

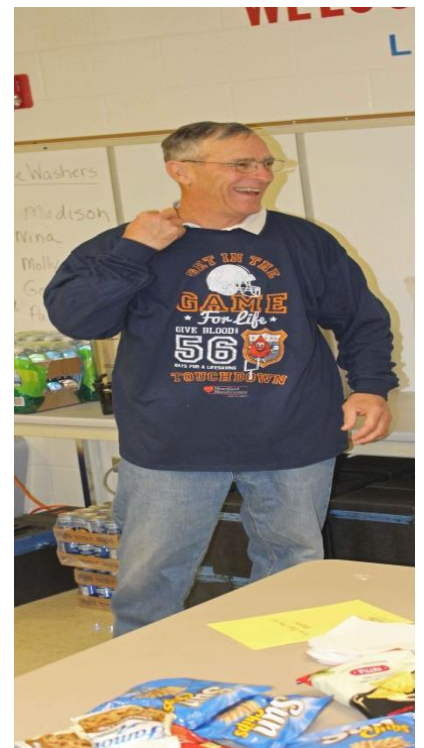
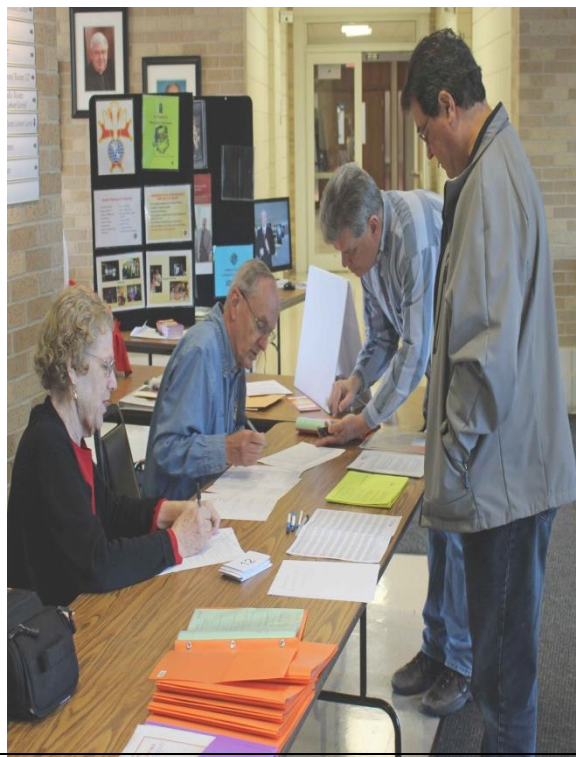
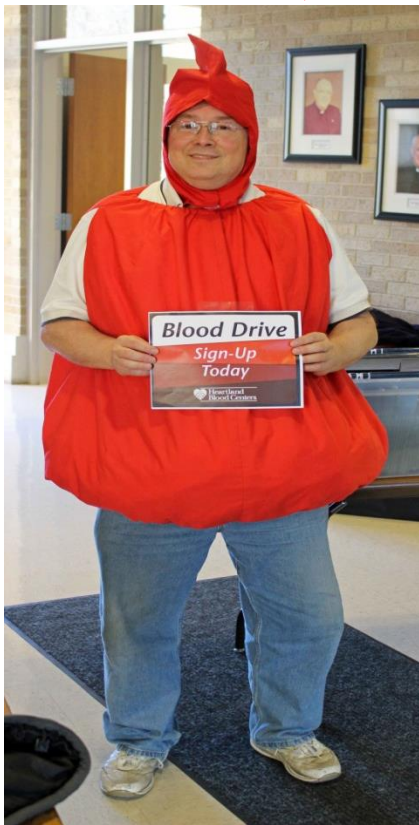
The Knightly News – January 2016

The Grand Knights Corner.....



Greetings Brother Knights,
I hope you all had a joyous Christmas and a festive New Year! As we begin the 2016 calendar I want to thank all of our Knights and their Family that have continued to give of themselves in time, talent and treasure. Your efforts have made a great difference in the lives of many people in need, and your good works keep our St. Raphael Council very visible throughout the Joliet Diocese and the State of Illinois. We can always use additional volunteers so if there is a program or activity that touches your heart, please participate with your Brother Knights and together we can do great works. May God Bless, Chris

Saving Lives..... The Blood Drive December 19th collected 120 units of whole blood & 11 double red units. Thanks to everyone who helped make this possible at this critical time of year for blood donations. Great job Ralph & Bob on organizing this event.



Almost Home Kids Christmas Dinner

Almost Home Kids is a halfway house on Route 53 for medically fragile kids who have been discharged from the hospital but can't go home yet due to their need for special medical equipment. Our Council provides a Christmas Eve Day dinner for the nurses who work 24/7, and the staff & parents who are present. We provide grilled chicken plus 8 pounds of sides. There was an unanticipated delay & Jewel did not have the dinner ready on time so Jewel gave us the sides for free! We thank Jewel for their generous treatment. Linda Haworth (Ladies Auxiliary President) and her husband Tom personally donated the egg nog, apples and oranges, to complete the meal. Thanks Bob, Linda & Tom for spreading joy during the Christmas Season.



BECOME a FULL KNIGHT!



All First Degree Knights, take the lessons of the Second and Third Degree and become a full Knight. Learn these beautiful lessons, you will be glad you did. Conveniently being hosted by our council right at St. Raphael's on Sunday afternoon January 31st beginning at 2PM.

Don't miss it.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

What a wonderful, fun event. The smiles of excitement on the kids faces, the laughter throughout the room and all the comments about the tasty breakfast make this a great event.





Thanks David and everyone who helped make this event a success!





Jim Barry's Snowman and Dan Short's Mickey Mouse pancakes had the kids smiling!



Proud father Ray and Son, Seminarian John at the March for Life Rally in Chicago January 17th. Despite temperatures of 5 degrees and wind chills below zero, they joined over 5,000 other marchers to protest the 43rd anniversary of Roe vs. Wade.

Dear Brother Knights,

At our past several business meetings I've been talking about the upcoming Fourth Degree Exemplification. This year's event is fast approaching with the date set for Saturday February 20th at the Sheraton Lisle Hotel. If you are not a Fourth Degree already, I encourage you to think about joining us. As the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus you'll find being a member very rewarding.

I've had the opportunity to be our councils Fourth Degree Captain for almost 3 years now and I've attended dozens of Honor Guards, each special in its own way. Naperville parades and our St. Raphael Corporate Communion are great but they pale on comparison to the look on the faces of our most special young people during a REACH Mass, a visit to a senior Care Center or the gratitude we receive from family members after participating in a wake or funeral. We truly have a unique opportunity to make a small difference in people's lives.

I believe you'll find the day of the Exemplification to be really special, not only for you but your lady as well. You'll begin with a luncheon (a separate luncheon is available for your lady) followed by the Exemplification. We'll have a Mass with Bishop Conlon with a formal banquet to follow. This year, our council will be sponsoring the hospitality suite, a room to socialize in after Mass and after the banquet. It will be a full day!

If you're interested in the Fourth Degree, but not sure about wearing Regalia, that's fine too. You're not required to purchase it. If/when you want to participate in an Honor Guard we have spare sets. There are also other ways to serve without being in Regalia. Things like Honor Flight Chicago, and work at Hines VA not to mention our monthly Assembly meetings.

I would love to talk to you about becoming a member of the Fourth Degree. Please call or send me an email.

Peace! Dan Schwartz 630 881 - 8687 drsnet@yahoo.com



The St. Raphael Knights of Columbus Presents



A WINTER WONDERLAND DINNER DANCE



A Winter Themed Valentine's Dinner - Dance

*A fun night of dining, dancing, drinks, games & socializing
with parishioners, friends and neighbors*

**Couples, Singles and Friends—
ALL are invited!!**



Date: Saturday, February 13, 2016

Time: 6pm (after Mass)

Place: St. Raphael's basement Winter Wonderland!

Cost: \$28 per person, \$32 with "adult" drinks



Tickets will be sold after Masses on February 7th
Or contact **Dan Schwartz** at **(630) 881-8687**
Only 120 tickets are available – so hurry!!

Menu:

Beef Stroganoff

Chicken Breast with Asiago, Spinach & Mushrooms

Parsley Buttered Noodles, Veggies and Salad, Rolls and Dessert



REACH Mass & Christmas Reception

REACH is the Religious Education Apostolate for Christian Handicapped, coordinated at St. Raphael under the Parish's Ministry by Jean McDonald. Our Council has



committed to funding this very special program through some of the proceeds from the annual Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive. One of the most heartwarming and special events with REACH happens in December every year. Families are invited to attend the REACH Advent Mass. Students participate in all areas of the Mass and prepare a special program. The Knights have provided an

Honor Guard for the Advent Mass since the council was founded, and for the Sir Knights in the Honor Guard, it is one of the most gratifying Honor Guards we get to participate in. The Mass is followed by a reception and usually a visit from Santa. On numerous occasions over the years, we've received many "thank you" notes from the REACH kids, with them affectionately saying things like "We love our Knights." It is a wonderful bond we've developed with these very special angels of God. Above are pictures from this year REACH Christmas Reception, one with one of our Sir Knights and a long-time member of the REACH program, Vince, and another with Coordinator Jean McDonald visiting with Santa.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Every Monday - Rosary for Life in the Chapel

1/26 - Knights Open House

1/31 - Major Degree. Take your 2nd and 3rd Degree right here at St. Raphael

2/6 - District Free Throw Contest

2/6 - Waterleaf Dinner & Fund Raiser

2/13 - Valentines Dinner Dance

2/20 - Fourth Degree Exemplification

Thanks to everyone who submitted pictures or information for the Knightly News. Alan Francis' name was drawn out of the hat of all contributors and won a gift certificate from Meatheads on 75 Street.



IT PAYS TO GO TO MEETINGS....
Just ask Dan Ryan who won \$228 in the
Show Up Drawing.
\$