



knights of st. irene

Vol. 34 No. 8
February, 2025

Council 6710
Warrenville, IL



Feb. 2—Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee Competition

All Warrenville girls and boys grades 5 through 8 are invited to participate in the St. Irene Knights of Columbus

Spelling Bee.

The Bee will be held on Sunday, February 2, at 11:30 AM, at the St. Irene School, Mobile Classroom #2.

Winners will be invited to advance to a Regional Competition. A parent or guardian will need to sign an entry form which will be available at the beginning of the contest. Please tell your family members and friends about this worthwhile event. Question can be directed to **Chairman Tom Nemo** at 630 808 1900, or at tejn74@yahoo.com.



Feb. 9, 2025—29th KC Super Bowl Raffle & Party

You are once again invited to participate in the annual Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle to be held on Feb. 9, 2025 during the Super Bowl game. The Raffle is a major fundraiser for the St. Irene Knights of Columbus

Council. It is a 50-50 cash raffle with half of the proceeds awarded to participants, and the other half retained by the Council to be used for programs that benefit the St. Irene's Parish, school scholarships, and community outreach programs.

Two early bird drawings have been made on Jan. 12 winner was **Mary Ann Palma**, and on Jan. 26 the second winner was **Mark Nagode**. One more drawing will occur after the Sunday 10:00 AM Mass on Feb.2. Early bird raffle winners remain eligible for drawings on Super Bowl Sunday.

Tickets are going fast! All three pools were sold out last year. They are on sale at St. Irene Masses through Feb. 9. Download a ticket order form from this link: [2025 Super Bowl Raffle Tickets](#). Follow the directions on how to return your payment and tickets. You may also contact **PGK James Halama** at jrhalama@comcast.net or at 630-433-6240.



Feb. 22—St. Irene Chili Cook-Off

The St. Irene Chili-Cook Off will be held on Feb. 22 after the 4:30 PM Mass in The St. Irene

Activities Center. This ever popular event is a major social event bringing the Warrenville Community together!

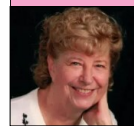
Our Council has offered its support by becoming a \$250 sponsor. The committee is still looking for contestants featuring their famous chili. Donations for auction and prizes are also needed. If you have any questions regarding donations, sponsorships, volunteering, or being a contestant, please contact **Chairman Jeff Schmitz** at leschmitz1@comcast.net.



Deacon Bob True Passes to Eternal Life Jan. 14

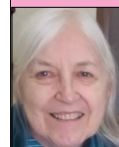
The Knights of Columbus express our deepest condolences to the Family of **Deacon Bob True**. Deacon Bob was born in 1927 in Augusta, Maine, an Army Veteran, and longtime resident of Elmhurst, IL.

Maryann and Bob entered into Sacred Matrimony on September 30, 1950, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, South Bend, IN. Over the next two decades they welcomed Gregory, Christopher, Timothy, Douglas, Jonathan, Steven, and Jennifer into their hearts and into their home. On April 7, 1977, he was ordained to the diaconate where he served at Visitation Parish in Elmhurst and St. Irene Parish Warrenville. He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1957 (68 years as a Knight) and became a 4th degree Knight in 1998.



Jane Egert Passes to Eternal Life Jan. 13

Jane (89) moved to Warrenville in 1958 with her husband **James**. **James Egert** was the **Charter Grand Knight** of our Council serving from 1975-1977. Jane has remained in Warrenville and St. Irene Parishioner until her death.



Patricia Wehner Passes to Eternal Life Jan. 17

Pat (85) was a resident of Warrenville and St. Irene Parishioner since 1975. Her husband **Joe Wehner** (deceased in 2016) was a member of the St. Irene Knights of Columbus.

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Council Business Meeting Feb. 13, 7:00 PM

The meeting will be held in the St. Irene Activities Center Lower Level.

Please welcome our newest member **James Sugrue**, who was brought in by **GK Pat McGowan**.



Feb. 7—First Friday Holy Hour

On the evening before his Passion and Death, Jesus asked his sleepy apostles to pray quietly with him in the Garden of Gethsemone, “Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?”

On Feb. 7 at 7:00 PM we will celebrate our First Friday Holy Hour with Exposition of Holy Eucharist and Dedication. For those who would like to extend the Hour, the parish Rosary Group will pray the rosary at 6:30 PM.



Fourth Degree Assembly 3044 News

Feb. 12—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton, 2220 Lisson Rd., Naperville. The Rosary begins at 6:30 PM. Fraternity begins at 7:00 PM, with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:45 PM.



Membership Drive Ever Present! We cannot let up.

Ask the man next to you at Mass. You will be surprised when he responds by saying no one has asked me before!

Urge prospects to join electronically. The QR code shown here with the KC insignia at its center can be used. The web page requests your name, contact information, parish name, and Council number: 6710. A notice will be sent to the Grand Knight and financial Secretary.

A council Trifold of our activities can be found [here](#). There are no fees or dues required to join.

Mar. 1—Fourth Degree Exemplification

The Fourth Degree is the patriotic degree that reminds us of our duty to God and country.

The next Exemplification of the Fourth Degree will be held on Sat., March 1, 2025 at Jacob Henry Mansion Estate Old Central Church, Joliet, IL.

To qualify you must be at least 18, citizen of country you reside, be a practical Catholic in union with the Holy See, and a 3rd Degree member in good standing. There is no wait period after the 3rd to become eligible.

The deadline for candidate’s application Form 4 is Sat., Feb. 15. The initiation fee is \$90 which includes a banquet ticket. Sir Knights, Ladies, and guest banquet ticket is \$50. [Download a fillable Form 4 here](#). You may give the form to **Council 4th Degree Captain Ken DiIulio** to send it in. [Download the exemplification Packet here](#) to receive further instructions and attire requirements.



Pray for Our Loved Ones

Pray for the health & recovery of **Ken DiIulio, Bill Hughes, Alan Jarasius, Rachel Jarasius, George LaRocco, Rosemary Maher, Andrea Olson Martin, Tyler O’Malley, Rich Planek, Beverly Scott, Mary Ann True, and Fr. Gerald Riva.**

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 DiIulio (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 DiIulio (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

Is it just me, or did January feel like it was at least 100 days long?

So much of the month was dark, bitterly cold, and quiet after the buzz of our Christmas and New Year holiday gatherings. But now, as the days are a tiny bit longer, with the occasional creep into the 40-degree marks, we have hope that maybe spring is just around the corner.

That can sometimes be like our faith life. When the days seem endless, there's no bright spots to light our way. It's easy to get discouraged and disillusioned. But the light is always there, even when it feels far away.

Connecting with each other is a great way to spread that light. I've always loved the candle-lighting at the late Mass on Christmas eve, where we see one tiny flame connect with another, then another, and soon the whole church is ablaze with light. One candle doesn't light everyone else's by itself -- we all have a role in sharing the light and spreading it around.

Hope to see everyone at the Super Bowl party and Chili Cook Off this month!

**Vivat Jesus,
Patrick McGowan**



Mar. 1—KC/VFW/Blood Drive

The next blood drive will be held from 7:30 AM—Noon at St. Irene's. You may register in advance at the [Versiti of Illinois web page](#).

Walk-ins are also accepted.



Youth Free throw Competition Held in the St. Irene Gym on Jan. 25

The St. Irene Council 6710 Knights of Columbus held its Youth Basketball Free Throw Contest on Sat. Jan. 25 in the St. Irene Gym. Thirteen boys and girls ages 9 to 14 competed by shooting fifteen free throw shots. It was an entertaining and exciting day for the contestants, their parents, and the volunteers who ran the event.

One boy, Caden, made fourteen baskets out of fifteen. An outstanding display of free throw shooting. One girl, Payton, made ten baskets out of fifteen. Another example of outstanding free throw shooting. The winners of this competition were invited to participate in the District Free Throw Championship, which will be held on Saturday morning, Feb. 15 in the St. Irene Gym.

A big thanks goes to Brother Knights PGK Marc Alleruzzo, PGK Mike Bates, PGK Ken DiIulio, Bob Heipp, PGK Kevin Looby, Jim McDermott, John Mullenfeld, Tom Nemo, Patrick O'Connor, and PGK Erich Pavel for helping to run the event. A special thanks to Sandra Decker and Connie Dyas for their expert registration and record keeping responsibilities.

**Tom Nemo
Chairman**

ProLife



The [AFA Resource Center](#) is a marketplace for the supporters of AFA to find ministry-related resources and educational material as well as family based entertainment. In keeping with the mission statement of AFA, the Resource Center seeks to be the source that will inform, equip, and activate our supporters to strengthen the moral foundations of the American culture and give aid to the church here and abroad in its task of fulfilling the Great commission. To learn more about American Family Association, visit [afa.net](#).

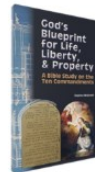
Featured Products:

Pro-Life Sweatshirt



Our new pro-life sweatshirt is a must have for any age! "Jeremiah 1:5" is across the chest to remind you of life! The sweatshirt is available in multiple colors.

God's Blueprint for Life, Liberty, & Property: A Bible Study on the Ten Commandments



This Bible study will guide you through the prohibitive nature of the Ten Commandments, the rights rooted in those commands, and their application in civil society.

**Jack Gorski
ProLife Chairman**



Help Our Neighborhood Pantry

Our Neighborhood Pantry serves all of Warrenville.

Drop donations off at 29W260 Batavia Road, on Tuesdays 11:00-1:00pm or Sundays 1:00-3:00pm.

If you would like to volunteer for 2 hours on a regular basis, please contact Bill France at france74usma@yahoo.com. Thank you!



Support our American Legion

Spaghetti Night—Feb. 10

The Monday spaghetti dinner serving from 5:00—7:30 PM.

Burger Night—Feb. 25

Serving hamburgers & bratwurst from 5:00—8:00 PM.



St. Irene Council 6710 to Celebrate 50 Years

The St. Irene Council was chartered July 4, 1975. Thirty-two members joined to form the Council. **Rev. Charles Van Duren** served as it's first Chaplain, and **James Egert** served as the first Grand Knight.

We looking for ideas on how to celebrate. Should we have recognition at a special Mass, recognition in the community, recognition banquet? Please tell GK Pat McGowan or Financial Secretary James Halama of your ideas.

Charter Members

Philip Adler	Keith Lambert
Ron Aidikonis	Paul Lindsey
Harlan Beaty	Michael McGuire
Frank Bernard	Lou Mendicino
John Bockmier	Edward Miller
Harold Bollweg	Ted Reittenbach
Ed Callahan, Sr.	Lanson Robinson
Ed Callahan, Jr.	John Schmidt
Reed Callahan	Fred Sierakowski
Wayne Decker	Bob slumpenhorst
Michael DiGiovani	E.A. Stark
James Egert	Dean Tierney
Ralph Fontana	James Taxinger
Jerome Heckman	Rev. Charles Van Duren
D.L. Kempf	Tom Vuomo
George Knell	Walter Wheeler
Paul Kramer	

Grand Knights

Patrick McGowan	2024-	Marc Alleruzzo	1994-1997
Marc Alleruzzo	2022-2024	Steve Berning	1992-1994
Mike Bates	2019-2022	Steve Pyszka	1990-1992
Tom Perez	2016-2019	Erich Pavel	1988-1990
Ken DiIulio	2014-2016	Tom LaRocco	1987-1988
Glen Kussman	2012-2014	Vince Henrichs	1985-1987
Kevin Looby	2010-2012	Reed Callahan	1984-1985
Ray Scott	2007-2010	Ed Miller	1982-1984
Robert Rauko	2005-2007	James Baird	1980-1982
Jim Bartz	2003-2005	Wayne Decker	1978-1980
Mark Spiotta	2001-2003	Ed Miller	1977-1978
Jack Gorski	1999-2001	James Egert	1975-1977
James Halama	1997-1999		

Program Awards for January 2025



Scott Pointner Knight of the Month

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to recognize **Scott Pointner** as our Knight of the Month for January 2025. Scott has been a member of our Council since 2012, and during this time he has assisted in several roles. Scott has also served our parish as a lecturer for several years. Scott is a dedicated family man and he adorns his wife and daughters. Although Scott is actively involved in our parish, he always appeared to be searching for something more. Scott recently found what was missing when he said, Yes to Jesus's call to become a Deacon. Scott entered the seminary and is actively involved in the five-and-a-half-year formation process. This is quite an under taking and one that no man enters into lightly, for it requires countless hours of study, self-determination, and a clear conscious examination of one's own self down to the core of one's own being. As we enter into this New Year our Council wants to let Scott know that we appreciate what he is going through for us and our parish. We want him to know that we stand by him to encourage him to continue going forward on those hard days, keeping in mind that good days will be right around the corner.



Ann and Matthew Rychel as the Family of the Month

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 have named the **Ann and Matthew Rychel** family as our Knight of Columbus Family of the Month for January 2025. This young vibrant family serves as a bright new beacon of light in our St. Irene parish community. They set an example for other young families that just because you have young children it doesn't mean you can't be involved in your church. Ann sings in the choir every Sunday at 8:00 AM Mass, not 10:00 AM, but 8:00 AM, which means getting up early and getting their two very young children ready for church. Their children are always dressed in their Sunday best, and they listen studiously to Matthew's direction who is seated next to the choir. On special occasions Matthew helps out the choir by masterfully ringing the choir bells, while other family members watch their two children. By their active involvement Ann and Matthew are setting an excellent example for their children who will no doubt be engaged in some aspect of the mass in the near future. Our Council's hats go off to Ann and Mathew and their children, because active involvement from the younger generation of families is the life blood of our church.



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. 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). Please write Newman Fund, Council number (6710 for St. Irene's) and your Membership number on the memo section of your check.

Knights' Calendar

Feb. 2	11:00 AM	Third early draw for KC Super Bowl Raffle
Feb. 2	11:30 AM	KC Spelling Bee Competition—St. Irene’s School Mobile Classroom #2
Feb. 7	7:00 PM	First Friday Holy Hour—St. Irene Church
Feb. 9	4:00 PM	KC Super Bowl Party & Raffle—St. Irene's Activities Center
Feb. 10	5:30 PM	American Legion Spaghetti Dinner—VFW Hall Warrenville
Feb. 12	7:00 PM	Blanchette Assembly Fourth Degree meeting—Elizabeth Seton, Naperville
Feb. 13	7:00 PM	Council Business meeting—St. Irene Activities Center
Feb. 14		Happy Valentines Day
Feb. 15		4th Degree Form 4 applications due
Feb. 22	6:00 PM	St. Irene Chili Cookoff—St. Irene Activities Center
Feb. 25	5:30 PM	American Legion Burger Night—VFW Hall, Warrenville
Mar. 1	7:30 AM	KC/VFW Blood Drive—St. Irene Activities Center
Mar. 1	10:00 AM	Fourth Degree Exemplification -Jacob Henry Mansion Estate, Joliet
Mar. 5		Ash Wednesday
Mar. 13	7:00 PM	Council Business meeting—St. Irene Activities Center
Mar. 20		First Day of Spring
Mar. 29		Knights of Columbus Founders Day—Mar. 29, 1882



Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
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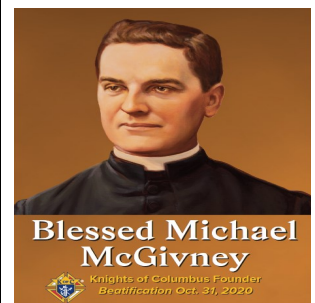
The Knights of Columbus offers a complete portfolio of top-quality products to our members and their eligi-

ble family members.

- [Permanent Life Insurance](#) – *Insure Your 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*

February Birthdays

Timothy McGowan	Feb. 2	Mary Ann Lawinger	Feb. 17
Thomas Nemo	Feb. 2	Susan Battaglia	Feb. 18
Mark Spiotta	Feb. 7	Steve Berning	Feb. 21
John Huttenhoff	Feb. 8	Karen Rurka	Feb. 24
Richard Planek	Feb. 9	Richard Kostner	Feb. 25
John Dichtl	Feb. 10	Mary Wombold	Feb. 25
William Mitchell	Feb. 14	Janet Sherman	Feb. 26
Kenneth DiIulio	Feb. 17	James Aderhold	Feb. 27



February Wedding Anniversaries

William & Susan Constable	Feb. 2	Daniel & Karen Leonard	Feb. 24
Robert & Kim Ladeur	Feb. 3	Andrew & Jeannie Dina	Feb. 25
Dominic & Diane Lynch	Feb. 12		

*** 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.

