



Massillon Council 554



Knights of Columbus

May 2026

Grand Knight's Report, by Bryan Stewart, Grand Knight

Welcome to May! This month is dedicated to all mothers. Of all levels. Of course, in May, as Catholics, we think of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a tradition that stretches back to ancient Greece in early apostolic missions. It is also an end to the Easter season focusing on Ascension on May 14, and Pentecost on May 24. And a few of our Knights will lead the rosary before masses in Divine Mercy Parish in May as well. Take some time through the month to pray for our Mother of the Church. And pray for our mothers as well! We all would not be here without them! Make their day special on Mother's Day May 10. God bless our mothers and mother like women for everything they do!

Please plan on attending our next general council meeting on Tuesday, May 12. Food will be provided at 6:30 pm, business at 7pm. We will have first nominations for the 2026-2027 fraternal year at this meeting! I invite you to join us in the voting process. On Saturday, May 16 a few Knights and myself will attend the Mens Day of Formation in the Youngstown Diocese at Holy Family Parish in Poland. The program will begin at 10am, lunch provided at Noon, and will conclude with Mass with Bishop Bonnar at 4pm. The event is free, yet registration is required. Please register at kofohioeff@gmail.com. PGK Paul Haig and myself will be attending the 127th Ohio State Convention in Columbus during Memorial Day Weekend. We are hoping to bring home great results of all the hard work

Also, I am proud to announce that we had one of the biggest exemplifications this council has seen in quite some time! We welcomed in TEN new Knights at St. Barbara on April 26. Please welcome Ethan Borell, Kasey Davis, Anthony, Darrell, David and Michael Duncan, Matthew J. Meyer, Gabriel Perduk, Joseph Putnam, and Carson Shoven. As Grand Knight, I welcome you all with open arms and look forward to seeing you at events!

Finally, remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our nation this Memorial Day, May 25. Freedom after all, is not free. And Happy Anniversary on May 19 to my loving wife Muffy! Thank you for sticking with me after 8 years! Especially after my first year as Grand Knight! May God bless you all, and always. Vivat Jesus!

Chaplain's Report, by Fr. Mike Seifert, Chaplain

Hallelujah Christ has risen. During the month of May, we continue to celebrate Easter. during this Easter season, we celebrate the risen, Lord. At the end of the month, we are blessed with the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Also, in May, we have elections. Voting is not just a privilege. It is a duty. Please make your voice known by casting your ballot. God bless America.

Honorees of the Month for April 2026

Congratulations to **Eric Fichter** for being selected as our Knight of the Month. Eric is our Council 's Warden and helps with our many fundraisers and programs.

We also congratulate **Jeff and Denise Campbell** for being selected Family of the Month. Both work our Monday Bingo and the Divine Mercy Parish Bingo at St. Mary's.

Congratulations to **Sue Hall** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month. Sue works our Wednesday Hot Lunch program and is a Columbian Lady.

Fraternal Report, by Ken Girt PGK

On our Member Sick List: Bill Ringley, John Scheetz, Sam Meyer, Joe Vilhosky, Jim Sieber, Paul Thayer, Dr. Larry Bucher, Terry Philips, Ken McLaughlin, Jim Theiret, Mike Ziegelhofer, and Larry Alexander.

On our Member's Family Sick List; Mary Frances and Patty Carmola (daughters of Al), Kathleen Fealko (wife of Ed), Cristen Farris (daughter of Ed), Mary Jane Perrotti (wife of Joe), Marianne Jurkovich (wife of George)

If you want your name or a member's name added to our list, please email girtken@sssnet.com or call 330-608-1729.

**Remember our Veterans this Memorial Day.
Fly your Flag!**

The Massillon Knights Foundation

Foundation Trustees: **One Year:** Terry Philips, Dave Harman, Bill Beese
Two-Year: Gary Lamielle, Jeff Heitger (Secretary), Rick Chapis (Treasurer),
Three-Year: James Brelish (Vice President), Paul Lambert (President), Bob Pittinger



Massillon Knights Foundation Report, By Paul Lambert, President

Here it is May already and glad to see some warmer weather but the weather hasn't made up its mind yet. Hot and Cold. Some of us can handle this weather but sometimes we need help. Please check on your family members and neighbors.

Well, they are finally starting on getting the shingles done. They are starting on the pavilion first and then the main building. If you have any questions about where to park, please call me at 330-833-3329. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate, and they will be finished before the end of May. We would like to thank Canton Roofing for securing the funds for this project.

Also, the summer concerts will be starting soon. If you need tickets, please check with K8 Events and not the office. We do not have anything to do with it except rent them the space. We do NOT sell or have tickets. For tickets go to this web site: <https://www.zeffy.com/.../2026-season-pass-for-mkf...> Thank you. The schedule is on Facebook. (K8 Events)

Clubroom Report, Julie Harman, Complex Manager

On Saturday, May 2, 2026 we will be having a Kentucky Derby Day!! We will have mint juleps and a special menu for this Saturday! Come out and have dinner, drinks and watch the race!

On Saturday, May 9, 2026 we will be having music by Billy DeValle in the club room at 7pm-10pm. Doors open at 4pm and Chef Jesse will be having a couple specials available for dinner. Come out and have dinner, drinks and enjoy the music!

We will be closed Saturday May 23, 2026 thru May 25, 2026 for the Memorial Day Holiday. We will be back open on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Bingo is every Monday 6:30pm doors open at 4pm! If you are interested in volunteering give us a call at 330-837-9101.

Blood mobile will be here on May 20, 2026.

See K-Club flyers on the revised clubroom menu, specials, parties and live music performances on the web version of the newsletter <http://www.massillonkofc554.org>

Columbian Ladies Guild, by Karen Franz, President

The Columbian Ladies met on April 28 with new member Vickie Hartman introduced to the group. Welcome Vickie.

All reports were given and accepted by the members present. We had old business concerning the gazebo. Anne's uncle Paul has refreshed the white paint on Mary, and will paint her cape blue. We also heard from Cathy who received a catalogue of outdoor furniture that the Ladies Club had used to add benches at the ladies club. There were two benches that were suggested and one with a roll back was selected by the ladies, at this time a wood color was also selected. the benches will be ordered. the two benches will come assembled and be delivered directly to the KC. The plaque donated by the men will be placed on a stone in the gazebo.

Report was given by Annie concerning the refreshments that are being sold before and after bingo. We are making profit on the chips and pop as well as candy. Annie also asked for volunteers to help cover this time of the sales (before bingo and at intermission), this is a short window of time and we will be waiting to hear from the ladies concerning their availability.

Report was given concerning the new pads for the AEDs. Annie reported that the 3rd, and 4th degree men will make donations to cover the cost of the replacement pads. She also said Narcan has been placed in the AED boxes as well. Annie will set up a class to review the equipment in the AED boxes. Date for training will be announced later

Election of officers was held; all of the officers will remain with the exception of the President; The officers are as follows;

President ----- Elaine Lambert-----Congrats and good luck!

Vice president ----- Mary Ann

Secretary-----Jane

Treasurer -----Annie

Membership -----Linda

Next meeting May 19th at 6:00p.m. for May Crowning and reflection. PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE. We will be at the gazebo or in case of rain we will be inside.

May the Lord keep you and your family and friends in his loving care until meet again.

BISHOP MASSILLON ASSEMBLY FOURTH DEGREE

Faithful Friar	Fr. Ed Gretchko	Faithful Navigator	Chuck Maier 418-8741
Faithful Purser	Edward Shuman 854-3691	Faithful Inner Sentinel	Ray Badzik
Faithful Captain	Bryan Stewart 605-8840	Faithful Outer Sentinel	Jim Coughlin, PFN 704-0048
Faithful Admiral	Bob Pittinger 571-5150	Faithful 1-year Trustee	Paul Haig, PFN 837-1185
Faithful Comptroller	Ken McLaughlin 571 1203	Faithful 2-year Trustee	Matthew Meyer, PFN 284-9365
Faithful Pilot	Edward Custer	Faithful 3-year Trustee	Roger Piper, PFN 936-0974
Faithful Scribe	Graham Zeneri 844-7712	Commanders	James Sieber / Graham Zeneri

Faithful Navigator Report, by Chuck Maier, Faithful Navigator

Our next Bishop Massillon Assembly meeting will be Tuesday, May 5th. There will be a flag retirement ceremony outside of the pavilion at 6 PM. We will have food before our meeting at 6:30 PM. Our meeting will start at 7 PM. If anyone has damaged or worn-out flags, please bring them and we will properly dispose of them. If you bring a flag for the ceremony, you will get a ticket for a chance to win a new flag. The drawing for the flags will be at our meeting.

The Massillon Memorial Day parade and program will be held on Monday, May 25 at 9:30AM. If anyone is interested in walking with the parade in uniform, please let me know. We will be placing a wreath at Veterans Memorial Park next to Duncan Plaza.

Our June meeting of the Bishop Massillon Assembly will be on June 2nd. We are going to have our Past Faithful Navigators steak fry. This is also a ladies night. Our meeting will start at 6:30 pm and the dinner will be 7:00 pm. I need to have an RSVP for this dinner. We have to get a number of people planning on attending. The deadline for reservations is Monday, May 25th. Please call me at. 330-418-8741.

From the Editor..... Ken Girt, PSD, PGK, Newsletter Editor

Our “printed” newsletter format includes the first four pages of our multi-page electronic newsletter. This four-page document will be mailed to those who requested it. There will be copies of the four-page newsletter in the clubroom. We encourage you to read the complete electronic newsletter on our website.... <http://www.massillonkofc554.org>.

Articles of Interest: Council Meeting Minutes, Membership Recruitment/Degree information, Council 554 activities, K-Club Dining Menu,

Upcoming Calendar of Events...

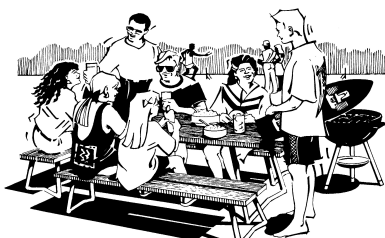
.....May, 2026

- 5 6:00 PM Assembly Flag Retirement Service
- 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting
- 10 **Mother’s Day**
- 12 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting 1st Nom of Officers
- 20 1:00 PM Bloodmobile
- 22-24 OSC State Convention – Columbus
- 25 **Memorial Day**
- 9:00 PM Memorial Day Parade/Wreath Ceremony
- 26 6:30 PM Officer and Trustee Meeting
- 6:30 PM Columbian Ladies Meeting

Bingo: Monday Night 6:30 pm **Hot Lunch:** Wednesday 10:45-Noon **Massillon Knights Foundation Mtg:** 3rd Tues of month 6pm
Massillon Squires Circle Meeting: 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7pm at St Joseph School

.....June, 2026

- 2 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting, (PFN Steak Dinner)
- 9 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting; Election of Officers
- 13 5:00 PM Council 554 Family Picnic
- 14 **Flag Day**
- 21 **Father’s Day**
- 18 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter Meeting
- 23 6:30 PM Officer and Trustee Meeting
- 30 6:00 PM Council Awards Dinner



Council 554’s
Annual Family Picnic
Saturday, June 13, 2026 5 – 8 pm
At the Pavilion (Food served 5 – 6 pm)

For all Members of Council 554, Columbian Ladies Guild, Social Members, and their families; and our Member’s Widows.

We especially extend an invitation to all new members to Council 554!

Free Food, Free Drinks, Games, and FUN!

Volunteers needed; please contact any Council Officer.

Friday Fish Fry's 4pm to 8pm

Massillon Knights Foundation Complex –Business Hours

K-Club Bar: Hours: open Monday - Saturday from 4:00pm to closing at the discretion of the Bartender.

K-Club Dining: The Kitchen is open 4pm to 8pm Tuesday through Friday. See page 6 & 7 of website newsletter for latest K-Club menu

MASSILLON COUNCIL 554 2025 - 2026 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

<u>Officers</u>			<u>Round Table Coordinators</u>		
Chaplain	Fr. Mike Seifert	933-4148	Council Chairman	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
Grand Knight	Bryan Stewart	605-8840	St. Mary	Ken McLaughlin PGK	571 1203
Dep Grd Knight	Graham Zeneri	844-7712	St Joseph	Tom Ferrero	844-0469
Chancellor	Tim Paul	603-502-4455	St Barbara	Joel Fichter	830-9301
Recorder	Tom Seesan	234-650-4021			
Treasurer	Ken McLaughlin, PGK	571 1203	<u>Program Activity Chairmen:</u>		
Financial Sec	Paul Haig, PGK	837-1411	Gen Program Dir	Graham Zeneri	844-7712
Advocate	John Ferrero, Jr.	265-9584	FAITH	Ken McLaughlin, PGK	571 1203
Warden	Eric Fichter	933-3322	FAMILY	Bob Pittinger, PGK	571-5150
Inside Guard	Ken Smith	284-7763	COMMUNITY	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365
Outside Guard	Chris Newstetter	702-909-9616	LIFE	Joe Vilhosky	806-4036
1-Year Trustee	Bob Pittinger, PGK	571-5150	Squires 2645	Nathan Courter	
2-Year Trustee	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365	Membership	Chuck Maier	418-8741
3-Year Trustee	Chuck Maier PGK	418-8741	EFF Director		
Field Agent	Larry Suter	280-2626	Youth Chairman	Chris Campbell	
Bulletin Editor	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729	Degree Team Capt	Bryan Stewart	605-8840
Webmaster	Kyle Shane		Complex Mgr	Julie Harman	837-9101
			Bingo Mgr	Ron Kurpieski	936-8058
			Bereavement Chr	Graham Zeneri	844-7712

Web: <http://www.massillonkofc554.org>

Officer and Trustee Nomination and Elections for 2026-2027

The first nomination for Officers and trustees for the 2026-2027 Fraternal Year will take place at our monthly meeting on May 12. The Second Nomination and Elections will take place at our June 9 meeting. If you are interested in running for any of our positions, please contact Bryan Sterward or Paul Haig. If you have any questions about the duties of any officer, please contact us.



KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

**Saturday, May 2 in the K-Club
Join us for Mint Juleps and a
special dinner menu!**

Massillon KofC SNAP-SHOTS



10 new members of Council 554 participated in the Charity, Unity, Fraternity Degree on Sunday, April 26 following the 11 am Mass at St. Barbara. We welcome: **Matthew J. Meyer, Ethan Borell, Carson Shoven, Kasey Davis, Joseph Putnam, Gabriel Perduk, Darrell Duncan, and his three sons: Michael Duncan, David Duncan, and Anthony Duncan.**



The Massillon Knights Foundation and the “K-Club” welcomes Jesse Thorne as their new Chef. Jesse has over 30 years’ experience preparing food at such places as Erie Street Pub, Lamoore’s Bar & Grill, Red Lobster, Sammy’s (formerly Doco’s) and more recently at Old Carolina BBQ. Jesse also had his own catering business at one time. Welcome, Jesse!

The K-Club Dining

Massillon Knights Foundation

Dining available Tuesday thru Friday, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm



APPETIZERS

- Fried Pickles - \$7.00
- Pretzel Bites - \$7.00
- Potato Skins - \$8.00

- Cheese Sticks - \$8.00
- Broccoli Bites - \$7.00
- Fried Cauliflower - \$6.00

- Fried Mushrooms - \$7.00
- Cheddar Poppers - \$5.00
- Mac-n-Cheese Bites - \$6.00

Sauce's Available: Ranch, Honey Mustard, Cheese Sauce

SALADS

Grilled Chicken - \$12.00

Dressings: Ranch, Italian, Sweet & Sour, French, Honey Mustard, Blue Cheese

For the Kiddos

(\$2 Surcharge for adults ordering kid-sized meals)

Chicken Tenders & Fries - \$9.00

Grilled Cheese & Fries - \$6.00

Kid-sized Burger with Cheese & Fries - \$8.00

Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry etc may increase your risk of food illness
(Food may contain allergens)

HANDHELDS

Comes with Chips

Basic Burger - \$9.00

Mushroom Burger - \$11.00

Bacon Burger - \$11.00

Texas Burger - \$11.00

BLT - \$8.00

Chicken Parmesan

\$12.00

Grilled Cheese - \$7.00

Chicken Sandwich - \$11.00

Brother's Sausage Sandwich - \$10.00

Chicken Bacon Wrap -

\$10.00

Philly Cheese Steak (Chicken or Steak) - \$11.00

SIDES \$4.00

Fresh Cut Fries, Tater Tots, Steak Fries, Onion Rings

WINGS Bone in or Boneless

Jumbo Naked Wings	6 for \$8.00	12 for \$15.00
Wing Dings	6 for \$9.00	12 for \$17.00

Sauces: Buffalo, Hot Buffalo, Honey BBQ, Spicy BBQ, Garlic Parmesan, Sweet Chili,
General Tso's, Bourbon, Teriyaki

*** Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry etc may increase you risk of food illness. ***
(Food may contain allergens)

TACO TUESDAY MENU (Tuesday Only)

Burrito: Meat, Lettuce, Onion, Shredded Cheese, Topped with Sour Cream
w/Side of Hot Rice or Nachos \$10.00

2 Soft Taco's: Meat, Lettuce, and Shredded Cheese, Tomato w/Side of
Hot Rice or Nachos \$7.00 Chicken Quesadilla: \$10.00

2 Chicken Fajita Mix Taco: w/Side of Hot Rice or Nachos \$8.00

Taco Salad: \$12.00 Loaded Nachos (lettuce, tomato & taco meat) 12.00

6 pack of Tacos: (Soft only) \$10.00

ALA CARTE: Small Nachos and Cheese \$5.50
Side of Hot Rice \$5.00

Jalapenos can be added to anything as well!!!

Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry etc may increase your risk of food illness
(Food may contain allergens)

FRIDAY FISH-FRY MENU (Fridays Only)

Battered or Floured-Blend Fish Dinners 1, 2, & 3 -piece Dinner with 2 sides.
\$12.00 / \$14.00 / \$16.00

9oz Broiled Scrod with two sides \$17.00

Ala-Carte Piece of Fish \$6.00

Shrimp Basket with Fries \$14.00

Fish Sandwich with Fries \$13.00 (Add cheese.. \$.75)

Ala Carte Sides \$4.00 each: Side Salad, Cole Slaw, Cottage Cheese, Applesauce, Mac -
n-Cheese, Fresh Cut Fries, Baked Potato, Sweet Potato Fries

MEMBERSHIP & DEGREES: There are three ways that a Catholic man or existing 1st or 2nd Degree member can advance to 3rd Degree.

Method 1. Ohio State Council Exemplification:

For Council 554 First- and Second-Degree Members:

The Ohio State Council has a “virtual” online Third-Degree Ceremony that is held on the first and third Wednesday at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in advancing to the third degree, and we do encourage it, please email me (Ken Girt) and I will provide a link for registering. My email is. girtken@sssnet.com. You then will be sent a link for viewing the 30-minute ceremony at home. And yes, your family can view the ceremony as well. Call Ken Girt with any questions. 330-608-1729

Procedure for Online Exemplification for Advancing Members:

1. The GK, FS or other council designee forwards the **Exemplification Registration** link to members that wish to advance to the to the Third Degree.
2. The member accesses and registers with the Ohio State Council for the degree using the link.
2. The State will then forward the **Exemplification Degree** Link is sent to member after he registers.
3. Advancing Member attends the live online exemplification on Wednesday at 7 PM. Member must be on-line and attend the entire degree. Family members are welcome to view ceremony.
4. The FS or GK are notified that member attended the online Ceremony.
5. FS sends in Form 100 to Supreme indicating member or members advanced to Third Degree. FS issues new Degree card.

For New Candidates:

If you know of a worthy candidate for membership in the Knights of Columbus, he can also attend the new online Exemplification from the Ohio State Council. See procedure below. Call Ken Girt with any questions. 330-608-1729

Procedure for Online Exemplification for New Member

1. NEW MEMBER completes a Form 100 and submits to Council.
2. Council Admission Committee contacts and talks with the NEW MEMBER. This can be over the phone or an online meeting.
3. Upon approval of the Admission Committee, the Council votes on the NEW MEMBER.
4. Once the council approves the NEW MEMBER, the GK, FS, Ken Girt or other council designee sends the candidate the Ohio State Council **Exemplification Registration** link to NEW MEMBER.
5. NEW MEMBER accesses the registration link, choosing the Wednesday 7:00 PM Degree, completes the form using “554” for the Council Number field, and signing it with an electronic pen on a tablet or via mouse or finger for touch screen. Then click [Submit].
6. The system will automatically forward the **Exemplification Ceremony** link to the NEW MEMBER.
7. NEW MEMBER attends the entire online exemplification via live degree on assigned date and time. Family members welcome to view ceremony.
8. Upon completion of the degree, the State Warden or other appointed designee will complete the Form 450 and submits to Supreme. Exemplification result is sent to Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, and Membership Director per normal procedure.
9. GK, or FS or other council designee completes the Form 100 from the Officer-On-Line with all fields completed, including dates, proposer name and Membership Number, and ensures all signatures and the proper check boxes are complete. The Form 100 is then submitted to Supreme and State.
10. FS issues a Third-Degree card to NEW MEMBER.

Remember the Ohio State Council sponsors - LIVE - Online Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7 PM. This allows the user to either log in via a computer, tablet or smartphone as well as call in on phone.

Each person is required to register. The GK, FS and Council Membership Director are the keepers of the registration link. Therefore, at least one officer should be aware of candidate taking the Exemplification

Contact any of the following for the registration link:

- Chuck Maier Grand Knight: massillonward2@yahoo.com
- Paul Haig, Financial Secretary: haig@sssnet.com
- Ken Girt: girtken@sssnet.com

Council 554	
Recruitment	
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Method 2. Massillon Council 554 Exemplification:

Council 554 will continue to offer the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity ever Second Wednesday of the month, with a DVD of the ceremony at 7:00 PM. This is for new members as well as current 1st Degree and 2nd Degree members wishing to advance to the full 3rd degree of the Order. It is a 35-minute video. Please contact Ken Girt to register. 330-608-1729 or girtken@sssnet.com,

Method 3. “Live” Exemplification in area Churches:

Also, Council 554 is conducting a “live” Degree Ceremony every other month in our local churches after a Sunday Mass, for New Members as well as for 1st and 2nd Degree members to advance to the 3rd Degree. If you wish to attend the “live” degree, please Contact Ken Girt at 330-608-1729 or email at girtken@sssnet.com. Family members are now welcome to attend our degree ceremony! Watch for notices in the newsletter on upcoming degree ceremonies.

Membership

As you know, the exemplification degrees of the Knight of Columbus have been **REVISED**. All three degrees are now exemplified in **ONE 30-minute ceremony**. An on-line degree ceremony is available for new candidates and for any 1st or 2nd degree member desiring advancement to the 3rd degree membership. And we frequently schedule a “live” degree after one of our three weekend Masses at Divine Mercy Parish. Notices on scheduled degrees are posted in our newsletter.

We recommend candidates for membership complete the Online E-Membership registration by scanning the code above. Be sure to use “554” for the **Preferred Local Council** and enter proposer Membership Number in “**Member Referral Number**” field. We will then contact candidate with next degree scheduled.



COUNCIL 554 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

Massillon “Knights in Action”

The “Massillon Knights in Action” lists some of the charitable projects accomplished by Council 554 members. If you want to help in our charity work, please contact any Officer / Round Table Coordinator.

Hot Lunch Every Wednesday, volunteers from our council and our social membership cook a hot meal for the needy of the Massillon area. Meals are packaged and distributed from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm. Volunteers are asked to call Hot Lunch Chairman Paul Lambert at the complex office at 330-837-9101.

Bingo Our major fundraiser for the Massillon Knights Foundation is our weekly Bingo which starts at 6:30 PM every Monday. Volunteers can call the complex office at 330-837-9101

Coats for Kids Our Coats for Kids project is a Supreme Council program in which 554 can purchase boxes of new coats for needy children in the Massillon Community. Coats are purchased from donations from Council 554, the Columbian Ladies, St. Mary – St Vincent de Paul Society, Massillon American Legion Post 221, and private contributors. If you would like purchase a box of coats, please contact the FS office at 330-873-1411.

Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers from Council 554 pick-up trash along Route 21 north of Massillon in a two-mile corridor on both north and south lanes. Council 554 needs 8 to 10 volunteers for cleanup in the spring and fall. Cleanup detail involves two to three hours on a Saturday morning. If interested, contact Matt Meyer at 330-284-9365

Ohio State Council Charity Donations: Council 554 annually donates to the Ohio State Council’s Measure-Up Campaign (supporting programs for those with Developmental Disabilities), S.O.S. Campaign (Support our Seminarians), and Matching Fund (provides financial support of the Youngstown Diocesan Media Library for instructional books and videos on our Catholic faith. Council also provides \$500 to an area seminarian through the Supreme Council RSVP program.

Impact Massillon: Knights support Divine Mercy Parish in this annual ecumenical service to beatify a local neighborhood.

Council Family Picnic: Council sponsors an annual picnic for the families of our members.

Council Bereavement Committee: When requested, bereavement committee conducts a service at the wake of our deceased members.

Youth Awards and Squires Support: Council awards Youth of the Year and Excellence in Religion Awards to area youths. Council also supports Massillon Columbian Squires Circle 2645 for boys ages 10-18.

Red Cross Bloodmobile Support: Massillon Knights Foundation provide facilities for blood drive six times a year.

Divine Mercy Parish – Council 554 Round Table Activities

1. **Divine Mercy Chaplet.** Council 554 Round Table members promote a weekly recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. At St Barbara Church: every Thursday following the 9:00 am Mass. At St Joseph Church: at 3:30 pm on Saturday, prior to the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass. At St. Mary Church: every Wednesday at 3:30 pm before the close of the Holy Eucharist Adoration.
2. **Cemetery Cleanup** Look for announcements in Sunday bulletin.
3. **Rosary and Novena for Life.** Council 554 round table members sponsors a Rosary and Novena for Life throughout the year. Look for announcements in Sunday bulletin.
4. **Landscaping parish grounds.** Council 554 members volunteer landscaping on the grounds of each of the three churches of the Divine Mercy Parish. This includes maintaining the St. Joseph Memorial Garden. Look for announcements in Sunday bulletin.
5. **Soup Kitchen** Council 554 members volunteer at the "Soup Kitchen" held every Monday at St. Joseph Church Hall
6. **Support St Vincent de Paul Society and Community Outreach Serves.** Various Council 554 Round Table members help each week at the St Mary – St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry for distributing food for the less fortunate in the Massillon community. Also, members help to unload the weekly delivery of 4,000 pounds-plus of food from the Akron-Canton Food Bank each Thursday at 9:30 am. If you are interested in helping, please call St Vincent de Paul Society at 330-837-0084. Round Table members also serve the needy at St. Joseph Church Hall with groceries and clothing each Monday. Parishioners at St. Barbara serve the needy with groceries one Saturday of the month.
7. **Sanctuary Decorations for Christmas and Easter** Council 554 Round Table members help to erect and take down the Christmas and Easter decorations for the sanctuary and church each year at all three churches of Divine Mercy Parish. Look for announcements in Sunday bulletin.
8. **Parish Social Dinners** Members of the Round Table Committee help with the quarterly social meals following weekend Masses.

Divine Mercy Parish – Council 554 Round Table Committee.

<u>St. Joseph Church</u>	Coordinator: Tom Ferrero, 330-844-0469 - tferrero@sssnet.com ,
<u>St Barbara Church</u>	Coordinator: Joel Fichter, 330-830-9301 - fichterlaw@sssnet.com
<u>St Mary Church</u>	Coordinator: Ken McLaughlin, 330-571 1203 kmac.neo@gmail.com

If you belong to Divine Mercy Parish and have not been getting our notices of round table projects, please send your email address to girtken@sssnet.com. We will include you on future projects that help our pastor, Fr. Sheridan, our parish and our three churches. Thanks.

COUNCIL 554 MEETING MINUTES: Date: 4/14/2026 Present: 14

Opening Prayer: Chaplain Fr. Michael opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Chuck Maier to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2026 meeting as presented. Seconded by Gary Lamielle. Motion carried.

Chaplain's Message: Fr. Seifert reminded us that even though Easter has passed, we are still in the Easter season. He added that we must continue to pray for peace in the world. Today we celebrate the feast of three martyrs of the Church: St. Tiburtius, St. Valerian, and St. Maximus. St. Valerian was the husband of St. Cecelia; Tiburtius was his brother; Maximus was a Roman soldier who was martyred along with Tiburtius and Valerian.

Grand Knight's Report: Grand Knight Bryan Stewart reminded the members of the following: A parish-wide membership drive will be held after all the Masses this coming weekend, April 17-18. Larry Suter is working on this. An exemplification will be held at St. Barbara's on Sunday April 26, 2026 after the 11:00 am Mass. There are still a couple of spots open to say the rosary before the 8:00 Mass at St. Mary's during the month of May. The next regular meeting of the council will be May 12. At that time there will be the first nomination for officers for the upcoming year. If anyone is interested in an officer's position, let Bryan know. A diocesan-wide men's day of formation will be held on Saturday May 16, 2026 at Holy Family parish in Poland, Ohio beginning at 10:00 am and ending with Mass with Bishop Bonnar at 4:00pm. Lunch will be provided and it is free. This day will be centered around the COR program that Bishop Bonnar would like to see in the diocese. The State Convention is Memorial Day weekend in Columbus.

Financial Report: Treasurer Ken McLaughlin reported the following numbers ending March 2026: Checking account \$8,169.36; Saving account \$70,797.31; Calendar account \$25,882.09; Total operating accounts \$78,966.67; Total all accounts (including bingo and calendar accounts) \$126,887.25. He also reported bingo revenues for January (two months behind) of \$9,071.21. Of that \$7,675.64 was donated to the Foundation and \$1,395.57 was kept for the council. In addition, \$8,892.44 was given to charities (includes bingo proceeds to the Foundation). Year-to-date \$84,636 given to the foundation and \$101,187 to charities (including that given to the Foundation).

Council 554 Donations: Council submitted \$1,215.80 to Ohio State Council for Super Cash ticket sales.

Membership: Reminder of the membership drive the weekend of April 17-18, 2026.

Program Director's Report: We've maxed out on all programs except membership and all reports have been sent to the state.

District Deputy Report: No report.

Insurance Report: No Report.

Fourth Degree Report: Chuck Maier reported the following: There will be a District One exemplification on April 25, 2026 at St. Patrick Church in Leetonia. The Degree is at 1:30pm, Mass at 4:00pm and dinner at 5:00pm. St. Philip and James school in Canal Fulton will be celebrating its 150th anniversary Friday May 1. Fall out at 8:15am with Mass at 8:30am. A flag retirement ceremony will take place on May 5th at 6:00pm at the pavilion at the Foundation. The Columbian Ladies have asked the 4th degree to help with the purchase of new pads for the defibrillators at the Foundation. A motion was made by Bob Pittinger to donated \$400 to help with this purchaser. Seconded by Ken Smith. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: We have submitted a half page ad for the state convention program. We need to compile a list of deceased members since the last state convention. What is the update on the bench in memory of Monsignor Kolp? An update is needed from the Columbian Ladies. Our Knights of Columbus banner is in need of repair. Ken McLaughlin will look into this.

New Business: Grand Knight Bryan Stewart received a letter from Bikers for Boobs asking for a donation to be a sponsor for the event. The group helps those with breast cancer with food, wigs, therapies, and programs. Ken McLaughlin will try to get more information on the organization before a decision is made to donate.

The Good of the Order: Family of the Month—Bob and Mary Kring; Knight of the Month—John Dorka; Volunteer of the Month—James Zeiglehofer.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Seifert closed the meeting at 7:39 pm with the prayer for the canonization of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney.

Respectfully submitted: Thomas Seesan, Council Recorder

2026 Family, Knight and Volunteer of the Month			
	Family of Month	Knight of Month	Volunteer of Month
January	Bob and Mary Kring	Jim Kracker	Rose Hammel
February	Ken & Linda Girt	Tim Altier	Karen Franz
March	Paul & Mary Ann Haig	John Dorka	James Zieglhofer
April	Jeff & Denise Campbell	Eric Fichter	Sue Hall

Happy Mother's Day



Larry Suter
Assistant General Agent

Larry.Suter 330 280 2626



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- A guaranteed issue life insurance policy of **\$10,000** for any minor child
- A monthly stipend up to **\$500** and college scholarships up to **\$20,000** for orphans to age 19

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Who is Blessed Michael McGivney?

Defender of widows and orphans.

Apostle of Christian family life.

Founder of the Knights of Columbus.

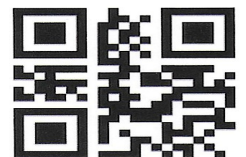
A compassionate priest in a culture strongly prejudiced against Catholics, Father McGivney recognized the spiritual and economic struggles of his parish's families.

In response, he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, uniting Catholic men and providing mutual financial aid to members.

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