



Allouez Council # 658 – Abstracts



www.kofc658.org
April 2023 Rock Island, IL Vol.MMXIII, No. 3
Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 6575, Rock Island, IL 61204-6575

April	Upcoming Events	(subject to change, see online calendar)
3	Officers meeting, Farrell Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL.	6:30pm to 8pm
10	Blood Drive, Farrell Hall Gym, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL.	1:30pm to 6pm
13	Council meeting, Farrell Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL. Light meal	6pm, Meeting 7pm to 8pm
19	Midwest Food Bank, Vibrant Center, Moline, IL.	9:00am to 11: 30am

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE:

Worthy Brother Knights

As most of you know March was a busy time with several honor guard events and are Lenten fish fry. Want to thank Lance Johnson for chairing this event. What a great turnout. Please read Lance's comment below, April we will be another busy month with the Italian Dinner and helping with Knights blood drive .So let's all do what we can to make these events a great success. Easter Sunday is just a few weeks away I hope your 40 days have been a spiritual renewal in your life . Happy Easter !

Vivat Jesus

Rick Cervantes

ANNIVERSARIES:

Congratulations to the three couples celebrating their wedding anniversary this month. May they celebrate many more!

Dr Robert & Mary Milas 04/09/1974

Mark & JoAnn Teele 04/30/1977

John & Jill Reynolds 04/25/1998

BIRTHDAYS:

20 brother Knights are celebrating a birthday this month. May they live as long as they want and never want as long as they live.

James Dedecker

Kevin Rafferty

Christopher Mandle

Michael Terry

Benjamin Schoonmaker

Michael Tarpey

Leo Pinton

Matthew Klauer

John Thomas Lawrence

Dennis Pauley

Rmr Timothy Granet

Charles Bishop jr

Michael Crowder

Andy Shrake

Eugene Fowler

Benjamin Houtekier

Paul Egan

David Hubbs

Stephen Schaecher

Matthew Smallwood

We want to recognize all our members' birthdays & anniversaries, but we can't if you don't tell us what this important date in your life is. Please call or email our Financial Secretary, Dick Hunt, so he

PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS & FAMILIES, SICK OR IN DISTRESS:

We pray for our Brother Knights & families who are ill or otherwise incapacitated. Please email AllouezCouncil@Gmail.com to update. We remember the following members in our prayers:

Elizabeth Brueggen Jim Casey Bev Casey Achiel Dupont Gene Fowler

Jerry Fowler Jim Fobert Joseph Lazio Norma Manning Mike Pacheco

Deacon Paul Martin Tina Olson Red Pearson Mary Jo Pulford Sue Schaecher

Jerry Schroeder Jack Showalter Richard Tipton Betty VanDeVoorde Jim Wells

We pray, O God, that You look with pity on Your servants who suffer. Ease their pain & comfort their loneliness. Give them the grace to bear this cross patiently with You in Christian reparation. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

DEACON'S QUESTION BOX:

Should the crucifix and statues be veiled during Passiontide?

Last Easter season, we attended the Holy Thursday service at a different parish. We were surprised to see that the Crucifix and other statues were not covered like we always see at St Pius. Is it more common to have the Crucifix and other statues covered or not covered on Holy Thursday or Good Friday? During my research on this question I could not find any quantitative information that would provide a basis for suggesting that this is a common or an uncommon practice. It is an old Tradition dating perhaps to the 9th century. Interestingly this was one of the old traditions many liturgists tried to suppress following Vatican II. The effort failed. In the Roman missal we find the instruction, "In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from the fifth Sunday of Lent may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil." This practice is not obligatory but left to the discretion of the individual diocesan bishop or parish pastor. The church recommends this practice to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter Sunday. The veils remind us of the special time that we are in. When we walk into the church and notice everything is covered we immediately know that something is different and we begin to long for things to return to the way they were. This serves to heighten our senses and begin to build a longing within us for Easter Sunday when the veils would be gone and our worship space would regain its more familiar look. Families are also encouraged to imitate this practice and veil prominent religious images in their homes. It helps us to participate in the liturgical season, especially if we are prevented from going to Mass during the week. Otherwise we only see the veiled images in church once or twice before Easter and it has a minor effect on us. It is a beautiful tradition to pass down to our children, who will be intrigued by it and it will make this time of year truly special for them. We go through great lengths to decorate our homes for Easter, so why not prepare for the great feast by using veils? As an added note: historically the period of time when the veiling occurred was called Passiontide. That name basically disappeared with the revision of the Roman calendar in 1969. Today the term generally applies to the last two weeks of Lent

Feel free to drop me a question for this column. Questions may be dropped off on the head table at a Council Meeting or sent via email to Deacon Russ Swim, Assistant Chaplain, rpswim@mchsi.com, phone 786-3097.

ABSTRACT/NEWSLETTER: Printed Copy vs. Online Version

The cost of printing and mailing our newsletter has gone up 34% this past year. We are looking into ways to reduce our cost while continuing to provide our newsletter to our readers. Many of our readers already receive the newsletter in an online version, and we are looking into the possibility of only providing the newsletter in an online version. If you currently receive the printed version, but would instead like to receive the online version, please email us at AllouezCouncil@Gmail.com to let us know your email address. We will send you a monthly email with a link to our online version of the abstract/newsletter.

PRO-LIFE MESSAGE:

Pro-Life Message

After decades in which the myth of overpopulation exerted a stranglehold on the popular imagination, due to its ubiquity in the mainstream media, governments, and non-governmental organizations, a different perspective is finally starting to get a hearing. In recent months, a growing number of articles in major newspapers have drawn attention to the fact that in many developed nations decades of decreasing birth rates have brought us to the edge of a precipice: already populations in some nations (such as Japan) are plummeting, with many others set to follow soon. Our own national replacement rate is now down to 1.6. It takes a 2.1 rate just to replace ourselves. Europe stands at 1.3, even below our own replacement rate. China and Russia are way under replacement rates. It may be that global population has peaked and is now on the downfall. Contrary to all the hysterical predictions by the likes of Paul Ehrlich and other population doomsayers, poverty and hunger have significantly fallen as the world population has increased, and that the maniacal obsession with reducing the world's population would have dire long-term consequences. After decades of a rock-bottom birth rate, the proportion of elderly in Japan is rapidly growing as is the rest of the western world. This is, in turn, creating a vicious cycle. With the ever-dwindling number of younger people being tasked with economically supporting the growing number of elderly, the young are becoming even less likely to have children, which they fear they cannot afford. In a healthy society, the family is the tight nucleus that provides a support network that ensures the safety and flourishing of each member of the family from birth through death. However, with Japanese families being so small, or non-existent, many elderly are finding themselves completely alone in their old age, often having to work well past retirement age in order to support themselves. Some 30,000 Japanese die alone every year, with their bodies sometimes not discovered for days or weeks. There are also signs that the young are falling prey to feelings of resentment towards the elderly, whom they view as an obstacle to their economic advancement. "There is nothing new under the sun," said the author of Ecclesiastes. "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again." Unfortunately, this principle seems to apply to the greatest evils perpetrated by human beings. It was less than 100 years ago that the eugenicists achieved their greatest "triumph" in the Third Reich, in which Adolph Hitler systematically applied their principles to "weed out" human beings considered "undesirable." Into this category Hitler placed not only Jews, but people belonging to a variety of other categories, including the disabled and the sick. Such people were considered a "drain" on the state and needed to be liquidated for the sake of the "common good." Such was the thinking of eugenicist Margret Sanger in planning the destruction of the black community. Abortion has reduced the black population in our country by 25%, killing far more humans than even Hitler and the Nazis' in Germany and all of Europe. The culture of death is a devouring beast that feeds on human lives. For many decades in the West now, the main area in which the culture of death has manifested itself is at the beginning of life. The body count is staggering to consider: many hundreds of millions of aborted preborn children. In addition, there are the countless children who were never conceived in the first place, due to the widespread deployment of anti-life contraceptive technologies. Having been so successful in preventing and killing human life at the beginning of life, the culture of death is now turning its attention to the end of life, having created the very conditions that make further killing seem to some to be the only "reasonable" solution to the problem that it created in the first place.

Watching what is happening in Japan, and which is beginning to occur in many other nations, is heartbreaking. The emerging social conditions, characterized by growing loneliness, division, and mutual resentment bears little in common with the ideals of solidarity, respect, and compassion expressed in Catholic social teaching. Within the context of the family, the elderly can benefit from the care of the young, while the young can benefit from the wisdom and experience of the elderly. Both benefit from being embedded within a relationship of self-giving love that opens their eyes to the transcendental dimension of human life, in which each human life is understood as having a value that is infinitely greater than any practical contribution a person might make to the economy. However, with the family having been decimated by a culture of death that has promoted divorce, childlessness, and selfish hedonism, the vulnerable are now finding themselves exposed to the harsh winds of brutally impersonal economic and social calculations. The exclusion of, or blindness to, the transcendental dimension, typical of our own times, is increasingly promoting a tendency to appreciate life only in so far as it produces pleasure and well-being, and to regard suffering as an intolerable burden which needs to be eliminated at all costs. The result is the elderly are finding themselves increasingly categorized as “undesirable.” Not only will euthanasia become legalized, as it has in several States now, it may well become compulsory. We need a growing effort to break the taboo against legalizing euthanasia. Our task is to hinder completion of this structure as far as we can, to halt it, if possible, to dismantle it, and most of all, to replace it with something more humane. It will call for all the effort and all the creativity we can bring to it. If we fail, the probability of worldwide euthanasia becomes a certainty. It’s a matter of protecting ourselves from being killed against our will. Whether we wish it or not, we ourselves will be as likely to die by someone else’s hand as any other way – and the younger we are at this moment, the greater the likelihood, as the American saying has it, ‘The life you save may be your own.’”

Jack Swan – Pro-Life Director

Holy Thursday

Again this year, the Knights of Columbus will be providing Sentinels to stand watch during Eucharistic Adoration following the Holy Thursday service at St Pius. We anticipate needing Sentinels from approximately 8:00 pm to midnight. This year I would like to have a minimum of 4 Knights on hand at a time so that we can change-off pairs of Knights every 15 minutes. So, instead of having 4 one-hour shifts of 2 Knights like we did last year, we will start with 2 two-hour shifts of 4 Knights. Remember, this is not an Honor Guard only event. We are hoping to get more 3rd and 4th Degree Knights to participate. If we can get more Knights to volunteer, we could maybe shorten the shifts. Please let me know whether you will be able to "keep watch" this year, and whether you would prefer the 8 - 10 or the 10 - midnight shift. If you can think of someone else that would be interested in keeping watch with you, please invite them, or let me know, and I will reach out to them.

Thank you,

Dick

Worthy Brother Knights:

March 24, 2023

The International Day of the Unborn Child is commemorated every year on March 25. Pope John Paul II instituted this day, to coincide with the Feast of the Annunciation. The day was seen by John Paul II as a positive option in favor of life and the spread of a culture of life to ensure respect for human dignity in all circumstances.

The Knights of Columbus have embraced the promotion of the International Day of the Unborn Child as a day dedicated to commemorating all unborn children, celebrating their lives, renewing our commitment to safeguarding them, and advocating against abortion violence. Unborn children are frequently denied the same rights as those who are born because their perceived value and right to life are linked to the wants and desires of the mother who carries the child in her womb. Unborn children, on the other hand, exist and are living members of the human family.

Terminating a pregnancy is a difficult decision that frequently necessitates a lot of thought. Abortion is performed for a variety of reasons, including unintended pregnancy, financial hardship, health concerns, socioeconomic factors, and many others. Abortion is a loss regardless of the reason, and various people deal with it in different ways. Every year on March 25, the world commemorates the International Day of the Unborn Child. This day is commemorated as a day of protest against abortion and is observed as an annual commemoration of aborted fetuses (**babies**). Unconventional social customs continue to plague society to this day. Abortion and the death of unborn children are examples of such practices.

The International Day of the Unborn Child reminds us that human life should be respected at all stages from conception to natural death.

Please remain mindful of this day dedicated to our unborn children, as we honor the thousands of unborn infants whose lives have been cut short as a result of abortions.

Jack Swan - Pro-Life Director

Our 3-Digit Daily Raffle Report

The 3-digit daily raffle game is a great way to contribute to your council's general fund and have a chance to win money every day. For \$10 every 4 months (\$27 for the full year), you have a chance to win \$25 every weekday and at least \$50 on weekends! The Winners Since Our last newsletter:

\$25 – **Tom Lawrence**, February 22nd, #963

\$50 – **Dave Yordy**, March 11th, #236

\$25 – **Mike Daly**, March 15th, #113

\$25 – **Erin Luckenbill**, March 16th, #524

Congratulations to our winners! Thank you to all who participate.

Fish Fry, March 10, 2023

Though it wasn't a smashing financial success, we didn't lose money. The cost of inventory was higher this year than in previous years. We had a fairly trim menu of baked and fried cod, mac and cheese, tater tots, rolls, desserts and drinks. We also had beer for donation. What we needed was about 65 more sales. We utilized 33 helpers in all. Many thanks to the student helpers, Theresa Hoffman, Luke Hoffman, Molly Hoffman, Christian Gonzalez, Noah Britton, Cameron Britton, Lyndsay Britton, Angelina Abarca, Salvador Abarca, Andrew Torres, Liam Houtekier, Rosalie Houtekier, Julian Houtekier, Elliott Houtekier, Nicholas Oetzel and Toby Olson. The adult helpers were Shelly Johnson, Robin Jurich, Brendon Swim, Karen Gibbs. And the Knights Lou Granato, Rick Cervantes, Jeff Schecker, Louie Alongi, Kevin Houser, Dave Sullivan, Kevin Hoffman, John Doak, Chuck Gibbs, William Westin, Greg Schneider, Jim Britton and Andy Olson. Everyone did a great job and I really appreciate it. Jerry Schroeder handled the music with his buddy. That was a nice touch. Those desserts were great, the drinks were fine but the iced tea was a little light. Louie Alongi took the leftover cooked food to a shelter that feeds homeless folks, located down by St Marys in Rock Island. They appreciated the food donation. We have started a list of things that would make it work even better in 2024. In the mean time Thanks Again, couldn't happen without the volunteers.

Chairperson and Knight

Lance Johnson

Civic Awards dinner

Will be Sunday, September the 10th at 5pm at the Stern Beverage Center in Rock Island.

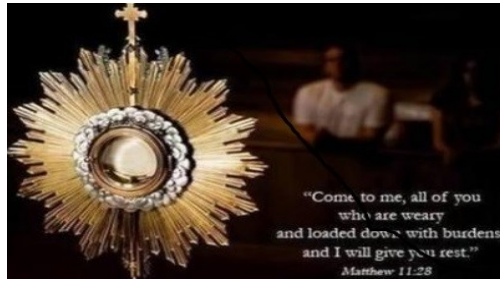
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Reminder of Upcoming Holy Hours:

May 11th

October 12th

November 4th



**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS
ALLOUEZ Council #658**



**Friday, March 10
4:00pm – 7:30pm
Farrell Hall**

Prices

Adult: \$15.00
Child 5-16: \$ 5.00
5 & under: FREE
Family: \$35.00

Menu Includes:

Baked or Fried Cod Fish, Cheese Pizza, Cole Slaw,
Tater Tots, Mac & Cheese, Roll, Dessert & Drink

Adult Beverages: good will donations accepted

**Stations of the Cross @ 5:30pm at church,
all are welcome!**

BLOOD DRIVE

BLOODCENTER.ORG

Jordan Catholic School

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus
Monday, April 10 1:30 PM – 6:00 PM

St. Pius X Church – Farrell Hall Gym
2901 24th Street

MASKS ARE OPTIONAL. APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED.

To schedule, scan QR below or contact Louie Alongi at
(309) 235-6796 or alongilouiev@gmail.com.



Nothing cooler than saving
lives! Give and get a 20-can
cooler tote or a gift card.



SCAN ME!

Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID.
Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 02/13/23
Group Sponsor Code: 074

 **ImpactLife**

Authentic Italian Dinner

(Knights of Columbus Serving + Italians in the Kitchen = Authentic!)

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 / ST. PIUS X FARRELL HALL



SEATING FROM:

4:00 - 7:00 (Carry Out Orders Available)

COSTS AT THE DOOR:

ADULTS \$20.00* / CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER \$5.00

***Pay Before April 1st for a \$2.00 Discount on Each Adult Dinner!**

Send check payable to **Knights of Columbus** and **RSVP Name(s)** to:
Louie Alongi, 3510 25th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

Dinner Includes:

Mostaccioli Pasta
Meatballs
Garlic Bread
Salad



Beverages:

Wine (Adults)
Coffee
Iced Tea
Milk
Bottled Water

*All proceeds donated to charities supported by the Knights of Columbus
and Italian-American Society. For additional information, contact Godfather
Louie Alongi: (309) 235-6796 | alongilouiev@gmail.com*

Have Questions or Suggestions, or want to Volunteer: Contact a Council Officer

Grand Knight: Rick Cervantes 309-738-2545

Deputy Grand Knight: Dave Sullivan 309-737-5569

Chaplain: Deacon Russ Swim 309-786-3097

Recorder: Kevin Barton 309-721-8316

Advocate: Kevin Houser 309-314-4718

Chancellor: James Britton 309-716-1982

Treasurer: Chuck Gibbs 563-343-3373

Warden: John Doak 309-236-0296

Inside Guard: John Perez 309-373-8258

Outside Guard: Jeff Schaecher 309-737-4116

Financial Secretary: Dick Hunt 309-737-8349, or email – rjhunt1951@gmail.com

Or send an email to our Council's email address – AllouezCouncil@gmail.com

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