

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
SAINTS SIMON & JUDE COUNCIL #11564

The Saints Simon and Jude Knights of Columbus Council #11564 ("SSJKOC") is a men's Catholic organization organized in 1995 and is focused on the Four Principles of the Order, that of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Effective for 2018-19, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council in New Haven CT introduced a new program called "Faith In Action" which was designed for Councils to have a strong call to action and focus on programs in four categories: Faith, Family, Community and Life.

The SSJKOC met that new challenge for Fiscal Year 7/1/2018-6/30/2019 through the below accomplishments:

**FAITH: John Schneberger - Director**

- 1. Spiritual Reflection Program:** 14 Knights attended spiritual retreats either through the Men of Malvern Program or the SSJ Discovering Christ program
- 2. Holy Hour:** 15 Knights participating in Dedicated Perpetual Adoration Hour at various hours each week.
- 3. Sacramental Gifts:** Continued the Rose and Rosary program in which at each Sunday's Baptism a Knight presents to each new parent a Rose, Rosary and blessing from Pope John Pau II. 12 Knights served as Color Guards at First Holy Communion. Many Knights serve as Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers at Church. SSJKOC helps Support Vacation Bible camp (Shirts and Bibles). Plan to serve As Color Guards at 2020 Confirmation. Assist at Forty Hour, May Day, Divine Mercy and Corpus Christi celebrations. Served as Honor Guards at several beloved departed Fourth degree Knights.
- 4. Refund Support Vocation Program –** Charitable Support for Seminarian Gus DeSimone

**FAMILY: Paul Bellino - Director**

- 1. Consecration to the Holy Family:** December 28-29 Knights celebrated the Feast of the Holy Family weekend through prayer led by a Knight requesting each family to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family
- 2. Keeping Christ in Christmas:** Sponsoring a Nov-Dec program whereby 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students generated a "Poster" in which it reflected to the student what the "Christmas" spirit means to them. Awards were presented..
- 3. Food for Families:** Provided monetary assistance for Families at Christmas plus assisted in Parish food drive.
- 4. Family of Month/Year:** Recognized a number of parish families that model Christian family values.

**COMMUNITY: Joseph Gothie - Director**

- 1. Helping Hands:** 10-15 Knights assisted in the Painting of various rooms at Camilla Hall (IHM sisters residence) at Immaculate Univ.
- 2. Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest:** Held Contest for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students during Oct-Dec with theme "How does your family keep its Catholic Faith in Action?." Awards were presented. Awards also presented to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- 3. Coats for Kids:** Purchased 6 boxes warm coats from Supreme Council and collected over 500 coats in Clothing drive held at Parish 11/24-11/25.
- 4. Free Throw Championship/ Soccer Challenge: Free throw** Held 1/26/19 and Soccer 10/7. Basketballs and Soccer balls were given as prizes.
- 5. Fund Raising:** Held Annual Golf and Dinner Outing in June, March Saint Patrick's Day celebration, 2 Crab Cake Sales, many Casino trips and Car Magnet sales where proceeds were used for contributions for Parish improvements and school needs and for donations to organizations consistent with SSJKOC's mission including several Kids organizations( chronic illness and homelessness).

**LIFE: Brian Popma - Director**

- 1. Novena for Life:** Promoted a Novena, nine days (36 masses) of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of "LIFE" and protection of "LIFE".
- 2. Pregnancy Center Support:** Collect Baby Bottles January 2019 to support "Mother's Home" in Darby which has helped women and children since 1991. Donations of +\$13,000 were collected.
- 3. Special Olympics/March for Life:** 5 Knights Assisted at Special Olympics at Villanova 11/2-4 and some attended March for Life Wash DC in January. Donations made to Special Olympics, Pro Life West Chester and VETS Coatesville
- 4. Ultrasound Program:** Donation to support new Ultrasound machine

**SSJKOC membership is at 117 members with many new younger men joining this past year.**

**We welcome new members for the upcoming 2019-20 year to join and participate in our many programs and help our Saints Simon and Jude Parish and SSJKOC become even more vibrant.**

**Anthony Dennis Kolesinskas Grand Knight 2017-2019.**