



# Allouez Council # 658 – Abstracts

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



## **GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE:**

**Worthy Brothers,**

The position of Grand Knight is an ongoing learning experience for me. I appreciate all of the help and support I receive from the officers and my brother Knights to help make Allouez Council 658 a strong place to grow in faith. There are many programs and activities coming in September which give Knights and their families opportunities to attend and participate. The Labor Day Parade on Sept. 4th, the mass of Remembrance for the Unborn on Sept. 9th, and The Civic Awards Night on Sept. 10th are programs that all members and families are welcome to attend. Thank you for your support and God Bless you and your families.

**Vivat Jesus,**

**Dave Sullivan**

## **DEACON'S QUESTION BOX:**

**What does the church teach about creation vs evolution?**

Thinkers have been wrestling with the questions of how man came to be and what our relationship to the world is since the time we were drawing animal pictures on cave walls. These questions and controversies touch the very core of our beliefs. Concerning the origins of the cosmos and life; there are three positions generally taken. (1) special or instantaneous creation, (2) developmental creation or theistic evolution, (3) and atheistic evolution. Instantaneous creation says all things that exist including us did not develop from previous forms but were instantaneously and directly created by God. Theistic evolution says that everything did develop from previous forms or states and that the process was under God's guidance. Atheistic creation holds that everything exists because of accident and random forces alone. At the first Vatican council instantaneous creation from nothing was infallibly defined. The council fathers wrote, "Everyone must confess the world and all things which are contained in it, both spiritual and material, as regards their whole substance, have been produced by God from nothing" 1 The church does not have an official dogmatic teaching on whether life forms and other things develop over the course of time. The church does say that if they did develop, then they did so under the impetus and guidance of God., and their ultimate creation must be ascribed to him. The church has a more definite and defined teaching concerning human beings. The church allows that man's body may have developed from previous biological forms under God's guidance, but it insists that our soul is a special creation of God. Pope Pius XII declared, "the teaching authority of the Church does not forbid that, in conformity with the present state of human sciences and sacred theology, research and discussions with regard to the doctrine of evolution, in as far as it inquires into the origin of the human body as coming from pre-existent and living matter—[but] the Catholic faith obliges us to hold that souls are immediately created by God." 2 souls did not evolve and are not inherited from our parents in the manner our bodies are. So, the church permits us to accept whatever theory we find reasonable to explain the creation of the universe we see around us but under no circumstance can we hold a position that God had no hand in creation. In closing; whenever we are faced with weighing evidence and theories about the universe presented to us by science we should always begin by weighing that evidence in light of what we learn from scripture and the Church. As the catechism says, "Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth".

***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](mailto:rpswim@mchsi.com), phone***

786-3097. Feel free to drop me a question for this column.

**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](mailto: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
Louis Granato III	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	Jean Paprocki					

*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.*

**BIRTHDAYS:**

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

Thomas Van Uffelen	Edward Bills	James Fobert	James Kronfeld	Ky Pobanz	E H Richard Peterson
Kenneth Steffen	Jesse Lopez	Dennis Carlson	Charles Gibbs	Dr Gregory Murphy	Robert Graff
Lawrence Mack	Michael Mc Kinney	Larry D Adams	Louis Granato Jr	Michael J Polaschek	Joseph Lazio
David Yordy	William Carlough	Rev Daniel Mirabelli	Timothy Carlin	Carl Pfeiffer	Drexel Franks

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Congratulations to the 15 couples celebrating their wedding anniversary this month. May they celebrate many more!

Gary & Mary Nowak 09-01-1973	Jeffrey & Rachel Banz 09-04-1965	Donald & Patti Deleu 09-05-1981
William & Mary Ann Seaver 09-05-1955	Craig & Gerianne Benisch 09-07-1996	John & Terri Marsho 09-10-2011
Mark & Linda Huggins 09-12-1981	Richard & Joan Sellon 09-12-1959	David & Janis Hubbs 09-16-1978
Mark & Susan Schaecher 09-17-1988	Michael & Colleen Crowder 09-20-1969	Terrance & Jane Wiggins 09-21-1974
Forrest & Kathleen Belzer 09-26-1981	John & Jessa Justice 09-27-2008	John & Karen Phillips 09-28-1985

*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](mailto:rjhunt1951@gmail.com), so he can add or correct our records.*

**3 DIGIT DAILY RAFFLE GAME:**

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 Are:

\$25 – Jim Mack, July 20th, #221

\$50 - Richard Phillis, July 22nd, #628

\$25 – Deacon Russ Swim, August 2nd, #950

\$25 – Rick Cervantes, August 14th, #347

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](mailto: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 Hours:**

October 12<sup>th</sup>

November 4<sup>th</sup>



## **PRO-LIFE MESSAGE:**

What are Abortifacients? An abortifacient is defined as “an agent (such as a drug) that induces abortion.” After an egg is fertilized, abortifacients kill the unborn child. However, manufacturers often market these drugs under the name “contraception” to make them more appealing to consumers. Abortifacients are different from contraceptives in that they do not prevent an egg from being fertilized. Rather, they act after fertilization to kill a child in the earliest stages of development. Many contraceptives are really abortifacients. In 1963, the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare shared the widely held definition of abortion as “all the measures which impair the viability of the zygote at any time between the instant of fertilization and the completion of labor.” Indeed, until the mid-1960s, scientists universally acknowledged that human life begins at the moment of fertilization of the ovum by the sperm somewhere in the Fallopian tube. In order to make abortion-causing methods more palatable in societies that still widely rejected abortion, and to circumvent laws designed to prohibit abortion, the promoters of birth control realized that they had to blur the line between conception-preventing (contraceptive) and early abortion-causing (abortifacient) actions. They did this by changing the definition of “conception” from fertilization (union of sperm and ovum) to implantation. Under the new definition of “conception,” if a device or drug—such as an IUD or hormonal contraception—prevents implantation, then no abortion takes place. The “family planning” industry finally succeeded in 1965, when the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists published its first Terminology Bulletin, stating: “Conception is the implantation of a fertilized ovum.” It is important to note that this change in terminology was clearly not based upon new scientific findings but was a political decision to appease birth control activists. Manufacturers of abortifacients call their products “contraceptives” not because they prevent conception but because they prevent implantation. Such methods are sometimes called “contragestions” referring to those abortive products that either prevents a fertilized egg from attaching to the uterus, or otherwise dissolving it or expulsing it from the uterus. This terminology does not tell the truth, and it does not change the reality – that these methods are killing a preborn child. A true contraceptive method prevents conception in one or more of these ways:

1. It places an actual mechanical barrier (such as a condom or cervical cap) between the sperm and ovum to prevent them from uniting.
2. It thickens the cervical mucus, preventing the easy travel of sperm.
3. It inhibits ovulation, preventing the release of a mature ovum.
4. It blocks the Fallopian tube or vas deferens through sexual sterilization.

When effective, each of these methods prevents a new human being from being created. Recall that an abortifacient is “an agent that induces an abortion.” Depending on the type of abortifacient, the abortion happens by preventing the implantation of the early human being (blastocyst) in the uterus or by killing the preborn child shortly after implantation. There are two distinct kinds of abortifacients. The first includes drugs and devices that continually maintain a certain level of hormones in the woman’s body, mimicking pregnancy. While these can also have a genuine contraceptive effect, each also has the potential to alter the lining of the uterus to prevent the implantation of a tiny human being. Methods that prevent implantation include: Oral contraceptives such as the birth control pill, intrauterine devices, injectables such as Depo-Provera, and implants such as Norplant, Jadelle, Implanon, and Nexplanon. The second type of abortifacient directly kills an existing preborn child. Also referred to as “medical abortion,” these include: RU-486 (the abortion pill), the methotrexate/misoprostol combination, and the so-called “Emergency contraception”: These abortifacients have many forms and are sometimes called “the morning after pill”. They consist of high doses of the artificial steroids used in oral contraceptives. The most popular brand is Plan B. Despite the birth control industry’s political victories in influencing the language of certain medical organizations, embryology (the field of science that specifically deals with the biological facts of the beginning of life) still holds that a new human being comes into existence at conception/fertilization. Embryologists have found that from the first moment of creation, the new human being’s genetic code is complete, his sex is determined, and with proper nourishment in the womb he will continue to develop as every human being does. This is not a religious viewpoint; it is hard science. There is also no scientific debate about the abortifacient effects of the drugs in question (though some drugs are still being tested), as preventing the tiny embryonic human being from implanting in the womb will certainly kill him. The manufacturers and promoters of these birth control methods, however, having largely won the debate over language, continue to market their products as “contraception.” These products generally work to suppress ovulation and cause changes in the consistency of cervical mucus, making it more difficult for sperm to reach the ovum. These are true contraceptive effects. However, as we have seen, these products also alter the uterine lining, making implantation much more difficult. In a cycle where ovulation was not prevented and fertilization takes place, a “silent abortion” will occur. The patient information pamphlets for the above abortifacients reveal that, in addition to potentially causing an early abortion, they can harm the woman as well, as they can cause a variety of more than 80 side effects depending upon the method. These side effects come from a powerful group of chemicals called steroids and synthetic progestogens and progestins. There’s a huge range of potential side effects – everything from paralysis, toxic shock syndrome, ectopic pregnancy, stroke, blood clots, and heart attack to the less serious hypertension, anemia, and varicose veins. Some birth controls also increase the risk of cervical and breast cancers. Side effects of hormonal birth control include nausea, breast changes, vaginal irritation, and mood changes. Perhaps the most famous abortifacient is the abortion pill, also known as the mifepristone/misoprostol combination. Mifepristone works by blocking the hormone progesterone, which is necessary to

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continue a pregnancy. As a result, the newly formed baby is expelled from the uterus. This is often taken with misoprostol, which causes the uterus to contract and empty itself of the baby. After the recent overturn of Roe v. Wade in 2022, the abortion pill has become increasingly less difficult to acquire. More and more, women are being told they can take the pill at home – an incredibly dangerous suggestion. As you can see, the church has been correct all along about her stance on birth control and abortion, although too many Catholics do not understand why and fewer people in general seem to care. We as Knights of Columbus should try to hold our own families to the principles of life and educate ourselves and our families accordingly. Our children's and our grandchildren's lives depend on it.

Jack Swan – Pro-Life Director

**SEPTEMBER 4th**, 9:30 am to 11:00am, Labor Day Parade,  
Rock Island



**SEPTEMBER 9th**, 9:00am. Mass for the Unborn, Calvary  
Cemetery, Rock Island



#### **AWARDS DINNER/STERN CENTER 9/10/23**

The Knights will have honored a total of **44** Rock Island Police Officers and **44** Firefighters as of this coming Awards Dinner on 9/10/23. Nobody thought 44 years ago this program would generate this much honor, respect, and thanks. Al Kukla, former State Deputy and Allouez member, with Grand Knight Louie, thought that our Police and Firefighters deserved lot's of "thank you's" for all they do on a daily basis. Al lived across the street from me and we worked out all the details in his living room! The Knights have received many "recognitions" over the years for their support. Brother Knights, over the past years the Civic Awards attendance has increased with the city staff and decreased with the Brother Knights attending. Kevin Houser is doing an excellent job putting this program together each year and needs our support. I am asking you to support our R.I. Police & Firefighters and show Kevin and our city that we Knights "back the blue and red!" Please contact (info below) Kevin or myself and make a RSVP soon.

Details: 5:00 Social.....6:00 Dinner      Cost: \$20/per person \$5.00/child      Can pay at the Stern Ctr. door.  
I ask you to please support our Civic Awards Dinner and our Police & Firefighters. Thank you.

Louie Alongi

Kevin: 309-314-4718 or [khouser@sternbeverage.com](mailto:khouser@sternbeverage.com)

Louie: 309-235-6796 or [alongilouiev@gmail.com](mailto:alongilouiev@gmail.com)

From Dave Sullivan

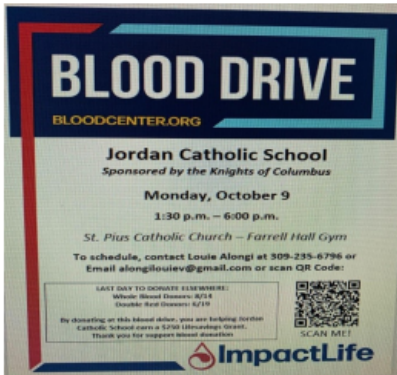
Grand Knight Allouez 658

I received the Police Officer of the Year award in 1983, 40 years ago. I still consider it a great honor and I appreciate the efforts of the Knights of Columbus for this recognition and thanks. I still have my certificate, plaque and uniform pin which I proudly wore for 25 years until I retired.

I would like to see as many Knights and families attend this year's Civic Awards Night to honor the police officer and firefighter of the year. It is a night of recognition and respect and thanks that they will never forget.



Sept. 15th- 17th. 15th thru the 16th will be at the stores and St.Mary's and Sacred Heart collecting and on the 9th and 10th will be at St.PiusX. Need volunteers 15 minutes before and after masses to set up and take down table buckets and candy. Same as other years we leave everything on the table and let the people drop money and grab the candy.



**OCTOBER 9th**, 1:30pm to 6:00pm

Jordan Catholic School Blood Drive, Farrell Hall Gym, Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

To schedule your donation, contact Louie Alongi 309-235-6796, or email to alongilouiev@gmail.com

Last day to donate elsewhere:

\* Whole Blood Donors—August 14th, \* Double Red Donors— June 19th

By donating at this blood drive, you are helping Jordan Catholic School earn a \$250 Lifesavings Grant. Thank you for supporting Jordan with a blood donation.

**September**

- 4 Labor Day Parade, Washington Jr High to Rock Island High School, Rock Island 9:30 am to 11:00am
- 9 Mass of Remembrance for the Unborn, Calvary Cemetery, Rock Island 9:00am
- 10 Civic Awards Dinner, Sterns Center, Rock Island 5:00pm
- 15-17 Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive, Rock Island more details to come

**October**

- 9 Jordan School Blood Drive, Farrell Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island 1:30pm to 6:00pm
- 12 Allouez Council #658 Holy Hour, St. Pius X, Rock Island 5:00pm

**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:** Fr Witold Adamczyk 226-703-0503      **Assistant Chaplain:** Deacon Russ Swim 309-786-3097  
**Recorder:** Kevin Barton 309-721-8316      **Advocate:** Kevin Houser 309-314-4718  
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**Inside Guard:** Scott Perez 309-798-6685      **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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