



Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter

[Chicago Archdiocese \(uknight.org\)](http://uknight.org)

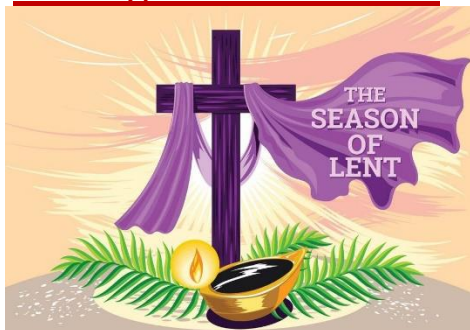


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Message from Fr. Paul:



Message from the Assoc. State Chaplain

Lent is that time of prayer fasting and almsgiving. All three involve some individual sacrifice. Last week the State officers and directors were planning the May State Convention, and I couldn't help but realize the sacrifices that they make all year to ensure the growth of our order in Illinois. Why is it that so many councils do not make a sacrifice to send their delegates to the convention. Representatives from the archdiocese should be clamoring for the hotel rooms still available. In my nine years of involvement with the Knights since coming to Illinois from Missouri I am disappointed in the poor response of Chicago area Grand Knights and council delegates. It can't be that a council doesn't have the resources to pay. It must be lack of interest in what the future of the Order might bring to the council. It may be that the council is inactive or fails to follow the directives and requirements of Supreme and State to be a Star Council.

If your council hasn't gone to the convention in a while, select a new member as delegate or alternate. Hopefully they will have an energy that you might have had when you joined years ago. They won't know all the answers and procedures, but they have a desire to learn, that's why they became a knight in the first place. Don't let your fellow council members down with whatever excuse you give.

Have you selected your council EFF director? Have you let Supreme know his name so that we get the credit, right now Illinois is low on the list of jurisdictions that have COR. Let's improve that. Continue our Lenten sacrifices. See you at the convention.
Fr. Paul Gins, O.S.M.

ILL Assoc. State Chaplain – Fr. Paul Gins, O.S.M.

Chapter President Message

Brothers:

As we are now immersed in Lent 2026, I would ask each Member and each Council to take stock of where we are regarding our Faith activities and where we are on our journey(s) of faith. As Knights, we are so often consumed with being Men of Service that we view our personal and Council activities as ends unto themselves. They are merely a means to an end. That end should be our personal salvation and the



salvation of those that we come in contact with.

Take time to slow down the pace and make room for Stations of the Cross. Refocus on the Passion of our Lord, the reason we all call ourselves Christians. Take time for Adoration. Time alone with our Lord can be so transformative and deepen and accelerate our personal spiritual journey. Organize or participate in a Lenten Retreat or Day of Reflection. Reprioritize your prayer lives, individually and as a Council. Pray a decade of the rosary before the start of your Council meeting.

I have often espoused the Corporal Works of Mercy as a rallying cry to action for Councils to center themselves around; the original "Faith in Action."

This Lent, let's also consider the Spiritual Works of Mercy:

- Counseling the Doubtful
- Instructing the Ignorant
- Admonishing the Sinner
- Comforting the Sorrowful
- Forgiving Injuries
- Bearing Wrongs Patiently
- Praying For the Living and the Dead

For those wishing to dwell deeper on this topic, here is an excellent resource:

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/jubilee-of-mercy/the-spiritual-works-of-mercy>



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The Knights of Columbus are not some mere Men's service organization akin to the Elks or the Kiwanis. First and foremost, we are Catholic Men that have chosen to band together to live out our witness to the truth of the Resurrection.

In this season of darkness, it seems apt to conclude with our watchword:

Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori!

Jeff

Jeffrey A. Griggs
Chicago Chapter President
312-218-9877
griggsjeff1@gmail.com



To paraphrase the Gospel of Matthew
They will know us by our Actions!

Jeff

Jeffrey A. Griggs
Chicago Chapter President
312-218-9877
griggsjeff1@gmail.com

The Columbian Boosters - Chicago Northside, 41st Annual Honors Night Dinner, Thursday, March 26, 2026

Please Join us in
Congratulating and
Recognizing the
Accomplishments of
these 5 Outstanding
Brother Knight
Honorees:



Rev. Isaac Lara

Pastor Saint Catherine Labouré
Faithful Friar of the Northern Illinois
Degree Team

Raymond Cordell

District Deputy 6

Thomas Zima

Past Faithful Navigator of Hillinger
Assembly 1595

Father and Son, Wincelaus and Francis Podbielski

Past Grand Knight, Former District
Deputy, Past Faithful Navigator,
Former Fourth Degree Team
member.

Hosted at the:

Lone Tree Manor
7730 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Niles, IL 60714

Tickets are available!

2 Hour Open Bar

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Family Style Dinner Served at 7:00
PM

Cost is \$70.00 per-person

**See Flyer at end of this newsletter for
more info**

St. Patrick's Day Parades

Southside St. Patrick's Day Parade



Knights of Columbus
4th Degree Float & Marching Unit
Sunday, March 15, 2026

Bus departs St. Walters -11722 S
Oakley Ave, Chicago, at 9:45am
and will take Knights to Start of
Parade.

PARADE STARTS AT NOON

103rd S. Western Avenue

Please contact John Muldoon with
questions: 708-557-5559
johnmuldoon@comcast.net

**See Flyer at end of this newsletter for
more info.**

Chicago St. Patrick's Day Downtown Parade



Saturday, March 14 - Time:
12:00PM

- Arrival at Hall: 10:00 AM

- Bus Departure: 10:45 AM

The Knights will meet at the -
Plumbers Local #130,
1340 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago,
and then be bused to and from the
parade route.

The Knights are looking to have strong
showing of civic pride with a large 4th
Degree Honor Guard.
Plan to attend and remember 'Everyone
is Irish on St. Pat's Day'



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Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter Knights of Columbus Inaugural 'Act of Charity' Banquet

On Sunday, January 11, 2026, the Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter hosted it's Inaugural 'Act of Charity' Luncheon benefitting "Mercy Home for Boys and Girls". The event was attended by Worthy State Advocate John Lough, Worthy State Warden Alex Tennant, Chicago Archdiocesan Coordinator(CAC) Dan Davis, along with many other Brother Knights and wives. Also attending was our Honoree, **Rev. Fr. Scott Donahue President/CEO of Mercy Home.**

Chapter President Jeff Griggs, CAC Dan Davis, Pat Madigan and Luncheon Chairman Joseph Moore presented Fr. Scott a check for



\$10,000.00 for Mercy Home.

Since 1887, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls has provided children and families with healing and tools to build brighter futures. It gives children

who've experienced abuse, neglect, or violence a safe home, educational support, and career guidance.



Please see Fr. Scott's Thank you letter to the Knights at the end of this newsletter.

March for Kids

For 30 years, the month of March in Chicago



has been a time to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and a time to join Mercy Home for Boys & Girls in rallying around abused, neglected, and at-risk youth. Mercy Home's annual Irish-themed outreach campaign, known today as Mercy Home's March for Kids, offers caring people throughout the city and suburbs the change to make a difference in the lives of children like these.

At the end of this newsletter is a letter from Fr. Scott Donahue, President & CEO of Mercy Home, sharing his personal thanks and outlining the importance of this campaign.

Mercy Home's mission aligns beautifully with the core principles of the Knights of Columbus — charity, unity, and service. By participating in the March For Kids Campaign,

councils demonstrate visible charity in their communities, unite members around a shared purpose, and serve vulnerable children and families who need guidance, safety, and opportunity. Please see the [March for Kids Order form](#) and [Letter from Fr. Scott](#) at the end of this newsletter.

March for Life Mass

A 4th Degree Honor Guard has been requested for the



Illinois Pro-Life Mass on Thursday, March 19, 2026

Mass will be held at:

The Illinois State Fairgrounds Expo Building,
801 East Sangamon Avenue,
Springfield

Doors open at 9:00a

Mass is at 10:00a

Seating is limited, everyone that wishes to participate in the Honor Guard and/or attend Mass MUST register by clicking the link below <https://dio.org/prolife/mass/>.

Additional information on the Illinois Pro-Life Rally and March can be found by visiting

www.IllinoisProLifeMarch.com.

To ensure there are enough reserved seats for those who are participating in the Honor Guard, please send a note to Rob Bentel, Marshal - Springfield Diocese (West): rbentel@comcast.net



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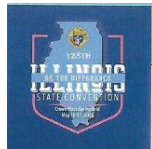
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2026 Illinois State Convention & Call for Resolutions

Save the Date for the 128th annual Illinois State convention being held **May 15 – 17, 2026** at the Crown Plaza Springfield convention Center. Convention Golf Outing will be held on Thursday, May 14. Visit the State website for Convention updates – www.illinoisknights.org



Resolutions:

The Illinois State Council business meeting session will be held on **Sunday, May 17.**



The deadline for resolutions to be considered at the 2026 Illinois State Council business meeting session is **March 30, 2026.**

The State Advocate on behalf of the State Deputy coordinates handling resolutions for the Illinois State Council. Resolutions must be postmarked by March 30, 2026, to allow time for copy and distribution to the Resolutions Committee who will meet prior to the convention to recommend action on the resolutions.

Note: All resolutions must be sent as hard copy and mailed to.

John Lough

Illinois State Advocate
5005 North Oak Park Avenue
Chicago, IL 60656

To assist in the processing of resolutions, an electronic version is also appreciated and can be sent to jlough.illinoiskofc@gmail.com

However, an emailed version will not be accepted as the official version. The hard copy must be received via USPS

according to the instructions and postmarked by March 30, 2026.

Note: Resolutions postmarked after March 30, 2026, will not be accepted.

If you require assistance or have questions regarding submission of a resolution, please contact State Advocate Jon Lough by phone or text at 773-640-4768 or email at jlough.illinoiskofc@gmail.com

See Resolution Guidelines and a SAMPLE resolution at the end of this newsletter

Vocation Raffle

Vocation Raffle books will be available for pickup at **IL State Convention May 15-17, 2026** - please complete and submit the Order Form at the end of this newsletter and support this important State Fund raising event that aids our future priests.



If your Council picks up their Vocation Raffle Books at the State Convention, we will enter your Council into a raffle. We will send a seminarian \$100.00 on behalf of your council should you win.

If every council picks up their Vocation Raffle Books, it will reduce costs, allowing more money to go directly to a seminarian instead of the Post Office.

Link for ordering vocations Raffle books:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc59ZvzbDUG0lznJgws6f6V8FkEXTSspuktXxXnwxOz78_QnA/viewform?usp=header

***Support Our Seminarians Today!
They Are Our Priests of Tomorrow!!!***

State Conventions Awards

State Program Director **Stephan A. Zalas, Jr.**, reminds all that the deadline for nominations to be submitted for awards to be presented at the IL State Convention is **March 15th**. There are several awards that Councils can earn and nominations they can make for Illinois Faith in Action, Program of the Year, Knight of the Year, and Blessed Michael McGivney Award.

See Flyer for details of each Award at the end of this newsletter.



4th Degree Exemplification Of Patriotism

The next Exemplification of Patriotism will be Saturday, June 27, 2026 at St. Norbert Catholic Church in Northbrook, IL. Host Assembly is Bishop Hillinger #1595. Details are TBD.



SAVE the DATE - Fourth Degree Quarterly Online Training Session April 20, 2026

- District Master and Assembly quarterly on-line training will be on April 20, 2026 at 8:00 PM ET: Topic: "Assembly year end wrap up, preparing for the next fraternal year"
- We will invite the Faithful Navigators, and ALL Assembly Officers to this meeting.



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Email Master Ty Simmons with any questions you may have to share with Fourth Degree Director of Training Michael J. Porter

Fraternally,

Ty

Contact Ty Simmons, Master
ty.simmons@comcast.net (630) 947-9404 (cell) for more info/questions.

Chicago Archdiocese Chapter Knights of Columbus Regional Bowling Tournament.



The Chapter held their annual Bowling Tournament on Sunday, Feb 22 at River Rand Bowl with 12 teams participating. Congratulations to **1st place team** - Assembly #2349, SK Luis Cuevas, Eddie, Hank and Tony , **2nd Place team** St. Francis of Assis Bk Bruce Johnson, BK Scott Stewart, Ron and Stan, **3rd Place team** - Homewood, BK Ralph Gazzilo Sr., Ralph Gazzilo, Jr., Claude Zaba and Christian, and **4th Place team** - BK Robert Kasper, BK Richard Holmgren, BK Tom Kaiser and Russel Holmgren.

The 1st place team received trophies and will have their entry fee paid for at the **2026 State Tournament being held on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at Mt. Hawley Bowl in Peoria.** The 2nd, 3rd and 4th place teams will be eligible for the State Tournament. **See Photos at the end of this newsletter.**

Also, the **99th International Bowling Tournament** will be held on the weekends of March 14-15 and

March 28-29 2026 at Lucky Strike Lanes in Romeoville.

See Flyer and Registration forms in this newsletter.

Forms Forum

Just a reminder of the Forms that are coming due in March - April

- Councils should fill out **Form 10784**

[Online \(Preferred Method\)](#) for every program they perform.

It helps the State know where to focus for inactive councils or districts. It helps Supreme know what programs are successful. It helps Councils record activities for the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities and keep track of everything they do for the Columbian Award. **Due after each event – final deadline - June 30, 2026.**

- [Intellectual Disabilities Drive](#) report and Distribution of Funds report - Due ASAP!

Useful Links

- [Exemplification of Charity, Unity, & Fraternity \(Responses\) - Google Sheets](#)
- [Council Forms | Knights of Columbus](#)
- [Charity report](#)
<https://www.illinoisknights.org/charity#h.1g2y5pc8x3us>
- [Newman/Respect Life, ID and General Assistance funds must be in by March 31, 2026 to be considered for Convention Awards.](#)



winning ‘Keep Christ in Christmas’ poster from their Councils. Congratulations to the following:
Kindergarten: District 12 Council 6483 - Evelyn Thekkanyil



Grade 1-2: District 4 Council 13448 - Serena Marie Varughese



Grade 3-4: District 2 Council 731 - Adrian Rodriguez



Grade 5-6: District 13 Council 14008 - Mark Liam Acosta



Keep Christ in Christmas

At the 2026 January Chicago Archdiocese Chapter meeting, District Deputies submitted their District



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Grade 7-8: District 13 Council 14008 - Annemarie Goedert



Bishop Fulton Sheen Soup & Bread Dinner

Bishop Fulton Sheen Council 10858 assisted St. Michael church with their inaugural Soup and Bread dinner on Friday February 20th after the Stations of the Cross service.



Knights provided 6 different crocks of soup for parishioners to enjoy. About 65 parishioners attended the first Stations of the Cross service this Lenten season and over 40 stayed to enjoy the Soup & bread meal.



Bishop Ketteler Council 1628 Annual Pasta Dinner

Bishop Ketteler Council #1628 will host an **ALL YOU CAN EAT! Pasta Knight' Dinner'** on *Pasta Dinner* Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 4:30 to 8:00pm at St. Mary's parish, 105 Herrick Rd, Riverside Il 60646. Silent Auction and Basket raffles Held with proceeds going to local charities.



Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter

Council #282 St. Patricia Uncork the Night fundraiser for St. Patricia School

The 2026 St. Patricia Uncork the Night will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026, and everyone is invited (over the age of 21!).



The event features wine and craft beer for purchase and a complimentary tasting of a spirit with heavy appetizers. Dust off your cowboy boots and get those feet kicking – Dj Fuzion is bringing the Nashville-style fun to the dance floor. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect and support Catholic education. We invite you to join us as a sponsor or buy a ticket and join the fun!

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter

Holy Family Council #11981 Fish Fry

Our Fish Fries will on Fridays - **March 6, 13, and 20**, and run from 5:00 pm to 6:45pm followed by Stations of the Cross in Holy Family church at 7:00 pm,. The Fish Fry is located in the Holy Family Gym 2515 W. Palatine Rd. Inverness Illinois 60067.



The menu includes Baked Fish, Fried Cod, French Fries, Onion Rings, a Variety of Pizza (Cheese and others with different vegetable toppings) Macaroni and Cheese, Apple Sauce and Coleslaw. Free Coffee, Lem. **\$15 for adults and \$5 for Kids**

Holy Family Council #11981 Breakfast Café

In April our Cafe returns on **Sunday April 26th**. Its a Buffet style breakfast Buffet Style Breakfast



Featuring: Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Scrambled Eggs, Omelets with Hot Cheese and Salsa, Biscuits and Gravy, Pancakes, Sweet Table, and more!

Proceeds will help fund the Parish Pentacost Barbeque in May. The Café is located in the Holy Family Gym 2515 W. Palatine Rd. Inverness Illinois 60067.

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter



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Cardinal Cody Assembly

#3264 will be holding a Lenten Fish Fry at St.



Danial the Prophet Parish, Brennan Hall 5337 S Natoma, Chicago, on **Friday 3/20 and 3/27** from 5pm to 8pm. Adults \$17.00, Seniors-\$15.00/children

Information flyer attached with QR sign-up code

Warriors to Lourdes



The Warriors to Lourdes Program (<https://www.warriorstolourdes.com>) is a program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and the ArchDiocese of Military Personnel. It gives the opportunity for any military personnel worldwide seeking spiritual and/or physical healing the opportunity to make the once a year pilgrimage to Lourdes. *The 2026 Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place 19-25 May, 2026 during the 66th International Military Pilgrimage 22-24 May 2026.*

The theme for the 2026 pilgrimage is "Sentinels of Peace." This program helps our warriors experience the spiritual journey of a lifetime. For each \$3,000 donated, a pilgrim can be sent to Lourdes.

Bishop Boylan Assembly #198 and Woodstock Council #776 is currently raising funds for the 2027 pilgrimage.

Councils and Assemblies are asked to prayerfully consider a donation of any amount. Donations can be mailed to the following address by May 31st:

Woodstock Knights of Columbus
PO Box 1054

Woodstock, IL 60098

Make checks payable to Woodstock Council K of C Council 776 with a note Warriors to Lourdes (Woodstock Council is holding all money for Assembly 198 until all funds are received).

ILLINOIS STATE WINNERS IN THE SUPREME ESSAY CONTEST

The KC Supreme Essay



contest asks students to write an essay of 500-750 words, to answer the question: **What are the two most important virtues for an elected leader to possess, and why? How can you determine if the leader has these virtues?**

Congratulations to the following students for having their Essays selected as Illinois State Essay Contest Winners. .

8th Grade Amelia Vagnoni
Council 489 Cardinal Bellarmine
9th Grade Anna Wiltz Council 574
Bloomington

10th Grade Theresa Hoffman
Council 658 Rock Island

11th Grade Giuseppe Vetri Council
574 Bloomington

12th Grade Joseph Coletta Council
574 Bloomington

These winners have been forwarded to the Supreme Council for the next level of judging

Illinois State Council Faith Contest

Councils are encouraged to report the great work they are doing with Faith activities and spiritual formation during the Contest Period: February 1st through March 25th.



- The top three Councils submitting the most 10784 forms with Faith activities will each receive a beautiful Family Sacred Heart image.
- This framed picture is a powerful sacramental to have present at your Council meetings, to place in your parish, or to use as a "traveling icon" for the families in your Council to host in their homes for a week of prayer..

Some Qualifying "Faith" Programs include: RSVP (Refund Support Vocations Program); Into the Breach; Spiritual Reflection; Holy Hour; Rosary Program.

Cardinal Cody Council

#8070

Spelling

Bee

On Wednesday, 28 January 2026 (the mid-point of Catholic Schools Week), **Cardinal Cody Council #8070** (Northlake, Illinois) hosted its first-ever council-level Illinois State Council Spelling Bee event.





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Seven students from St. John Vianney (four 5th graders, one 6th grader, and two 7th graders), participated in this "spell-down" event, held in the school gymnasium in front of their classmates as well as students from grades 2 and 8.

BK Dominic Lombardo of Cardinal Cody Council served as Pronouncer of the spelling words (and "master of ceremonies"), and BK Gary Taylor of Maria Council #4836 and Mrs. Jean O'Callaghan (wife of BK Michael O'Callaghan of Cardinal Cody Council - and also the school's librarian) served as judges.

It took 19 rounds of spelling words to determine the winner (one of the 5th-grade students), who will represent Cardinal Cody Council at the Central Chicago Regional on Saturday, 14 March 2026.

Congratulations to all 7 students who participated in this "first - but by no means last" Spelling Bee, and to their parents and families and teachers for a job very well-done!!!



State Deputy Days of Service Program

State Deputy Lloyd J. Reinkensmeier's motto for Fraternal Year 2025-2026 is "EMPOWERING LIVES: SERVING FROM THE HEART".

In conjunction with that motto, Stephan A. Zalas, Jr., IL State Program Director, recently announced a new opportunity for Councils to participate in the "STATE DEPUTY DAYS OF SERVICE CONTEST".

1. **December 1, 2025 and April 12, 2026**
 - a. Each Council will select a service project for that day.
 - b. **Councils submitting pictures and a completed Form 10784, DIRECTLY TO THE STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, will be entered in a drawing for the Grand Knight and Program Director of the Council for a State Polo shirt that will be embroidered on the left sleeve with Council # and "Best Day of Service Project – April 12, 2026".**
 - c. Winners will be selected prior to the State Convention.
 - d. The State Polo shirts will be presented at the State Convention in Springfield, May 2026.

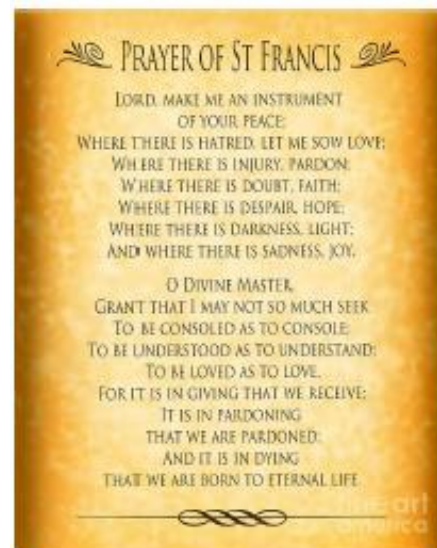
All Councils in the Illinois Jurisdiction are encouraged to participate. **EMPOWER THE LIVES** of your Council members to give service, **SERVING FROM THE HEART!**

The Winner of the **STATE DEPUTY DAYS OF SERVICE CONTEST 2025-2026 for December 2025 is Trinity Council 3755.**

Congratulations to Grand Knight Stan Wiejak and Council Program Director Mike Schnabel on the "Cleaning of 132 Headstones of the Priest and Brothers of the Order of the Friar Servants of Mary, who serviced the Annunciata Parish from 1941 to 2019" Project.

Thank you to **Councils 776, 3738,7527,11112,12002, 13123 & 14171** for participating.

The **next 'Days of Service Contest' is on April 12, 2026.** The goal is for every Council to have a Submission. Start planning your event now and enter the competition.





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Archdiocesan Chapter Dues

Grand Knights, please check with your FS to see if you 2026 Chapter dues are paid.

Councils 1-149 members- \$25.00

Councils 150-399- \$50.00

Councils 400+ _ \$100.00

Payments can be sent to: Jim Killigrew
1350 N Crabtree Dr ,Palatine, IL
60067-2901.

Brownson Council 34th Annual Spelling Bee



Brownson Council #1030 held their 34th Annual Spelling Bee for the students of St. Viator school in Chicago with 12 students participating from the 5th through 8th grades. The contest was attended by families and friends of the students. The Bee went through 90 words and 14 rounds, with the winning words being ‘magnificent’ and ‘vaporize’.

All contestants received Spelling Bee sweatshirts, rosaries and certificates. The 3 winners will have their names added to the KC Spelling Bee plaque at the school. Thanks to Principal Dr. Lise Reiger and Pronouncer Don Slawik, along with judges DD Rich Holmgren and SK Dan Tucci and Chairman GK Tom Kaiser.



Traveling Sacred Heart Icons



The Chicago Diocese is now scheduling the traveling Sacred Heart Icons. The purpose of the program is to spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and pray for Our Lord to make his heart our own, so that we may see and love in others what he sees and loves in us.

Nov. 23 is the Feast of Christ the King and the perfect day to promote and run the Pilgrim Icon Program or distribute Home Enthronement materials to families.

Families are deeply encouraged to enthrone the Sacred Heart image in

their homes. This involves conducting a simple, moving ceremony and placing an image of the Sacred Heart in a place of honor, dedicating your family and home to His divine protection and love.

This beautiful tradition of traveling pilgrim icons has a rich history, beginning in 1979 with Our Lady of Guadalupe. Since then, over 191,000 council and parish prayer services have been held, involving some 23 million participants!

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Quas Primas, Pope Pius XI’s encyclical instituting the feast!

Based on your District and Council location please plan to host a Holy Hour with your parishes and communities.

There are 2 icons to travel either in the Northern or Southern Councils of our Diocese.

To begin the process for scheduling the icon, please follow this link to a document for filling out this information:

<https://forms.gle/mPqqmiBq4rCW6VpKA>

- The Council’s help will be needed when transporting the icon to and from locations.
- DD Matthew Martinez has the Icon supplies from Supreme, so none should be ordered at this time
- Supreme Link- [Pilgrim Icon Program - Faith Programs | Knights of Columbus](#)



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For more info or questions, contact Matthew Martinez, Traveling Sacred Heart Icon,(Chicago Diocese) Coordinator, Exrel30@yahoo.com /708-870-8468

Newman

Lent is the time for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

All Brother

Knights are asked

to prayerfully consider donating to the Knights of Columbus, Illinois State Council, Newman Apostolate Charity Fund this Lent.

This fund plays a vital role in sustaining Newman Centers at colleges and universities throughout Illinois. The Centers create a welcoming, faith-based environment where young men and women can celebrate and nurture their Catholic identity while away from their home parishes.

Monies donated to the Newman Apostolate Fund are distributed to ALL the Newman Centers in the State of Illinois.

To ensure your donation is applied to your Council goal, make sure you enter your Council number in the appropriate box and that the donation is made prior to March 31, 2026.

Rest In Peace

It is with deep sorrow that we were informed of the passing of Sir

Knight Fr. Vidal Martnez OSM

1948 – 2026. Former Pastor of Annunciata Church. *May Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him O' Lord.*



COR (Latin for 'Heart')

The mission of Cor:

o Refocus Catholic men on Jesus

Christ.

o Form and strengthen their faith and virtue through brotherhood.

o Commit to prayer, formation, and fraternity.

The goal of each Cor gathering:

o Provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ.

o To pray together

o Be formed in their faith.

o To strengthen their bonds of brotherhood

· How to run Cor:

<https://www.kofc.org/resources/officer-resources/engagement/cor-leadership/how-to-run-cor/>

It's time to reignite the faith of our Council and Parish Brothers!

Please contact Mark Kuczera

IL State Evangelization and Faith Formation Director with any questions .

815-341-3849 (m)

cor@illinoisknights.org

College Councils

Brother

Knight

Spencer

Steeves

State College

Councils

(SCCC)

Coordinator PGK, Illini Council

reactivating the Knights of

Columbus councils at Eastern

Illinois University and University



of Illinois Chicago, and need your help!

If you know a young Catholic man who is a student at either of these schools, whether it is a son, grandson, nephew, neighbor, or anything, please let him know and send BK Spencer their contact information! The Knights are looking to grow a community of men who are strong in their faith, serve their Newman Center, and be the future of the church!

Don't know anyone personally?

Ask at your next business meeting!

Know someone who is a Catholic man at another college in Illinois who would be great for building a council, please contact SCCC

Spencer Steeves at

C: (224) 261-5343

E: college@illinoisknights.org.

Free Bowls

Grand Knight and District Warden Patrick Madigan has 50 cases of each kind of bowl shown in the photos. At 500 per case, that represents 25,000 of each kind of bowl.

These are located at Catholic

Theological Union

in Hyde Park. These

are free to anyone

who may want these

for outreach,

pantries, soup

kitchens, etc. Patrick will work with

you to get these to your Council or

Parish. Please reach out directly to

Patrick at pmadigan@ctu.edu





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Item Number	BG-8012
Item Description	12oz Bowl
Unit Dimensions	5.12x5.12x1.85
Case Pack	500



Item Number	BG-8012-PL
Item Description	12oz BowlPET
Unit Dimensions	5.31x5.31x0.39
Case Pack	500

Lenten Prayer for Civility

God of all compassion,

You call us to love one another as you have loved us.

In this time of Lent, help us to see our sisters and brothers as truly beloved children of God.

Help us to fast from incivility and feast on your love for each one of us.

Help us to fast from discord and feast on the knowledge that you have created each person in your own image.

Help us to fast from fear of those with whom we disagree and feast on the joy community brings us.

Help us to fast from timidity when we hear hurtful language and feast on sharing the good news of our God-given dignity.

Help us to fast from the desire to win arguments and feast on compassion shared in understanding.

Help us to fast from assumptions and feast on listening deeply to the stories of our community.

Lord, our God, be with us in this time of fasting and repentance, in this time of quiet and simplicity.

Let us turn to you as the source of our joyfulness and our first giver of love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Next Chapter Business Meetings and Events – New date & Location

Please note that our Chapter meeting location will be changing for our 2025-2026 year.

- Generally, meeting will be scheduled for the 2nd Saturday of the month, starting at 10:00am unless otherwise noted.
- Also, our meeting location will primarily be at Our Lady of Hope Mission - [9711 W Devon Ave., Rosemont, IL 60018](#) unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Meeting for March

- [Our next Chapter Business Meeting is on Saturday 3/14/2026 at Our Lady of Hope Mission, located at 9711 W. Devon Ave., Rosemont, IL 60018.](#) The meeting will begin at 10 AM in our usual meeting space downstairs.

For more information refer to the Chapter Website at:

<https://uknight.org/ChapterSite/index.asp?D=59>

Attendance via Zoom is available

Contact SK Tom Kaiser,
Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter
Email: tjkaiser@sprynet.com
[630-699-2079](tel:630-699-2079)

Use this link to join the Chapter's Zoom meeting from your PC: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4598499591?pwd=dIZpVDBFdTNI50FYt2dSOVd3M2VTQT09>

If you have Zoom on your phone, you can enter this Meeting ID and

password

Meeting ID: 459 849 9591

Password: 2349

When you join you will go into a waiting room and then be admitted.

If you **do not have Zoom** on your phone/computer, you can call into the meeting using:

Phone # 312-626-6799,

Meeting ID: 459 849 9591

Participant code # 345733

Password: 2349

Editor's Note:

Thank you to all who submitted articles for this month's newsletter.

Please continue to send in announcements of your special events, fund raisers, Blood Drives, Exemplifications, Honor Guards, and any other activities your Council or Assembly may be planning. (Photos are always welcomed)

Vivat Jesu.

Tom

Tom Kaiser, Newsletter Editor
630-699-2079 (cell/text)630-941-

7423 (home) **PLEASE SEND NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

Thomas J. Kaiser

tjkaiser@sprynet.com This newsletter is published bi-monthly.

Deadline for articles to be included in the 2026 May/June Newsletter is April 26th, 2026.



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Chicago Archdiocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus An Act of Charity Inaugural Charity Banquet Mercy Home for Boys and Girls Honoring Fr. Scott Donahue

FATHER SCOTT DONAHUE

January 14, 2026

Dear Jeff and Brother Knights,

I am profoundly grateful to you for your generous gift of **\$10,000** to Mercy Home for Boys & Girls. Your support is a true act of charity that provides a safe home, healing care, and life-changing opportunities for the young people of Mercy Home.

This past Sunday's Inaugural Charity Banquet was an uplifting and inspiring celebration of faith in action. I was deeply honored to be recognized in your company, and I was moved by the spirit of unity that filled the room. In your generosity and steadfast service, I see the living spirit of the Knights of Columbus founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney.

For so many years, the Knights of Columbus have watched over Mercy Home through your prayers, your volunteer service, your advocacy, and your gifts. Please know how deeply grateful we are. Because of you, young people who have endured hardship can discover safety, healing, and a future filled with promise.

Be assured of my prayers for each of you, for your families, and for the intentions of the Knights of Columbus. I will remember you at the altar and ask the Lord to bless your fraternity and to prosper every good work you undertake for those in need. Blessed Michael J. McGivney, pray for us!

New Year Blessings,

+ prayers

Thank You Very Much!

Fr. Scott

Fr. Scott Donahue
President/CEO

P.S. – Mercy Home for Boys & Girls is a 501 (c) (3) organization, Tax ID: 36-2171726. Since no goods, services, or other things of value were furnished in consideration of this gift to Mercy Home, you may use this letter as a receipt for tax purposes. Thank you again for your kindness.



1140 W. Jackson Blvd • Chicago, IL 60607 • 1-877-Mercy55 • 1-877-637-2955
www.mercyhome.org • frscott@mercyhome.org





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February 4, 2026

Dear Brother Knights,

Peace and blessings to you.

On behalf of the young people and families we serve at Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your incredible past support of our **St. Patrick's Day March for Kids Campaign**. Your generosity, dedication, and visible presence in the community have made a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of countless children who come to Mercy Home seeking safety, stability, and hope.

The work you do through this effort is far more than fundraising. Each shamrock pin or sticker you distribute represents compassion, opportunity, and a belief that every child deserves a chance to succeed. Your commitment embodies the very spirit of service and charity that changes lives.

Today, the need among children and families in our community is greater than ever. More young people are facing challenges related to poverty, trauma, and instability, and Mercy Home continues to open its doors to provide a safe home, education, counseling, and lifelong support. We simply could not do this work without partners like the Knights of Columbus who stand with us year after year.

We are deeply grateful for your continued willingness to collect donations and participate in our **March for Kids campaign**. Your leadership and faith-filled service inspire others and help ensure that Mercy Home can remain a place of healing and opportunity for those who need it most.

Please know that your efforts are remembered in our prayers and appreciated beyond words. Thank you for being steadfast partners in our mission and for living out the call to serve with generosity and compassion.

Blessing,

Fr. Scott Donahue
President & CEO
Mercy Home for Boys & Girls



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Columbian Boosters 41st Honors Night



Thursday, March 26, 2026

Lone Tree Manor

7730 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Niles IL 60714

Open Bar (2 hours)...6:00 PM

Dinner...7:00 PM

Donation \$70.00 per person*

HONOREES:

Reverend Isaac Lara

Pastor Saint Catherine Labouré

Faithful Friar of the Northern Illinois Degree Team

Father John J. Dussman Council 3731

Raymond Cordell

District Deputy 6

Holy Rosary Council 4483

Thomas Zima

Past Faithful Navigator of Hillinger Assembly 1595

Ave Maria Council 4456

Wincelaus and Francis Podbielski

St. Theodore Guerin Council #14057

**Spouse and friends are also invited*

Reservation Form

Name: _____ Council No: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip Code: _____

Number of tickets _____ @ \$70.00 per person



Zelle Pay

Mail reservations with your check made payable to Columbian Boosters

- SEND TO: James Killigrew, 1350 N. Crabtree Dr., Palatine, IL 60067-2901
- Or Pay with Zelle (most banks offer) with the QR Code or the following email address: columbian.boosters@gmail.com (Your payment will be documented)

You can also call 847-287-7038 for more information & reservations.



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Knights of Columbus

Southside Irish Parade

Knights of Columbus

4th Degree Float & Marching Unit

Sunday, March 15, 2026

**9:45 a.m. bus departs St. Walters
To take Knights to Start of Parade**



PARADE STARTS AT NOON

103rd S. Western Avenue

Any questions?

John Muldoon

708-557-5559

johnmuldoon@comcast.net



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Pasta Knight Dinner

(All you can eat)

*Expanded Seating
This Year!*

SATURDAY

April 25th, 2026

4:30pm - 8pm

St. Mary Parish Center



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Tickets
\$25



Kids 10 & Under are FREE

105 Herrick Rd, Riverside, IL 60546

Silent Auction & Basket Raffle • All Proceeds Donated to Local Charities



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Lenten Fish Fry

Fridays 3/20 and 3/27

5pm - 8pm

St Daniel the Prophet



TICKETS
Scan here

**Brennan Hall
5337 S Natoma**

Adults \$17

\$15 Seniors / \$10 Children

***new this year Kids under 10: \$5 Mac 'n Cheese**

Advance tickets sold in Rectory



Help Support St Daniel School!

SPONSORED BY:

**Knights of Columbus
Cody Assembly 3264**





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Sunday April 26th

Serving 08:30am to 11:00am

Adults **\$12.50** – Kids 5 to 13 **\$4.50**

THE CAFÉ

Buffet Style Breakfast Featuring: Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Scrambled Eggs, Omelets with Hot Cheese and Salsa, Biscuits and Gravy, Pancakes, Sweet Table, and more!



The Café is about Community, let's "Share our Faith Together!"

Proceeds to
Benefit:
Holy Family
Pentecost
Celebration



2515 Palatine Rd.
Inverness, Illinois



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Chicago Archdiocese Chapter Knights of Columbus 2026 Regional Bowling Tournament



1st Place- Assembly #2349- SK Luis Cuevas, Eddie Bracken, Hank Dziejor & Tony Pipitone



2nd Place: St. Francis of Assisi-BK Bruce Johnson, BK Scott Steward, Ron Pancio, Stan Barroz





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PEORIA
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026
2025 ILLINOIS
BOWLING
TOURNAMENT

MT. HAWLEY BOWL
8200 N. HALE AVE, PERORIA, IL
\$40 PER BOWLER/\$160 TEAM (1 BOWLER MUST BE A KNIGHT)

CHICAGO | BELLEVILLE | JOLIET | PEORIA
ROCKFORD | SPRINGFIELD

AMBC - WWW.PEORIAILVWILL.COM



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State Convention Awards Nominations:

Illinois Faith in Action, Program of the Year, Knight of the Year, & Blessed Michael McGivney Award.

The deadline for nominations to be submitted for awards to be presented at the IL State Convention is March 15th.



ILLINOIS FAITH IN ACTION AWARD - Earned by completing different Programs, growing Membership and meeting Charity goals. This is an award that recognizes the overall health of the Council. Fill out a IL SP-7 form (www.illinoisknights.org) and return to illinoisknightskc@illinoisknights.org and zraces57@comcast.net. Please note, you also need to submit a copy of the SP7 (Columbian Award Application) along with the IL-SP7.

BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY AWARD – This award is for the Council Chaplain whose priestly zeal and exemplary service are in the finest traditions of our Founder. This is a great way to honor your Council Chaplain. The state winner is automatically eligible for the Supreme Blessed McGivney Award. Please complete the State Blessed McGivney form (www.illinoisknights.org)

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR AWARD - This award is for the Brother Knight who best demonstrates the values of the Knights of Columbus. This is a great way to honor someone in your Council for their hard work. Please complete the online form at www.illinoisknights.org. Please make sure to select "Knight of the Year" in the "For the Month of" dropdown menu. The more descriptive, the more information that you can provide, will give your nominee a better chance of being recognized as the State Knight of the Year.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD – This award is for the family in your Council that best demonstrates Catholic values. This is a great way to honor a member and their family for the example they set as a good Catholic family. Please complete the Form 10680 (www.illinoisknights.org). The more descriptive, the more information that you can provide, will give your nominee a better chance of being recognized as the State Family of the Year.

PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARD – Every Council has a Program that is unique, impactful and/or special. Please take a few minutes to nominate that program for Program of the Year. A program of the year will be awarded in each of the four [4] Faith in Action categories. Please complete the State Service Award Program form (Form STSP) at www.illinoisknights.org.

Each Council may submit one entry for each category: Faith, Family, Community and Life for a total of four [4] total entries. A form will need to be submitted for each Program. As with the Family of the Year and the Knight of the Year, the more detail, the better. A Council should identify the Program Category, the Title of the Program, who benefited from the Program, and the number of Knights and volunteers that participated in the event.

Fraternally,

Stephan A. Zalas, Jr.

IL State Program Director C (815) 575-2933, E zraces57@comcast.net



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Illinois State Council
Knights of Columbus
www.illinoisknights.org

RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

The following steps are a suggested approach for your consideration regarding resolution(s). Also, you may want to use these steps as a checklist before submitting anything for final consideration. (Note: Only councils may submit resolutions. Resolutions will not be accepted from Individuals, Fourth Degree Assemblies, Squires Circles and/or Ladies Organizations).

1. Inform your members about the resolution process and seek their input on what they may wish to be brought before the Illinois State Council at the Illinois State Council business session during the Illinois State Convention. These can be matters to express an opinion or for some specific action.
2. Prepare the resolution in writing and according to requirements given in the Knights of Columbus Illinois State Council by-laws. The text of the resolution should contain several “whereas” paragraphs stating the facts and/or conditions that already exist. The last paragraph “**Therefore, Be It Resolved**” should contain the statement on what the council wants approved. Be specific! (Note: A sample resolution is attached).
3. Make sure all your members know of the resolution(s) so that they can vote on it. Once council action is taken, the resolution should be certified by the Recording Secretary and the Grand Knight with the council seal affixed.
4. Mail the resolution to the Office of the State Advocate at the address provided and be sure that your resolution is post-marked by the deadline of March 30, 2026.

The following information is included to help clarify the purpose of the Resolutions Committee.

1. The Resolutions Committee will meet prior to the Illinois State Convention to consider and recommend action on all resolutions received by the published deadline. The recommendations of the committee are presented to the Delegates at the Illinois State Council business session of the Illinois State Convention for formal action.
2. The members of the committee are appointed at the discretion of the State Deputy. Members will be notified in writing at least 45 days prior to the Resolutions Committee meeting. Members are obligated to attend the meeting unless excused by the State Deputy.
3. Councils that submit a resolution may attend the Resolutions Committee meeting to answer any questions the committee may have about the resolution. No more than two representatives may attend in support of a single resolution. Expenses for the representatives to attend the meeting are the responsibility of the submitting council.
4. The Resolutions Committee may specifically request representatives from a submitting council to attend the meeting to support certain resolutions. When representatives are requested to attend the State Deputy may authorize, at his discretion, payment of expenses for the representatives.



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SAMPLE RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: CAUSE FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

WHEREAS, The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus is pursuing the possibilities for initiating a Cause for the Beatification of the Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Father Michael J. McGivney; and,

WHEREAS, The life and work of the Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Michael J. McGivney, has been a marvelous inspiration, and his concept of the Order has grown in over a century to such magnitude that the Order is now the largest Catholic organization in the world with over 2,200,000 Catholic gentlemen in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, and several other countries, devoting millions of hours annually in personal service to charitable and benevolent activities,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the membership of Illinois Council 99999 does hereby support the Supreme Council in the Cause and pledge our prayers to determine God's will for the Beatification of this great and noble priest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Illinois State Council for adoption at the State Convention on May 15-17, 2026.

SUBMITTED BY: Illinois Council 99999

SIGNATURES

Grand Knight
Grand Knight

Council Seal Here

Recording Secretary
Recording Secretary

Notes...

Typically a resolution can be supported with no more than four or five WHEREAS sections in order to express the facts.

A resolution has only ONE section titled, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED. If further actions are requested, they are listed in sections titled, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED.



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INTERNATIONAL BOWLING ASSOCIATION



www.IntlKofCBowling.org
99th Anniversary

**Team.
Singles.
Doubles.
All Events**

OPEN BOWLING TOURNAMENT

OPEN TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS

**CENTRAL DIVISION
LUCKY STRIKE LANES
735 CENTER BLVD
ROMEOVILLE, ILLINOIS**

**MARCH 14 @ 10am & 15TH @ 9am
MARCH 28TH @ 10am & 29TH @ 9am**

**CONTACT: Paul Susemichel, Tournament Secretary
paul.susemichel@gmail.com**

Tony Biliskov - President - Biliskov@comcast.net
Paul Rutherford - Director, Chicago - Paul.Rtfd@gmail.com



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Knights of Columbus

Form VOC-



Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.

Vocation Raffle Transmittal Form



Date: _____

Council #: _____

Number of Books Submitted: x \$10.00 =

Check # _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO
Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.

SEND CHECK & RAFFLE BOOK STUBS TO
Illinois State Council K of C Charities, Inc.
State Financial Office
7250 W. College Dr, Suite 1SE (packages only)
Palos Heights, IL 60463-0309

PLEASE, DO NOT INCLUDE ONLINE DONATIONS OR SUBMIT A TRANSMITTAL FORM FOR ONLINE DONATIONS

If you send additional checks, please list below (check no. & amount)

Check	Amount	Check	Amount	Check	Amount	Check	Amount

The guidelines of the Vocations Support Raffle Program require that the \$10.00 portion from the sale of each book be used for Vocations Program(s). Please provide a brief description on how the funds will be used for the council's Vocations Program(s).



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St. Patricia School

9000 S. 86th Ave, Hickory Hills, IL, 60457
(708) 598-8200 • www.stpatriciaschool.org

Character • Academics • Compassion • Faith



Dear Friend(s) of St. Patricia,

We're excited to announce our annual **St. Patricia Uncork the Night** fundraiser for St. Patricia School, which has proudly served the Hickory Hills community for over 65 years! This event supports our mission of providing an excellent education and fostering compassionate hearts.

The **2026 St. Patricia Uncork the Night** will be held on **Saturday, April 25, 2026**, and everyone is invited (over the age of 21). The event features wine and craft beer for purchase and a complimentary tasting of a spirit with heavy appetizers. Dust off your cowboy boots and get those feet kicking – Dj Fuzion is bringing the Nashville-style fun to the dance floor. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect and support Catholic education.

We invite you to join us as a sponsor! This event attracts attendees from the Chicagoland area, with marketing exposure to nearly 2,000 families through our newsletters, social media, and event materials. Your sponsorship directly benefits our students' daily education. Details about sponsorship packages are enclosed.

Sponsorship Levels:

- ✧ **Legacy Sponsor (\$3000+)**: 8 tickets, a full-page ad, event signage, and extensive online/print recognition.
- ✧ **Faith Sponsor (\$2000+)**: 6 tickets, full-page ad, prominent event signage, and extensive online/print recognition.
- ✧ **Compassion Sponsor (\$1000+)**: 4 tickets, full-page ad, event signage, and online/print recognition.
- ✧ **Character Sponsor (\$500+)**: 2 tickets, half-page ad, and online/print recognition.
- ✧ **Academic Sponsor (\$250+)**: quarter-page ad, and online/print recognition.
- ✧ **Sapphire Gift \$65+ Donation**

Please return the enclosed form with your ad by **March 25, 2026**. If you have any questions, contact **Mrs. Lea Bentivenga-Rodriguez** at Lrodriguez@stpatriciaparish.com or 708-598-8200.

Thank you for supporting St. Patricia School and helping us shape tomorrow's leaders.

Sincerely,

Fr. Michael Meany
St. Patricia Pastor
frmeany@stpatriciaparish.com

Dawn Dion
St. Patricia Principal
ddion@stpatriciaparish.com

Siu Yu
Business Manager
syu@stpatriciaparish.com

Lea Bentivenga-Rodriguez
lrodriguez@stpatriciaparish.com
708-598-8200



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St. Patricia School

Character • Academics • Compassion • Faith

St. Patricia Uncork the Night

Benefiting St. Patricia School

Saturday, April 25, 2026 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM

St. Patricia Parish Center

9000 S. 86th Ave, Hickory Hills, IL 60457



Contact Information

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Business Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Levels	Tickets	Program Booklet	Social Media and Website	Parish & School Publications	Business Info featured at event	Advertisement on Serving table	Sponsor Call Out by MC during event
Legacy \$3000.00+	8	Full Page Color Ad	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faith \$2000.00+	6	Full Page Color Ad	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compassion \$1000.00+	4	Full Page Color Ad	✓	✓	✓		
Character \$500.00+	2	1/2 Page Color Ad	✓	✓	✓		
Academic \$250.00+		1/4 Page Color Ad	✓	✓			
Sapphire \$65.00+		Program Recognition	✓	✓			

Tickets & Donation Opportunities

Please reserve tickets for _____ persons @ \$65.00 per person = \$ _____

I will not be able to attend the St. Patricia Uncork the Night, but would like to donate \$ _____

I would like to purchase _____ sponsorship.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Ticket price includes wine, craft beer, food, and a spirit tasting.

Please make checks payable to: St. Patricia School

9000 S. 86th Ave, Hickory Hills, IL 60457 • (708) 598-8200 • www.stpatriciaschool.org