



knights of st. irene

Vol. 30 No. 12
June, 2021

Council 6710
Warrenville, IL



Virtual Fundraiser in Support of Mercy Home Continues

The St Irene Knights of Columbus is conducting a virtual fundraiser in support of Mercy Home's mission.

Over the next few months, we are soliciting donations for Mercy Home through the following link - <https://www.mercyhome.org/stirene>. To donate by phone or for any donation related questions, please call Mercy Home at 877-637-2955. Your donation is 100% tax deductible. Additional questions regarding the fundraising effort may be directed to **Joe Kubal** at 630-983-6159. Your support of Mercy Home's children and the televised Sunday Mass is incredibly appreciated. God Bless you!

You have heard of Mercy Home for Boys and Girls in Chicago Mass that is aired each Sunday on WGN-TV. Over the years, we have appeared several times at the taping of these masses. Mercy Home was founded in 1887 and has been a refuge for our most vulnerable children and young adults. They come to Mercy Home having faced tremendous hardships including poverty, housing instability, violence, loss, and more. The trauma that results from these experiences impacts the ways these young people grow, learn, and relate to the world around them. But with the full-time care, counseling, and education they receive at Mercy Home, young people can break the cycles of abuse, neglect, and poverty. They go on to become self-reliant, thriving adults who positively impact the lives of others.

Joe Kubal



June 26—KC/ VFW Blood Drive

The next blood drive will be held from 7:00 AM—Noon at the St. Irene Activities Center. As with blood drives this ongoing year, please register in advance at the [Versiti of Illinois web page](#). Walk-ins are also accepted.



Are You Up for A Family Picnic in Conjunction with Council & LA Officer Installation?

Sat. June 26 or July 10?

As COVID restrictions are lessening, it is time for a Council Family gathering. Each year, except for 2020, our Council has hosted the installation picnic.

I am putting forward the suggestion to host the picnic at my home, but to also have the installation of Council and Ladies Auxiliary officers occur at my home. In this way, weather permitting, we can host the event safely outdoors. Please provide me input. Should we host the event on Sat. June 26 or July 10, or not at all? Please send your response to jrhalama@comcast.net.

PGK James Halama



PGN, PFN Wayne Decker Passes to Eternal Life May 21

Charter Member of Council 6710, Past Grand Knight, Past Faithful Navigator, Past District Deputy, Scout Master, all around Knight of Columbus, **Wayne Decker** died on May 21 at his home. Our prayers go to Wayne and his Family. The funeral Mass was held at St. Irene's May 27. The Mass was presided by Fr. Clive. Fr. Jim delivered the sermon. Internment was at Queen of Heaven,

Hillside, IL.

Obituary & Tribute by Sandy Decker: Wayne, 82, has been a resident of Warrenville for 53 years. He was very active with St. Irene Parish. He worked for Illinois Bell Telephone for 35 years until he retired. He enjoyed gardening, collecting Beanie Babies, statue horses, coins, antique cars, bells, and keys. His accomplishments were as follows:

- St Irene Council #6710, Sir Knight Wayne was a Chapter member of the Bishop Roger Kaffer Major Degree Team, Dr Thomas A Dooley

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Council Business Meeting June 10 at 7:00 PM

Officer Elections will be held. The same officers of this last term are slated. There is one opening, Warden, which is vacated due to the death of Wayne Decker. If you are interested, please call PGK Marc Alleruzzo (630-269-2754).

GK Mike Bates is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join as follows:

<https://luc.zoom.us/j/89530357528>

Meeting ID: 895 3035 7528

Dial by your location

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 895 3035 7528



Schedule of St. Irene Masses & Events

Daily Masses

Daily Masses will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 AM. Also, Wednesdays at 12:00 PM. No registration is required at this time. Masses will be live streamed and recorded.

Holy Hour of Adoration

Join us for a holy hour and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday at 3:00 PM. No registration is required at this time. The holy hour will be live streamed.

Reconciliations

Fr. Clive will be doing reconciliations immediately after the Saturday 8:00 AM Mass

Saturday Masses

- **8:00 AM:** no registration required, will not be live streamed
- **5:00 PM:** registration required, will be live streamed

Sunday Masses

- **8:00 AM:** registration required, will not be live streamed
- **10:00 AM:** registration required, will be live streamed

Mass Registration: The link to register for Mass at St. Irene is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-irene-masses-registration107608622286>. If you have any questions, please contact us at the Parish Office 630-393-2400.

Live stream recordings will be available afterwards on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StIreneChurch/>
- Youtube channel: [St. Irene Catholic Church Warrenville - YouTube](#)



Fourth Degree News

The next Bishop Blanchette meeting is June 9 by Zoom. Watch for future email for Zoom link.



Pray for Our Loved Ones

Pray for the health & recovery of **Mary Hughes, Beverly Scott, Glen Kussman, Marcello Alleruzzo, Karen Ernst, Pat Wehner, Rachel Jaraisus, Tina Pittman, and Charlie Fahrenwald.**

St. Irene Knights of Columbus Council 6710, Warrenville, IL

Council Officers 2020-2021	
Chaplain	Fr. Jim Antiporek (630-393-2400 x 13)
Grand Knight	Michael Bates (630-836-0223)
Dep. Grand Knight	Doug Dillmann (630-415-5258)
Financial Sec.	James Halama (630-433-6240)
Treasurer	John Ernst (630-606-2671)
Chancellor	James Bartz (630-229-8311)
Recorder	Bob Rauko (630-337-1568)
Advocate	Joshua Bates (630-836-0223)
Warden	
Inside Guard	Patrick O'Connor
Outside Guard	Dave Abhalter (630-857-0972)
Lecturer	William Lintner (630-841-6155)
3rd Yr. Trustee	Tom Perez (630-301-1481)
2nd Yr. Trustee	Ken Dilulio (630-747-3673)
1st Yr. Trustee	Glen Kussman (630-393-6545)
Insurance Agent	Matthew Kling (630-485-8705)

Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM
Meeting Location: Meetings are virtual by Zoom until further notice

Committee Directors	
Program Director	Doug Dillmann (630-415-5258)
Membership Director	
Community Director	Bob Rauko (630-337-1568)
Church Director	James Bartz (630-229-8311)
Family Director	Michael Bates (630-836-0223)
Youth Director	
Public Relations Director	Richard Kostner (630-310-9642)
Blood Drive Director	Ray Scott (630-393-0868)
Life Director	Jack Gorski (630-393-4742)
Vocations	Brad Hentz (630-836-0332)
Support our Troops	Kevin Looby (630-329-1316)

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all Catholic gentleman over 18 years of age. To join or obtain further information, contact our Membership Chairman Ray Scott at 630-393-0868.

The Knights' News is published monthly by Council 6710. For contributions and corrections contact James Halama at 630-433-6240. Please make submissions by email at jhalama@comcast.net prior to the 21th day of each month.



Grand Knight's Corner

This is not an easy article for me to write. Given recent events, it strikes me as right to dwell on one in particular. The event I am referring to is the passing of our dear **Brother Knight, Wayne Decker**. Wayne was, as a person, a great man, kind, passionate, and every positive emotion that exists under the sun, and larger than life while doing it to boot!

When I was younger, and even in recent years, I would always look forward to Council events because I knew that Wayne would be there, and because of that, I knew the event would be amazing. One person, Wayne especially, had the ability to make any event infinitely better than it would be otherwise just by being there. If he wasn't, it wouldn't even be as half as good as it would be otherwise.

The thing I attribute entirely to Wayne though, is my nickname throughout the council, although it may as well be the parish by this point. When I was 7 years old, my dad joined the Knights of Columbus, which I have since joined as well. A little later on in the same year, Wayne saw me following my dad around like a shadow. Wayne, having his amazing sense of humor, decided to nickname me Shadow. It is a nickname I've had ever since, I still use it, and it is now something akin to a badge of pride.

One thing that Wayne started was the Boy Scout Troop 514, of which I was a member of for 7 of my teenage years, and those were some of the best years of my life. Moments that I wouldn't get to experience if Wayne hadn't created the troop.

Wayne of course was so involved in the Knights. He had done so many things within the entire organization that if I listed them, we'd be here until next month! That right there, is dedication. Usually, I would try and describe Wayne in one word, but as things go, it's impossible. One thing I should also mention is an impact that Wayne had on my father. I can't say too much about this, but after my dad got his second and third degrees in the Knights, the ceremony (which I can't talk about) shook him up so much to the point where he nearly dropped out. But by happenstance, or divine intervention, call it whichever, my dad forgot the map in Wayne's car. So he went back, and Wayne talked to him. And for that, my dad didn't drop out, thanks to whatever it is that Wayne told him. By that example, my dad didn't drop out, and now he's the Grand Knight.

Wayne was extremely extroverted. He could start up talking to any stranger and then keep talking to them for at least a good 20 minutes. All in all, I don't know if anyone had as much of an impact personally on me as Wayne did. He was all around a great man, dedicated to the Knights, the parish, God, and most importantly his family. I will miss him, and he will be missed by all very deeply and dearly forever. The parish won't be the same without him, but we will continue on for Wayne. Pray for Wayne, pray for me, and know I'm praying for you, God bless.

Vivat Jesus!
Adv. Josh Bates,
aka, GK Mike Bates

ProLife



PETITION

Add Your Name: <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com/>

Save Hyde. Save lives.

(From notaxpayerabortion.com website)

Taxpayer dollars should NOT pay for abortion. The majority of Americans agree with this - both Democrats and Republicans.

For 45 years, the Hyde amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from being forced to pay for elective abortion.

The Hyde amendment has been signed into law every year since 1976, whether the Congress and the White House were led by Republicans or Democrats.

The Hyde Amendment has saved nearly 2.5 million babies and mothers in difficult circumstances from the tragedy of abortion.

An overwhelming majority of Americans, including low-income women and women of color who are most impacted by it, support the Hyde Amendment and laws that prevent government-funded abortion.

We urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to ensure that the Hyde Amendment and all similar life-saving appropriations riders remain in place during the 117th Congress and beyond.

Do not force Americans to subsidize the taking of innocent life. Oppose any bill, including any appropriations bill, that expands taxpayer funding of abortion.

Jack Gorski
Pro-Life Chair Council 6710



Maintenance of City Welcome Sign Flower Beds Continues

Despite utility work digging in, under, and around the welcome signs we remain committed in maintaining the planting there.

The remaining dates are: June 5, July 10, August 14, and Sept. 11. Those of you have adopted a sign, you do not necessarily need to follow the schedule precisely. Whenever, you visit your sign, take a selfie and send it to me so I can document and include you in the KC newsletter (jrhalama@comcast.net).

If you would like to learn more about this program please contact PGK James Halama at jrhalama@comcast.net.

(Decker Continued from page 1)

#309 4th Degree Assembly

- Cub Master Pack #514, Scout Master Troup #514
- KC Scout Rep #6710, Past Grand Knight #6710 (PGK), Past Council Director #6710, Past Grand Knight #6710 (PGK), Current Warden #6710, Charter Member of #6710
- Joliet Diocese Chapter Past-President
- Dr. Thomas Dooley Assembly #309 Past Commander, Past Faithful Navigator, Degree Team member of Bishop Roger Kaffer of the Joliet Diocese
- Former State District Deputy, Past State Color Guard Co-Chairman, State Basketball Free Throw Chairman, State Medallion Awarded, Staff of 'Special Camps' 1996 to 2008 in charge of boating, Staff of M.H. Easter and Christmas Parties 20 years
- Usher St. Irene Catholic Church (45 years), and Past Eucharistic Minister
- Wayne was on the 4th of July committee for a few years.

Wayne is survived by his beloved wife Sandra Decker; Daughter, Connie (Gary) Dyas; Son, Robert Decker; Daughter, Virginia (Steve) Paul; Grandson, Nicholas James (Megan) Webb, Granddaughter, Michele (David) Mueller; Granddaughter, Rebecca Paul; Great Grandchildren, Brody Simmons, Caitlyn Webb, Scarlett & Lavinia Mueller; Sister, Margaret (Mike) Neuzil. He is preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Margaret Decker and daughter-in law, Deborah Decker.

Tribute by Reed Callahan: Wayne was my best friend for 55 years. He was a Scout Master for my kids and dedicated many years serving as the St. Irene's Knights go between the Boy Scouts and 6710.

He was a Charter Member of our Council, and served Special Camps from 1996 to 2008 in charge of the canoeing and more with Sandy in charge of or working the crafts. He and Sandy also helped at every camp Christmas and Easter parties from the 1st to the most recent.

Your council and other KC members should know Wayne for what he meant to and did for the Knights of Columbus - both 6710 and the State, Chapter and 4th degree. Wayne was a vociferous but unspoken hero, ring in the ranks to fill positions no-one else wanted and carrying out the duties most others avoided but were needed.

Wayne worked tirelessly on every "Tootsie roll drive", was 6710s GK (1978-1980), represented the scouts and vice versa with 6710, He did some of that before many of our knights were borne. He should be made an example to

them and to other people that say: "What do the K Cs do?" Sandy was always wonderful about letting Wayne do what he felt needed to be done.

Wayne and another of our knights "Augie" Augustynovic, dug the hole in front of St. Irenes and planted the flag pole. Wayne and I dug the foundation for the K.C. Pro-Life statue in front of the old church. It was all river bedrock.

Out of order but still items showing Wayne's dedication to the Knights:

- CUBS MASTER TROUP 514
- KC SCOUT REPRESENTATIVE <TO AND FROM > 6710
- THOMAS DOOLEY PAST COMMANDER
- STATE BASKETBALL FREE THROW CHAIRMAN FOR SEVERAL YEARS
- PAST GRAND KNIGHT (PGK)
- PAST FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR PFN)
- FORMER DISTRICT DEP (FDD)
- AWARDED STATE MEDALION
- CURRENT WARDEN 6710
- DEGREE TEAM MEMBER OF BISHOP ROGER KAFFER TEAM
- 4TH DEGREE COMMANDER
- STAFF OF 'SPECIAL CAMPS' 1996 TO 2008 IN CHARGE OF BOATING
- STAFF OF M.H. (OR I.D).EASTER AND CHRISTMAS PARTIES 20 YEARS
- JOLIET CHAPTER PRESIDENT
- CHARTER MEMBER OF 6710
- USHER ST. IRENE CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR 12 OR MORE YEARS

Tribute by James Halama: State and Joliet Chapter recognition awards

- Victor Cardosi Award by Joliet Chapter, 1995
- Wayne and Sandy Decker Illinois State Council Family of the Year, 2001
- Wayne Decker Senior Knight of the Year, 2002

Wayne and Sandy befriended us early after joining the St. Irene Parish in 1987. We have always cherished Wayne's friendliness and generosity. In the nomination for Illinois State Family of the year my Alta wrote "Wayne and Sandy are always ready to help; it's like they are up at 6:00 AM waiting for your call".

Wayne you will be missed!

Council 6710 Web Site

Needed is the capability of providing financial transactions to our web site in order to offer online membership dues payments, purchase of tickets and merchandise for council events, and for fundraising such as the ID Tootsie Roll Drive. Please contact **James Halama** at jrhalama@st-irenekofc.org.

Council and LA Directory Available

A new directory for Council and Ladies Auxiliary members is now available on the Council web site: st-irenekofc.org. Select Directory Tab. Password is "mcgivney5".



Two High School Scholarships Awarded in Honor of PGK Raymond Scott

The St. Irene Council this year awarded two \$1000 scholarships to graduating St. Irene Grade School students who will attend a Catholic High School. This year the scholarship is in honor of **Brother Knight Raymond Scott**. Ray could always be seen volunteering at the school and served as a crossing guard for many years.

This year, a second \$1000 scholarship offering was made possible by a group of donors who wanted to honor the last class of St. Irene, as well as honor the memory of Ray Scott, by partnering with the K of C to ensure that the two highest scoring applicants received a scholarship.

The graduation Mass was held at St. Irene's on May 26, presided by both **Fr. Clive Otieno** and **Fr. Jim Antiporek**. Fr. Jim made the award announcements at the Mass.



The winners were **Matthew Sullivan**, who will be attending Marmion Academy, and **Ainsley Callaghan**, who will be attending St. Francis High School. Their winning essays on "Why you feel a Catholic High School education will benefit you" are below. Congratulations to you both.

Justin Wagner
Council Scholarship Coordinator

Essay by Ainsley Callaghan

"I think that a Catholic High School education will benefit me because everyday I will be in a faith filled environment around people who will make me a better person and support me in my faith journey. I also think that I will mature in this environment. I also believe that a Catholic High School education will make me a more responsible person. I will become stronger in my faith and have a stronger connection with God that I will carry with me throughout my future as well as consistently pushing and motivating me to be better academically.

This scholarship would mean a great deal for me and family because it will help my parents financially. I would love to get this scholarship because I would really like to continue my Catholic education through high school and build my faith. I want to ensure that I am confident in being a Catholic and I believe that a Catholic High School education would help me do that. "

Ainsley's activities of note include altar server since 4th grade, helped disinfect church according to COVID protocols, volunteered at Sunday hospitalities, at school science fair award winner, Big Buddy to younger kids, honor roll, played volleyball and basketball, in the community Girl Scouts, baby sitting, travel softball player, shoveled sidewalks, and help grocery shop.

Essay by Matthew Sullivan

"I feel an education at a Catholic high school would benefit me because I feel it is a good fit for me, a better education, and also be better preparation for my future. Continuing my Catholic education in high school would benefit me as the smaller class sizes at Catholic schools promote learning and connecting between students and teachers. Catholic education would also help me to grow in faith. My future Catholic education will also help me learn how to use the virtues of the Holy Spirit that I had received during Confirmation.

Catholic high school education will also give me higher learning and access to more resources to help me to learn. It will also allow me to focus more on God and my education rather than the secular world. In Catholic schools, everyone chooses to be there, so everyone is motivated to succeed.

Additionally, Catholic education will teach me more discipline and show me how to develop control of my life rather than letting it slip by without meaning. It will also help me to grow in skills that will carry me through life. And it will also provide better opportunities to enrolling in the right college for me.

To sum up, my Catholic education will benefit me by teaching me how to get closer to God and use the virtues of the Holy Spirit within me to help others. My education will help me to discipline myself and to focus on God and my higher Catholic education."

Matthew activities of note include altar server since 4th grade, volunteered at Lenten Soup Suppers, participating in the Hustle up the hill for the homeless, at school sports of volleyball and basketball, student council and newspaper, in the community participating in Cub Scout Pack 68 and Boy Scouts Troop 514, Troop librarian, volunteered at FMSC food packing events, and participating in reading the list of casualties during VFW hosting of the Vietnam Memorial Wall.



Special Camps
Dates: **June 6 - 11,**
June 13 - 18,
June 20 - 25

Colleen says thank you to all who called and volunteered. Camp is full and we are ready to go!!!!
If you would like to visit or help yet please call me.

Colleen McDonald
President of Special Camps
C: 630-212-1565
e: colleen.scamps@icloud.com

Membership Recruitment
24x7 by You

Knights' Calendar

June 5	9:00 AM	Weeding at City of Warrenville Welcome signs—launch day , see Page 1
June 9	7:00 PM	Bishop Blanchette Assembly Meeting. Location/virtual TBA
June 10	7:00 PM	KC Council Business meeting—Join by Zoom, see page 2
June 26	7:00 AM	KC/VFW Blood Drive—St. Irene Activities Center
June 26 or July 10		KC Family Picnic & Officer Installation - send email to jrhalama@comcast.net to choose preferred date.
Sept. 17-19		Intellectual Disabilities Tootsie Roll Drive

**June 23 —American Legion
Burger Family Theme Night is Back!**
Join us at the VFW Hall, Warrenville



FATHERS FOR GOOD
AN INITIATIVE FOR MEN BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Check out www.fathersforgood

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE
Matthew A. Kling, FICF
630-485-8705
303 East Main Street
Saint Charles, IL 60174
matthew.kling@KofC.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance
Protecting Catholic families since 1882.

Checkout Our Products and Services Knights of Columbus Insurance

The Knights of Columbus offers a complete portfolio of top-quality products to our members and their eligible family members.

- [Permanent Life Insurance](#) – *Insure Your Life for Life*
- [Term Life Insurance](#) – *Affordable Protection for Temporary Needs*
- [Retirement Annuities](#) – *Give Yourself a Paycheck for the Rest of Your Life. Guaranteed.*
- [Long-Term Care Insurance](#) – *Protect Your Assets. Prepare for the Future.*
- [Disability Income Insurance](#) – *Shield Your Income from Illness and Injury*

June Birthdays

Stuart Aschauer	June 3	Nancy Markendorf	June 18
Carol Walsh	June 4	James Bartz	June 19
Anthony Parrino	June 5	William Lintner	June 20
Richard Behrens	June 6	Douglas True	June 20
Jaclyn Bosoli	June 7	Annette Hanson	June 22
Sue Cirock	June 7	Gloria Wilger	June 23
David Abhalter	June 8	William Constable	June 24
Beverly Scott	June 11	Michelle Horan	June 24
Daniel Cyrus	June 13	Loreta Jarasius	June 24
Judy Wilkie	June 14	Pamela Schefke	June 24
Andrew Seiberlich	June 16	Dolores Dieter	June 25
Katie Polkow	June 17	Karen Graney	June 30



Blessed Michael McGivney
Knights of Columbus Founder
Beatification Oct. 31, 2020

June Wedding Anniversaries

Mark & Filomena Jarosz	June 1	Mark & Karen Rurka	June 24
Matthew & Mary Jo Kulzick	June 2	John & Jacqueline Huttenhoff	June 25
Patrick & MaryAnn Lawinger	June 2	Charles & Debbie Ingram	June 25
James & Leora Mowbray	June 16	Gary & Connie Dyas	June 27
Thomas & Elaine Perez	June 19		

*** If your birthday or anniversary date is missing or incorrect, contact **PGK James Halama** (630-433-6240) or jrhalama@comcast.net to make the corrections.