



Allouez Council # 658 – Abstracts



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January 2024 Rock Island, IL Vol. MMXXIV, No. 1
Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 6575, Rock Island, IL 61204-6575

Grand Knight's Message:

Worthy Brothers,

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a Joyous Christmas with your family and friends. As we move into 2024, I can look back at all of the good work the council has done. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped in our various events. We finished 2023 with a very successful Holiday Cash Raffle. We sold 480 out of 500 tickets for receipts of \$2402.00. (I have no idea where the \$2 came from) The \$300 winner was Greg Schneider, \$200 winner was Forrest Belzer and the \$100 winner was Kathleen Tucker. In addition to the \$600 payout to the winners, we had an expense of \$106 for the printing of the raffle tickets. Thanks to everyone who sold tickets to help make this event a success.

Some members have received their 2024 dues statements by email instead of regular mail. Additionally, these members were able to pay their dues electronically. This is a big time and money saver and the electronic payment was very easy. Hopefully, more members will take advantage of this in the future. Thanks to our financial secretary Dick Hunt for setting this up.

We have two events already scheduled for 2024; a pancake breakfast on Sunday January 21st and a Lenten Fish Fry on Friday March 8th. We will be asking for volunteers to help make these events successful. We had a new member join our council at our last meeting on 12/14/23. His name is Armando Calderon. He lives in Rock Island and owns his own construction company, Calderon Construction. Welcome Armando!

Let the Holy Spirit be your guide.

Vivat Jesus! *Dave Sullivan*

Deacon's Question Box:

What is the history of the Memorare?

Question: I am going to add the Memorare as my closing prayer in the group I lead. Do you know the history of this prayer? I've always loved the prayer, and I am curious about its origin.

Response: we do not know with certainty who the author of this prayer was. It is traditionally attributed to the Abbott St. Bernard of Clairvaux and it is dated from the 12th century. We do not know if this is true. We do know it was championed by the French priest Father Claude Bernard. He used it extensively in his ministry to the poor and to prisoners in the 17th century. In his writings Father Claude credited reciting the Memorare with curing him of a serious illness. He then had 200,000 copies of the prayer printed up and distributed as leaflets in various languages. This would have been a very significant feat considering this was before desktop publishing, computer printers and firms like Kinko's and printing businesses existed. Do you have a particular problem you feel you can't share with our Creator? Or perhaps you think he's too busy? He's never too busy to hear a sincere request for His aid and guidance. Indeed, he's never too busy for any of us, period! We are always welcome to ask His mother to help us. In fact this delights our Lord! As St. Louis De Montfort once put it, by asking Mary to approach Him for us "we are practicing humility, something which always gladdens the heart of God!" (St. Francis de Sales once wrote in this regard that "God so loves humility that He instantly hastens to the soul in which he sees it.")

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.

Birthdays:

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

John Justice	Michael Doyle	Raymond Wells	Louis Alongi	Carlos Barajas	Terrance Wiggins
Andrew Olson	Alan Massie	Rev Thomas Szydlak	David Cray	Jeffrey Schaecher	Paul Carton
Martin Herman	Mark Huggins				

Anniversaries:

Congratulations to the 5 couples celebrating their wedding anniversary this month. May they celebrate many more!

Charles Jr & Heather Bishop 01-02-1999 Timothy & Elizabeth Steines 01-12-2002 Michal & Chae Hee Porubcin 01-14-1995
Francis & Nancy Adlfinger 01-27-1962 Achiel Jr & Marie Dupont 01-28-1961

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 Cecil	Linda Cervantes	Achiel Dupont	Paul Egan	Gene Fowler	Jerry Fowler
Jim Fobert	Louis Granato III	Kevin Hughes	Joseph Lazio	Norma Manning	Deacon Paul Martin	
Mike Pacheco	Jean Paprocki	Red Pearson	Mary Jo Pulford	Sue Schaecher	Jerry Schroeder	Jack Showalter
Deacon Russ Swim	Bob Spalding	Richard Tipton	Jim Wells	William Weston	Dick Yeager	
Betty VanDeVoorde						

We pray, O God, that You look with pity on Your servants who suffer. Ease their pain & comfort their loneliness. Give them the grace

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!

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

November 29th	#717	Dave Sullivan	\$25
December 17th	#522	Matt Goumas	\$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

Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing:

Hi Brothers! We collected \$861.87 as you will read below for the Salvation Army and our community. In 2016 we collected \$1000.00 for the first time and just missed it this year. From 2013 thru 2023 we have collected a total of \$11,143.59.....not too shabby for 10 Knights each year!!! Thanks to the 10 Knights and Jim Wieland for the photos.

(The note below was received from Major Jason Pollom from the Salvation Army)

I received the kettle totals this morning from the bank. Your kettle raised \$861.87 in the following amounts:} \$ 468.00 cash, \$43.87 coin and \$ 350.00 checks. Somehow, 'thank you' doesn't seem enough for the wonderful support your kettle generated this past weekend. Thank you for being out there – nice weather was a good thing too – and for supporting your brothers and sisters in need through The Salvation Army. Please express my appreciation to your fellow Council members for their efforts at the kettle last Friday. Blessings to you. Merry Christmas.

Jason Pollom, Major, The Salvation Army Moline Heritage Temple, serving Rock Island County

Merry Christmas! Louie Alongi, alongilouiev@gmail.com 309-235-6796

Vocation Raffle Report

A big thank you all who purchased or sold raffle tickets. I am sorry to say no one from our Council won anything . I do have The names if you have the interest. Just contact me . Also we increased Our sales from 2022 . (yah) The money goes for a great need. Our Council Helps five seminarians and one of them, Nick Conners, will be ordained in the spring of 2023. Please continue your prayers for them.

Thank you Again!

Jim Wieland

309-948-5534

Pro-Life Message:

One of the most troubling trends in recent years has been the rapid growth of so-called “Medical Abortions”. These are abortions that are committed not with surgical instruments, but rather by means of two abortion drugs, which are often taken by mothers at home, far from medical supervision. The two drugs involved in a medical abortion are mifepristone and misoprostol. During a medical abortion, a woman first takes mifepristone, which mimics the natural hormone progesterone by binding to progesterone receptors in the uterus. In doing so, the drug causes natural progesterone levels in the woman’s body to drop to dangerous levels. The result is that the newly implanted child starves to death and detaches from the uterus. Next, the woman takes misoprostol, which causes contractions of the uterus, thus expelling the dead child and completing the abortion. Research by the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, formerly the research arm of Planned Parenthood, has revealed that medical abortions now constitute over 50% of all abortions in the United States. And abortion groups are proactively seeking to increase that proportion, by heavily advocating in favor of medical abortions. This advocacy was heavily accelerated during the pandemic. Abortion organizations cynically used interruptions to medical services during the pandemic to push for massive loosening of regulations on access to abortion drugs. Prior to the pandemic, it was typically required that a pregnant woman meet personally with a doctor to obtain a prescription for the abortion drugs, and to make a second visit after the abortion was completed for a check-up. However, during the pandemic, abortion groups lobbied for—and obtained—relaxations of the regulations, such that women could simply “meet” with a doctor over a virtual call, and then have the abortion drugs shipped to them through the mail. Thus, they could go through the entire abortion process without ever having stepped foot into a doctor’s office or physically seen a medical professional. This is called a “telemedicine” abortion.

However, for years prior to the pandemic, abortion organizations had plotted ways to increase the proportion of medical abortions. One of the main reasons for doing so, is that they recognized that the pro-life movement in America had major momentum, and that it may only be a matter of time before Roe v. Wade was reversed. With many states restricting abortion, it would be far easier—they reasoned—to get around abortion restrictions if obtaining an abortion was as simple as ordering (perhaps illegally) a couple of pills over the Internet and taking them at home. Rarely discussed by these so-called “pro-woman” abortion organizations, however, are the dangers and trauma experienced by the hundreds of thousands of women who have undergone so-called “medical abortions.” While pro-abortion organizations routinely tout medical abortions as “safe,” the reality is that numerous women recount horrifying experiences of medical abortions. Because the abortion drugs are typically taken at home, women often undergo these experiences alone, without anyone with medical expertise close at hand. One pro-life organization is about to submit a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in relation to a pending case, which recounts the first-hand stories of thousands of women who underwent medical abortions. “What they failed to tell me was what was going to truly happen, the intense cramping, the bleeding, the large pieces of bloody tissue I would pass, the nausea, the weakness,” one woman recounts. “I thought I was going to die there all alone. I was sure I needed medical attention, but I was afraid of the exposure of what I had done.” Many women relate the traumatizing experience of expelling the bodies of their babies, and coming face-to-face with the reality of what an abortion is—the reality that their doctors and pro-abortion organizations have hidden from them with euphemistic language referring to a “blob of tissue” or “ending a pregnancy.” Instead, these women were forced, under horrific circumstances, to deal with the reality that that “blob of tissue” was in fact a recognizable human child. “I took the second pill while laying on my bed, expecting some mild menstrual cramps as they had told me. That’s not what it was at all – I experienced very intense, painful cramps as my body expelled my baby’s body into the toilet.”

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Another woman writes in the brief. “My baby was disposed of in a toilet, a toilet. I wish so much now that I would’ve taken the remains of that precious little body and buried it.” Allan Parker, the president of the Justice Foundation, which is filing the brief, tells of one conversation with a woman who was “sobbing uncontrollably.” “They lied to me!” she screamed. “They said it wasn’t a baby! This is a baby! I can see the hands and legs! Can I bury my baby in the backyard?”

In the recent past, however, we received news of one of the most significant developments in relation to the abortion pill in decades. This is that the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case that could (if it goes the right way) lead to the significant restriction of these dangerous drugs. On the other hand, if the High Court sides with the pro-abortion side, it could result with the abortion drugs being more available than ever before. The case is finally ending up at the U.S. Supreme Court, after a series of decisions and stays at lower courts. The case followed on the heels of the Biden Administration’s decision during the pandemic to loosen requirements for accessing the abortion drugs, allowing doctors to prescribe them over video conference calls, and for women to then obtain them through the mail. After the Biden administration announced this policy, several pro-life medical groups sued to prevent it from going into effect. In fact, the groups went further, challenging the FDA’s original approval of the abortion drugs in 2000, claiming that the FDA failed to take into account the significant safety concerns with the abortion drugs. In the end, after a series of different courts intervened in the matter, the abortion drugs have remained available in the United States. However, the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals decided to suspend the Biden Administration’s policy allowing so-called “telemedicine” abortions. In other words, the court maintained the old policy of requiring women to make in-office visits to doctors to obtain a prescription for the drugs. Now the case has landed at the U.S. Supreme Court. Sometime over the next few months, the highest court in the land will hear arguments in the case. The potential implications are massive: if the Court decides to allow telemedicine abortions to continue, they will play into the hands of abortion activists, who are desperate to make abortion as easy and widely available as possible, to counteract the Court’s decision to reverse *Roe v. Wade*. If, however, they side with the pro-life doctors, abortion drugs could be heavily restricted, potentially saving tens of thousands of lives—mothers and their children. Please keep this intention in your prayers.

Although many women are now opting for medical abortions, one of the best-kept secrets is that there is hope for women who begin the medical abortion process, but then regret their decision. Typically, there is a two-day period between the start of the medical abortion, when the woman takes the first abortion drug, and the completion of the abortion. What some pro-life doctors have realized is that it is possible to counteract the effects of the first abortion drug, mifepristone. As noted above, mifepristone mimics the natural hormone progesterone. By binding to the progesterone receptors, it tricks the body into thinking that it has adequate progesterone. The result is that the newly implanted baby starves to death and detaches from the mother’s uterus. However, pro-life doctors have developed a protocol involving shots of natural progesterone, thus assisting the woman’s body to maintain the life of her child, and ultimately give birth to a healthy child. Using this protocol, known as the “abortion pill reversal” procedure, pro-life doctors have successfully saved the preborn children of women who have already begun the abortion process. Studies from hundreds of successful mifepristone reversals show that the reversal success rates were 68% with a high-dose oral progesterone protocol, and 64% with an injected progesterone protocol. There was no increased risk of birth defects or preterm births. Unfortunately, as the abortion pill reversal process has become better known, abortion extremists have begun to target the procedure. One state, Colorado, has even passed a law banning doctors from discussing abortion pill reversal.

Meanwhile, the state of California is suing two pro-life organizations for publicizing the reversal process. It is truly appalling just how committed to abortion so many abortion activists are. They cannot even bear the thought that women who regret starting the abortion process might have the choice to attempt to save the life of their preborn child. These allegedly “pro-choice” activists have instead clamped down on the only ray of hope left for women who, often under immense pressure, began the abortion process, but then realized that they wish to keep their child. Let us pray for the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court, that they will have the courage to recognize that there is nothing “safe” about the abortion pill, which always takes a life, and harms the mother.

Jack Swan – Pro-Life Director

Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney:

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.

**Upcoming Events and Activities** (changes or updates will be noted in next month's Newsletter)**January**

7	Coffee & Conversation, McCarthy Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island	After 8:00am and 10:30 am Masses
8	Allouez Council #658 Officers Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:30pm
11	Allouez Council #658 Council Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:00pm Light Meal, 7:00pm Meeting
16	Midwest Food Bank Distribution, Stern Beverage, 961 Tech Drive Milan	9:00am to 11:30am
21	Religious Education Programs Pancake Breakfast, Farrell Hall, St Pius X	7:30am to Noon

February

4	Coffee & Conversation, McCarthy Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island	After 8:00am and 10:30am Masses
5	Allouez Council #658 Officers Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:30pm
8	Allouez Council #658 Council Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:00pm Light Meal, 7:00pm Meeting
20	Midwest Food Bank Distribution, Stern Beverage, 961 Tech Drive Milan	9:00am to 11:30am

March

3	Coffee & Conversation, McCarthy Hall, St. Pius X, Rock Island	After 8:00am and 10:30am Masses
4	Allouez Council #658 Officers Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:30pm
8	Lenten Fish Fry, Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	4:00pm to 7:30pm
14	Allouez Council #658 Council Meeting , Farrell Hall, St Pius X, Rock Island	6:00pm Light Meal, 7:00pm Meeting
16	St. Patrick's Day Mass and parade. . . Mass at St. Mary's, Rock Island, IL.	10:00am
19	Midwest Food Bank Distribution, Stern Beverage, 961 Tech Drive Milan	9:00am to 11:30am

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

Treasurer: Chuck Gibbs 563-343-3373

Warden: John Perez 309-373-8258

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

The Knights of Columbus Allouez Council #658



Invite You, Your Family,
And Your Friends to the 1st Annual

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Menu includes pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice, and milk

Join us in this worthy fundraising event to support the Religious Education Programs at Jordan and Alleman Catholic Schools. Please come and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by the Knights, meet new people, and gather to offer up your support for this very worthy cause. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 7:30am to Noon

St. Pius X Catholic Church

Farrell Hall

2502 29th Avenue

Rock Island Illinois

If you're not able to attend, but would like to donate toward this cause,

You can mail your donation to:

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

or you can click on this link:

<https://square.link/u/KFg1sCqO>

or scan this QR Code
to donate by credit card:



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