



Massillon Council 554



Knights of Columbus

September 2026

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

The month of September is very special and important to me. The whole month is dedicated to The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I pray the Seven Sorrows rosary every week twice a week throughout the year on every Tuesday and Friday. The 15th of September is the main memorial dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. It means the world to me.

Our next Council meeting will be on September 8th at 7pm with food provided by our Deputy Grand Knight Ken Smith at 6 until 7.

Our next Officers and Trustee's meeting will be on September 22nd at 6:30. Please join me to break bread in the clubroom at 5 or 5:30!

And going forward into this month I'm reminded that people will forget what you've said and done but they won't forget how you made them feel. Have a blessed September to you and your families.

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

It's hard to believe that September is here and Labor Day is this weekend. This means the end of summer I hope and pray that everyone has had a great summer. As we enter the fall, we start to think of our loved ones who have passed away during this year and we keep them in our hearts and prayers always. May the fall and winter season be filled with God's love and grace.

Honorees of the Month for August 2026

Congratulations to **Matthew Meyer (Esq)** for being selected as our Knight of the Month. Mathew joined our council a few months ago and became active right away. He was elected Chancellor and joined the 4th Degree in August.

We also congratulate **Paul & Mary Ann Haig** for being selected Family of the Month. Paul is our Financial Secretary and Mary Ann is Vice President of the Columbian Ladies. Both volunteer for our many programs.

Congratulations to **Sandy Skirtich** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month. Sandy works every Monday at our Bingo.

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). 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,

In Memoriam: Thomas P Lewis

Thomas Paul Lewis, 72, of Massillon, Ohio, passed away on November 11, 2025. He was born on January 7, 1953 in Massillon. Thomas was the owner and operator of L & M Plumbing for over 30 years. He was an Honorary Life member.

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*

I hope everyone is enjoying this weather, with fall just around the corner, school starting and all the sports now in session. Please be careful when driving especially with all the new electronic bikes, scooter, etc. They come out of nowhere and don't always follow the rules. Now is a wonderful time to check in on our neighbors and family to see how things are going.

We have been doing things around the building. I want to thank Mike Zieglerhofer, Joe and Matt for helping me to get the old post out from the front of the building. We got them pulled out and moved and the holes filled; driveway to driveway.

I also want to thank Donnie Mason for his help in getting a grant from Rollie and Frankie Layfield to help pay for part of our new carpet in the club room. If you haven't seen it, come out to take a look. The new color really brightens up the club room. Thank you again for your generosity Rollie and Frankie.

On a sad note, our dishwasher, Larry Kuestner, passed away suddenly recently. Sadly, we have no details regarding his passing but please keep him in your prayers.

Clubroom Report, *Julie Harman, Complex Manager*

Fall is coming along with Football Season!!!! The Club Room will be CLOSED Saturday, September 5, 2026 thru Monday, September 7, 2026 for the Labor Day Holiday!!!

First Brown's tailgate will be on Sunday, September 13, 2026 1PM. Doors open at NOON. MKF will be providing the hot dogs and you can bring in food to share or keep at your table. We will be having a 50/50, Door prizes & fun!!

Last Concert at the pavilion will be Saturday, September 12, 2026 King's Highway (Tom Petty Tribute) 6:30pm-10pm!

Bingo is every Monday 6:30pm Doors open at 4pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 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*

Just a reminder that we are having our 1st meeting on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30. Please plan on attending. Let's have a great year with new ideas from everyone.

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

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

BISHOP MASSILLON ASSEMBLY FOURTH DEGREE

Faithful Friar	Fr. Ed Gretchko	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	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	Faithful 3-year Trustee	Mike Huryn
Faithful Scribe	Graham Zeneri 844-7712	Commanders	Graham Zeneri

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

On Friday, September 11, 2026, our nation commemorates the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington DC and the plane crash in Shanksville PA. Our 4th Degree will commemorate the occasion with a fall-out at the September 11, 9 AM Mass at St. Joseph Church. All Sir Knights with new uniforms, are asked to meet at 8:30 am at the church. We will also distribute American Flags after Mass.

A Prayer on 9/11

Today, we pause to remember the lives lost, the heroes who ran toward danger, and the families forever changed on September 11, 2001. Lord, we ask You to bless and comfort those who still carry the weight of that day. May we never forget the unity, courage, and compassion that rose from the ashes.

Grant us peace in our world, strength in our communities, and love in our hearts. May we always honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice by living with faith, hope, and kindness. We will never forget.

The Installation of our assembly officers will take place after the 4 pm Mass at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, September 12. Our new Master, Chris Dodson will install us. We will then go to dinner at Lobby's Irish Pub on Hills and Dales Road. Everyone will order and pay their own meal. Please let me know if you are going to attend so I can let Lobby's know our total. (330-608-1729) We will use their dining room to the right as you enter. Please wear your assembly polo shirt.

The major fundraiser for our assembly is operating the concession stand at the Stark County Gun Shows held at the Massillon Knights Foundation Hall twice a year. The next show is Saturday and Sunday, October 3 and 4. We need help with the hours on both days, shifts are usually 10 am- 12 noon and noon until 2 pm. Please call our Captain Bob Pittinger at 330-571-5150 if you can help.

Vivat Jesus!

MASSILLON COUNCIL 554 2025 - 2026 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

Officers			Round Table Coordinators		
Chaplain	Fr. Mike Seifert	933-4148	Council Chairman	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
Grand Knight	Graham Zeneri	844-7712	St. Mary	Ken McLaughlin PGK	571 1203
Dep Grd Knight	Ken Smith	284-7763	St Joseph	Tom Ferrero	844-0469
Chancellor	Matthew Meyer,	495-0823	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	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729
Advocate	John Ferrero, Jr.	265-9584	FAITH	Ken McLaughlin, PGK	571 1203
Warden	Carson Shover	605-9296	FAMILY	Matt Meyer,	495-0823
Inside Guard	Eric Fichter	933-3322	COMMUNITY	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365
Outside Guard	Chris Newstetter	702-909-9616	LIFE	John Dorka	
1-Year Trustee	Matt Meyer, PGK	284-9365	Membership	Bryan Stewart. PGK	605-8840
2-Year Trustee	Chuck Maier PGK	418-8741	EFF Director		
3-Year Trustee	Bob Pittinger, PGK	571-5150	Youth Chairman		
Field Agent	Larry Suter	280-2626	Degree Team Capt	Bryan Stewart. PGK	605-8840
Bulletin Editor	Ken Girt, PGK	608-1729	Complex Mgr	Julie Harman	837-9101
Webmaster	Kyle Shane		Bingo Mgr	Ron Kurpieski	936-8058
Web: http://www.massillonkofc554.org			Bereavement Chr	Graham Zeneri	844-7712

Council 554's "Estate Planning Seminar" will be held on Monday, September 28, at 7pm at St. Barbara Church's Community Room. All are welcome to attend this free seminar to hear important details on wills, insurance, annuities, and funeral arrangements.

Upcoming Calendar of Events...**.....September, 2026**

- 1 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting - 6:30 Food
- 7 **Labor Day**
- 8 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting
- 10 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter at Co 554
- 11 9:00 AM Mass 25th Anniversary 9/11 Attack
- 16 1:00 PM Bloodmobile
- 22 6:30 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting
- 6:30 PM Columbian Ladies Meeting
- 28 7:00 PM Estate Planning Seminar St Barbara
- 29 6:30 PM Bonco

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

.....October, 2026

- 6 6:30 PM 4th Degree Meeting -Ladies Night 7pm
- 8 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter
- 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

Massillon KofC SNAP-SHOTS



Bishop Massillon Assembly 4th Degree welcomed two new members at the Ohio District 1 Exemplification on Saturday, August 22, 2026 at St. Joseph Church in Canton. Pictured left to right are: new member Don Demor, Commander Graham Zeneri, new member Matthew Meyer and Faithful Captain Bob Pittinger. Congratulations to Don and Matthew!



Council 554 Bunco Night will be September 29 with light meal at 6:30. Bunco to follow at 7:00. Everyone is invited.

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

SIDES

- French Fries \$4
- Sweet Potato Fries \$6
- Tater Tots \$6
- Applesauce \$4
- Cottage Cheese \$4

Sauces Available: Ranch, Honey Mustard, Cheese Sauce

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
- Grilled Cheese \$7
- Brother's Sausage Sandwich \$10
- Basic Burger \$10 (bacon, cheese add \$1)
- Philly Cheese steak (Chicken or Steak) \$11
- 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

Refried Beans \$4

Queso & Chips \$7

Jalapenos \$1

Rice \$4

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: 8/11/2026 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 Bob Pittinger to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2026 meeting as presented. Seconded by Ken Girt. Motion carried.

Chaplain's Message: Fr. Seifert informed those present that today was the feast of St. Clair. She was born in 1183 and was a friend of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis became her spiritual advisor. St. Clair eventually founded the Poor Clair order and there is a cloistered convent of Poor Clair in Canton at the Sancta Clara Monastery. The Poor Clair are noted for their perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This reminds us that God is with us at all times and is there when we need Him.

Grand Knight's Report: Grand Knight Zeneri presented a short report reminding those present that the next Officers and Trustees meeting is August 25th and the next regular council meeting is September 8th. October 2nd is the date of the Blue Mass. He also mentioned that the Football Frenzy tickets were stuffed in the envelopes the night before this meeting.

Financial Report: Treasurer Ken McLaughlin reported the following numbers ending July 31, 2026: Checking Account \$9,163.16; Savings Account \$65,158.49; Calendar Account \$21,309.16; Total Operating Accounts (Bingo and Calendar Accounts included) \$114,946.96. He also reported that bingo revenue (two months behind) was \$25,623.35 of which \$10,602.63 went to the Foundation and \$2,177.15 was realized by the Council.

Council 554 Donations: . No donations reported.

Membership: No report.

Program Director's Report: The Silver Rose program will be submitted to the state. As far as members, so far this fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2026) we have three new members and one transfer,

District Deputy Report: No Report

Insurance Report: No Report

Fourth Degree Report: No Report.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: The final discussion for the budget for the current fiscal year was held. Treasurer Ken McLaughlin made a few minor adjustments. A motion was made by Ken Girt to approve the budget as finally presented. Seconded by Matt Meyer#2. Motion carried.

Foundation Report: Rick Chapis reported to the group on the financials for the Foundation. From January to June 2026, \$60,592 was the income from the bar and restaurant and \$24,104 was realized from events. However, the Foundation was still operating at about \$11,392 loss. He also talked about some of the upgrades that will be done to the building shortly.

The Good of the Order: It was announced that the Knight of the Month is Don Demor. Family of the Month is Dave and Julie Harmon. Volunteer of the Month is Dee Schroeder.

Closing Prayer Chaplain Fr. Michael Seifert closed the meeting at 7:56 pm with the prayer for the canonization of Blessed 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 Ziegler
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



Larry Suter

Assistant General Agent

Larry.Suter 330 280 2626



**Knights of
Columbus®**

Career Opportunity:

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a motivated, professional Catholic man for a career/business opportunity serving the Catholic families in this area. Motivated candidates need no prior experience as we include a complete training program and business development system. A complete benefits package is offered as well with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, and/or an initial interview please contact, Larry Suter, Assistant General Agent, by phone or text at 330-280-2626 or via email at larry.suter@kofc.org.

Becoming a Knight of Columbus is now more valuable than ever!

As a member of the Knights, you're eligible for a member/spouse accidental death benefit up to **\$5,000**.

If you take advantage of our insurance program, you're also eligible for:

- 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.

**Why do we
provide all this?**

**Because of our
Founder!**



**Turn over to learn more about
Blessed Michael McGivney.**

All of the eligibility provisions of the Order's programs of fraternal benefits are not included. Terms and conditions apply.

Knights of Columbus | One Columbus Plaza | New Haven, CT 06510

Who is Blessed Michael McGivney?

Defender of widows and orphans.

Apostle of Christian family life.

Founder of the Knights of Columbus.

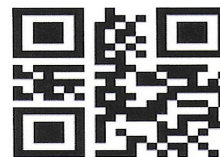
A compassionate priest in a culture strongly prejudiced against Catholics, Father McGivney recognized the spiritual and economic struggles of his parish's families.

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

Today, there are over 2.1 million Knights around the globe. We continue our Founder's mission by providing Catholic men and their families with opportunities to deepen their faith, enhanced fraternal benefits, quality financial products and services, and chances to serve their parishes and communities.

**Become a Knight
and unlock
these benefits!**

Visit kofc.org/Join
to get started today.



**Knights of
Columbus®**



Knights of Columbus®

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.

**Right to Life
Of Stark County
“Celebrate Life Dinner”**

Featured Speaker



Jessica Rodgers

Jessica is the Coalitions Director for Patients Rights Action Fund. Jessica will speak on Euthanasia and how we as a Pro-Life Organization can work to prevent assisted suicide laws from coming to our State and speak briefly on Medical Power of Attorney and Living Wills. Jessica has a long history of advocacy work, running a program for college students with disabilities and prior experience in legislation and media. She also has an educational focus on human services and gerontology. Jessica works across the country to protect the vulnerable from the dangers of assisted suicide.

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Doors Open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

**Divine Mercy — Parish Life Center
2809 Lincoln Way N.W., Massillon, Ohio**

Admission: \$30.00

***Tickets must be ordered and payable in advance to
Right to Life of Stark County - P.O. Box 8834 - Canton, Ohio 44711
You may also contact Mary at rtlofstarkpres@gmail.com***

Reservation Deadline - September 9, 2026

“Unborn Babies Feel Pain”



Our **NEW** 125th Anniversary shirts are **NOW AVAILABLE!** You can purchase one for \$37.52, add \$2 for sizes 2XL and up. Call Liberty Screen Printing and Embroidery, located at 2924 Lincoln Way W, at (234) 249-0290 and order yours today