

CROW'S NEST

February 2018
Volume 55, Number 1



Ave Maria Council 5521 61533 Ironwood Rd South Bend, IN 46614-9021 (574) 291-2740
Website: www.kofc5521.org Email: council5521@indianakofc.org

Grand Knight's Message



Please think about the four core principles of the Knights of Columbus - *Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism*. Most of our activities are Charitable in nature but remember the Fraternity that we all need. Coming together as Catholic Men! Please come to some meetings this year and participate as much as you can in the many different activities we have this year.

Meetings are the second Monday of every month.

February 12

March 12

April 9

Please mark your calendars now !!!

I pray that you and your families have a blessed Lenten Season.

Eric Van Meter
Grand Knight

NEW MARIST POLLS FIND THAT AMERICANS OF ALL POLITICAL PERSUASIONS FAVOR SUBSTANTIAL ABORTION LIMITS

More than three quarters of Americans would limit abortion to — at most — the first three months of pregnancy, according to a new Marist Poll. That number has consistently been about three quarters or more for the past decade.

This year, the survey found that 76 percent of Americans want such limits. Strong majorities of Republicans (92 percent), Independents (78 percent) and Democrats (61 percent) agree, as do a majority of those who identify as pro-choice (60 percent).

While a slim majority of Americans (51 percent) identify as pro-choice, even 60 percent of those who identify as such also support substantial limits.

On specific policy issues, the poll also found that more than 6 in 10 Americans (63 percent) would ban abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy, while a similar number oppose using tax dollars to pay for abortion (60 percent).

For the full story on this poll, go to www.kofc.org.

2017-18 Officers

Chaplain

Rev. SK Eric A. Zimmer, S.J.
(574) 340-0687

Grand Knight

SK Eric Van Meter
ericvm729@gmail.com
(574) 904-9812

Deputy Grand Knight

SK Tim Bonadies
(574) 252-5933

Financial Secretary

SK George Adams, PGK
gcadams@alumni.nd.edu
(574) 273-1198

Chancellor

Vacant position
Please consider

Recorder

Douglas Gilman
(574) 291-6408

Treasurer

Cel Lopez
(574) 291-4589

Advocate

Vacant position
Please consider

Warden

Rob Diltz
(574) 277-5384

Inside Guard

Vacant position
Please consider

Outside Guard

Vacant position
Please consider

Lecturer

Vacant position
Please consider

Trustees

SK Mike Huszar, PGK
(574) 250-1863
Ryan Grill, PGK
(574) 387-1628
Kevin Thibodeau, PGK
(574) 401-4483

K of C Insurance Field Agent

SK Andrew Weiss
(574) 274-6929

District Deputy 11

SK Gil Martin
(574) 276-5027

Editor

SK George Adams
(574) 273-1198

Membership and Degree News

Our next admission degrees are scheduled for **February 6 and April 3**. If you have a potential member to propose or sponsor, contact membership co-chairman John Burzynski at jburzynski@gmail.com so we can get the candidate in for one of the exemplifications. Candidates and sponsors should arrive by 6:30 p.m. Guests should arrive by 6:45 p.m.

We welcome **four new members** to the council. **Charlie Dettmer** and **Brian Krol** took the Admission degree exemplification on December 5, **Dave Barkley** took the Admission degree at Council 553 on January 22, and **George Spohrer** is in the process of transferring in to our council. Welcome, brothers, to Council 5521!

On December 14, the **Formation (2nd) degree** was exemplified at St. Jude parish, as 7 members of our council advanced in their journey to full knighthood in the Order. Congratulations to **Norbert Brenner, Mike Burzynski, George Spohrer, Charlie Dettmer, Brian Krol, Oliver Chmell** and **Dan Tychonievich**!

The next Formation Degree will be held Wednesday, February 21, at Mishawaka Council 1878, at the Mishawaka Columbus Club, 114 W. First St. First Degree members wishing to be candidates should notify Grand Knight Eric Van Meter or Financial Secretary George Adams. Candidates and guests may sign in from 6:30 p.m. until 7:15, when the doors will be locked. The degree will begin at 7:30, and will last 45 minutes to an hour. **You must show your 2018 membership card for admittance.**

2018 Dues are now due

Some of you have received second notices of your dues statement in the mail. Please heed them and remit your dues promptly. We will initiate steps in mid-February to suspend the membership of members who have not paid or made arrangements to pay their dues. "Knight Alert" letters will be mailed around February 15, and "Intent to Retain" notices will follow around March 15.

Now, you can pay your dues online. Just go to the council website, www.kofc5521.org, scroll down to the blue "Pay Dues Online!" logo, and click on "Pay Your 2017 Dues Online". Even though it says "2017", you can pay your 2018 dues at the link.

Upcoming Events

Unless otherwise noted, all Council meetings, Admission (First) Degree exemplifications, Council planning meetings, Knights Nites Out, and South Bend Francis Club meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Fish fries and spaghetti dinners are from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

February 2 – Fish fry

February 3 – Trivia Night

Doors open at 6 p.m., Trivia starts promptly at 7 p.m.

February 4 – Super Chili Bowl

Bring your best chili. "Just tasters" welcome. 5 p.m.

February 5 – K of C SJV Chapter meeting

Council 553, 7 p.m.

February 6 – Admission degree exemplification

February 12 – Council meeting

February 14 – Ash Wednesday

February 16, 23 – Lenten Fish Fry

February 19 – South Bend Francis Club meeting

Washington's Birthday (Presidents' Day)

February 21 – Formation (2nd) Degree exemplification

Mishawaka Council 1878, 7:00 p.m.

February 24 – Rekindle the Fire! conference

9:00 – 5:30, Allen County Coliseum, Fort Wayne

February 26 – Council planning meeting

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – Lenten Fish Fry

March 6 – Knights Nite Out

March 11 Daylight Saving Time begins

"Spring forward"

March 12 – Council meeting

March 19 – South Bend Francis Club meeting

March 26 – Council planning meeting

March 29-31 – Holy Triduum

Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday

March 31 – Easter egg hunt

Council grounds 10:00 a.m.

April 1 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 3 – Admission degree exemplification

April 6 – Fish fry

Are you called to be a council officer?

For a variety of reasons, the council's officer ranks have been depleted over the past few months. We now have five vacancies: Chancellor, Advocate, Inside Guard, Outside Guard, and Lecturer. If you're a third-degree Knight and are interested in serving in one of these positions, contact GK Eric Van Meter. Descriptions of the duties of officer positions can be found on pages 13-14 of the *Leadership Resources Handbook*, on the Knights of Columbus website at this link:

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/officers/officers.pdf>.

Get your *Crow's Nest* by e-mail!

Many of you receive your *Crow's Nest* as a paper copy via the U.S. Mail. It costs us almost \$1.00 for each copy that is printed and mailed. If you have email capability and are not receiving your *Crow's Nest* by email, please consider doing so. Not only will you help your council, but you will also receive your newsletter in full color instead of black and white. Just email gcadams@alumni.nd.edu and say that you'd like to receive your *Crow's Nest* by email.

Chaplain's column



I have just returned from Washington, DC, where I marched for life with the Indiana contingent of the Knights of Columbus. We sent two busloads to show our belief in the power of faith, hope and love. Each year, more than a hundred thousand pro-life marchers descend on the National Mall to show their support for life, from conception to natural death. Tens of thousands more engage in similar marches across the United States. It is important to show that we believe, with the Church, that all life is sacred. Jesus came for our salvation, and to give us life. He died for our sins and the sins of all people. So, when I march for life, it is even for the life of people I distrust, for people who hate me and my faith, and for people whose views on life turn my stomach—not just because I love babies and want to end abortion. I march for life because I believe that it is what Jesus would do, because it is what he did.

Fr. Zimmer

Requiescant in Pace

Pray for our deceased brother Knights.

Rev. Edward Narcowich
St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla, Ind.
Jan. 16, 2006



George R. Murray
St. Clare of Assisi, Surprise, Ariz.
Dec. 8, 2017

Thomas A. Kajzer
St. Matthew
Jan. 1, 2018

Thomas C. Boser
St. Matthew
Jan. 2, 2018



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Knights of Columbus

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61533 Ironwood Rd.
South Bend, IN 46614-9021
Telephone: (574) 291-2740



The Family Council

Place
stamp
here

Volunteer Corner

The Council is continuing its Tootsie Roll sale to aid our intellectually challenged citizens. Our next fundraiser is planned for May 26-27. Last year, we raised almost \$1000 on one weekend. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Cel Lopez at (574) 291-4589.

Council 5521 will again host the WNDU-TV Masses on the 4 Sundays in June. To volunteer, call Jim Kramer at 574-286-4151, or send him an email at jkramer@holycrossusa.org. Volunteers should bring a gallon of milk and a half-gallon of orange juice. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. Please arrive by 10:15 a.m. You will be able to leave by 11:15.

Article deadline for next issue: March 20.

Crow's Nest is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December by Knights of Columbus, Ave Maria Council 5521, 61533 Ironwood Rd., South Bend, IN 46614-9021. Article deadline is the twentieth day of the month preceding publication.

PGK Tom Lesniak's 100th Birthday



Photo: Stephen Lesniak

Knights of Council 5521 and Assembly 242 were on hand at Sanctuary at St. Paul's on December 14 at a celebration marking SK Tom Lesniak's hundredth birthday. Tom is a Past Grand Knight of Council 5521 and Past Faithful Navigator of Assembly 242. We've enjoyed the benefit of Tom's leadership for almost 60 years. He is pictured above with members of Assembly 242's Color Corps, who honored him with a proclamation and a salute.