



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.

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December 2024

Grand Knight's Letter

Happy Advent Season and Merry Christmas Brother Knights!

We are now in Advent and then Christmas. While the Church is beginning its 2025 Liturgical year, we are entering our 6th month of our fraternal year. Tempus fugit!

We have several events on our calendar in December offering everyone the opportunity to experience the meaning of Advent and Christmas.

On December 7, we have our Children In Need Christmas Shopping Spree. We are in need of donations as well as volunteers to help with this very worthy event. Kyle Jackson and Ken Lanter are spearheading this event. Please contact Ken Lanter at blackberrycove-kgl@gmail.com or 314-956-6210 if you can volunteer or give a donation. You can also leave a donation with the bartender at the Hall.

Our Keep Christ In Christmas Poster Contest will be judged at our 1143 Council meeting on December 9. Please come to our meeting to help judge the posters. It is always impressive to see what our children can do with this poster contest.

We have a Blood Drive coming up on December 11 at the Hall starting at 3:00pm, Rosary For Life at St. Mary's on December 14 at 9:00am, our Fish Fry on December 20 (Team #3), and we will be passing out Holy Cards for the Consecration of the Holy Family at Mass on December 31, 2024.

As we get closer to Christmas and think about what gifts to give our loved ones, let's keep in mind that we all have been given the greatest gift of all—our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us work in the

weeks ahead to show our love for our fellow man as He commands us to do.

Let us also remember those who will not be with their families this Christmas season or on Christmas Day (the Nativity of the Lord) because of their commitment to work to keep us safe and free. Let's say a prayer of Thanksgiving for our first responders and those in military service both domestically and abroad who won't be with their families on Christmas so that our safety and lives can be protected.

Wishing you the best of the season and a Merry Christmas—Vivat Jesus!

David Green
Grand Knight

NEXT MONTHLY FISH FRY

December 20th, Team #3

December Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Richard & Judith Ann Dustman
- 3 Bruce & Patrica Thorley
- 4 Albert & Betty Schug
- 8 Robert & Elizabeth Smith, Jr
- 8 Robert & Shelli Ribbing
- 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 W Jones
- 1 Joseph G Kalmer
- 4 Steven M Calcott
- 4 Albert G Treichel Jr
- 4 James T Ware
- 5 Thomas H Tucker
- 7 David B Briesacher
- 7 Steve J Smith
- 7 Andy T Winters
- 8 David J Caulk
- 9 Philip B Reznack
- 10 John S Kender
- 10 Kevin M Scannell
- 12 Don Paul Brunworth
- 12 Nicholas J Certa

- 12 Keith D Lueking
- 12 Robert D Vollmar
- 13 Michael K McKinzie
- 14 Brad A Maher
- 15 James E Burns
- 15 Paul Pizzini
- 17 Stephen A Wilshire
- 18 Matthew A Kupferer
- 19 Arthur J Kotsybar
- 21 M Joseph Hill
- 22 Nicholas A Walden
- 23 Steven A McClard
- 27 Eugene E Dickerson
- 29 John R Gabler
- 29 Justin R Nossier
- 30 Ryan L Grotefendt
- 30 Kip D Heinle
- 31 Steve McClimans



Calendar of Events December 2024

- 3—Assembly 225 Meeting 7:30pm
- 4 Holy Hour @ St. Boniface Chapel @ 5:30-6:30pm
- 7—Children Shopping Spree 7:30 am at Hall
- 9—Council Meeting 6:30pm for the judging of the Keep Christ In Christmas Poster Contest. We will also serve pizza before our meeting so come hungry!
- 11-Blood Drive @ the Hall @ 3:00-6:30pm
- 19—Rosary for Life at St Mary Church 9:00 am

- 20—Fish Fry Team #3 4:30—7:00pm
- 23—Fred Mills Club Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- 25—Merry Christmas
- 30—Officer Meeting 7:00 pm
- 31—Consecration of the Holy Family—pass out prayer cards at all Masses
- January 1—Happy New Year

Knight of the Month

Sir Brother Knight Joe Marti is December Knight of the Month for his hard work on the recent Hall repair (26 hours) and seeing that it got done in time for our fish fry and his support of our activities and programs.



Family of the Month

The December Family of the Month is Brother Steve and Mary Haarmann are for their support of our Council activities and at St. Boniface Church. Steve helps on Fish Fry morning's to prepare the food and get the fryers ready.



4th Degree News Assembly 225



Faithful Navigator's Letter:

Hello Brothers,

This will be my last Faithful Navigator message for the year 2024!

Alright, quit jumping for joy!!!!

I have a love hate relationship with the month of December! For those who know me well, I am one who is always looking down the road. I need something to plan for, something to look forward to! That is why I enjoy December; Christmas is coming with all the joy it brings, and the hope for the new year that is just around the corner.

What I do not like about December is the shortening of the days. The days leading up to the winter solace are no fun; days are getting shorter and shorter. I prefer the light to the dark! (It also interferes with my rather poor golf game!)

As you know the two charities that our Assembly focuses on are the support of the St. Louis USO and the Warriors to Lourdes Project. We recently conducted the fall Krispy Kreme Doughnut fund raiser to support the Warriors to Lourdes effort and had a very successful event. We purchased 155 dozen doughnuts and sold them after all the weekend masses at both parishes; from that effort we made a profit of \$1,050.00. The full report will be made at the December Assembly Meeting! A BIG KC thank you to all the Knights who helped sell the doughnuts and all the Knights who purchased these delights!

The Euchre Tournament that will support the USO is coming up and will be addressed in my January 2025 message. The date will be determined soon!

Finally, I wish to offer all my Sir Brothers my sincere thanks and gratitude for all the assistance and work that you have given this past year to

make our Assembly a successful and joyful undertaking! We members of this Assembly wish to live out patriotism! Together we have the special honor of holding the title "Sir Knight," and by participating in color and honor guards and organizing programs that promote Catholic citizenship, our nation and local community is all the better for it!

It is impossible to be a patriot without freedom. Civil allegiance, generally speaking, is the virtue of patriotism combined with the virtue of obedience. Allegiance requires that the citizen be free to give his service to the State. Otherwise, he is no patriot at all but is living under oppression.

*Patriotism means having a reasonable love **and esteem for one's own country. This is externalized by showing honor and respect to the rulers of the State, whoever they may be. To be sure, it is possible and even healthy to honor and respect a leader while also disagreeing on key policies and ideas.***

These thoughts come from:

[Will Wright:](#)

History and Religion Teacher at St. John Paul II Catholic High School.

God Bless,

Doug Hastings

Faithful Navigator Assembly 225

Take the next step—become a 4th Degree Knight!

SAVE THE DATE - CHILDREN'S SHOPPING SPREE DECEMBER 7TH 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM

We need your time, talent and treasure for the Children's Shopping Spree.

Time - Need Chaperones and Family Members to shop for presents with child(ren)

Talent - Wrap the presents meet at the Hall at 7:30am Dec 7th

Treasure - Need monetary donations to fund the gifts and also Christmas Cookies/Goodies for the Hall after the event

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

Please contact Co-Chairs: Ken Lanter (314-956-6210) or Kyle Jackson (314-378-0513) with any questions.

The CHARITY project depends on our members' generosity and cooperation. Plus, it provides a

DONATION FROM THE THURSDAY NIGHT TRIVIA GROUP



Grand Knight David Green accepts a check for \$800 from the Thursday Night Trivia Group. They sell mulligans for the trivia play, and they donated the proceeds to the Council. \$645.72 went to Children Shopping Spree and the remainder went to Coats for Kids.

Thank You!

From Our Field Agent

Gifts

To all my Brother Knights and their families, I extend my very best wishes for a Merry and Blessed Christmas. As we celebrate Christmas, we give thanks that God sent his Only Begotten Son to live among us and save us from sin. This gift from the Father set the precedent for our giving gifts at Christmas.

In his annual report this year, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly stated: "We build up men in faith and friendship. And together, we build communities that reflect God's love, especially through our witness to charity." It seems we say it every year, "It's Christmas; where did the year go?" Seems like a good time to look back and note all the gifts given by you and our members worldwide.

Last year, the Knights spent more than 47 million hours serving and sacrificing for the sake of others. And we set a record for charitable giving. The Knights of Columbus donated more than \$190 million to those in need! We reached the million-coat milestone after 14 years of our Coats for Kids program. In partnership with the Global Wheelchair Mission, we gave the gift of mobility to more than 11,000 people. And we continue to serve persons with physical and intellectual disabilities through our partnership with Special Olympics. We helped organize nearly 4,000 competitions last year, and we donated more

than \$4 million.

These are just a few of the charitable activities that Brother Knights and their families are doing every day. These are gifts that change lives. Real people, real individuals benefited from these gifts.

As my family and I celebrate Christmas, I think of the gift of support, gratitude and trust that everyone has given me. I appreciate the opportunity to work with the membership this past year. And I look forward to a new year of serving my Brother Knights and their families.

Vivat Jesus!

Merry Christmas!



Knights of Columbus
Niemeier Agency

Member
MEDICA

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Field Agent

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Agent Referral Code

MSULLIVAN



The Council participated in the Annual Veterans Day Parade held on November 11th at 3:00pm.

Building the Domestic Church

While Strengthening Our Parish The Family Fully Alive

Joy

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. It “adapts and changes, but always endures,” 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” 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 oth-

ers 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.

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?

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Building the Domestic Church

While Strengthening Our Parish

The Family Fully Alive

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.



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.

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.

During 2025, this section to the Outer Guard will share other resources from *The Family Fully Alive Building the Domestic Church* pamphlet published by the Knights of Columbus. Topics covered will be —

Basic Catholic Beliefs

How to Pray as a Family

Liturgical Celebrations Throughout the Year

What Is Prayer?

Prayers for Every Family

Meditations on Family Life .