



SEPTEMBER
2026

OUR LADY OF THE LAKES,
COUNCIL 7053

NEWSLETTER

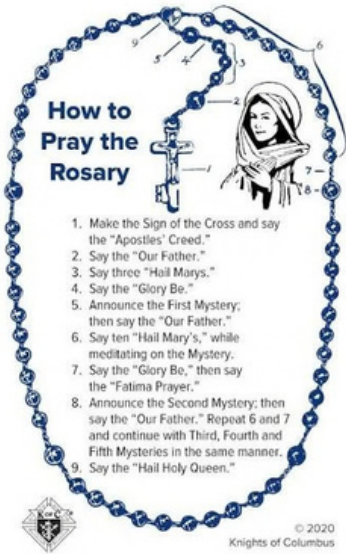
Rosary at Our Monthly Meeting

There is something truly uplifting about 25+ Knights joining their voices in prayer as we pray the Rosary—a beautiful gift given to us through Mary.

To enhance this important part of our monthly meetings, Brother Knight Steve Schneider is looking for five Knights willing to lead one decade of the Rosary at each meeting.

Won't you let your voice be heard? If you would like to participate, please contact Steve at 574-206-6551.

Let's continue to strengthen our brotherhood through prayer.
Vivat Jesus!



A New Documentary on St. Francis of Assisi

Discover the heart of St. Francis with Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, and explore the saint's lasting legacy in this wonderful new documentary, titled **Sign of a Contradiction**.

You can stream it by going to:

<https://faithandreason.com/episodes/sign-of-contradiction/>



WE DID IT AGAIN!

For the 6th consecutive year, our Weekly Church Raffle is SOLD OUT! And with September comes another reason to celebrate—it's time to congratulate our newest winners!

Congratulations go out to:

👏 Janet Robinson
👏 Chris & Lisa Williams
👏 Bob Schenkel
and
👏 Mark Stoops

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket, sold tickets, and helped make this another successful raffle. We truly couldn't do it without you!

Good luck to all of our ticket holders, and congratulations again to our September winners!

Brothers on the Links

For the second consecutive year, eight to ten Knights of Columbus golfers enjoyed bi-weekly outings at local courses from May through August. Golfers of all skill levels joined in, playing either individual stroke play or team scrambles—usually over nine holes.

The goal was simple: fun, fellowship, and plenty of laughs, regardless of the scorecard!

The season wrapped up with a cookout at social chairman Bill SanGiacomo's home, where there were plenty of stories about shots that were best left unremembered—and recognition of Pete Senecal as our Most Improved Golfer. 🏆

If you missed out this year, plan on teeing it up with us in 2027! 🏌️





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Do you have questions about this event or how to volunteer your time and talent?

Please contact
Mike Wyss at
(260) 316-3407.

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SAVE THESE FISHY DATES!

Can you believe Fish Fry season will be here before we know it? It's time to mark your **2027** calendars with these dates:

January 29
February 12 & 26
March 12

Whether you're a longtime volunteer or ready to jump in for the first time, we'd love to have you on the team!

Let's make the 2027 Fish Fry season another great one!

And remember—we can always use your help before and after each Fish Fry!

Thursdays:
Help with prep

Saturdays:
Help with cleanup

Thank you's

- Thank you to all Knights who supported the Compassion Pregnancy Centers' Pro-Life Fundraiser and helped advance their mission of supporting mothers, babies, and families.
- Thank you to all our Brother Knights for your continued prayers for our Council, our parish, and our priests. Your spiritual support is a vital part of our strength as a brotherhood.
- We are also grateful for your continued efforts to recruit new members and encourage the men of our parish to consider becoming Knights of Columbus. By inviting others to join us in faith, fellowship, and service, we help ensure that our Council remains strong and continues making a difference in our parish and community.
- Thank you for living out the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

Upcoming Events Calendar

October 5

🕒 12:00 NOON - 6:00 PM

American Red Cross Blood Drive

📍 Social Hall, St. Francis Hall

October 8

🕒 6:00 PM

Women's Care Center Luxury Bingo Gala Fundraiser

📍 Kruze Plaza, Auburn

October 20

🕒 6:00 PM

Monthly Officer Meeting

📍 Classroom 2, St. Francis Hall

October 20

🕒 6:45 PM

Monthly Council Business Meeting

📍 Social Hall, St. Francis Hall

November 21 (New Date)

🕒 6:45 PM

Men's Night Our Social Event

📍 Social Hall, St. Francis Hall

Holy Father's Monthly Prayer Intention - October

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.





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Prayer Requests

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- Rich Holman
- George Knotek
- Janet Rauch
- Alan Wiegand
- Devan Terrell
- Don Wise, Sr.
- Kedric & Laurie Beard
- Ken Drew, Jr.
- John Kesson
- Elizabeth McHugh
- The VanGessel Family
- Lorrie Haines
- Roy Harpenau
- Stan Fisher
- Justin Hyde
- Kevin McHugh
- Lucy Michel
- Aiden Lingo
- June Patterson
- Frank O'Konski
- Cindy Weslowski
- Mary Ann Wiegand
- Harvey Lechleider
- Marilyn Karpinski
- Larry Steinbacher
- Dan Vitek
- Lois McHugh
- Sue Foos
- Ed Wise
- Robert Craighead
- Tom Karpinski
- Ben Helmsing
- Dan & Annette Stobierski
- Fr. Fred Pasche
- Fr. Bernie Zajdel
- J.P. Souilliere
- Barbara Kruk
- Maria Garcia
- Betty Langshield
- Carl Praski
- Jerry Trowbridge
- Teresa Stewart
- Phil Wilson
- Chris Scott

Blessed Michael McGivney...pray for us! + Our Lady of Guadalupe...pray for us!

Charity Projects and Donations

Food For Families: Over 108,000 lbs and Counting!

Can you believe that over the years, our church community has collected more than 108,000 lbs of food? That incredible generosity has made a huge difference, but for families in need, the daily question remains: **"What do we have to eat today?"** Please continue your faithful support by bringing canned and boxed goods to the collection basket in the gathering space whenever you come to Mass. Every item helps. A heartfelt thank you to **Gene Burd** and **Stan Fisher** for their tireless dedication and leadership in this vital ministry!



The Birds & The Tootsie Roll Drive

Our first two fundraisers of September are officially in the books, and we are deeply humbled by the incredible generosity of our community.

- **Labor Day BBQ Chicken Sale:** Raised \$2,328, thanks to the dedicated work of 21 Knights.
- **Fall Tootsie Roll Drive:** Raised \$3,644 to support Steuben County residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities, driven by the efforts of 32 Knights and the generosity of our local neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who supported these efforts. May God bless you all for giving so generously of your time and treasure!



<https://tinyurl.com/yc6tezbfb>



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September 15, 2026 Council No. 7053, Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Highlights
- Opening: Led by Grand Knight Kelly Raugh, featuring the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.
- Fundraising Successes:
- BBQ Chicken Sale: Sold out (240 halves), raising \$2,328.14. Special thanks to Bill McClanahan (Bill's Wrecker Service) for donating \$650 worth of chicken.
- Annual Raffle: Completely sold out, grossing \$30,000+. \$10,000 will go to the parish, with remaining disbursements being finalized.
- Tootsie Roll Drive: Raised \$3,644 across 32 volunteers to benefit Special Olympics, Promiseland, Autism Center, and Rise/Easterseals.
- Key Initiatives: Partnering with Supreme Council (50/50 match) and an anonymous donor to purchase an ultrasound machine for Compassion Pregnancy.
- Finances: Current checking balance is \$8,357.52 with \$34,538.45 in total assets.
- Faith & Community: Monthly rosary effort launching under Steve's leadership. Supported Trine Newman Group students with a welcome dinner on Sept 30.
- Save the Dates:
 - Blood Drive: Oct 5 (12–6 PM)
 - Next Meetings: Oct 20 & Nov 17
 - Breakfast with St. Nick: Nov 29 (tentative)
 - Joint Christmas Party: Dec 6 or 8 (TBD; catered by Caruso's)
 - 2027 Fish Frys: Jan 29, Feb 12, Feb 26, Mar 12
- Member Care & Updates: Exemplification planned before year-end for 3 new members. Please keep Christine Scott and Roy Harpenau in your prayers as they recover, and pray for those traveling on the parish trip to Italy.

Key Council Action Items & Volunteer Assignments

- *Mail Minutes: Mail hard copies to postal recipients within 1–2 days.*
- *Thank-You Card: Mike Wyss to deliver card to Bill McClanahan (Bill's Wrecker Service).*
- *Prospective Member: Contact Tim Thomas regarding membership.*
- *Roster & Flocknote: Add Mark Jarmus, verify Aiden Shannon, clean up email list, and update officer records.*
- *Pay state per capita (~\$1,200), set aside \$1,400 fish fry seed money, collect receipts, and follow up on member transfers/unpaid dues.*
- *Shared Refrigerator: Clean out expired items and establish a routine maintenance schedule.*
- *Ultrasound Initiative: Tom Wiegand & Jim Shiffler to form team, submit Supreme 50/50 forms, and coordinate purchase/location.*
- *Raffle Funds: Hold officers' meeting to decide remaining fund allocations (\$10k to parish), collect charity suggestions, and take announcement photo with priests.*
- *Manger Rebuild: Tom Wiegand to set work date, list materials, and assign volunteers before snow.*
- *Blessing Box: Assign lead to report food poundage to state for \$500 annual grant.*
- *Joint Christmas Party: Confirm date (Dec 6 vs Dec 8) and finalize Caruso's catering.*
- *Exemplification: Mark Harris to target a date before Dec 31 for ~3 candidates, assign a coordinator.*
- *St. Nick Breakfast: Confirm Nov 29 tentative date with Jessica Jones and Ed Wise.*
- *Steve to recruit 4+ volunteers for monthly rosary; select hosting month for traveling icon.*
- *Thanks: Send thank-you card to Walmart for Tootsie Roll Drive support.*

 <https://tinyurl.com/yc6tezbfb>

 260-665-2259

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 We will reference these minutes for approval at our October 20 council business meeting. We plan to share the minutes with all brothers in advance so you have time to review and suggest any edits or corrections.

