



Knights of Columbus

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

June 2024
Vol. 38, Number 10

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
stephen.white@kofc.org

Grand Knight Report – Robert Malnati

Dear brother knights, June 2024

The beat goes on! May brought us the great feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost, a great time to reaffirm our Faith and purpose as springtime emerges. The planning meeting and members meetings in May saw the preliminary budget for next fraternal year; proposed slate of elected officers; first ideas for new fund raisers; presentation of four \$1,000 scholarships; receipt of a 100% membership gain award; the special needs prom; implementation of the apprenticeship program; final review of the communications program; and planning for both the July 3-4 Chelmsford Fair and Paul Center summer fair.

Vigorous and generous participation by many brother Knights has our council firmly on an upward path in the practices of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

June will feature: council elections; changing of the guard; final arrangements for the Chelmsford Fair; onward planning for the Paul Center summer fair. Please plan to attend the June members meeting on Monday June 10, many important decisions and discussions will occur, elections will occur and the next year's budget will be voted on.

There will NOT be a formal newsletter in July or August; keep your eyes open for emails concerning the various ongoing activities of the council.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the council as Grand Knight during this fraternal year. My prayers and thanks to ALL, for your support and participation.

Peace, Bob Malnati GK

Did you know?

Many high school students today are looking for ways to complete service hours in their communities. Please reach out to your children, grandchildren or extended families and invite them to take part in an upcoming K of C community event. Doing so benefits not only our council efforts, but enriches their lives as well!

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Luigi Iacoviello; Michelle, daughter of Dave Breen

Charlene Muscato, the wife of the late brother knight Brian Muscato, who died in 2017, passed away on April 25.

Jennifer, wife of brother knight Frank MacDonald passed away on May 18.

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



*Twelve knights engaged in vigorous discussion at the second COR meeting. April 29.
→ Next COR meeting is Tuesday, June 4.*



Certificates from the anniversary dinner caught up with receivers Joe Molligi and Adam Whitehouse. GK Bob Malnati made the presentation.

Newsletter deadlines/ Check Spam folder weekly

Council articles for events in the July-August 2024 timeframe will be e-mailed directly as the Council newsletter does not publish in July or August. The council still meets in July and August (planning and members meetings). Send articles and pictures to Bill Pacino at knights_news@yahoo.com

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 (first Monday), members (second Monday) and social (fourth Monday) meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Meetings are held at The Paul Center, 39 Concord Road, Chelmsford.

\$1,000 K of C Scholarship award winners for 2024

From James Barrows and GK Bob Malnati

This year the Knights of Columbus Bishop Ruocco Council is honored to present four \$1,000 scholarships. These are offered to Catholic high school students who live their faith and provide charitable works.

The Bishop Ruocco Council is pleased to award these scholarships to: (Left to right kneeling in front of their parents) Abigail Rillovick; Naomi D'Souza; Delia Schiefen; and Brenna Jubinville.



Abigail Rillovick will be attending Northeastern where she plans to pursue a career in the medical field. She is a member of St Margaret of Scotland Parish.

Naomi D'Souza will be attending UMass Amherst and pursue a career in a field that will allow her to positively impact as many people as possible. She is a member of St Mary Parish.

Delia Schiefen will be attending Quinnipiac University and will pursue a career in Physical Therapy. She is a member of St Catherine of Alexandria Parish.

Brenna Jubinville will be attending Fitchburg State University and will pursue a career in nursing. She is a member of St John the Evangelist Parish.

Local council web site: knights9275.com

Be sure to check out our website. It has been recently refreshed, making all you need to know easy to obtain. Featured are meeting minutes, newsletters, a collection of council photos, and a calendar.

Note to all council members – If participating in an event, and you do not have a council shirt to wear, let Bob Malnati or Lou Soracco know by email and a shirt will be provided at no charge.

Apprenticeship Program Launch

From Matt Bartos



You Are Invited to Help Grow Our Council and Be Part of Its Success.

Retrieve the program leadership document and the list of council officers by clicking on the google docs links below.

To All Position / Program Leaders

As a program or position leader, please think about how you can share your knowledge of our council's outstanding programs and events. We have many new and existing members who might be looking for a way to become more involved. Please give some prayerful consideration and ask council members to step into an apprentice role. How might your willingness to guide them and work alongside them unlock a new capacity to spread institutional knowledge, engage the next Brother, and further promote our council's good work in the community?

To All Prospective Apprentices

Our council runs a number of impactful programs and events. While our many good works are led by dedicated individuals, our success ultimately depends on a collective effort. To follow the saying, "many hands make light work", we invite you to consider how you might be able to "dip your oar in the stream" and step into an apprenticeship role. Whether you're a new member or have been in our council for years, consider how you can lend your talents to one of our many programs. There is no need to make a firm commitment, and no one is asking any member to take on a role that is outside of their comfort zone. How might you help benefit not only our council, but our priests, our parishes, and our faith community?

You can access the following link that takes you to our council officer positions document:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gnuJvu-4gkfZpYeD-e0WjGZNFDbxIW3kYdY-GcZyL1M/edit?usp=sharing>

You can access the following link that takes you to our program leadership document:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1G2GYYI3OwatatMF6SXJUI7CNTAfjrxGliv8XzX1LJ3c/edit?usp=sharing>

Feel free to add your name to a specific position, program, or event under the "apprentice" column. If you have any questions about accessing this document, contact Matt Bartos at mdbartos@gmail.com

Special Needs Summer Fair, August 11

From Matt Bartos and Declan Reidy

The Paul Center is very grateful that we will be running our annual Special Needs Fair on Sunday, August 11. The Fair takes place from 9-11:30AM.

This is a wonderful event that our council creates. To do so, it takes 25 Knights to successfully prep, run both the morning breakfast and the Fair, and take down. Many of you volunteer year after year and that is great.

We would love to see you again. If you are new or have not been able to volunteer in the past, this is an excellent way to help with our council's charitable mission.

We need Cooks (5), setting up and running the Fair (17), hosting the craft activities (2-3), guiding the parachute run (1), plus those willing to help transport games and supplies before and after the Fair itself.

Special Notes: Wives, children, and extended family members are welcome to help out and participate. Email or call if you would like to help. A Sign-Up Genius link will be sent soon with specific roles and time slots for those wishing to volunteer.

Thank you and God Bless

Matt Bartos & Declan Reidy - who are taking on the planning and running of the Special Needs Fair, under the gracious guidance of Ken Desilets

(617) 650-2187, email: mdbartos@gmail.com; declanreidy3000@gmail.com



Percentage Membership Gain Award to council

From GK Bob Malnati

The Bishop Ruocco Council was recognized for attaining 100% of its new member assessment for 2023-2024.

Representing the council at the State Convention in Hyannis were: Bob Malnati, GK, Lou Soracco PGK, Paul Sidari DGK, DD, and Adam Whitehouse PGK, DD. There are 293 councils in Massachusetts and it was a proud moment to be one of only 18 to have achieved this level of new member intake. Congratulations and thank you.

New FUNd Raiser Ideas

From GK Bob Malnati

Our Bishop Ruocco council is in need of new sources of funds to raise money for local charities and causes that are important to us. The goal is to raise an additional three to four thousand dollars per year by way of new activities that are also FUN.

To that end, the following is a list of possible activities that have been suggested by some of our members. Please send any additional suggestions to GK Bob Malnati at RandRmalnati@gmail.com. All ideas will be discussed at the June members meeting.

- Ice cream social with games and prizes
- Pie Sale, baked by brothers
- Dining for a cause- with a local restaurant
- Rubber Duck Race – need a location
- Dance Evening – music, dancing noshes
- Italian social evening – food prepared by “Italian/American brothers” entertainment by those who wish they were Italian.
- Ham and Bean supper
- Wine Tasting [perhaps combined with church groups]
- Plain Old-fashioned raffle. Donated items, fixed ticket price, clear cause.

Vote on Monday, June 10 at council members meeting

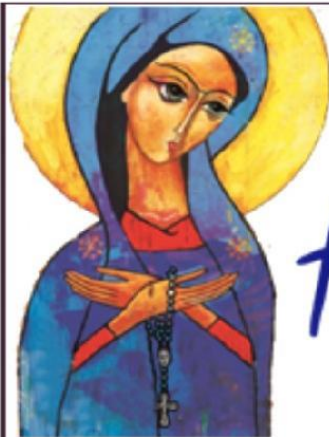
Council officers slate of officers, 2024-2025

Grand Knight	Robert Malnati
Deputy Grand Knight	Matthew 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 Brzezenski
2nd Year Trustee	Louis Soracco, PGK
3rd Year Trustee	Adam Whitehouse, PGK

Appointed officers will be announced after the election on June 10



Pittsburgh’s best fish fry in Arizona
 Members of St. Anthony of Padua Council 9838 in Wickenburg, Ariz., prepare to welcome guests to the council’s fish fry dinner. Council member Jimmy Costanzo (right) owned a restaurant for nearly 30-years in Pittsburgh, where his fish sandwich regularly won awards. A few years after Costanzo retired to Wickenburg in 2012, he joined Council 9838 and established a monthly fish fry, held from November to April each year. In the past year, the dinners have raised about \$8,400.



Seventh Annual *Hail Mary* challenge

Since 2018, we have exceeded our goal of collectively praying 1,000,000 Hail Mary's in 6 months... ranging from 1,025,470 in 2020 to 1,364,6354 last year! In total, we have collectively prayed 7,253,019 Hail Mary's over the past six years!

**We will begin this journey THIS Wednesday, May 1st
and will continue through October 31st!**

Report your Hail Mary Counts—weekly or monthly—via email to psidari@gmail.com, call into Christine at (978) 254-4406, or simply write on a piece of paper and drop into the offertory basket or any of the black drop boxes located at each of our churches. Beginning within the next week or two, we will begin the weekly report of our counts-to-date in the bulletin.

Please consider praying for the following intentions, in addition to your own personal ones:

The Holy Father - Our Families - Our Church
Our Country - Our World - The Souls in Purgatory

Bishop Ruocco Council, 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Chair	Time & Place
June 2024			
1-2	Ministry Fair	Matt Bartos	St. Catherine after Sat. 4:30, Sun. 10:30
3	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
8	Special Olympics Massachusetts Summer Games at Harvard University	Charlie DeStefano	Volunteer for tennis, swim, logistics, or transportation. Shifts are 8:30am to 4:00pm with lunch provided.
4	COR meeting	Paul Sidari, Richard Zuppari, Richard Travers	At Paul Center, 7 PM
10	Members Meeting - Elections	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm Council Meeting
16	Father's Day		
16	Family of Year presentations	Bob Malnati	At St. Mary and St. Anne
24	Social Meeting, Changing of the Guard	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
July 2024			
July 1	Planning meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM at Paul Center
July 3- 4	July 4 th booth & parade, Chelmsford	Malnati/ Bartos/ Barrows	Volunteer help needed
July 8	Members meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM @ Paul Center
July 14	Installation of officers	Paul Sidari	St. Catherine Hall, Westford, 6-8 PM
August 2024			
Aug 5	Planning meeting	Bob Malnati	7 :00 PM at Paul Center
Aug 11	Special Needs summer carnival	Matt Bartos, Declan Reidy	The Paul Center 8:00 AM Serve Breakfast 8:00 AM Set up Games 9:30 AM Start games
Aug 13	Blessed Michael McGivney feast day		
Aug 19	Members Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 PM @ Paul Center

Amazing event, Special Needs Prom

From Adam Whitehouse

On Thursday May 16,2024, the Knights of Columbus put on an amazing event, God’s Special People Prom at Tewksbury High School. A lot of planning went into this great event and everything worked out perfectly. We had around ten brother knights from Bishop Rucco council that helped volunteer for this event. The Bishop Rucco council was in charge of the food at the high school prom.

It was the 15th anniversary of the Knights of Columbus sponsoring and this prom. I would like to thank everyone who came to help volunteer with this awesome event. Every one of you helped put a smile on their faces and thats a huge part of making such a great successful event.

May God continue to bless you for all the good works you do.