



April 2026





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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?

He is risen! Yes, once again we note that Eastertide has come and that our Lord, Jesus Christ, has risen from the dead. He is the basis of all our ideas of Christianity. He is God. He is our Savior. But do we try to keep in our mind that He suffered a horrible death for our sins? From Isaiah 53:5 *“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.”* This verse beautifully illustrates the suffering of Jesus and how it impacts us.

Each day, when we wake up do we say “Thank you Lord for all that You have given us” – remembering that He suffered for our sins? Many of us will most likely not and just think about what we are going to do today.

As we go into Holy Thursday and Good Friday, try to imagine how Jesus felt going through the agony in the garden and all that occurred after.

Are we going to be like Peter and deny Jesus when asked if we are with Him? Are we going to selfishly do as we wish and not think about how Jesus helped others – think about the Wedding at Cana, leprosy, the blind man, Lazarus and so on.

Brothers, as members of the Knights of Columbus, it is upon our own shoulders that we bear the burden of showing others how Christian men work for the good of others. Our Charity is our creed, our belief that we must help others through Charity.

Again, I remind you that as we go through Holy Week, finishing with Easter, that we keep Jesus in our forethought every day and try to emulate some of the good that He did for us. Visit the sick or feed the poor and those unable to fend for themselves – this is what we mean by WWJD “What Would Jesus Do.” On your last day, will you be able to say “I did what Jesus asked of me and now I would like to rest.”



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

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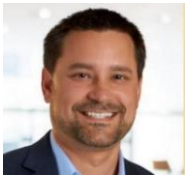
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Grand Knight Report — April 2026

Transformed Through Service

Brother Knights (and a special welcome to our new Knights: Christian, Jack, Michael, and Robert)!

As we journey through **Holy Week** and approach the celebration of Easter, I've been reflecting on what it truly means to serve others—and how those acts of service shape not just the world around us, but the man within us.

We often think of service as something we give: our time, our effort and our presence. Yes, that is true! But I've come to realize that in serving others, something deeper happens. These external acts begin to **reform us interiorly**.

My wife Lisa, the kids and I recently volunteered at Andre House. I noticed that when I serve, I become more aware of the needs of others. I begin to see people differently: not as strangers or acquaintances, but as brothers and sisters. I listen more closely. I understand more deeply. Over time, this builds something within me: **greater empathy, greater compassion, and a greater desire to love as Christ loves**.

Service connects us. It draws us out of ourselves and into relationships. And in doing so, it changes us. It really does seem true that **we receive more from giving than we give**.

This is at the heart of our identity as Knights. Whether we are helping at BINGO, supporting a blood drive, praying the Rosary or simply showing up for one another, these acts are not just good works: they are **forming us into better men, better husbands, and better fathers**.



Good Friday Rosary for Life – April 3



As we commemorate our Lord's ultimate sacrifice on **Good Friday**, we are invited to stand at the foot of the Cross in a very real and present way.

I invite you to join our Brother Knights, along with Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Olmsted, for a **Rosary for Life**:

- **Date:** Friday, April 3
- **Time:** 11:00 AM (one hour of prayer)
- **Location:** Planned Parenthood Glendale

This is more than a gathering—it is a **witness**. We pray for mothers, for the unborn, and for all those affected by the culture of life issues in our world. By being present, we bring the light of Christ into places that need it most.

Walking Forward Together

As we move toward Easter, I encourage each of you to continue saying "yes" to opportunities to serve. Not just because others need it, but because **we need it**.

Through service, Christ shapes us. Through service, we grow. Through service, we become the men we are called to be.

Thank you for all that you do, and for who you are becoming.

Vivat Jesus,

Ed Fischer
Grand Knight
efischer6@gmail.com
Phone: 602-577-6531

[Worthy Brothers and Families](#)

(Part of the article is repeated due to its importance)

As we approach the solemnity of Holy Week, we are called in a special way to stand at the foot of the Cross—not just in our liturgy, but in our world today. On the day we commemorate our Lord’s ultimate sacrifice for the life of the world, we have a powerful opportunity to stand as a witness for those who have no voice.

I am writing to invite you to join our Brother Knights, along with **Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Olmsted**, for a **Good Friday Rosary for Life**.



[Reflecting on the Gift of Life](#)

Life is the first and most fundamental gift we receive from the Creator. It is a gift that calls for our protection, our reverence, and our prayerful witness. As Knights, we are called to be defenders of the vulnerable, and there are none more vulnerable than the unborn.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, a tireless champion for the sanctity of life, once reminded us: *"Abortion has become the greatest destroyer of peace, because it destroys two lives, the life of the child and the conscience of the mother."* She also shared a profound truth that guides our mission: *"It is a poverty that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."*

By gathering to pray the Rosary, we aren't just protesting; we are bringing the light of Christ to a place of darkness. We pray for the mothers in crisis, the workers in the industry, and the precious lives that deserve the chance to see the sun.

[Event Details](#)

- **When:** Friday, April 3, 2026
- **Time:** 11:00 AM (One hour of prayer)
- **Where:** Planned Parenthood | [5771 W. Eugie Ave, Glendale, AZ 85304](#)
- **Special Guest:** Join Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Olmsted and hundreds of fellow pro-lifers.

[Important Logistics](#)

- **Parking:** Please park on public streets.
- **Preparation:** The Arizona sun can be intense. Please bring **bottled water** and **umbrellas** for shade.

Let us answer the call of Matthew 4:19: *"Come follow me."* Let us follow Him to the places where He is needed most. I hope to see a strong showing of the Knights as we stand in solidarity for the Culture of Life. Please reach out if you would like to carpool or need further directions.

Vivat Jesus!

Ed Fischer, GK Council 15001

March Family of the Month

The Knights of Columbus St Paul Council recognize the Pedraza family this month as a shining example of the Domestic Church, first educators, source of growth in charity, love and faith, and spark of many vocations.

The Pedraza family came to St Paul in 2017. Fernando was born and raised in Bogota, Colombia, while Mary was born and raised in Woodland Hills, CA. Both were raised in devout Catholic families and Catholic schools.

Despite different cultural backgrounds, their faith is the foundation of their marriage and family. Their faith was fostered by parents who had disciplined devotion to the Mass, the Blessed Mother, the Holy Family and the saints.

A mutual friend introduced them while Fernando was in the Bahamas working as an architect; Mary was visiting her college friend's family. Mary was impressed that Fernando attended Triduum services at St Anne while she was visiting. A year later in May 2002, they were married.

They are gifted with a talented 18-year-old daughter, Jeannette, who is a senior at Paradise Valley High School. Mary is a Montessori teacher and knows true catechesis begins at home and the womb!

During pregnancy, Mary found time to go to daily Mass. Jeannette's grandmother insists that Jeannette's daily exposure to Jesus in the Eucharist while in her mother's womb is the reason Jeannette is solid in her Catholic faith. The road hasn't always been smooth for the Pedraza Family, but they believe the hard road keeps you on a straight path.

The Family of the Month program celebrates remarkable families at St Paul. To nominate, contact Phillip PTabbita@att.net or 202-256-9642. May God be the center of our homes.



Anniversary BINGO March 17th

On Tuesday March 17th, the Council had another successful Bingo evening with a record breaking 132 participants. It was also our anniversary night for Council 15001 to celebrate 16 years of service. Two of our Charter Members, PGK John Blome and PGK Gary Schulte were present.

This was a unique BINGO featuring new items with a St. Patrick's Day theme, including green milkshakes. Additionally, we shared Irish Blessings throughout the evening. Andy Picard was asked to use his best Irish brogue for these.

Luck of the Irish: Council 15001 Sets New Bingo Record!

The luck of the Irish was on full display recently as Knights of Columbus Council 15001 hosted its most successful BINGO event to date. The hall was filled with high energy and community spirit, resulting in a milestone evening for the Council's fundraising efforts.

With 132 tickets sold, the event netted an incredible \$2,345. These funds will go directly toward supporting the Council's ongoing missions and charitable works.

The Team Behind the Triumph

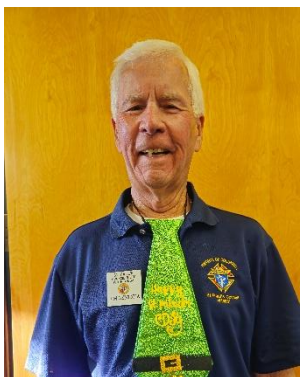
The record-breaking success of the evening was made possible by the coordinated efforts of many dedicated volunteers. From the high-energy calling of Andy Picard, our "MC Extraordinaire," to the floor team led by Richard Rael, Dan McGinn., and Richard Diefendorf the atmosphere remained electric from the first number to the last.

In the kitchen, Steve Pettit captained a crew of regulars including Greg Huelskamp, Jim Gentner and Jim Soderlund, ensuring everyone was well-fed. Behind the scenes, Al Gillis managed the logistics and the popular "Cow Bell 50/50" raffle—which brought in a fantastic \$422—while John Blome handled the essential task of setting up tables and chairs.

The evening was further supported by the sharp eyes of our spotter, Charley Billingsley and the diligent financial tracking of Phil Tabbita and Artie Hauer. Rick Smith served as the evening's Wine Steward; and we owe a special thank you to Tom and Jo Karl, whose constant support is a cornerstone of our Council's events.

Council 15001 extends a massive thank you to everyone who worked, played, and contributed to this triumph. It is through this level of dedication and brotherhood that the Council continues to thrive and make a meaningful impact.

D. Kirk LaPlante



Finally, to end our evening, after the event, we raised a glass of Guinness in honor of our fallen Brother, Jack Swartz.

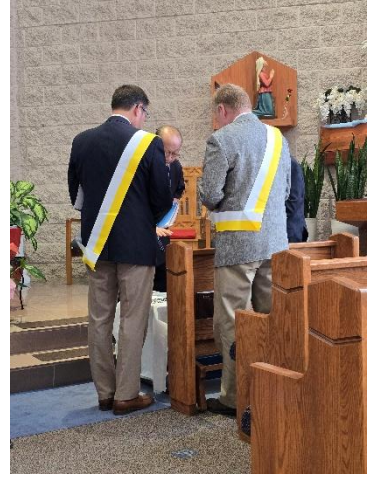


Lenten Meal Hosted By Council 15001

On March 7th, Council 15001 helped prepare and serve the Lenten Friday meal after Stations of the Cross were completed in the courtyard. A prayer was given prior to supper being eaten and the participants really enjoyed the entire evening.



C.U.F. (Charity Unity Fraternity) March 22nd



Brothers: Michael Rice, Jack Picard,
Hope Umipig and Robert Germain





[Desert Nun Run – March 7](#)

On March 7th, we had 27 individuals participate in the Annual Nun Run which was held at Kiwanis Park, North Soccer Field, 101 W. Baseline Rd., Tempe AZ 85283

The Poor Clares were happy to host this event – now in its 17th year and running, with St Paul Council in its 14th



year of sponsoring the Nun Run. The Run is The Poor Clare's biggest annual fundraiser! The runs are done in distances of 10km, 5km and 1 mile, which provides something for everyone. The Nuns "thank you" for your support and they look forward to seeing you at future Runs!



[Rosary At Planned Parenthood March 11th](#)

Once again we only had a few members show up for the rosary at Planned Parenthood.



Donut Sunday March 1st

Once again we have been providing a donut Sunday at least twice a month when it does not interfere with other organizations or events. Parishioners love what we are doing and appreciate our efforts. But sometimes, our effort becomes more of the same effort with the same individuals. It would be nice to have a pool of people who could be assigned to a weekend and share the burden. If you are willing to help out, contact Richard Rael, Tom Roggenkamp or Dief Diefendorf at one of our meetings or at the donut shack. New members are more than welcome and much needed. Sharing the load makes light the work.



St. Paul Blood Drive

Helping with the



The St. Paul's Blood Drive on March 15th, 2026, which the Knights of Columbus organized and ran, was a great success. We had a total of 47 willing people who signed up and we really do appreciate those parishioners who gave this life-giving gift to others.

There were 29 Whole Blood donations, 6 Power Red donations which count double, and our total Blood Product was 41 units.

Note: What is a Power Red donation?

A Power Red donation, also called a double red cell donation, focuses on collecting red blood cells, which are the most frequently transfused blood component in hospitals. Unlike a standard whole blood donation, which collects all blood components, this process uses apheresis technology to separate red blood cells from plasma and platelets, returning the latter to the donor along with a saline solution. This allows donors to provide nearly twice the amount of red cells in one session compared to a regular donation.

These blood donations will save 105 lives in our local hospitals. We thank our Knights and their family members, and all the St. Paul parishioners for their dedication to helping us fulfill this need of the community.



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

April 03	Daniel Weege		April 02	Ana Bertha Terminel
April 03	Miguel Joevis		April 02	Elizabeth McCormick
April 11	Edward Fischer		April 05	Karen Roggenkamp
April 14	Gary DeGregario		April 06	Winnie Campos
April 18	Fr. Ishaya Samaila			
April 20	Gregory Vanek			
April 21	Victor Diaz			
April 23	Tom Adamson			
April 24	Gerard Surdakowski			
April 27	Ruperto Salinas			
April 29	Pedraza Fernando	February 01		
April 30	Donald Reiter			

Our Knights In Action

During past Fraternal Years, PGK Richard Diefendorf sent a full year listing of the types of volunteer service hours, in a form format, to each member. We 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, OCIA, 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

<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Nun Run _____	Bishop's Good Friday Rosary _____
Stations of the Cross Dinner _____	2 nd Wednesday P.P. Rosary _____
2nd Wednesday P.P. Rosary _____	Donut Sunday _____
Donut Sunday _____	Servers _____
Bingo _____	EM _____
Servers _____	Lector _____
EM _____	Adoration _____
Lector _____	St Paul Carnival _____
Adoration _____	Kite Day _____
Lenten Rosary _____	Other _____
Other _____	

April 2026

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

Upcoming Events For April/May 2026

April 2026

- Apr. 01 General Meeting 7 p.m. In Conference Room
- Apr. 05 EASTER
- Apr. 12 Donut Sunday/Family of the Month
- Apr. 08 Rosary at Planned Parenthood
- Apr. 16 Assembly 1805 Meets at St. Joseph at 7pm
- Apr. 19 Sunshine Soccer League Kite Day
- Apr. 20 Officers' Meeting In Conference Room 7:00 p.m.
- Apr. 25 BINGO O'Carroll Hall 7:00 p.m.



May 2026

- May 03 Donut Sunday/Family of the Month
- May 06 General Meeting 7 p.m. In Conference Room
- May 09 Ladies High Tea O'Carroll Hall
- May 13 Rosary at Planned Parenthood
- May 15 KOC State Convention
- May 21 Assembly 1805 Meets at St. Joseph at 7pm
- May 18 Officers' Meeting In Conference Room 7:00 p.m.
- May 22 BINGO O'Carroll Hall 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 Francis Abijaoude PGK, 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), Michael Wright, Karen Roggenkamp and Lt. Col. Blaise Schmidt.



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

