



knights of st. irene

Vol. 34 No. 11
May, 2025

Council 6710
Warrenville, IL



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 [jrhalama@comcast.net](mailto:jrh-alama@comcast.net).

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



May 20—Men's Knight Out With Fr. Greg

The Knights are having our annual men's night out on Tuesday, May 20 starting at 6:00 PM at Markito's Bar & Grill Family Restaurant, 3S071 Route 59.

This year we welcome **Father Greg**. This is a self-pay event for dinner and drinks. **No RSVP is necessary**. Please direct any questions to **Joe Kubal**, SMKubal0712@aol.com. Hope to see you there!



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
Special Olympics Chair



May Eyeglass Drive

In part, Mark 8:25 reads, "Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly." This neatly sums up for what the Knights of Columbus are striving in the 2025 St. Irene Eyeglass Drive.

Please bring and 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 local chapter for renovation and reuse by those in need. The collection box will be available on two weekends – that of **May 24-25 and May 31-June 1**.

Email Joe at jdrk4715@aol.com if you have questions.

Joe Kubal



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.

May 24—Warrenville in Bloom Planting Day

Knights are urged to volunteer to help plant flowers in the community on this morning. Meet at the Warrenville Gazebo at 9:00 AM. For questions contact **PGK James Halama** at 630-433-6240.

What's Inside

Membership information.....Pg 2
Right to Life Dinner.....Pg 3
American Legion Burger night.....Pg 3
Activity Chairman Needs.....Pg 4
Calendar, birthdays, anniversaries Pg 5



Council Business Meeting May 8, 7:00 PM

The meeting will be held in the St. Irene Activities Center Lower Level. A slate of officers will be announced at this meeting. If you have an interest please contact **PGK James Halama** at 630-433-6240.



Membership Drive Ever Present! We cannot let up

We have recruited 7 new members. We need one more to reach our Goal

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.



Fourth Degree

May 14—The next Assembly 3044 meeting will be held at Thomas Mertin Council, Resurrection Parish, Wayne. The Rosary begins at 6:30 PM. Fraternity begins at 7:00 PM, with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:45 PM.

May 2—Honor Guard Needed for First Communion: 10:00 AM St. Irene Church.

May 3—Honor Guard for May Crowning with Woman of the Year Laurie Schmitz: 10:00 AM St. Irene Church.

May 21—Honor Guard need for Confirmation: 7:00 PM at St. Irene Church.

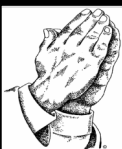
Thank you Sir Knights for providing an Honor Guard at Easter: **James Halama, Eric Pavel, Mike Bates, Kevin Looby and Bob Rauko.**



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.



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, Beverly Murphy, Paula Peterson, and Fr. Gerald Riva.**

Brother Knights—Please ask Knights, Families, Friends Neighbors to come to Mass. Fr. Greg will greatly appreciate it.

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

Council Officers 2024-2025	
Chaplain	Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs (630-621-6730)
Grand Knight	Patrick McGowan (630-863-8708)
Dep. Grand Knight	Paul Burgermeister (630-877-1574)
Financial Sec.	James Halama (630-433-6240)
Treasurer	Mark Spiotta (847-980-2461)
Chancellor	Tom Nemo (630-808-1900)
Recorder	Bob Rauko (630-337-1568)
Advocate	Joshua Bates (630-836-0223)
Warden	Patrick O'Connor
Inside Guard	James McDermott
Outside Guard	Joe Kubal (630-470-3807)
Lecturer	Jeffrey Schmitz (630-917-2002)
3rd Yr. Trustee	Michael Bates (630-836-0223)
2nd Yr. Trustee	Ken DiIulio (630-747-3673)
1st Yr. Trustee	Erich Pavel (630-817-2919)
Insurance Agent	Matthew Kling (630-485-8705)
District Deputy	Bruce Klecker (630-995-0764)

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

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 DiIulio (630-747-3673)
Life Director	Jack Gorski (630-393-4742)
Vocations	
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

As we enter the month of May, we are greeted with warmer days, blooming flowers, and the familiar signs of spring fully taking hold here in Chicago. It is a season of renewal and celebration—a perfect time to reflect on the many blessings in our lives and the good work we continue to do together.

This month, we honor the incredible women in our lives as we celebrate Mother's Day. Whether it be our mothers, wives, daughters, or the women in our parish and community, let us give thanks for their love, strength, and unwavering support. May we remember to lift them up not just on this special day, but throughout the year, as they are the heart of our families and communities.

Our Council also has much to celebrate. I am incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication of our Brother Knights. We are blessed with a team of men who show up, step up, and give back in meaningful ways—whether through parish initiatives, charity drives, or lending a hand to those in need. Your efforts truly make our mission come alive and make our community a better place for all.

As the Church looks ahead with prayers and anticipation during the search for a new pope, we too are reminded of the importance of reflection, discernment, and unity. Let us take a moment to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, both for the Church and in our own lives. I invite all of you—especially those who haven't been involved in a while—to come to our next meeting, reconnect, and join us in our shared mission of faith and service. There is always room for one more voice, one more pair of hands, one more willing heart.

Let us continue to move forward together with purpose, compassion, and fraternity.

**Vivat Jesus,
Patrick McGowan**



ProLife Annual Dinner May 15

This year, we'll be hosting a panel of experts to answer hard-hitting questions on the industry's playbook here in Illinois – including former abortionist Dr. Anthony Levatino, former Planned Parenthood Director Abby Johnson, and former Planned Parenthood employee and client Dr. Linda Couri!

Tickets are going fast for our 2025 Leaders for Life Annual Dinner – and the program we have planned is like nothing you've seen before! [Standard and VIP tickets](#) are available now.

As you know so well, this event isn't just a fundraiser. This annual dinner is an opportunity for us to bring together Illinois' pro-life movement. Here are the details:

Who: all of Illinois' pro-life movement

What: Illinois Right to Life's Annual Leaders for Life Dinner

Where: Drury Lane Theater and Events - 100 Drury Ln Oakbrook Terrace, IL

When: Thursday, May 15

VIP Cocktail Hour: 6 PM

Standard Cocktail Hour: 6 PM

Dinner & Program: 7 PM

We are so excited to host these incredible pro-life leaders (and more!) at this year's Leaders for Life Annual Dinner. It's going to be an amazing night!

Mary Kate Zander

President

Illinois Right to Life

**Jack Gorski
ProLife Chairman**



Knights Collected Garbage along Butterfield Rd. Apr 26.

It was beautiful day. Thanks to all who helped: **Mike Duquette, Cathy Kott, Ralph Dieter, Ronald Dieter, PGK Mike Bates, Tom Nemo, and PGK Bob Rauko.**

Spring Bread Tag/Key/Pop Top Collection Drive Report

We thank all those that participated in the Spring 2025 Bread Tag/Key/Pop-top Tab Collection Drive. As a result of your efforts, several hundred tags were again collected to help obtain wheelchairs and mobility assistance equipment. In addition, old keys were donated to assist SCARCE in their recycling and education efforts. New to the drive a collection of pop-top tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Please continue to save these items for another drive tentatively to be scheduled for September, 2025. Again, thank you and God bless!



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/>



Support our American Legion

Spaghetti Night—Not scheduled for the Summer months.

Burger Night—May 28

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

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.
- **Knights Men's Night Out**—This a social event held annually in May held at a local restaurant. A requirement is to invite our Pastor.

Program Awards for April 2025

Joe Kubal Knight of the Month—The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 recognizes **Joe Kubal** as our Knight of the Month for April 2025. Joe joined our Council in 1996 and has either started or volunteered to chair many of our Council activities such as: Neighborhood Food Pantry; he acts as our liaison for the nationwide annual walk to Our Lady of Champion, in Champion, Wisconsin as well as for our annual "March for Kids" which is a fundraiser for the Mercy Home for Boys and Girls in Chicago. This organization's mission is to help kids that were in bad situations and really need help in a variety of ways to put it mildly. We would be remised if we didn't mention Joe's involvement with: the Bread Tag and Key Drive, Share Your Soles, Eye Glass Drive, and the Feed My Starving Children campaign. All of these activities require the expenditure of a lot of time and effort which our Council recognizes and is very appreciative to Joe for all of his efforts over the years, which is insurmountable. Thank you, Joe, Sincerely! Our Council is actively looking for our members to take over and run some of these activities. Many of these activities come with a detailed instruction manual with contact information so you don't have to reinvent the wheel. If you are interested, please contact our **Grand Knight Patrick Mc Gowan** for further information. without reservation, and he will never be forgotten.

Family of Bob & Kim Ladeur as the Family of the Month—The Knights of Columbus Council #6710 would like to acknowledge **Bob and Kim La Deur** as our Family of the Month for Apri. 'Commitment' is the operative word when describing this family. From their marital commitment to each other of which they recently celebrated their anniversary, to Kim's years of commitment to St. Irene's School as a caring teacher and Athletic Director, to Bob's exemplary Law Enforcement career as Chief of Police for the City of Warrenville. Even the City of Warrenville acknowledged Bob's years of service and commitment which was engraved on a boulder in front of the Police Department which he proudly served. It is this display of commitment that resonates in their children all of which graduated from St. Irene. Over the years this couple has been involved in everything that our parish has to offer, including all the way back to the days of Outdoor Education, and they haven't stopped volunteering yet. Bob is actively involved in our Bridge Community and they both still donate their time at our Annual Chilli Cook Off. Our hats go off to Bob and Kim for all their years of service.



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

Check out www.fathersforgood

Knights' Calendar

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 14	7:00 PM	Bishop Blanchette Assembly meeting—Thomas Mertin Council, Wayne
May 11		Mother's Day
May 15	6:00 PM	Illinois Right to Life annual dinner—see page 3 to RSVP
May 18		Scholarship Application due—email to jrhalama@comcast.net
May 20	6:00 PM	Knights out with Fr. Greg —Markitos Restaurant, Warrenville
May 24	9:00 AM	Warrenville in Bloom Volunteer Planting Day—Gazebo, Warrenville
May 24 & 31	All Masses	Eye glass collection on these weekends—St. Irene Church
June 12	7:00 PM	KC Council business meeting; officer elections—St. Irene Activities Center
June 21	7:00 AM	KC/VFW Blood Drive—VFW Hall, Warrenville
June 29	7:00 PM	KC Council Officer installation—tentative
July 3-4		KC Food Concession—Cerny Park, Warrenville



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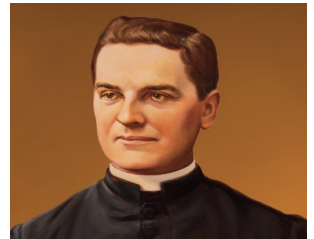
Knights of Columbus Insurance

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*
- Term Life Insurance – *Affordable Protection for Temporary Needs*

May Birthdays

Colleen Brummel	May 2	Peggy Burgermeister	May 17
Charles Ingram	May 2	Steven Pyszka	May 19
Mary Geary	May 3	Julie Duquette	May 20
Amber Mitchell	May 6	Karen Ernst	May 20
Yvonne Stevens	May 7	Margaret Doucette	May 23
Alan Jarasius	May 14	Daniel Leonard	May 21
Marcello Alleruzzo	May 15	Colin Wilkie	May 28
Kelley Higgins	May 16	Matthew Kilroy	May 29
Allison Looby	May 16	Maggie Nagode	May 29
Stephen Brummel	May 17	Donna Janiec	May 31



Blessed Michael McGivney

Knights of Columbus Founder
Beatification Oct. 31, 2020

May Wedding Anniversaries

Martin & Sue Kometz	May 1	Joseph & Barbara Schrage	May 20
Michael & Teresa Hoffman	May 6	Anthony & Giulia Naccarato	May 21
John & Nancy Markendorf	May 8	Andrew & Donna Seiberlich	May 21
Anthony & Joan Parrino	May 11	Kenneth & Barbara Intihar	May 24
Jeffrey & Mary Wombold	May 11	Alan & Loreta Jarasius	May 24
John & Katie Augustynowicz	May 12	Joseph & Susan Kubal	May 26
Thomas & Dianne Taylor	May 17	Christopher & Terry Neigel	May 28

*** 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.