



Knights of Columbus

Bishop Ruocco Council, No. 9275
Chelmsford/ Littleton/ Westford, Massachusetts
knights9275.com

April 2024

Volume 38, Number 8

The Knight Reader

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2023 – 2024

Grand Knight.....
Robert Malnati, GK

Chaplain.....
Father Fernando Ayala

Deputy Grand Knight.....
Paul Sidari, PGK, PFN, DD

Chancellor.....
James O'Keefe

Warden.....
Joseph Molligi

Financial Secretary.....
James Barrows, PGK, FS

Treasurer.....
David Breen

Recorder.....
William Pacino

Advocate.....
Eugene Bartos, PGK, FDD

Lecturer.....
Ed Ciampa

Inside Guard.....
Ryan Cozzens

Outside Guard.....
Matt Bartos

3rd Year Trustee.....
Charlie DeStefano, PGK

2nd Year Trustee.....
Adam Whitehouse, PGK, DD

1st Year Trustee.....
Louis Soracco, PGK, PFN

District Deputy.....
Paul Sidari, PGK, PFN, DD

Field Agent.....
STEPHEN A. WHITE
603-894-4780
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Grand Knight Report – Robert Malnati

Dear brother knights, April 2024

ALLELUIA, CHRIST IS RISEN

The great feast of Easter is upon us. The centerpiece of our Catholic Christian Faith. Just before His crucifixion, Jesus said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, that as I have loved you, you also love one another. By this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” [John 13: 34-35]

We should reflect on this commandment as it defines who we are as Knights and what we do. This commandment embodies all of the elements of Charity, Unity and Fraternity to which we are pledged.

As many articles in this newsletter point out, Brother Knights of Bishop Ruocco Council Knights of Columbus were very active during March. We participated in Special Olympics; Stations of the cross with pizza at St Anne’s; coffee and donuts [hospitality] at Blessed Trinity parish, both churches; Knights family Mass at St Mary’s; delta membership drive at St Mary’s [big thank you to Fr. Brian, Fr. Ray and Deacon John for their endorsement and support]; First meeting [via Zoom] of the new communication committee; presentation to membership at the April 11 meeting of the new Apprenticeship and Succession plan [thank you Matt Bartos]; first COR meeting with Into the Breach component very well attended with 100% attendee participation [thank you Paul Sidari and Richard Zupparidi]; presentation of grant application for autistic child submitted to State [thank you Ken Desilets and Acton Lions]

Every one of the aforementioned activities embodies the commandment to love one another as Christ has loved us.

April is upon us. Please consider attending either the On-line Fraternal Benefit presentation on Tuesday April 2 via Zoom at 7pm, and/or the in-person presentation at St Mary’s on Tuesday April 16 from 6-9pm. Non-members and friends are welcome at these presentations. Anniversary dinner is April 18, **PLAN TO ATTEND AND SIGN UP NOW!** Many other meeting and event notices can be found in the calendar on the last page of this newsletter. The success of our council depends on YOU.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following brothers and their families and caregivers in your prayers:

Luigi Iacoviello; George Ripsom, John Miller (open heart surgery in January)

Brother knight Robert Massey, who passed away in March.

Brother knight Dave Breen's daughter Michelle, who was injured in a major skiing accident.

For those who are sick or in distress, please remember that you are in our prayers at each meeting and in the private prayers of our hearts.

If you know of a brother knight or family member who would like to be included in our prayers, please contact one of the individuals below:

Grand Knight Robert Malnati at randrmalnati@gmail.com

Or Chancellor James O'Keefe at jimmy_okeefe@msn.com

Council leadership program launches

From GK Bob Malnati/ Matt Bartos



Also attached to the email that delivered this monthly council news: [Download this document.](#) t launches an **Apprenticeship and Succession Planning Program**.

ALL members are encouraged to consider being apprentices as we strive together to strengthen our council for the future.

Current chairs/directors of council activities are asked to provide a short write-up about their activity and how many hours per month are spent by the chair/directors of their activity.



Newsletter deadlines/ Check Spam folder weekly

Articles that are intended to be included in the May 2024 issue of this newsletter must be e-mailed to Bill Pacino at knights_news@yahoo.com by April 26. The newsletter will be published before the first meeting of the month.

Note: Check your Spam folder every week to make sure your email provider is not electronically judging the messages and monthly newsletter from your local council as Spam mail. You will be surprised how many legitimate email messages end up in the Spam folder.

Meeting times -The monthly planning meeting begins at 7:00 PM. The monthly members meeting and social meeting begins at 7:00 PM. Meetings are held at The Paul Center, 39 Concord Road, Chelmsford.

St. Patrick's Day dinner at St. John's

From Bob Chevalier

The photos shown were taken at the March 16, 2024 St. Patrick's dinner at St John's Parish Hall. This was offered by the St. John's Hospitality Ministry, and sold out, after the first weekend of tickets sales, in The Holy Rood Collaborative to 170 attendees at this dinner. Bishop Ruocco council knights were there in great spirit with their wonderful wives and associates. 4th Degree Sir Knight Frank Peabody was the MC for the event and Ed Ciampa (another Sir Knight from our Council) strummed up the Old Irish Favorites on his accordion. Great evening for all who attended. *See more photos on the next page.*



Somebody has to be the cook.

Call on our council knights, (L to R) with (standing) Ubaldo Mendes, Paul Brzezinski, Drew Jubinville, Bob Chevalier, Tim Fitzgerald, Dave Sousa (and up front) Ron Bator.

Massachusetts Special Olympics Bowling

From Charle DeStefano PGK/Community Director

On Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 8:15am Brother Charlie DeStefano, Brother Paul Sidari, and Margie Sidari continued to carry out our 5-year tradition of supporting the Massachusetts Special Olympics Unified Bowling Tournaments. There were 300 athletes in attendance and they occupied all 50 bowling alleys. Our job function was to monitor the alley we were assigned to help, cheer on, and to write down the final score of each of the three games the athletes bowled. It was a fun day and the smiles from the athletes were priceless.

Now this is where the Cooking Staff gets serious with the corn beef, cabbage and potatoes. →

These Knights put in 14-hours of cooking on Saturday. Great Job and a Great Service to others in our community. Our thanks to council #9275 for supporting this great ministry.



Dave & Marie Breen and Chickie Rigazio ready themselves for corn beef and cabbage



Council cooks (L to R) Ron Bator, Ubaldo Mendez and Drew Jubinville prepare the food



Paul and Chickie Rigazio along with Sue and Harold Coughlin wait patiently for council cooks to finish the cooking of corn beef and cabbage at St. Patrick's Dau dinner

Annual State Raffle

From James Barrows

The Annual State Raffle is here. The drawing is at the end of April at the State Convention. Either mail your tickets to James Barrows with a check made out to the council or drop them off at a meeting. Tickets are \$15 per book. Contact James Barrows for more tickets. All tickets must be purchased and turned in by the local council's April 8 members meeting.

Protecting Family, Providing for the future

From Knights of Columbus

Fr. Michael McGivney of St. Mary's church in New Haven, Connecticut, had too many knocks at the door from widows with children looking for help with food, shelter clothing etc. He knew that something must be done to give him the means to support these families. Fr. McGivney began the Knights of Columbus.

Today, the knights have blossomed into much more. Yes, local "councils" continue the mission through such efforts as Food for Families, Coats for Kids, special needs services, local parish support and much more.

The Knights of Columbus, through its Insurance Programs and Asset Management arm, have become the premier Catholic partner for financial services, committed to helping provide financial security and stability to members and families. The Knights are in a very sound and strong financial position, offering a full menu of financial products. All, this while remaining non-profit.

Members can avail themselves of a complete line of Life Insurance, Long Term care insurance, Disability Income Insurance, and, Guaranteed Fixed Annuities. In addition, through Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, both members and non-members can avail themselves of a FULL LINE of Financial Services based on investment in ethical companies.

- There will be a Financial Benefit presentation [with Q and A] at St. Mary's, Chelmsford at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 16. This in-person presentation is not just for brother knights. ALL interested persons are welcome.
- A retirement savings and distribution planning on-line webinar, for brother knights, will be held on Tuesday, April 2 at 8:00 PM EST.

This special live webinar, "Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning," features nationally recognized speaker, television personality and best-selling author, Ed Slott. Ed combines current research, in-depth expertise, and humor to teach viewers about the ins and outs of their retirements and provides insight to the latest tax and planning information.

To register for this webinar, click on the following link:

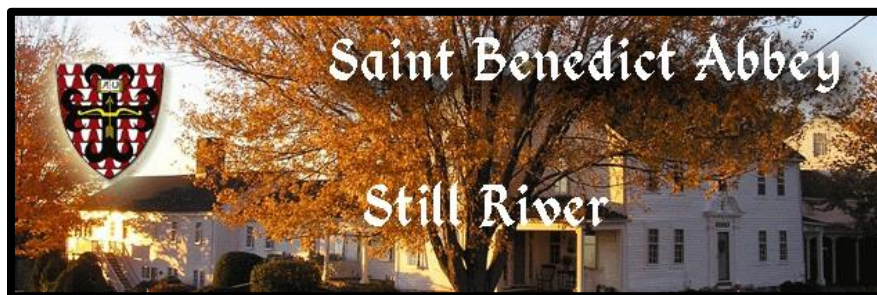
<http://tinyurl.com/KofCApril2>

To learn more, contact: Field agent Stephen White at {603}894-4780
Or Grand Knight Robert Malnati at {978}501-4903

Or visit our website: kofc.org

Council Officers slate of Officers for 2024-2025

Grand Knight	Robert Malnati
Deputy Grand Knight	Mathew Bartos
Chancellor	Adam Rypinski
Advocate	Gene Bartos, PGK
Warden	Francis Bulman
Treasurer	David Breen
Recorder	William Pacino
Inside Guard	Richard Zuppardi
Outside Guard	Jean Croteau
1st Year Trustee	Paul Brzezinski
2nd Year Trustee	Louis Soracco, PGK
3rd Year Trustee	Adam Whitehouse, PGK



Night of Reflection at Saint Benedict’s Abbey, April 22

From Adam Whitehouse

The night of Reflection is going to be Monday, April 22 at Saint Benedict’s Abbey in Harvard. Starting at 6:00 PM with vespers in the chapel. Following vespers, we will have a delicious meal cooked by the monks, and a talk from one of the Abbey’s monks. The price to attend is \$20 per person.

Easter quotes

The great gift of Easter is hope – Basil Hume

Unless there is Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday – Fulton J. Sheen

Where man sees but withered leaves, God sees sweet flowers growing – Albert Lighton

Bishop Ruocco Council, 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Chair	Time & Place
April	2024		
1	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
3	Communication committee	Adam Rypinski	Via Zoom, 7 PM
2	Fraternal Benefits	Steve White	Online presentation, <i>see article- page 5</i>
8	Members Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM start of meeting and exemplification
13	Polar plunge	Charlie DeStefano	Long Lake in Littleton, 10 AM
15	State K of C Patriots Day dinner	Lantern Award presentation	Sheraton Framingham, program and dinner, 7 PM
16	Fraternal Benefits	Steve White	In-person presentation, St. Mary, 7 PM
18	Anniversary dinner/ Knight of Year	Jean Croteau	The Establishment restaurant, North Chelmsford, 6 PM to 8 PM
21	Knights' family Mass	Jimmy O'Keefe	St. Catherine, Westford, 10:30 AM
22	A night of Reflection at the Abbey	Adam Whitehouse \$20 per person	Start at 6:00 PM with vespers in chapel, shared meal, and a talk from a monk. St. Benedict's Abbey, 252 Still River Rd. Harvard, MA
29	COR/In the Breach	Paul Sidari, Richard Zuppari, Richard Travers	Paul Center, 7 PM
May	2024		
1	Hail Mary Challenge begins	Paul Sidari	
6	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM @ Paul Center
13	Members Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM @ Paul Center
16	Special People Prom	Paul Sidari, Adam Whitehouse	5:00 pm Tewksbury High School
18	Knights' family Mass	Jimmy O'Keefe	St. Anne, Littleton, 8:30 AM
27	Social Meeting?	Bob Malnati	TBD
June	2024		
3	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
8	Special Olympics at Harvard University	Charlie DeStefano	Volunteers sought
10	Members Meeting - Elections	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm Council Meeting
24	Social Meeting, Changing of the Guard	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center

Pizza and Stations of the Cross at St. Anne

From Matt Bartos

Brother knights Charlie DeStefano, Bob Malnati, Adam Rapinski, Lou Soracco, and Matt Bartos helped serve pizza to over 60 parishioners following Stations of the Cross in March at St Anne Church.

