



knights of st. irene

Vol. 34 No. 5
November, 2024

Council 6710
Warrenville, IL



Nov. 9-10—KC Membership Drive

On the weekend of Nov. 9-10 our Council will be conducting a membership drive at St. Irene's at each Mass. A pulpit announcement inviting Catholic men to join the Knights of Columbus will be made. The announcement will describe who we are and what we do. Those who are interested along with their families will be invited to the Activities Center immediately after the Mass for hospitality. We will explain further the benefits of membership. Download [Member Benefits publication](#) to read more about the benefits offered.

Prospects are urged to join electronically. The QR code above with the KC insignia at its center can be used. Use your cell phone to scan the code and select the web address shown. The web page requests your name, contact

We need all men, the young and old, the shy and the bold to join us in our mission of Charity, Faith and Service to the St. Irene Parish Community and beyond. Your involvement can be as little as one event per year or more in a multitude of charities meeting the needs of our community.

information, parish name, and Council number: 6710. There is no membership charge for the first year.

A degree ceremony video will be presented at a later date, after which e-members will become full members of the Knights of Columbus. Candidates are urged to have their family members present during the degree ceremony and video presentation.

The membership drive does not need to be restricted to those attending Mass on this designated weekend. Prior to this weekend, You (KC member, ladies, or anyone reading this article) can recruit prospects. Actually, all that is needed is to invite the prospect to join electronically by scanning the QR code above.



Nov. 23—Decorate for Christmas

The Council will decorate the grounds around St. Irene Church on Saturday, Nov. 23. Decorating starts at 8:00 AM. On the front of the church, we will put up wreaths and garland with lights on them. Other areas of the grounds will get garland, wreaths,

lights, manger, etc. There will be coffee, donuts, and juice. The next Saturday will be a backup date if the weather is bad.

Please come at any time and for any length of time that you are available. The more help we have, the faster we finish! I will bring ladders and poles to put up lights. Please bring anything that helps with the decorating.

If you are planning to volunteer, please call **PGK Bob Rauko** (630) 337-1568 or email to rauko@comcast.net.



Nov. 2—K of C Annual FMSC Food- Packing Event

Come join Knights and fellow parishioner at the Feed My Starving (FMSC) facility at 555 Exchange Ct. in Aurora on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 9:00-10:45 AM. We will be packing food for needy children overseas. No experience is necessary. Individuals over the age of 5 are welcome to participate. Get the entire family involved in this worthy cause. Students can earn service hours.

The Council has additionally contributed \$100 for the FMSC program.

To participate, register on the FMSC website at fmsc.org/get-involved/volunteer. At the bottom of the page entitled "Looking for a Specific Group," type in "St. Irene Knights of Columbus" and complete the requested registration information. If you have questions, please contact **Joe Kubal** at jdrk4715@aol.com. If you cannot attend, please consider a monetary donation to this worthwhile organization.



Newman Apostolate Charity Fund Drive

The fund helps Newman Centers at colleges and universities in Illinois provide a Catholic faith-based environment for college students. Your support means that Newman Centers around the state can do spiritual and social programming to help students remain as one with their faith while they are away from their home parish.

For over 100 years, the Brother Knights in Illinois have joined "Together as One" with strong support for our college-age family members and I hope that you will continue to do

(Continued on page 2)



Council Business Meeting November 14, 7:00 PM

We meet at the St. Irene Activities Center.



We welcome Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs as our newest member of the Knights of Columbus. He joined using the KC online portal on Oct. 10. **Father Greg** has also agreed to serve as our Council Chaplain.



(Continued from page 1 Newman Fund)

so this year and help us reach the state goal of 210,145. Our Council goal is \$5.00 per active member, or \$675.

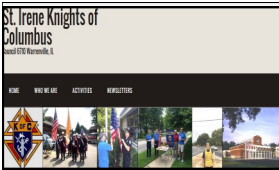
Please consider a gift this year. Donate online at www.illinoisknights.org/charity/newman (or scan the QR Code) above, or send a check. Consider becoming

a \$100 Century donor and receive a commemorative pin. With a check, you must send it along with the Donation Card (print from the online screen). You may also look for the donation card to be sent to you from the state. Indicate your level of giving from \$5 up to \$100. Mail in your donation to Illinois State Council KofC Charities, Inc., P.O. Box 681, Kankakee, IL 60901. Please write Newman Fund, Council number (6710 for St. Irene's) and your Membership number on the memo section of your check.



Fourth Degree Assembly 3044 News

Nov. 13—The next meeting will be held at the St. Joan of Arc, Lisle. The Rosary begins at 6:30 PM. Fraternity begins at 7:00 PM, with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:45 PM.



Council 6710 Web Site

Check out our Council website at: <https://st-irenekofc.org>.

- ### Council Makes Donations:
- Hustle Up the Hill \$100
 - Share Your Soles \$100
 - Ruck the Ville \$100
 - St. Irene Christmas Luncheon \$150



Pray for Our Loved Ones

Pray for the health & recovery of **Alan Jarasius, Rachel Jarasius, Bill Hughes, Sam Vitali, Rosemary Maher, Mary Ann True, Deacon Bob True, Beverly Scott, Ken Dilulio, George LaRocco, Rich Planek, Andrea Olson Martin, and Tyler O'Malley.**



Support our American Legion

Burger Night - Not scheduled for November.

Spaghetti Dinner—Nov. 11

The Monday spaghetti dinners return serving from 5:00—7:30 PM. Special for Veterans Day—all Veterans and First Responder the dinner is free!

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

Chaplain	Council Officers 2024-2025
Grand Knight	Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs (630-621-6730)
Dep. Grand Knight	Patrick McGowan (630-863-8708)
Financial Sec.	Paul Burgermeister (630-877-1574)
Treasurer	James Halama (630-433-6240)
Chancellor	Mark Spiotta (847-980-2461)
Recorder	Tom Nemo (630-808-1900)
Advocate	Bob Rauko (630-337-1568)
Warden	Joshua Bates (630-836-0223)
Inside Guard	Patrick O'Connor
Outside Guard	James McDermott
Lecturer	Joe Kubal (630-470-3807)
3rd Yr. Trustee	Jeffrey Schmitz (630-917-2002)
2nd Yr. Trustee	Michael Bates (630-836-0223)
1st Yr. Trustee	Ken Dilulio (630-747-3673)
Insurance Agent	Marc Alleruzzo (630-269-2754)
District Deputy	Matthew Kling (630-485-8705)
	Bruce Klecker (630-995-0764)

Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM
Meeting Location: St. Irene Activities Center

Program Director	Committee Directors
Membership Director	Paul Burgermeister (630-877-1574)
Community Director	Jeffrey Schmitz (630-917-2002)
Church Director	Bob Rauko (630-337-1568)
Family Director	Joe Urso (630-853-2070)
Youth Director	Michael Bates (630-836-0223)
Public Relations Director	Tom Nemo (630-808-1900)
Blood Drive Director	Joe Kubal (630-983-6159)
Life Director	Ken Dilulio (630-747-3673)
Vocations	Jack Gorski (630-393-4742)
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 GK Patrick McGowan at 630-863-8708.

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 jrhalama@comcast.net prior to the 21st day of each month.



Grand Knight's Corner

During this month of Thanksgiving, it's a common practice to say a prayer of thanksgiving for what God gives us. In the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians, he says "God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every

good work."

When we work as Knights, we're sometimes asked to step out of our comfort zone – cooking, volunteering, speaking, etc. But God provides everything we need to have abundance on whatever effort we put forth.

I hope you all have a joyful Thanksgiving with friends and family. As we head into Advent, I hope we all recognize all the gifts we have from God and understand how our work can make those gifts abundant.

**Vivat Jesus,
Patrick McGowan**



October Share Your Soles Shoe drive Completed. Gets 300 Pairs of Shoes!

The 2024 Knights of Columbus Share Your Soles Shoe Drive collected over 300 pairs of shoes from the church community at-large that will be repurposed and sent to those in need. Shoes that were collected are being sent to benefit North Carolina hurricane victims and those in the Ukraine. **The Council also contributed a \$100 check to pay for shipping of the shoes.**

Beside the collection containers at St. Irene Church, there are year-round collection bins at the Warrenville VFW (thanks to **Vince Morello**) and the Warrenville Park District Recreation Center (thanks to the late **Glen Kussman**). In addition, our Council regularly donates funds to help support the Share Your Soles organization's shipping and operational costs.

The late **Bob Geary**, who first conceived and implemented earlier drives, would have been very pleased with our results.

I sincerely wish to thank all of those who participate in this year's collection drive, and we hope to be back next year to continue helping those in need with this effort.

Joe Kubal (Project Chair)



Adopt-A-Highway Completed Oct. 5

Four Knights were out cleaning the roadsides of Butterfield Rd to Hwy 59: **Tom Nemo, PGK Bob Rauko, PGK Mike Bates, and John Ernst.**

ProLife

Blueprint for Life—Mike Huckabee

With elections fast approaching, the pro-life community is searching for its voice. Longtime advocates of the cause of life saw significant victories in the past few years with the overturning of Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), and abortion restrictions being passed at the state level.

However, there's no question that the landscape has shifted. Both American voters and political operatives are increasingly unsure how they should be thinking about abortion in a post-Roe world.

Rather than respond with wishy-washy ambiguity to avoid offending anyone (or simply lash-back at the blatant hostility of the left), those who are anti-abortion should proclaim a positive vision for protecting life at every stage. The fundamental belief of the dignity of every person made in the image of God — from conception to death — is an admirable position, one to be celebrated, not apologized for.

Those who are pro-life have made that case beautifully in defense of the child in the womb. The time has come to make an equally strong case for providing parents and their new children with the resources and support needed to lay a foundation for thriving, healthy families. With this in mind, myself, former Sen. Rick Santorum, and a coalition of nearly 20 national anti-abortion groups recently released the "[Blueprint for Life](#)," a framework of policy pillars to defend life by providing new and expanded supports for vulnerable children and their parents.

The Blueprint, through meaningful budget-responsive policies, expands the Child Tax Credit, and endorses a national paid family leave solution. It also provides "one-stop-shopping" information on available resources for new and pregnant mothers, as well as locally grounded solutions supporting nonprofits and committed mentoring initiatives. Thus, the Blueprint provides a path forward for elected officials to increase financial confidence.

Of equal importance, it also provides support for the parents bringing life into the world, and children entering it. Not only are these policies transformative, they're also popular. A recent survey of registered voters found that 74% of American voters support a national paid leave solution; 65% are more likely to vote for a candidate promoting such a policy.

Additionally, 71% of voters support the Child Tax Credit; 60% support increasing resources to cover costs for families of pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum care.

These numbers underscore a long-standing reality: American families are feeling the daunting and increasing costs associated with childbirth and child-raising. Families are the backbone of our republic, as are also voters (especially this November). So are those raising the next generation. They need our support and responsive care. Providing such care fundamentally supports life!

**PGK Jack Gorski
ProLife Chairman**



Oct. 13—DEACON JOSEPH URSO PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION

The proclamation was presented by **PGK Levin Loo-by** at St. Irene 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday Oct. 13. Kevin says “Today, we celebrate Deacon Joe’s Step-Back as a Deacon which he announced last month on September 14th and 15th. Some of you may not know it, but Deacon Joe has been a Deacon for over forty years and more than half of that time, he has served right here at St. Irene Parish. That is a feat that not many Deacons can claim or match.” The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The Deacon Joseph Urso was ordained as a Deacon of the Diocese of Trenton, New Jersey in 1981, has served at four different parishes, and has served for more than forty years in that role; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Joseph Urso served for the past 20 years as the Deacon at Saint Irene Parish in Warrenville, Illinois: and

WHEREAS, service to the community as the Chaplain for the Warrenville American Legion Post # 589, Chair of the Warrenville American Legion Post # 589 High School Scholarship Essay, visits the sick at Central DuPage Hospital, counsels/visits the inmates at the Illinois Youth Center here in Warrenville, performs Baptisms’ here at Saint Irene Parish, and serves as a Eucharistic Minister as he administers the host to homebound parishioners, and

WHEREAS, Deacon Joseph Urso has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1966 and is a current Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus Saint Irene Council # 6710. In total, Deacon Joseph Urso has been a Knight for over fifty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Joseph Urso has significantly contributed to the Saint Irene Parish as a whole through his inspiring readings of the Gospel; through his personal testimonies in his Homilies; through his steady presence, insightfulness and generous friendship to all; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Knights of Columbus Council # 6710, convey to Deacon Joseph Urso, one of our own worthy Sir Knights since 2002, this heartfelt expression of our sincere gratitude for his contribution to the Good of the Order and the Catholic Church on this happy milestone of his stepping back from full Deaconship and yet still being an active member of the Knights of Columbus Council # 6710, an active member of Saint Irene Parish, and an active member of the City of Warrenville at large; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution was signed and accepted by Saint Irene’s Parish Priest, the Reverend Gregory Rothfuchs, and by Saint Irene Knights of Columbus Council # 6710 Grand Knight, Sir Knight Patrick McGowen on October 13th, 2024.



Program Awards for October 2024

Deacon Joe Urso Knight of the Month— The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to recognize **Joe Urso as our Knight of the Month for October 2024**. Deacon Joe’s years of dedicated service was recognized and celebrated at the 10:00am Mass on October 13, 2024 amongst his family and friends. Deacon Joe’s list of life long accomplishments start with his service to our Country in the United States Air Force. He has been a Knight of Columbus for over 60 years, and he has been a Deacon and a shining light of Christ for 43 years. Joe has served our community and our parish in a multitude of ways. He has served as the Chaplain at the Illinois Youth Home, he has worked with couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, he has lead bible study groups, ministered to the sick in our area hospitals and performed countless baptisms, just to name a few. All while wearing a smile and a calm reassuring demeanor. Congratulations to Deacon Joe on being named Knight of the Month for October 2024. Thank you, Joe, for all your hard work and for your deep heart felt caring for our parish and our community.

Irma Conley and her Family as the Family of the Month—The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to recognize **Irma Conley and her Family as our Family of the Month for October 2024**. Irma has been playing the piano and organ for our parish for fifty years and her dedication to our Music Ministry was celebrated and recognized by Father Greg at the 10:00 AM mass on October 20. At the conclusion of Mass, **Father Greg** bestowed upon Irma a special blessing in the presence of Irma’s family and friends which packed all the pews near the choir. Irma’s example of ‘giving of oneself’ was clearly displayed at the mass when her family members brought the gifts up and read the first and second readings. It has been said: Your talent is God’s gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God. Thank you, Irma, for sharing your musical talents with our Music Ministry and with our parish. We hope you will continue to share your talents with us for a long time to come. Congratulations to Irma and her family for being recognized as our Knights of Columbus Family of the Month for October 2024.

St. Irene Women of Faith Complete Sale of Vocations Raffle tickets

The Women of Faith report \$1095 worth tickets sold (73 books of 15). Of the total, \$432 was sent to the Illinois State KC Council, the raffle sponsor, and \$663 was retained to fund Women of Faith vocation programs and Coats for kids.

Terese Wombold

Knights' Calendar

Nov. 1		All Saints Day
Nov. 2	9:00 AM	FMSC Food Packing Event—555 Exchange Ct. in Aurora
Nov. 3		Daylight Savings Time ends—set clocks back one hour
Nov. 9-10	All Masses	KC Membership Drive at St. Irene Church –hospitality follows
Nov. 11	5:00 PM	American Legion Spaghetti dinner
Nov. 13	7:00 PM	Bishop Blanchette Assembly meeting—St. Joan of Arc, Lisle
Nov. 14	7:00 PM	Council business meeting—St. Irene Activities Center
Nov. 23	8:00 AM	Christmas decorations on church grounds
Nov. 28		Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 1		Advent Begins
Dec. 8	All Masses	St. Irene Pancake breakfast in the ACL—volunteer knights to serve
Dec. 12	7:00 PM	Council business meeting—Cupertino Home, Warren Ave., Warrenville
Dec. 25		Christmas Day



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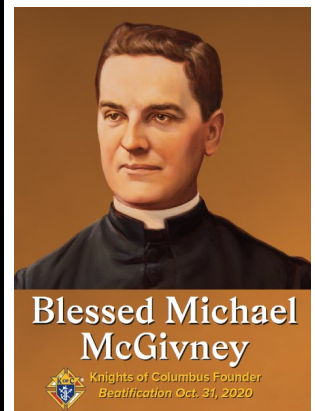
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November Birthdays

Scott Pointner	Nov. 1	Burton Minor	Nov. 19
Leora Mowbray	Nov. 5	Christopher Neigel	Nov. 20
Joan Ernst	Nov. 7	Cathi Zoran	Nov. 20
Christopher Hanson	Nov. 8	Ray Geinosky	Nov. 21
John Markendorf	Nov. 9	Sandi Gorski	Nov. 22
Beverly Murphy	Nov. 9	Patrick Lawinger	Nov. 23
Helen McQuaid	Nov. 13	David Cirock	Nov. 24
Charles Burchett	Nov. 14	Carole Tadavich	Nov. 26
Angelita (Lita) Yusi	Nov. 14	Patrick O'Connor	Nov. 27
Thomas Perez	Nov. 15	Carolyn Vitale	Nov. 30
Gary Polkow	Nov. 15		



November Wedding Anniversaries

Joseph & Patti Eganhouse	Nov. 10	Nick & Elizabeth Battaglia	Nov. 26
James & Deborah Smithy	Nov. 17	Stuart & Bobbi Aschauer	Nov. 29
George & Mary Kosmach	Nov. 25		

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