



# Knights News

Knights of Columbus Council 544  
Cathedral of the Incarnation  
Nashville, TN

## Grand Knight's Report

Bisell McWilliams, Grand Knight  
770-789-3355, bisell3@gmail.com

Dear Brothers,



It is no secret that the family is under increasing attack in modern society. In the same way that Roe v Wade and the spread of birth control has robbed society of the generative love that is the essential mystery at the heart of marriage, this year's Obergefell v Hodges has codified an official redefinition of marriage that will ultimately result in its degradation to a mere social contract. As Knights, we are called to stand publicly in defense of marriage and the family; and as Catholic men, we are called to stand privately as the spiritual leader and moral compass for our own households.

Neither of these burdens is light, and they cannot be borne in solitude. As the world's largest Catholic lay organization, the Knights of Columbus is uniquely suited to serve as a source of strength and support for Catholic men as they strive to stand as strong, spiritual leaders for their family in the face of the great temptations and deprivations of our age. This makes it essential that we keep a focus on recruiting young family men into our ranks, both for the continued viability of the order and (more importantly) so that these young men have the support they need to be good Catholic husbands and fathers.

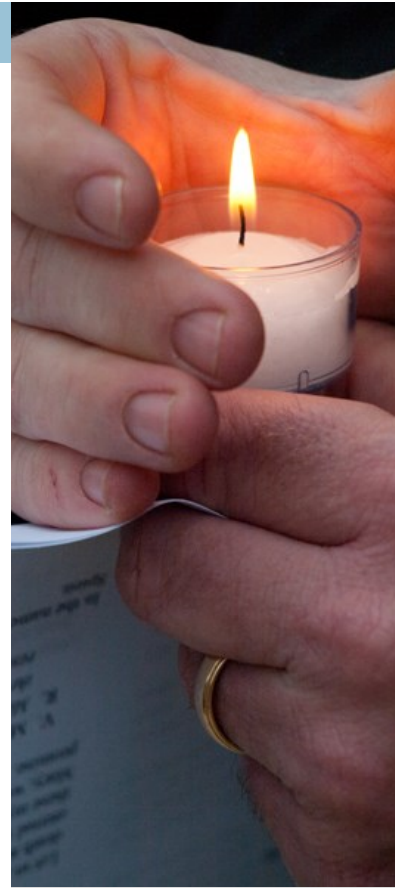
Similarly, as the number of faithful, Catholic families continues to decrease there is an ever increasing hunger for establishing a nurturing community among those families, a hunger that we see clearly within our own parish. Writing in the Cathedral bulletin on July 12<sup>th</sup>, Fr Steiner related his frustrations at the lack of participation in parish social activities such as the Fashion Shop & Show or our own St Patrick's Day event, even as the recent Parish Survey revealed a strong desire for more family and youth programming.

In response to this clear need, our theme for the 2015 - 2016 Fraternal Year will be *The Family Fraternal*, as we take our inward focus on *Fraternal Renewal* and expand it to encompass building and strengthening the community of families throughout the parish. This theme will be reflected in our programming as we redirect away from more formal, adult oriented events (particularly as the San Gennaro committee and its offshoots have this niche well covered) in favor of filling in the gaps in Cathedral's programming for daytime bring-the-kids events. Indeed, we have already had great success in co-hosting a pancake breakfast with the Boy Scouts, have a big Back to School Shrimp Boil planned in partnership with the Cathedral Day School and are looking at co-hosting future pancake breakfasts with other youth groups.

I am very excited for what we have planned for this year, and I hope that everyone will take their time to read through this newsletter and find at least one program of interest in which to get involved.

Vivat Jesus,

Bisell



## July / August Issue 1

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### Highlights

- Back to School Shrimp Boil
- San Gennaro MusicFest

## Fraternal Interest Survey

One of the great strengths of the Knights of Columbus is the diversity of interests and talents among our members. This diversity allows the order to host a wide variety of programs, in addition to responding quickly and efficiently to whatever needs are laid at its door. As our council continues to grow and change, it is helpful for the leadership to have an idea of the varied interests and talents present in our own council. To that end, included with this newsletter is a brief survey. Responses will be used to help make sure that members are aware of council programs that might be of interest to them, and to provide a resource for council officers when we are presented with needs that are outside the realm of normal council programming. Please complete the survey at your earliest convenience and return to any council officer, scan to [kofc544@gmail.com](mailto:kofc544@gmail.com), or mail to POB 331934, Nashville, TN 37203.

## A Visible Council is a Successful Council

When you ask a prospective Knight to join the order, the first question they always ask is "What do you do?" This may seem like an odd question with how active our council members are in all aspects of parish life, but take a moment and look in the mirror. Are you wearing your nametag and/or lapel pin to Mass? Are you wearing your Knights of Columbus t-shirt to the Habitat builds or your KofC ball cap to the Sounds game? If we are not a *visible* presence in our parish and community, then it is always going to be a struggle to get new members. And if we are not continually bringing in fresh talent, then we will eventually reach a time when we are no longer able to accomplish all of the good works that we are called to do. As we enter a new fraternal year, please remember to wear your lapel pins, name badges and other Knights gear as appropriate to parish and council events.

If you need a name badge or lapel pin, please contact FS Chris Crane. Additionally, we have just received a new shipment of grey Knights t-shirts, which will be available at cost. If you'd like one for the Shrimp Boil or San Gennaro Festival, please bring \$12 (cash or check) to the next council meeting.



### Upcoming Dates

#### Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month  
7:00PM, Rm 305, St Albert Hall

#### Programming Meetings

4th Sunday of the Month  
9:30AM, Rm 305, St Albert Hall

#### Corporate Communion

August 30, 2015

#### Shrimp Boil

August 30, 2015

#### San Gennaro Music Festival

September 19-20, 2015

#### Soup-A-Thon

October 25, 2015

#### See's Candy Sale

November 15-29, 2015

## July Awards

### **Knight of the Month** - Ernest Plus

As our council's Field Agent, Brother Ernest has been a great friend of the council, and an invaluable partner in encouraging membership and promoting our council's programs. We are sad to lose him as our Agent, but wish him success in his new endeavor.

### **Family of the Month** - Tom Costa Family

Brother Tom is one of our newly minted brother Knights. He is already a regular at our meetings, and we were thrilled to have him and his family attend our last Corporate Communion. It is wonderful to have Tom in our council, and we are eager to see what great things the Costa family has to bring to our council family.



## August Awards

### **Knight of the Month** - Stuart Littleton

Brother Stuart has taken it upon himself to enhance the spiritual component of our Council Meetings by reintroducing our pre-meeting Rosary, and by securing a series of wonderful speakers. His care for his brother Knights is apparent, as is his desire that our council serve a formative role for all aspects of our Catholic lives. We would be a much poorer council without his presence and contribution.

### **Family of the Month** - Mark O'Neill Family

Mark and Bobbie are awesome.

## Back to School Bash featuring a Low Country Shrimp Boil

*Submitted by Dave Johnson*

We're excited to announce our upcoming Low Country Shrimp Boil on Sunday, August 30th following the 11:00am mass. We'll begin in the Fleming Center immediately following mass. The event will be hosted by the Cathedral Weekday preschool and the Knights of Columbus. There will be great food, music, beverages, and games for kids. If crustaceans are too creepy for you, there will be burgers and dogs. The price is \$10 per person with a \$25 cap per family.



Preparations are being made now so, please mark you calendars and plan to attend. As with any fundraiser, we need your help to make this event a big success. Please invite any and every parishioner and their families you see. This will be an outstanding opportunity to demonstrate the fun spirit and faithful service our council and school are noted for. We will be passing around signup sheets for volunteers at the August 12th council meeting to: 1) pass out event flyers after masses 2) decorate/setup/cleanup at the party, and 3) cook and serve food and beverages 4) work the kid game stations. Event day preparations will begin at 11AM in the Fleming Center.

If you can't make the meeting to sign up to volunteer, please sign up on [www.kofc5444.org](http://www.kofc5444.org) (under the events calendar), or contact Dave Johnson at 615-585-3675 or [davejohnson2@comcast.net](mailto:davejohnson2@comcast.net).

## Corporate Communion

*Submitted by Bisell McWilliams*

We will celebrating our next Corporate Communion in conjunction with the Shrimp Boil on August 30th. We will attend the 8:30AM Cathedral Mass (note the Mass change from usual), and then gather in the Fleming Center at 11AM to begin cooking and set-up for the Shrimp Boil. Please plan to attend this Mass as we gather to celebrate the Eucharistic source of our Fraternity.

## Smoking Knights BBQ @ San Gennaro Music Festival

*Submitted by Dave Johnson*

The 2nd Annual San Gennaro MusicFest, an Italian culture festival with Music City flair, will be September 19th and 20th at the Cathedral. We will once again be selling BBQ, and need help from you to make our contribution to the festival a success. The following shifts are needed:



- Sep. 4th: 2-3 volunteers to prep BBQ
- Sep. 5th: 2-3 volunteers to finish and package BBQ
- Sep. 19th, 10AM-4PM shift & 4PM-10PM shift: 4+ volunteers per shift
- Sep. 20th, 12PM-4PM shift & 4PM-8PM shift: 4+ volunteers per shift

If you can't make the meeting to sign up to volunteer, please sign up on [www.kofc5444.org](http://www.kofc5444.org) (under the events calendar), or contact Dave Johnson at 615-585-3675 or [davejohnson2@comcast.net](mailto:davejohnson2@comcast.net).

## Council Officers

### Grand Knight

Bisell McWilliams  
[bisell3@gmail.com](mailto:bisell3@gmail.com)  
770-789-3355

### Deputy Grand Knight

Ken Duncan  
[kenrduncan@att.net](mailto:kenrduncan@att.net)  
615-238-1582

### Financial Secretary

Chris Crane  
[christopher.e.crane@gmail.com](mailto:christopher.e.crane@gmail.com)  
617-869-6345

### Chancellor

Dave Johnson  
[davejohnson2@comcast.net](mailto:davejohnson2@comcast.net)  
615-585-3675

### Recorder

Dan Gibbons

### Treasurer

Terry Hill

### Advocate

Frank Steiner

### Warden

Roy Silveira

### Inside Guard

Chris Beal

### Outside Guard

Jeff Duffield

### One Year Trustee

Stuart Littleton

### Two Year Trustee

John Mitchell

### Three Year Trustee

Mark O'Neill

## Program Personnel

### Program Director

DGK Ken Duncan

### Church Director

vacant

### Vocation Chair

Tom Costa

### Community Director

vacant

### San Gennaro Coordinator

Dave Johnson

### Council Director

vacant

### Family Director

vacant

### Youth Director

Chris Beal

### Boy Scout Leader

Dave Lavell

### Culture of Life Director

Tony Grubbs

### Culture of Life Chair Couple

Roy & Susan

### Choose Life Sign

Stuart Littleton

### Membership Director

Dave Johnson

### Retention Chair

Ken Thomas

## Adoration at San Gennaro MusicFest

*Submitted by Roy Silveira*

There will be Perpetual Adoration in the Grotto during the San Gennaro MusicFest—from 12PM-10PM on Saturday, and Noon-8PM on Sunday—and the Knights have been asked to ensure a minimum attendance. Signup for 1 hour slots is available on SignUp Genius ([http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044daeaf22a3fb6-sgmf\\_adoration1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044daeaf22a3fb6-sgmf_adoration1)). We need people to commit for a least 1 hour as we have 18 hours to fill. This is a great opportunity to take a break from the day's activities, to pray and spend some time with Jesus. Plan on arriving at least 10 minutes in advance, and if you can sign up for more than an hour that is even better. Contact brother Roy Silveira with questions.

## Rosary for Vocations - Prayer Chain

*Submitted by Tom Costa*



As Catholic Knights we are called to provide unfailing support for the cause of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and the first and most powerful way that we can support this cause is through prayer. The Vocations Committee is working to establish a prayer chain, with the goal that every week we have one or two Knights praying a daily rosary for the intention of vocations. Please contact Tom Costa (615-512-3826, [costat@aquinascollege.edu](mailto:costat@aquinascollege.edu); ) to sign up for a single week, or to be put on a rotating list.

## The Vocations Committee Wants You!

*Submitted by Tom Costa*

The Vocations Committee is looking for Knights who are passionate about vocations, and are interested in supporting our seminarians and postulants through prayer, personal outreach, promotion and event planning. Please contact Tom Costa ([costat@aquinascollege.edu](mailto:costat@aquinascollege.edu)).

## Soupathon

*Submitted by Mario Martinez*

What better way to greet the coming of cooler weather than with a bowl of hot soup? Mark your calendar for our first ever Soupathon, Sun., Oct 25th after the 11AM Cathedral Mass. We will have a wide variety of soups supplied by your brother Knights and area restaurants. Stay tuned to email announcements and the October Newsletter for more information. We need people for the planning committee, please contact Mario ([martinezm@aquinascollege.edu](mailto:martinezm@aquinascollege.edu)) to volunteer.

## Support the MR Foundation through Amazon Smile

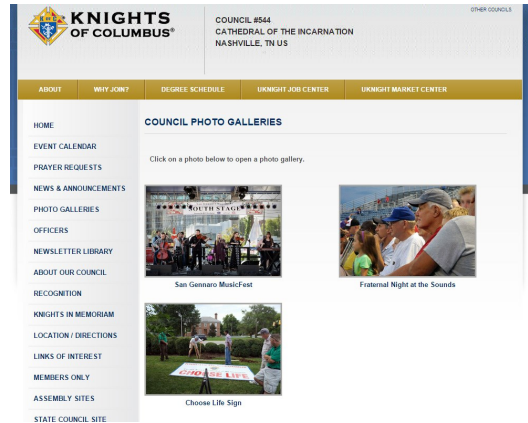
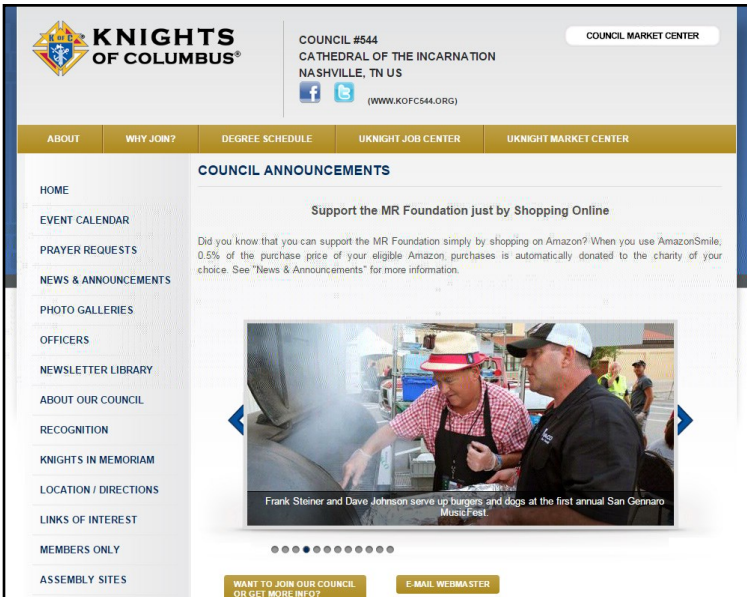
*Submitted by Bisell McWilliams*

Did you know that you can support the MR Foundation simply by shopping on Amazon? When you use AmazonSmile, 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible Amazon purchases is automatically donated to the charity of your choice. Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select the "MR Foundation of Tennessee Inc" as your designated charity. Then, whenever you go shopping use the [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) domain (instead of [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)). It works just the same as regular Amazon (your passwords, shopping cart, wish lists, registries are all the same), but for each eligible purchase AmazonSmile Foundation is making a donation. Just think about how much you, your family and friends spend online each year, and imagine how much even a small percentage of that could help the Foundation in its mission to support the mentally challenged in our state.



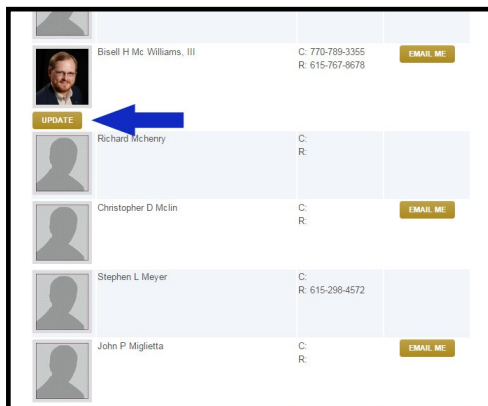
# Council Website

When did you last explore our council website? Our website, [www.kofc544.org](http://www.kofc544.org), is your central source for all information on Council 544. Through the website you can view an interactive calendar with all upcoming council events, sign up to volunteer, contact your brother Knights, update your own information, read past issues of the newsletter, submit prayer requests, view photos of past events, and much more.

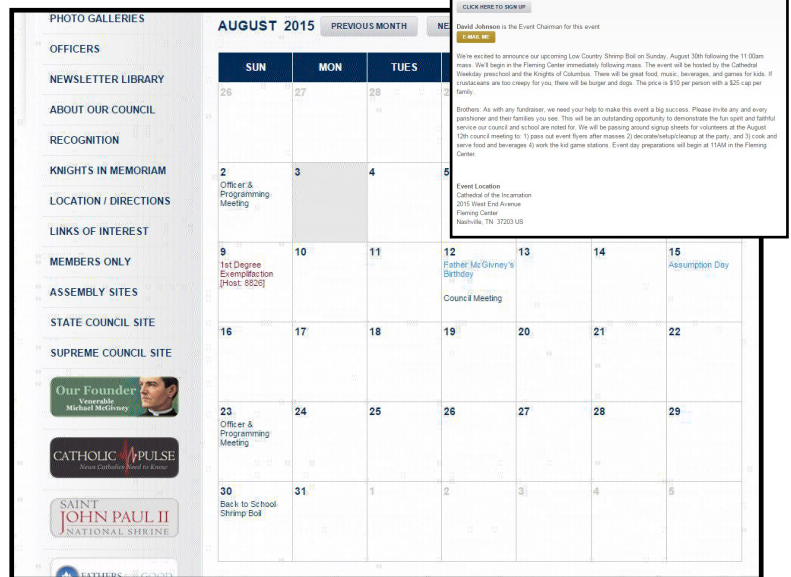


View Photo Galleries and relive the memories of favorite past events.

The home page provides an overview of current council items, including a headline announcement and quick links to immediate upcoming events, the most recent newsletter, the most recent Knight / Family of the Month, and meeting times and locations.



Use the council directory to contact your brothers Knights and review / update your own information.



The interactive calendar not only gives you access to dates and details for all upcoming council events, but gives you the ability to sign up for those events through the website.

## Field Agent's Report

Submitted by Ernest Plus

I is with regret that I am writing to inform you that I will no longer be your Field Agent. It has been my pleasure to work with such a devout and capable group of brothers and the awesome councils that you serve! However, I have an opportunity to return to the field in which I have dedicated the last 30 years of my life. I know that our General Agent, Dan Schachle, will identify a more than capable Field Agent to fill your needs and that he and his office staff will continue to meet your insurance needs. [\(615\) 441-8588](tel:6154418588) - Schachle Agency

Please contact Dan with any needs which arise related to the Insurance Program in the interim. I pray that The Lord bless you and keep you!

Vivat Jesus!

Ernest Plus, PGK PFN FDD

## Field Agent Contact Info

Until a new Field Agent is assigned to cover our council, please contact State Agent Daniel Schachle with any insurance needs.

Daniel E Schachle FICF, PGK, General Agent  
Tennessee Agency—PO Box 1348—Dickson, TN 37056  
[\(615\) 441-8588](tel:6154418588)  
[www.kofctnagency.com](http://www.kofctnagency.com)

Outside of the Nashville Area:  
Toll Free: 1-855-4TN-KOFC

## Third Degree Opportunity

Calling all Second Degree members. There will be a Third Degree ceremony on Saturday, October 17th at 1PM, hosted by Holy Family. Contact GK Bisell or Membership Director Dave if you would like to participate.

## Fourth Degree Opportunities

Calling all Third Degree Members. There will be only two Middle Tennessee opportunities to take the Fourth Degree this coming year: Nov. 7, 2015 in Clarksville, and Mar. 12, 2016 in Brentwood. Contact GK Bisell or Membership Director Dave if you would like to participate.

### Prayer Requests

- [Repose of the soul of PGK Jim Mathieson](#)
- [Continued health of Michael McGivney Schachle](#)

### Newsletter Delivery

All members with an email address on file will receive the newsletter by email only. Those without an email address will continue to receive a paper copy in the post. If you do not currently have an email on file please send that info to [kofc544@gmail.com](mailto:kofc544@gmail.com). E-communications is more efficient and more economical.

## Fraternal Calendar 2015-2016

- **August 12, 2015**  
Jimmy Mitchell Speaking before Council Meeting
- **August 30, 2015**  
Corporate Communion (@8:30 Mass)
- **August 30, 2015**  
Back to School Shrimp Boil
- **September 19-20, 2015**  
San Gennaro Music Festival
- **September 2015, TBD**  
Youth Soccer Challenge
- **October 17, 2015**  
Third Degree Ceremony (@ Holy Family)
- **October 25, 2015**  
Soupathon
- **November 2015, TBD**  
Youth Free Throw Contest
- **November 15-29, 2015**  
See's Candy Sale
- **November 22, 2015**  
Corporate Communion
- **December 12, 2015**  
Council Christmas Party
- **February 7, 2016**  
S\*per Bowl Party
- **March 12, 2016**  
Fourth Degree Ceremony (@ Holy Family)
- **April 29, 2016**  
State Convention Golf Invitational