



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PIEDMONT COUNCIL 939

APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

“The Official Publication of Piedmont Council 939 Knights of Columbus”

GRAND KNIGHT’S MESSAGE

Good day brother Knights!

March was a well-deserved respite for our council after a successful fish fry, but April will return us back to our normal pace. We have two major events to look forward to. After the vigil mass on April 8th and all masses on April 9th, we will take part in the Our Lady of Grace Ministry Fair. We will be one of dozens of organizations within the parish and be available for new interest from those who would have not otherwise considered joining. The second event will be our street cleanup on April 20th. Please consider helping the parish and community with these activities.

May God bless each of you.

Grand Knight Evan Smith

MARCH IN REVIEW

March 4th – Officers and Directors Meeting, 7:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, 2nd Floor

March 8th–9th – Marriage Retreat, Friday 5:30-9:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-1:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Church

March 18th – Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, Banquet Hall

March 31st – Easter

APRIL ACTIVITIES

April 6th – 7th – Our Lady of Grace Ministry Fair following all Masses

April 8th - Officers and Directors Meeting, 7:00pm, Our Lady of Grace Parish Life Center, 2nd Floor (NOT April 1st due to Easter Monday)

April 15th - Council Business Meeting, 7:30pm, St. Benedict’s Church

April 20th – Street Cleanup, 8:30am, Meet at McDonald’s on the Corner of Westridge and Battleground

DISTRICT DEPUTY INPUT

1951-1960 “ONE NATION UNDER GOD”

The Knights of Columbus initiated a campaign in 1951 for the public adoption of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance. One year after Supreme Knight Hart took office in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a law that officially added the words “under God” to the pledge.

In the following years, the Knights made significant contributions to the Catholic Church in America. In 1953, a Catholic advertising program launched by Knights in Missouri was officially adopted by the Order as the Religious Information Bureau. It later became known as the Catholic Information Service when it moved to New Haven in 1969, through which Knights printed and disseminated brochures and pamphlets about the Catholic faith. The program also included a correspondence course for subscribers to learn about or clarify their knowledge of Church teachings.

Finally, the close of the 1950s saw the completion of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Order contributed \$1 million toward the completion of the church’s bell tower, known as the Knights’ Tower, and more than 1,000 Knights formed an honor guard for the dedication.

1951: The Order votes to fund the microfilming of irreplaceable documents from the Vatican Library, some dating to the pre-Christian era. The library at St. Louis University is named as the repository for the microfilm. By the 1956 opening of the Knights of Columbus Vatican Film Library at St. Louis University, 9.5 million manuscript pages have been microfilmed and made available for scholars.

1953: Luke E. Hart becomes supreme knight; he is the first supreme knight to move to New Haven to assume his duties, reflecting the development of the Knights as a corporation.

1953: For \$2.5 million the Knights of Columbus purchases the land that Yankee Stadium is built on. When news breaks of the Knights’ acquisition, councils and members send congratulatory telegrams to New Haven.

1953: A Catholic advertising program launched by Missouri Knights in the 1940s is adopted nationally by the Order. The ads encourage readers to learn more about Catholic teaching by contacting the Religious Information Bureau, later called the Catholic Information Service.

1954: On June 14, 1954, Flag Day, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a law adding “under God” to the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance, completing an effort Knights began three years earlier.

1959: On Nov. 20, 1959, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., is dedicated with a more than 1,000 Knight honor guard. Knights contributed \$1 million, via a \$1.25 per-capita assessment over five years, for construction of the 329-foot bell tower.

John Joyce (dd24@kofcnc.org).

RECRUITING OPPORTUNITIES:

Whenever and wherever a Knights of Columbus meets a practicing Catholic man, eighteen years of age or older, there is an opportunity for recruiting a new Knights of Columbus. Wear your K of C nametag proudly, never reluctantly, and advertise for the Council.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Brother Knights: Our council has open positions that need to be filled. Please discern and ask the Lord if any of these opportunities would be right for you.

- 1. FAITH DIRECTOR:** Coordinates the RSVP program (Seminarians), Holy Hours, Rosary Handouts, Communion Breakfasts, masses for our deceased brothers, and various other events related to our Catholic faith and parish.
- 2. LAMB DIRECTOR:** Coordinates the LAMB (Least Among My Brethren) programs. LAMB is involved with helping those with intellectual disabilities. In years past, we have raised money for the special education programs at Our Lady of Grace Catholic School, but the director is free to choose any applicable cause. The director will facilitate fundraising, volunteering, and disbursement of funds for these activities.
- 3. COR DIRECTOR:** COR (Latin for “heart”) is a new Knights of Columbus program which seeks to increase the faith life of participants through regular meetings containing prayer, Scripture reading, applicable video series, etc. It is not limited to Knights – anyone is welcome! The director will start, grow, and facilitate this fraternal gathering (preferably weekly or bi-weekly but at least monthly) so that more men grow in their spiritual lives.

For further information or to volunteer please contact me:

Grand Knight Evan Smith SmithE7219@gmail.com 336-391-1114

WIDOWS PROGRAM:

We do not forget the widows of our fallen Brother Knights. Widows are invited to Council 939 social events as our guests.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE PASS PRAYER REQUESTS TO THE GRAND KNIGHT AT HIS NUMBERS BELOW. APOLOGIES TO ANYONE OVERLOOKED IN THIS COUNCIL 939 NEWSLETTER.

THIS LIST HAS NOT BEEN REVIEWED IN A WHILE. IF ANY LISTED PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER NEEDING OUR PRAYERS, PLEASE CONTACT THE GK TO MAKE THE LIST MORE COMPACT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Please keep the following in your prayers

John Polickoski – in hospital	Schmidt Family – death of Alice	Edwards Family
Tom Thompson – poor health, in need of calls and emails	Bishop Jugis – poor health	Fr. David Hyman
Morrison Family – death of Richard	Dcn. Larry Lisk	Sylvia Byrd
Chapman Family – death of daughter	Joyce Family	Ben Malikowski
Plocki Family – death of Olga (widow of Arthur)	Jim Keaney, Sr.	Eveland Family
Marzullo Family – death of Peter	Lawrene Kirwan	Grabasky Family – death of Bob
Wachter Family – death of Mike	Roy Berninger	Dcn. Rohan Family – death of Dcn. Tim
Eastwood Family – death of Mary (widow of Bill)	Jack Kealey	Fr. Coleman Family – death of father
Chris Frank – death of mother, father undergoing cancer treatment	Brian Dubicki	Brian Garrett
Lyle Family – death of Lura (widow of John)	Bob Englert	Parker Hahn
Flanagan Family – death of Bob	Antionette Cerrito	Barbara Ovittore
Jerry Byrd – recovery from surgery	Lysiak Family	D’Amelio Family
Fr. Joseph Wasswa – death of father (Henry Wasswa)		

Names in red mean a new entry from the past month

APRIL IS DEVOTED TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

