



Illinois Knights of Columbus



Life Programs / Pro-Life Charities

Kenneth E Martinek Chairman

We are now into the 2nd half of the fraternal year. We had a really good 1st half of the year with six [6] Ultrasound machine donations in the Joliet, Chicago, and Belleville Dioceses. I hope to see some more applications this second half in the Peoria, Springfield and Rockford Dioceses. I'd like to boast of a new machine in every Diocese of the State. We also had a reasonable turnout for the Fall Knights on Bridges. We should have a better turnout come April.

Have you set your plans for any Life Programming? Lent is starting February 18th. The *March for Life* at the State Capital building is March 19th. Where is the Icon? Is it coming to your parish? Are you leading the *Stations of the Cross* or a *Hour of Prayer* for Lent?

How about your obligation to the Respect Life fund? Has your Council met its goal? The Joliet Diocese has lead the way and is close to meeting its goal. Where is everyone else, see the table below. Several Dioceses need to catch up.



Presentation of an Ultrasound check at the Hope Pregnancy & Resource Center. Mt. Carmel IL

I know many Councils are active, doing activities for the unborn and contributing to local homes. Yet, the State Officers and Directors know very little due to the lack of details received from the Form 10784 . No program is complete until we have the form 10784.

Ken Martinek February 2026

Respect Life receipts from the Monthly Charities Report

<u>Diocese</u>	<u>Respect Life Goals</u>	<u>Respect Life Donations</u>	[January 1, 2026 Report]
Chicago	\$ 9,433	\$ 2,736	
Joliet	\$ 7,954	\$ 7,793	
Rockford	\$ 6,426	\$ 1,430	
Springfield	\$ 10,356	\$ 2,667	
Peoria	\$ 6,728	\$ 985	
Belleville	\$ 6,441	\$ 553	

Life Program Team Members

Kenneth & Sharon Martinek – Life Chairman & Respect life Couple South kemartinek@yahoo.com
 Ty & Jane Simmons – Respect Life Couple North ty.simmons@comcast.net
 Mark Kuczera – Silver Rose Program mark.kuczera@gmail.com
 John Moravecek – ASAP Coordinator / Novena for Life xcop985@comcast.net
 PSD William L Doerfler – Special Olympics Liaison bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net



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Upcoming Events or Programs: 2026

March 19 March for life Program in Springfield IL

- Mass at 10: 00 a.m. Location; Illinois State Fairgrounds Exposition Building Reservations required. Check the Springfield Diocese website to register.
- Rally at the State Capital at 1:00 p.m. Many inspiring speakers.
- March around the State Capital at 2:00 p.m.
- State Capital visiting your legislators the remainder to the day

From the Springfield Diocese Website

Mass for Life Registration

Thank you for your interest in the 2026 Mass for Life. Please use the link below to register. **Please note that the Exposition Building is not temperature-controlled and remind those in your group to dress accordingly.**

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will be open for Adoration from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm, and priests will be available to hear confessions from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm and again from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. The address is 524 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois.

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

We need 12-14 Knights to assist as guides for the Rally and march around the Capital. Please contact Ken Martinek to coordinate our manpower. We need men who can stand for an hour and then walk the mile course.

April 17-18 Knights on Bridges

The time is now to stand up for the unborn. Start planning your area now. If you need permission or a permit, now is the time to apply.

Charities – Respect Life

Reminder for all Council Directors – Have you completed the **Safe Environment** training? Please check to make sure the dates for those that have completed theirs will be valid throughout the whole fraternal year. Has your Council contributed to their Respect Life goal? Have you chosen a “Respect life Chairman or Couple”? If not, please do it soon

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