



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: mausti@siue.edu

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

February 2026

Grand Knight's Letter

Hello Brother Knights,

During the month of February, we generally focus on the theme of love, fitting for the month when we celebrate Valentine's Day. St. Paul, in Chapter 13 of his first letter to the Corinthians, shows us the essence of true love for others (***Love is patient, love is kind... it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth***), while 1 John 3:18 states ***Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.***

Let us continue to show our commitment to serve the Catholic Church and the community through our continued prayers in promoting the culture of Life (Rosary for Life- February 14; 9am at St Mary's Church) to an upcoming

KC Blood Drive on February 11, and the Father and Daughter Dance on February 21. Finally, I invite the council to consider a KC Supreme incentive to increase our contribution to a council-supported pregnancy center, A Beacon of Light, if the council increases its membership by at least three in the next two months. With a scheduled Exemplification after the 10:30am Mass at St Mary's on February 15, let us grab this opportunity to help two important council initiatives. Details can be found using the following link.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/716460b3001/df2622d6-ce98-4f4e-81a6-15106ae8eba6.pdf>

February 18 marks the start of the Lenten season. We need to remem-

ber that this is a time for you and your family to reflect, repent, and be renewed as we desire to have a deeper relationship with God. The Prophet Joel reminds us to ***Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God, For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting in punishment.***

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

Vivat Jesus!

Marcus Agustin

Grand Knight

2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES WERE DUE JANUARY 31st

Only 1/3 of the members have paid their dues. Please pay your dues ASAP.

MONTHLY FISH FRY

February 20th Team #2

February 27th Team #3

4:30-7:00 pm

The total sales from the January Fish Fry were \$2,837.75 We will be donating \$121.55 to the St. Boniface Athletic Uniform Fund.

February Wedding Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| 2 | Dennis & Ginger Hessel - 52 | 23 | Steven & Alice Bartels - 47 |
| 10 | Sergio & Dawn Cortes - 28 | 24 | David & Angela Berczek - 25 |
| 12 | Brad & Audrey Bolt - 15 | 27 | Frank & Kathy Troeckler Jr - 38 |
| 17 | Jeff & Lisa Worman - 19 | | |
| 22 | Matt & Leanne Rakers - 23 | | |

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY MORES!

February Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Adam Davis | 13 | Cliffon Sachs |
| 4 | David Laurent | 15 | Thomas Dammerich |
| 4 | Frank Troeckler Jr | 15 | Craig Herman |
| 6 | Bob Rapp | 15 | John Smith |
| 7 | Brad Bolt | 17 | Rev Jeffrey Goeckner |
| 7 | Raymond Kerkemeyer | 19 | Vincent Hess Jr |
| 8 | Brian Reeves | 20 | Michael Ziolkowski |
| 9 | Jeffrey Chitwood | 21 | Christopher Taylor |
| 9 | Todd Frank | 22 | Matthew Wilkinson |
| 11 | Gregg Korte | 26 | James Strack Jr |
| 12 | Thomas Saksa | 28 | Ed Rodney |



Calendar of Events February 2026

- February 3 (7:30pm) Assembly Meeting
- February 9 (7 pm) Council Meeting
- February 11 (3pm) KC Blood Drive
- February 14 (9am) Rosary for Life at St. Mary's
- February 15 (10:30am) Corporate Communion (at St. Mary's) followed by Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity
- February 16 (7 pm) Fred Mills Club Board Meeting
- February 20 (4:30-7:30pm) Fish Fry (Team 2)
- February 21 (6pm) Father and Daughter Dance
- February 23 (7pm) Officers Meeting

February 27 (4:30-7:30pm) Fish Fry (Team 3)

Upcoming Activities in March

- March 1 (11am) Fred Mills BBQ
- March 6 Fish Fry Team 4
- March 13 Fish Fry Team 1
- March 19 Illinois Pro-Life March & Mass (in Springfield)
- March 20 Fish Fry Team 2
- March 27 Fish Fry Team 3
- March 28 (7am-7pm) 40 Days for Life (in Granite City)

February 2026 Knights of Month: Ken Lanter and Kyle Jackson

Ken and Kyle led a very successful Children In Need Christmas Shopping Spree. Eleven local families were hosted this year through the efforts of council members and their family and volunteers from Fr. McGivney Catholic High School. Ken and Kyle continue to support several council initiatives such as the council Fish Fry.



February 2026 Family of the Month: Dustin and Bethany Riechmann

Dustin and Bethany are at the forefront in promoting the culture of Life in the Metro East. Dustin serves the council as the Warden, Charity Director, coordinates the Coats For Kids, and can be seen helping in various council initiatives. The Reichmanns are active parishioners of St. Mary's and constant supporter of Catholic education.



4th Degree Assembly 225 News



Faithful Navigator's Letter:

As we enter February, I find myself reflecting on the incredible spirit of charity and patriotism that defined our Assembly this past month. While the winter chill has settled over Edwardsville, the warmth of our brotherhood has never been more evident.

January closed out with the exceptional success of the Assembly Euchre Tournament. It was a fantastic evening of competition and camaraderie, but more importantly, it was a victory for our service members. I am proud to announce that through your generosity, we raised over \$700 for the USO. I want to extend a sincere "thank you" to Sir Knight Ryan Fitzpatrick for his tireless work in chairing this event. His leadership ensured the night ran smoothly and that our donation would make a tangible impact on the lives of those serving in our armed forces.

The USO holds a place of honor in the heart of any Fourth Degree Knight. Many may not realize that our Order's link to this organization is woven into the very fabric of World War II history. In 1941, when the call went out to support a rapidly mobilizing military, the Knights of Columbus stepped forward as one of the six founding organizations of the USO. Working alongside groups like Catholic Charities, the Knights ensured that our

"doughboys" and GIs had more than just a place to rest—they had a reminder of home and access to their faith. When we support the USO today, we are not simply writing a check; we are honoring a sacred commitment our predecessors made over eighty years ago to stand by those who wear the uniform.

Looking forward, the month of February brings us to a spiritual crossroads. With Ash Wednesday falling on the 18th, we begin our Lenten journey. This season of sacrifice is also our busiest season of service. Our Lenten Fish Frys begin on February 20th, and I am calling on every member of this Assembly to assist where they can. These events are the lifeblood of our charitable fund, allowing us to continue the work we did this past month for the USO and beyond.

Finally, let us keep our sick and distressed brothers in our daily prayers. May we move into this Lenten season with a renewed focus on our core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

Vivat Jesus!

Jason Jones

Faithful Navigator Assembly 225



On January 23rd, Assembly #0225 hosted its 4th Annual Euchre Tournament to benefit the Missouri USO at Lambert International Airport.

This year we had thirty two participants.

Thank you for your participation and support.

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

From Our Field Agent

Financial Health

Do you have goals in mind for this year?

It may be February, but the year is still new. Instead of new year's resolutions, I like to think about setting concrete, actionable goals. I recommend that at least once a year, you make it a goal to take inventory of your financial health.

You can start by asking yourself if you've experienced any major life events in the last year that may call for an update to your insurance plan or to acquire a policy for the first time. Have you gotten married, welcomed or are expecting a baby, changed careers or purchased a home? These are good reasons to evaluate your life insurance coverage.

Don't forget that if your life insurance policy is dependent on your current employer, you could be underinsured and only protected while you are still working.

It's also important to consider whether you're on track to maintain the lifestyle you want in retirement. Do you know how much money you'll need to retire comfortably?

It's not too late to set goals for 2026.

We can get together and conduct a complimentary needs analysis. Give me a call and we can schedule a time to meet.

Vivat Jesus!



Knights of Columbus
Niemeier Agency

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MSULLIVAN



Fish Fry Team Schedule for 2026

The Fish Fry is our largest ongoing fund raiser. On average each team works four times in a year. Please take note of when your team is scheduled to work this year and please make every effort to volunteer on that date or swap with someone else.

Team 1 1/16/2026

Team 2 2/20/2026 (Lent)

Team 3 2/27/2026 (Lent)

Team 4 3/6/2026 (Lent)

Team 1 3/13/2026 (Lent)

Team 2 3/20/2026 (Lent)

Team 3 3/27/2026 (Lent)

Team 4 4/3/2026 (Good Friday)

Team 1 4/17/2026

Team 2 5/15/2026

Team 3 6/19/2026

Team 4 7/17/2026

Team 1 8/21/2026

Team 2 9/18/2026

Team 3 10/16/2026

Team 4 11/20/2026

Team 1 12/18/2026

Faith

Corporate Communion Mass

The Council will meet at St. Mary Church at 10:15 am in the church atrium. We will sit together along with family members to participate in the 10:30 am Mass. Please wear Knight gear if you have it.

Following the mass we will hold an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity to induct new mem-

Ora Pro Nobis (Pray for Us)

Saint John Paul II stated that praying for the souls in Purgatory is the "highest act of supernatural charity". The souls in Purgatory rely entirely on the prayers of the living, as they can no longer help themselves.

Anyone interested in participating in this new program is asked to include in their daily rosary the soul of a departed Brother Knight, friend or family member. At the beginning of each month, we will provide a list of names to include in your rosary intentions for every day that month.

To either submit a name of a Faithfully-departed soul and/or to participate in this daily rosary for Holy Souls, please email or text Brother Knight Jim Jatcko at jjatcko@hotmail.com or 618-803-0570.

Ora Pro Nobis (February—Daily Rosary Intentions for the Faithful Departed)

Feb 1 - Neil Joellenbeck
Feb 2 - Tim Gebke
Feb 3 - Rose Amann
Feb 4 - Larry Luebbers
Feb 5 - Josephine Kapp
Feb 6 - Jack Springmire
Feb 7 - Allen Hawkins
Feb 8 - John Beausang
Feb 9 - Charlie Foos
Feb 10 - Mark Berry
Feb 11 - Jody Meyer
Feb 12 - Clifford Doyle
Feb 13 - Tom Burns

Feb 14 - James Zupanci
Feb 15 - Edward Foppe
Feb 16 - Richard Trame
Feb 17 - Bob Connors
Feb 18 - John Zarzycki
Feb 19 - Robert Hengehold
Feb 20 - Laurence Theriault
Feb 21 - Jerry Reinhold
Feb 22 - Lloyd (Tom) Harmon
Feb 23 - Dennis Jacober
Feb 24 - Jim Hickman
Feb 25 - Glenn Pizzini
Feb 26 - Bob Watsek
Feb 27 - Cletus Rattermann
Feb 28 - Gary Schmidt



SACRAMENTALS COLLECTION PROGRAM COMNG SOON...

Do you have any blessed items that are worn out, damaged, or no longer suitable for use - such as rosaries, holy water, statues, crucifixes, holy cards, scapulars, palms, icons, blessed candles, or medals? The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Council #1143 will be collecting these blessed items in the near future, and will properly retire them as prescribed by the church. A collection basket will be placed at both parishes to place your items in. They will periodically be gathered and properly retired. Watch your church bulletin for more details and the location of the collection basket.

If you have any questions, email them to kofc1143@gmail.com

PRO LIFE

Rosary for Life - 9:00 am on February 14th at St. Mary's Parish

Each month, on the second Saturday of the month we gather to pray the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary to bring an end to abortion. May—October we pray outside the Hope Clinic in Granite City and November—April we meet at St. Mary Church, 1802 Madison Ave. Edw to pray the rosary. This event is not limited to just members of the Knights of Columbus. Bring your spouse, your children and your fellow parishioners.



Council 1143 day of prayer at the Hope Clinic in Granite City for 40 Days for Life is on Saturday, March 28, 2026. Our Council is responsible for having at least 2 members, family or friends present between 7:00– 7:00pm to

pray for the end of abortion. If you are able to fill a one hour time slot, please contact Tom Tucker (cell is (618) 741-8930). Thank you to those who volunteer their time to pray for those affected by

Illinois Pro-Life March in Springfield ...

Thousands of anti-abortion advocates will descend upon Springfield March 19, 2026 to March for Life in the post-Roe era. Our council will meet at the HALL at and carpool to Springfield to participate in this event. Last year only two Knights from our Council attend. If possible take a few hours from your day and attend this event. Show your support for Right to Life and you will get more out of it than you put in.

10AM - Mass for Life, hosted by the Diocese of Springfield. Registration details will be shared when they become available. Registration is required—go to <https://www.illinoisprolifemarch.com/> to register and for more details

1PM - The Rally

Lincoln Statue in front of the Illinois Capitol Building, 401 S 2nd St, Springfield, IL 62701

2PM - The March

3PM - Lobbying

5:15PM - Mass, hosted by the Canons Regular at: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E Lawrence Ave, Springfield, IL 62703



FAMILY

11th Annual Father Daughter Dance



Join us for our 11th Annual Father Daughter Dance at The Hall, 7132 Marine Road, Edwardsville on Saturday February 21, 2026 6:00 PM– 9:00 PM. Your ticket includes dinner, DJ, and plenty of dancing.

Tickets for two (father and daughter) are just \$30.00 Available through February 7th and additional \$5.00 for each additional daughter. Tickets are limited and going fast. Prices increase an additional \$15 per ticket on February 8th. [Click to purchase tickets](#)

Or scan to QR code



Photos from the Free Throw Contest 2026

Council 1143 held the Annual Free Throw Contest on January 23rd. This year we had 5 participants on a very cold Saturday morning.



Knights of Columbus Council 1143 2026 Scholarship Application

Council 1143 is accepting application for scholarship to Fr. McGivney Catholic High School and a senior going to college next year. The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus scholarship is a one-time non-renewable award. The size of the award is based on the amount of money available and the number of qualified applicants.

The applicant must be a graduating senior at a local high school and be planning to attend an accredited 2 year or 4 year college or university.

All students whose Father or Grand Father are (or were at the time of death) a member "in good standing" in the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Council 1143 or Assembly 225 are welcome to apply. Awards will then be based on service to community and church and/or extracurricular activities and answers to the questions below. The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee has final authority over all awards.

The applicant, after approval, must supply the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee with a copy of his/her letter of acceptance for payment of monies which will be issued jointly to the student and to the school of enrollment.

The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee requests (if possible) that a representative be allowed to present this award at the high school awards night.

The application forms are on the following pages. There are separate application for the high school and college scholarships.

All applications must be submitted by Saturday, March 14,2026.



Edwardsville Knights of Columbus

Council 1143
Assembly 0225

Father McGivney Catholic High School Scholarship Application

This scholarship is a one-time non-renewable award. The size of the award is based on the amount of money available and the number of qualified applicants. The applicant must be a graduate of or graduating from any accredited grade school and must be enrolled as a freshman at Father McGivney Catholic High School. The applicant must also be a child or grandchild of a member (in good standing for at least one consecutive year from the date of the application deadline) of Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Council 1143 and/or Edwardsville Assembly 0225.

TO APPLY: Completed applications must be postmarked by **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, and mailed to:

Edwardsville Knights of Columbus
Scholarship Committee
7132 Marine Rd.
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Applications may also be emailed by **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, to: ldg@knappohlgreen.com

STUDENT INFORMATION: (Note: Please type or print) Part 1

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Sex: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name of grade school you are currently attending: _____

Please answer the following questions (attach additional pages if necessary):

In what ways (please give examples) have you loved as Jesus has taught us to love by helping members of your family, your friends, your neighbors, your church, or even strangers?

Why do you believe that a Catholic education is important? _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____



Edwardsville Knights of Columbus

*Council 1143
Assembly 0225*

Father McGivney Catholic High School Scholarship Application (Part 2)

All information included in this scholarship application will be held in strictest confidence by the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee.

FAMILY INFORMATION: (Note: Please type or print)

Father or Grand is a member of Edwardsville KC Council 1143 or Assembly 225. Knight's name:
_____ Membership # _____

Is the applicant a member of St. Boniface Parish or St. Mary's Parish in Edwardsville? Parish: _____

Number of children in family: _____

Number of Siblings: Older: _____ Younger: _____

By signing below, I/We agree to the following:

- The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee has permission to discuss all aspects of this application with the parish priest and/or deacon and with grade school administrators and teachers.
- All decisions by the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee are final.
- All statements contained in this application are true and correct.

Parents Signatures: Father: _____ Date: _____
Mother: _____ Date: _____



Edwardsville Knights of Columbus

Council 1143

Assembly 0225

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

REQUIREMENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus scholarship is a one-time non-renewable award. The size of the award is based on the amount of money available and the number of qualified applicants.

The applicant must be a graduating senior at a local high school and be planning to attend an accredited 2 year or 4 year college or university.

All students whose Father or Grand Father are (or were at the time of death) a member "in good standing" in the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Council 1143 or Assembly 225 are welcome to apply. Awards will then be based on service to community and church and/or extracurricular activities and answers to the questions below. The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee has final authority over all awards.

The applicant, after approval, must supply the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee with a copy of his/her letter of acceptance for payment of monies which will be issued jointly to the student and to the school of enrollment.

The Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee requests (if possible) that a representative be allowed to present this award at the high school awards night.

TO APPLY: Completed applications must be postmarked by **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, and mailed to:

Edwardsville Knights of Columbus
Scholarship Committee
7132 Marine Rd.
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Applications may also be emailed by **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, to: ldg@knappohlgreen.com

All information received concerning this scholarship request will be held in strictest confidence by the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (part 1)

2

STUDENT INFORMATION: (Note: Please type or print)

Name: _____
(Last, First, Middle)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Sex: ____ Date of Birth: _____



Edwardsville Knights of Columbus

Council 1143

Assembly 0225

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (part 1 continued)

Please complete the following (attach additional pages if necessary):

Provide a summary of your service to church and community and/or your involvement in extracurricular activities, highlighting your specific contributions to the activity or organization, especially any work at Knights of Columbus sponsored events.

List high school honors that you have received.

Question 1: How can you help the Knights of Columbus further their principals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism?

Question 2: How do you plan to improve the lives of others and to make the world around you a better place?

Question 3: Why should you be selected to receive this scholarship? In other words, write your own question and answer it (be sure to state the question clearly before answering it).

What college or university do you plan to attend? _____

What major course of study do you plan to pursue? _____



Edwardsville Knights of Columbus

Council 1143

Assembly 0225

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (Part 2)

FAMILY INFORMATION: (Note: Please type or print)

Father or Grand is a member of Edwardsville KC Council 1143 or Assembly 225. Knight's name: _____
Membership # _____

Religion: _____ Church/Parish: _____

Number of children in family: _____

Number of Siblings: Older: _____ Younger: _____

Number of other family members who will be in college during the next four years _____

By signing below, I/We agree to the following:

- All decisions by the Edwardsville Knights of Columbus Scholarship Committee are final.
- All statements contained in this application are true and correct.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents' Signature: _____ Date: _____