

Devoted to the Eucharistic Lord

K of C councils bear fervent witness to Christ's real presence during the National Eucharistic Revival

By Nathan Whalen and *Columbia* staff

While many college students travel somewhere warm and sunny during their spring break, this past March a group of college Knights from Southeast Missouri State University took a very different kind of road trip.

"We literally had Jesus in the truck, in a traveling tabernacle," said Jared Koehler, past grand knight of the university's St. Thomas Aquinas Council 15294. "One of our guys said it beautifully: 'You know, this is as close to the Gospels as we could live, traveling with Jesus everywhere we went, taking him to the people, relying on them to care for us, to feed us, just like the disciples did in the Gospels.'"

For eight days, Knights from Council 15294, together with their Newman Center chaplain, zigzagged across the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, traveling 845 miles on what they dubbed the *Anima Christi '24* Eucharistic pilgrimage. The group of 11 made stops at 21 parishes, inviting local communities to join them at Masses, Holy Hours, walking Eucharistic processions and all-night adoration.

"This was a beautiful response from the campus Knights of Columbus to respond to the urgent call for Eucharistic renewal," said Bishop Edward Rice of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.

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Minutes of the May Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM on May 14, 2024 by Deputy Grand Knight Waverly. Guest DD Morris was present at the meeting. The Grand Knight and several offers were excused from being present at the meeting. Roll call followed our Chaplain leading us in prayer. The Warden led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from April were approved as amended.

Membership Report

There are two transfers in process, and several others interested but non-committal at this time.

Two candidates were interviewed on May 14.

Grand Knight Report

No report

Chaplain's Report

The Chaplains message touched on the richness of Catholic traditions.

Treasurer Report

Checking account balance - \$ 11,033.23

Financial Secretary Report

Income – \$71 dinner, \$70 Rib dinner tickets, \$60 Rib dinner tips for the 4H servers, \$11.75 Misc cash, \$96.78 Reimbursement

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May Meeting Minutes**Continued from page 1:**

Bills - \$2000 Scholarships, \$519.11 Rib dinner and hospitality Sunday Brother Strazzo, \$244.21 Rib dinner Brother DeBenedet, \$400 Rib dinner tips for the 4 H youth, \$830.22 Rib Dinner Amador Meats, \$200 Cash , Change for rib dinner.

Communications

A thank you card from Hannah DeBenedet was received for the scholarship award.

Programs Director Report

Wine and cheese first Saturday after the 5PM Mass. First Tuesday night of the month 5:30 Rosary. May host is the Council. Please attend. Every second Sunday the Council sponsors donuts after the 10:00 mass. Volunteers are needed to help set up, serve and clean up. Family potluck is scheduled for May 24 at Brother Koenig's home in Sutter Creek. Bring a heavy snack food. Wheel Chair support weekend – Brother DeBenedet will speak with Father to set up a weekend. Family fishing day – July 6, Caples Lake shall be the destination. Lunch shall be provided. Contact Brother Waverly if interested in attending. June 1 – Date night sponsored by the Council. A video will be shown. Officer changes are in progress. May 18 – Theology of the body retreat. A donation to pay the speaker and providing a lunch is requested for consideration by the council. Brother Faist shall chair this event. The Scholarship Committee reviewed 6 applications. The two chosen for the awards were Hannah DeBenedet and Daniel DeLena.

Unfinished Business

No old business

New Business

A presentation of officers for the next Columbian year was read aloud. A presentation of the budget was shown.

Advocate Report

No Report

Chancellor Report

No report

Insurance Agent Report

No Report

Vocations Report

No report

Fourth Degree Assembly

On Memorial Day May 27, the Fourth Degree team will be at St. Pat's cemetery in Jackson at 10AM. SK Maher gave a presentation on the Fourth Degree.

District Deputy Report

DD Morris shared Chapter information via handouts to the DGK.

Good of the Order

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Barbara Edmonds, Ryan Link, cousin of Lisa Trassare, Mike Strazzo, Jack Quinn, Gary Morris and Gill Carboy. Pray also for, the person killed in an accident on Jackson highway on May 14, Larry Malone, Deacon Jaime, Martha Quinn, Jane Ragusano, Fr. Arlon and Steve Oneto.

Lecturer Report

No report

Chaplain's Summation

The meeting was closed in prayer.

DGK Waverly closed the meeting at 7:58 .

Respectfully submitted by David Sanders

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The *Anima Christi* pilgrimage is but one of the numerous ways K of C councils across the United States have promoted Eucharistic devotion since the U.S. bishops launched the National Eucharistic Revival in June 2022. As the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage makes its way to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress in July, Knights of Columbus continue to take up the call, emphasized by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly during his installation in 2021, to be “Knights of the Eucharist.”

Inspiration for the college Knights’ *Anima Christi* pilgrimage came from last year’s Organizational Meeting of State Deputies in New Haven, Connecticut.

“I was fortunate enough to serve the Mass with Archbishop Lori and then carry the crucifix during the Eucharistic procession through the streets of New Haven, ending at St. Mary’s,” explained Jared Koehler, who now serves as director of evangelization and faith formation for Council 15294. “I saw how beautiful it was, and how beautiful it could be to do something like that.”

However, before Koehler’s idea for a Eucharistic pilgrimage in his home diocese could become a reality, he had to convince his bishop.

“When Jared first proposed the idea, I thought, ‘Oh, this isn’t going to work,’” recalled Bishop Rice. “But when they came back with a detailed plan, I thought, ‘You know what, these young men are zealous about this. They’re giving up their spring break to do this.’”

From Sunday, March 10, to Sunday, March 17,

the college Knights visited more than a dozen Missouri towns. They typically began the day with Mass, followed by a Holy Hour and Eucharistic processions in one or two locations. In the evenings, the churches they visited would offer confession and parishioners were invited to participate in overnight adoration.

“The all-night adoration is where, as young men in the faith, our prayer lives really grew over the course of the week,” Koehler said.

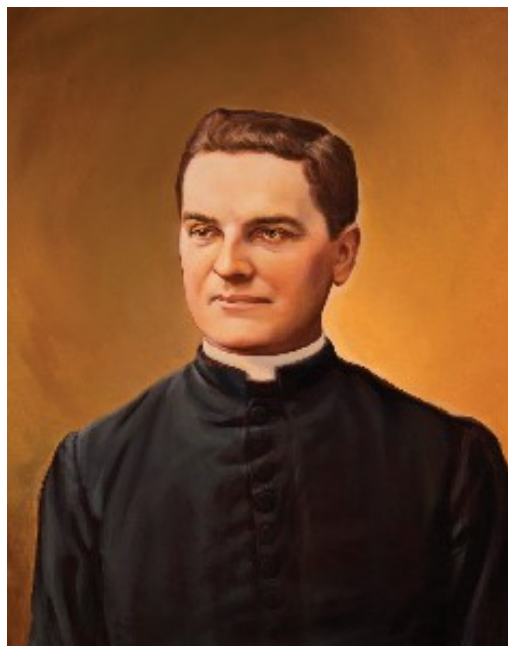
A convert to Catholicism who was recently accepted as a seminarian for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Koehler is convinced of the power of public Eucharistic witness.

“It’s so important now that we do this as a testament to our faith,” he said. “This is the thing that sets us apart from anybody else — the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament. It’s about Jesus, bringing Jesus to the streets and reviving hope in the faithful.”

He recalled a few of the reactions the Eucharistic processions received.

“In the small town of Van Buren, we’re processing down the street, and this little girl and her family — not Catholic — come out,” he said. “And she pulls on her mom’s hand and says, ‘Hey, it’s Jesus,’ and points at the monstrance.”

In Springfield, the procession passed a church where about 100 homeless people were receiving a meal. “They were loud and rowdy,” Koehler said. “But as we go by, this homeless man with tattoos and piercings yells at all the others, ‘Hey, be reverent. It’s the Eucharist!’”



Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Founder of the Knights of Columbus God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dinner Hosts

David Sanders June 11

TBD July 9

TBD Aug 13

Joe Trassare Sept 10

The Officers of Council

1849

Grand Knight Justin Machovec

Spiritual Advisor Deacon Jaime Garcia

Deputy G.K. Matthew Waverly

Chancellor Phil Gonzalez

Warden Jacob Schmidt

Treasurer Bob Strazzo

Recorder Dave Sanders

Advocate Mark Koenig

Inside Guard Mark Watt

Outside Guard Charlie Esola

Trustees

Three Year Stephen Frias

Two Year Joe Trassare

One Year Jack Magee

Financial Sec. Tim Burr

Dist. Deputy Steven Morris

Field Agent David Moeller

All Council Officers (except Br. Charlie Esola) can be reached by email. Use the first letter of their first name, the entire last name, followed by: @kofc-1849.org

Sample: mkoenig@kofc-1849.org

Recent Knights of Columbus Gatherings



Knights of Columbus Council 1849

Events Calendar 2023—2024

Planning meetings at Saint Patrick's Hall, first Wednesday at 6:00 PM of every month, starting July 2023 until June 2024.

Monthly Business meetings at Saint Katharine Drexel (St. Teresa of Calcutta Room) on 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM, starting July 2023 until June 2024. Dinner at 6:00 PM.

Family Fishing Day, Silver Lake, July 1st, 2023

Installation Mass and Picnic, SKD 10 AM August 20, 2023 (3rd Sunday)

Summer Dinner (Tri-tip), at SKD after 5PM Mass September 30, 2023 (5th Saturday)

Clergy Appreciation Dinner, Mark and Nancy Koenig Residence 5:00 PM September 17, 2023

Tootsie Roll Drive, weekend of October 13, 14, 15, 2023

Mass for Departed Knights, SKD 10 AM November 12, 2023 (2nd Sunday)

Christmas Party, SKD 6 PM, December 15, 2023 (3rd Friday)

Winter Dinner (Fish), SKD 6:30 PM February 3, 2024 (1st Saturday)

Family Potluck, SKD 6:00 PM March 26, 2024 (4th Tuesday)

Spring Dinner (Ribs), SKD 6:30 PM April 20, 2024 (3rd Saturday)

Family Potluck, SKD 6:00 PM May 24, 2024 (3rd Saturday)

Hospitality Donuts every 2nd Sunday at SKD

Hospitality Wine and Cheese every 1st weekend Vigil Mass at SKD

Rosary before 10 AM Mass, SKD every 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sunday

KVGC Rosary Tuesday before the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 at SKD – St. Maximillian Kolbe Room

June Calendar of Events

Wednesday, June 5: Planning Meeting at St. Patrick's Hall at 6:00 PM.

Tuesday, June 11: Business Meeting at Saint Katharine Drexel at 7:00 PM. Dinner at 6:00 PM.

Sunday, June 16: Knights Donut Sunday at Saint Katharine Drexel after the 10:00 AM Mass.

Amador Knights Reporter: David Sanders, phone 209 245-3482, email Dsanderson@kofc-1849.org, Editor and Publisher: Joe Trassare, phone 916 296-9557, email jtrassare@kofc-1849.org

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