



The Outer Guard

Knights of Columbus #1143

7132 Marine Road
Edwardsville, IL 62025

618-656-4985

Meetings: Council -- 2nd Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Fourth Degree -- 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Grand Knight Neil Joellenbeck
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www.kofc1143.com
www.facebook.com/edwardsvilleKofC
www.instagram.com/kofc1143

December 2023

Special Election at December Council Meeting...

Due to unforeseen circumstances Grand Knight, Neil Joellenbeck, has requested to step down from his position. At the December 11th council meeting we will hold an election for the following offices – Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, and Chancellor. Please consider filling one of these important position in our council.

The following individuals have been nominated– David Green as Grand Knight and Chuck Burcham as Chancellor. Nominations will be open on the floor.

KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Riverbend Head Start & Family Services in Edwardsville received 24 coats from the local Knights of Columbus chapter.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, members of the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus group stopped by Riverbend Head Start to deliver coats they had purchased for the kids. Knights of Columbus member David Green explained that Head Start's work aligns with their mission.

Veterans Day Parade Pictures - Thank you to all those that came out that afternoon, The weather was the best it has been for years for the parade. A Fourth Degree Honor Guard led the group of Brother Knights carrying a large American Flag to honor our Veterans.



Praying the Rosary for the Poor Souls in Purgatory at the Cemetery

During the month of November, the Church remembers and prays for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. The last couple of years council has visited the St. Boniface and St. Mary cemeteries to pray for those souls in purgatory.

A Rosary for the Holy Souls in Purgatory is a special Rosary intended to reach out and help the faithfully departed in Purgatory. It is a way of offering to God the merits, joys, sufferings, and death of Jesus for their relief. It is also a way of asking for the intercession of Our Lady, the Queen of the Rosary, who is the mother of the living and the dead.

The Catholic Church teaches that the souls in Purgatory cannot help themselves, and that we the faithful can — and must — offer our sacrifices, prayers, Masses, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and almsgiving for the release of the souls in Purgatory. Those in Purgatory cannot pray for themselves, which is why they are also called “poor” souls. They can no longer merit anything for themselves (their opportunity for increasing in merit was during their earthly lives) and they must rely entirely on others to pray and make sacrifices on their behalf.



Childrens Christmas Shopping Spree

Dear Brother Knights,

As we enter the “*Season to be Jolly*” we are often asked to help make Christmas happier for those less fortunate. Our council will provide a little extra joy for a few children in the Edwardsville School District on the morning of **Saturday December 9th** through our 42nd annual **CHILDREN IN NEED Christmas Shopping Spree at Wal-Mart.**

You are being provided two opportunities by our Council to make your Christmas Season much more meaningful this year. First, you can share in the personal blessing of making a financial contribution for these children. Second, you and your spouse or child (high school age or older) can volunteer to be a chaperone for one of these children and experience the CHARITY that our order subscribes to.

Please send contributions to:

Kyle Jackson
3705 North Arbor Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Or drop it off at the K.C. Hall in an envelope marked *Christmas Shopping Spree*. All donations go directly to the CHILDREN IN NEED. Make checks payable to Knights of Columbus #1143

If you can volunteer for a few hours (2-3) the morning of **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th at 8:00am** to assist the children in the purchasing of family Christmas gifts at Wal-Mart, and helping them wrap gifts at the K.C. Hall, please contact **Ken Lanter (314-956-6210) or Kyle Jackson (314-378-0513)**. We also need **donations of cookies and brownies by 9:00am at the K.C. Hall**. Given that some of the parents may choose to come to the Hall for wrapping (and they must provide transportation), we'd like to have some snacks available, if possible. Due to a change in our policy several years ago, the chaperones no longer provide transportation for the kids.

The CHARITY project depends on the members' generosity and cooperation. Plus, it provides a meaningful method of putting the message of **Christ into Christmas**.

Yours in Christ,
Kyle Jackson & Ken Lanter

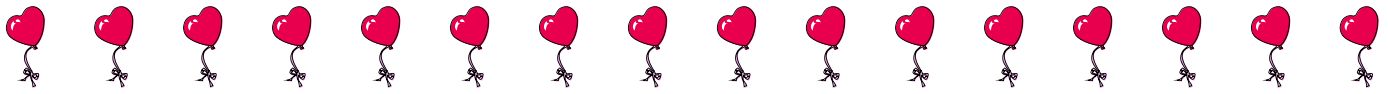


NEXT MONTHLY FISH FRY

December 15 th-7:00 pm Team# 2

Rosary for Life..

Please join us the second Saturday of the month, November 11th at 9:00 am, to pray the Most Holy Rosary of our Blessed Virgin Mary for an end to abortion. We will meet at St Mary Church, 1802 Madison Ave, Edw. Please consider taking some time out of your busy schedule and pray with us to end the scourge of abortion. Everyone is welcomed bring the wife and the kids.



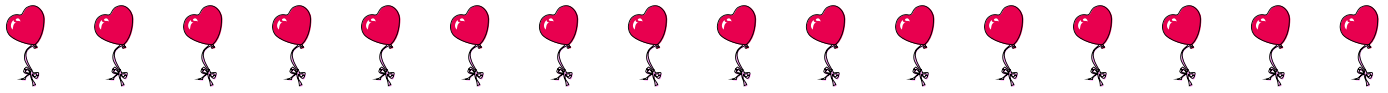
December Anniversaries

A mass is offered each month for those couples celebrating their anniversary during the month.

- 1 Eugene & Ruth Dickerson
- 1 Richard & Judith Ann Dustman
- 3 Bruce & Patrica Thorley
- 8 Robert & Shelli Ribbing
- 8 Robert & Elizabeth Smith
- 11 Keith & Crystal Bradley

- 13 Michael & Karen Menendez
- 15 Blake & Laura Wagahoff
- 20 Stephen & Sandy Wilshire
- 27 Marcus & Zenia Agustin
- 29 Douglas & Diane Villhard
- 30 Thomas & Denise Saksa

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY MORES!



December Birthdays

- 1 Brian Jones
- 1 Joseph Kalmer
- 4 Steven Calcott
- 4 Albert Treichel Jr
- 4 James Ware
- 5 Thomas Tucker
- 7 David Briesacher
- 7 Steve Smith
- 7 Andy Winters
- 8 David Caulk
- 9 Philip Reznack
- 10 John Kender
- 10 Kevin Scannell
- 12 Don Brunworth
- 12 Nicholas Certa
- 12 Keith Lueking

- 12 Robert Vollmar
- 13 Michael McKinzie
- 14 Brad Maher
- 15 James Burns
- 17 Stephen Wilshire
- 18 Matthew Kupferer
- 19 Arthur Kotsybar
- 21 M Hill
- 22 Nicholas Walden
- 23 Steven McClard
- 27 Eugene Dickerson
- 29 John Gabler
- 29 Justin Nosser
- 30 Ryan Grotefendt
- 30 Kip Heinle
- 31 Steve McClimans
- 31 Blake Wagahoff



Calendar of Events December 2023

**** all events at the Hall unless otherwise stated**

- Dec 3rd—Breakfast with St Nick St Boniface cooking 7:30-12:30
- Dec 3rd—Corporate Communion and Exemplification St. Boniface 5:15 pm Mass
- Dec 5 th —4th Degree Assembly Meeting 7:30 pm
- Dec 9 th —Childrens Shopping Spree 8:00 am
- Dec 9 th—Rosary for Life St Mary Church 9:00 am
- Dec 11 th Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- Dec 13th Blood Drive 3-6:30 pm

- Dec 15 th—Fish Fry Team #2 4:30-7:00pm
- Dec 18 th Fred Mills Club Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- No December Officers Meeting
- Dec 31 Jan1 Distribute Consecration of the Holy Family Prayer Cards after masses
- Jan 2 nd—4th Degree Assembly Meeting 7:30pm
- Jan 8 th - Council Meeting 7:00pm
- Jan 10 th —Holy Hour St Boniface Chapel 5:30-6:30 pm
- Jan 13th—Free throw Contest St Boniface 8:00 am
- Feb 24th—Father Daughter Dance

Knight of the Month

Congratulations to Knight of the Month Brother Doug Hastings. Doug is the immediate Past Grand Knight and currently serves as council Trustee and Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree. He also works in the fry shack for fish fry team and helps set up on for the fish fry on Friday mornings.



Family of the Month

Family of the Month is awarded to Sir Brother Knight Vern Zurliene and his wife Cindy. Vern is the council Treasurer and Cindy often helps out at the fish fry along with Vern.



CONGRATULATIONS DON BRUNWORTH

In recognition of all his years of service to the Knights of Columbus, Brother Don Brunworth was inducted into the Knights of Columbus Springfield Diocese Chapter Hall of Fame. Below Bishop Paprocki presents Brother Don with a medal and plaque.



4th Degree News Assembly 225



Hello Brothers,

As you are all aware, our Council and Assembly are always on the lookout for new members. When I find myself in this endeavor, there are times I struggle to provide a good concise “elevator talk” to describe our band of brothers! I went looking for some help on-line and was headed to the KofC.org site when I jumped onto Google to see where it would lead. Wikipedia came up first and this is some of the initial information from that site:

“The Knights of Columbus is a global Catholic fraternal service order founded by Fr. Michael J. McGivney on March 29, 1882. Membership is limited to practicing Catholic men. The organization is named after the Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. The order is dedicated to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Charity is the foremost important principle of the Knights of Columbus.”

The last sentence really got me thinking and changed my plan for this month’s Outer Guard message.

What better time to discuss “charity” than in the month of Christmas, a season filled with the spirit of giving. Our Council and Assembly does a tremendous job supporting a diverse list of charitable needs on a local, regional, national, and at times international scope. This past month one of our Brother Knights was inducted into this year’s Hall of Fame class! (Sir Knight Don Brunworth) Don’s accomplishments with our Council and Assembly are many, but it was his 30-year commitment to the chairmanship of the Children in Need Christmas Shopping Spree, that led the list. This past year we also came together (off-book) with a charitable “Glo-Bingo” event to help a Brother Knight’s wife who needed some medical assistance. Our charitable works come into play in our Parish Schools, with the support of our local priests, diocesan clergy needs, and many community and family charitable events. We are darn good at these charitable undertakings!

There is another aspect of Charity that I believe we also need to keep in mind, and that is *charity-of-heart* for our Brother Knights. In any organization with more than one member, there are times when multiple avenues are presented to accomplish a task which brings on differences of opinion. How these differences of opinion are handled is where I am headed with this thought of *charity-of-heart*!

In any beginning writing class it is always advised that the beginning writer start with the “familiar”. That has always been my approach, when I need to look at something, I usually start with my own experiences. Most recently the Council and Assembly participated in the Edwardsville Veteran’s Day Parade. As we gathered to line up and begin the parade there was a great deal of discussion about how the large American flag was to be carried “horizontally” down the street. I had investigated some on-line suggestions, but these suggestions were not very clear, nor had the suggestions been provided by an “official” listing. My handling of the discussion as to how the flag should be carried was LESS than charitable-of-heart. I do believe I pulled my sword at one point as a directional tool!!!! (Ego gone amuck!) There have also been some other recent disagreements in our band of brothers that I did not take an active role in but heard about post event. I intend to keep in mind *charity-of-heart* for my Brother Knights and want to encourage everyone to do the same. Differences of opinion will always be with us; it is how we handle them that will impact our principles of Unity and Fraternity. Keeping in our hearts “*Charity for others*” as our foremost principle will surely keep us on the positive side of the ledger and keep this Assembly and Council moving in the right direction!

Charity is the form, mover, mother, and root of all the virtues.

Thomas Aquinas

Merry Christmas to all of you and yours, and I wish us all a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Doug Hastings

Faithful Navigator Assembly 225

2nd Annual Charity Euchre Tournament!

Save the date! The 4th Degree will be hosting their 2nd Annual Charity Euchre Tournament on Friday, January 26th at The Hall. Registration opens at 6:30pm with tournament play to follow at 7:00pm. Use the link below to purchase your tickets now or RSVP by emailing Ryan Fitzpatrick at rafitzpatrick21@gmail.com. Tickets cost \$60. Each ticket is good for two tournament players and will include snacks and 1 beverage of choice. This tournament is open to everyone 18 years of age and up.

Each Euchre game will consist of 8 hands dealt per game. A total of 6 games will be played. For the initial game, players will play with the partner they registered with for the tournament. Then, the remaining 5 games will be a round robin. Each player will keep track of their points from each game.

Cash prizes will be awarded for most points at the end of 6 games- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and lowest score.

All proceeds will support the USO of St. Louis, Missouri at Lambert International Airport. Hope to see you there!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-charity-euchre-tournament-tickets-766479349367?aff=oddtcreator>



Bottle Openers for Sale!

Brother Knights! We have some Knights of Columbus #1143 bottle openers for sale! The openers are \$5 each. All proceeds from the sales of the bottle openers go to support the council's charitable work! Please contact Ryan Fitzpatrick at rafitzpatrick21@gmail.com if you are interested in purchasing a bottle opener today. Bottle openers will also be available for purchase at the December 11th General Council Meeting at the Hall. Thank you for your support!

FRED MILLS CLUB

On Saturday November 18th, the Fred Mills Club held Hall Cleanup day. Brother Knights clean up leaves and trimmed dead branches out of the trees. The FMC would like to thank the following for lending a hand that day: Brad Maher, Bob Maher, Al Gerstenecker, Lynn Ripper, Charlie Berkel, Joe Marti, Lou Carnoali, Doug Hastings, Floyd Frey, Jeff Shannon, Joe Shannon, Paul Pizzini, and Rob Hotz.



A BIG THANK YOU

goes out to Tara Klucker and AL Triechel for decorating the bar and hall for Christmas.



HALL MANAGER NEEDED

The Fred Mills Club is in need of someone to coordinate and meet with groups wanting to rent the Hall. Contact Steve McClard for more details 618-920-9364

From our Field Agent...

Brother Knights and Ladies,

Exciting news! Knights of Columbus has been named to the **Forbes' America's Best Insurance List**, for the third consecutive year! This prestigious recognition, presented by Forbes and Statista Inc., surveyed over 15,000 participants across the nation. Knights of Columbus ranked 22nd on the list among life insurers that issue permanent life insurance – **up four positions from 2023!**

“Knights of Columbus insurance is once again honored to be recognized by Forbes and Statista,” said Knights of Columbus CEO, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly. “More than 140 years ago our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, built the Knights in part to provide for the financial security of Catholic families, particularly widows and orphans. Today, we continue our mission of providing the families of our members with the best Knights of Columbus insurance products for their needs.”

As your dedicated agent, I am here to help provide you with more information on how income, expenses, and any existing debts can affect your insurance plan. Together, we can review your financial situation and discuss how we can help protect your family's needs, both now and in the future.

Vivat Jesus!
Merry Christmas!



This is a solicitation of insurance. Life insurance is offered through Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510 1-800-380-9995. Life insurance policies have exclusions and limitations. Policy issue is subject to underwriting and a medical exam may be required. Premiums vary by issue age and benefits selected and may be increased in the future. Guarantees assume all premiums are timely paid and are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuer. For costs and complete details of coverage, please contact your agent or the Knights of Columbus. Any policy loans will impact the guarantees by reducing the policy's death benefit and cash value.

Knights of Columbus ranked #22 in the permanent life insurance category on Forbes' 2024 America's Best Insurance Company list. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across 7 insurance product categories.

¹KofC Insurance Among Forbes 'Best' [forbes-america-best-insurance-companies-2024.pdf](https://www.forbes-america-best-insurance-companies-2024.pdf) ([kofc.org](https://www.kofc.org))

JOIN THE KNIGHTS!

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Agent Referral Code
MSULLIVAN
kofc.org/joinus



Building the Domestic Church

While Strengthening Our Parish
The Family Fully Alive

JOY

December 2023

Joy is an attribute of God's divine love. To reflect God in our family life, we are called to be joyful by developing our relationship with Christ.



Breaking Open the Theme

It is often remarked that faith is caught more than taught in the family. One of the best ways faith is caught is through joy. Joy is not an emotion that can be faked or forced. There is something authentic about it that points to a deeper reality.

Joy should be part of the regular fabric of Christian life. The Lord promises his disciples that “no one will take your joy from you” (Jn 16:22), and we are instructed by St. Paul to “rejoice in the Lord always” (Phil 4:4).

But how is it possible to be joyful when there is sorrow in our lives? The answer is that joy in its deepest sense is not dependent on positive circumstances or upbeat feelings. Joy means having an encounter (*encuentro*) with God's infinite love for us, which is always present in our lives.³⁷ It “adapts and changes, but always endures,”³⁸ even amid great sorrow. It takes the form of a quiet assurance, a reminder that we are God's beloved sons and daughters. At other times, joy means that one “rejoices with the truth” (1 Cor 13:6), praising aloud the Lord and thanking him for his gifts. But above all, joy comes from “an expansion of the heart”³⁹ through prayer and gestures of love toward others, creating a bright, warm and cheerful atmosphere.

Meditation

From Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*

The expression “*chaírei epì te adikía*” [“rejoice over wrongdoing”] (1 Cor 13:6). has to do with a negativity lurking deep within a person's heart. It is the toxic attitude of those who rejoice at seeing an injustice done to others. The following phrase expresses its opposite: *sygchaírei te aletheía*: “it rejoices in the right”. In other words, we rejoice at the good of others when we see their dignity and value their abilities and good works. This is impossible for those who must always be comparing and competing, even with their spouse, so that they secretly rejoice in their failures.

When a loving person can do good for others, or sees that others are happy, they themselves live happily and in this way give glory to God, for “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). Our Lord especially appreciates those who find joy in the happiness of others. If we fail to learn how to rejoice in the well-being of others and focus primarily on our own needs, we condemn ourselves to a joyless existence, for, as Jesus said, “it is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). The family must always be a place where, when something good happens to one of its members, they know that others will be there to celebrate it with them.⁴⁰

1. What are some joys we have experienced in our family? Are there ways to build upon these joys to create a more joyful home?

2. In what ways could we add more joy to our family? Could we be more cheerful in giving and complain less? Could we focus less on our own needs and more on the happiness of a family member? Could we rejoice in our family's love by affirming each other more with compliments? Could we smile more at our family members?

3. Do we base our lives on the joyful awareness that we are beloved sons and daughters of God, or do we let something rob us of the joy of the Gospel? What is it that robs us? Is it anxiety, fear or impatience? How might prayer help with these things?

Scripture Reading — Psalm 33:1-7, 20-22

A prayer of praise and rejoicing before the Lord

Rejoice, you righteous, in the LORD;

praise from the upright is fitting.

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;

on the ten-stringed lyre offer praise.

Continued next page....

Building the Domestic Church continued..

Sing to him a new song;

skillfully play with joyful chant.

For the LORD's word is upright;

all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right.

The earth is full of the mercy of the LORD.

By the LORD's word the heavens were made;

by the breath of his mouth all their host.

He gathered the waters of the sea as a mound;

he sets the deep into storage vaults.

Our soul waits for the LORD,

he is our help and shield.

For in him our hearts rejoice;

in his holy name we trust.

May your mercy, LORD, be upon us;

as we put our hope in you.

Family Project

Put joy into practice by singing together Advent and Christmas hymns, hosting an Advent or Christmas party with special treats, and reading a Christmas story out loud. The story could be Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* or a book more suitable for young children, like *The Legend of the Poinsettia* by Tomie dePaola.

Also consider creating a family book of favorite religious hymns and carols. Have each family member choose a song that they enjoy and make copies to share. Then sing together Advent and Christmas songs at times that are convenient. For instance, a family could sing before its family prayer, before bed, before lighting the Advent wreath, before opening presents at Christmas, or at another time. If you have young children, sing a few simple songs to them so they can begin to learn the lyrics.