



**Knights of
Columbus**

Kirkwood Council 2117

Website: www.kofc2117.org

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May 2026 Newsletter

Grand Knight Message

May is a very busy time in our lives, with graduations and other end-of-school-year events, as well as Memorial Day marking the unofficial start of summer activities.

Throughout the hustle and bustle, ensure that you take time to celebrate your mothers and mother figures in your life who played a critical role in shaping you into the man you are today. Whether you mom is still with you or has gone to be with God, make sure to thank her for all her sacrifices.

This month we also celebrate Pentecost, the “birthday of the Church,” when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and followers of Christ to empower them to spread the gospel.

Our council is growing rapidly (including six new members in April), empowering us as Knights of Columbus to play our own role in bringing the Word of God to our families and our communities.

Even small acts, when done in large numbers, can have a tremendous impact. A few extra volunteer hours here and an extra prayer there really can make a difference to those in need, and that is exactly what we are called to do in our role as Knights.



Upcoming Events Calendar

Visit Council website Calendar (www.kofc2117.org) any time for most current event information

May 2026		
Thur	7	Officer Meeting..... 7:30 pm
Sun	10	MOTHERS DAY
Wed	13	Assembly 565 - 4th Degree Meeting..... 7:30 pm
Thur	14	Business Meeting (6:30pm - Social, 7:10pm - Rosary)..... 7:30 pm
Thur	14	ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Sat	16	ARMED FORCES DAY
Sat	16	Tour of Our Lady's Inn (<i>Definace, MO</i>)..... 10:00 am
Sat-Sun	16-17	Man-the-Can for St Josephine Bakhita Food Pantry (<i>St Peter</i>)..... All Masses
Sun	24	PENTECOST (<i>Don't forget - wear red to Mass!</i>)
Mon	25	MEMORIAL DAY
Fri-Sat	29-30	St Peterfest - Carnival Beer Booth..... Time Slots

Upcoming Events Calendar (Continued)

June 2026

Thur	4	Officer Meeting.....	7:30 pm
Wed	10	Assembly 565 - 4th Degree Meeting.....	7:30 pm
Thur	11	Business Meeting (6:30pm/Social, 7:10pm/Rosary) <i>ST GERARD MAJELLA</i>	7:30 pm
Sat-Sun	13-14	Man-the-Can for St Josephine Bakhita Food Pantry (<i>St Peter</i>).....	All Masses
Sun	14	FLAG DAY	
Sun	21	FATHERS DAY	
Wed	24	Officer Installation & Social BBQ (<i>St Peter Church front plaza</i>).....	6:30 pm
Mon	29	St Louis Chapter Meeting.....	7:00 pm

May Knight Birthdays

6 Mark Minowitz
 16 Richard Renard
 21 Alexander Brown
 23 Chad Jaeger
 23 Eugene Kaiser



24 Kevin Miller
 27 Alex Mayeux
 28 Jeffrey Bettag
 28 Eric Jones
 29 John Lavin

CORRECTIONS REQUESTED

Spot an error? Your big day missing? Please email corrections to kofc2117editor@gmail.com

Knight of the Month



At the April business meeting, **GK Tony Jarboe** presented the Knight of the Month award to **Tom Foy PGK**, describing how Tom exemplifies the three pillars of the Knights of Columbus: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

Tom has for years been active in Council leadership, currently serving as Financial Secretary and previously serving as Grand Knight.

He is also extremely generous with his time, helping out at weekly Lenten Fish Fries, the Tootsie Roll Drive, the Pancake Breakfast benefitting Fisher House, and many other events.

Congratulations Tom!

Our Lady's Inn Tour – May 16

After recent trips to Birthright of St Louis, the VA Fisher House, and St Josephine Bakhita church and food pantry, our next scheduled tour of a Council supported charity will be a tour of Our Lady's Inn on Saturday May 16.



Maternity home facility tour will take place at:

Our Lady's Inn

3607 Highway D
Defiance, MO 63341

Saturday May 16th

Tour begins at 10 am

Council 2117 has long supported Our Lady's Inn and its mission to provide residential shelter and comprehensive support services for pregnant women who have chosen life for their babies.

The Brother Knights and family members who made the other recent visits found the experience to be uplifting as well as informative. We highly encourage all members to consider making this visit, show support for this important organization and see first-hand the value of our charitable activities.

OLI offers a 30-minute tour for groups of 12 or less and will lead multiple groups, if needed, to accommodate everyone interested. There will also be an opportunity to explore the outside areas while other groups tour the inside space.

Brother Knights, their families and guests could meet for lunch somewhere in Defiance after the tour for those interested in this fellowship opportunity. To RSVP or arrange carpooling, contact Keith Beardslee at keith.beardslee@gmail.com.

6 New Brothers Knights Exemplified in April

On April 23, Kirkwood Council 2117 hosted a new member exemplification at St Peter Church. A nice group of members and families were in attendance to support six gentlemen on their journey into the Knights of Columbus.

We are proud to welcome this large class of new Brother Knights to our vibrant and growing Council.



Pictured left to right: Nathan Cook, Ben Shaffer, Lincoln Bevins, Harper Johnson, Justin Arnold, John Brockmeyer

2026 Scholarship Program Results

This 8th annual edition of the scholarship competition was another solid success, providing valuable assistance to our parish families and high visibility to the parishes we serve. The following 10 winners were selected by our jury of four judges **Dan Koskovich, David Anderson PGK, Keith Beardslee PGK and Mike Hatke**:

Elle Whittington	St Peter PSR	Cor Jesu
Jack Stock	St Peter	St Louis Priory
Lyla Doherty	St Peter	Cor Jesu
Caroline Kerber	St Gerard	St Joseph Academy
Harrison Passanisi	St Gerard	CBC
Isabelle Harker	St Peter	Cor Jesu
Harper Banks	St Peter	Cor Jesu
Emily Reh	St Peter	Cor Jesu
Nora Dickinson	St Peter	Nerinx Hall
Grace Schuman	St Peter	Cor Jesu



This year saw our first PSR winner. Not only did Elle Whittington make the list, but she was also the runaway winner, unanimously impressing all four judges and winning by a wide margin.

Girls dominated with 8 winners from 26 applicants. Boys contributed 2 winners from 7 applicants. For the first time, one parish dominated, with 8 of 10 winners from St Peter School and PSR.

Emily Reh is the third member of her family to win a scholarship, following her brother and sister, who were previous winners. No other family has ever had multiple winners.

With these scholarships funded, our Council will have provided \$72,000 to deserving students over the past 8 years!

St Josephine Bakhita Church / Food Pantry Visit

On March 15, members of Kirkwood Council 2117 made a “fifth Sunday” visit to St Josephine Bakhita Church. The visit to the lovely 100-year-old church included Mass, coffee and donuts, and a guided tour of the parish food pantry we assist by 'Manning the Can' and delivering the monthly food collections from St Peter parish. Parishioners were very welcoming, with many expressing their gratitude for our steady support.



Brothers **Keith Beardslee PGK, Mike Hatke** (with Theo), **Chris Byrne** (with Patrick), **Paul Carrillo**, and **Dennis Buchheit PGK** are pictured.

St Peterfest Service Opportunity - May 29 and May 30

The annual end-of-school year St Peterfest is coming Friday May 29 and Saturday May 30.

Kirkwood Council 2117 has again been asked to man the busy Adams Lot Beer Booth, selling bottled beers and hard seltzers on the school playground lot that hosts all the rides and games.

There are many volunteer slots open to be filled, so see sign up info below.

Your Brother Knights also appreciate members just stopping by the booth during the two days of the event to see if any additional help is needed.



Please sign up to work a shift by:

St Peterfest Signup Genius link at:

- Use QR Code, or
- Login at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0845ABAB2DA75-63833112-stpeterfest#/>

Contact Keith Beardslee to volunteer or get any other information (573-619-9202)



Knights of Columbus®

Kirkwood Council 2117



2025/26 - Roster of Council Officers

Grand Knight	Tony Jarboe	tonyjarboe@wustl.edu
Deputy Grand Knight	Buzz Jelinek	jelineksmail@gmail.com
Chancellor	Keith Beardslee	keith.beardslee@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Frank Mostek	fbmiea@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	David Anderson	dmandrsn@hotmail.com
Financial Secretary	Tom Foy	thomasfoy@gmail.com
Advocate	David Renard	drenard2015@gmail.com
Lecturer	Steve Minowitz	markmino@swbell.net
Warden	Chris Byrne	cbyrne42@gmail.com
Chaplain	Fr John Seper	frseper@sgmparish.org
Inside Guard	Mark Ryan	trebornayr@sbcglobal.net
Outside Guard	Chris Sturm	cwsturm1974@gmail.com
Trustee First Year	Dennis Buchheit	dabuchheit@yahoo.com
Trustee Second Year	Dan Koskovich	dkoskovich@gmail.com
Trustee Third Year	Larry Nelms	ljnelms@charter.net
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District Deputy	Ken Gebken	kgebken@gmail.com
Insurance Field Agent	Nathan Leblanc	Nathan.Leblanc@kofc.org

Roster of Council Directors

Program Director	Dave Anderson	Membership Director	Buzz Jelinek
Faith Director	Dennis Buchheit	Recruitment Director	Mike Putnam
Family Director	Tony Jarboe	Social Media Director	Neil McCloskey
Community Director	Dave Renard	Website/Newsletter Editor	Dan Koskovich
Life Director	John Heck		