



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PIEDMONT COUNCIL 939

## OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of Piedmont Council 939 Knights of Columbus

### GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

I returned just one week ago from pilgrimage to Mexico City, where I was able to pray before Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, to whom our order is dedicated. I cannot fully describe the impact of my visit. On a human level, the various churches, altars, exhibits, and devotions surrounding the hill of Tepayac are amongst the most powerful I have ever seen. The fervency of prayer, with well attended masses said every hour and continuous Eucharistic adoration, is stirring. Many of the churches date back to the first century following her apparition, which occurred nearly five hundred years ago. I encourage everyone to attend mass and join in the Guadalupean celebrations on her feast day this December 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have the means and health, you should make a pilgrimage to the holy Tilma yourself.

In prayer and by retracing the steps of St. Juan Diego, I was convicted of her message: ¿No estoy yo aquí, que soy tu madre? / Am I not here, who am your mother? We have a mother who cares for us and watches over us. Assured of her protection, let us boldly go forth to serve. One particular way we are called to do so is by assisting with relief efforts for hurricane Helene. Please see the attached letter.

As we begin October, we have also settled on a date for a major meal and fundraiser we will run as a council – October 18<sup>th</sup>. Please read on for details – we need you to help prepare it, as well as your support in bringing people to eat!

*Mark Stepnowski*

*Grand Knight*

### COUNCIL NEWS

The Fraternal Survey is available from the Supreme Council. If you have any updates to your contact information, or family members, it is the most convenient way to update your information. In addition, it will ask if you have any financial needs that the Knights of Columbus insurance products can help with, the survey is a great way to get in touch with the insurance agency. You may fill out the paper form mailed to you, the link you received by email, or click [Link to Fraternal Survey](#)

## SEPTEMBER IN REVIEW

**Brother Richard Stepnowski** organized our semi-annual street cleanup on September 14<sup>th</sup>. He was excited to see our street sign in good order halfway through our designated route.

September 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> was busy. Thank you to everyone who joined the **Polickoski** family as they remembered John. Father Frank O'Rourke wrote us a lovely note, remembering John and Maryann as a pillar of the community – he truly was. Thank you also to all those who assisted with the “**Sign up Sunday**” at Our Lady of Grace.

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, Randall Romie and other knights worked on **Landscaping parish grounds**. Randall was joined by Jesse Dickerson, Rock Chickillo, Jerry Walsh, and Mark Stepnowski in replacing poorly chosen bushes on the Tremont Street side of Our Lady of Grace with more appropriately sized ones that will not block the lovely stained-glass windows.

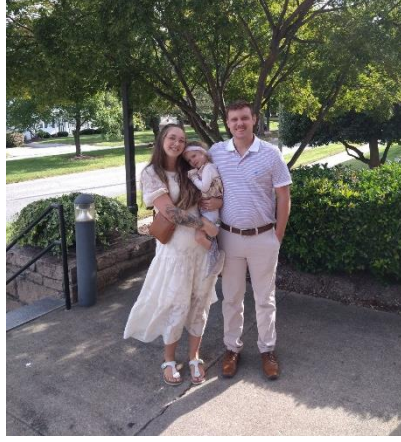


## FAMILY OF THE MONTH

As a council we have restarted the “Family of the Month Program”. While some of us may remember it as being limited to families who are knights, current guidance is that any family at a parish we serve is eligible. In the future, we hope to profile each month’s family in this newsletter, which means we must catch up on several families.

In July, we honored the **Polickoski family**. August recognized **Joe and Carol Walton**, who were even recognized as the **State Family of the Month**. In addition to helping their children in caring for grandchildren, Joe and Carol are deeply involved in the life of the church, participating in prayer groups, lecturing and serving as Eucharistic ministers, and engaging in the corporal works of mercy to care for those in need.





For September, our honorees are the **Reitzel family**. Dan is a member of our council. Parishioners at OLG will surely recognize him with his easy smile, as well as his wife Emma and their daughter Noelle. Parishioners at Our Lady of Grace know Emma from her service in the parish office, and those who attend Sunday mass with them have experienced the close partnership they exhibit as they usher and care for their daughter.

In the coming months we will need to recognize many more families. If you would like to nominate one for this honor, please contact the family director, **Richard Stepnowski**.

## Upcoming ACTIVITIES

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Room at the Inn Banquet:** While registration is unfortunately closed, Room at the Inn is in need of our donations. We hope all those attending will have a wonderful evening.

**October 6<sup>th</sup>: “Donut Sunday”**, also at Our Lady of Grace – we will help build a sense of community following morning masses at this parish by serving donuts and coffee. This special event will include a welcome for Fr. Elliott Suttle. Please lend a hand. If anyone can pick up the Donuts Saturday evening, please let the Grand Knight know.

**October 7<sup>th</sup>: Officer’s and Director’s Meeting**, 7 PM in the OLG PLC Executive conference room

**October 18<sup>th</sup>: Dinner Fundraiser.** This event will achieve a multitude of goals, but depends upon your support. We will build community amongst the parishioners, and us as brother knights as we work to cook and serve the meal. The funds raised will go to the LAMB foundation; the local portion will be dedicated to the QUEST and PACE programs at Our Lady of Grace School, which provides a catholic education to students with special needs. As an added bonus, the Italian menu will celebrate Columbus day which occurs on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

If you can help cook and serve the meal, please do so; let the Grand Knight know how you can help. If not, please bring your family and friends to enjoy it. Tickets are just \$15, per person, with children’s plates \$5 and a family cap of \$40. Please [RSVP](#) to the Grand Knight. The dinner will be held in the OLG PLC at 6 PM.

**October 21<sup>st</sup>: Council Meeting @ St. Benedicts.** Our most important menu item will be passing our budget, distributed prior to the August meeting. Plan to join everyone for recreation following the meeting.

**October 27<sup>th</sup>: Recruiting Drive @ OLG.** OLG parishioners especially are asked to help us increase our impact on the community by helping to recruit new members. A sign up and details will be available by our council meeting

## 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. 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.
- 2. LIFE DIRECTOR:** Organize events, fundraisers, and prayer to promote the cause of life, with particular attention to the unborn.

For further information or to volunteer please contact me:

Grand Knight Mark Stepnowski    mstepnowski@gmail.com    336-875-2275

## **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

Please share prayer requests with the Grand Knight at 336-875-2275. We apologize to anyone overlooked in this newsletter. If anyone has recovered from illness, please inform the Grand Knight so that the good news can be shared with the council. Thank you for your help!

### Please keep the following in your prayers

John Polickoski and family – repose of his soul.	Morrison Family – death of Richard	Joyce Family
Simpson Family – death of son, Ben	Chapman Family – death of daughter	Jim Keaney, Sr.
Barbara Ovittore-Kemp – surgery 9/5	Plocki Family – death of Olga (widow of Arthur)	Lawrene Kirwan
Msgr. Anthony Marcaccio (former Pastor, St. Pius X Parish and former KofC State Chaplain) – repose of his soul	Marzullo Family – death of Peter	Roy Berninger
Michael Busch – Recovery from surgery	Wachter Family – death of Mike	Brian Dubicki
Cynthis Perry – Recovery from surgery	Chris Frank – death of mother, father undergoing cancer treatment	Bob Englert
Nicolas D’Amelio & Family – birth of daughter Rosamund	Eastwood Family – death of Mary (widow of Bill)	Antionette Cerrito
Joyce Family – wife Janine recovering from surgery	Lyle Family – death of Lura (widow of John)	Lysiak Family
Brandon Melchiorre – father to a healthy daughter	Flanagan Family – death of Bob	Edwards Family
Jack Kealey – Repose of Soul	Jerry & Sylvia Byrd	Fr. David Hyman
John Polickoski – in hospital	Fr. Joseph Wasswa – death of father (Henry Wasswa)	Ben Malikowski
Tom Thompson – poor health, in need of calls and emails	Bishop Emeritus Peter Jugis – poor health	Eveland Family
	Dcn. Larry Lisk	Grabasky Family – death of Bob
		Dcn. Rohan Family – death of Dcn. Tim
		Brian Garrett
		Parker Hahn

Names in red indicate a new entry from the past month; we remember the death of our brothers and family members for one year in this list.

Barbara Ovittore-Kemp shares the good news that she has recovered from cancer.