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This month meeting will be at Riverside Pizza, downtown St. Charles, doors open at 6pm, food served 6:15pm, council meeting 7pm



Saint Charles
Knights of Columbus
UNITAS



November 2014 - Volume 15 - Issue 11

Fred's Findings



Greetings Brother <<First Name>>,

PLEASE NOTE: NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING VENUE CHANGE, THE NOVEMBER 10TH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE A DINNER MEETING AT RIVERSIDE PIZZA (UPSTAIRS) IN DOWNTOWN ST. CHARLES, ACROSS FROM THE STARBUCKS IN DOWNTOWN ST. CHARLES, DOORS OPEN AT 6PM, BUFFET DINNER TO BE SERVED SHORTLY AFTER 6PM, COUNCIL MEETING TO BEGIN APPROX 7PM. OUR PARISH PRIESTS HAVE BEEN INVITED. COST IS A FREE-WILL OFFERING. AFTER THE MEETING, PLEASE PLAN ON STAYING TO WATCH MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL.

I mentioned this at our October council meeting but not in the October GK report or in an e-mail blast but our council received a letter from the Illinois Knights State Deputy Donald C. Kinyon, Jr. informing us that **St. Charles Council 12497 was named the TOP COUNCIL in the Rockford Diocese.** State Deputy Kinyon said in the letter, *"Your council demonstrated excellent recruitment and retention skills by being at the top in membership (% of goal) in your diocese. You earned the coveted Star Council Award which attests to the council's overall achievement in Membership, Programming and Charities."* We should all take pride in this accomplishment but I do need to single out our Membership Chair Paul Braddock, our Field Agent Greg Paul and our recent past GK's Jason Lynch, Paul Herrmann and Tim Cooper for their commitment in motivating us to plant the membership seeds during their tenures as GK that bloomed this past fraternal year ending 6/30/14. Congrats to all!

As we speak, we are in the midst of **PIES BY THE GUYS** sales. As many of you may already know, STJN is no longer allowing sales of any kind after Masses. At STP, we do have two weekends to sell after the Masses. Therefore, I have to ask my BK's to step out of your comfort zone if you have to and ask for the business from other parishioners, family, friends, business



Table of Contents

[Grand Knight Report](#)

[Chaplain's Report](#)

[Ladies Auxiliary Report](#)

[New Knights](#)

[Unitas Co-Editor wanted](#)

[Knight4Charity](#)

[Great Lakes Catholic Mens Conference](#)

[Membership Director Report](#)

[Bible Studies](#)

[Soccer Challenge](#)

[March for Life - Chicago](#)

[A Knight Before Christmas](#)

[Advocate Activity](#)

[Pray the Rosary before the Business Meeting](#)

[First Degree Schedule](#)

[Orientation Schedule](#)

[Knight of the Month](#)

[Know Your Faith](#)

[Other Links](#)

[Our Sponsors](#)

Upcoming Events

November, 2014

associates, co-workers and business clients. They can all be probable purchasers but you have to ask for it. We cannot depend on the parishioners coming to us, we have to go to them. We made 1500 pies last year. We have the organizational size to improve upon that. Sales are just one part of **PIES BY THE GUYS**. The other side is the set-up and box making on Friday evening Nov 21 and the pie assembly line on Saturday morning Nov 22. Pie pick up will not only be at Crane Rd. but we just learned that we will have a pick up in the STJN parking lot near our Council trailer on both Saturday Nov 22 and Sunday Nov 23. Pie order forms and volunteer sign-up can both be found on our website, www.kofc12497.com

To all our existing 1st Degree BK's, you are all invited to attain your 2nd & 3rd Degrees during a Knight Before Christmas on Sunday Dec 7 at STJN, arrive no later than 1:30pm, 2nd Degree to begin at 2pm, 3rd Degree to follow and a dinner will be provided upon the conclusion of the 3rd Degree. Please RSVP back to me and if you plan to attend, please sign up online, www.kofc12497.com. And there is no Bears game on this Sunday.

Also on Sunday Dec 7 as a part of a Knight Before Christmas at STJN, we will also be hosting a 1st Degree to bring new Knights into our Council. Candidates should arrive no later than 12:30pm, 1st Degree to begin at 1pm. These new Knights can also stay and participate in the 2nd Degree, 3rd Degree and the dinner. I know I am a broken record in repeating this but I was asked at least three times before I joined the Council and it was one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life! The moral of this message is to keep asking guys to join.

The family theme for the month of November from Supreme's **Building the Domestic Church, The Family Fully Alive** program is "Because God rested on the seventh day, we want to celebrate Sunday as a family." I noticed that the Columbia Magazine profiles the suggested family activities and meditations for this theme. Gentlemen, consider yourself as the Pastor of your domestic church and take a leadership role in stressing these family priorities. I know it is tough with teenagers but do not make this an excuse. I taught CCD for 10+ years to middle school and confirmation kids plus I had two of my own so I know the challenges. They have their own agenda, normally not consistent with the parents. In CCD, I tried to get the kids to understand priorities. The first priority is to be on right side with God and being a Catholic for the selfish reason that you want to go to Heaven and meet Jesus. The second priority should be the family. There are many instances in Scriptures where Jesus places the family in high esteem. Look at how revered Mary is in our faith. Then the remaining priorities would be your health, education, friendships, outside activities, but normally if you took care of the first priority, the others always seemed to fall into place. I am praying for all our Council families.

God Bless,
Fred Karl – GK
Cell: 847-373-2922

Chaplain's Report



11/10 Business Meeting-Riverside Pizza
11/21 Pies-by-the-Guys setup, SPCR
11/22 Pies-by-the-Guys, SPCR

December, 2014

12/01 Ladies Auxiliary - SPDT Fr. Carse
12/09 (Tues) - Council Holiday Party - SJN
12/14 Breakfast with Santa-SJN

January, 2015

01/05 Ladies Auxiliary - SPDT Fr. Carse
01/12 Business Meeting-SJN
01/18 March for Life - Chicago

Don't forget to see and sign up for activities at:

http://kofc12497.com/wordpress/?page_id=318

Access past issues of this newsletter:

http://kofc12497.com/wordpress/?page_id=764

1st Degree Schedule

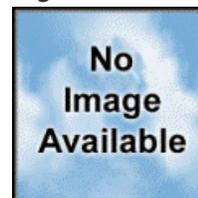
- Sunday December 7, SPCR, Major Degree, 1:00PM
- Monday February 9. SJN, prior to scheduled Council Meeting, 6:00PM

Orientation Schedule

- Sunday November 9, St. Pat's Crane Rd., Pre-Function Room, 6:30PM
- Sunday January 11 2015, St. Pat's Crane Rd., Pre-Function Room, 6:30PM

Everyone is invited, but please call Paul Braddock, 630-901-3164, in advance to ensure preparations are made for you

Knight of the Month



Russ Nebia was the September Knight of the Month for leading the efforts for the Intellectual Disability (Tootsie Roll) Fund Raiser

The October Knight of the Month will be announced at the November Business Meeting

Know Your Faith

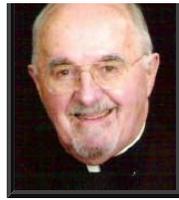
By Sir Knight Ken Konetzki

Sunday is Family Day

Of the five precepts of the Church, the first is that we attend Mass on Sunday and holy days

For Faithful People Life Is Changed, Not Ended

Message for 11/2/14
All Souls (A)



All Souls Day! For me, today is a day of wonder! I wonder what it will be like to live forever. I wonder if I will recognize my family, my ancestors, my friends and neighbors, everyone with whom I've ever had an encounter with. I wonder how we all will look? After all, we all go through so many physical changes as we grow older in life, brought about by aging, serious accidents or illnesses. I hardly recognized many of my High School classmates at my fiftieth class reunion. Will I have any hair in the next world? I wonder, ... I wonder, ... I wonder!

I know. Our faith teaches us not to worry as we worry in this present world. Not to worry, Joe. Didn't Mary Magdalene, Peter, James, and John and the other Apostles and disciples fail to recognize Jesus after his resurrection? Reread today's first reading from the book of Wisdom (Wis 3:1-9) with a deeper sense of understanding: "The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction." See? Even in the book of Wisdom, earthly rationale is touched upon, however, not for long. It goes on to give us a sense of spiritual relief; thank God, I certainly did not wish to be considered foolish: "But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the LORD shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect."

What a great gift of hope this message gives us. After all, as I said in the beginning, life will be different, not ended. The heavenly life will not be the same as the life we know on earth. There is hope for us all.

Speaking of messages of hope when we are confronted with our mortality, Psalm 23 seems to be a hallmark of comfort for those who wonder as I do: "Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come." These words of comfort appear to give us a look into both sides of the veil.

of obligation and refrain from things "which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord's day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body." (Code of Canon Law - Can. 1247) CCC 2182 adds "Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church. The faithful give witness by this to their communion in faith and charity. Together they testify to God's holiness and their hope of salvation. They strengthen one another under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

In other words, while it may be called a duty or obligation to attend Mass it is ultimately for our own benefit. It reminds us that God is, and that we are children of God, and therefore encourages us to meet the challenges of life with a joy and gratitude born of the hope we have engendered in us by the gift of His grace. However, as wonderful as this is, for too many of us, the short time we participate in Mass is all we think of as being the fulfillment of the third commandment. There is so much more to the day than that!

Quoting a couple of other church documents, CCC 2204 says "The Christian family constitutes a specific revelation of ecclesial communion, and for this reason it can and should be called a domestic church." Continuing on in paragraph 2205, "The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit... The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task."

Your family is an "ecclesial community," a "domestic church." That means your family exists for a purpose beyond simply the members within it. It is a "sign and image" of God and it is charged with a duty to evangelize. Your family shows God to the world!

How do you do that? By being present to each other and enjoying your time together. Try to find ways to do fun and noble things as a family. As much as you can, leave the chores, errands, and work for another day. Show the world that the rat race is not what life is all about. Real joy is found in our relationships.

Pax et Bonum

Mystic Monk Coffee
Support the Ladies Auxiliary



Support the Ladies Auxiliary by ordering
Mystic Monk Coffee. Just go to

As if that were not enough, today's second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (Rom 6: 3-9) gets down to earth (no pun intended) and tells us like it is as only Paul can do: "Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him."

And to top it all off, we have Jesus' message of hope from the gospel of John (Jn 6:37-40); "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day." Not to wonder, Joe, Jesus doesn't tell us how it will be, only that it will be, so, just believe!

Love and Prayers,
Fr. Joe

Ladies Auxiliary Report



Hello All!

The next "Dine at Gabby's" day is this weekend, 11/8 and 11/9. Gabby's in St. Charles is still a generous supporter of the Ladies Auxiliary! On Saturday, November 8th after the 4:00 Mass and all day Sunday, November 9th anyone who dines at Gabby's (on Rt. 64 in St. Charles) can put their paid receipt in the **KC Ladies Auxiliary** container near the register. The Ladies Auxiliary will receive 10%! Gabby's is very generous in continuing to help us in the work of the Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you, Gabby's, for your generosity and support of the Ladies Auxiliary! This assists us in our donations to the various charities we support including the Fox Valley Pregnancy Center.



At our November 3rd meeting we held an Open House. Our guest, Charity Davis taught how to craft simple inexpensive fresh floral arrangements for decorating our homes. Brother Knights, thank you for inviting your wives to join us!!! Again we will be participating in Carson's Community Days. For \$5 you will receive a booklet which includes a great variety of coupons, including a \$10 off coupon. Great for, dare I say it, Christmas shopping!!!

In an ongoing effort for parish community involvement and spirituality, a Recitation of the Rosary will be held on the First Saturday of the month. 3:30 p.m. (Before 4:00 Mass) at St. Patrick – Crane Rd. and after 5:15 Mass at St. John Neumann

<http://www.mysticmonkcoffee.com/store/?aid=1017>

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Deputy Grand Knight [Bob Gilmartin](#)

Chancellor [Bill Roth](#)

Recorder [Kerry O'Brien](#)

Financial Secretary [Bill Goetz](#)

Treasurer [Dan Kadolph](#)

Advocate [Jim Gebhardt](#)

Warden [Gary Renn](#)

Inside Guard [Shaun Jurczewski](#)

Inside Guard [Larry Lenahan](#)

Inside Guard [Jim Webb](#)

Outside Guard [Jeff Bowgren](#)

Outside Guard [Rich Duensing](#)

Trustee (3 Year) [Jason Lynch](#)

Trustee (2 Year) [Paul Herrmann](#)

Trustee (1 Year) [Tim Cooper](#)

District Deputy [Chris Brazas](#)

Field Agent [Greg Paul](#)

(708) 601-5489

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Church Director [Gary Topacio](#)

Co-Community Director [Jim McNamara](#)

Co-Community Director [Tom Sikorski](#)

Council Director [Steve Pentek](#)

Family Director [Burt Brown](#)

Co-Youth Director [Gavin Burke](#)

Co-Youth Director [Chris Hamel](#)

Pro-Life Director [Lance Christensen](#)

Sponsors

Be good, play nice. Think God!
Thea Stowell
President, Ladies Auxilliary

New Knights

Welcome new Knights

Two men joined our ranks on October 13th. Please welcome them when you meet them.



Rick Dabbs



Rosendo Garcia

PBTG!!!



Sponsorships available in this space.
Contact [Jon Mielke](#) for more details.

Pies by the Guys



**What's Missing From
This Holiday Table?**

Grandma Knows...

***It's the apple pie.
Order yours today!***

Make this years Thanksgiving Holiday Meal a raving success by topping it off with a homemade apple cinnamon pie. Made fresh on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

These sumptuous apple pies will be made by The Knights of Columbus, their families, friends, and many kind volunteers.

***Enjoy A Tasty Homemade
Three Pound Apple Cinnamon Pie
This Thanksgiving***

Order some for your friends, relatives, and co-workers, and be sure to get a few extra for yourself to enjoy at Christmas too.

All proceeds are donated to local charities benefiting those who are less fortunate.



Knights of Columbus

St. Charles Council 12497
St. Charles, IL 60174

To order pies, go to the [council website](#)

2015 Bellarmine Silent Retreat

BELLARMINÉ

JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE



January 16-18, 2015

*Retreat Master, Fr. Rick McGurn, SJ
An Ignatian, Silent Retreat for Men*

The retreat begins on Friday night with dinner and fellowship. After dinner, silence commences and the retreat master gives the first of eight talks which are adapted from the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Your retreat is a time for personal silence and prayer. You can listen to the talks, walk the Way of the Cross, pray the Rosary, receive the sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, and Healing, converse with a Spiritual Director or simply enjoy the beauty of 80 acres set outside the grind of daily life.

Visit us online or scan the QR code to register for this or any other retreat or spiritual program.



420 W County Line Rd • Barrington, IL 60010 • 847-381-1261

www.jesuitretreat.org

Fr. Rick McGurn, S.J., is a native of Oak Park, Illinois. He entered the Jesuits in 1967 and was ordained a priest in 1975. He has been an associate pastor at Jesuit parishes in Chicago and Cincinnati, and in the 1980's was Supervisor of Retreat Directors at the Jesuit Retreat House in Cincinnati for seven years. More recently was the Socius -- Executive Assistant -- to the Provincial of the Chicago Province, as well as the Provincial's Assistant for Formation, overseeing the studies of men preparing for ordination and ministry. He was a member of the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House Advisory Board from 1996 to 1998; and was on staff here at Bellarmine from 2004 to 2005. From 2005 to 2011 he was Rector at Loyola Academy in Wilmette. We are pleased he is back on staff at the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House.

If you are interested in joining us at the retreat sign up on-line at www.jesuitretreat.org.

Knight 4 Charity

Supreme is conducting a "Knight 4 Charity" Contest. Recruit new members between October 1 and December 31, 2014 and you will receive one or more of the following commemorative items:

Number of Members Recruited	Commemorative Item
1 or 2	Ceramic mug
3 or 4	Swiss Army Knife
5 to 9	Coaster Set
10 or More	

Receive all of the
above

Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference



"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also"
Matthew 6:21

Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference Saturday, November 22nd



Rev. Robert Barron

Want to be inspired, reinvigorated, and uplifted? Does your faith life need a boost? Then join close to a thousand other Catholic men, at all levels of faith, from Illinois and surrounding states as they gather to revitalize their faith at the second longest running Catholic Men's Conference in the Nation!

Conference speakers include Rev.

Robert Barron, popular evangelist/theologian; Collin Raye, country singer and disability advocate; John Pridmore, former mobster turned evangelist; and Eric Scheidler, Pro-Life Action League Director and pro-life speaker. The event will be emceed by Wayne Messmer, popular Anthem singer for the Cubs.



Collin Raye



John Pridmore

The 20th annual Great Lakes Catholic Men's Conference will be held at the Holmes Student Center at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, on Saturday, November 22nd from 8:50 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets include lunch and free parking. Cost is \$35 if registered by

November 4th, \$40 after, \$45 AT THE DOOR; \$15 for college students or younger, \$10 for deacons. For tickets or more information contact your parish captain (name, phone) or visit the Conference web site at www.thetalk.org.



Eric Scheidler

For more information, contact Mike Smith at smith6family@comcast.net

Membership Director's Report

At our September meeting I announced that typically we have no need to watch the number of new Knights that come into our Council. Our goal for the previous Fraternal year was to reach and maintain 300 members. We accomplished this feat and with that you heard we won some awards. However, when we were given these awards our kind District Deputy gently said it was nice for us to receive the award but chuckled and said doing it two years in a row was difficult to do. And even though he thinks we are a good Council, he led me to believe he didn't think we could do it again. You heard my disgust during the meeting during my report. It wasn't so much that we couldn't reach the quota of new members, it was the fact that we wouldn't be sharing with other men what a great organization they could be part of. You see if we share with no one, then of course we won't meet our quota. If we do share and share a lot, then we will meet our quota no matter what he thinks.

Because of this underhanded comment, I am asking for the support of our current membership to take it on your shoulders to show God that you are proud to be a Knight and are willing to continue to share the message with others about how they can fulfill their desire to be of service to others by becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus.

We need to bring in excess of 20 new members this Fraternal year. We lost members due to our typical attrition which immediately put us in the hole. You see, Supreme does count just new members, they specify that our whole membership must be higher than the previous year by their quoted number to us. It makes no difference how many people we lose. Therefore, the bottom line means we need to bring in 30 new people to cover everything.

Last year our bar was set to attain 300. This year our bar is at 30 new Knights!

Please let me know if you read this article and are onboard with me. Seriously....just a little e-mail that says you understand our membership goal and that you will consider sharing the Good News of the Knights with others. The more who share....the more members we will receive....the more God will love us....the more we will feel good about ourself....the more we can do for others...the more we can let our District Deputy know it doesn't matter what he says. We are Council 12497 and we love God enough to persevere. Let's have a banner year and get our 30!! We are already 3 months into the year which leaves 9 months. December is the month we recruit more members than any time of the year. Don't hesitate....ask someone to become a "Knight Before Christmas". There is magic in December. Jesus is born and people are inspired by following the way of God. You just have to ask and let God do the rest. You do your part and He will do His.

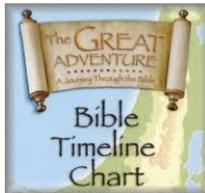
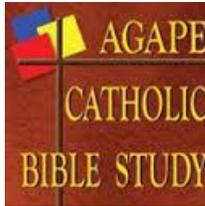
Remember....contact me to let me know you are aware of our membership goal.

Fraternally Yours,
Paul Braddock
Director of Recruitment

Bible Study

Two Bible study programs are starting this Fall. If you have an interest in deepening your faith and developing an understanding of Sacred Scripture you will want to explore these opportunities.

- First, a Men's Bible study of the John's Gospel resumes Thursday night, September 4th, at SPCR's St. Peter (formerly RCIA) room. There is no charge. We use the online Agape Bible Study program. Several Knights have been participating over the last three years. Stop by to try it out. If you have any questions, contact DGK Bob Gilmartin at (312) 771-6685 or Frank Positano at (630) 263-7778.
- Second, Father Gow is leading "The Bible Timeline" program at the Hermes Center at SJN starting Monday, September 8th at either 9:15 am or 7:00 pm. The cost for course materials is roughly \$36. If you want to get a better understanding of salvation history as laid out in fourteen narrative books of the Bible, this program is for you. Several of the Knights have taken the course and all highly recommend it. Direct any questions to Father Gow or the SJN parish office at (630) 377-2797.



Knights Soccer Challenge Recap - Oct. 26th, 2014



The St. Charles Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge enjoyed ideal weather and a great participant turn out on Sunday, October 26th. Over 50 participants attempted the challenge, yielding 12 age group champions. All who participated were given coupons for free sundaes at Colonial Café and free grilled chicken nuggets at Chick-fil-a. The champions were presented an engraved award plaque and a KofC medal to remember their achievements. Three champions will be representing Council 12497 at the Regional Soccer Challenge in Naperville on

Sunday November 9th.



Save the Date



Sunday, January 18, 2015

March for Life, Chicago

Pro-Life Rally

Major Degree



Knights of Columbus
Illinois State Council

Email: illinoiskc@illinoisknights.org

Website: www.illinoisknights.org



ANNOUNCING THE
1st, 2nd, & 3rd MAJOR DEGREE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014

ST. CHARLES COUNCIL #12497

AT

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2900 EAST MAIN STREET

ST. CHARLES, IL 60174

CANDIDATE REGISTRATION: 12:30 PM

1st DEGREE AT: 1:00 PM

2nd DEGREE AT: 2:00 PM

3rd DEGREE FOLLOWING 2nd DEGREE

Dinner will be served after the 3rd Degree

Cost of Dinner \$15.00

FOR RESERVATIONS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT

District Deputy Chris Brazas 847-772-4670 <mailto:cibrazas@msn.com>

Grand Knight Fred Karl 847-373-2922

Council Phone 847-373-2922

FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://www.illinoisknights.org>

REMEMBER, IF YOU ARE A SPONSOR OF A CANDIDATE, YOUR
SHOULD BRING HIM TO THE DEGREE

PASSION -- PRIDE -- PERFORMANCE

Advocate Activity

All members should know that a few of our council members make monthly calls to our newest members in order to connect with them and let them know that we value their involvement. These advocates have been a source of information to our newest members that we call Columbians. The response to the program has been very fruitful. Many of our Columbians have become officers, program chairmen and certainly present at our monthly meetings and events.



Membership in the Knights of Columbus is truly an experience of a lifetime

Pray the Rosary



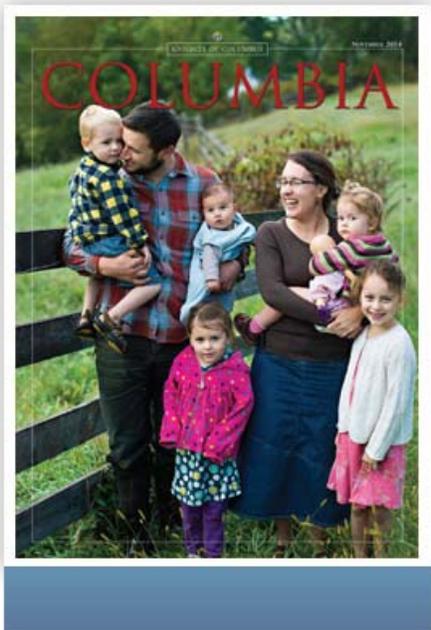
There will not be a rosary before the meeting this month.

Other Links

**KofC
Supreme
Council**

 [Click to browse to Knights of Columbus Supreme Council \(link opens in new window\)](#)

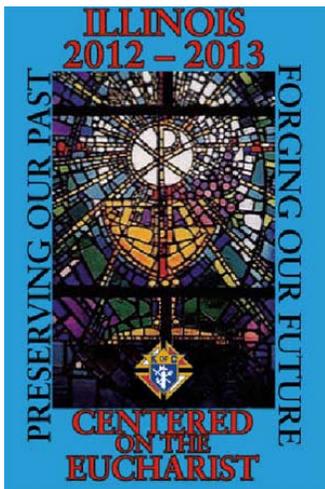
**Columbia
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**Fathers
For Good**



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