



Massillon Council 554



Knights of Columbus

June 2026

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

We honored our mothers in the month of May. Fathers it's your turn at bat here in June! May we be thankful for those men in our lives who are fathers, fathers to others, mentors, and leaders. May we be thankful to our Fathers, our priests. Always pray for them, especially our chaplain Fr. Mike, our parish priests Fr. Sheridan and Fr. Travis, Bishop Bonnar, and our Holy Father Pope Leo. And never forget our fathers who are longer with us who helped us along our journey of life. Celebrate fathers of all varieties on Father's Day, June 21.

Financial Secretary Paul Haig and myself, along with PSD Ken Girt, attended the 127th Annual Ohio State Convention at the Hilton Easton in Columbus Memorial Day Weekend. I am proud to announce that your council earned the SUPERIOR award earning the maximum points for the state program, the BRONZE award for a \$1,500 donation to Support Our Seminarians, and the Best Family Activity in the Youngstown Diocese for our Bereavement Committee. Finally, I was one of only 14 Grand Knights to receive the OSCAR Award, curated by PSD Ken Girt, for achieving 100% of Star Council requirements by May 1. That means 5 STRAIGHT Star Council awards! I am so proud of our officers and this council for all your hard work this year, and it has paid off again. We placed #11 in the state in active councils.

Knights are needed to help spread mulch at St. Mary on Saturday, June 6. Please report to the church before 8am if you'd like to help. Join us for the final council meeting of the fraternal year on Tuesday, June 9. Food will be provided at 6:30, business at 7pm. On June 13, we will have our annual council picnic at our club pavilion. Great food, fun, and fellowship kicks off at 5pm. New Knights are encouraged to attend! Finally, our end of the year Council Awards will be held on Tuesday, June 30 at 6pm. We will honor our Knight, Family, Youth, Religious and Volunteer of the Year. Please support our worthy winners!

Finally, life can bring you opportunities that may never come again. You have taken them on and run with them. I have been given the opportunity to become the next District Deputy as a mentor to this council, along with councils from Navarre, Canal Fulton, and St. Michael in Canton. I will be installed later this month in Cincinnati, and will begin my new role on July 1. I am honored and humbled to be considered in this role. With this being said, I will be stepping down with this being my final Grand Knight report. It has been an absolute honor and privilege to lead this prestigious council. I thank my officers for working so hard and keeping our strong traditions alive. I thank you Brother Knights for all the kindness and encouragement you've given me this year. I ask you give the same treatment to the next Grand Knight. You'll still shine brightly, I promise you that. May God Bless Council 554, and God Bless you all. I'll see you around!

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

As we enter June Easter season has now ended. We now enter ordinary time for our church. We are asked to concentrate on the sacred heart of Jesus. His conditional love for us is overwhelming. He gave his life for each and every one of us keep him close to you.

Honorees of the Month for May 2026

Congratulations to **John Birman** for being selected as our Knight of the Month. John is the Head Chef of our Wednesday Hot Lunch meal program and helps with the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

We also congratulate **Pauk & Elaine Lambert** for being selected Family of the Month. Both are involved in many activities at our complex, Paul organizes our Hot Lunch program and is President of the Massillon Knights Foundation.

Congratulations to **Vickie Hartman** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month. Vickie works our Wednesday Hot Lunch program and our Monday 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, Jim Theiret, Mike Ziegelhofer, Chuck Maier, and Larry Alexander.

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

The Massillon Knights Foundation

Foundation Trustees: One Year: Terry Philips, Dave Harman, Bill Beese

Two-Year: Gary Lamielle, Jeff Heitger (Secretary), Rick Chapis (Treasurer),

Three-Year: James Brelish (Vice President), Paul Lambert (President), Bob Pittinger



Massillon Knights Foundation Report, By Paul Lambert, President

Hallie Adkins, one our K-Club servers has graduated from Washington High School and will no longer work for us. We thank her for her service these past few years. If you know of anyone that would be interested in working as a server for the K-Club, please call the office.

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

Clubroom Report, Julie Harman, Complex Manager

Summer is finally here!!! Come out and enjoy dinner, drinks and some fun at the K-Club this summer! Our new Chef, Jesse is doing a great job! We have and updated menu starting on June 1st!

K8 Event Team concerts start on Friday, June 5, 2026!

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

See K-Club flyers on the revised clubroom menu, specials, parties and live music performances on the web version of the newsletter (pages 6 & 7) <http://www.massillonkofc554.org>

Columbian Ladies Guild

The next meeting of the Massillon Columbian Ladies will take place on September 22. We remind everyone that we are still collecting toiletry items for the family living center at Comquest. There is a box in the clubroom for your donations. Thank you.

The photo below was taken on May 19 at our May Crowning at the Msgr Jame Kolp Pro-Life Grotto. Thanks to all those who attended



Happy Father's Day

BISHOP MASSILLON ASSEMBLY FOURTH DEGREE

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

Faithful Navigator Report, by Chuck Maier, Faithful Navigator

Our next Bishop Massillon Assembly meeting will be Tuesday June 2nd. The Meeting will start at 6:30PM. The election of officers will take place at this meeting. The Past Faithful Navigator Steak Fry is also a Ladies night. The dinner will start at 7:00PM or as soon as the meeting is over. You will be voting on a new Faithful Navigator as a lot of you know I have had some health problems and I decided not to seek reelection. I feel honored to have served this year as your Faithful Navigator. When I was elected last year, I had quite a few goals. It has not worked out the way I expected. It is what it is. There were some highlights for me this year. One that comes to mind is our Assembly Bishop Massillon 820 together with Monsignor Graham Assembly 828 in Canton purchasing and presenting a Chalice to Father Travis Seagraves. That was very special to me. Finally, I would like to say thank you to everyone for this very special year of my life. I plan on being around as long as the Lord has something he wants me to do. Vivat Jesus

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

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

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

Upcoming Calendar of Events...

.....June, 2026

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

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

..... July, 2026

- 4 **Independence Day**
- 7 7:00 PM 4th Degree Meeting
- 11 1:00 PM Youngstown Diocese - OSC Tour
- 14 7:00 PM Reg. Council Meeting, 1st Budget reading & MKF Report
- 15 1:00 PM Bloodmobile
- 21 7:00 PM Installation of Officers
- 28 6:30 PM Officers and Trustees Meeting



Council 554's Annual Family Picnic

Saturday, June 13, 2026 5 – 8 pm
At the Pavilion (Food served 5 – 6 pm)

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

We especially extend an invitation to all new members of Council 554!
Free Food, Free Drinks, Games, and FUN!
Volunteers needed; please contact any Council Officer.

Massillon KofC SNAP-SHOTS



Massillon Council 554 donated \$2,000 to Divine Mercy Parish Your Ministry for the annual retreat and service work in the Cincinnati area this June 12 – 15, 2026. Picture from left to right, Clare Roberts, Benedict Roberts, DMP Youth Minister Cara Lipinski and Grand Knight Bryan Stewart.

Pictures from the 127th Ohio State Convention in Columbus:



The "OSCAR" Award for GK Bryan Stewart



Bryan Stewart accepts SOS Award



Bryan Stewart accepts the "Best FAITH Activity our for Bearevment Committee



Bryan Stewart accepts Award For Maxing State Program.



Attendees from Council 554 relaxing at the Friday night Social. L-R: Bryan Stewart, Mary Ann Haig, Paul Haig, Ken Girt, and Linda Girt. Pictured on right is Fr. James Lang, former State Chaplain. Muffy Stewart took the picture.

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)

HANDHELD:

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)

<p>3 Beef Tacos \$8 6 Beef Tacos \$12 3 Chicken Tacos \$6 6 Chicken Tacos \$10 Super Burrito w/Rice \$10 Loaded Nachos \$12</p>	<p>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</p>	
<u>Sides</u>		
<p>Salsa & Chips \$4 Refried Beans \$4</p>	<p>Queso & Chips \$7 Jalapenos \$1</p>	<p>Rice \$4 Oreo Churros (6) \$6</p>

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 three ways that a Catholic man or existing 1st or 2nd Degree member can advance to 3rd Degree.

Method 1. Ohio State Council Exemplification:

For Council 554 First- and Second-Degree Members:

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

Procedure for Online Exemplification for Advancing Members:

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

For New Candidates:

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

Procedure for Online Exemplification for New Member

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

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

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

Contact any of the following for the registration link:

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

Council 554	
Recruitment	
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Method 2. Massillon Council 554 Exemplification:

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

Method 3. “Live” Exemplification in area Churches:

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

Membership

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

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



COUNCIL 554 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

Massillon “Knights in Action”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Divine Mercy Parish – Council 554 Round Table Activities

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

Divine Mercy Parish – Council 554 Round Table Committee.

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

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

COUNCIL 554 MEETING MINUTES: Date: 5/12/2026 Present: 14

Prior to the opening of the regular council meeting, Cara Lipinski, Faith Formation Director for the parish, and two students from the Youth Group spoke to the members about the upcoming mission trip to south west Ohio. Fifty-six people from our area will be going on the trip. Grand Knight Bryan Stewart presented Cara with a check for \$2,000 as Council 554’s contribution for the trip.

Opening Prayer: Chaplain Fr. Michael opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:19 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Chuck Maier to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2026 meeting as presented. Seconded by Ken Smith. Motion carried.

Chaplain’s Message: Fr. Seifert told the members that the day was the feast day of Saints Nereus, Achilleus, and Pancras. All three were Roman soldiers who refused to give up their Christian faith and were early martyrs. Fr. Seifert also reminded the members that the month of May is dedicated to Mary. He is glad to see that the rosary is recited by Knights before all the Masses during the month.

Grand Knight’s Report: Grand Knight Bryan Stewart congratulated the council for making Star Council for the fifth year in a row. He reported that this meeting will be the first nomination for officers for the 2025-2026 year. He reminded the members of the Fourth-Degree formation at Holy Family Parish in Poland, Ohio on May 16. All rosary dates for the month of May at all the weekend Masses have been covered. Dates to remember: May 26th Officers and Trustees meeting. State conference—Memorial Day weekend. June 9th—regular council meeting. June 13-Impact Massillon. June 13-Council picnic starting at 5:00pm. June 16-budget meeting.

Financial Report: Treasurer Ken McLaughlin reported the following numbers ending the month of April 2025: Checking account \$4,555.71; Savings account \$72,499.82; calendar account \$24,457.09; total operating accounts \$77,055.53; total all accounts (including bingo and calendar accounts) \$133,411.27. He also reported bingo machine revenues for February (two months behind) \$31,898.65. Of that \$9,350.96 was donated to the Foundation and \$1,700.18 was realized by the council. Since the beginning of the current fiscal year, the council has realized \$17,727 from the bingo machines and \$26,971 has been given to charities (not including \$9,350 to the Foundation).

Council 554 Donations: Council submitted \$800 to rent room for St. Mary School Easter Egg Hunt, \$150 for Breast Cancer research sponsored by a local biker group. \$470 to Columbian Ladies from donations to Council in memory of Nancy Eberhardt.

Membership: We met our membership quota for the year with 16 new members.

Program Director’s Report: No Report

District Deputy Report: No report.

Insurance Report: No Report.

Fourth Degree Report: On May 5 the Fourth Degree held a flag retirement ceremony. The Massillon Memorial Day Parade will be Monday May 25 at 9:30am. The Fourth Degree will be laying a wreath at Veterans Memorial Park next to Duncan Plaza. The June meeting will be June 2. This is also ladies’ night. Meeting at 6:30 with dinner at 7:00. Chuck Maier needs reservations for the dinner by May 25. His number is 330-418-8741.

Unfinished Business: This is the first call for nominations for officers for 2025-2026. A motion was made by Ken Girt to nominate Graham Zeneri as Grand Knight. Seconded by Bryan Stewart. Motion carried. A motion was made by Bob Pittinger to nominate Ken Smith as Deputy Grand Knight. Seconded by Matt Meyer. Motion carried. A motion was made by Chuck Maier to nominate Tom Seesan as Recorder. Seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ken Girt to nominate Ken McLaughlin as Treasurer. Seconded by Bryan Stewart. Motion carried. A motion was made by Bob Pittinger to nominate Matt Meyer as Chancellor. Seconded by Bryan Stewart. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ken Smith to nominate Eric Fichter as Warden. Seconded by Bob Pittinger. Motion carried. A motion was made by Bob Pittinger to nominate Carson Shover as Inside Guard. Seconded by Chuck Maier. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ken McLaughlin to nominate Chris Newstetter as Outside Guard. Seconded by Chuck Maier. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ken Girt to nominate John Ferrero as Advocate. Seconded by Ken Smith. Motion carried. Matt Meyer will be the 1-year Trustee. Chuck Maier will be the 2-year Trustee. Bob Pittinger nominated for 3-year Trustee.

New Business: Ken Smith addressed the council in regard to donating the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank fundraiser. It is May 30. Could we purchase tickets? Ken McLaughlin informed the council that May crowning will be by May 19 at the grotto at the Foundation. Mulching around St. Mary’s will be June 9. The Knights should participate in this as a Round Table event. He also mentioned that the Knights should look into keeping the garden at St. Raphael’s in good shape—not just our council, but all councils in the area. Grand Knight Bryan Stewart received a letter from Deacon Rick Hull asking for a donation to the Deacon’s retreat. This will be discussed at the next Officer’s and Trustee’s meeting.

The Good of the Order: Family of the Month April; Jeff & Denise Campbell; Knight of the Month—Eric Fichter; Volunteer of the Month—Sue Hall.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Seifert closed the meeting at 8:20 pm with the prayer for the canonization of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney.

Respectfully submitted: Thomas Seesan, Council Recorder

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

Happy Father's Day



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®

2026 SUPER CASH BONANZA WINNERS LIST

Prize #	Description	Ticket Number	Full Name	Council #
1	\$49,680 (\$414/Month for 10-Years)	427563	Charlie Broussard	13813
2	\$18,780 (\$313/Month for 5-Years)	524143	James Heitbrink	2158
3	\$12,720 (\$212/Month for 5-Years)	363148	Nicole Mroczka	16376
4	\$4,000	718389	Ted Mack	14665
5	\$3,000	766637	Kyle Rote	16373
6	\$1,500	235031	Amy Holmes	4847
7	\$1,500	577442	Wade Beamer	3062
8	\$1,500	097795	Tom Soller	5534
9	\$1,500	196687	Jack Samar	14255
10	\$1,250	579349	Carolyn Kesler	6034
11	\$1,250	181441	Jack Brooks	4733
12	\$1,250	291883	Ben Courier	774
13	\$1,250	512765	Bill Hagerty	12912
14	\$1,000	227180	Peter Foradori	789
15	\$1,000	503976	Nick Stroud	5128
16	\$1,000	112320	Terry Kunkel	847
17	\$1,000	302744	Kevin Kelley	16373
18	\$750	222583	*Requested to be Anonymous	4130
19	\$750	029994	Gene Kanzigg	10863
20	\$750	638550	Heidi Putnam	1925
21	\$750	036212	John Willi	10863
22	\$500	504732	John Koverman	5239
23	\$500	480740	John Thomson	1162
24	\$500	679770	Karen Sudduth	3873
25	\$500	274935	James Carsone	15959
26	\$500	359011	Rocco Petrozzi	4361



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