God our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father  Hail Mary  Glory be to the Father
AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP

Did you know?

Members who are age 65 and have 25 consecutive years of membership shall be designated as Honorary members and exempt from general fund charges except for payment of State and Supreme Council per capita charges.

Members who are 70 and over with 25 years of consecutive membership and those who have been members of the order for 50 years regardless of age, shall be designated as Honorary Life members and shall be exempt from further payment of dues, per capita charges and assessments. Congratulations to member Michael Gifford who just made his 25 year mark and is now an Honorary Life member.

All priests and members of religious communities once taking the First Degree shall automatically be designated as Honorary Life members.

Welcome new members Scott Winters, Chris Schneider and Tim Lewandowski who have joined since our last newsletter. Reminder that the following members should sign in and complete their online 2nd and 3rd degree exemplifications; Enrique Hernandez, Juan Hernandez, Kevin Laskaskie, Cyrille Monatshebe, Scott Winter and Chris Schneider

It is a 30 minute program to watch on your computer and you can do that when it is convenient for you. Go to https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1382034&tp_key=590b668622 you will need your membership number off of your membership card. If you do not yet have a membership card you may wait until you have been assigned a number. They will also ask for a Division Number which I believe is the council number 16821.

Please take the time and watch it with your spouse or entire family. When you complete the exemplifications or if you have completed the 2nd and 3rd degree and your name still shows up on this list, then contact the FS Dave Egan and he can update the roster and give you a new membership card.

Free online membership has again been extended. Let your friends, fellow parishioners and family members know.

Go to https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html Use the promo code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY for the free 12 month membership. Let them know they have nothing to lose!
Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori
Monthly Challenge

An important part of humbling oneself is not constantly focusing on one’s needs, worries and desires. If we want to put God and others before self, we must think about ourselves less often and others more. This reality is seen in the life of Blessed Michael McGivney, whose feast day is August 13th. Father McGivney was constant in his humble service of God and neighbor. May we imitate his humility in our own lives.

Challenge: This month I challenge you to pray every day as an individual or as a family, asking the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney to live in a more prayerful home, perhaps using the prayer for his canonization. Second, I challenge you to assist your council in the Faith in Action Family Prayer Night or Family Week Program, incorporating devotions to Father McGivney into your efforts.
175th Anniversary Celebration
Pentecost Sunday June 5th 2022

Knights honor guard leads the procession into church and Bishop Emeritus Richard Sklba said mass with Father Robert Kacalo assisting.

Father Robert with the help of Shirley Kurowski burn the mortgage.

Luncheon of celebration was served to 300 in a beautifully decorated tent.

Archbishop Sklba, Mark Missurelli, Father Robert, Dave Egan and Dylan McHugh do the ceremonial breaking of ground for the new bell tower.
Robert Fischer was named Knight of the Year at our June meeting. Mark Missurelli and Father Robert presented him with a plaque.

**Election of officers**

Grand Knight / Mark Missurelli
Treasurer / Dennis Irwin
Trustee 2 year / Andy Kontowicz
Chancellor / Jeff Glazewski
Deputy Grand Knight / Ronald Schween
Financial Secretary / Dave Egan
Trustee 3 year / Gary Kitterman
Outside Guard / Don Becker
Warden / Jim Lampe
Recorder / Robert Fischer
Trustee 1 year / Keith Wagner
Advocate / Ray Bailey Jr.
Inside Guard / Thankachan John
Knights working this summer at Sendiks. We have raised money for developmentally disabled people through the tootsie roll campaign. Also we have raised money for our council to continue to do all we can to help those in need.

We have one more Sendiks event scheduled for Saturday August 6th. If you have not worked one yet it's a great opportunity to meet people, have fun and do good for others.

Pictured above back row left to right Dennis Laskaskie, Ray Bailey. Front row left to right Don Becker and Ron Schween
St. Stephens 1st annual golf outing

Our St. Stephens parishioners and Knights of Columbus men joined forces to have a group golf outing. Good time was had by all. Perfect weather and a delicious meal was served by Father Robert and St. Stephens Volunteers. Pictured above Grand Knight Mark Missurelli does some advertising for the event.

In recognition for all of his hard work and dedication to St. Stephens parish Father Robert was awarded:

A $1000 donation to current bell tower project.

A “In gratitude bench” to be part of the bell tower landscape.

A “In gratitude brick” to be at base of bell tower
Let us build the kingdom of God without fear!

Summertime calls all of us, at least in this northern hemisphere, to get outside and enjoy the limited months of summer available. We often refer to this time as the lazy, hazy days of summer! However, building up the kingdom of God here on earth doesn’t allow us to take a vacation from the mission of Christ, even in the warmth of our summer activities.

It has been a few months since we celebrated Easter, where the joy of Easter called us to be inspired and share our faith and the love of God with others. Maybe for some of us the proverbial honeymoon period since Easter is over, and we find ourselves preoccupied with the practical issues of living our lives with other flawed humans like ourselves. Even though, through our Baptism, we are reborn into new life with Christ, we still face challenges and trials as individuals, communities, and, as a nation.

Even the early Church, and now thousands of years later, we can still relate to the darkness of our world. This darkness can be war, or natural disasters in far-off places, even within our own borders that we hear about in the news. We continue to see failures within our schools, neighborhoods and communities in which our own friends and families live in. And, of course, the gun violence and abuse of human dignity that happens in so many unfortunate ways. Sometimes we can feel alone and wandering when we find ourselves in the stormy weather of our own lives. We may feel at a loss for how to reverse the tides of hate, division, and iniquity in our world.

And yet, Jesus calls us to himself – calls us to hope. Jesus shows up in the most unexpected places and tells us.....“Do not be afraid!” Why would he say that? What is so bad about fear? After all, doesn’t fear give us a healthy respect for danger? Yes, it does. But while this is true, fear can also overtake our lives, keeping us from moving forward in loving Christian ways. This is what Jesus wants us to avoid.

Studies show that first responders overcome fear for personal safety by getting the training that can enable them to save lives. Safety experts would tell us that, in fact, worry and fear-based paralysis can actually be less safe than acting. Recognizing fear, then courageously working through difficult situations in order to receive and share God’s love, is the goal of casting our fears aside.

When we cast our fears aside, when we heed Jesus’ loving call to not be afraid, then we refuse to allow fear or failure to keep us from trying to act outside our comfort zone. We do not let the power of the fear of intimidation keep us from witnessing our faith to our friends, family, coworkers. Instead of potentially denying them the joy of the Gospel that we have experienced in our own lives, we can offer them our own example of trusting in the Lord to calm the tides of our fears and difficulties. God blesses us with the gift of life, live it in trust and without fear!
Hello Brother Knights,

Earlier this week I was reminded that July 26th was the Feast Day of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of our Blessed Mother and grandparents of Jesus. In Italy, Italians celebrate this feast day as a day to recognize and honor their grandparents. Instantly I thought of my grandparents and relatives who were influential in my life. It also reminded me of my mother and the “pearls of life” she continues to share as Grandmother to my three children: Louis, Maria, and Joseph.

On my father’s first birthday his mother, Giovanna Missurelli, passed away. He was 12-18 years younger than his five other siblings. Due to her birth to eternal life, he was then raised by his aunt and uncle, the Falduto’s, who also had five siblings. As a result of his adoption by a relative, I was fortunate to have my maternal grandparents and many aunts and uncles who extended “Grandparent-like” influence during my childhood and young-adult years.

They taught me about the reward of having a strong faith in Christ and religion. They taught me how to love family and all others regardless of background. They taught me how to support our parish and community that it served. As expected, I learned many valuable things from my parents, but the more people you get positive advice from the more likely values will sink-in and make a difference.

As a grade schooler, I watched my relatives support our parish with many hours of service and talents without expecting any financial reward for their support. My Aunts and others made all the spaghetti, sauce, and meatballs from scratch for our parish summer festival. My Uncle helped paint the entire inside of the church as a good-will gesture. It was their way of service to our parish and community.

The influence they shared left a lasting impression on many and especially me. If I may, here’s a fun memory of living close to many grandparents of influence. Once I was old enough to ride my bike within a mile of my house, I would venture to whichever relative was serving any type of pasta and red sauce for dinner that day. If I planned my visits correctly, it was possible to eat spaghetti four nights or more a week. Widely known among my childhood friends, my personal record was 13 days in a row of finding a way to eat Spaghetti and meatballs for dinner.

During this day of Grandparent’s reflection, it was easy to conclude that the more positive influence in a person’s life, the better the results are likely to occur.

The longer I have been a Knight, the more I have learned and appreciate how influential the Knights of Columbus are. Worldwide our KOC organization is over 2 million members strong. The Knights have performed over 185 million hours of service and donated over $77 million dollars last year to people and causes around the globe. The Knights of Columbus have just surpassed donating 1,500 ultrasound machines that have a major influence on the lives of mothers and the unborn.

Locally our KOC chapter has donated over $1,500 to support Women Care Centers and local organizations that support people with disabilities. We also support many people and programs at St. Stephen whenever needed. And best of all, we have a lot of fun and satisfaction during the journey.

My share today is that our local KOC council has more influence than most of Knights and parishioners realize. We need to carry that confidence and influence in our day-to-day actions and exchanges with parishioners. Not in a bragging way, but as a positive “Grandparents-like way of influencing”. If we do, I am confident the shared influence will result in a stronger parish and more new members for KOC council 16821.

Good health and continued influencing to all, Mark M.
Financial Secretary
Quarterly Report
As of 6/30/2022

The highlights in the second quarter of 2022 included:

- For our Faith in Action, we placed a Good Friday Mass Invitation insert into the bulletin, see attachment. This helped promote this important day when Catholics celebrate the Liturgy of Our Lord’s Passion.

- We fulfilled our Adopt a Parish pledge to our sister church Our Mother of Mercy Chaldean Catholic Church in Simele, Dohuk, Iraq by donating a total of $5,100 to this important cause. This program helps ensure that our Christian brothers and sisters have the resources necessary to worship as they continue to rebuild their homes and communities. I am also very proud to say that our Council’s donations rank #13 among all US Councils participating in the Adopt a Parish program.

- The Knights of Columbus Charities Ukraine Solidarity Fund was set up to provide food, shelter, clothing, medical supplies, and other goods to Ukrainian’s who have been displaced from their homes because of the Russian invasion. As of 7/27/22, this fund has raised over $18.5M including $500 from our Council. Cardinal Dolan paid a visit to Poland and Ukraine and saw first hand the good works the Knights are doing there.

- Our Council bought pens and distributed them to fathers after the Masses on Father’s Day weekend. This gesture was well received by the fathers in attendance. We also distributed Tootie Rolls after Masses and raised $395.30 for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.

- We held fundraisers at Sendik’s on May 21 and June 25 where $367.76 and $447.56 were raised respectively. We also distributed Tootsie Rolls at these events that brought in $166.46 and $145.12 respectively.

We have fundraisers coming up at the Franklin Sendik’s on August 6, which will allow us to replenish our funds and distribute more Tootsie Rolls. Please consider signing up and joining us if you can make it on these dates. It is a fun time to spend with Brother Knights, meet people in the community, and raise funds.

Dave Egan
Financial Secretary
Celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary

Bonnie & Michael Gifford.

Your Knights Council wishes you all the best on this wonderful milestone!

July 30th 1957
Prayer Requests

Please keep the following in your prayers

- In Memory of William Wagner, Dwight Majeres, Robert Janto and Michael Spanke our brother knights
- Health and well being for all our brother knights and their families
- Prayers for the Hernandez family

The traveling Vietnam wall was on display at Franklin high school. Ambassadors stood guard over the memorial 24 hours everyday it was on display. Two of our Knights were among the many who volunteered. Pictured below from left to right are Don Nierode, Mike Van Laenderen, Sir Knight Tom Ludka and Knight Gary Kitterman.

They worked the 2am to 6am shift.
Council Award

We will be receiving a Program Activity Award as Division 1 Champions at our August meeting.

August newsletter challenge

Getting this newsletter put together was a little more work than expected. Unfortunately my wife and I both contracted covid. We ended up getting the BA5 variant which is highly contagious and all vaccines have no effect on it. We quarantined for ten days. My other obstacle to getting things done had to do with my four legged friend Toby! He kept interrupting me in hopes I would spend more time with him and less time on my laptop. In the end we both recovered and Toby got some much needed attention. Hope you enjoy the newsletter.