

COUNCIL 15126

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MAY 2019



—Special Blue Mass Edition—

Brother Knights,

[The Blue Mass is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th at the 11:30 am Mass at St Francis Xavier Church.](#)

Many first responders have replied that they are planning to attend this event. This is one of our Council's major functions for the year.

The Blue Mass is an opportunity for our Parish and our Knights of Columbus council to reach out into the community to show appreciation for the men and women who give so selflessly and generously in support of our city. This is a Knights Council Corporate Communion Mass and during the Mass council members will be performing the roles of Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and the Honor Guard.

We are urging every council member to attend this Mass with their families and wear their council shirt to be recognized. Many members of our council have spent a good deal of time and effort to make this event memorable for all in attendance. Member Knights from all councils in the city are invited to come and demonstrate their open and solid support for the many brave individuals who put themselves in harm's way for us so we can live a safe and secure life in our community.

A special Thank You goes out to the many SFX Council members and members of our parish family who have volunteered to be a part of the Blue Mass and the reception honoring the First Responders that will follow.

Pastor Fr Joe Miller will be the celebrant for the Mass which will begin with an opening processional led by the SFX Adult Choir and the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Honor Guard from St Joseph General Assembly 569 followed into the church by a pageant of First Responder departmental agency flags representing the participants from the greater St Joseph region. Selected First Responders will serve as the Gift Bearers for the offertory procession. The Mass ceremony will feature the full Parish Adult Choir, a homily tailored to the honorees and a special blessing for the First Responders before the closing recessional. A static display of First Responder vehicles and equipment will be staged in the parking lot outside the church before, during and after the event. **Directly after the Mass, performing members of the Buchanan Highlanders Bagpiper Corps will lead the First Responders, their guests and our parishioners from the church to the Parish Center for the reception to recognize the Honorees.**

Thank you in advance for supporting, attending and participating in this important community event.

Chancellor of SFX Council #15126,

Ray Heitman



Blue Mass Event Coordinator

Sir Knight - Ron McElheny

Another Act Of Community Service By A Fellow Knight

Council Member Ted Hauser Received His Second Volunteer Of The Year Award From Community Missions Corporation On April 14th For His Weekly Volunteer Efforts To Serve Evening Dinner Meals And Other Tasks In Support Of The Gentlemen Residing There

Make sure to congratulate fellow Council member and Brother Knight Ron McElheny the next time you see him. He completed the Exemplification ceremony for the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus on Saturday April 13th at the Kansas City Airport Hilton Hotel and is now entitled to be addressed by the name of "Sir Knight." Completion of the "Patriotic Degree" as it is now known provides him with full membership status in the St Joseph 4th Degree General Assembly #569 composed of 4th Degree Knights from all the four Knights Councils in St Joseph and the Council at St Munchins Parish in Cameron. Other Knights receiving their Exemplification from the St Joseph area were Gary Christie, Charles Stump and Nate Thomas who are members from St James Council #12463. Congratulations Ron and the others on this significant milestone in their progression as a member of the Knights of Columbus.



Knight's Birthday List For May

Wish the following Brother Knights a Happy Birthday when you see them during this month.

- May 14th-Brandon Kelly
- May 14th-Greg Mrkvicka
- May 18th-David Still
- May 19th-James Lindsay
- May 23rd-Mike Caruso (75 th)
- Jun 3rd-Ted Hauser

May they have many, many more!



Ted Hauser has now received this award the last two years in a row!

Way to Go Ted!

Ken Newton Writes Column On Blue Mass Origins



Ken Newton (NPG)

The Rev. Charles Francis Buddy, ordained in September 1914, grew up in St. Joseph and would eventually become the first bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, a position he would hold for 30 years.

While ministering in St. Joseph, the young priest had a small part in one of the darkest days in the city's history.

On Oct. 26, 1921, St. Joseph police got a tip that a man wanted in several robberies, Carlos "Slippery" Henderson, had been hiding in his stepfather's house at Seventh and Sycamore streets.

As police approached to apprehend the man, Henderson opened fire. Hundreds of rounds would be fired in the ensuing gun battle.

Henderson eventually would be shot dead in trying to escape the house. Before this, he shot four law officers, Chief of Detectives Thomas Johnson, police clerk Albert Hall, Detective Ed Eads and Police Chief Clay Macdonald.

The wounds to Johnson and Hall proved fatal.

Over the course of two days, St. Joseph held two funerals for two fallen law enforcers. Actually, the deaths fell within a dreary period in city history; between 1917 and 1926,

seven local policemen died in the line of duty.

At the St. Joseph Cathedral, Buddy presided at the funeral Mass for the 23-year-old Hall, who had rushed to the scene after the standoff began.

"We believe that Almighty God has taken sight of this hero's devotion to duty and that he will be rewarded, not by the length of his life but by its fullness in spite of his few years," the priest said.

"Let us so live, as he did, that we will be prepared and that if we are called suddenly, the call will find us at our post of duty."

People of faith have long shown their gratitude for those who protect and serve. Back in 1934, a priest thought it necessary to help organize a special service for what we now refer to as first responders.

It took place on Sept. 29, the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel, the patron of police officers.

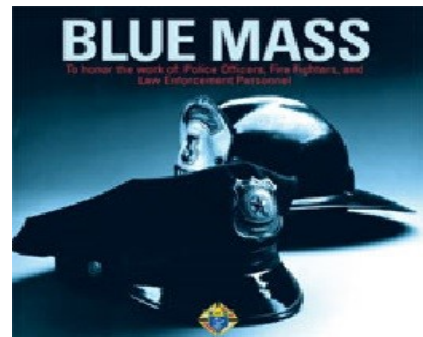
("Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil," reads part of the prayer to St. Michael.)

At least 1,000 police officers and firefighters turned out for the service at St. Patrick's Church in Washington, D.C., all in their dress uniforms. The event became known as the Blue Mass, and it continued in many parts of the United States.

In St. Joseph, some have worked to establish this tradition. A Blue Mass will be held for the second straight year at 11:30 a.m. this Sunday, May 5, at St.

Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

The parish's Knights of Columbus council will sponsor the service, in addition to a reception that follows in the parish hall.



Members of police and fire departments, sheriffs' departments, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, emergency medical technicians, 911 dispatchers, hazardous material responders and others have been invited to attend. They need not be Catholic.

While those who put themselves in positions of harm for the greater good of this community should be appreciated every day, the Knights council wants this to become an annual expression of thanksgiving.

A memorial at Civic Center Park speaks to the dangers that accompany their work. The Peace Officers Memorial bears a verse from the Gospel of John: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

It also has a line of blank markers for future names, sobering reminders that the risks of this world do not decrease with the years.

Let that be our prayer, at Sunday's service and always, that these markers go forever unfilled.

First Responder Blue Mass Pre-Event Publicity Appears In St Joseph Newspaper



First Responder, St Joseph Fireman Jeffrey Werner Is A Member of Council 15126 and Received a Certificate Of Appreciation From Pastor Fr Joe Miller and Grand Knight John Catron at the 2018 Appreciation Reception Following The Blue Mass

By Abby Trapp (NPG) —The Knights of Columbus St. Francis Xavier council will hold its second annual Blue Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church on Sunday, May 5th.

The Blue Mass honors first responders in the community. “There are several cities around the country that do First Responder Blue Masses. It started back in Baltimore back in 1934,” says Len Archer, the PR and Communications Director for the council.

The Mass will honor a variety of first responders from law enforcement to hazardous materials management. “Our intent is to honor those who protect our public safety. The policemen, the first responders, the EMTs, the paramedics, sheriffs, highway patrol, hazardous material management, all of those people are encouraged to come,” Archer says.

First responders are asked to bring agency flags from the departments they represent. “We always ask them to bring their agency flag. The opening procession and Mass is a procession of the flags,” Archer

says. “We have the church flag, the U.S. flag and any of their agency flags, and they’re posted on each side of the altar.”

Archer believes the Blue Mass is important because first responders and those in public safety are on call. “I mean, they work 24/7 and they could get a call any time day or night,” he says. “They normally work a shift, but some of those shifts are 24-hour shifts. Some people have forgotten the service they provide and the duties they perform.”

Archer worked as a first responder before joining the Knights of Columbus. “I was in the military in the Army National Guard for a number of years and basically worked flood duty in ’93,” Archer says.

The Rev. Joe Miller of St. Francis Xavier says that the Mass is open to people of all faiths. “They’d be welcome to come and participate as much as they like to participate,” Miller says.

The Blue Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 5, at St. Francis Xavier, 2618 Seneca Street.

Len Archer of the Knights of Columbus Council 15126 stands next to Father Joe Miller at St. Francis Xavier Church. The Knights of Columbus will hold its second annual Blue Mass on May 5 at the church.



Kansas City Dinner Theater Event Organized

Our next council social event on Sunday, August 25th will involve group attendance at the New Theater Restaurant in Overland Park, KS to see the upbeat musical show entitled “**Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.**”

A brief introduction to this show is printed below so that you may have some preliminary idea about the nature of this event.

The stage show is based on the Coat of many colors story from the Bible Book of Genesis this upbeat musical is filled with a collection of musical styles from Country Western to Calypso to Bubblegum Pop and Rock ‘n’



Roll. The Old Testament tale emerges both timely and timeless. With its family-friendly storyline, universal themes and catchy music, **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** is a musical theatre event not to be

missed. From the composer of PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, EVITA, CATS AND SCHOOL OF ROCK.

Those wishing to attend need to send an email message to Ray Heitman at rdheit@fusemail.com or call his cell phone 816-262-2112 to make your reservation. We only have 40 tickets reserved, so if you wish to go please let Ray know as soon as possible. The cost per person is \$51 which includes your Dinner, Show, Gratuity and non-alcoholic drinks. Payment for this event is due to Gordon Carmichael by July 1st. Members will carpool to KC from St Joseph.

Parish Blood Drive Wednesday, May 1st

The next bi-monthly St Francis Xavier Parish Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be held from 1-5 PM in the Parish Center on Wednesday, May 1st.

Council members Mike Violet and Mark Werner coordinate these events for the Parish and the Council and are regular blood donors themselves. Mike has personally donated in excess of ten gallons of blood during his lifetime and will gladly show you his blood donor card that verifies it.

There are many Parishioners

who regularly donate blood to this event on a frequent basis. The same applies to a number of members of our Knights Council and from other Knights Councils in town. Thank you to those who donate this life preserving gift so that others may live. C

Please consider donating blood at this event. Appointments are preferred but walk-in donations are welcome as well.

Point of contacts for appointments or other information are Mike Violet at phone number 816-233-8509 or Mark Werner at 816-232-3064.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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Newsletter deadline for articles and pictures is 10 days prior to monthly business meetings. Email content to: archer@missouriwestern.edu

May Council Calendar of Events

- May 1 Bi-monthly Parish Blood Drive 1-5 pm in Parish Center
- May 2 Mariner's Luncheon at Noon At Council 571
- May 5 Blue Mass—11:30 am at SFX Church with Reception following in the Parish Center
- May 7 Council Business Meeting 6:30 pm in Parish Center (Officer Nominations)
- May 11-12 Mother's Day Flower Handout After All Weekend Masses
- May 17 Last Day of SFX Elementary School
- May 20 Assembly 569 Election of Officers Mtg & Dinner at San Jose Steak House 6 pm
- May 21 Council Officers Meeting 7 pm In PC
- May 27 Memorial Day Holiday
- Jun 4 Council Business Mtg to Elect Officers

(Check the council webpage event calendar on the date of interest for additional details)

3000 Pounds Of Food Goal Already Reached!

By — Gordon Carmichael

OUR COUNCIL HAS NOW-REACHED OUR GOAL—THE MAGIC NUMBER OF 3000 POUNDS OF FOOD DONATED TO ALL CHARITIES THIS YEAR! We collected a total of 3,035 pounds of food which was given to the St Francis Xavier House of Bread and to Catholic Charities of St Joseph. This is more than we collected last year. Thank you to all those who donated food and cash this past year. Without your help we could not be so successful.

This will earn us a \$300 rebate from Supreme Council which we can use to obtain more food to help out SFX House of Bread or next year's Thanksgiving Food Basket food project. School will be out soon which means the demands on our

House of Bread will increase. It is easy to donate. Just bring your items to Gasper Hall and drop them off when you go Mass Saturday or Sunday and then just let me know how much you have given. I will also accept cash donations so that we can continue to provide our House of Bread with Mac and Cheese since their need to feed families increases during the summer. Email me at gcarmichael571@yahoo.com or leave me a message on my home phone 816-364-1714 to get your donation counted.

FOOD FOR FAMILIES UPDATE: During our 40 cans for 40 days Lenten food drive we collected 130 pounds that went to our House of Bread. We also collected \$80.00 in cash donations that will be used to purchase needed items for the

House of Bread. Thank you so much for your participation.

