



# Massillon Council 554



## Knights of Columbus

July 2025

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

First off, I am truly honored and humbled to be chosen by this council to serve as the 77th Grand Knight of Massillon Council 554, which begins our 125th Anniversary year! I'd like to congratulate PGK Chuck Maier for his excellent leadership over the past 2 years, achieving Star Council in both of those years. And THANK YOU Worthy Officers for your dedication and hard work to make Council 554 one of the best councils in the State of Ohio. How do we keep doing this? Strength in Numbers! Over 450 strong. This year, I encourage more of you mighty 450 to be involved in our community, our parish, and our council. Being a Knight of Columbus is much more than adding it to your resume. It's being called to put our faith into action! To become the man, you never thought you could be. It's changed my life in ways I never thought possible. I'm hoping it can change yours as well, especially our newer Brothers. Reach me at 330-605-8840 with any thoughts you may have. The world ALWAYS needs Knights. Let's get to work and make this our best year ever. May Gods love and grace be with you always. Vivat Jesus!

Please join us Tuesday, July 8 at 7pm for our first meeting of the new year. We have our first budget vote of 2025-2026 so make your voice heard on our council helping our parish and community. Food and fellowship prior to the meeting.

The Silver Rose Prayer Service will be held Wednesday, July 9 at 7pm at St. Joseph Church. For more information, contact Joe Vilhosky 330-806-4036.

A membership drive will be held July 12 and 13 for recruiting, and our first Charity, Unity, and Fraternity (CUF) exemplification will be held Sunday, July 20 after the 8am Mass at St. Mary, roughly 9:15. If you have a worthy candidate to bring into the Order, please call GK Bryan Stewart at 330-605-8840 or PGK Chuck Maier at 330-418-8741.

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

I celebrated Italian Independence Day in Rome. I celebrated D-Day in London and I look forward to celebrating Independence Day here in the United States on July 4. All over the world there seems to be wars fighting in Iran, Israel, Haiti, Sudan, and many other places. Please pray for world peace.

### Honorees of the Month for June 2025

Congratulations to **Ron Kurpieski** for being selected as our Knight of the Month. Ron is our Bingo manager and works every Monday night.

We also congratulate **Tom and Chiquita Seesan** for being selected Family of the Month. Tom is our Council recorder and both Tom and Chiquita are active at Divine Mercy Parish.

Congratulations to **Bob McCauley** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month. Bob works every Wednesday at our Hot Lunch and washes all the pots and pans.

### 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 Saturday

See page 5 & 6 of website newsletter for latest K-Club Menu

### Fraternal Report, by Ken Girt PGK

**On our Member Sick List:** Bill Ringley, Bill Hamit, John Scheetz, Sam Meyer, Joe Vilhosky, Jim Sieber, Jim Halter, Paul Thayer, Dr. Larry Bucher, Ron Kurpieski and Ron Sinay.

**On our Member's Family Sick List:** Barbara Piper (wife of Dale), Mary Francis and Patty Carmola (daughters of Al), Kathleen Fealko (wife of Ed), Cristen Farris (daughter of Ed), Nancy Eberhart (wife of Ron), Carol Vilhosky (wife of Joe).

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

## **The Massillon Knights Foundation**

**Foundation Trustees:** One Year: Dan Skirtich, 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***

I just can't believe it's July already. Time is sure flying by. I hope everyone is checking in on each other with this extreme heat and severe thunderstorm. Just knowing that someone is checking in to see if you are okay really helps.

The new chairs have arrived, with the help of Joe and Jeff, our maintenance men and Julie, our manager, my wife, Elaine, and myself, we unloaded 300 chairs. It was quite a job, and I want to thank everyone that helped unload them. The other project of taking the broken old chairs apart and Mike Ziegelhoffer, a volunteer, bringing his truck and trailer to help take the parts that were recyclable to the recycle place is done. Again, a big thank you to all that helped. We are trying to clean things up in the back. Weather permitting.

I have some bad news regarding the weather. One of the severe storms took out the middle room's air conditioner. We now must wait for the insurance company before we can do anything. Please bear with us because we will have to use the big room until it gets fixed. We tried to fix it but all the wires, etc. were burned badly. To get a new air conditioner will be over or around \$20,000.00. I will keep you informed on what is happening.

We need help at Bingo: **1st shift – 3:45 – 6:30** – Come help sell tickets, call Bingo, work the floor calling back bingos and handing out the prize money. **2nd shift – 6:30 – end** – Call Regular Bingo, work the floor calling back Bingos and handing out the prize money. If you can work once a month that would be wonderful. We would like to get enough people for 4 weeks so you would only have to work once a month unless you want to work more days. We will not turn down any help. Please call 330-837-9101 and leave your name and phone and what you would like to work. It's not hard and people will show you what and how to do it.

### **Clubroom Report, *Julie Harman, Complex Manager***

Happy Fourth of July! The Club will be closed July 4th & 5th 2025 for the holiday.

The Yearly Brown's Board will be on sale starting in July \$25 a Square! See the bartenders or the office to purchase a square for the year.

Bingo every Monday at 6:30pm doors open at 4pm. If you are interested in volunteering your time, call 330-837-9101. Blood mobile will be here on July 16, 2025.

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

## **Friday Fish Fry's Every Friday 4pm to 8pm.**

### **MASSILLON COUNCIL 554 2025 - 2026 OFFICERS & TRUSTEES**

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

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

## **BISHOP MASSILLON ASSEMBLY FOURTH DEGREE**

Faithful Friar	Fr. Raymond Paul 833-8091	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**

Sir Knights, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Bishop Massillon Assembly as the next Faithful Navigator. Let's all work together to support our fellow Sir Knights, parishes and community. Thank you to all our officers and SK Bob Pittinger for the past year of leadership as our Past Faithful Navigator.

The second nominations and Assembly of officer elections took place at the meeting on June 3rd. Thank you to all the new officers who have accepted their positions. We had a great turn out for our Past Faithful Navigator Steak Dinner and Ladies Night on June 3rd. We had 42 people in attendance and one priest, Fr. Ed Gretchko.

Our next meeting will be on July 1st in the Nina room at 7:00 pm. There will be a light meal before the meeting. Our Assembly Picnic/Ladies Night will be on August 5, 2025, in the Pavilion. We will be serving Hamburgers, hotdogs, sides and drinks. There will be a short meeting prior to the Picnic. Please plan to join us for a fun-filled evening.

Now is the time to recruit new 4th Degree members to complete the journey and become a "Sir Knight" in our assembly. Our next Exemplification will be in the Fall.

Please note: we have moved the monthly meeting time back to 7 pm.

Please have a safe and Happy 4th of July with your family and friends celebrating the Declaration of Independence and birth of our American Freedom. May you find this day a true blessing of our great nation with peace and happiness.

### **Columbian Ladies Guild, by Karen Franz, President**

The Columbian Ladies are on a summer hiatus. We will not be meeting until September 23.

### **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, new Insurance benefits, Super Cash Winners List.

### **In Memoriam; James Hohman**

James "Jim" Paul Hohman, 75, of Canton, passed away on Saturday, May 24, 2025. Jim was born in Marietta, Ohio and was a graduate of the 1968 class of Lincoln High School. He started Jim Hohman's Lawn Service and spent 60 years working in the lawn care industry. Jim is survived by his loving wife, Ginny, two children: Jeffrey (Katie) and Thomas Hohman; and step children: Brenda and Michael. May he Rest in Peace.

### **In Memoriam; Ed Hill**

Ed Hill, age 76, passed away on June 27, 2025. He was born in Goshen Township, Ohio and was a graduate of Goshen High School. After he graduated from high school, he started working for Timken Company, where he worked as a machinist for 35 years before he retired in 2002. After his retirement he worked as a security guard for Timken for six years. He was very excited to be converted to a catholic. He was a 20-year member of the Divine Mercy Parish at St. Mary's Church in Massillon. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is survived by his loving wife, Angie, two children, Edward and Christopher. May he Rest in Peace

**Upcoming Calendar of Events...****..... July, 2025**

- 1 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting  
 4 **Independence Day**  
 8 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> Budget reading & MKF Report  
 10 7:00 PM Installation of Officers  
 16 1:00 PM Bloodmobile  
 19 1:00 PM Youngstown Diocese - OSC Tour  
 22 7:00 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting

**.....August, 2025**

- 5 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting – Picnic Ladies Night  
 Supreme Convention Washington DC  
 12 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting, Budget Vote  
 14 7:00 PM Stark County Chapter Meeting  
 15 **Feast of the Assumption**  
 26 7:00 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting

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

## K Club Weekly Specials

### Happy Hour



**Mon. - Fri. 4:00 - 6:00 pm**

### Happy Apps Wednesdays

**\$1.00 off all Appetizers**

### Thirsty Thursdays

**50 cents off all Beers & Seltzers**

**4:00 - 9:00 pm**



## The K-Club Dining Summer Menu Specials



- Beginnings:** Fried Cauliflower - \$6, Mac-n-Cheese Bites - \$6, Chicken Nuggets - \$6, Pepperoni Bites - \$7, Boccoli Bites - \$7.
- Salads:** Ceaser Salad - \$10.
- Handhelds:** Turkey club - \$10, Italian - \$10, Meat Ball - \$10, Chicken Bacon Ranch - \$10, Coney Dogs - \$7, Chicken Parmesan Sandwich - \$12, Francisco Burger - \$10, Gyro - \$10
- Dessert:** Funnel Cake Fries w/Ice Cream - \$6

# The K-Club Dining

Massillon Knights Foundation

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



## APPETIZERS

Fried Pickles - \$7.00

Pretzel Bites - \$7.00

Potato Skins - \$8.00

Sweet Potato Fries or French Fries - \$5.00

Loaded Nachos (Lettuce, Tomato, Taco Meat) - \$10.00

Loaded Fries or Tater Tots (comes with Nacho Cheese & Bacon) - \$8.00

Cheese Sticks - \$8.00

Onion Rings - \$7.00

4 Chicken Tenders - \$9.00

Fried Mushrooms - \$7.00

Cheddar Poppers - \$5.00

Tater Tots - \$5.00

Sauerkraut Balls - \$7.00

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

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

Grilled Cheese & Fries - \$6.00

Cheese Quesadilla & Fries - \$7.00

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

(Food may contain allergens)

## HANDHELDS

With Choice of French Fries or Tater Tots

Basic Burger - \$9.00

Texas Burger - \$11.00

Grilled Cheese - \$7.00

Brother's Sausage Sandwich - \$10.00

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

Mushroom Burger - \$11.00

BLT - \$8.00

Chicken Sandwich - \$11.00

Bacon Burger - \$11.00

Chicken Wrap - \$10.00

## **WINGS**      Bone in or Boneless

Jumbo Naked Wings	6 for \$7.00	12 for \$14.00
Wing Dings	6 for \$8.00	12 for \$16.00

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 your 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

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

Taco Salad: \$12.00      Chicken Quesadilla: \$10.00

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.  
\$10.99 / \$12.99 / \$14.99

9oz Broiled Scrod with two sides \$16.00

Ala-Carte Piece of Fish \$4.99

Shrimp Basket with Fries \$12.99

Fish Sandwich with Fries \$11.99 (Add cheese.. \$.75)

Ala Carte Sides \$5 each: Side Salad, Cole Slaw, Cottage Cheese, Applesauce, Mac -n-  
Cheese, Fresh Cut Fries, Baked Potato (add \$1), Sweet Potato Fries (add \$1.50)



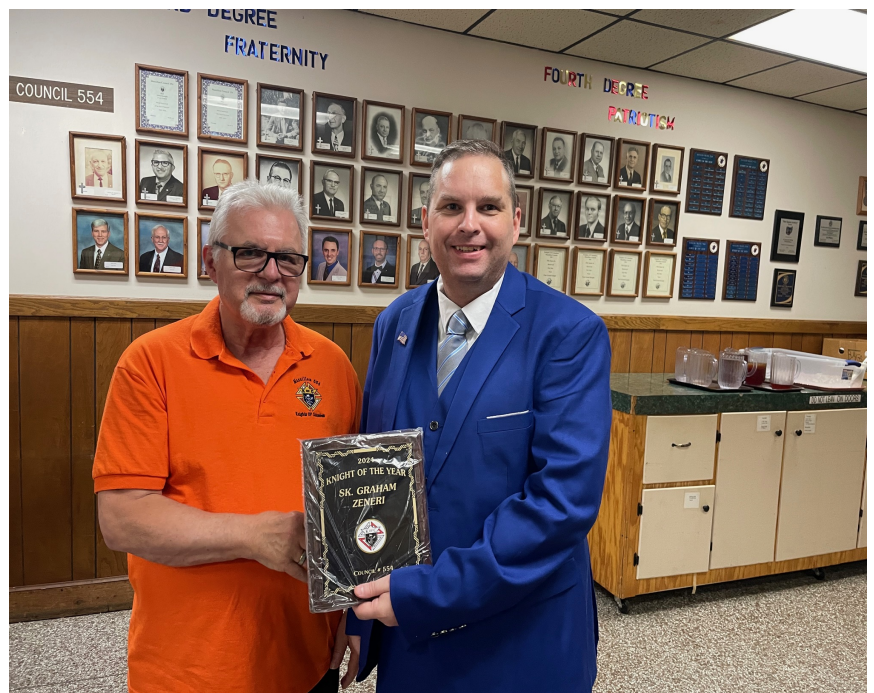
# Massillon KofC SNAPSOTS



Council 554 presented the Family of the Year 2024 to the Mark and Deanna Hoffer family at our Family picnic on June 14. Shown above, from left to right, are: Lucy, Nick, and Zack Hoffer, Grand Knight Chuck Maier, Deann and Mark Hoffer. Oldest son, Will, was absent and unable to accept the Councils' Youth of the Year. Our congratulations to the Hoffer family!



The Massillon Knights Foundation received the new 300 chairs for our banquets.



Grand Knight Chuck Maier, picture left, presents the Council 554 Knight of the Year award to Deputy Grand Knight Graham Zeneri. The award was presented at the June 24 Awards Dinner. Also recognized were John Haubert and Terry Philips for the Supreme Knight Awards for their continuous service as members.

## **MEMBERSHIP & DEGREES:** There are three ways that a Catholic man or existing 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree members wishing to advance to the full 3<sup>rd</sup> degree of the Order. It is a 35-minute video. Please contact Ken Girt to register. 330-608-1729 or [girtken@sssnet.com](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree members to advance to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. If you wish to attend the "live" degree, please Contact Ken Girt at 330-608-1729 or email at [girtken@sssnet.com](mailto:girtken@sssnet.com). Family members are now welcome to attend our degree ceremony! Watch for notices in the newsletter on upcoming degree ceremonies.

Council 554	
Recruitment	
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## **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 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> degree member desiring advancement to the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.**

<b><u>St. Joseph Church</u></b>	Coordinator: Tom Ferrero, 330-844-0469 - <a href="mailto:tferrero@sssnet.com">tferrero@sssnet.com</a> ,
<b><u>St Barbara Church</u></b>	Coordinator: Joel Fichter, 330-830-9301 - <a href="mailto:fichterlaw@sssnet.com">fichterlaw@sssnet.com</a>
<b><u>St Mary Church</u></b>	Coordinator: Ken Girt, 330-608-1729 – <a href="mailto:girtken@sssnet.com">girtken@sssnet.com</a>

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](mailto: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: 06/10/2025 Present: 13**

**Opening Prayer** The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm with a prayer lead by Tom Seesan.(Our chaplain was in Rome)

**Minutes:** Bryan Stewart made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2025 meeting as presented. Seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried.

**Chaplain's Message:** No report. Fr. Siefert was in Rome.

**Grand Knight's Report** Grand Knight Chuck Maire reminded the members that officers for the 2025-2026 year will be elected at tonight's meeting. There is one new member pending for discussion. Planning is moving forward for February 2026 which is the 125th anniversary of Council 554. He is trying to get a proclamation from the Ohio House and the Mayor of Massillon. Bryan Stewart has been able to set up a meeting with Fr. Sheridan to discuss the council's 2025-2026 agenda for the coming year. A reminder that the council picnic is scheduled for Saturday June 14 at the pavilion starting at 5:00 pm. Also, a reminder that the Awards Banquet is scheduled for June 24 in the Nina Room. Dinner at 6:00 pm.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Ken McLaughlin reported the following current amounts: \$2,763 in Checking; \$75,772 in Savings; \$22,429 in the Calendar Account; \$25,391 in the Bingo Account; \$78,535 in the Active (Activities?) Account; \$126,355 in All Accounts. Ken also mentioned that \$14,445 was given to the Foundation from the bingo machines in March. \$15,221 was given to charities. For the past 11 months we have gotten \$237,840 from the bingo machines and we expect to hit the \$250,000 mark for the fiscal year.

**Council 554 Donations:** Council donated OSC SCB Tickets and to the OSC for the ASAP Pass the Hat at the convention. \$14,445.20 donated to Massillon Knights Foundation from machines.

**Membership:** There is one member pending and one person's membership has been tabled. We'll pick these up at the start of the new fiscal year.

**Program Director's Report:** Ken Girt has secured July 9, 2025 for the Silver Rose ceremony. Joe Vilhosky has agreed to organize the night. Bryan Stewart has agreed to be the Leader. Gary Lamielle will be the Reader. We still need a priest. Ken Girt reminded the members that the next Officers and Trustees meeting will be Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 6:30 pm. The date has been changed because of the Awards Dinner being on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Ken Girt reiterated Grand Knight Chuck Maier's report in regard to the council picnic and the Awards Dinner. He also mentioned the Sacred Heart icon is available. Fr. Sheridan will need to be consulted as to how to proceed.

**District Deputy Report:** No report

**Unfinished Business:** Joe Vilhosky reminded the members that some of the officers will need to take the Safe Environment Course. The State Council will notify those officers who are required to take the course.

**New Business:** The following members were elected officers of Council 554 for the 2025-2026 year: Grand Knight, Bryan Stewart—motion by Joe Vilhosky and seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried. Deputy Grand Knight, Graham Zeneri—motion by Paul Haig and seconded by Joe Vilhosky. Motion carried. Chancellor, Tim Paul—motion by Bob Pittinger and seconded by Bryan Stewart. Motion carried. Recorder, Tom Seesan—motion by Chuck Maier and seconded by Joe Vilhosky. Motion carried. Treasurer, Ken McLaughlin—motion by Bryan Stewart and seconded by Joe Vilhosky. Motion carried. Advocate, John Ferrero—motion by Gary Lamielle and seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried. Warden, Eric Fichter—motion by Bob Pittinger and seconded by Joe Vilhosky. Motion carried. Inside Guard, Ken Smith—motion by Bob Pittinger and seconded by Joe Vilhosky. Motion carried. Outside Guard, Chris Newstetter—motion by Joe Vilhosky and seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried. 3 Year Trustee, Chuck Maier—motion by Bryan Stewart and seconded by Eric Fichter. Motion carried. 3 year Trustees for the Foundation, Dan Skirtich, Dave Harmon, Bill Beese and—motion by Eric Fichter and seconded by Matt Meyer. Motion carried. 2 year Trustees for the Foundation, Gary Lamielle (replacing Bill Shane) —motion by Eric Fichter and seconded by Matt Meyer. Motion carried. Terry Philips nominated to replace Dan Skirtich when he resigns from the board later this year.

**Financial Secretary:** All bills have been paid. Things look good financially for the council

**The Good of the Order:** Family of the Month of May: Joe and Carol Vilhosky. Knight of the Month May: Matt Meyer. Volunteer of the Month May: Sue Hall.

**Closing Prayer:** The meeting was closed at 7:25 pm with the prayer for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney.

**Respectfully submitted:** Thomas Seesan, Council Recorder

<b>2025 Family, Knight and Volunteer of the Month</b>			
	<b>Family of Month</b>	<b>Knight of Month</b>	<b>Volunteer of Month</b>
January	John & Judy Birman	Terry Philips	Gary Myers & Sandy Skirtich
February	Mike & Sue Zeigelhofer	Rick Chapis	Karen Franz
March	Bryan & Muffy Stewart	Jerry Luckner	John Blackstone
April	Chuck & Ruthanne Maier	Fr. Mike Seifert	Susie Schertzer
May	Joe & Carol Vilhosky	Matt Meyer	Sue Hall
June	Tom & Chiquita Seesan	Ron Kurpieski	Bob McCauley





**Larry Suter**

Assistant General Agent

Larry.Suter 330 280 2626



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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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