



Knights of Columbus

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

October 2024
Vol. 39, Number 2

The Knight Reader

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2024 – 2025

Grand Knight.....
Robert Malnati, GK

Chaplain.....
Father Fernando Ayala

Deputy Grand Knight.....
Matthew Bartos

Chancellor.....
Adam Rypinski

Warden.....
Francis Bulman

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

Treasurer.....
David Breen

Recorder.....
William Pacino

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

Lecturer.....
Ed Ciampa

Inside Guard.....
Richard Zuppardi

Outside Guard.....
Jean Croteau

3rd Year Trustee.....
Adam Whitehouse, PGK, DD

2nd Year Trustee.....
Louis Soracco, PGK, PFN

1st Year Trustee.....
James O'Keefe

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

Field Agent.....
Matt DiCalogero (interim)

Grand Knight Report – Robert Malnati

Dear brother knights, October 2024

Bishop Ruocco Council is thriving and growing. Thank you to ALL who are making this happen.

The Epistle of St. James reminds us that, “Faith, if it does not have works, is dead”!

As Knights, we demonstrate our Faith by our works. Knights pledge of Charity leads us to perform good works in the spirit of KINDNESS; mindful that our God loves ALL of His children.

Council brothers [and family] were highly visible and active during September at both the Blessed Trinity and Holy Rood parish picnics, the St. Mary pergola restoration; Knights Family Mass; Walk for Life; National Day of Remembrance for aborted children; seven sorrows of Mary prayer service; COR gathering to discuss purgatory; plus, planning and member meetings; online Fraternal Benefit webinar; delta membership drive training. Brothers Reidy and Cozzens also created a blog “Interview with the grand Knight” (see link to this interview at bottom of page 2**), which can be viewed on YouTube and other social media.

October promises to be a blockbuster month: Good works include: the Tom Callery clothing drive for homeless persons; the Tuna drive for Lazarus House food pantry; Tootsie Roll and M’n M charity drives. Also featured in October are; Poster and Essay contests; hospitality and pumpkin painting; dining for dollars FUNd raiser at Bertucci’s Chelmsford; and Membership drives.

PLEASE consider your commitment to our council’s “Good Works”, sign up now and help to hold God’s people in your hands and in your hearts. Fraternally, Robert Malnati, GK



Tuna donations for Lazarus House food pantry

As of Sunday, September 29, the stack of tuna fish ordered through Amazon and delivered to GK Bob Malnati’s house was 5-feet tall.

The goal is 1500 cans of tuna.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Rev. Mr. Robert W. Dzuris, who passed away August 15

Michelle Mosher, daughter of Dave Breen

Ruth Malnati, wife of GK Bob Malnati

Tim Fitzgerald; Luigi Iacoviello; John Miller; George Dixon - visitors welcome

Brother knight Bob Camacho’s son who is seriously ill.

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 Adam Rypinski at arypinski@yahoo.com

Bishop Ruocco Council #9275 Annual Clothing Drive

Brothers, once again in honor of our departed brother Tom Callery, we will be collecting clothing of all types to keep Tom’s legacy of clothing the needy and homeless.

Clothing of all types will be collected at our council meeting on Monday, October 14.

With winter just around the corner, there is going to be a special need for underwear, socks, sweatshirts, sweaters, and sweatpants.

After the collection, I will be bringing the clothing to St. Vincent DePaul for distribution.

Thank you for your contribution and God Bless,

Charlie DeStefano PGK/Life Director



Newsletter deadlines/ Check Spam folder weekly

Articles that are intended to be included in the November 2024 issue of this newsletter must be e-mailed to Bill Pacino at knights_news@yahoo.com by October 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 (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.

**** Go to YouTube.com, search for “Knights of Columbus 9275”. Select blog “Who are the Knights of Columbus”. Click on interview with Grand Knight.**

Dining for Dollars with Bertucci's Brick Oven Pizza and Pasta

From Paul Rigazio

What: Fundraiser for Knights of Columbus: BISHOP RUOCCO COUNCIL #9275

When: Monday, October 21, 11 AM to 9 PM

Where: Bertucci's Brick Oven Pizza and Pasta, 14 Littleton Rd., Chelmsford, MA 01824

Bertucci's will donate 15% of every order of anyone with a copy of the Bertucci's and Bishop Ruocco council photos below. Print this newsletter page (page 3) and give to server at Bertucci's.

Print or photocopy this page for family, neighbors and friends to use as well.



Return address for physical mail to be sent to Bishop Ruocco council:

Knights of Columbus
Bishop Ruocco Council, No. 9275
Chelmsford/ Littleton/ Westford
1521 Gorham St.
Lowell, MA 01852

For financial matters relative to the local council, use the email address:

knights9275@gmail.com

For news items, death notices, thank-you notes, and all other non-financial items, send to email address:

knights_news@yahoo.com

Local council web site is: knights9275.com

Membership Drive at St. Mary Church, October 13

Membership Drive at Blessed Trinity Parish, October 19 & 20

From Gene Bartos

Brothers. We are hosting a membership drive at Holy Rood Collaborative's St. Mary Church October 13 and Blessed Trinity Parish the weekend of October 19/20. We need your help in making this a successful event inviting men from the parishes to join our council.

Unlike church drives of the past, our new way of inviting men is much simpler with the Delta Church Drive. We need "ambassadors" to place material in the pews before Mass, handing out prayer cards as families arrive, and collecting prospect cards as people leave. It's that simple!

We need at least six brothers per Mass and your family is welcome to help in this effort.

At St. Mary, we are recruiting at the 11:00 AM Mass October 13.

At Blessed Trinity, we are recruiting at all three Masses: St. Anne (8:30 AM) and St. Catherine (4:00 PM and 10:30 AM) October 19/20.

Please contact membership director Gene Bartos in advance that you will help. Contact information is farmergb@aol.com or 508-517-5677.

Local council sponsors 2024-2025 Youth Essay Contest

From Gene Bartos

All Catholic students in public, private and parochial schools grades 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 are invited to participate in the 2024-2025 Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. The contest will be open to students in the Holy Rood Collaborative, Blessed Trinity Parish, area parochial schools and children and grandchildren of council members.

Students are encouraged to write a 500- to 750-word essay on the following topic:

What are the two most important virtues for an elected leader to possess, and why?

How can you determine if the leader has these virtues?

All contestants at the local council level are recognized for their participation in the contest. Essays will be judged in November and first place winners at each grade level will receive a monetary award and their essays will be submitted to the K of C State Council for further judging and awards from the State Council.

Participants are required to furnish a written parental consent form which may be downloaded from the council website: <https://knights9275.com>

Scroll down to locate Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest form.








Contestants must submit their essay attached to the entry form to Bishop Ruocco Council by October 31, 2024 to the following address:

KofC Council 9275 Essay Contest, 70 Pond Street, Dunstable, MA 01824

Contact Gene Bartos at gene.bartos@verizon.net for any questions about the contest.

Council officers, 2024-2025

Photos from Changing of Guard meeting in June 2024

			
Grand Knight Robert Malnati	Deputy Grand Knight Matthew Bartos	Chancellor Adam Rypinski	Advocate Gene Bartos, PGK
			
Warden Frank Bulman	Financial Secretary James Barrows	Treasurer David Breen	Recorder William Pacino
			
3rd Year Trustee Adam Whitehouse, PGK	Outside Guard Jean Croteau	1st Year Trustee James O'Keefe	2nd Year Trustee Louis Soracco, PGK

Missing photo: Inside Guard, Richard Zuppardi

October council activities and our efforts to be more Christ-like

From Deputy Grand Knight Matt Bartos

A glance at the Feast Days that the Church celebrates in the month of October include the following: St Therese ("The Little Flower") of the Child Jesus; St Francis of Assisi; St John Leonardi; St Teresa of Jesus; St Hedwig; and St Luke. In reading about their immense impact on the Church, what struck me most were the running themes of humility, charity, and works of mercy.



Brothers, the upcoming month may appear packed with a number of "to-dos", many events that are all taking place in just a few weeks. But think of the enormous impact we can have by lending a hand to the Tom Callery clothing drive; the tuna drive; the M&M Charity drive or even Hospitality Sunday. Within the next month, we have a wonderful opportunity to do good in our parishes and in the greater community. In doing so, I'm sure we'll share many smiles and enjoy the company of our brothers and their families. And while we do, there will be some Saints smiling down on us, praying for us while we attempt to follow their example!



Long-talked about project finally gets painted

From Paul Sidari

A workforce of knights Paul Sidari, Chris Cantrell (on short ladder), Adam Rypinski (on tall ladder), and Lou Soracco finally got the stain cans open and painted the Pergola at St. Mary at the end of September. The Pergola, located between the main church building and the education center, sees service during outdoor Masses and when the statue of St. Mary is involved in a procession.

Charitable act of kindness from the Bishop Ruocco council to the Holy Rood Collaborative

Next COR gathering, Oct 24

Thurs, Oct. 24 at Paul Center. Speaker: Deacon John Hunt Topic: Holy Spirit. Knights and their wives are welcome to this COR meeting.

Reflect and pray, Our Lady of Sorrows

A beautiful prayer service, based on the Holy Rosary took place at St. Mary Church on Monday, September 21, 2024. We meditated upon the Seven Sorrows that the Blessed Mother endured during Her lifetime. Instead of ten Hail Mary's, only seven are recited.

Seven Sorrows of Mary

The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)

The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)

Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)

Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)

Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)

The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (Psalm 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)

The burial of Jesus (Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47)

Approximately forty parishioners, eleven of them members of the Bishop Ruocco council celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

The service honored our Blessed Mother with prayer and reflection regarding Seven difficult moments that She endured during her lifetime as the mother of Jesus. This annual prayer service continues to grow every year.

Paul Sidari DD, PGK, PFN/ Faith Director



(L to R) Dave Breen, Tony Cotroneo, Margie Sidari, GK Bob Malnati, Paul Rigazio, Paul Sidari, Adam Rypinski, John Smith, Lou Soracco, Adam Whitehouse, Ed Ciampa, Tim Fitzgerald

Bishop Ruocco Council, 2024-2025 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Chair	Time & Place
October 2024			
2	Regional meeting of state officers	Paul Sidari	7 PM K of C hall in Tewksbury
5-6	M 'n M Charity drive, Blessed Trinity	James Barrows/ Ken Desilets	Oct 5 – St Catherine Oct 6 -8:30 AM, St. Anne, 10:30 AM St. Catherine Use online signup to volunteer
6	Host coffee and donuts Pumpkin painting	Matt Batos/ Jean Croteau	At St. Catherine's, Host coffee and donuts, Pumpkin painting after the 10:30 AM Mass
7	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
12	Statue Procession Rosary	Paul Sidari	12:15 pm, St. Mary Church Refreshments after in Church Hall
12-13	M 'n M Charity drive, St. Mary	James Barrows	Oct 12 – St Mary, 4 PM Oct 13 – St. Mary, 11:30, 7 PM
13	Delta membership drive	Gene Bartos	St. Mary's before and after 11:00 AM Mass
14	In memory of Tom Callery, continue to collect clothing for homeless and give to local agency	Charlie DeStefano	Socks, underwear (boxers, not briefs), hoodie sweatshirts, sweat pants, and long-sleeve shirts – in sizes Large/ XL/ XXL. Handwarmer packets.
14	Members Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm Council meeting
17	Pregnancy Care Center Annual Banquet	James Barrows	Doubletree by Hilton hotel, River Rd., Andover
17-19	Tootsie Roll drive at supermarkets	James Barrows	Market Basket, Chelmsford and Westford stores (Oct. 18 & 19); Donelan's, Littleton (Oct 17, 18, 19), volunteers sign up online
19-20	Membership drive	Gene Bartos	Oct 19 - St Catherine, 4 PM Oct 20 - St. Anne, 8:30 AM Oct 20 – St. Catherine, 10:30 AM
21	Fundraiser at Bertucci's, 15% of check for local council	Paul Rigazio	Bertucci's, Littleton Rd., Chelmsford Center, 11 AM to 9 PM
19	State Charity Ball	Paul Sidari	6:00 pm Dinner, present TRD check
24	COR meeting	Paul Sidari	7:00 PM at Paul Center
November 2024			
9-10	Keep Christ in Christmas - Christmas Card Sales	James Barrows	Christmas cards sales Nov. 9-10 at St Mary's, St John's and St Margaret. Nov. 16/17 at St Anne and St Catherine
4	Planning Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm @ Paul Center
11	Members Meeting	Bob Malnati	7:00 pm Council meeting
	Coats for Kids	Bob Chevalier	Donate winter coats to ones in need
16-17	Diaper drive/ formula drive <i>Larger sizes of diapers (4,5,6) are most needed.</i>	James Barrows	Holy Rood churches, Nov. 16/17 Blessed Trinity churches Nov. 24-25 <i>Similac formula is preferred over other brands</i>