



Allouez Council # 658 – Abstracts



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July 2023 Rock Island, IL Vol. MMXXIII, No. 7

Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 6575, Rock Island, IL 61204-6575

| July | Upcoming Events | (subject to change, see online calendar) |
|------|---|--|
| 10 | Officers meeting, Farrell Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL. | 6:30pm to 8pm |
| 13 | Council meeting, Farrell Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL. | Light meal 6pm, Meeting 7pm to 8pm |
| 19 | Midwest Food Bank Distribution, QC Expo Center, Rock Island, IL | 9:00am to 11:00am |
| 30 | 5th Sunday Rosary, St. Pius X, Rock Island, IL. | 10:00am to 10:25am |

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE:

Worthy Brothers,

As we close in on the end of our fraternal year and my term as your Grand Knight also comes to an end. It's been a fun and learning experience. Your commitment and beliefs in the Knights of Columbus have shown here in the church and community. I want to thank all of my officers and fellow knights for the support and work you have done to make Allouez Council 658 a place for catholic men to grow in their faith . The Council will be in good hands as Dave Sullivan will take over as Grand Knight . Dave has been warden, deputy grand knight and always one of the first to volunteer and with your continued support our council membership will grow.

Let the holy spirit be your guide.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Cervantes

ANNIVERSARIES:

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

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| William & Cristina Weston 07-04-1992 | Yves & Kathy Fontaine 07-10-1976 | Thomas & Elizabeth Van Uffelen 07-19-1999 |
| Eugene & Jean Paprocki 07-07-1973 | Michael & Coleen Egan 07-15-2000 | Dr Gregory & Susan Murphy 07-21-1973 |

BIRTHDAYS:

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

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Duncan Kramer | Kenneth Carlson | David Ven Huizen | Timothy Phillis | Thomas Maloney | Kevin Barton |
| Jared Vogege | Ross Hanna | Ronald Staes | Terry Klauer | Timothy Metzger | Dwight Mosley |
| William Buckley | Francis Coyle Jr | John Farrell | Dr Charles Gerleman | Russell Wykle | George Mcdaniel |
| Kevin Hoffman | Kevin Koski | Donald Deleu | Wayne Vittori | Daniel Peterson | |

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 email our Financial Secretary, Dick Hunt, rjhunt1951@gmail.com, so he can add to or correct our records.

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 | Bev Casey | Jim Cecil | Achiel Dupont | Gene Fowler | Jerry Fowler | Jim Fobert |
| Joseph Lazio | Norma Manning | Deacon Paul Martin | | Tina Olson | Mike Pacheco | 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:

What is a son of God or son of man?

Question: A friend who is not a Catholic happened to be talking about things in the Bible that raise more questions than answers. His question was 'just who or what is a son of God? or 'a son of man?' Both terms are used frequently in the Old Testament and in the New Testament but it is usually not clear Who or what they are referring to. Response: I really appreciated receiving this question. I have also noted that the phrase 'son of man' and the phrase 'son of God' appear frequently in scripture. The phrase 'son of' was used in the Hebrew culture to reflect the relationship of a person to someone else or to a specific characteristic. For example, Jesus would have been known as Jesus Ben Joseph or Jesus son of Joseph. Please note it was not Jesus 'the' son of Joseph. A wicked person might be referred to as 'son of pride'. I am not aware of references to Jesus specifically as 'son of man' In the very oldest original texts of scripture, this phrase when it appears in the writings of the church fathers is used to reaffirm the humanity of Jesus. The phrase 'son of God' used in the ancient scripture text normally denotes a special relationship to God; for example, Solomon is called son of God. We need to be very careful with the 'phrase son of God'. That phrase could take us down a theological path the church suffered through in the early centuries which led to frequent and sometimes violent controversies about the nature of God and the nature of Jesus. We need to always remember Jesus is not the son of God in the sense of not existing from all eternity but having been created separately from the rest of creation by God. Rather Jesus is God the son second person of the Trinity. My advice would be to always consider these two phrases in the context they are being read in. Ask yourself 'is the phrase telling me something about the person being referred to?' Or is there an underlying truth this phrase is trying to illuminate.

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. Feel free to drop me a question for this column.

3 DIGIT DAILY RAFFLE GAME:

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!

Below is a list of the winners in our 3-digit daily raffle since our last newsletter:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| June 12th | #777 | Mike Musick | \$25 |
| June 13th | #726 | Tom Lawrence | \$25 |

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

If you would like to buy an available number(s) please contact David Sullivan: (309)737-5569 or david.sullivan1@mchsi.com.

Each 3 digit number is \$27 per year OR \$10 per four month period; January-April, May-August, or September-December. Make checks payable to Knights of Columbus, & mail your payment to:

**Allouez Council 658
P.O. Box 6575
Rock Island, IL 61204-6575**

Reminder of Upcoming Holy Hour:

October 12th



CIVIC AWARDS DINNER:

The annual Civic Awards Dinner honoring the Rock Island Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year will be Sunday, September 10th at 5pm at The Stern Center in Rock Island. Please plan to attend and help us show our support for our local first responders.

JOHN DEERE CLASSIC / BIRDIES FOR CHARITIES:

The John Deere Classic will soon be here, and the Birdies for Charities program is celebrating 30 years of supporting charities in the Quad Cities area. It is because of individuals like you and your donations to Birdies for Charities that Allouez Council has been able to provide winter coats to hundreds of children in the Quad Cities through the Coats for Kids program of the Knights of Columbus. The growing need in our community means your support is needed now more than ever. Giving is easy. Donate online at <https://birdiesforcharity.com/donate> and select 1690 Knights of Columbus 658 Rock Island. Your donation of just \$20 will provide a nice warm winter coat for a child at Skip-a-Long Child Development Services or Children's Therapy Center, both in Rock Island. And what is great about donating through the Birdies for Charities program is that your donation will receive at least a 5% match, making your donation have an even greater impact. Also, you will have an opportunity to win a two-year lease on a 2023 Lexus by guessing the total number of birdies made during the 2023 John Deere Classic. On behalf of the staff and children at Skip-a-Long Child Development Services and Children's Therapy Center, thank you so much for your continued support! Your dollars make a difference, and we could not do what we do without you.



Vivat Jesus!

Rick Cervantes, Grand Knight
Dick Hunt, Financial Secretary
Allouez Council #658
Knights of Columbus

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, ALLOUEZ COUNCIL #658 FRATERNAL YEAR 2024 OFFICERS:

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for Fraternal Year 2024.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Grand Knight | Dave Sullivan |
| Deputy Grand Knight | John Doak |
| Treasurer | Chuck Gibbs |
| Recorder | Kevin Barton |
| Warden | John Perez |
| Advocate | Kevin Houser |
| Inside Guard | Scott Perez |
| Outside Guard | Jeff Schaecher" |
| Chancellor | vacant |
| 1st Year Trustee | Rick Cervantes |
| 2nd Year Trustee | Lance Johnson |
| 3rd Year Trustee | William Weston |



Appointed Officers for Fraternal 2024

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Financial Secretary | Dick Hunt |
| Assistant Chaplain | Deacon Russ Swim |
| Chaplain | vacant |
| Lecturer | vacant |

PRO-LIFE MESSAGE:

Here are four non-religious reasons why Euthanasia is wrong. It is one thing to speak of the sanctity of life and of human life being created in the image and likeness of God. But what does one say when it comes to end-of life issues, and the question of euthanasia comes up? What does one do when a loved one is in immense suffering? When people talk about whether euthanasia is right or wrong, two questions will inevitably come up: Why is euthanasia right (or wrong)? Should we not be able to determine the ultimate disposition of our own bodies? Even from a non-religious standpoint, euthanasia is wrong for four reasons:

1. Humans have great dignity.
2. Voluntary euthanasia is a slippery slope.
3. It puts pressure on “burdensome” individuals.
4. It makes true palliative care worse.

Let’s review each of these reasons in detail.

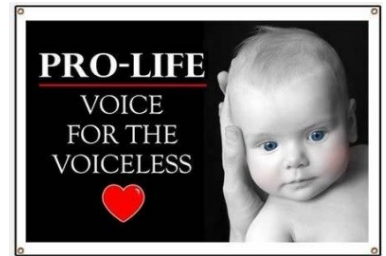
Reason #1: Humans Have Greater Dignity

Some say that if one euthanizes their pets when they are old and suffering, the same should be true for humans. Some go so far as to say that, if humans are unable to choose euthanasia, their pets have more “rights” than they do. The pain of watching a loved one suffer immensely, particularly in their final days, is indescribable. Understandably, we often wish to do anything to alleviate their suffering. The fundamental problem with euthanasia is that it violates human dignity. Human dignity doesn’t come from ability, wealth, mental state, or any other changeable factor. It comes directly from our humanity. This inherent and immutable dignity gives every human life value. Human dignity and the intrinsic value of human life are the bedrock of any sane structure of social ethics. When we let anyone decide that a life is no longer valuable, even if it’s the individual making that decision, we are treating human dignity like a subjective opinion instead of an immutable reality. The attitude that human dignity is subjective is an essential ingredient to any kind of human rights abuse. Even in a person’s final moments, even with immense suffering, everyone deserves to die a natural death. Humans have an intrinsic and unique value and worth, and hastening one’s death violates this worth. In their final days, humans should opt for comfort care – or palliative care, as we will discuss below while accepting a natural death. What is a “natural death?” Natural death is when an individual allows their ailments to claim their life versus hastening their death or using physician-assisted suicide. By dying a natural death, one is not hastening their death through drugs or lack of food, for example. Instead, they are accepting their end as it comes naturally and living their final moments in the best comfort possible.

Reason #2: Voluntary Euthanasia is a Slippery Slope

Voluntary euthanasia is a slippery slope to involuntary euthanasia. Involuntary euthanasia involves killing a person when they either do not consent or are unable to consent (such as while in a coma). The Netherlands legalized euthanasia of newborns who are “defective” which includes being “severely handicapped.” Killing newborns is not voluntary euthanasia. The newborn lacks the ability to consent. Indeed, allowing voluntary euthanasia and expecting involuntary euthanasia to still be opposed is dangerous. Involuntary euthanasia can easily go under the radar especially in the case of newborns and the elderly. If we allow individuals to choose physician-assisted suicide when they are suffering, what’s to stop the family of a patient from choosing euthanasia when their loved one is unconscious? Many oppose the “slippery slope” argument, saying there is no evidence that allowing voluntary euthanasia would lead to involuntary euthanasia. They further argue that creating laws that draw a hard line between voluntary and involuntary euthanasia would prevent the slippery slope fear, that society can support the voluntary while strongly rejecting the involuntary. However, allowing voluntary euthanasia and expecting involuntary euthanasia to be opposed in all cases is dangerous. A 2022 project concluded that legalized euthanasia presents too great a risk to vulnerable communities, namely, the disabled and terminally ill. There’s also the concern that involuntary euthanasia will be used for those whose lives are not deemed “worth living” such as deformed or disabled children, or for those with treatable conditions. Canada is a Warning for Our Future. Canada’s “progressive” euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide laws are further down the slippery slope than our own. It can serve as a stark, real-life example of the slippery slope argument. A Canadian Veteran was offered euthanasia as the ideal solution when she couldn’t secure a stair lift for her home. Another Veteran was reportedly seeking treatment for PTSD injuries and had been improving when his VA counselor suggested physician-assisted suicide as the best option. What’s the point of having healthcare, if the go-to is euthanasia when someone is suffering? Canada has expanded their euthanasia laws to include individuals with chronic conditions, even if those conditions are not life-threatening. But the expansion doesn’t stop there. There has been a push to legalize euthanasia for individuals suffering solely from a mental illness, such as depression. This This expansion was set to take place in March 2023, but they extended the date to March 2024. What the future may reap with such policies is bleak. Canada has government-funded healthcare. If euthanasia becomes the norm for illnesses and conditions, will the government stop funding many sectors in healthcare, with the assumption that individuals will choose euthanasia?

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Reason #3: Allowing Euthanasia Puts Pressure on “Burdensome” Individuals

Related to Reason #2, if euthanasia is allowed, it indicates that there are individuals in society who we are unwilling to help and care for. Society should be sensitive and caring to those who have more challenges. Normalized and encouraged euthanasia further puts pressure on these individuals to take their own lives to make life “easier” for the society who spurns them. Such individuals would include disabled, elderly, mentally challenged, or even those who suffer from mental illnesses such as anxiety or depression (such as we are seeing in Canada). A poll by the disability charity Scope, found that 64% of disabled respondents would be concerned with a relaxation of the laws surrounding assisted suicide. They fear that, by having broader assisted suicide services, disabled individuals will be pressured to choose this option. Society should never shrug off the responsibility of taking care of its members, particularly those who need it the most. There is no limit to how far the ugly arms of euthanasia could reach. But these individuals are loved and valued human beings with intrinsic worth. They should receive the same respect, honor, and kindness as the rest of society. Indeed, those who choose euthanasia may well be choosing it out of a fear of being “burdensome” to their loved ones. Instead, these individuals should be reassured that their lives are worth living and that they have dignity. They are worthy of care, support, comfort, and compassion in their final days. Palliative care is a worthy alternative to euthanasia. It honors the patient’s dignity and gives them comfort as they prepare for their final day.

Reason #4: Allowing Euthanasia Makes True Palliative Care Worse

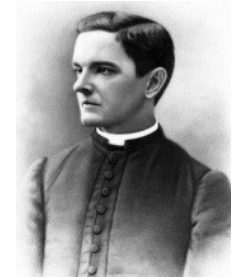
Euthanasia is, by its nature and definition, in complete opposition to the principle of “do no harm.” Thus, euthanasia and palliative care are completely incompatible. Palliative care seeks to provide dignity, comfort, and compassion in a person’s final days. It seeks to minimize or eliminate pain and to give comfort to the patient. Palliative care is thus in perfect accord with the medical principle of “do no harm.” Not only does it make euthanasia obsolete, but it also makes it unthinkable. It also can be said that palliative care affords an understanding of one’s own worthiness and dignity, even in the midst of suffering. A 2018 study found that 86% of patients who received palliative care did not request euthanasia. Euthanasia, meanwhile, is the ultimate despair, the last ditch effort to make things “easier” for the patient’s family and loved ones. In reality, a family should know their own individual dignity and worth and honor themselves and their family members. If euthanasia is pushed and normalized, palliative care is impossible. Having euthanasia as the norm makes it expected, so palliative care becomes unexpected and neglected. Those who do not choose euthanasia may be seen as a burden on the healthcare system. Those who do not have access to needed care may also be pushed towards euthanasia, as seen in Canada with the two veterans. In countries where the government funds healthcare (thus providing universal healthcare), normalized and pushed euthanasia would encourage the government to limit or even halt funding of end-of-life healthcare beyond euthanasia. In other words, in such countries, the government does not have an interest in paying for palliative services, assuming or wanting the patient to choose euthanasia as the cheaper option. Allowing and normalizing euthanasia takes away from the dignity and worth that palliative care encourages and emphasizes. Humans deserve more than hastening their death in the painful final days. Instead of euthanasia, we should be pushing for improved palliative care to give comfort to individuals in their final days in accordance with their worth and dignity.

Jack Swan – Pro-Life Director

PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVENEY:

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 the 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 (make your request here).

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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

Grand Knight: Dave Sullivan 309-737-5569

Deputy Grand Knight: John Doak 309-236-0296

Chaplain: Deacon Russ Swim 309-786-3097

Recorder: Kevin Barton 309-721-8316

Advocate: Kevin Houser 309-314-4718

Warden: John Perez 309-373-8258

Treasurer: Chuck Gibbs 563-343-3373

Outside Guard: Jeff Schaecher 309-737-4116

Inside Guard: Scott Perez 309-798-6685

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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