, in the United States Armed Forces. The addition of Green to our traditional Blue Mass reflects that broader tribute. Police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, dispatchers, corrections officers, members of the military and veterans — along with their families — are especially invited to join us.

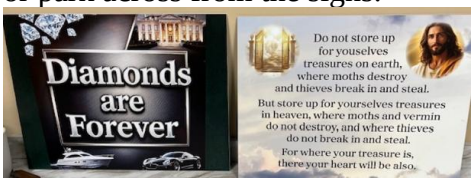
We are also establishing a permanent Prayer Registry containing the names of those who serve or have served. Members of law enforcement, the fire service, EMS and the Armed Forces are invited to add their names. Family members and friends are also encouraged to add the names of loved ones who have dedicated their lives to the service of our communities and our country. The registry will be available in the church narthex before and after Mass.

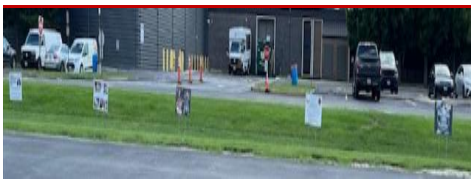
Attendance in uniform is highly encouraged. Refreshments will be served immediately following Mass. "We Honor all who serve, protect and sacrifice, so that we may live in freedom and safety." All are invited.

See Flyer at end of this newsletter for more info

## Sacred Heart Council #17253 Road Signs

Council #17253 is using old idea to evangelize, some may remember the 'Burma Shave' signs along the highway. Council #17253 created signs of like those except advertising Faith and religion. Secular sign of human wants followed by spiritual needs. Last sign encouraging those to sign up for OCIA. The Council has two sets of signs, one set coming into our parking lot and the other facing the school's parking lot. Sacred Heart Church in Palos Hills is right next door Stagg High school and students & parents dropping off students continually drive through or park across from the signs.



## Star Council Award Requirement Changes for 2026-27

Changes have been made to the requirements for the 3 awards that are included in the Star Council award. Star Council Award | Knights of Columbus

The **Columbian Award** recognizes council excellence in programs and activities aligned with the vision of our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, and the mission of the Knights of Columbus.

**Father McGivney Award**

This award recognizes excellence in your council's membership growth.

**The Founders' Award** recognizes excellence in the promotion of our insurance and fraternal benefits.

Supreme has available an on-demand webinar that looks at the changes, analyzes the new criteria, and completes the updated Application for the Columbian Award (SP-7) .

The Columbian Award Explained 2026-2027 - 1764912

and the Founders Award

The Founders' Award Explained 2026-2027 - 1764914

Also, please see the overview of the 'Columbian Award' requirements and changes at the end of this newsletter.

## State Deputy Days of Service Program Saturday September 12, 2026

State Deputy Lloyd J. Reinkensmeier's motto for Fraternal Year 2025-2026 is "EMPOWERING LIVES: SERVING FROM THE HEART". In conjunction with that motto, Stephan A. Zalas, Jr., IL State Program Director, recently announced a new opportunity for Councils to participate in the "STATE DEPUTY DAYS OF SERVICE CONTEST".

1. September 12, 2026

a. Each Council will select a service project for that day.

b. Councils submitting pictures and a completed Form 10784, DIRECTLY TO THE STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, will be entered in a drawing for the Grand Knight and Program Director of the Council for a State Polo shirt that will be embroidered on the left sleeve with Council # and "Best Day of Service Project – April 12, 2026".

c. Winners will be selected prior to the State Convention.

d. The State Polo shirts will be presented at the State Convention in Springfield, May 2026.

All Councils in the Illinois Jurisdiction are encouraged to participate. EMPOWER THE LIVES of your Council members to give service, SERVING FROM THE HEART!

## POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II - PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Thank you Brother Knights, for all that you have done for Vocations and all that you are going to do in the future. The support that you have shown the Vocation Support Program has been nothing less than phenomenal. Last year more than $180,000 was raised to support Seminarians. These future Priests will be there to serve the Mother Church.

Attached is a 'Prayer for Vocations' from Pope St. John Paul II. Please include this in your Council/Assembly meetings and during times when you pray. May this Prayer inspire more young men to devote their lives to Christ and His Church.

Please print it, share it with your Council Members, and Pray the Prayer for Vocations!

Vivat Jesus,
GA Paul D. Kehoe
PSD Stephen G. Mann

## Vocation Raffle

Vocation Raffle books can still be ordered from the State Vocations chairman. Please complete and submit the Order Form at the end of this newsletter and support this important State Fund raising event that aids our future priests.

Link for ordering vocations Raffle books:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc59ZvzbDUG0lznJgws6f6V8FkEXTSspuktXxXnwxOz78_QnA/viewform?usp=header

***Support Our Seminarians Today!***
***They Are Our Priests of Tomorrow!!!***

*Vocations Prayer by Pope St. John Paul II*

Lord Jesus, as once you called the first disciples and made them fishers of men, continue to let resound today Your sweet invitation: "Come and follow me."

Grant to men and women in our day the grace and trust to respond to Your voice.

Sustain our bishops, priests and consecrated souls in their apostolic work.

Give perseverance to our seminarians and to all those living a life of total consecration to Your service.

Enkindle in our communities a missionary zeal.

Send, Lord, workers into Your fields to feed and guide Your flock as Good Shepherds in imitation of You.

Mary, Mother of the Church, Model of Vocations, help us to say "Yes" to the Lord who calls each one of us to play our part in His plan of salvation. Amen.

Please also see the flyer at the end of this newsletter

**Fly the Flag This Labor Day- Monday Sept7, 2026**

## Coalition Life

Coalition Life is a pro-life organization with the mission of providing the last line of defense for babies, their mothers, and their families planning to enter an abortion facility for an abortion or at great risk for abortion due to the sales efforts of the abortion facility.

Much of our effort is focused on sidewalk counseling and a parallel prayer presence on the sidewalks or driveways of seven abortion facilities spread across the Midwest from Planned Parenthood - Near North - Elizabeth Cohn Morris Center at Lasalle and Division in the River North area of Chicago to a Planned Parenthood facility in Overland Park, KS, a suburb of Kansas City, KS.

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more info on this important ministry and to contact BK John Ryan, Sidewalk Counselor Flossmore, or BK Jacob Tipre, Site manager Chicago.

## Silver Rose Program

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners, and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe

There will be 3 icons available to travel either in the northern or southern councils of our diocese. The best way to schedule the Silver Rose is to use the link below to fill out the Silver rose request form online.: https://forms.gle/YRipzZEyLzF2rgG8A

Chairman Martinez will then set a calendar of future availability. This schedule will be posted on the Chicago Chapter website, Silver Rose Program – Knights of Columbus

This schedule will also be at the State website: Illinois State Council - Silver Rose

Your help is needed when transporting the icon to and from locations.

Please review the links below for details of the Silver Rose ceremony and materials needed.

- Guidesheet_ 10625 Silver Rose GS
- Silver Rose Overiew: Silver Rose | Knights of Columbus

Each Council wishing to host the Silver Rose ceremony should order their own booklets and supplies. Remaining supplies are to be added to the totes to 'pay it forward.' We recommend that printed supplies be ordered NOW, as this program is very popular throughout North America, and Supreme is working diligently to fill the orders timely. Should a Council come up short with supplies, do NOT order these booklets express delivery; the shipping costs would be extravagant. Rather, the booklets are available online via the Supreme website to download.

Some ideas for the Silver Rose include;

- Daytime prayer service at area Catholic Schools.
- Grade schools are a great opportunity Some dioceses that have organized these events also have an opportunity to illustrate the Knights

and what we do. This can be impactful with the parents, as moms often attend these types of school services.

- High schools with young men ready to graduate and become Knights.

Matthew Martinez
Silver Rose (Chicago Diocese) Coordinator
District Deputy District #20
exrel@sbcglobal.net
See Flyer at end of this newsletter for QR Code

## Forms Forum

Just a reminder of the Forms that are coming due in July-August.

Councils should fill out **Form 10784** Online (Preferred Method) for every program they perform. It helps the State know where to focus for inactive councils or districts. It helps Supreme know what programs are successful. It helps Councils record activities for the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities and keep track of everything they do for the Columbian Award.

Due after each event – Final deadline - June 30,2027.

- All Faith in Action Forms (Council/Council Development/Assembly/District/State Forms) - Faith-in-Action-forms

Useful Links

- Exemplification of Charity, Unity, & Fraternity (Responses) - Google Sheets
- Council Forms | Knights of Columbus
- Charity report https://www.illinoisknights.org/charity#h.1g2y5pc8x3us

Order your Free Throw packets and Spelling Bee Packets Now

- Order a Free Throw Kit (FT-KIT) – This can be ordered on the Supreme website (www.kofc.org) under Programs tab click on Community, then scroll down to Free Throw Championship and click on it. FreeThrowKit-English.
- Free Throw downloadable resources- Overview Resources - Faith in Action | Knights of Columbus
- Spelling Bee Kit Order form-Spelling Bee Kit Request

## Pope Leo Habitat for Humanity Build –

The next 'Build Day' will be on Wednesday, September 16th in West Pullman at Pope Leo Village, 957 W. 115th St in Chicago

A "build day" is a day of service where volunteers go to a new home construction site to assist the Habitat staff in building homes. No prior experience is required, all tools, materials and training will be provided. It's always extremely rewarding!.

Spouses, friends and family members over the age of 16 are welcome to join us as well.

No prior construction experience needed - training and tools will be provided

Use the link below for general info about Pope Leo Village. https://my.habitatchicago.org/PopeLeoVillage/Static/event-info

Anyone interested please contact District Deputy directly at danstolze@gmail.com /312-622-2293 for more info and future 'Build Dates'.

## Newman

All Brother Knights are asked to prayerfully consider donating to the Knights of Columbus, Illinois State Council, Newman Apostolate Charity Fund this Lent.

This fund plays a vital role in sustaining Newman Centers at colleges and universities throughout Illinois. The Centers create a welcoming, faith-based environment where young men and women can celebrate and nurture their Catholic identity while away from their home parishes.

Monies donated to the Newman Apostolate Fund are distributed to ALL the Newman Centers in the State of Illinois.

To ensure your donation is applied to your Council goal, make sure you enter your Council number in the appropriate box

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## September Council Checklist Plan- Partner-Serve and Invite.

1) Growth – Finalize your Church Drive
2) Run Youth & Family Programs
3) Partner with your Pastor and Field Agent
4) Charity in Action – Vocations, ID Drive-Newman Fund
5) Council Administration- Check your Status
6) EFF – Evangelize, Faith & formation
7) Strengthen Faith and Fraternity
8) Fall Training Opportunities
September Success Check

See Flyer at end of this newsletter for details

## WheelChair Program

Co- Now is the time to contribute to the wheelchair program. Please forward your donation to the Illinois State Council Chairmen Edward G. Willer, **THANKS** all for their continued generosity to the IL STATE WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM! With your help the Wheelchair Program distributed wheelchairs throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago last year. to Hines Hospital and many other Veterans facilities.

Please continue to support this important program

**Please scan the QR code or write a check to:**

Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc. - Wheelchair Program
State Finance Office
P.O. Box: 309
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

Gift Mobility

## COR (Latin for 'Heart')

The mission of Cor:

- Refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ.
- Form and strengthen their faith and virtue through brotherhood.
- Commit to prayer, formation, and fraternity.

The goal of each Cor gathering:

- Provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ.
- To pray together
- Be formed in their faith.
- To strengthen their bonds of brotherhood

How to run Cor: https://www.kofc.org/resources/officer-resources/engagement/cor-leadership/how-to-run-cor/

It's time to reignite the faith of our Council and Parish Brothers! Please contact Mark Kuczera
IL State Evangelization and Faith Formation Director
815-341-3849 (m)
cor@illinoisknights.org

## College Councils

Brother Knight Spencer Steeves State College Councils (SCCC) Coordinator PGK, Illini Council reactivating the Knights of Columbus councils at Eastern Illinois University and University of Illinois Chicago, and need your help!

If you know a young Catholic man who is a student at either of these schools, whether it is a son, grandson, nephew, neighbor, or anything, please let him know and send BK Spencer their contact information! The Knights are looking to grow a community of men who are strong in their faith, serve their Newman Center, and be the future of the church!

Don't know anyone personally? Ask at your next business meeting! Know someone who is a Catholic man at another college in Illinois who would be great for building a council, please contact SCCC Spencer Steeves at C: (224) 261-5343 E: college@illinoisknights.org.

## In Memoriam

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of Bernie F. Mennemeyer, Former Master of the Fourth Degree - IL Southern District, Past Faithful Navigator, Former District Deputy, and Past Grand Knight on Monday, July 27, 2026. FM SK Bernie was a dedicated Knight who exemplified

our Order's principle of Unity, Charity, Fraternity and especially Patriotism. His devotion to his Brother Knights and our Order will be a lasting memory to all who knew him. Obituary information for Bernard "Bernie" Mennemeyer

Also, we are saddened to announce the passing of Sir Knight Thomas Cipich on August 3,2026. SK Thomas was an Honorary Life member of Lansing Council 3540 having joined the Knights 68 years ago on 12-1-1958. SK Thomas was also a long time member of Samuel Cardinal Stritch Assembly #205 SK Thomas served his Council with unwavering faith, charity, and fraternity throughout his many years of dedicated membership. https://www.smitsfh.com/obituaries/thomas-cipich

***Eternal Rest Grant unto Them O Lord and May Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them May Their Soul and all the Souls of the Faithful Departed Through the Mercy of God Rest in Peace Amen***

## Next Chapter Business Meetings and Events –

Please note that our Chapter meeting location will be **changing** for our 2026-2027 year.

- There will be 6 meetings this year and will take place on to-be-determined Saturdays with the location rotating to a different part of the Archdiocese each time.

**Upcoming Meeting for October**

- **The next Chicago Chapter meeting will take place on October 17th, at 9:15 am (NOTE earlier time) at St. Michael's Parish 14327 Highland Ave, Orland Park, IL 60462**
- **The 'Financial Officer Training, Member Management Basics, and Member Billing Basics' Training session will take place at 10:00 am in the same location immediately following the Chapter's meeting**
- The agenda will be circulated via email and posted on the Chapter's website as we get closer to the meeting date.

**For more information refer to the Chapter Website at:**
www.kofcchicago.org

Attendance via Zoom is available
Contact SK Tom Kaiser,
Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter
Email: tjkaiser@sprynet.com
630-699-2079

**Use this link to join the Chapter's Zoom meeting from your PC:https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4598499591?pwd=dlZpVDBFdTN1S0FYT2dSOVd3M2VTQT09**

**If you have Zoom on your PC/ phone**, you can enter this Meeting ID and password
Meeting ID: 459 849 9591
Password: 2349

When you join you will go into a waiting room and then be admitted.

If you **do not have Zoom** on your phone/computer, you can call into the meeting using:
Phone # 312-626-6799,
Meeting ID: 459 849 9591
Participant code # 345733
Password: 2349

**Editor's Note:**

***Thank you*** to all who have submitted articles to this Edition. This is an important forum for getting news and information distributed to all our Brother Knights in the Chicago Archdiocese and beyond. Please continue to send in announcements of your special events, fund raisers, Blood Drives, Exemplifications, Honor Guards, and any other activities your Council or Assembly may be planning. (Photos are always welcomed)
Vivat Jesu.
*Tom*

Tom Kaiser, Newsletter Editor
630-699-2079 (cell/text)
630-941-7423 (home)

**PLEASE SEND NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENCE TO:**
Thomas J. Kaiser,
tjkaiser@sprynet.com This newsletter is published bi-monthly.

**Deadline for articles to be included in the 2026 November/December Newsletter is Tuesday, October 27th, 2026.**

**!! Check Out the New chapter Web Site www.kofcchicago.org**

# Litany of Humility

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, Hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed… **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being loved… **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being extolled ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being honored ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being praised ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being preferred to others... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being consulted ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the desire of being approved ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being humiliated ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being despised... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of suffering rebukes ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being calumniated ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being forgotten ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being ridiculed ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being wronged ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**
From the fear of being suspected ... **Deliver me, Jesus.**

That others may be loved more than I… **Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That others may be esteemed more than I ... **Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I may decrease ...
**Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That others may be chosen and I set aside ... **Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That others may be praised and I unnoticed ... **Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That others may be preferred to me in everything... **Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**
That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should…

**Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.**

## Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

*Founder of the Knights of Columbus*

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present *(here make your request)*. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Please report all favors received:*
The Father McGivney Guild
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510-3326 • USA
www.fathermcgivney.org

Painting by Chas Fagan © Knights of Columbus

**South and South Side Grand Knights & Past Grand Knights Club**
**All are invited to join us for**
**The 68th ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP DINNER**

**Thursday October 15, 2026**
**Gaelic Park, 6119 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL**

*Cocktails will begin at 6:00 PM with one-hour **OPEN BAR** followed by "A Great Complete Prime Rib Dinner", Alternate dinner choices include Chicken Marsala, Pasta Primavera, or a Vegetarian Plate. Please return the enclosed registration form before Wednesday October 7, 2026, with your check for $70.00 per person, payable to: **SOUTH SIDE GK/PGK CLUB.***

***Gentlemen, please remember that Ladies are welcome. Bring your best girl to join us for our fabulous dinner as we Honor those who have served the Order, Community, and Church.***

***2026 Honorees are:***

***Fr. Gary Graf***
***Ronald Hrad Charles Copps***
***Kevin Hickey Brian Mellonthin Dean Dalaly***

*Your attendance will enhance the evening, expressing to the Honorees that their Friendship and Service to us over the years is Greatly Appreciated.*

*With Kindest Regards,*
*The Friendship Committee*
*John D Muldoon, Chairman*
*Bill Doody, Joe Kunnengode, Mike Schnabel, Stan Wiejak, and Mickey Centracchio*

---

**NAME:** _____

**ADDRESS:** _____

**CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:** _____

**COUNCIL NAME & NUMBER:** _____

**TITLE:** _____

**Dinner Choices: Prime Rib _____ Chicken Marsala _____ Pasta Primavera ____ Vegetarian ____**

Please Make Check Payable ($70.00 per person) to the **South Side GK/PGK Club**
Reserve Table of 10, cost $700.00
Also please note that payment must accompany reservation – *Thank You!*

*Any Questions: John D Muldoon 708-557-5559*
*johnmuldoon@comcast.net*

*Return Reservation & Payment to: Mike Schnabel*
*1271 Bluebell Trail*
*Schererville, IN 46375*

**4th DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**
**Marquette Assembly # 188**

**EXEMPLIFICATION OF PATRIOTISM**
**St. Peter Catholic Church**
**(1891 Kaneville Rd., Geneva, IL 60134)**
**Saturday, October 24, 2026**

## Advertising Contract For 2026 Exemplification Program Book

Date: _____
Name of Advertiser: _____
Contact Person: _____
Advertisers Address: _____
City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____
Council/Assembly & Person Soliciting Ad: _____

Please submit all artwork in electronic format, if possible. Files should be submitted in high resolution (300 dpi) JPG or PDF format. Camera ready art may also be submitted. **Camera ready ads are preferred.**

***ADVERTISING RATES:***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Inside Front Cover-Color (8x5) | $150.00 | Inside Back Cover-Color (8x5) | $150.00 |
| Full Page (8x5) | $100.00 | Half Page (4x5) | $50.00 |
| 1/4 Page (2x5) | $25.00 | Well Wishers (2 Lines) | $10.00 |

**PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL ADS**

***When submitting an ad, please send this completed form and check, payable to Marquette Assembly #188.***

***SUBMIT ALL ADS WITH PAYMENT TO:***
Faithful Comptroller Bill Dugan
Marquette Asm #188
2291 Gettysburg Dr.
Aurora, IL. 60506

**Please submit your ad by email so we have an electronic Version of the ad.**

If using last year's ad, be sure to update your council information.

Ad and payment must be received by Friday September 26, 2026 to be included in the Program book.

Please contact Faithful Navigator Gary Stopka at 630-824-7285 or gjstopka@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

**Thank you for your support of the 4th Degree and giving more men the opportunity to experience Patriotism at its finest.**

**=Knights of Columbus**
**Northern Illinois District – Marquette Province**

**Exemplification of Patriotism**
**Saturday, October 24, 2026**

**St. Peter Catholic Church**
**1891 Kaneville Rd**
**Geneva, IL 60134**

**Ty Simmons, Master**
ty.simmons@comcast.net
(630) 947-9404 (cell)

August 1, 2026

To: All Assemblies-Northern Illinois District

The next Exemplification of Patriotism will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026. The Host Assembly is Marquette Assembly #188, Gary Stopka, Faithful Navigator.

Now is the time to ask our fellow brother knights to join us in the Exemplification of Patriotism.

The following hotels are in the local area:

**Comfort Inn & Suites Geneva-West Chicago** - 630-208-8811
1555 E. Fabyan Pkwy, Geneva IL 60134

**Fairfield Inn & Suites By Marriott St. Charles** - 833-372-8724
2096 Bricher Rd., St. Charles IL 60174

Candidates
Ceremony Fee w/banquet ticket – $90.00 ($10.00 late fee)

Priests ONLY
Ceremony Fee w/banquet ticket – $50.00

Sir Knights, Ladies, Guests
Ceremony w/banquet ticket – $50.00 ($10.00 late fee)

Sir Knights, Ladies, Guests
Ceremony ONLY – Free
Each assembly will be charged a late fee for their candidates. Sir Knights, ladies, and guests will be responsible for their own late fees. All fees must be included with the reservation.

**No refunds on Banquet Ticket if it is not used.**

The deadline for Candidates Form 4's is **Saturday, October 17, 2026,** for names to be listed in the Program Book.

Banquet reservation forms are included with this correspondence. Please make copies for distribution to both Candidates and Sir Knights wishing to attend the Exemplification and Banquet. **All Sir Knights must submit their own registration form. Sir Knights should not be guests of others.**

Special Meal requests (if necessary, for Medical Reasons or Vegetarians) for Candidates, Sir Knights, Ladies and Guests must be shown on the Banquet Reservation Form.

Special Reminder: **Candidate arrival 12 noon.**
A Candidate must have participated in the Charity-Unity-Fraternity (CUF) Exemplification and be a member in good standing to be eligible for the Exemplification of Patriotism, they must also **show a current 2026 travel card,** at the Exemplification.

**The Exemplification of Patriotism will be open to families and guests.**

Please be sure to send only **COMPLETE** packets (Form 4, Banquet Reservation Form, and Check made payable to **Ty Simmons – Master**.

**Candidates** are expected to submit completed Form 4's and a copy of their travelling card with their council Financial Secretary's signature, Banquet Reservation Form, along with payment **to the Assembly they will be joining.** In turn, the Navigator will submit the paperwork with his signature along with the Comptrollers signature, and payment to the District Secretary.
**Guests and Observers** may send their reservation forms with check payable to the Master directly to the District Secretary using the following address:

**Gregg Biliskov**
**1115 Bourne Lane**
**Schaumburg, IL 60193**

**INCOMPLETE PACKETS OR PACKETS NOT HAVING ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION MAY BE RETURNED TO THE FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR.**

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND FORM 4's TO THE MASTER.**

Faithful Navigators and Faithful Comptrollers must ensure all required information is completed including:

Membership Number, Member's Signature, Council Number, Name and FS signature.
Name, Number and location of the Assembly which the Candidate is joining.
Faithful Navigator Signature, Faithful Comptroller Signature.
Please print clearly on all documents.
Member email addresses can be printed in the space above the membership number. When filling out the Form 4, press hard so that the information transfers to the duplicate copies.

**APPROPRIATE DRESS CODE FOR CANDIDATES AND/OR OBSERVERS**
Family members and guests will be allowed in the chamber to view the Exemplification.

**Exemplification Ceremony Notes**

- This ceremony will take approximately 1 ½ hours**.** Doors will remain closed for the entire ceremony. Those that leave will be readmitted at an appropriate time.
- Cell phones must be on Silent or Off.
- No photography is permitted during the ceremony.
- Everyone must always remain in their seats. This includes adults and children.
- **No food or beverages are allowed. Medical exceptions apply.**

Faithful Navigators are also asked to ensure that all Assembly Members and Candidates are made aware that **PROPER ATTIRE MUST BE WORN** to the Exemplification.

**Candidates are expected to wear:**

- **Business Suit – dark colored** black, dark grey, dark blue or brown.
- **Plain white shirt -** with lay down collars – no wing tip collars.
- **Conservative Tie**
- **Black Dress Socks**
- **Dress Shoes** – black or brown is permitted.

**Clergy (candidates/observers) are permitted to wear:**

- **Blacks or cassock**

**Sir Knights**

- **Official Knights of Columbus uniform or dark suit, tie, black socks, and black dress shoes.**

**Ladies, Guests**

- **Business professional attire (pant suits, dresses, skirts, suit, jacket, slacks).**

**Active Military, Police, Firefighters (candidates/observers) are permitted to wear:**

- **Class A or Dress Uniform - instead of dark suit.**

**If proper attire as described above is not followed,
you will not be permitted into the exemplification chamber.**

**Assemblies: When you issue a check for a candidate, a separate check is required for each Candidate and / or reservation with the name of the person shown on the check.**

If anyone writes a check for someone else, PLEASE make sure to note on the memo line who the payment is for. ALL checks must be payable to: **Ty Simmons, Master**.

**ALL** completed applications, Form 4's with payment are sent to the District Secretary at:

**Gregg Biliskov**
**1115 Bourne Lane**
**Schaumburg, IL 60193**

The district staff are ready to assist each Assembly as necessary to make this a SPECIAL DAY for our new Sir Knights. Should you need additional information or clarification on any matters, please contact me or the district secretary.

Fraternally Yours,

*Ty Simmons*

Master
Northern Illinois District
Marquette Province

## *Knights of Columbus*

Northern Illinois District – Marquette Province

**Ty Simmons, Master**
ty.simmons@comcast.net
(630) 947-9404 (cell)

**Exemplification of Patriotism**
**Saturday, October 24, 2026**
**St. Peter Catholic Church**
**1891 Kaneville Rd,**
**Geneva, IL 60134**

**SATURDAY** **October 24, 2026**

| | |
|---|---|
| 11:30 A.M. | **MASTER'S MEETING**<br>Attendees: Faithful Navigators, Faithful, Comptrollers, Committee Chairs |
| 12:00 P.M. | **DISTRICT MARSHAL'S MEETING**<br>Attendees: Honor Guard Members |
| 12:00 P.M. | **CANDIDATE ARRIVAL - REGISTRATION OPEN**<br>BANQUET TICKET – PICK-UP |
| 12:30 P.M. | **HONOR GUARD INSPECTION**<br>**Uniformed Sir Knights by Vice Supreme Master and Master** |
| 1:00 P.M. | **CANDIDATE BRIEFING BY MASTER** |
| 1:30 P.M. | **EXEMPLIFICATION CEREMONY**<br>Ceremony 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm |
| 3:00 P.M. | **MASTER'S WRAP-UP MEETING FOLLOWS CEREMONY**<br>Attendees: Faithful Navigators, Faithful Comptrollers, Committee Chairs |
| 4:30 P.M. | **MASS** |
| 6:00 P.M. | **BANQUET**<br>Banquet 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm |

## *Knights of Columbus*

**Northern Illinois District – Marquette Province**

**Exemplification of Patriotism**

**Saturday, October 24, 2026**

**Ty Simmons, Master**
ty.simmons@comcast.net
(630) 947-9404 (cell)

**St. Peter Catholic Church**
**1891 Kaneville Rd.,**
**Geneva, IL 60134**

**Note: Each Sir Knight must submit their own registration form.** Sir Knights should not be guests of others.

**Name:** _____ **E-mail address:** _____
**(Please Print Clearly)** **(Please Print Clearly)**

**Address:** _____ **Phone Number:** _____

**City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

**MEMBERSHIP NO.**_____ **(Provide a copy of your traveling card – do not enlarge)**

**ASSEMBLY NO.** _____ **COUNCIL NO.**_____

**Attending Ceremony and Banquet (indicate the number of attendees)**

_____ **Candidate ($90)** _____ **Priest ($50)** _____ **SK, Ladies, Guests ($50)** $ _____

**Attending Ceremony Only (indicate the number of attendees)**

_____ **Priest (free)** _____ **SK (free)** _____ **Ladies, Guests (free)**

**CHECK NUMBER:** _____ **Total Amount** $_____

**Total number attending Banquet** _____

**Special Dietary requests:** _____

All Reservations must be accompanied by a Check payable to **Ty Simmons – Master**.

**Mail forms with check to:**
**District Secretary, Gregg Biliskov, 1115 Bourne Lane, Schaumburg, IL 60193**
**Payments may also be made via Zelle at 847-417-1988**

**To avoid the late fee, the reservation must be postmarked by Saturday, October 17, 2026.**

**Ladies and guests Names are list here** _____
_____
*(use the back if needed)* _____

***A $10.00 late fee is accessed per person for entries received after October 17, 2026***

# SAVE THE DATE!!

## Columbian Boosters

### 42nd Honors Night

## Thursday, April 1, 2027

## At the Lone Tree Manor

7730 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Niles IL 60714

**Open Bar (2 hours)…6:00 PM Dinner…7:00 PM**

**Donation $70.00 per person***

- Honorees reveal forthcoming
- Doors open at 5:30.
- Advance tickets required
- Ticket reservations may be mailed or purchased through Zelle
- You can also call 847-287-7038 for more information & reservations.

"Throw yourself into some work you believe in with all your heart, live for it, die for it, and you will find happiness that you had thought could never be yours."

– Dale Carnegie

# ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

*Empowering Lives: Serving from the Heart.*

## GO FOR TWO MORE!
*Individual Member Incentive*

To recognize brother Knights who "go for two", members who extend the invitation and get two men to join between **SEPTEMBER 1ST AND DECEMBER 31ST, 2026,** will be entered into a drawing to receive a cash prize of

**GRAND PRIZE**
**$1,500!***

**10 SECOND PLACE WINNERS** will receive a customized K of C-branded item.

**INVITE FOUR MEN** who join in that time frame to be entered into the drawing **TWICE!**

## FOOD FOR FAMILIES
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## LET'S GROW OUR BROTHERHOOD AND *GIVE* BACK!

This year let's kick start the giving season by growing our brotherhood and extending the invitation to have others join us in faith, charity and service to our local communities.

**FULFILL YOUR ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP QUOTA & PARTICIPATE IN THE FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM BY NOVEMBER 30TH TO QUALIFY!**
(with the Food for Families application being submitted no later than **DECEMBER 31ST, 2026**)

Councils who qualify will receive
**8 SETS**
of custom embroidered KofC aprons and hats!

PLUS, Councils will have a chance to enter to win an additional
**$200**
**GIFT CERTIFICATE TO KNIGHTS GEAR!**

★ ONE COUNCIL • ONE TEAM • ONE MISSION • ONE NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH

*Lloyd J. Reinkensmeier*
STATE DEPUTY

Brothers, the momentum we create during this season will determine our success.
**TOGETHER, WE ARE TRULY**

# Knights of Columbus®

Council # 16641

## 2026 Annual Golf Outing

Join us for a day of fun, fellowship, and fundraising on the fairway!

📅 Date: Wednesday, September 30th, 2026

📍 Location: White Pines Golf Course
500 W. Jefferson St., Bensenville, IL 60106

⏰ Shotgun Start: 8:30 AM

💲 Entry Fee: $135 per person Includes:
✔ 18 Holes of Golf
✔ Lunch & Awards Following Play

🎯 Hole Sponsorships Available – $100
A great way to promote your business or honor a loved one!
Includes signage at one of the course holes.

🎁 Raffle Donations Welcome!
Support the outing by donating a raffle prize — gift cards, baskets, sports memorabilia, etc. are appreciated!

For Registration, Sponsorship, or Donations:
Dan Kaiser - 708-906-9854 - djk5400@yahoo.com
Derek Gordon - 847-909-7706 - gordonderek@yahoo.com

**Mount Prospect Knights of Columbus Council 6481 to Host Blue Mass Honoring First Responders and Health Care Workers**

The Knights of Columbus Council 6481 will sponsor a special Blue Mass honoring first responders and health care workers on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Emily Catholic Church, 1400 E Central Road, in Mount Prospect.

The Blue Mass will recognize and honor the men and women who serve others in times of emergency, crisis, danger, and need. All first responders and health care workers, active or retired, are invited to attend, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, emergency room doctors and nurses, National Guard members, and all public safety personnel.

The event reflects the longstanding commitment of the Knights of Columbus to support those who dedicate their lives to protecting and serving their communities.

"The Knights of Columbus have a long history of supporting those who serve others in need," said Kevin Chapman of Knights of Columbus Council 6481. "Our first responders and health care workers respond in service to others every day, often placing themselves and their own families at risk in order to protect the public."

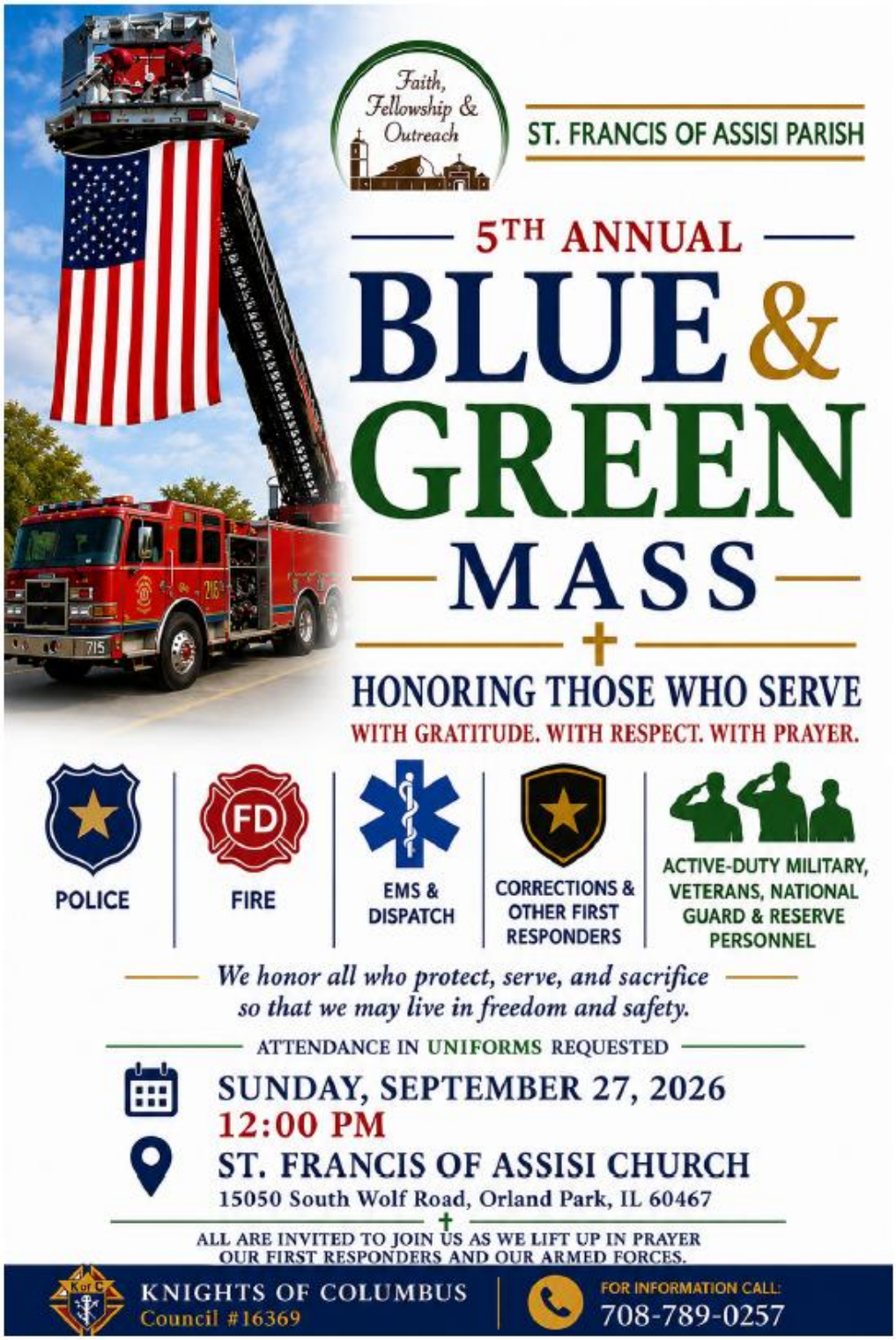
The Knights noted that police, fire, medical personnel, and health care workers continue to face increasing challenges and dangers while serving their communities. The Blue Mass is intended as a visible expression of gratitude, prayer, and support for those who work tirelessly to ensure the safety, health, and care of others.

During the Mass, special prayers and intentions will be offered for the safety and protection of all first responders and health care workers, as well as remembrance for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The Knights also emphasized that the event is intended to unite the community in appreciation for those who protect homes, families, neighborhoods, and communities throughout the region.

Community members, parishioners, families, and supporters are encouraged to attend and join in recognizing the courage, compassion, and dedication of first responders and health care workers.

For additional information, please contact Kevin Chapman at (847) 778-6743 or jkchapman@mountprospect.com


Faith, Fellowship & Outreach
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
5TH ANNUAL
BLUE & GREEN
MASS
HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE
WITH GRATITUDE. WITH RESPECT. WITH PRAYER.
POLICE
FIRE
EMS & DISPATCH
CORRECTIONS & OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS
ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY, VETERANS, NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE PERSONNEL
We honor all who protect, serve, and sacrifice so that we may live in freedom and safety.
ATTENDANCE IN UNIFORMS REQUESTED
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
12:00 PM
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
15050 South Wolf Road, Orland Park, IL 60467
ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AS WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER
OUR FIRST RESPONDERS AND OUR ARMED FORCES.
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Council #16369
FOR INFORMATION CALL:
708-789-0257

Holy Family Catholic Community
Blood Drive
2515 W. Palatine Road, Inverness Illinois 60067
Sunday, September 13th
8:15 am-1pm in the Gym
Donate Blood Today
GIVE A PINT
GET A PINT
Donors will be thanked with a coupon for a FREE pint of Culver's frozen custard.
To schedule a donation, call 877.258.4825, visit us at https://donors.vitalant.org and use group code ORD0025C - or scan the QR Code. Appointments recommended, Walk-ins welcome. PREPARE: Eat well, Hydrate & Bring ID.
Sponsored by your Holy Family Knights Of Columbus
vitalant

Knights of Columbus

**Form VOC-**

## Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.

### Vocation Raffle Transmittal Form

Date: _____ Council # : _____

**Number of Books Submitted:** 0 x **$10.00 =** $ -

Check # _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
**Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.**

SEND CHECK & RAFFLE BOOK STUBS TO
Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.
State Financial Office
7250 W. College Dr, Suite 1SE (packages only)
Palos Heights, IL 60463-0309

**PLEASE, DO NOT INCLUDE ONLINE DONATIONS OR SUBMIT A TRANSMITTAL FORM FOR ONLINE DONATIONS**

If you send additional checks, please list below (check no. & amount)

| Check | Amount | Check | Amount | Check | Amount | Check | Amount |
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The guidelines of the Vocations Support Raffle Program require that the $10.00 portion from the sale of each book be used for Vocations Program(s). Please provide a brief description on how the funds will be used for the council's Vocations Program(s).

# State of Illinois Programs for your council to participate in…

## Silver Rose Program – *May 2026*

**There are three (3) icons to travel either in the** northern or southern councils of our diocese. To begin the process for scheduling the icon, please follow this QR code to a document for RSVP'ing for a rose.

## Sacred Heart Icon Program – *Now 2026 through 2027*

There are two (2) icons (2" x 35") to travel either the northern or southern councils of our Diocese. To begin the process for scheduling the icon please follow the QR code to a document for RSVPing for this image

# Columbian Award Requirements

## United States and Canada

The Columbian Award recognizes council excellence in programs and activities aligned with the visior of our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, and the mission of the Knights of Columbus. To earn the award, councils must complete the requirements listed below and submit an online application form by June 30.

*Please note that requirements differ between councils in the United States / Canada and all othe jurisdictions. These requirements are for councils in the United States and Canada.*

- **Requirement 1** – Donate at least $500 as part of one of the following Faith in Action programs: ASAP (cash or item value), Food for Families (cash or 1,000 lb/ 450 kg of food), RSVP, or Coats for Kids.
- **Requirement 2** – Complete 4 Faith in Action programs, one in each of the following categories: Faith, Family, Community, Life. You cannot claim programs / activities already submitted for requirement 1.
  - To qualify as Faith in Action programs, the council must run programs similar to those described in the Faith in Action Program Guidebook.
- **Requirement 3** – Complete 3 programs / activities: one to bring men closer to Christ, one to build fraternity (strengthen the bonds of friendship between the men of your council and/or parish) and one to support your parish or community. These programs / activities can be unique to the council and do not need to be Faith in Action programs. You cannot claim programs / activities already submitted for requirements 1 and 2.
  - **Conducting *Cor* satisfies all three of the program/activity criteria for requirement 3**. Councils must implement and sustain *Cor* gatherings that feature prayer, formation, and fraternity at least once per month. To qualify, *Cor* must be implemented starting on or before April 1 with plans for long-term sustainability.
  - *Cor* may be held in conjunction with an additional men's ministry and pull from non-KofC content.
  - For additional information on *Cor* and its structure, visit kofc.org/corleaders, view the *Cor* Startup Videos and *Cor* Leader Guide, and contact your State EFF Director.
  - If you choose this option, you must include the name and email address of your council Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) Director.

The application can be found at kofc.org/forms or by clicking the link below.

**Father McGivney Award**

This award recognizes excellence in your council's membership growth. To earn this award your council must meet or exceed its yearly membership goal. The goal is a 6% increase in the council's membership as of July 1 (intake only, minimum of five and maximum of fifteen). Your specific council goal can be found under the Membership tab in Officers Online. There is no application for the Father McGivney Award. Eligibility is automatically determined by the Supreme Council.

Councils that attain Star Council status and achieve 200 percent of their gain goal will receive the Double Star Council Award. Councils that achieve 300 percent of their gain goal will receive the Triple Star Council Award. All membership transactions must be received, processed, recorded, and released at the Supreme Council office by June 30.

**Founders' Award**

The Founders' Award recognizes excellence in the promotion of our insurance and fraternal benefits. To earn this award, a number equal to 10% of Associate members on the July 1 council roster must meet individually with a field agent for a financial review (minimum of five and maximum of fifteen). A financial review with an insurance agent is a personalized check-in to evaluate your current financial protection, identify gaps or changes in your needs, and ensure your insurance and long-term financial strategies still align with your goals, family, and future plans.

# ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

*Empowering Lives; Serving from the Heart.*

# SEPTEMBER COUNCIL CHECKLIST

**Fall Into Action — Plan • Partner • Serve • Invite**

ONE COUNCIL • ONE TEAM • ONE MISSION • ONE NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH

## GROWTH — FINALIZE YOUR CHURCH DRIVE
- ☑ Finalize your Fall Church Drive plan and dates.
- ☑ Confirm with your pastor and parish.
- ☑ Partner with your Field Agent.
- ☑ Prepare invitation, sign-up and follow-up teams.
- ☑ Invite Catholic men to join.

COUNCIL GOAL: WELCOME AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH!

## RUN YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS
- ☑ Bright Futures
- ☑ Catholic Essay Contest
- ☑ Soccer Challenge
- ☑ Hockey Challenge
- ☑ Start planning for Food for Families.
- ☑ Start planning for Coats for Kids.

*Create activity and momentum now!*

## PARTNER WITH YOUR PASTOR & FIELD AGENT
- ☑ Meet with your pastor.
- ☑ Ask where the council can best help.
- ☑ Meet with your Field Agent.
- ☑ Promote fraternal benefits.
- ☑ Work together as One Council, One Team, One Mission.

## CHARITY IN ACTION
VOCATIONS • ID DRIVE • NEWMAN FUND
- ☑ Organize your ID Drive.
- ☑ Collect donations and have fun!
- ☑ Continue selling Vocation Raffle Tickets.
- ☑ Young adults are back at college.
- ☑ Send in your council's Newman Fund donation.

*One mission of charity — many lives empowered!*

## COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION — CHECK YOUR STATUS
- ☑ Form 185 — Report of Officers submitted.
- ☑ Form 365 — Service Program Personnel Report submitted.
- ☑ Form 1295 — Annual Council Audit submitted.
- ☑ Verify Safe Environment Training is completed.
- ☑ Pay any outstanding balances to Supreme Council.
- ☑ Pay any outstanding balances to the Illinois State Council.
- ☑ Review your progress toward STAR Council.

## EFF (EVANGELIZATION, FAITH, FORMATION)
1. Submit Supreme form EFF-C online: https://www.kofc.org/resources/officer-resources/administration/forms/
2. EFF-C to familiarize self and council with available programs/content.
3. Meet with Pastor to Discuss COR and the direction for the Parish.

*Stronger in faith. Stronger in fraternity. Stronger in mission.*

## STRENGTHEN FAITH & FRATERNITY
- ☑ Hold a COR (Into the Breach) program this month.
- ☑ Encourage all Brother Knights to participate.
- ☑ Promote and attend parish or diocesan retreats.
- ☑ Encourage men and their families to grow in faith together.

## FALL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
- ☑ Encourage officers and members to take advantage of Fall Training opportunities.
- ☑ Attend online, virtual, or in-person training sessions offered by the State Council.
- ☑ Invest in leadership. Build a stronger council.

*Well-trained leaders build strong councils that make a lasting impact.*

## SEPTEMBER SUCCESS CHECK
- ☑ Our Church Drive is ready.
- ☑ We invited a new member.
- ☑ Our Pastor is part of our plan.
- ☑ Our Field Agent is part of our team.
- ☑ Our forms and Safe Environment requirements are complete.
- ☑ Our Charity programs are underway.
- ☑ We're supporting Vocations.
- ☑ We're supporting the Newman Fund.
- ☑ We're preparing Food for Families and Coats for Kids.
- ☑ We're building momentum for October.

**EVERY COUNCIL... INVITE ONE NEW MEMBER EVERY MONTH.**

ONE COUNCIL • ONE TEAM • ONE MISSION • ONE NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH

*Lloyd J. Reinkensmeier*
STATE DEPUTY
ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL

Brothers, the momentum we create during September will determine our success throughout the fall.
TOGETHER, WE ARE TRULY
*Empowering Lives; Serving from the Heart.*

# PRAYER OF
# POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II
# FOR
# VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus,

as You once called the first disciples to make fishers of men,

let Your sweet invitation continue to resound:

Come follow Me!

Give young men and women

The grace of responding quickly to Your voice.

Support our Bishops and Priests and consecrated people

In their Apostolic labor.

Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all

Who are carrying out the ideal of life

Totally consecrated to Your Service.

Mary, Mother of the Church,

The model of every vocation,

Help us to say "YES" to the Lord

Who calls us to cooperate in the Divine plan of Salvation.

AMEN

Vocations Co-Chairmen
GA Paul Kehoe PSD Steve Mann