



**March 2026**



**Weeks 1 & 2**

**The Unexpected Teacher**

"Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born from above."

– John 3:3



**Weeks 3 & 4**

**The Unexpected Healer**

"God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth."

– John 4:24



**Weeks 5 & 6**

**The Unexpected Savior**

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.'"

– John 11:25





**March 2026**

**Council 15001**

**Your Officers for 2025-2026**

Grand Knight.....Ed Fischer, GK  
 Chaplain.....Fr. Dindo “Bruno” Cuario  
 Asst. Chaplain.....TBD  
 Deputy Grand Knight.....John Blome PGK  
 Chancellor.....Rick Smith  
 Financial Secretary.....Kirk LaPlante, PGK  
 Treasurer.....Phil Tabbita, PGK  
 Trustee 3 yr.....Charley Billingsley, PGK  
 Trustee 2 yr.....Daniel McGinn PGK  
 Trustee 1 yr.....Francis Abijaoude PGK  
 Advocate.....Al Gillis, PGK  
 Recorder.....Michael Hobaica  
 Warden.....Artie Hauer  
 Inside Guard.....Tom Roggenkamp  
 Outside Guard (1).....Manuel Flores  
 Outside Guard (2).....Richard Rael

**Appointed Officers**

Lecturer.....Appointed by the Grand Knight  
 Info. Technical Director.....Nelson Mayo  
 Newsletter Editor/Publisher..Tom Karl PGK  
 Editorial Assistant.....Ted Cherekos  
 Knights Website.....John Blome, PGK  
 4th Degree Coordinator...Gary Schulte, PGK

**Remember—One new member,  
per Council, per month.**

**This is the desire  
of the Supreme Knight.**

**Can you help us make it happen?**

We are nearly 2 weeks into Lent and how do you feel? Do you feel that you are uplifted or more in tune with your faith? Realistically, you most likely should not feel different – mainly because as a Knight you have been doing things right each day. Do you pray the rosary each day? Some may say they don’t have the time, but oh look out whenever something goes wrong in their lives and they start praying hard and make all kinds of promises. Mary often intercedes for us with Jesus.

Remember, God never gives us more than we can handle! Yes, there are times when a death may come at an inopportune time, but God wants that person to be with Him. It is through our own sorrow that we realize how much we miss that person, but God wants us to realize that He needed that person at that time. How we forge on from that point is what makes a difference.

If you yell and scream “God, why did you do this to me,” then you are missing His point. That point may be that our parent, spouse, brother or sister needs to be with God now to share in His wonderful joy in Heaven and not be burdened with life on earth.

This is what happened to Jesus at the end of His days on earth. He was requested by His Father to suffer that inhumane punishment and have His flesh torn from Him. You may wonder why God did this to his Son!

The answer is that he so loves all of us that He had His Son sacrifice His human body to atone for the sins of mankind.

Now, as we go through the remainder of Lent, are you going to pray more for the spiritual gifts that God makes available to all of us? Are you going to willingly make yourself available to works that the Knights do throughout this parish? If so, then you are serving the idea that Fr. Michael J. McGivney founded for us – The Knights of Columbus.



**For Fraternal Year 2025-2026**

**The State Theme is:**

**With Rejoicing Hearts**



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
 IN SERVICE TO ONE  
 IN SERVICE TO ALL

Insurance Field Agent Timothy Mowery

[Tim.mowery@kofc.org](mailto:Tim.mowery@kofc.org)

PH:(602) 622-3983

**Tim Mowery**

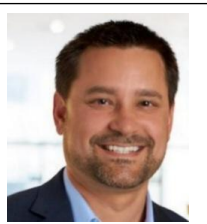
Field Agent  
 602-622-3983  
[Tim.Mowery@kofc.org](mailto:Tim.Mowery@kofc.org)

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## [Grand Knight Report — March 2026](#)

*Lent: Doing More, Loving More, Growing More*



Brother Knights,

We are now well into the holy season of **Lent**, a time the Church gives us not merely to reflect—but to act. Lent invites us to examine our hearts, renew our commitments, and grow intentionally as disciples of Christ.

Often, we begin by thinking about what we are giving up. And that is good. Acts of sacrifice strengthen the will. When we deny ourselves something small, we build the interior discipline needed to say yes to God in larger moments. A strong will, formed by prayer and sacrifice, helps us live as the men God created us to be. But Lent is not only about what we give up—it is also about what we choose to **do**.

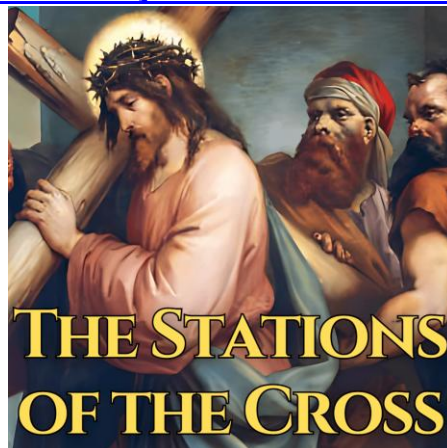
Jesus commands us to love, to serve, to forgive, and to carry one another's burdens. So, during this Lenten period, let us focus not only on subtraction, but on addition. What extra act of charity will we perform? What intentional kindness will we offer? What hidden service will we undertake—quietly and with love?

## [Thank You – Membership Drive](#)



Before looking ahead, I want to express sincere appreciation to the **30 Knights who helped with our recent Membership Drive**. Your presence after Masses—wearing your polos or 4th degree uniforms and name badges, greeting parishioners and sharing what it means to be a Knight—made a powerful impression. That visible witness of fraternity is how we grow. Thank you for stepping forward and representing our Council so well.

## [Stations of the Cross – March 6](#)



This Friday, March 6, our Council will be **sponsoring the Stations of the Cross**. I encourage you and your families to attend. Walking the Way of the Cross reminds us that growth passes through sacrifice—but it leads to resurrection.

(Continued next page)

## [Desert Nun Run – March 7](#)



This coming Saturday, March 7, we will be volunteering for the **early shift at the Nun Run**, assisting with parking and supporting this joyful event that benefits the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, cloistered nuns in our diocese. Thank you to those who have already committed to serving at this event. Your willingness to rise early and help is a beautiful expression of Lenten generosity.

## [Make This Lent Meaningful](#)

- Let us make this Lent intentional.
- Do something extra.
- Pray a little longer.
- Serve a little more.
- Forgive others more quickly.
- Love more deliberately.

When we act intentionally and with love, even small sacrifices and small services become transformative. They strengthen us individually and as brothers.

Thank you for all you continue to do—at meetings, at BINGO, at Rosaries and in the quiet acts of service no one sees. Together, we are growing—not just as a Council—but as Catholic men striving for holiness.

Let us walk this Lenten journey side by side.

**Vivat Jesus,**

*Ed Fischer*  
Grand Knight  
[efischer6@gmail.com](mailto:efischer6@gmail.com)  
Phone: 602-577-6531

# BINGO

On Friday evening, February 6<sup>th</sup> the Council had another successful Bingo evening with 109 participating. Some of our new members, such as Samuel Hana and Victor McKenzie, helped out and we all had a most enjoyable evening.

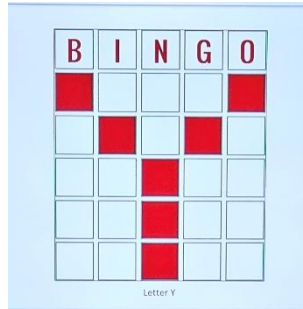


Our Bingo Chairman and FS Kirk LaPlante reported that our net proceeds totaled \$1,861, which is well above our yearly average of \$1,600. Thank you to all those who helped make it such a great evening.

Let's all get ready for our Council's 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which will include a St. Patrick's Day BINGO!



# How About A Little Dancing To YMCA!



**Dear Brothers of the Knights of Columbus,**

On behalf of our parish community, thank you sincerely for your generous donation of the Children's Lenten books for our St. Paul children. Your kindness will help our young parishioners grow closer to Jesus during this holy season and better understand the meaning of prayer, sacrifice, and love.

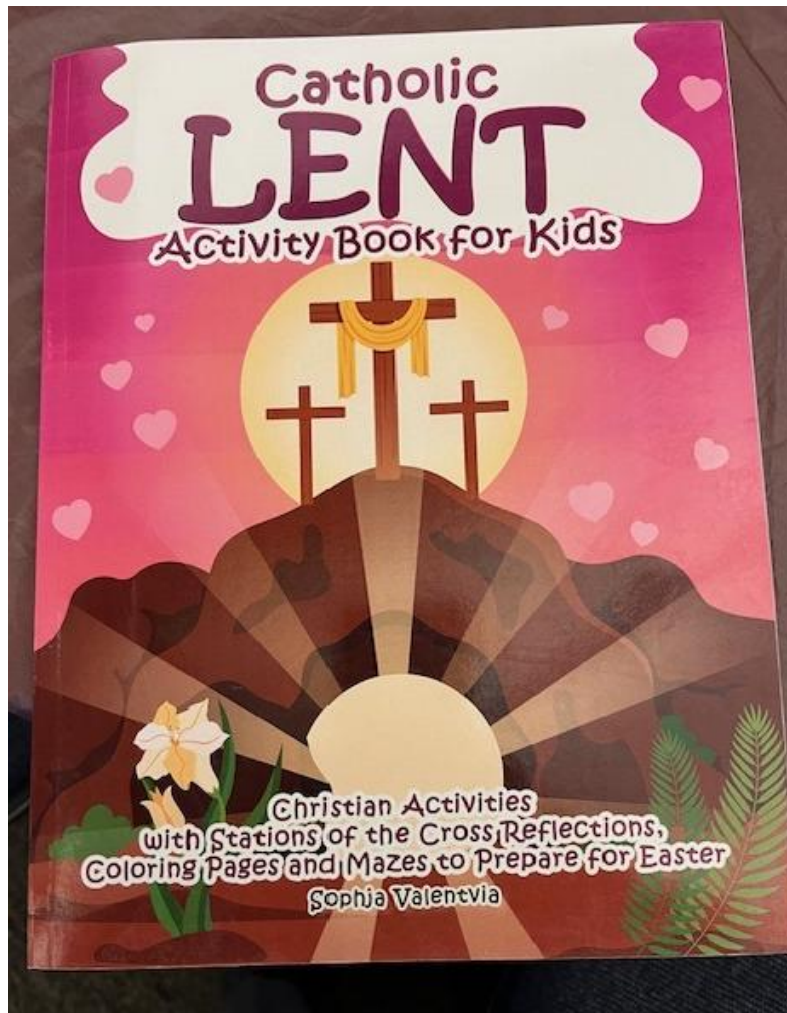
Because of your support, our children will be able to journey through Lent with guidance that speaks to their hearts and faith at their level. You are helping plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow throughout their lives. Your witness of charity and service truly reflects the mission of the Knights of Columbus and the call of the Gospel.

Please know of our gratitude and prayers for all of you and your families. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and your continued service to the Church.

We pray you have a successful membership drive.

Sincerely in Christ,

St. Paul Parish Staff, with a very special thanksgiving prayer from Sr. Rose and her team in religious education, OCIA, and sacramental prep.



February 15<sup>th</sup>

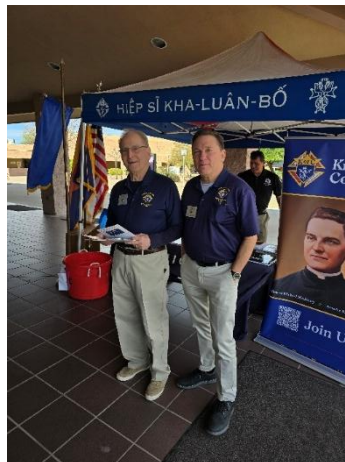
Membership Drive after all Masses, plus it was Donut Sunday!

By: PGK Charley Billingsley

Our St. Paul Knights of Columbus Council 15001 held an all-hands-on-deck Membership Drive after every Mass the weekend of February 14–15. Brothers from across the Council were present to welcome parish families, share their own journeys into the Knights, and invite the men of the parish to consider joining a fraternity rooted in faith, service and brotherhood.

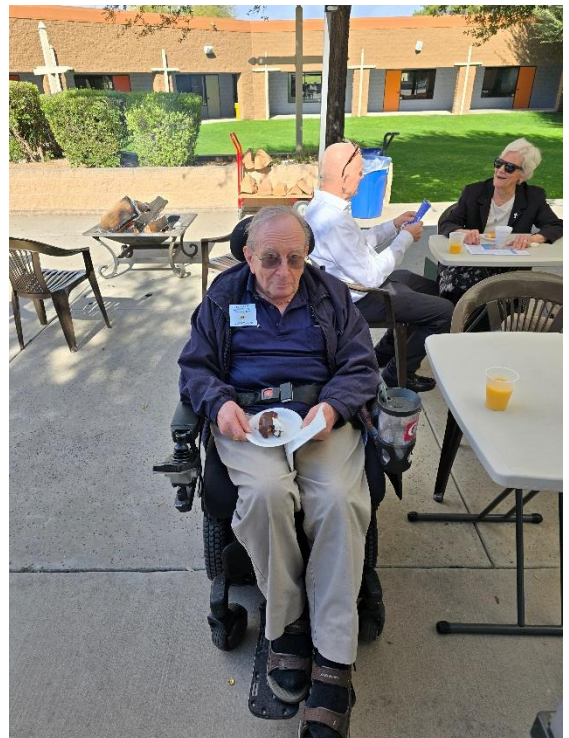
Throughout the weekend, we welcomed three new members into our Council and connected with many additional men who expressed interest in learning more. The invitation we extended at the end of each Mass emphasized how the Knights strengthen our parish, support families, and help men grow as disciples, husbands and fathers.

The drive reflected the heart of our Council: visible, approachable, and committed to being examples of faith in our homes and community.





*Now The Donuts*





## [Desert Nun Run – March 7](#)

Although this is not a February event, this is almost our last opportunity to promote this largest fundraiser for the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration of Our Lady of Solitude Monastery.



Dedicated to perpetual Eucharistic Adoration, these nuns host one of the most popular running events in the Valley each year. There are 10K, 5K and one-mile options. If you'd like to volunteer, with Council 15001 as the largest support organization, for this event, reach out to Trustee Al Gillis at [adgillis2728@gmail.com](mailto:adgillis2728@gmail.com)



## [Lenten Prayers 2026](#)

For Lent 2026, consider incorporating traditional prayers and the monthly intentions from Pope Leo XIV to deepen your spiritual journey.

### Lenten Prayers

#### [Daily Prayer for Lent:](#)

"God of goodness and mercy, hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you. Help me to grow closer to you and to reflect on my life and actions during this sacred time."

#### [Stations of the Cross:](#)

- This traditional prayer involves meditating on the events of Jesus' Passion. Each station invites you to reflect on a significant moment, fostering a deeper connection with Christ's sacrifice. It is especially impactful during Holy Week.

#### [Prayer for Reflection:](#)

- "Lord, as I journey through Lent, help me to recognize the areas in my life that need your healing and grace. May I be open to your guidance and grow in faith."

## *A Night of Unity and Gratitude: The Annual Priest Appreciation Dinner*

The spirit of fraternity and faith was on full display recently as SS Simon and Jude's Council 12708 hosted its annual Priest Appreciation Dinner. This cornerstone event serves as a heartfelt "thank you" to the clergy who provide tireless spiritual leadership and service to our community.

This year's gathering was a resounding success, bringing together 75 Brother Knights and 35 priests for an evening of fellowship and shared mission. The strength of our local Church was vividly apparent, as we were honored by the presence of all our Bishops: Bishop John Dolan, Bishop Eduardo Nevares and Bishop Emeritus Thomas Olmsted along with newly ordained Bishop, Peter Bui, whose participation added a joyful milestone to the festivities.



Pictured in the photo are Brothers Al Gillis, Ed Fischer, Fr. Bruno, and Andy Picard, alongside Bishop Peter Bui, Kirk LaPlante, Tom Roggenkamp and Richard Rael. Brothers Gary Schulte and Phil Tabbita are not captured in the picture.



Events like the Priest Appreciation Dinner reinforce the vital bond between the Knights of Columbus and our clergy. Through this mutual support and shared dedication, we continue to build a vibrant, faithful community.

D. Kirk LaPlante, FS/PGK

## [Worthy Brothers of Council 15001](#)

As we enter the season of Lent, we are reminded of our foundational calling as Knights: to be protectors of the most vulnerable. Our Council has deep roots in the pro-life movement, and our commitment to ending abortion isn't just a stance—it's an active, prayerful mission.

I've attached the Children of the Rosary Lent 2026 flyer, which outlines several opportunities for us to stand together in intercessory prayer across the Valley.

### [Why We Show Up](#)

The Knights of Columbus have always been at the forefront of the culture of life. Whether it's through our Ultrasound Initiative, supporting local pregnancy centers, or our "Aid and Support After Pregnancy" (ASAP) programs; we don't just pray for life—we provide the resources to sustain it. These Saturday prayer vigils are the spiritual engine behind those physical efforts.

### [Lent 2026 Prayer Schedule](#)

Please take a look at the attached schedule and try to join your Brothers for at least one of these dates. All vigils begin at 9:30 A.M. (unless otherwise noted):

- February 21: Family Planning Associates, Phoenix
- February 28: Desert Star, Phoenix
- March 7: Camelback Family Planning, Phoenix
- March 14: Planned Parenthood, Glendale
- March 21: Planned Parenthood, Tempe (9:30 & 10:30 A.M.)
- March 28: Acacia Women's Center, Phoenix
- April 3 (Good Friday): Rosary for Life at 11:00 A.M. (Planned Parenthood, Glendale)

Let's make a strong showing this year. There is power in the Rosary, and there is strength when all our Knights stand in public witness for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Vivat Jesus!



# Children of the Rosary



Intercessory Prayer for the End of Abortion

## Lent 2026

[ChildrenoftheRosary.com](http://ChildrenoftheRosary.com)



**Desert Star**

**9:30 A.M. Saturday, February 21**  
Family Planning Associates  
1331 N 7 St, Phoenix

**9:30 A.M. Saturday, February 28**  
Desert Star  
5501 N 19 Ave, Phoenix

**9:30 A.M. Saturday, March 7**  
Camelback Family Planning  
4141 N 32 St, Phoenix

**9:30 A.M. Saturday, March 14**  
Planned Parenthood  
5771 W Eugie Ave, Glendale



**Family Planning Assoc.**

**Glendale Planned Parenthood**

**9:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.**  
**Saturday, March 21**  
Planned Parenthood  
1837 E Baseline Rd, Tempe

**9:30 A.M. Saturday, March 28**  
Acacia Women's Center  
2023 W Bethany Home Rd, Phoenix



**Camelback Family Planning**



## Good Friday Rosary for Life

**11 A.M. April 3, 2026**  
Planned Parenthood  
5771 W. Eugie Ave. Glendale

*Let's end  
Lent strong*

# CatholicVote

FAITH. FAMILY. FREEDOM.



Friends,

Last Saturday in Munich, Secretary of State Marco Rubio delivered a speech that deserves to be remembered long after the current political moment has passed.

Speaking at the Munich Security Conference—one of the most consequential diplomatic forums in the world—Rubio did something rare, especially on European soil: **he named the cultural and religious foundation of the West without apology or embarrassment.** He reminded his audience that the alliance between the United States and Europe is not merely transactional, economic, or strategic. It is civilizational.

Rubio stated plainly what many Western leaders have spent decades denying: that **the deepest bond uniting the United States and Europe is rooted in a shared Judeo-Christian inheritance.** Not abstract “values.” Not procedural democracy alone. But a moral vision of the human person shaped by biblical faith, natural law, and centuries of Christian culture.

He also issued a warning. A nation or a civilization that understands itself only in pragmatic or economic terms cannot endure. As Rubio observed, no one gives their life for an economic program. **People sacrifice for meaning, for truth, for home, for something sacred.** Strip a nation of those roots, and it may function for a time... but it will not survive.

Someone recently explained this cultural crisis to me with a striking image: *the beauty and accomplishments of today’s Western culture are like cut flowers.* They still look attractive. They still decorate the table. But they have no roots. *And because they have no roots, they will eventually wither and die.*

**That image captures our moment perfectly.**

For decades, identitarian politics and Marxist ideology have worked relentlessly to serve the West from its religious and cultural foundations. The result has been fragmentation, resentment, and cultural exhaustion. A society taught to see itself as a collection of competing groups rather than a shared moral inheritance will inevitably turn inward and against itself.

*So, what are the takeaways for us?*

First, we must actively push back against the idea that America is merely an economic project or a set of neutral institutions. **That vision is not only false: it is suicidal.**

Second, as we approach the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding, we should take seriously the task of cultural renewal. Politics often follows culture, although it may also shape it in important ways. It may be time to think boldly, even to ask whether our country needs a dedicated cultural leadership role, a kind of “culture czar,” tasked with preserving and strengthening the moral and civilizational inheritance that made America possible in the first place.

For Catholics, and especially for our Church leaders, this moment calls for something more fundamental: a rediscovery of what the Church has already taught with clarity and courage. **St. John Paul II warned Europe—and the entire West—that forgetting its Christian roots would come at a terrible cost.** In *Ecclesia in Europa*, he wrote that a culture which “no longer has the courage to affirm the transcendent dignity of man... ends by losing the sense of its own identity.” He insisted that Christianity is not a relic of the past but “a decisive force shaping Europe’s culture” and essential to its future.

Pope Benedict XVI was equally explicit. Speaking repeatedly about the crisis of the West, he argued that reason itself collapses when it is cut off from faith. In his famous address at Regensburg, he warned that **a culture which excludes God ultimately “diminishes man.”** Later, he observed that Europe was living “as if God does not exist,” and that this practical atheism was leading not to freedom, but to moral confusion and civilizational fatigue.

Both popes understood what many modern leaders refuse to admit: Christianity is not an obstacle to Western freedom. It is its source.

[Marco Rubio’s speech in Munich](#) matters because it names this reality in a place that has spent decades trying to forget it. **It matters because it challenges Americans to recover a sense of who we are, not just what we do.** And it matters because cultural renewal, not technocratic management, is the real security issue of our time.

At CatholicVote, we believe this conversation cannot wait.

America 250 should not be a hollow celebration of power or prosperity. It should be a moment of honest reflection, cultural repentance, and renewal rooted in the truths that gave birth to our nation in the first place.

Cut flowers may look beautiful for a while. **But only living roots can sustain a civilization.**

Go forward bravely,



Kelsey Reinhardt  
President & CEO  
CatholicVote

**A priest and a rabbi** are eating their lunch at a restaurant when the priest starts to tease his old friend.

“This baked ham is delicious, so much better than your egg salad sandwich,” says the priest. “You really ought to try it. I know it’s against your religion, but I can’t understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?”

The rabbi replies, “At your wedding.”

—THE CATHOLIC POST



**NOTE: Wives' birthday list was taken from the Council Membership Survey which was turned in by members of the Council.**

*We would really like every member to complete this survey so that we can have the most complete and accurate birthday listing available*

March 21	Charley Billingsley		March 03	Mary Goss
March 26	Francis Abijaoude		March 10	Paulette Aguilar
March 27	Allen Sindorf		March 20	Jeannene Hobaica
March 28	John VanCuyk		March 30	Mary Picard
		February 01		



**Our Knights In Action**

During the past Fraternal Year, PGK Richard Diefendorf sent a full year listing of the types of volunteer service hours, in a form format, to each member. We will try to continue that by providing a two-month list for you to fill out and give to the Financial Secretary. **You may also include any ministries that your wife and family participate in.** This means that you may include time for any and all parish ministries: EM, Adorer, Usher, Lector, Altar Server, Dusting Angels, RCIA, teaching or assisting at Catechesis, prayer shawls, decorating the Church at Christmas and Easter, attending Degree ceremonies, and of course the picnic and Campus cleanup. These are only a few of the things we and our families do.

**Monthly Record of Volunteer Service Hours for Council 15001**

**February**

Prospect Open House \_\_\_\_\_

Priests' Appreciation Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

Bingo \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Wednesday P.P. Rosary \_\_\_\_\_

Donut Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

Servers \_\_\_\_\_

EM \_\_\_\_\_

Lector \_\_\_\_\_

Adoration \_\_\_\_\_

Lenten Rosary \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**March**

Nun Run \_\_\_\_\_

Stations of the Cross Dinner \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Wednesday P.P. Rosary \_\_\_\_\_

Donut Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

Bingo \_\_\_\_\_

Servers \_\_\_\_\_

EM \_\_\_\_\_

Lector \_\_\_\_\_

Adoration \_\_\_\_\_

Lenten Rosary \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

# March 2026

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 General Meeting 7:00 p.m. In Conference Room 	5	6 	7 
8 Family of the Month/Donut Sunday	9	10	11 Rosary at Planned Parenthood 	12	13 	14
15 	16 Officers' Meeting In Conference Room 7 p.m. 	17 Bingo 	18	19 Assembly 1805 Meets at St. Joseph at 7pm. 	20 	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 	28
29 	30	31				

## Upcoming Events For February/March 2026

### March 2026

- Mar. 04 General Meeting 7 p.m. In Conference Room
- Mar. 07 Nun Run
- Mar. 08 Donut Sunday/Family of the Month
- Mar. 11 Rosary at Planned Parenthood
- Mar. 15 Blood Drive in Conference Room 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Mar. 16 Officers' Meeting In Conference Room 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day BINGO 6:00 p.m. O'Carroll Hall
- Mar. 29 Palm Sunday



### April 2026

- Apr. 04 General Meeting 7 p.m. In Conference Room
- Apr. 08 Donut Sunday/Family of the Month
- Apr. 11 Rosary at Planned Parenthood
- Apr. 16 Officers' Meeting In Conference Room 7:00 p.m.



### Prayer to End Abortion



We often discuss in the newsletters and during our General Meetings the need to have Rosary Wednesday which is the second Wednesday of each month. While many of you are able to take some time out of your valuable day, it would be a great example to yourselves, your family and your parish to make an appearance as often as possible. Every prayer is valuable to you and to our Blessed Mother Mary. It is through Her that we ask for God's intercession to stop the needless killing of convenience that is occurring. So once again, we ask you to try to come to as many of the Rosary Wednesdays as possible during each year.

*Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,  
And for the lives of all my Brothers and sisters.  
I know there is nothing that destroys more life than  
abortion,  
Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death  
by the Resurrection of Your Son.  
I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.  
Today I commit myself  
Never to be silent,  
Never to be passive,*

*Never to be forgetful of the unborn.  
I commit myself to be active in the pro-life  
movement,  
And never to stop defending life  
Until all my Brothers and sisters are protected,  
And our nation once again becomes  
A nation with liberty and justice  
Not just for some, but for all.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!*

### For Those Who Are Sick & Distressed

*Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness.  
Hear the prayers we offer for our sick of distressed Brothers or their relatives:*

Brothers Manuel "Manny" Flores, James Wayne, Bob Waugh, Jim Soderlund, John Van Cuyk,  
Tom Karl, Alberto Vela, Larry Obrien, Fr. Mike, Andrew Brule and Mark Davis and his family.

Others requesting prayers: Rebecca Cairo (Jim), Nadine Swartz (Jack and Shawn}, Mary Picard (Andy),  
Mary Weege (Earl RIP, Dan), Carmin Smith (mother of Rick Smith) and Lt. Col. Blaise Schmidt.



### Repose of the souls of all our Widows and our Deceased Brother Knights:

Bernard "Butch" Cook, David Earl and Robert Benincasa, Josh and Janice (Ray Rosetti's  
grandson and daughter), Mike Kvic, Joe Ross and Danny Julia.

### Catholic Prayer For those who have passed

*"Loving God our Father, Your power brings us to life.  
Your care guides our lives,  
and by Your command we return to the dust from which we came.  
Father, those who pass on still live in Your presence,  
their lives are changed but do not end.  
I plead in hope for my family, relatives and friends,  
and for all the dead known only to You.*



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Newsletter Publisher/Editor: Tom Karl

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Submission of newsletter articles should be sent to your Newsletter Editor  
not later than the 25th of the month.

