

P.O. Box 133, Columbia, IL 62236 www.kofc6165.org

September 2023 Newsletter

Blood Drive

We had 31 donors attempt to donate and collected 27 units of blood on July 7th. Thanks to all those who attempted to give and thanks to James Huch for organizing this life saving event for us every other month. The next blood drive will be held on **Friday, September 8, 2023, from 8am until 1pm.** Invite your family and friends, and come give the gift of life.



Rosary in the Prayer Garden

We will pray and meditate on the Luminous Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary in the prayer garden by the Mary statue on **Thursday, September 14h at 6:15pm**. Everyone is invited. No special agenda, just praying for any needs we might hold in our hearts.

Intellectual Disabilities Drive

This year's Tootsie Roll Drive will be held the weekend of **September 15th and 16th**. Please put it on your calendar and <u>click here</u> to sign up online or contact Pat Grawitch at 314-495-0742 or by email at <u>pgrawitch@gmail.com</u>.



Fr. Carl's Jubilee Celebration

Father Carl will celebrate his 50-year jubilee on **Sunday, September 17th at 11am Mass** at Immaculate Conception Church, with a reception immediately following in the Michael L. Kish Gymnasium and Theatre. The Knights have committed to help set up, park cars, staff the drink station, and aid in the clean-up efforts after. <u>Click here</u> to sign-up online to help. Please show your appreciation for all that Fr. Carl has done for us by giving generously of your time.

Queen of Hearts Raffle

Immaculate Conception Parish Queen of Hearts raffle is going smoothly. They have already had their first winner. Drawings take place on Tuesday evenings at Sunset Overlook, 11604 Bluff Rd. in Columbia. The various ministries and parish organizations have been asked to donate time to sell Queen of Hearts tickets and 50/50 raffle tickets. The next Knights commitment is on Tuesday, September 26th from 4pm until 7:30. Click here to sign-up online via Sign-up Genius to volunteer for any slots that are available on any day(s) you would like to volunteer. This is an ongoing fund-raising event that will need volunteers long into the future. Please consider helping the cause.

Next Council Meeting

Our next council meeting will be on **Thursday, September 14th at 7pm** in the Knights of Columbus Room on the lower level of Immaculate Conception Church.



If you know someone who is interested in becoming a knight, please have them contact David Bodinet at dbodinet@gmail.com (618) 910-4885 or contact Jim VonDerHaar at gk@kofc6165.org or at (314) 494-8874. Our order is open to any practical catholic male, 18 years old or older.





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Continuous Years of Service as a Knight

James R Schmidt 54 John P Kinane 46 Richard A Kish 46 Denis U Ling 46 Donald R Neff 46 Michael S Lawlor 45 Kenneth J Ebers 43 Gregory J Howell 43 Marty A Raeber 41 J Michael Heller 36 Mark W Brigman 31 Richard S De Laria 23 Kevin D Hennes 23 Allen O Siegel 23 Scott M Hippisley 16 Josh R Smith 15 Stephen D Wilson 8 Thanks!!!

4th Degree Restaurant Raffle

The local Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly 1529 is selling tickets for a 12-month Restaurant Raffle. Each winner will receive a \$250 gift card to the sponsored restaurant of the month. Alternatively, the winner can elect to receive \$200 in cash. The drawings will happen on the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning October 2023. All winning tickets are re-entered for subsequent monthly drawings. Only 400 tickets will be sold at a cost of \$20.00 each. For tickets contact Wes Hoeffken at hoeffken@htc.net or any other KC 4th Degree member. The Assembly will also be selling tickets after all masses the weekend of September 30/October 1.



Pathfinders Scripture Discussion

Pathfinders is a group of men who meet on Saturdays at 7:30am to read and discuss the Sunday scriptures. We start with music and prayer, read the readings for the Sunday Mass, and discuss what the Holy Spirit brings to light. They are always finished in an hour. Come join us this Saturday to see what it's all about.

Silver Rose Prayer Service

Share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life by participating in this meaningful pilgrimage. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady. Knights of Columbus Council 6165 will be stewards of the Silver Rose and will host a prayer service on **Saturday, September 23rd at 9am** at Immaculate Conception in the church. All are invited and urged to attend and pray for the sanctity of life in all its stages.

Fourth Degree Exemplification

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Bishop Althoff Assembly 0193 will be hosting a 4th Exemplification for all 3rd Degree members on **Sunday, November 12, 2023**. Assembly 0193 is located in Breese Illinois and the event will be held at St. Dominic Catholic Church. Anyone interested in becoming a 4th Degree member should contact Wes Hoeffken at hoeffken@htc.net.

2023 Knights of Columbus Car Show

The 2023 Knights of Columbus Car Show will be on **Saturday, October 7th, 2023** come rain or shine. See the great cars and listen to good music while enjoying a variety of food and drinks. It costs nothing to walk the show, \$15.00 to display your car, \$20.00 if you want your entry judged by the Give Back Pack. Registration opens at 8am, show starts at 11. Click here to sign up online to work the show, or click here to register to display your vehicle(s).



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Kight of the Year

Steve Dressler Memorial Knight of the Year 2023 is Tom R. Braun. Pictured to the left with his wife Betsy Amoroso. The award was presented by GK Jim VonDerHaar (in background) and Steve Dressler's wife Joyce and his son Steve Dressler, Jr. His service to others is far too lengthy to fit here, but here are some excerpts from GK Jim's presentation: "[He] has led and served the ACTS retreat community at our parish... In his role of Spiritual Companion, we look to Tom as the spiritual leader of our council when our Chaplain cannot be present. ... after Tom became active in our council, we have experienced continued spiritual growth, and at his encouragement and urging, more fully have recognized that as Knights of Columbus we are not simply responsible for doing charity and raising money, but rather there is a responsibility to serve our family and enter our faith lives more deeply." "Tom had a major role in the leadership of the Into the Breach program... [Tom] also serves with his wife Betsey



as a minister of hospitality at our parish, welcoming families as they arrive at Mass on Sundays... [and serves as a] lector at Mass." Tom founded the Pathfinder's group which "meets every Saturday morning to review and discuss the scripture readings for the Sunday Mass."

Tom works closely with ICC pastor, Fr. Steve Thoma, CR, with a special focus on family and vocations. Tom worked with the council officers and leadership team to garner financial support to a mission of the Congregation of the Resurrection in Tanzania. The resulting donations were able to "support six priests, including two Tanzanians, one Tanzanian perpetually professed brother, and 23 seminarians. In addition, some funds will be used in support of two parishes, a grade school, and a high school in Tanzania."

Tom's focus on families brought him to serve as "Catechist for 3rd Grade PSR students at our parish with his wife Betsy." Tom is a member of an "Illinois prison ecumenical team and annually conducts two 4-day encounter Kairos retreat weekends inside the maximum-security penitentiary at Menard each year in April and October..." and is chair of the Menard Advisory Council (MAC). "Tom is a man of service with a special focus on evangelization, family, and vocations.

He is most happy when serving the needs of others, whether spiritual or physical. Tom is a man that easily builds strong relationships with others and is a brother that others can count on in times of need or for advice. He is a man of prayer and willing to listen and reflect on the ideas and opinions of others. He has impeccable character and honesty and seeks to do what is right and just. He is a proven leader in our parish." "Tom has a strong desire to serve the Lord and minister to others. He has recently discerned and been accepted into the Permanent Diaconate program in the Diocese of Belleville."



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Left: Three new Knights and one 1st Degree transfer became full Knights at the Major Degree Exemplification on Thursday, August 10th. From left to right: Mark Lloyd, Stephen Schaefer, Jimmy VonDerHaar, Jack Sainz, and Chaplain Fr. Carl Scherrer.

Right: Knights celebrated Mass with Fr. Carl Scherrer to commemorate the canonization of Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. Blessed Fr. McGivney's feast day is August 13th, he was born on August 12th, 1852, and he passed to eternal life on August 14th, 1890.

