

CHARITY

UNITY

FRATERNITY

PATRIOTISM



Knights of Columbus

Breese Council 2869, 480 North Walnut
P.O. Box 124, Breese, IL 62230



KNIGHT LINE

August-September, 2024

Message from the NEW Grand Knight

My name is Brian Kloeckner, and I was installed as your Grand Knight for the current fraternal year last month. Some of you know me, but for those who don't, here's a brief introduction: I grew up in Albers and attended Mater Dei High School. After high school, I went to Ranken Technical College and earned a degree in Architectural Drafting and Design. I have been employed at Netemeyer Engineering in Aviston for the past 26 years. I am married to Vicki Foppe, and we have two children: Alyse (Brandon) Rakers and Blake Kloeckner. We reside in Breese.

It is a great honor to serve as your Grand Knight. The reputation and history of our Council have set a high standard for the upcoming fraternal year. Reflecting on the past year, I am continually amazed by the dedication of so many members, especially those who consistently give their time to our organization. From many of you, I have learned what it truly means to be a Knight of Columbus.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Past Grand Knight, Patrick Jansen, for his exemplary leadership and commitment to our organization over the last two years. Under his guidance, our council has achieved significant milestones, with the STAR council award, strengthened our community outreach, and fostered a spirit of brotherhood that is second to none. I also want to thank Sir Dennis Book for his leadership as our Trustee over the past three years and his unwavering dedication to our Council in numerous events and as our current kitchen manager.

As we express our thanks to these leaders, we are also called to invigorate our organization with new energy. It is time for our membership to step up and make a meaningful impact in our churches and the communities we serve. I challenge you to bring a member to a meeting, sign up a member for a new committee, or recruit a new member for the Council.

Thank you, and may God bless us all.

OFFICERS FOR THE 2024-2025 FRATERNAL YEAR

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| GRAND KNIGHT | Brian Kloeckner |
| DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT | Neil Hustedde |
| CHANCELLOR | open, need volunteer |
| RECORDER | Marty Diekemper |
| TREASURER | Dean Albers |
| WARDEN | Richard Eilermann |
| INSIDE GUARD | Gerald Dougherty |
| OUTSIDE GUARD | Leonard Bathon |
| ADVOCATE | Rich Koerkenmeier |
| LECTURER | Dennis Book |
| THREE YEAR TRUSTEE | Patrick Jansen |
| SECOND YEAR TRUSTEE | Tony Antonacci |
| FIRST YEAR TRUSTEE | Don Kuhl |
| FINANCIAL SECRETARY | Mark Renschen |
| CHAPLAIN | Fr. Chuck Tuttle |



Past Grand Knight Patrick Jansen, left, officially passes the gavel to newly installed Grand Knight Brian Kloeckner, at the regular council meeting on July 11, 2024.



Newly installed officers for the 2024-2025 Fraternal Year after mass at St. Anthony on June 23, 2024.

Upcoming Events in August and September

August is filled with important events for our Council. Here's a look at what's coming up:

- **Thursday, August 8:** Our council meeting will start at 7:30 PM. This month, we will also pray the rosary for our deceased brothers starting at 7:00 PM, which we do every other month. I encourage everyone to attend the meeting to gain a better understanding of our new officers' vision for the upcoming fraternal year. I also invite all Past Grand Knights to join us at this meeting to show support for our new leadership.
- **Sunday, August 11:** We will host a special "5th" Sunday breakfast to benefit ASA. Although this is not a true "5th" Sunday, we decided to add a few extra breakfasts to compensate for the elimination of the ASA Spring Chicken Dinner.
- **Thursday, August 15:** A partnership mass is planned at St. Augustine, beginning at 6:30 PM, followed by an ice cream social.

Looking ahead to September:

- **Thursday, September 12:** Our regular council meeting will start at 7:30 PM.
- **September 20-22:** We will hold our largest charitable event of the year, the Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive, chaired by Mark Renschen and Mike Nettemeier. Please watch for a work list and plan on working a shift if called upon.
- **Saturday, September 21:** Our annual Reverse Drawing will take place. This event is our biggest fundraiser for our council, please plan to support it.
- **Sunday, September 29:** Join us for our regularly scheduled "5th" Sunday breakfast! This event will benefit the PSR programs within our council. Your support is especially important as we aim to make up for the loss of our traditional PSR pork sausage dinner, usually held in November.

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual **Bikes & Brews ride on October 12!** Keep an eye out for a flyer and sign up sheet with more details.

Thank you for your participation and support of our upcoming events.

Knight of the Month

August: Dennis Book

September: Richard Eilermann

Family of the Month

August: Doug & Cynthia Kuhl

September: Mark & Linda Renschen

Queen of Hearts

I would like to remind you that our council hosts a Queen of Hearts drawing every Sunday at 4 PM in the Club Room. With only 15 cards left on the current board and the pot nearing \$10,000, now is a great time to come out, purchase some tickets, and show your support. You might even be the lucky one to take home the big prize!

Dennis Book has chaired this event since its inception over seven years ago. He has indicated that he wants to step down after this current board is completed. We need a brother Knight to step up and take over the reins of this project. This is a wonderful opportunity to get more involved with our council. The time commitment for this event is from 2 PM to 4:30 PM on Sundays. If you are interested, please let Dennis or myself know.

Nativity Sets

It's time to start planning this year's Nativity sets. Joe Langhauser, who has chaired this event since 2018, is stepping down. Again, we are asking a brother Knight to take over as chairman for this project. The ideal candidate should be familiar with construction, as it involves cutting wood and painting the items. Joe has offered to assist whoever takes on this role. Construction should begin by the end of August, with pickup typically occurring on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Please let me know if you're interested in leading this fundraising activity.

Did you know...

At our monthly council meetings, we hold a "Jack of Hearts" drawing, which serves as an attendance prize. We use an old, recycled board from our Queen of Hearts drawing for this purpose. Here's how it works:

- Purchase a \$1 ticket at the beginning of the meeting
- Half of the money collected goes into a progressive pot, and the other half goes to the winning ticket drawn that night
- At the end of the meeting, we draw a ticket, and if your number matches the winning number, you win half of the money collected that night and get a chance to draw the "Jack of Hearts"
- If you pick the "Jack of Hearts," you win the progressive pot, if not, the pot rolls over to the next meeting

The current total of the pot is \$150. Plan to attend a council meeting to take your chance at winning the "Jack of Hearts."

Supreme Website

www.kofc.org

Illinois State Council Website

www.illinoisknights.org

Breese Council Website

www.breeseknights.org

Grand Knight – Brian Kloeckner

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Deputy Grand Knight – Neil Hustedde

e-mail: dgk@breeseknights.org Phone: (618) 977-8581

Financial Secretary – Mark Renschen

e-mail fs@breeseknights.org Phone: (618) 973-7671

Hall Manager – Patrick Jansen, Hall Phone: 526-7898

e-mail hallmanager@breeseknights.org Phone: (618) 304-5159

Insurance Agent – Jeff Niemeyer, The Niemeyer Agency

e-mail Jeff.Niemeyer@kofc.org Phone: 526-7991

August 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|-----------|---|---|----------|
| | | | | 1 Don Kuhl wing crew | 2 Russell Zurliene fry crew | 3 |
| 4 | 5 Columbian Board Meeting @ 6:30 | 6 | 7 | 8 Dave Rolfingsmeier wings Council Meeting w/ Rosary start @ 7pm | 9 Mark Niemeyer fry crew ASA appreciation night | 10 |
| 11 "5 th " Sunday Breakfast Benefitting ASA Belleville Diocesan Chapter Meeting @ 1:30 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Ralph Langhauser wings Partnership Mass, 6:30pm @ St. Augustine w/ Ice Cream social after mass | 16 Rich Eilermann fry crew | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 4 th Degree Meeting in Aviston @ 7:30 | 21 | 22 Rich Eilermann wing crew | 23 Jeff Niemeyer fry crew | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Dennis Book wing crew | 30 Ralph Langhauser fry crew | 31 |

September 2024

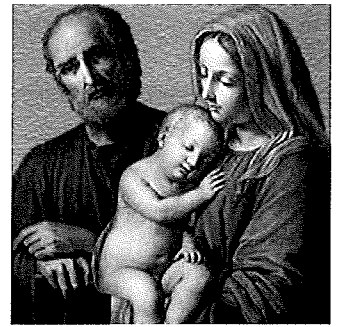
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|-----------|--|---|---|
| 1 | 2 LABOR DAY | 3 | 4 | 5 Don Kuhl wing crew Red Cross Blood Drive | 6 Steve Tebbe fry crew | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Columbian Board Meeting @ 6:30 | 10 | 11 | 12 Dave Rolfingsmeier wings Council Meeting @ 7:30 | 13 Dan Ketterer fry crew | 14 Buddy Walk Red, White & Blue Mass St. Augustine @ 4pm |
| 15 | 16 | 17 4 th Degree Meeting in Breese @ 7:30 | 18 | 19 Ralph Langhauser wings | 20 Russell Zurliene fry crew IDF Tootsie Roll Drive | 21 Council Reverse Drawing IDF Tootsie Roll Drive |
| 22 Soccer Challenge @ Breese Soccer Park IDF Tootsie Roll Drive | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Rich Eilermann wing crew | 27 Mark Niemeyer fry crew | 28 Breese Optimist Fall Fest @ North Side Park |
| 29 "5 th " Sunday Breakfast Benefitting PSR program Priest Appreciation Sunday | 30 | | | | | |

Building the Domestic Church

While Strengthening Our Parish

The Family Fully Alive

The Family that Prays and Plays Together, Stays Together



HOSPITALITY

AUGUST

Faith In Action: Family Week

Scripture speaks frequently about the importance of a family's hospitality because of its life-giving love that nourishes weary souls and heals broken hearts.

Breaking Open the Theme

Hospitality is necessary for a Christian family as a domestic church. It is part of a Christian's mission (Heb 13:2, Rom 12:13, Mt 10:42, Lk 10:29-37, Gn 18:1-10). But what is hospitality? Christ teaches us through the parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:29-37) that one dimension of hospitality is "to make a neighbor of a stranger."

Hospitality, as the word itself and the parable of the Good Samaritan suggest, helps to heal others, like a hospital. Yet the concept of Christian hospitality goes even deeper. The Rule of St. Benedict states, "all guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'"

Christian hospitality, then, is not just merely being kind and welcoming toward the stranger or our own family members; it is welcoming all as Christ. This radical Christian hospitality by families can occur in many simple ways. We can invite people over for a celebration or regular family activities, serve a home-cooked meal, wave hello to neighbors from the porch or even ask others to join for family prayer. The possibilities are endless. The key is that families not just open the door but also open their hearts with love toward others, sharing a love that is warm and life-giving like Christ's.

Meditation

From Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*

Led by the spirit, the family circle is not only open to life by generating within itself, but also by going forth and spreading life by caring for others and seeking their happiness. This openness finds particular expression in hospitality, which the word of God eloquently encourages: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unaware" (Heb 13:2). When a family is welcoming and reaches out to others, especially the poor and the neglected, it is "a symbol, witness and participant in the Church's motherhood." Social love, as a reflection of the Trinity, is what truly unifies the spiritual meaning of the family and its mission to others, for it makes present the *kerygma*

[teachings] in all its communal imperatives. The family lives its spirituality precisely by being at one and the same time a domestic church and a vital cell for transforming the world.

Family Reflections

1. What are some specific ways in which our family practices hospitality within our home? In what ways is hospitality challenging for our family, and in what ways does it help our family grow in grace and happiness?
2. Have we ever thought of hospitality in terms of welcoming the other as Christ? How might this calling of Christian hospitality change our practices of hospitality?
3. What are some ways as a family to grow in hospitality? How might we open our home more to the poor, lonely, brokenhearted and neglected? Is there someone who has a rough family life that could use some time around our family for the support and encouragement that love offers?

Scripture Reading

Psalm 84:9-13 *A praise of God's house*
LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
listen, God of Jacob.
O God, watch over our shield;
look upon the face of your anointed.
Better one day in your courts
than a thousand elsewhere.
Better the threshold of the house of my God
than a home in the tents of the wicked.
For a sun and shield is the LORD God,
bestowing all grace and glory.
The LORD withholds no good thing
from those who walk without reproach.
O LORD of hosts,
blessed the man who trusts in you!

Family Project

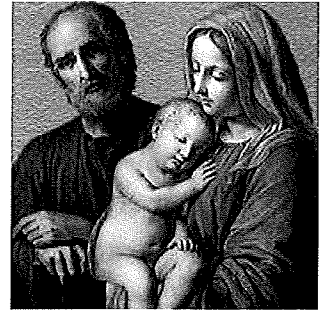
Invite acquaintances from your parish or neighborhood over for a meal, and spend some time socializing afterward. Invite them to join you for family prayer, too.

Building the Domestic Church

While Strengthening Our Parish

The Family Fully Alive

The Family that Prays and Plays Together, Stays Together



CHARITY

SEPTEMBER

Faith In Action: Coats for Kids

We learn of God's love through the Scriptures, the testimony of God himself, where we read that "whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40). The Scriptures therefore instruct all, including families, to practice charity because Christ is present in every person, especially the poor and needy.

Breaking Open the Theme

In *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis called on the family to have an "expanding fruitfulness" that seeks to give life outside of one's own family through charity. Charity is a living out of the family's kingly mission to serve others. Pope Benedict XVI explains that there are three unique elements to fruitful Christian charity that distinguish it from any other form of social assistance: a heartfelt concern for the fullness of another person's humanity, a "heart which sees" and faith. Pope Benedict XVI reminds Christians that it is not enough to "meet the needs of the moment," such as providing food or shelter. They must also "dedicate themselves to others with heartfelt concern, enabling them to experience the richness of their humanity." One of the beautiful ways to do this is to allow the other person to give back to the giver, welcoming their gifts of friendship and faith. To allow this deeper giving and sharing, families need "a formation of the heart" from an "encounter with God in Christ which awakens their love and opens their spirits to others." This new heart looks upon love of neighbor not as "a commandment imposed, so to speak, from without, but a consequence deriving from their faith, a faith which becomes active through love (cf. Gal 5:6)." It is a "heart that sees" like the Good Samaritan. "This heart sees where love is needed and acts accordingly." Finally, Christian charity must not leave God and Christ out of the equation because it is concerned with the whole man. As Pope Benedict XVI points out, "often the deepest cause of suffering is the very absence of God." Families should therefore naturally share their faith; with the help of grace, they will know when they should converse about the faith and when they should silently share the faith through loving actions.

Meditation

From Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*

A married couple who experience the power of love know that this love is called to bind the wounds of the outcast, to foster a culture of encounter and to fight for justice. God has given the family the job of "domesticating" the world and helping each person to see fellow human beings as brothers and sisters. ... for their part, open and caring families find a place for the poor and build friendships with those less

fortunate than themselves. In their efforts to live according to the Gospel, they are mindful of Jesus' words: "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40). In a very real way, their lives express what is asked of us all: "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed" (Lk 14:12-14). You will be blessed! Here is the secret to a happy family. By their witness as well as their words, families speak to others of Jesus. They pass on the faith, they arouse a desire for God and they reflect the beauty of the Gospel and its way of life. ... Their fruitfulness expands and in countless ways makes God's love present in society.

Family Reflections

1. How do we live out charity in our family towards others?
2. Why does charity enrich family life and expand its fruitfulness? Do we think people can actually encounter Christ by helping those who are in need? Why or why not?
3. How can our family learn to know God better through love in our own family and love toward those we don't know?

Scripture Reading

Psalm 86:1-7, 11-12 A prayer for God's protection of the poor

Incline your ear, LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and oppressed. Preserve my life, for I am devoted; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, LORD; to you I call all the day. Gladden the soul of your servant; to you, LORD, I lift up my soul. LORD, you are good and forgiving, most merciful to all who call on you. LORD, hear my prayer; listen to my cry for help. On the day of my distress I call to you, for you will answer me. Teach me, LORD, your way that I may walk in your truth, single-hearted and revering your name. I will praise you with all my heart, glorify your name forever, LORD my God.

Family Project

Volunteer as a family with your parish, local Knights of Columbus council or other local Catholic ministry. If there are no nearby Catholic charities, then consider volunteering at a nearby soup kitchen or similar local charity.