



knights of st. irene

**Vol. 34 No. 10
April, 2025**

**Council 6710
Warrenville, IL**



Apr. 5-6 & 12-13—Bread-Tag, Key, & Soda Tab Collection Drive

The St. Irene Knights of Columbus are again partnering with SCARCE, a local environmental education group, to collect bread tags for the "[Danielle Cares for Chairs](#)" charity. Started by a 17-year-old high schooler, this non-profit organization collects and recycles bread tags to acquire wheelchairs and mobility assistance devices for those in need. Tags can be dropped off at the church entrance collection box on these two weekends of April 5 and 12.



Additionally, we will be collecting old, unused keys of all types for recycling for the [Keys for Conservation](#) program. Tags and keys can be put in the same collection receptacle.



Finally, we will be collecting pull tabs or pop tops from soda cans to benefit Ronald McDonald House.

If you need further information, contact Joe at jdrk4715@aol.com. Thank you for your support!

Joe Kubal



Apr. 26—Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

It's time to clean up the trash along the roadside of Butterfield Rd. between Batavia Rd. to Hwy 59, and west to the City boundary. Plan to meet in the parking lot of the old MB Bank at 9:00 AM. Bring a sturdy pair of shoes and work gloves. For information, please contact **PGK Bob Rauko** at 630-337-1568.



May 18— Scholarship Applications Due

We are pleased to announce that up to two \$1000 scholarships are available to benefit students attending a Catholic High School or College for enrollment this Fall. Eligible students must be affiliated with the St. Irene Parish community as a registered parishioner, member of a registered family, or son, daughter, grandchild of a registered family. Students who had attended St. Irene Grade School in the past are also eligible. Prior winners of this scholarship are not eligible.

The scholarship applications are available online: [High School](#), [College](#) Upon request by email, I will send the corresponding application to you. Completed applications must be sent by email by Friday, May 18 to jrhala-ma@comcast.net.

This year the scholarships will be awarded in honor of deceased **Brother Knights Deacon Bob True and Sam Vitale**.



April 13—Special Camps Easter Party

Special Camps and Knights of Columbus Councils of Warrenville, Winfield and West Chicago will be hosting the annual Easter Party for Special Citizens at the DuPage County Fair Grounds on Palm Sunday Apr. 13 starting at 12:00 Noon.

The Knights will cook and provide a nice luncheon with burgers, brats and a taco bar. There will also be the Easter Bunny, Easter egg hunt, crafts, hayrides, face painting, games, and a petting zoo.

Our Council also has been asked to provide pop, water, and desserts. Our Council, thanks to **Chuck Ingram**, will be offering the hayrides. We encourage as many as our Brother Knights to participate with the events. Certainly bring your family. Arrive at least a half-hour early by 11:30 AM. The events are scheduled to run until 3:00 PM.



**Special Olympics
Illinois**

May 3-4—Special Olympics Spring Games at Marmion Academy, Aurora— Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Special Olympics Spring Games on Sat. & Sun. May 3 & 4 at Marion Academy. A group representing St. Irene Knights of Columbus would be appreciated by the Special Olympics and be a great gesture of support from our Council.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact **Tom Nemo** at 630-808-1900 (text or call), or by e-mail at tejn74@yahoo.com. Thank you, and hope you will participate in this worthwhile event.

Tom Nemo

What's Inside

Holy Thursday Honor Guard.....	Pg 2
Maintenance of City Signs.....	Pg 3
Eyeglass Drive.....	Pg3
Council Chairty Goals.....	Pg 5
Activity Chairman Needs.....	Pg 5



Council Business Meeting Apr. 10, 7:00 PM

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



Fourth Degree

Apr. 9—The next Assembly 3044 meeting will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle, Naperville. The Rosary begins at 6:30 PM. Fraternity begins at 7:00 PM, with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:45 PM.

Apr. 17—**Honor Guard Needed for Holy Thursday**—Fourth Degree Sir Knights are requested to participate in the Honor Guard at the Holy Thursday Mass and Eucharistic Adoration following the Mass. Sir Knights who have the current uniform are especially urged to participate. Fourth Degree Knights who do not have the new uniform, please come dressed in a dark suit/tuxedo and social baldric. Contact **James Halama** at 630-433-6240 for further information.

Sir Knights! It is not too late to order your uniform. It takes about 1 week after placing your order.



Pray for Our Loved Ones

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

Lent and Easter Schedule

Lenten Soup Supper - Fridays during Lent 6:00pm
Stations of the Cross - Fridays during Lent 7:00pm

- ◆ **April 4** - First Friday Eucharistic Holy Hour
- ◆ **April 11** - A Sinner's Stations of the Cross

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - Saturday, April 12, 11:00am with Hospitality to follow

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 12, 1:00PM

Palm Sunday Vigil - Saturday, April 12

- ◆ **3:30pm Reconciliation**
- ◆ **4:30pm Mass**

Palm Sunday - April 13

- ◆ **8:00am Mass**
- ◆ **10:00am Mass**
- ◆ **11:45am Palm Sunday Ecumenical Procession**

Holy Thursday - April 17

- ◆ **Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00pm**
- ◆ **Eucharistic Procession after Mass**
- ◆ **Altar of Repose until Midnight in the Church Chapel**

Good Friday - April 18

- ◆ **Individual Confessions: 12:00pm**
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: 3:00pm**

Holy Saturday - April 19

- ◆ **Easter Basket Blessing: 12:00pm**
- ◆ **Easter Vigil Mass: 8:00pm**

Easter Sunday - April 20

- ◆ **8:00am Mass**
- ◆ **10:00am Mass**

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!

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

<p>Chaplain Grand Knight Dep. Grand Knight Financial Sec. Treasurer Chancellor Recorder Advocate Warden Inside Guard Outside Guard Lecturer 3rd Yr. Trustee 2nd Yr. Trustee 1st Yr. Trustee Insurance Agent District Deputy</p>	<p>Council Officers 2024-2025 Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs (630-621-6730) Patrick McGowan (630-863-8708) Paul Burgermeister (630-877-1574) James Halama (630-433-6240) Mark Spiotta (847-980-2461) Tom Nemo (630-808-1900) Bob Rauko (630-337-1568) Joshua Bates (630-836-0223) Patrick O'Connor James McDermott Joe Kubal (630-470-3807) Jeffrey Schmitz (630-917-2002) Michael Bates (630-836-0223) Ken DiJulio (630-747-3673) Erich Pavel (630-817-2919) Matthew Kling (630-485-8705) Bruce Klecker (630-995-0764)</p>	<p>Business Meetings: 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM Meeting Location: St. Irene Activities Center</p>	<p>Committee Directors Program Director Paul Burgermeister (630-877-1574) Membership Director Jeffrey Schmitz (630-917-2002) Community Director Bob Rauko (630-337-1568) Church Director Joe Urso (630-853-2070) Family Director Michael Bates (630-836-0223) Youth Director Tom Nemo (630-808-1900) Public Relations Director Joe Kubal (630-983-6159) Blood Drive Director Ken DiJulio (630-747-3673) Life Director Jack Gorski (630-393-4742) Vocations Support our Troops Kevin Looby (630-329-1316)</p>
--	--	---	--

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

As we enter the month of April, we celebrate the joy of Easter and the promise of new life. The Resurrection reminds us of renewal, hope, and the strength we find in our faith. Similarly, with the change in seasons, we witness the world around us coming back to life—the days grow longer, the weather

warms, and opportunities to serve and gather as a council continue to grow.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the dedicated volunteers in our Council. Your hard work at our events, your commitment to charity, and your willingness to serve truly embody the principles of the K of C. Whether it's organizing events, supporting parish activities, or lending a hand where needed, your efforts do not go unnoticed. Thank you for all that you do.

At the same time, I encourage those who may not have been as active recently to take that first step and re-engage with our Council. A great way to start is by attending our next meeting April 10. Come, reconnect with your Brother Knights, learn about upcoming events, and consider signing up to help. There's a place for everyone, and your involvement—no matter how big or small—makes a difference.

Let's move forward together this season with the same spirit of renewal that Easter brings. I look forward to seeing many of you at our next meeting and working alongside you in service. May God bless you and your families this Easter season.

**Vivat Jesus,
Patrick McGowan**

ProLife Illinois March For Life Held Mar. 25



Many Pro-Life speeches took place, in front of our Illinois State Capital building. Among the speakers were former Illinois state representative and gubernatorial candidate Jeanne Ives and Bishop Paprocki of the Springfield Roman Catholic Diocese.



**Jack Gorski
ProLife
Chairman**



May 10—Maintenance of City Signs

The Council will again take on the task of maintaining perennial plantings surrounding the "Welcome to Warrenville" signs.

We will meet in the parking lot at the corner of Butterfield & Batavia Rds. at 9:00 AM.

Please consider participating in this community program during the summer. Subsequent scheduled dates are as follows (all Saturdays at 9:00 AM): **June 13, July 12 Aug. 9, and Sept. 13.** Bring a spade, shoe, shears or other piece of gardening equipment you find useful. Contact **PGK James Halama** at 630-433-6240 for more information.



Support our American Legion

Spaghetti Night—Apr. 14

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

Burger Night—Apr. 23

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

WALK TO MARY

United in Step from Shrine to Shrine

May 3—Walk to Mary Pilgrimage

The 12th Anniversary Walk to Mary pilgrimage will take place on Saturday, May 3 this year, near Green Bay, Wisconsin. The pilgrimage hike starts at several locations in the area to accommodate walkers of various abilities and ends at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin, America's only church-approved Marian apparition site. At the walk on Saturday, Confession will be offered as well as numerous Masses at participating churches along the route. On Sunday, May 3, the Shrine will host a May Crowning of Mary ceremony. Information and registration can be found at <https://walktomary.com/>

May Knights of Columbus Eyeglass Drive

On the weekends of May 24 & 31, please donate your old or unwanted eyeglasses and drop them off in the collection box at the back of the church. Eyeglasses will be forwarded to the Lions Club International.

Council Makes \$100 donation to Women of Faith for Easter candy.



Program Awards for Fraternal Year

Dominic Lynch Knight of the Year—

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 has named **Dominic Lynch as our Council's Knight of the Year for 2024**. Dominic became a member of our Council in 2023, and instantly became involved in many council activities such as our biannual Butterfield Road Clean Up Campaign and the installation and removal of our church's Christmas lights, just to mention a few. Dominic did not stop there however; he volunteered to be the Chairman of our annual Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive. Dominic did a phenomenal job heading up this endeavor where he showed his leadership abilities by properly allocating his man power to strategic locations within our city. He also tapped every available resource to market this event including advertising the event on our city's marquee sign located at Butterfield and Batavia Roads. Dominic put in an inordinate amount of time and effort into this event which proved to be a record-breaking year. Our hats go off to Dominic for jumping into one of the most notable Knights of Columbus fund raising activities and absolutely nailing it!

Tom & Lorraine Nemo Family of the Year—

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 has named **Tom and Lorraine Nemo as our Council's Family of the Year for 2024**. Tom has only recently joined our Council in 2023 and he is already serving as our Chancellor. Tom has filled in and assisted in many of our Council's activities from our pancake breakfast to our Butterfield Road Clean Up Campaign to everything in between. "I'm sorry I can't" is not in Tom's vocabulary. Tom is always ready willing to help and when our Basketball Free Throw Contest needed a new chairman, Tom not only volunteer for the position, he revitalized the event with new ideas and marketed the event all thru out our city, making the event a huge success. Tom also helps out his wife Lorraine who is extremely active and passionate about her role with the Feed My Starving Children Organization. Lorraine is an articulate spokesperson for the organization and she provides an informative presentation to different groups and organizations on just what Feed My Starving Children is all about. Our Council would like to extend to Tom and Lorraine our most sincere Thank You! for all that you do for our Council and our community.

Program Awards for March 2025

Deacon Bob True Knight of the Month—

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to honor the memory of Sir **Knight Deacon Robert True**, who recently passed away into eternal life as our Knight of the Month for March 2025. Bob will be sorely missed by our Council, our Church, and our Warrentville community and beyond. Bob will always be remembered for his caring smile and his confident but quiet, calming voice. Bob always made himself available to those who needed his assistance and he was one of the most approachable persons who could answer any question on a variety of topics off the top of his head. Bob was a leader who led by the way that he held himself. His outward professional demeanor and uncompromising integrity gleamed through Bob even though he never put himself first. He is definitely an icon who proudly served our St. Irene's community selflessly and without reservation, and he will never be forgotten.

Family of Deacon Bob & Maryann True as the Family of the Month—

The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to recognize the inordinate years of service and complete dedication to St. Irene's church by **Deacon Robert True and his wife Maryann**, in accordance with our Family of the Month for March 2025. Bob and Maryann served St. Irene's with unsurpassed energy and a never-ending smile. Over the years Bob and Maryann were involved in every aspect of our church in some form or another. Maryann was an active member with our past Ladies Auxiliary and she was named Woman of the Year by the Council of Catholic Woman, while Bob was very active with the People's Resource Center Food Pantry in Wheaton. Besides Bob and Maryann's countless hours of service to our church they always managed to reserve time for their yearly missionary work at The Casa De Los Angeles. They were also active supporters of the Mexican Christian Day Care Center where they raised money and provided help to children. Although Bob has passed into eternal life his example of selfless giving continues on. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the True family and we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Bob and Maryann for their legendary service to our St. Irene Parish and all the lives that they not only touched but enhanced for the greater good over countless years.



Council Hosted Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross—Mar. 28

We prepared and served the soup and bread for about 20 hungry patrons. Thanks to **Deacon Joe Urso**,

PGK James Halama, Joe Kubal, and Jeff Schmitz bringing the soup. **GK Pat McGowan and Teri Lindeman** brought a selection of breads. Also helping were **DGK Paul & Peggy Burgermeister, Patrick O'Connor, and PGK Erich Pavel**.

Chairmen Needed to Conduct Council Outreach Programs

We, our Council, is looking for members who are wanting have more active participation in Council programs. Please contact **GK Pat McGowan** of your interest. These programs were designed by **Joe Kubal** and he has provided a detailed manual for each program for someone to follow. The programs that need attention and direction are:

- **Feed the Need Food Packing Event**—The program is typically held each March at Benedictine University, Naperville. The Food Packing event is sponsored Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) and provides food for needy children internationally.
- **Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event**—The event is typically held each November. The purpose is helping to feed children internationally and at home by packing food at the Aurora facility located at 555 Exchange Avenue although there are other centers available.
- **March for Kids Donation Drive**—The program is typically held each March. The purpose is to support the Mission of Mercy Home for Boys and Girls in providing a haven for abused youth. Donations are solicited at St. Irene Church during a weekend of Masses.
- **Bread Tag/Key/Poptop Tabs**—This is a semi-annual Collection Drive typically held in February and July each year—The drive is in support of Danielle Cares for Chairs who provides wheelchairs to the needy through bread tags, SCARCE, a local environmental resource center through keys and works in collaboration with Danielle Cares for Chairs, and Ronald McDonald House through pop-top tabs. Collection receptacles are placed in the church.
- **KofC/Lions Club Annual Eyeglass Drive**—This drive is an annual drive typically held in May. The purpose is to support visually impaired individuals through a joint endeavor between the Knights and Lions Club International. Collection receptacles are placed in church during the period of the drive.
- **Share Your Soles Shoe Collection Drive**—The drive is annual held each October and into November. The is to collect shoes in support of Share Your Soles Foundation who provides gently worn shoes to the needy both locally and internationally. Collection vessels are placed in the church during the period of the drive. There is also an ongoing drive at two locations in Warrenville outside of the parish.



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 are 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**, **PGK Kevin Looby**, or **Financial Secretary James Halama** of your ideas.

Council Meets 2025 Illinois State Council Charity Goals

Charity Fund	Goal	Contribution
Tootsie Roll ID Drive	\$7534	\$10238
Newman	\$470	\$470
Respect Life	\$103	\$103
Vocations	\$235	\$442
General Assistance	\$103	\$103



Food Packing Event Help Mar. 8-9

Thanks to all those that participated in the 2025 Feed My Starving Children "Feed the Need" food packing event held at Benedictine University this year on the weekend of March 8-9.. Nearly 3,000 volunteers assisted in packing over 800,000 individual meals. The food is being sent to the countries of Liberia and Zambia. Even though the drive was very successful, the 2025 event needs to raise \$233,000 to cover the cost of the meals. \$126,681 is still needed. The easiest way for individuals or groups to donate is through: feedtheneedilinois.org. Click on "donate". Each donation counts! If checks are sent, the memo should state the MobilePack #: MP-2503-011SC, also on the Feed The Need home page. We are anticipating participation in the event again next year and hope that you may be able to join us in 2026. Again, many thanks.



Mar. 1—13 Pints Blood Collected at KC/VFW Blood Drive

The drive was held at St. Irene Activities Center. Those who helped were **PGK Ken DiIulio**, **PGK Bob Rauko**, and **Patrick O'Connor**.



Mar. 15-16—Mercy Home Fund Drive

With a donation of \$100 from our own St. Irene Knights of Columbus Council, a total of \$602 was raised for Mercy Home for Boys and Girls in Chicago during the 2025 "March for Kids" fund drive over the recent St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Knights' Calendar

Apr. 5-6 Apr. 12-13	All Masses	Spring Bread, Key Collection & Soda Tab Drive —St. Irene Church
Apr. 9	7:00 PM	Bishop Blanchette Assembly Meeting—St. Thomas the Apostle, Naperville
Apr. 10	7:00 PM	KC Council business meeting—St. Irene Activities Center
Apr. 13	10:00 AM	Special Camps Easter Party—DuPage County Fair Grounds
Apr. 14	5:00 PM	American Legion Spaghetti dinner—Warrenville VFW Hall
Apr. 17	7:00 PM	Holy Thursday Mass — KC Honor Guard needed
Apr. 20		Happy Easter!
Apr. 23	5:00 PM	American Legion Burger Night—Warrenville VFW Hall
Apr. 26	9:00 AM	Adopt-A-Highway cleanup—meet at corner of Batavia & Hwy 59
May 3		Walk to Mary—Champion, Wisconsin
May 3-4	9:00 AM	Special Olympic Spring Games—Marmian Academy, Aurora
May 8	7:00 PM	KC Council business meeting—St. Irene Activities Center
May 10	9:00 AM	Maintenance of City Signs flower beds—meet at Batavia and Butterfield
May 11		Mother's Day
May 24 & 31	All Masses	Eye glass collection on these weekends—St. Irene Church



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

- [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 from Illness and Injury*

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

April Birthdays

Patrick McGowan	April 4	Thomas Taylor	April 13
Bill Constable	April 5	Ellen Voegtle	April 14
Douglas Dillmann	April 5	Gloria Fello	April 16
Anthony Standifer	April 8	Ronald Zoran	April 16
Winston Rasmussen	April 9	Raymond Hoshell	April 18
Joan Geinosky	April 10	Debbie Ingram	April 22
Scott Hurley	April 13	Bradley Hentz	April 30



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

April Wedding Anniversaries

Jeffrey & Laurie Schmitz	April 10	Bradley & Julie Hentz	April 22
Vincent & Roxanne Morello	April 16	Burton & Judy Minor	April 27
William & Allison Looby	April 20	Michelle & Michael Horan	April 28
Michael & Sandy Larue	April 21	Jerry & Carole Kleinwachter	April 29

*** 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.