



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 Marcus Agustin
Phone: 618-691-9975
Email: magusti@siue.edu

www.kofc1143.com
www.facebook.com/edwardsvilleKofC
www.instagram.com/kofc1143
OG Submissions—denrhes@yahoo.com

January 2026

Grand Knight's Letter

Hello Brother Knights,
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your family. May your home this coming new year be filled with peace and joy as promised to us through the Prophet Isaiah: **For a child is born to us, a son is given to us... They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.**

Your tremendous work during the first half of the fraternal year is a testament to our commitment on being a Knight of Columbus mem-

ber. From the food and household items drive and council blood drives, to initiatives and charities towards children such as Children In Need Christmas Shopping Spree and Coats for Kids, and our continued prayerful work in promoting the culture of life, I am honored to play a small part in leading Council 1143.

The past month, it is my pleasure to welcome three new Brother Knights to Council 1143 (Christopher Landoll, Gary Landoll, and Colin Perry). I look forward to the contributions of our

new Brother Knights this coming year. Let us continue inviting Catholic men into the Knights of Columbus.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us. St. Joseph, pray for us. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.

Vivat Jesus!

Marcus Agustin

Grand Knight

January Calendar of Activities

January 6 (7:30pm)	Assembly 225 Meeting
January 10 (9am)	Rosary for Life at St. Mary's
January 12 (7pm)	Council 1143 Meeting
January 16 (4:30-7pm)	KC Fish Fry (Team 1)
January 19 (7pm)	Fred Mills Board Meeting
January 23 (6:30pm)	Fourth Charity Euchre Tournament (at The Hall)
January 24 (starts at 8:30am)	Free Throw Contest at St. Boniface School Gym
January 26 (7pm)	Council 1143 Officers Planning Meeting

January Wedding Anniversaries

5	Christopher & Steffany Chleboun	14	David & Robin Troeckler
7	Jay & Kristina Kohlmler	22	Martin & Paula Manny
8	Luke & Amber Harris	29	Jason & Lindsey Jones

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY MORES!

January Birthdays

1	Edward A Akers II	18	Peter Russo
1	Gary V Newton	20	Paul A Jenkins Jr
1	Daniel J Coan	21	James M Jatcko
5	Troy D Van Hauen	21	Robert M Lewis
7	William Tucker	21	Paul T Murphy
10	Daniel J Johnson	21	Kent M Trebing
11	Stephen L Edwards	22	Andrew J Hessel
12	Nathan B Dammerich	22	Cavan P McIntyre
15	Jeffrey A Suzewits	24	Gerald V Kienstra
17	Dale E Frank	25	Kurt L Hylla
17	Eugene L Vallino	26	Anthony D Ambuel
17	James Duft	26	Bro Nathaniel Szidik, OSB
18	Timothy S Hogan	27	Joseph F Marti
		28	Paul R Yates
		28	Bradley Allen Brewer



MONTHLY FISH FRY

January 16th Team #1 4:30-7:00 pm

Total Sales for the December Fish Fry were \$1,875.00. Some of the proceeds from that Fish Fry will benefit the St. Vincent DePaul. Part of the proceeds from the January fish fry will go to St. Boniface sports uniforms.

January 2026 Knights of Month: David Green and Steve McClard

David served as Grand Knight from 2023-2025 and currently serves as a council Trustee. David continues to help with food and household items drive both through the Glen-Ed Pantry and council-related initiatives, as well as volunteering in council activities such as the Children In Need Christmas Shopping Spree. David recently joined the Fourth Degree that shows his commitment to the work of the Knights of Columbus.

Steve has been serving as Fred Mills Board President for a number of years. Steve has actively been a part of numerous council initiatives such as the LeClaire Parkfest food crew, part of a Fish Fry team, and can be counted on to be of assistance whenever it is needed. He continues to volunteer in the Glen-Ed Pantry showing his commitment to serving the community.



January 2026 Family of the Month: Floyd and Mary Ann Frey

Floyd and Mary Ann continue to be significant participants in council and church initiatives. Floyd serves as the council's Outer Guard, is an usher at St. Boniface Church, and can be seen volunteering in several ways during the Fish Fry. Both Floyd and Mary Ann are active volunteers during council food and household items drives and continue to promote the culture of Life here in the Metro-East through their work with several groups.



4th Degree Assembly 225 News



Faithful Navigator's Letter:

Worthy Sir Knights,

As we step into a new year, January invites us to pause, reflect, and recommit ourselves to the ideals that define the Patriotic Degree. This month marks not only a turning of the calendar but a renewed call to embody the virtues of faith, fraternity, and love of country—virtues that our Order has championed for generations.

The Epiphany season marks the end of Christmas and often brings a quiet stillness, but for the Fourth Degree, it is never a season of inactivity. It is a time to strengthen our resolve to serve—our Church, our community, and our nation. The principles we uphold are not abstract concepts; they are lived realities expressed in our presence at civic ceremonies, our support for veterans, and our unwavering defense of religious liberty.

As we look ahead to the coming months, let us remember that patriotism is more than ceremony. It is a daily discipline. It is the willingness to stand for truth

when it is inconvenient, to honor the sacrifices of those who came before us, and to model integrity for those who will follow. In a world that often forgets its heroes, the Fourth Degree remembers. In a culture that sometimes grows cynical, we choose hope rooted in faith.

Let this new year be marked by renewed participation in Assembly events, deeper engagement with our Color Corps, and a spirit of unity that strengthens our brotherhood. May our actions reflect the noble heritage entrusted to us, and may we continue to be visible witnesses of Catholic citizenship at its best.

Thank you, Sir Knights, for your dedication. May God bless you, your families, and our beloved country as we begin this year with purpose and pride.

Regards,

Jason Jones

Faithful Navigator, Assembly 225

USO Euchre Tournament January 23rd

The 4th Degree will be hosting the 4th Annual Charity Euchre Tournament on Friday, January 23rd 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. 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/4th-annual-charity-euchre-tournament-tickets-1976533289275?aff=oddtcreator>

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

**Dedication of new atrium at
St Mary Church**

Assembly 0225 hosted an Honor Guard for Bishop Paprocki at the dedication mass/service for the new atrium at St. Mary Church on Sunday December 7, 10:30am Mass. Six Sir Knights Participated—Faithful Navigator Jason Jones, Past Faithful Navigator Dennis Hessel, Past Faithful Navigator Douglas Hastings, Past Faithful Grand Knight Lynn Ripper Sir Knight Phil Kosydor and Sir Knight Floyd Frey.



Christmas Shopping Spree...

The annual Keep Christ in Christmas Shopping Spree on December 13th was a successful event. We served eleven families. This could not have been accomplished without the generosity of our Brother Knights who donated time, talent and treasure. Children's gifts were fulfilled and for the first time I remember there were extra funds for many to purchase some of the household items on the list such as detergent or toilet paper. Seems like a small thing to us, but very meaningful when you are scraping to make ends meet. This event is especially heartwarming when you see the joy in the eyes of the families we serve. Know that we as Knights are making an impact that is changing the world for the better. At Walmart, one greeter mentioned how the Knights helped fund a Space Camp trip for her special needs son's class approximately 25 years ago. Our check out person inquired what the Knights stood for and I shared our 4 pillars quickly. He thanked us and said to keep carrying on God's work.

Together, we make a positive difference doing God's work. A special thanks to all the generous donors and volunteers who helped shop, wrap and set up/clean up the Hall. God Bless you and your family with happiness and good health at Christmas and throughout the year.

With Gratitude,

Co-Chairs: Kyle Jackson and Ken Lanter



From Our Field Agent

Happy New Year!

The Knights of Columbus has very exciting news to share as we begin 2026!

Beginning January 1, 2026, there is a dividend increase for eligible participating insurance policies for the second year in a row. What does an increased dividend rate mean for you?

Dividends are amounts that may be paid annually from the surplus funds of the Knights of Columbus and are paid on an equitable basis by class as determined by the Board of Directors (dividends are not guaranteed).

These dividends can be used in various ways, including:

- Purchase paid-up additions, which is the default option.
- Place the dividends on deposit and earn additional interest.
- Receive the dividends in cash.
- Reduce billed premium (this option is not available on all policies).
- Reduce an existing loan.

Guided by the vision of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, we are dedicated to supporting the financial

security of our members. Over the past 30 years, Knights of Columbus has paid more than \$8 billion in dividends to those we serve.

I would love to sit down with you to discuss how this dividend increase may help you achieve your financial security goals. If you have any questions about this, or any of the benefits of having a Knights of Columbus insurance policy, please contact me, and we'll schedule a time to meet.

Vivat Jesus!

Merry Christmas!

Knights of Columbus
Niemyer Agency

Member
MEDJET®

Michael M. Sullivan, FICF, LUTCF, CLTC
Field Agent

Phone: 618-363-9395
Michael.Sullivan@KofC.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance

Protecting Catholic families since 1882

JOIN THE KNIGHTS!

KofC.org/JoinUs

Promo Code: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

Michael Sullivan
michael.sullivan@kofc.org
618-363-9395

Agent Referral Code
MSULLIVAN

Council 1143 at Work

Pictures from Lending a Helping Hand to Glen-Ed Pantry; December 6, 2025





Brother Dustin Riechmann presents Coats for Kids to Riverbend Head Start December 9th.



Rosary for Life at St. Mary's Parish – December 13, 2025



Children In Need Christmas Shopping Spree – December 13, 2025 at The Hall



December 20 Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity at St. Boniface