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HOLY FAMILY
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



HOLY FAMILY
COUNCIL 11981

Holy Family Knights of Columbus
FridayBLAST

April 25, 2025

Next scheduled issue will drop May 16th





"Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds,
there is always a space in which the good seed can grow.
You have to trust God."

--Pope Francis

HEADLINES

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-- GK NOTES

-- **THE CAFE RETURNS April 26-27.**

Sign up please!! **NOTE SPECIAL SATURDAY SET UP TIME!!**

-- **SPRING BLOOD DRIVE May 4th**

-- **THREE FREE FINANCIAL WEBINARS** We need your participation!

-- **ADORATION / ROSARY May 1 & 2 / May 3 & 4**

-- **2025-2026 COUNCIL OFFICER NOMINATIONS**

-- **GOOD OF THE ORDER** Words of Pope Francis

-- **PIZZA! DINE TO DONATE @ Lou Malnati's** Wednesday May 21st.

-- **"THE JOURNEY HOME TO OUR TRUE SELVES"** Sat May 3rd

-- **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS** Monday May 5th

-- **PLAY IN "The Master's Cup" GOLF OUTING** May 15

-- HELPFUL LINKS TO KNIGHTS ONLINE SITES



Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

GK NOTES

Happy Easter Season,

Seems that our Easter Season has begun with some sorrow, first with the recent loss of Father George Kane, and then our Holy Father, Pope Francis this past Monday. I felt the Holy Spirit in Pope Francis's passing by his presence on Easter Sunday at the Vatican, in his blessing and his trip in the pope mobile through the visiting crowds. It was as if he was saying goodbye, or as we believe, "See you later"! May Pope Francis's soul and the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

I am thankful for the many volunteers who participated in the Holy Thursday Mass at Holy Family. Especially I want to thank Mike Gilbert for organizing and leading the procession around campus at the end of the Mass. I also want to thank Bob Vanselow and Kevin Harris for leading the foot washing "logistics crew", moving chairs to and from appropriate spots. It was so wonderful seeing the number of Knights and families in attendance, and also seeing ten knights represent us so well in the procession. Lastly, we were blessed by all those who stayed after the mass to provide an honor guard till 11pm for the monstrance and the blessed sacrament.



We don't mention this often enough, but thanks to our normal Poker Event Volunteers! Last night, Thursday April 24th, was our fourth event of the year, lead by Ken Aman. Thank you to the normal volunteers Pete Wickman, Jim Nedza, Dale Raczkowski, Mike Colby, Bob Vanselow, Mike Gilbert, Dan and Elia Tokarz, and David Piasecki. The Poker events provide a great source of funding for our council, so thanks again to these wonderful volunteers.

I am pleased to announce that at the 9am Mass on May 18th, I will have the privilege to present checks to both the Holy Family Catholic Academy, and Holy Family Teens from our Fish Fry proceeds. Both causes are a part of our mission to support Catholic families and our parishes faith affirming and evangelistic efforts. The timing of the presentation will be during the May Café, so hopefully we can get a few members to walk down the hall and witness the presentation. These funds are a result of your hard work, and our parishes generosity.

Again, I am thankful always for your service to our parish and organization!

Rick

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Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

ANYTIME 24/7!!

**TO SEE ALL THE LATEST AND ONGOING COUNCIL INFO
TO GO TO OUR WEBSITE:**

KofC11981.com

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Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

THE CAFE'

THIS WEEKEND!

Set up **Saturday April 26th-**
SPECIAL TIME: 9am - 11:00am

Prep and Serve **Sunday April 27th** - Various shifts all morning

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE...
Particular assistance is needed for
Saturday set up and
Sunday Clean up

CLICK HERE TO JOIN IN AT THE APR 26/27 CAFE

Sunday April 27th

Serving 08:30am to 11:00am

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

THE
C A F É

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**



 **HOLY FAMILY**
Catholic Community
&  **HOLY FAMILY**
COUNCIL 1981




Respect Life



**Holy Family Catholic Community
Blood Drive**
2515 W. Palatine Road, Inverness Illinois 60067

**Sunday, May 4th / 8 am-1p.m.
in the Gym**

To schedule a donation, call 877.258.4825, visit us at vitalant.org and use group code ORD0025C - or scan The QR Code to the right.
Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome.
PREPARE: Eat well, Hydrate & Bring ID.



vitalant.

The rules for blood donors changed in 2023. If you are inclined to give blood, use above info to sign up for the May 4th Blood Drive at Holy Family.

Call 877-258-4825 with any questions regarding your eligibility to donate.

By Michelle Martin, a regular columnist for the Chicago Catholic

I did something today I hadn't done for maybe 20 years.

I donated blood.

Way back when, I was a regular blood donor. I turned up at the donation center every eight weeks, sat back in the chair and got to relax for 10 or 15 minutes while helping several other people who could be in a literal fight for their lives.

But between pregnancies and developing Type I diabetes, I had to stop. Back then, taking any injected medication meant you couldn't donate blood, and I had to inject myself with insulin several times a day.

It might sound strange to say, but I missed it. I missed the feeling of doing something good, something that is as close to purely altruistic as I've been able to get. Donating blood helps cancer patients, people having surgeries, people who have suffered traumatic injuries. Other than the lying down and resting part, and a free bottle of water and package of pretzels or popcorn, I don't benefit at all.

Except I did. I needed a blood transfusion as a newborn; if someone had not donated then, I would not be alive today. One of my kids has also had blood transfusions during and immediately after surgeries.

It's the kind of thing that nobody plans to need, but when you do need it, especially unexpectedly, you have no recourse except to count on the help of strangers. Help that they might have rendered before you knew you had any need of it.

The donors whose blood helped me and helped my daughter don't know us, or at least, if they do by some wild coincidence, they don't know they helped us. I don't know who any of my previous blood donations helped. I don't know if they were used as whole blood or separated into components to help more people or if they sat in a hospital fridge until they were too old to use.

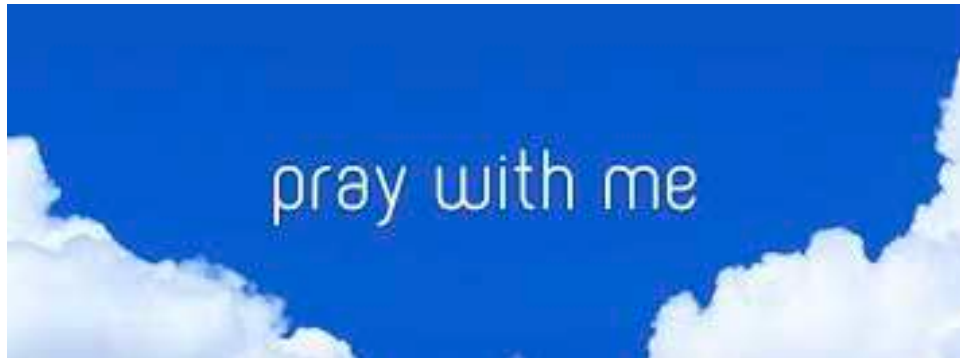
Even if they were never used, I'm glad they were there.

If they did get used, I don't know if they went to extend and improve the quality of life of an elderly cancer patient, or to a mother who hemorrhaged during birth, or an infant who needed open heart surgery, or to a shooting or accident victim. I kind of like that, because I'd like to extend and improve the lives of people in all those circumstances.

It was nice to get back to the donation center, which was still right where I left it all those years ago, and back to feeling like I was doing something that will help someone, somewhere, reinforcing the idea that we are all part of the same human family.

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Faith



ADORATION May 1 & 2

ROSARY May 3 & 4

ADORATION: EVERY FIRST FRIDAY (and preceding Thursday evening)

MARIAN MINISTRY ROSARY: In Church, every first Saturday of the month at 4:15 pm AND first Sunday at 10:30am

ADORATION: [CLICK HERE](#) for more information

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Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

March 2025



Mike Gilbert

This year **Mike Gilbert**, besides being a leader in the Café kitchen, assumed the role of Council Director. Mike helped track council events and organize activities like honor guards for the parish. He also coordinated and led the baked fish operation at the Fish Fry and he has been a regular Poker volunteer. Mike's efforts on behalf of his Parish and his fellow Knights is Charity, Fraternity and Unity in Action! **Thank you Mike for your continued contributions, and congratulations on being our March 2025 Knight of the Month!**



Faith/Family

THREE FREE FINANCIAL WEBINARS IN MAY

THEY ARE FREE!

LESS THAN AN HOUR!

(YOU'LL LIKELY LEARN SOMETHING!!)

AND YOUR PARTICIPATION WILL HELP OUR COUNCIL EARN THE '24-'25 FOUNDERS AWARD

**IMPORTANT! Register by clicking on "RSVP" links below.
BE SURE to let PGK Greg know after you register for any of these
Webinars greg.flanagan@comcast.net**

WEBINARS ONE AND TWO:

Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors invites you to two webinars this May with presentations by guest speaker Knights of Columbus Chief Distribution Officer and Senior Vice President of Field Management Joseph Monestere. These webinars are part of our new Family Finance series, *Foundations*, designed to help investors make informed decisions



[RSVP May 7, 2025, 7 PM CT](#) **Ten Tips for Managing Market Volatility: How to approach market fluctuations in times of uncertainty**

[RSVP May 28, 2025, 7 PM CT](#) **Investing for Beginners: Planning for Success** Learn how systematic investing can help you work toward a long-term goal of building wealth over time.

ALSO...WEBINAR THREE:



[RSVP Monday, May 12th at 7pm CT](#) **The Gift of a Lifetime** Learn how extended care planning can help you protect your family's future.



Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

2025-2026 COUNCIL OFFICER NOMINATIONS

At our April Business Meeting, the below slate of brothers were announced for Officer positions for the upcoming fraternal year. Voting will occur at the May 28, 2025 Business Meeting.

Contact Nominating Committee chair, Brother Bob Vanselow bob_vanselow@att.net , with any questions or comments OR if you would like to place your name, or another, in nomination for any position.

Grand Knight – Rick McMahon

Advocate – Nick Tancredi

Deputy Grand Knight – Frank Blank

Inside Guard - Emmanuel Cole

Chancellor – William Ostermeyer

Outside Guard – Mike Gilbert

Treasurer – David Piasecki

Trustee 1– Ken Aman

Recorder – Lou Rundio

Trustee 2 – Greg Flanagan

Warden – Jim Posch

Trustee 3 – Bob Vanselow

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Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Charity • Unity • Fraternity • Patriotism

Pope Francis on Compassion:

“The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness.”

“A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”

“We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace.”

“We will never be disillusioned or lose our way if we are guided by God.”

Pope Francis on Environment:

“We received this world as an inheritance from past generations, but also as a loan from future generations, to whom we will have to return it!”

“As stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.”

“A Christian who doesn't safeguard creation, who doesn't make it flourish, is a Christian who isn't concerned with God's work, that work born of God's love for us.”

Pope Francis on Hope:

“Dear young people, do not be afraid of making decisive choices in life. Have faith; the Lord will not abandon you!”

“Even hope, like all good things in this world, has enemies... Hope is the push in the heart of those who leave their home, and sometimes their family and relatives - I am thinking of migrants - to find a better life, with more dignity for themselves and their loved ones... It's also the push in the heart of those who welcome: the desire to encounter, meet, dialogue... hope is the push to share the journey,”

Pope Francis on the Marginalized:

“This is important: to get to know people, listen, expand the circle of ideas. The world is crisscrossed by roads that come closer together and move apart, but the important thing is that they lead towards the Good.”

“Even in the developed world, the effects of unjust structures and actions are all too apparent. Our efforts must aim at restoring hope, righting wrongs, maintaining commitments, and thus promoting the well-being of individuals and of peoples.”

“The faith we proclaim tonight makes us see God present in all those situations where we think he is absent... He is present

in the unwelcomed visitor, often unrecognizable, who walks through our cities and our neighborhoods, who travels on our buses and knocks on our doors.”

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Family/Community/Respect Life

DINE TO DONATE @ Lou Malnati's

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for your lunch &/or dinner on Wednesday May 21st...

Once again, our council is going to gather to FEAST then gather to SERVE!

First, you buy & enjoy great Malnati's food on May 21st, at lunch with your brother Knights (time and location to be announced) &/or anytime that day with family and friends. Then, at a later summer date, you will have the optional opportunity to gather with your Knights Family in a "Packing Event" at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg.

Packing Events are a fun "feel good" way to help the hungry...and totally a FAMILY style event letting you expose the younger set to charitable action. So buy them some pizza first...then teach them (and, HEY, ourselves too!) to pay that forward later!

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Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life



"The Journey Home to our True Selves"

Saturday, May 3, 2025 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Holy Family Gym/Social Center

All Knights are invited to join with the men of Illuman of Illinois, led by parishioner Bill Marquard, for "The Journey Home to Our True Selves," a morning of ritual, sharing, teaching, and connection for men.

We are surrounded by stories and symbols of transformation: the caterpillar morphing into a butterfly; the tiny acorn growing into a vast oak tree; Odysseus' return home to Ithaca in Homer's Odyssey. Each of these narratives tells the story of a personal journey and always requires the shedding of something that is not a part of one's ultimate identity.

Personal transformation is not about addition - it's about subtraction. It's a clear paradox: to reach our destined identity - often called the *True Self* - we must lose the protective layer - the *Adaptive Self* - which we have built up since early childhood that no longer serves us and in fact stands in the way of our personal and spiritual growth.

For more information about Illuman of Illinois, visit www.illumanillinois.org

For this May 3rd event, please RSVP by May 2nd at the Holy Family front desk or to mwhiteside@holyfamilyparish.org

This event is offered without charge, however a free will offering is encouraged.
Illuman of Illinois is a spiritual men's organization partnered with Holy Family.

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Faith/Family/Respect Life

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Come to Learn how we can support our Family and Friends



MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH!

ACTS disability ministry welcomes NAMI | National Alliance on Mental Illness

“In Our Own Voice”

A presentation featuring NAMI leaders who will share their stories and personal perspectives on living with a mental health condition.

Date: Monday, May 5
Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Location: Holy Family Catholic Community, Common Ground
Cost: FREE

Please join us for an evening of community, connection, and hope. All are welcome.

Registration is recommended, but not required.

Contact Dr. Lisa Gagliano at 847-221-8611 or lgagliano0615@gmail.com to register or if you have questions about this event.

American Sign Language interpretation will be provided.
If you have a disability and require reasonable accommodations to participate in this event, please contact info@frontrangerehab.com at least 7 days in advance.



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mum mama mommy
BEAUTIFUL
unconditional love
creative UNSELFISH
LOVE U LOVE U LOVE U
BELIEVES
life patient GENTLE
compassionate
NURTURING
strength DEVOTED

**DONT FORGET MOTHER'S DAY!!
SUNDAY MAY 11TH**



Faith/Community/Respect Life

**ATTENTION GOLFERS!
PLAY "The Master's Cup"**

Use QR code to sign up

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL



Golf Outing

Master's Cup

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025
Check in: 11 AM Golf: 12 PM
Hilton Oakbrook Hills Golf Course
3500 Midwest Rd, Oak Brook, IL

PRICES:
Single Golfer: \$125.00
Foursome: \$500.00
Clergy/Seminarian: \$100.00
Sign at Hole: \$100.00
USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP

After Golf: Food and award presentations at St. John Council #3738. Located at 25 N. Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL



Benefitting Special Camps of Illinois



Faith/Family/Community/Respect Life

Come on out! Our Next Membership Meeting is...

Wednesday May 28th
6:30pm. Holy Family Lower Level

LOOKING AHEAD: our June meeting will be on **Wednesday the 25th** DURING OUR ANNUAL OFFICER INSTALLATION EVENT



**We are your fellow Parishioners and Servant Leaders!
We are your Holy Family Knights!**





HOLY FAMILY
 CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
 & 
HOLY FAMILY
 COUNCIL 11981



**Come join our team, and let's live our faith together!
You can visit us at: kofc11981.com**







**Knights of
Columbus®**

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HELPFUL LINKS

KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING! (and join in!)

[CLICK HERE to view our COUNCIL CALENDAR](#)

PRAYER REQUESTS

[CLICK HERE to SEE current Prayer Requests](#)

[CLICK HERE to ADD a Prayer Request. \(Then, you may be asked to enter your membership number and your birthday as password.\)](#)

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

CLICK HERE FOR YOUR OFFICERS & DIRECTORS INFO

NEWS TO SHARE??? Here's how...

- Any info to share, questions, comments, etc for the **FridayBLAST??** Send to Editor Greg Flanagan greg.flanagan@comcast.net

- For our **FACEBOOK** page, (if you don't know how to do it yourself) email PGK Bob Wagner rmwagner53@gmail.com with the topic and picture(s) and he will take care of it.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH OUR COUNCIL #11981@

- **COUNCIL WEBSITE:** www.kofc11981.com

- **E-COMMERCE STORE:** <http://store.knights11981.com>

- **FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/groups/587321024766211

OTHER HELPFUL LINKS...

- **KNIGHTS GEAR** <http://www.knightsgear.com>

The official online store of the Knights of Columbus offering promotional items and gifts.

- **HOLY FAMILY WEBSITE:** <https://holyfamilyparish.org>

- **STATE KC WEBSITE:** <http://www.illinoisknights.org>

- **SUPREME KC WEBSITE:** <http://www.kofc.org>



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