

**John Paul II  
Council 13935  
Milford, PA**

St. Patrick's Milford PA



St. Joseph's Matamoras PA

## Welcome New Officers

August 2024

### Council Officers

Grand Knight:	Joe Saiki
Deputy GK:	Larry Comisso
Chancellor:	Tony Perito
Chaplain:	Fr. Joseph Manachuck
Financial Sec:	Dennis Mann
Treasurer:	Bill Reed
Recorder:	Gene Burns
Advocate:	Greg Cholak
Warden:	Paul Schattman
Inside Guard:	Gene Grimes
Outside Guard:	Steve Coleman
Lecturer:	Nathaniel White

### Directors

Program:	Tony Perito
Membership:	Tony Perito
Faith:	Ray Pirosh
Family:	Joe Saiki
Community:	Joe Dooley
Life:	Tony Perito

### Birthdays

Joe Longhney	Dennis Bukallak
Martin Gaughan	Ed Galtzman
Joe Maricone	Rob Gallagher
Ray Pirosh	Lucas Helms
Joe Dooley	Paul Wojcik

### Meeting Dates

#### Officer's Meeting

August 1st @ 7pm

St. Patrick's Community Hall

#### Business Meeting

August 15th @ 7pm

St. Joseph's Community Hall

Dinner served @ 6:30pm

#### Assembly Meeting

July 30th @ 5:30pm

Antonio's Cafe

Dinner served @ 6:00pm

#### Color Corps Practice

July 31st @ 6pm

St. John Neumann's Parish



At our July general meeting, on Thursday the 18th, we held our Installation of Officers. Welcoming in our new officers for the 2024-2025 fraternal year. Above you can see our new District Deputy, Larry Comisso, (also our council's deputy grand knight) leading the installation next to Fr. Topo of St. Vincent De Paul Parish in Dingman's Ferry.

## Knight of the Month

Congratulations to our past Grand Knight Benny Marasa for receiving the first Knight of the Month for the fraternal year of 2024-2025. Benny has served our council in many capacities. Most recently he was selected as the three-year trustee of our council - overseeing the council's financial well being.



## From the Desk of the Grand Knight

First, I'd like to thank the Council for a great Officers' Installation and to thank you for the honor to serve the Council again as Grand Knight. Our new District Deputy, SK Larry Comisso, did a fantastic job in setting up and conducting the ceremony. Also, a big shout out and Thank You to Fr. Toppa from St Vincent DePaul Parish for joining us and filling in as Chaplain. This ceremony has set a fantastic tone for our 24-25 fraternal year (FY) and our new slate of officers. We will need it to keep pace with the great 23-24 FY the council had with membership, programs, and fundraising. Thank You all for your hard work it has great impact within our parishes and community.

Our annual planning meeting in July was very successful. We have a lot of programs and events planned for the year. Our aim is to continue the great things that we do and have done for years, but also expand our programs with a focus on faith formation, youth engagement, and community involvement. Through these programs we can grow as Knights and as a Council. As we start to set up new programs and fundraisers to support the programs, we will be sending emails explaining the programs and committees. Please, when you see something that interests you step up and volunteer as either committee chair or member. As we work together, many hands will make light work.

To help us communicate and coordinate, we have our yearly printed schedule. We will have printed copies at all Thank meetings and be available for download from our website. On our website is our digital version of the calendar and that can be viewed on any device at any time. If you use Gmail, you can integrate that calendar into your own Gmail calendar. We will try a free text communication app called FlockNote that is specifically designed for parishes and ministries, and is used by Saint Joseph's Parish and is recommended by the Knights of Columbus. Stay tuned for details.

Thank you for all you do. Keep up the good work.

P.S. Just want to remind all that the August Business and Social Meeting will be at St Joseph's Hall and not at St Patrick's as usual.



Joseph McGivney

### Prayer for the Canonization Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## Faith



## RSVP

Our council has always had a very robust and prolific RSVP program. RSVP stands for Refund Support Vocations Program. The RSVP program gives our council the opportunity to financially support seminarians and postulants while getting a portion back from the Supreme council. Every \$500 we give to a seminarian or postulant we receive \$100 back. In the recent past years we have had the great opportunity to support 5 seminarians via the calendar raffle and the Super Bowl Pool fundraiser.

## Cor

Join other men in a meeting to unify us in our faith through formation and fraternity. This men's Bible study focuses on the next Sunday's readings in a way that we can share and learn from one another. The Cor Christi meeting is open to all men and not just Knights of Columbus members.

You are cordially invited to our COR meeting this Saturday morning August 3rd at St. Patrick's Activity Room, from 9:00 to 10:30 am. It is an occasion to meet with other Catholic men and grow in our faith and fraternity. We will be having coffee and bagels. Please feel free to invite any other Catholic men to come with you.

The readings for the Cor meeting are on the last page of the newsletter.

## Monthly Holy Hour

The next Holy Hour at St. Patrick's will be on August 20th at 7pm at St. Patrick's Church. We ask that you please include a petition for an increase in vocations, especially for the priesthood, in your prayers.

If you have any questions please contact the committee chairman Brother Gene Burns.



## Prayer for St. Joseph's Protection

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls - pray for me.

Amen.



## Family

### Food for Families

Our council is honored to congratulate Sir Knight Larry Comisso as the district's new district deputy. Larry has big shoes to fill, replacing Ray Ardana, a 6 year veteran of the district deputyship. Larry is a charter member of our council and has been a Knight since 1984. Professionally Larry retired from the National Park Service in 2017.

Thank you Larry for serving as our district deputy and we look forward to working with you.



### Keep Christ in Christmas

The Keep Christ in Christmas program can seem vague as it's intended goal is to encourage families, especially the youth, to recognize the importance of the Christmas season as a time for celebration of the fact that the Eternal Word has become flesh. In the past our council did this program by giving out "Keep Christ in Christmas" bumper stickers to the parishes. A nice Christmas gift from our council to the parishioners.

This year though we are going to follow the state program by encouraging the youth in creating a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster. These posters will be hung up in their respective parishes and be submitted to the state for further judging where winners have the chance to receive a prize.



### Family of the Month

It was a great honor for me and my family to receive family of the month for the first month of the fraternal year 2024-2025. From the words of our Grand Knight, Joe Saski, it was for my wife and mine dedication to the rearing of our growing family and our support for the cause of life. I am particularly proud of my wife's constant support of me and the Knights of Columbus. Nicole may seem quiet but she is very supportive of the works of the Knights of Columbus and our council. Thank you brothers.

### Prayer to St. John Paul The Great

*Oh, St. John Paul, from the window of heaven, grant us your blessing! Bless the Church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading her along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Bless the young, who were your great passion. Help them dream again, help them look up to the heavens again to find the light that illuminates the paths of life here on earth.*

*May you bless each and every family! You warned of Satan's assault against this precious and indispensable divine spark that God lit on earth. St. John Paul, with your prayer, may you protect the family and every life that blossoms from the family.*

*Pray for the whole world, which is still marked by tensions, wars and injustice. You opposed war by invoking dialogue and planting the seeds of love; pray for us so that we may be tireless sowers of peace.*

*Oh St. John Paul, from heaven's window, where we see you beside Mary, send God's blessing down upon us all.*

Amen.



## Community

### Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

The following information comes straight from the state council website:

The Catholic Citizenship Essay committee is accepting essays for this program beginning immediately. The State Officers, Program Directors and Community Directors have decided to have one statewide essay selection process. There will not be a need to have any local, district or regional competition. All entries should be sent directly to the State Community Director (see below).

This contest encourages today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith through creative writing. The goal of this program is to involve young Catholics in grades 8 to 12 (public, private, parochial, or home schools during the current school year) in civic discourse and instill in them religious and life-affirming values. The essay should be a 500 - 750-word paper specifically focusing on the topic listed below. Winning essays will be judged on grammar, style, and clarity. Entrants should also utilize creativity and imagination for final submissions in a manner that adequately addresses their overall position on the topic.

**Topic for 2024-2025 Fraternal Year:**

Virtue is a habitual and firm disposition to do good. It governs our acts, orders our passions, and guides our conduct by reason and faith. It also encourages Christians to live in a relationship with the Holy Trinity. The call to live a virtuous life applies to individuals in every state of life and occupation, including our elected leaders.

**What are the two most important virtues for an elected leader to possess, and why? How can you determine if the leader has these virtues**



### Free Throw Challenge

As far as I know our council has never participated in one of the three athletic community programs. At this year's planning meeting we have decided to try our hand at the Free Throw Challenge. Just as the name implies we will have boys and girls of five different age brackets competing against one another for the most free throws. We are in need of a chairman and committee for this program, if you are interested in growing sportsmanship among the youth please reach out to the council community director, Joe Dooley.

### Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of Holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my prayer offered with deepfelt confidence to beg this favor..... O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of "Guadalupe" the virgin who crushed the serpent. Queen of Martyrs, whose Immaculate heart was pierced by seven wounds of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns thrown across my pathway. Queen of Apostles aid me to win souls for the Sacred Heart of my Savior. I plead this through the merits of your merciful Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## Life

### PA March for Life

The Pennsylvania March for Life will be taking place on September 23rd. We will have two vans leaving from St. Patrick's Church at 8am. More information will be provided at council meetings and we will also have someone speaking from the pulpit in August trying to get people to attend the March. As of the writing of the note we have eight people interested in attending the March. We need six more to fill up both vans.



### Port Jervis Prayer Chain

On October 13th, the city of Port Jervis will be holding their annual prayer chain to end abortion. Program wise this counts as a local March for Life and we can get credit for it. But more importantly this is a way to show locals that the cause of life is not dead in our area. The prayer chain starts at 1pm next to the Reformed Church in Port Jervis, 30 E Main Street. It is an hour and a half of silent prayer while holding signs facing traffic.

I've attended this event for the past three years and have found it to be both a rewarding and challenging experience as you get both thumbs up and expletives thrown at you in the matter of minutes. Please contact Tony if you are interested in attending this event.



### Rosary for Life

The next Rosary for Life will be held on the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, Monday, October 7th. If you have any questions please reach out to the life director, brother Tony Perito.

We will also be handing out Novena for Life prayer cards. Please try to attend this event with your families. We need all the help we can get to stop this abomination.

### Prayer of St. Patrick

*As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me, the power of God uphold me, the wisdom of God guide me. May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me, the word of God speak for me. May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before me, the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me. May Christ shield me today, Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.*

*Amen*





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Officer's Meeting	2	3 Cor
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Coffee & Chat SP	12	13	14	15 Business Meeting	16	17
18 Coffee & Chat SJ	19	20 Holy Hour	21	22	23	24
25 Exemplification FFF/GWSC	26	27 Assembly Meeting	28 Color Corps Practice	29	30	

## Program Director's Report



Our council has many new program initiatives this year. I have mentioned many of them in the above articles. We are really in need of chairmen to run these programs though. Please brothers if you have any interest to run some of these programs with the prospective Faith, Family, Community, and Life directors please reach out to me, our Grand Knight or Deputy Grand Knight.

Three upcoming programs we really need to think about are the Free Throw Championship, Coats for Kids, and Keep Christ in Christmas. Please contact any of the officers above and we will create a plan together to get these programs launched!

# Cor Readings

Eights Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "Would that we had died at the LORD's hand in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread! But you had to lead us into this desert to make the whole community die of famine!"

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will now rain down bread from heaven for you. Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.

"I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them: In the evening twilight you shall eat flesh, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread, so that you may know that I, the LORD, am your God."

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp. In the morning a dew lay all about the camp, and when the dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were fine flakes like hoarfrost on the ground. On seeing it, the Israelites asked one another, "What is this?" for they did not know what it was. But Moses told them, "This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Reading 2

Ephesians 4:17-20-24

Brothers and sisters: I declare and testify in the Lord that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds; that is not how you learned Christ, assuming that you have heard of him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, that you should put away the old self of your former way of life, corrupted through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth.

Gospel

John 6:24-35

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." So they said to him, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent." So they said to him, "What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*" So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

