



Massillon Council 554



Knights of Columbus

October 2026

Grand Knight's Report, by *Graham Zeneri, Grand Knight*

As you may know the month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Our next Council meeting will be on Tuesday the 13th at 7pm with a meal between 6 and 7. We are having our KofC Breakfast after the 8am Mass at St. Mary's on October the 11th. See ad below. And our next Charity, Unity and Fraternity (CUF) Degree will be on the 18th of October after the 8am Mass in St. Mary.

The quote of our month to remember is from St. Jane Frances de Chantal which says: Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him. That is all the doing you have to worry about." It helps in remembering that whatever you go through and whatever role you play in the lives of those around you always keep God forever present in your life and welcome him into ALL that you do. Our Lord has never lost a battle. Exodus: **14:14** "

The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still. Thank you all for your continued support of our council and thanks be to God!

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

Just Tuesday I was celebrating the feast day of my namesake Archangel Michael. Now it is October, where we celebrate the blessed mother and the holy rosary. October is full of Saints who have affected our lives in many ways. It starts with Saint Theresa of the Child of Jesus commonly known as the Little Flower. And then we celebrate the feast of our guardian angels.

We celebrate many saints, including the apostles, Simon and Jude, the gospel writer, Luke, Saint Francis of Assisi, patron Saint of animals and the ecology, Saint Gerrard, patron of expectant mothers, Saint Isaac Jogues, who ministered to the Indians, St. John of Capistrano, who established 19 mission churches in California and many other saints such as Saint Bruno and Saint Pellegrino. So many saints to think about in October, however all you have to do is drive down any street and you will see skeletons headstones spiders jack-o'-lanterns all things Halloween. And what does Halloween bring us to it brings us to November 1 which is the feast of All Saints. The Saints are important to all of us. May they be our example and help to spread God's word throughout our world.

Honorees of the Month for September 2026

Congratulations to **Jerry Luckner** for being selected as our Knight of the Month. Jerry works our Hot Lunch program every Wednesday and helps in a number of council and assembly programs.

We also congratulate **Jeff and Cati Heitger** for being selected Family of the Month. Jeff is a Massillon Knights Foundation Trustee and Secretary and Cathi helps at Bingo. They recently provided mulch for our complex landscaping.

Congratulations to **Ken McLaughlin** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month. Ken is our Council Treasurer and Comptroller for the assembly. He volunteers for numerous council and assembly activities.

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, Chuck Maier, Ken Null, Paul Lambert, 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), Evelyn Fichter (mother of Eric), Andrea Peters (wife of Walt) and 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.

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,

Massillon Council 554 Breakfast

Join us for a delicious breakfast hosted by the Council 554 on Sunday, October 11, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the St. Mary School Gymnasium. Enjoy French toast with fresh strawberries, fruit salad, sausage, and a breakfast egg frittata while supporting a great cause! All goodwill proceeds will benefit the Knights of Columbus "Aid and Support After Pregnancy" Initiative. Come share in good food and good company while helping support the Pregnancy and Parenting Support in Canton.

The Massillon Knights Foundation

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



Massillon Knights Foundation Report, *By Paul Lambert, President*

Hope everyone is doing well and getting ready for fall. What a summer we had – lots of rain and plenty of heat. I hope everyone is doing well and getting ready for fall. Gardens are just finishing up and remember if you can't use everything don't throw it away, the Hot Lunch Program can use it. Just drop it off when you can.

As you know, our building is old, and we are having to replace a lot of things to keep the building up to par. We got another air conditioning unit which cool the main hallway and the public bathrooms. We also must replace the compressor on the cooler behind the big bar in the big room. Just wanted you to know that these are a few things we are doing.

Two other things, I would like to mention. One is we need VOLUNTEERS for Bingo. Bingo help pay for a lot of things, and we need to keep Bingo going. Please help us by volunteering. Second, if you know anyone that would like a part-time job, waitress, bartender, maintenance, please have them contact Julie at the office. (330-837-9101)

Clubroom Report, *Julie Harman, Complex Manager*

No Tailgate on Sunday, October 4, 2026. Next tailgate will be October 11, 2026 Browns vs. Jets at Noon; game starts at 1pm. We will have 50/50, door prizes every quarter, hot dogs provided by the Massillon Knights Foundation and you can bring in food to share.

The Club room will be open for the Massillon vs. McKinley game October 24, 2026. Doors open at 1:30pm and game is at 2pm. Jesse will have food available for purchase 2pm-6pm. Come out and have some drinks, food & watch the game.

We'll be having a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 31, 2026. Doors open at 4pm, Jesse will a special menu for the party available for purchase 4pm-7pm. We will be having a costume contest, three prize categories: Scariest-Prettiest & Most Original. Austin Haig will be providing the music from 7pm-10pm. Come out and have some fun.

Bingo is every Monday 6:30pm Doors open at 4pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the office 8am-noon 330-837-9101.

See K-Club flyers on the revised clubroom menu, specials, parties and live music performances on the web version of the newsletter (pages 5 & 6) <http://www.massillonkofc554.org>

Columbian Ladies Guild, *Elaine Lambert, President*

I would like to thank Bob Pittinger for painting the face and hands of the Blessed Mary at our grotto. If you haven't been out to gazebo lately, please stop by, take a look, and say a prayer or two.

Our next meeting will be October 22 at 6:30. We are having a guess speaker around 7:00. Please plan on attending even if you just come at 7:00 to hear our speaker. Her name is Lori Schroeder Wemhoff, and she is a motivational speaker. Everyone is welcome, and please bring some guess. Refreshments will be provided.

2027 "1000 Club" Calendars, *Matt Meyer, PGK, 1000 Club Chairman.*

We recently wrapped up another successful year of our Lottery Calendar fundraiser. Thank you to all who help make 2026 a success!

Our new calendars for the year 2027 are now available from our council office or you can reach out to Matt Meyer at 330-284-9365 for information. The calendars are once again only \$30 each and make great gifts for Christmas for the person who has everything. Christmas envelopes are available as well which makes gifting the calendars more fun. Each calendar has over 300 chances to win throughout the entire calendar year so make sure to get one or two or many of them before they are sold out! Each month has a bonus day where you can win more than the normal \$50. We sell 1000 calendars so when they are gone, they are gone until the next year.

BISHOP MASSILLON ASSEMBLY FOURTH DEGREE

Faithful Friar	Fr. Ed Gretchko 844-4144	Faithful Navigator	Ken Girt PFN 608-1729
Faithful Purser	Edward Shuman 854-3691	Faithful Inner Sentinel	Ray Badzik
Faithful Captain	Bob Pittinger 571-5150	Faithful Outer Sentinel	Jim Coughlin, PFN 704-0048
Faithful Admiral	Chuck Maier 418-8741	Faithful 1-year Trustee	Matthew Meyer, PFN 284-9365
Faithful Comptroller	Ken McLaughlin 571 1203	Faithful 2-year Trustee	Roger Piper, PFN 936-0974
Faithful Pilot	Edward Custer 806-6967	Faithful 3-year Trustee	Mike Huryn
Faithful Scribe	Graham Zeneri 844-7712	Commanders	Graham Zeneri 844-7712

Faithful Navigator Report, by Ken Girt, PSD, Faithful Navigator

Our next meeting will be at 6:30 pm on October 6 followed by our Annual Oktoberfest Ladies Night at the Pavillion. Please join us.

The new Vice-Supreme Master for the Hennepin Province has scheduled a Provincial meeting on the October 24 in Monroe MI. Training for our officers will begin at 9 am and at this time, Commander Graham Zeneri and I will be attending. If any other Sir Knight of our assembly wishes to attend, please contact me soon for information.

And thanks to our honor guard for the September 11 Remembrance at St. Joseph Church. Council 554 will sponsor a Blue Mass on Friday, October 2 at 12:10 pm at St. Joseph Church for all our local First Responders. They have requested a fallout of Sir Knights in new uniform.

Our annual assembly Christmas Tom & Jerry party is scheduled for Saturday, December 5 in the Pinta room. Please mark your calendars. The cost should be around the same as last year and we will discuss at the October 6 meeting.

Upcoming Calendar of Events...

.....October, 2026

- 2 12:15 PM Blue Mass at St. Joseph.
- 6 6:30 PM 4th Degree Meeting -Ladies Night 7pm
- 8 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter
- 11 9:00 AM KofC 554 Breakfast St. Mary
- 12 **Columbus Day**
- 13 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting
- 18 9:15 AM CUF Degree St Mary Church
- 24 2:00 PM Massillon-McKinley Game Party
- 27 6:30 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting
- 6:30 PM Columbian Ladies Meeting

.....November, 2026

- 1 **All Saints Day**
- 3 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting - 6:30 Food
- 7 9:00 AM Hiway Cleanup
- 10 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting
- 11 **Veterans Day**
- 12 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter Meeting
- 17 7:00 PM Council Memorial Mass w/Col Ladies
- 18 6:30 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting (Special Night)
- 25 1:00 PM Bloodmobile
- 26 **Thanksgiving**

Bingo: Monday Night 6:30 pm **Hot Lunch:** Wednesday 10:45-Noon **Massillon Knights Foundation Mtg:** 3rd Tues of month 6pm

Council 554's Annual Blue Mass

The third annual Blue Mass for Massillon First Responders is being held on Friday October 2nd 2026. October 2nd is the memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels. The Mass is being sponsored by the KofC Massillon Council #554 and they have asked for a fallout from Bishop Massillon Assembly 820 and all other local assemblies that would like to participate. The Mass will be at St. Joseph Church at 12:10PM. Uniformed Sir Knights will meet at the back of the Church at 11:45AM.

Adopt-A-Highway

Massillon Council 554 will conduct our bi-annual highway cleanup of a 2-mile stretch of State Round 21 north of Massillon, on Saturday, November 7, 2026, starting at 9 am. We will meet in the St. Mary Church parking lot at 8:30 to coordinate travel to the project area. Volunteers needed. Call Matt at 330-284-9365. Help beautify the Massillon community!

Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP)

Council 554 and our Divine Mercy Parish will participate in our annul ASAP collection of new-born baby articles for the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Center in Canton. Play pens will be set up all Divine Mercy churches for your generous donation every weekend Mass during October. You can also put a monetary donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "ASAP". Thank you for your generosity for our past annul collections.

Charity, Unity and Fraternity Third Degree Ceremony

Council 554 will sponsor a Degree Ceremony on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 9:15 am at St. Mary Church following the 8 am Mass. If you know of a Catholic man who would like to join the Knights of Columbus, please bring him to the ceremony. If you are a First- or Second-Degree member and you would like to receive the honors of the Third Degree, please join us for this 30- minute ceremony. If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Stewart at 330-605-8840

Annual Council 554 Memorial Mass

Council 554's Annual Memorial Mass will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at **7:00 pm** at St Barbara's Church.

There are five council members who will be remembered: **Howard Blogna, Micheal Ziegler, Paul Sander, Deacon Don Molinari and Thomas Lewis.**

There are four Columbian Ladies who passed away since the last Memorial Mass: **Barbara Piper, Nancy Eberhardt, Rose Bracken and Donna Cerreta.**

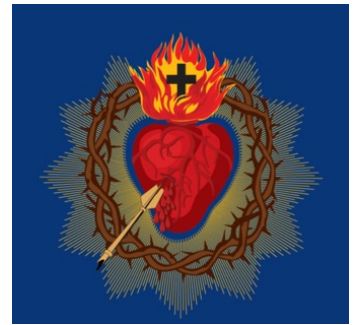
If you are a family member of any of our deceased members and would like to attend the Mass, please contact Bob Pittinger at 330-571-5150 so we can plan the refreshments afterwards. All are welcome to attend.

COR: Men of Virtue (Working Title)

Beginning Saturday, October 17, 2026, at 7:00 a.m. in the Old Rectory of St. Mary Church, Catholic men from Divine Mercy Parish and neighboring churches are invited to take part in the Knights of Columbus "COR" initiative, a new men's group dedicated to strengthening our faith and living as disciples of Christ. Through the "Into the Breach" video series, prayer, reflection, and brotherhood, we will be challenged to pursue holiness, heroic virtue, goodness, truth, strength, and courage. We will meet every third Saturday for fellowship and formation, with each session concluding in time for the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary Church, next door, immediately followed by Confession and Eucharistic Adoration for those able to attend. Coffee and donuts available.

Together, we will strengthen our families, support our parish, serve those in need, and encourage one another in faith and mission. As Proverbs reminds us, "Iron sharpens iron." Come join your brothers in Christ.

Please contact Ken McLaughlin at 330-571 1203 or Ken Girt at 330-608-1729 with further questions.



Massillon KofC SNAP-SHOTS



Bishop Massillon Assembly officers were installed at St. Joseph Church on September 12 by District Master Chris Dodson. Pictured left to right, first row: Graham Zeneri –Scribe, Jim Coughlin–Outer Sentinel, Mike Huryn– Trustee. Second row: Chris Dodson–Master, Fr Ed Gretchko–Friar, Matt Meyer PFN–Trustee, Ken Girt–Navigator, Bob Pittinger– Captain and Chuck Maier – Admiral.



Eleven members of Council 554 attended the Annual Stark County Right to Life Dinner on September 19 at Divine Mercy Parish St Barbara Parish Life Center. Pictured left to right: Bob Kring, Joe Perrotti, Paul Haig, Ken Girt, Fr. John Sheridan, Bob Pittinger, John Dorka, Graham Zeneri, Ken McLaughlin and Rick Rohrer. Also attending but absent from the photo were Fr. Thomas Cebula and Fr. Ed Gretchko.



Six members of Bishop Massillon Assembly participated in a 9-11 Observance during the morning Mass at St. Joseph Church on September 11. A Color Guard posted the colors before Mass and American Flags were distributed after Mass. Pictured left to right, front row: Ken Girt, Fr. John Sheridan, and Chuck Maier. Center row: Paul Haig and Dr. Larry Bucher. Third row: Joe Perrotti and Bob Pittinger.



Bob Pittinger completes his painting of the face and hands of our Lady's statue at the Msgr Kolp Pro-Life Grotto. Paul Seifert had previously painted her veil and garment.

The K-Club Dining

Massillon Knights Foundation

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



APPETIZERS

Pizza Bites (8) \$7

Fried Mushrooms (6) \$7

Cheese Sticks (6) \$8

Corn Dog Bites (8) \$6

Onion Rings (6) \$4

Tater Kegs \$6

Cheddar Poppers (8) \$6

Hot Pepper Cheese Stuffed Pretzel \$6

Sauces Available: Ranch, Honey Mustard, Cheese Sauce

SIDES

French Fries \$4

Sweet Potato Fries \$6

Tater Tots \$6

Applesauce \$4

Cottage Cheese \$4

SALADS

Side Salad \$4

Grilled Chicken Salad \$12

Grilled Steak Salad \$14

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

Grilled Cheese & Fries \$6

Kid-sized Burger with Cheese & Fries \$8

Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry etc may increase your risk of food illness

(Food may contain allergens)

HANDHELDs:

w/Fresh Cut Fries

BLT \$10

Basic Burger \$10 (bacon, cheese add \$1)

Grilled Cheese \$7

Philly Cheese steak (Chicken or Steak) \$11

Brother's Sausage Sandwich \$10

Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap \$10

WINGS Bone in or Boneless

Jumbo Naked 6 for \$8 12 for \$15 Boneless 6 for \$8 12 for \$15

Wing Dings 6 for \$9 12 for \$17 3 Tenders w/Fries \$10 6 Tenders w/Fries \$15

Sauces: Honey BBQ, Kansas City BBQ, Hot Spicy BBQ, Carolina Gold, Garlic Parm, Xtra Hot, Buffalo, Hot Honey, Stinkin Hot Garlic, Thai Sweet Chili, Teriyaki, General Tso's, Bourbon, Jamaican Jerk

TACO TUESDAY MENU (Tuesday Only)

3 Beef Tacos \$8

6 Beef Tacos \$12

3 Chicken Tacos \$6

6 Chicken Tacos \$10

Super Burrito w/Rice \$10

Loaded Nachos \$12

3 Chicken Fajita Tacos (Soft Only) \$10

3 Beef Fajita Tacos (Soft Only) \$12

Beef Quesadilla \$12

Chicken Quesadilla \$10

Taco Salad \$12

Taco Logs w/Rice \$10

Sides

Salsa & Chips \$4

Queso & Chips \$7

Rice \$4

Refried Beans \$4

Jalapenos \$1

Oreo Churros (6) \$6

FRIDAY FISH-FRY MENU (Fridays Only)

Battered or Floured Cod 1-, 2- & 3-piece Dinner with 2 sides \$12/\$14/\$16

Breaded Catfish 1- or 2-piece Dinner w/2sides \$10/\$14

9oz Boiled Scrod w/2 sides \$17

Breaded Shrimp Basket w/Fries \$14

Breaded Clam Strip Basket w/Fries \$14

Fish Sandwich w/Fries \$13

Fish Hog Sandwich (bacon and American cheese) w/Fries \$17

Xtra Sides for Friday

Baked potato \$4

Mac-n-Cheese \$4

Veggie of night \$4

*** Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry etc. may increase you risk of food illness. ***

(Food may contain allergens)

Revised: June 1, 2026

MEMBERSHIP & DEGREES: There are two methods 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.

Membership CUF Degree

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:

Bryan Stewart, Membership Chair: thebryanstewart@icloud.com

Paul Haig, Financial Secretary: haig@sssnet.com

Ken Girt: girtken@sssnet.com

Method 2. “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.

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	
Recruitment	
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“One of the main reasons Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus was to strengthen the men of his parish in the faith of the Church, to ensure that the core of their existence was touched and transformed by the powerful presence of Christ.

Archbishop William Lori, Supreme Chaplain Knights of Columbus

Membership Enrollment Form 11881

Print this page of the Form 11881 below to recruit a family member, co-worker, neighbor or friend to Knights of Columbus. The man must be a practical Catholic man, 18 years and older. Make sure you add your Membership Number in the [Member Referral Number] line. Return the completed form to the Council for processing.



Membership Enrollment Form

- ☐ **Yes!** I am a baptized Catholic man over the age of 18 and a practicing Catholic. Please sign me up for e-membership in the Knights of Columbus at no cost for the first year (a \$30 value)!

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov.: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Parish: _____ Parish City, State: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ Former Member? ____ Yes ____ No

Preferred Language: ____ English ____ Français ____ Español ____ Other: _____

Member Referral Number: _____

Council #: 554

By signing below, I attest to the accuracy of all the information provided above.

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

To complete your registration as an e-member, we will input the information you provided above into our online membership system. Once that is complete, you will need to confirm your membership by responding to an email that you will receive from the Knights of Columbus at the email address you listed above. If you do not respond to the registration email, a Knights of Columbus representative may reach out to you to help you complete the registration process.

11881 8/25

You can also sign up a Catholic man for the Knights of Columbus by using the E-Membership “Join Us” QR Code below. Be sure to enter “**554**” in the space for “**Preferred Local Council**”.



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: 9/8/2026 Present: 14

Opening Prayer: Grand Knight Graham Zeneri opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. Chaplain Fr. Michael Seifert followed with an opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Minutes: A motion was made by Ken Smith to accept the minutes of the August 11, 2026 meeting as presented. Seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried.

Chaplain's Message: Chaplain Fr. Michael Seifert informed the members that today was the Birth of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. This date was established in the fifth century. Mary was actually born in Nazareth. Also, during the month of September, we focus on the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Mary, because she as the Mother of Jesus, she will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Grand Knight's Report: Grand Knight Graham Zeneri reminded the members of the council of the following upcoming event dates: Thursday September 10--chapter meeting; Saturday September 19—Right to Life Dinner; Tuesday September 22 next officers and trustees meeting at 6:30pm; Tuesday September 29—Bunco Night; Friday October 2—Blue Mass at St. Joseph at 12:10pm; Tuesday October 13—Next regular council meeting; Sunday October 11—K of C Breakfast at St. Mary's; Sunday October 18—Degree at St. Mary's; Saturday November 14—Coats for Kids distribution at the Foundation Hall.

Financial Report: Treasurer Ken McLaughlin reported the following numbers ending August 31, 2026:

Checking Account \$6,042.40; Savings Account \$59,430.18; Calendar Account \$18,148.20; Total Operating Accounts (Bingo and Calendar Accounts included) \$111,721.56. He also reported that June bingo revenue (two months behind) was \$28,100.78 of which \$11,497.34 went to the Foundation and \$2,090.43 was realized by the Council.

Council 554 Donations: . No donations reported.

Membership: No report.

Program Director's Report: Ken Girt reported the following: October is ASAP month. Items will be collected at each church in the parish. Cash will also be accepted. Council 554 will donate \$500. An Estate Planning Session will be held on Monday September 28. Information will be in the Sunday bulletins. The rosary will be recited before each Saturday/Sunday Mass in the month of October. St. Joseph is covered. Saturday November 7 is the highway cleanup day. The annual Memorial Mass will be held on Tuesday November 17 at St. Barbara's at 7:00pm following the regular 6:00pm Mass.

District Deputy Report: No Report

Insurance Report: No Report

Fourth Degree Report: No Report.

Unfinished Business: Ken McLaughlin reported on the COR program. He has spoken with Deacon Hull about leading the program. Tentative plans are to have it the third Saturday of the month beginning at 7:00am. Each session will be 50 minutes in length to be followed by the 8:00am Mass. More details to be forthcoming.

New Business: Np Report

Foundation Report: No Report

The Good of the Order: Grand Knight reported the following: Knight of the Month—Matt Meyer#2; Family of the Month—Paul and Mary Ann Haig; Volunteer of the Month—Sandy Skirtich.

Closing Prayer The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm with Fr. Michael Seifert leading the Prayer for the canonization of Blessed Fr. Michel 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
May	Paul & Elaine Lambert	John Birman	Vickie Hartman
June	Bob & Barb Pittinger	Bryan Stewart	John Blackstone
July	Dave & Julie Harman	Don Demor	Dee Schroeder
August	Paul & Mary Ann Haig	Matthew Meyer	Sandy Skirtich
September	Jeff & Cathi Heitger	Jerry Luckner	Ken McLaughlin



Larry Suter

Assistant General Agent

Larry.Suter 330 280 2626

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- A death benefit of **\$5,000** for stillborn or infant children
- 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

Widows of insured members also have full access to purchase financial products.

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Turn over to learn more about Blessed Michael McGivney.

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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.

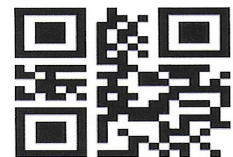
A compassionate priest in a culture strongly prejudiced against Catholics, Father McGivney recognized the spiritual and economic struggles of his parish's families.

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

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Member Benefits

Aside from the numerous personal rewards that come from being a Knight, here is a list of the many substantial rewards for you and your family.

Columbia Magazine — Free subscription to the Order's award-winning magazine examining issues of concern to Knights, Catholics and families

Knights of Columbus rosary — Blessed by the supreme chaplain, presented during the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity to each new member

Mass of Remembrance Each Weekday — Celebrated for deceased members and their wives at St. Mary's Church, the birthplace of the Order

Insurance — Access to a portfolio of top-quality life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance and annuity products exclusive for members, their spouses and their dependent children

Family Fraternal Benefit* — Benefits for children of insured members that include guaranteed-issue insurability under age 18 and automatic death benefits for children dying before age 61 days

Orphan Fraternal Benefit* — Provides monthly benefits and college scholarships to each eligible orphan of insured members

Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit — Accidental death benefit for member in good standing and spouse at no additional cost

Widow Benefits — a) continues to be covered under the Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit; b) the surviving spouse of a Knights of Columbus insured may purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance or annuities after insured member's death; c) receives a free lifetime subscription to *Columbia*; d) eligible with her children for scholarships

Scholarships — Scholarship programs for higher education available to members, their spouses and children

Leadership Development — Opportunity to build personal leadership skills, public speaking ability, organizational skills, etc.

Fourth Degree — Eligibility to join the Patriotic Degree

Honorary Life Membership — At age 70 with 25 years of membership

Membership Card — Entitles participation in all Catholic, fraternal and social activities in member's council and also in over 15,000 councils throughout the world

Activities — Participation in a variety of programs and activities conducted by your council

*Subject to eligibility requirements, conditions and restrictions.

MASSILLON COUNCIL 554 2025 - 2026 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

Officers

Chaplain	Fr. Mike Seifert	933-4148
Grand Knight	Graham Zeneri	844-7712
Dep Grd Knight	Ken Smith	284-7763
Chancellor	Matthew Meyer,	495-0823
Recorder	Tom Seesan	234-650-4021
Treasurer	Ken McLaughlin, PGK	571 1203
Financial Sec	Paul Haig, PGK	837-1411
Advocate	John Ferrero, Jr.	265-9584
Warden	Carson Shover	605-9296
Inside Guard	Eric Fichter	933-3322
Outside Guard	Chris Newstetter	702-909-9616
1-Year Trustee	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365
2-Year Trustee	Chuck Maier PGK	418-8741
3-Year Trustee	Bob Pittinger, PGK	571-5150
Field Agent	Larry Suter	280-2626
Bulletin Editor	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
Webmaster	Kyle Shane	

Web: <http://www.massillonkocf554.org>

Round Table Coordinators

Council Chairman	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
St. Mary	Ken McLaughlin PGK	571 1203
St Joseph	Tom Ferrero	844-0469
St Barbara	Joel Fichter	830-9301

Program Activity Chairmen:

Gen Program Dir	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
FAITH	Ken McLaughlin, PGK	571 1203
FAMILY	Matt Meyer,	495-0823
COMMUNITY	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365
LIFE	John Dorka	
Membership	Bryan Stewart. PGK	605-8840
EFF Director		
Youth Chairman		
Degree Team Capt	Bryan Stewart. PGK	605-8840
Complex Mgr	Julie Harman	837-9101
Bingo Mgr	Ron Kurpieski	936-8058
Bereavement Chr	Graham Zeneri	844-7712



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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

Friday Fish Fry's 4pm to 8pm

ASAP

Join Our

PREGNANCY AID AND SUPPORT DRIVE

Help Support Families in Need!

Donations collected in
each Narthex throughout
the month of October

Donations will benefit:
Pregnancy Parenting Ctr.,
4500 22nd Street NW
Canton, OH 44708



Items Needed

- ✓ Enfamil Gentlease 0-12 mo.
- ✓ Boy Clothing up to 2yr Toddler
- ✓ Enfamil Milk Based with Iron 0-12 mo.
- ✓ Cash - Envelopes in Narthex or include "ASAP" on your envelope - Checks Payable to Pregnancy Parenting Center memo "ASAP"
- ✓ Diapers: #6, #7 Regular and Pull-ups

We believe in the dignity and worth of every human life, and we work tirelessly, through prayer and action, to support mothers and their children through our Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program.

