



St. Luke the Evangelist Council #12455 Raleigh

Building Community — John Puhak

Catholic Essay Contest

The Council recently concluded its second Catholic Essay Contest for students from grades 8 through 12. The winners are: From St. Luke's: *William Buzitsky, Noah Fields, Jessica Pracht, and Eyerusalem S David*, and from St. Shabel: *Danielle Najm*. Each winner received an Award Certificate, and check for \$100.

Thanks to the support of Parish Faith Formation Program Director, Rebecca Dobner (Brother Ed's daughter).

Habitat For Humanity

Brothers volunteered at the spring Habitat build in Cary on March 25. Council also donated \$1,000 to the project.

Coats for Kids

Last fall we donated \$1,386 to purchase about 75 coats

for kids for CPO distribution to needy families.

Brothers and spouses volunteer at Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO). See article on CPO Volunteer options. p6.

Our parish food drive for CPO will take place the last weekend of April.

Disaster Preparedness

Our initial effort will start small and be in the parish. Brother Bob Morrow is developing a Knights Directory, that will identify resources available, and our committee is exploring possible disaster response parish level training programs. Initially this may be conducted by the fire department, police, skilled Brother Knights, etc.

Leave No Neighbor Behind

The focus is to help others in need: homebound, handicapped, lonely, in need of physical support or transportation — particularly in pandemic times. Brothers are encouraged to reach out and help persons in need and then to find ways to arrange support they need.

The concept includes parishes and the community; provides for feeding the hungry; and specifically asks councils to sponsor or participate in a parish blood drive, scheduled in May. See p.8.

Several existing Council activities already meet the requirements of this program. See the following sections that update existing effort to provide services and help to Brothers and others in need. See p. 5

Mark the Dates

Council Meetings Wednesday, 7:30 PM, April 6 and May 4, Premeeting receptions start at 6:45 PM.

Ignited by Truth. Saturday, April 9.

Diocesan Charism Mass. Tuesday, April 12.

Easter Sunday. April 17.

Council Pancake Breakfast. Sunday, April 23. Serving starts at 9:30 AM.

Mother's Day. May 8.

K of C Parish Dinner. Saturday, May 21, at St. Luke's.

Blood Drive in May. TBA

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Links	
Council	www.kofc12455.com
State	www.kofcnc.org
Supreme	www.kofc.org
Raleigh Diocese	www.dioceseofraleigh.org/
CVNC	www.catholicvoicenc.org
Bishops	www.usccb.org
Vatican	www.vatican.va

Essay Winners and Coats for Kids



December 2021 Council Activities

On Saturday December 4, Brothers and parishioners did our quarterly highway cleanup on Six Forks. Thanks to Dave Abell for coordinating this important community service. Brothers: Bob Morrow, Tom Phan, Tim Nichols, Jason Reznick, Chris Taurence, and Manfred Stenke helped collect and remove side highway debris.

We held our annual Council Christmas Party on Saturday December 11 in the parish hall. About 25 Knights and families attended, totaling about 60. We enjoyed delicious main entries, side dishes and desserts prepared and served by the families attending. Christmas carols were sung with joyful audience participation.

We continued our traditional “Keep Christ in Christmas

initiatives. Chris Mitta and team set up and in January took down the Diocesan Christmas creche. Thank you Brothers: Abell, Cuffney, O’Brien, Reznick and Stenke — the team.

Tim Nichols found and posted our K of C Christmas Banner (missing for three years) at the church entrance.

Finally Keith Kosinski coordinated our display and sale of **Keep Christ in Christmas** cards and outdoor display nativity scenes, assembled and build by Brothers at Bob Beasley's direction.

Thanks to all the Brothers who contributed time and effort to these Christmas holiday efforts.



Life Program

Brother Jerome Savage, Council Life Director and Lector, leads our pro life efforts. The crowd at the Raleigh downtown March on January 15 was sparse due to Pandemic and weather concerns. Weather issues also led to cancelling bus transportation for the January 21st DC March for Life. On the other hand EWTN-TV covered the march, attended by families, students and pro lifers from throughout the US. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GyxXIYScw0g>

Speeches were strong and impressive, many emphasizing anticipation of the upcoming Supreme Court decisions. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly was interviewed as he walked the procession, and DC area Knights helped the marchers in orderly procession.

Many of us wish that we could have been there; the weather was cold but sunny.

Thank to Brother Rick Beebe for spearheading the January parish-wide **Novena for Life**. This nine day prayer exercise is a parish priority, particularly for Knights and their families.

The **Holy Hour for Life** liturgy took place on Friday January 24 at St. Luke's. This is a parish activity and Knights and families participated in the prayerful exercises for life and protection of the unborn.

Again this year, Council 12455 will donate \$2K to **Special Olympics** from our Operation Lamb collections.

February 20th Pancake Breakfast

We were delighted with parishioner turn out at Sunday February 20th pancake breakfast — a full house, 20 tables of eight, an estimated 130 breakfasts served. Council donated \$350 — the proceeds to the K of C Christian Refugee Relief Fund, to provide humanitarian assistance, primarily in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region. These people are facing

genocide and fleeing their homes. For more information on this see: <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/life/christian-refugee-relief.html>

Council Raffle and Membership is Growing

February and March were banner months for selling State K of C raffle tickets. The drawing for seven cash prizes totaling \$11K takes place on May 14. In recent years, St. Luke's parishioners have won prizes in the statewide drawing. Brother John Puhak, heading this year's raffle, reports that over 510 tickets sold, with about 90 still outstanding. Questions — text/call John at 509-551-3435 or jnp48@icloud.com.

Thanks also to Bob Beasley for taking tickets to St. Sharbel where they were purchases. Brothers, If you still have tickets either sell them or buy them — turn them in by April 1.

As you may know, one half the ticket proceeds come back support our Council parish, seminarian and charitable projects and donations. The raffle also funds state/regional K of C activities and charities.

We appreciate Monsignor Ingham's encouragement

of our programs and activities supporting the parish community. Thanks to all the Brothers who sold tickets and staffed raffle sales tables after masses, during the Sunday February 20th Pancake Breakfast, and during membership recruitment after masses during February's last two weekends.

Membership Director Rick Beebe thanks Brothers: Aremia, Benigno, Haag, Jacobs, Kimble, Morrow, Nichols, Phan, Reznick, VanNett, and Wright for help in the membership drive.

Our membership is growing. During fall/winter 2021, 11 new Brother Knights were inducted, as well as several Brothers transferring from other councils. We will be doing a new member Exemplification in the near future. We have several new e-Brothers to advance in degree and candidates to become Knights at that Exemplification.

Knights in Action



Legend

Top Left: Serving Pancakes

Top Middle: Selling Raffle Tickets

Top Right: Knight Riders with Eileen

Mid-Left: Raffle Tickets Sales

Mid-Middle: St. Luke helps us sell tickets

Mid-Right: Pancake Breakfast Admission

Bot-Left: Brothers/ Business Meeting

Bot-Middle: Membership Dir, Msgr. & GK

Bot-Right: Brothers/ Business Meeting

Leave No Neighbor Behind (LNNB) — Jim Haag

It's easy to lose track of Brother Knights, particularly during the last two years of Pandemic. Perusing the membership list reveals that a good many Knights haven't been seen around for months. Have they moved away? Are they in a restricted living environment? Perhaps they are no longer interested or able to join in our Council activities.

What is Knighthood all about, if we lose track of these Brothers and don't follow-up to find out if perhaps unfortunate situations are preventing their participation in our fellowship?

Let's try to be in touch with absent Knights and those hampered by sickness or incapacity to participate in our Council. We know that some of our senior Brothers are isolated and probably would like to have fellowship but may not be able to get out. Have we left those "neighbors" behind?

The Community Program's "Leave No Neighbor Behind" component, discussed on page 1, requests that you notify us if you know of a Brother or other parishioner in need of

support or encouragement. Let me know!

Meanwhile, continue to pray for, and, if possible, visit Sir Knight Peter Krahenbuehl, our former Council FS, who now resides at Durham Nursing and Rehabilitation, 411 LaSalle St. in Durham. He greatly appreciates it when Brothers and friends visit him at the facility or call him. (919-368-7145)

Parishioner Eileen Di Lauro and others have been transported by our Knight Riders (coordinated by Tom Lindsey). Brothers and spouses bring her to and from Sunday masses. She is now in hospital and needs our prayers.

Sir Knight Bill Donnelly is physically rehabbing at nearby Healthtrax and he appreciates help Brothers provide in his rehab routine.

Probably several other Brothers could use some assistance that a fellow Knight might provide!

Our goal is to identify and inform membership about these needs. JJMTHAAG@Bellsouth.net (919-995-1057)

Silver Rose

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners, and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The Silver Rose will be in North Carolina from May 1st until May 28th, passing through North Carolina from Tennessee to South Carolina.

See: Silver Rose at St. Matthew in Durham on May 11th and at Holy Infant in Durham on May 24th.

Keep Brothers and Families in Prayer

Knights and families of our Council continue to experience challenges with health and other issues.

Please keep these Brothers and their families in prayer: Bob Beasley, John Brien, Joan Davis (mother of Tracy Knudson), Eileen Di Lauro (Knight Rider passenger), Bill Donnelly, Jo

Del Donno, (widow of Nick), Rodger Ewbank, Luis Garcia, Lynn Loebach, Peter Kraehenbuehl, Matt Petrovick, Al Przytulski, Annick Rothengast, Steve and Mary Lou Sedlak, Jack Sobczak, and Bill Wolf.

St. Raphael, Angel of Healing

May the Archangel Raphael, physician in care of our health, come down from heaven to cure all who are sick and to solve the difficult problems of life . . . Be with us, O Archangel, called the Medicine of God, drive away diseases of the body and bring good health to our minds.

From the proper hymns in the Divine Office. Feast of St. Raphael

St. Gregory calls Raphael "the Medicine of God." . . . Heavenly Physician, Angelic Healer, God's

Remedy. "I am the Angel Raphael, one of the seven who stand before the throne of God." (From Book of Tobias). Holy Scripture gives the names of only three of the seven archangels: Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael (God has Healed). God gave Raphael a mandate to cure the body, mental and spiritual afflictions of men.

Council Receives State Operation Lamb Award

State Warden, Joe McCarthy, presents the 2020/21 Op Lamb award to our Worthy Grand Knight, Craig O'Brien. Our Council was recognized as the top Op Lamb program in the state last year, raising \$6,576.00 to benefit those with intellectual disabilities. The money raised stays within our community and a donation of \$2,000 was made to Special Olympics of Wake County. Special thanks to our Op Lamb Director, Jim Hill, for organizing

our mail campaign last year to raise the funds for Op Lamb. The pandemic presented challenges over the past couple of years to raise funds in the traditional methods we've used, and credit to Jim for working to overcome those challenges and executing a great program. We also want to thank the parishioners of St. Luke for their generosity in supporting our Op Lamb program.



St. Luke's Needs Help

At our Council meeting, March 9, Brother Michael Struble, St. Luke's Facility Manager, requested the voluntary assistance and help of Brothers in property rehabilitation projects and upgrades including:

1. Clean-up the BBQ pit area: This project includes the tear down and removal of the BBQ pits areas at the rear of the parking lot. This project will include demolition and removal of cinder blocks, grating, wood, etc.. This project is slated for late Saturday in late May/early June.

2. Renovate grotto area: This project includes the woodwork repair of grotto walkover, benches, station/rosary poles, and crucifix roof. This project will take several months to complete most likely over the summer. A project lead is needed and several Knights to complete the work.

3. Painting parish hall wells and railings: This project includes painting the parish hall wells and railing along the side of the parish hall building. Brothers are asked to help to prep walls and railings (e.g., power washing, scraping) for painting as well as the needed painting. This project is slated for July/August.

4. Fixing/upgrading the rectory: The rectory is in need of some repairs and upgrades including wood flooring in the living room, some drywall repair, caulking/painting, tiling, etc. Knights with any of these skills and interest in doing this work will need to be scheduled with Monsignor.

5. Open field upgrades: This project includes planning and implementing uses for the open field (to the left of the church entrance). Proposed uses include a playground area, relocating/upgrading the volleyball court, covered pavilion/grilling/picnic area. A project lead is needed for this project.

Volunteering at CPO — Rick Beebe

My wife Joan and I are interviewers every week and we take information from the clients (public) as they arrive at CPO. We document their family information, income and other information to determine the amount of food to be distributed.

Ken and Gail Lowe also volunteer at CPO weekly and Ken works directing all of the traffic and parking lot setup. Gail works at collecting food into the amounts needed per family.

Joan Beebe also assists with food collection and delivery setup for the clients. It is a tight knit group of people who collect together and pray before serving the public.

We recognize that addressing hunger requires a community response. Therefore, Catholic Charities leverages the support of community partners to provide over 3 million pounds of food to families in need each year. Catholic Charities Food Pantry Services are dedicated to providing healthy meals, increasing access to food, and developing innovative solutions to address food insecurity in a collaborative way.

On each visit, families receive a week's worth of groceries, helping to fill the gap that families experience once their resources have been exhausted and before they receive their next paycheck. Once their immediate need for food is addressed, Catholic Charities staff and volunteers may connect families to other critical services that aim to remove barriers to self-sufficiency, increasing access to opportunities and creating hope for a better future. With dignity and respect at the forefront of all interactions, families are offered a hand up during their most challenging times.

There is plenty of opportunity to volunteer. Just go to the CPO website and contact Darcy Hull <https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/cpo>

This is a great ministry for Knights and their spouses to do a needed service .

Families of Months *

December FOM — John and Sibyl Kupec

Congratulations to John and Sybil for being recognized as our December family of the month. John is a long-time Brother, and he is currently a part of our Exemplification team. Both John and Sybil serve at mass and are faithful parishioners of St. Luke.

January FOM — Mike and Doreen Struble

Mike is a brother Knight, a Journeyman, and is the parish facilities manager. If you've noticed improvements to our church facilities and grounds, then make sure you tell Mike 'great job' next time you see him. We want to recognize Mike and his wife, Doreen, because they are very active parishioners at St. Luke. They serve as ministers of hospitality and are active in Legion of Mary. Doreen is also the wedding coordinator for the parish. Congratulations to Mike and Doreen for being our January family of the month.



February FOM — David and Cheryl Sofra

David, is a Brother Knight and former Recorder for the Council. He leads the altar server ministry at St. Luke, and he is also a cantor. His wife Cheryl mends altar server garments and vestments,

and with COVID, she put her sewing skills to use to make masks for people. Both are very active in family Rosary, and we're pleased to recognize David and Cheryl as our February family of the month.

March FOM — Aoun Family

Danny and Rami are members of the Council from St. Sharbel. Both have been very faithful in attending the liturgy on Sundays and holidays with their family. Danny and Rami have been involved since they were in St. Sharbel choir and serving at the altar and helping fundraising events. Their faith continues today through participation in any need of hospitality and generosity welcoming the newcomers to the parish, whether they are moving from within the US or from Lebanon. They also provide their equipment to help with the church ground and maintenance as well as most recently bringing their food truck to cook during Lent on Fridays Fish Fry. To quote a fellow parishioner: 'The Aoun family extends their energy throughout the community immeasurably.' Congratulations to Danny, Rami and their family for being our March family of the month.



Knights of Months*

December KOM — Jim Samborky

Jim is a cantor and sings with the St. Luke choir. He was also a member of our Singing Knights at parish picnic and Knights Christmas party. He has been present at many of our events over the past few months, and we want to recognize him for his contribution to our Council. Jim is still a fairly new Brother, who joined prior to the pandemic, but he has been involved since we have been able to actively execute our programs, and we want to recognize his faithful service to the Council.

January FOM — Jason Resnick

Jason is a new Knight who joined in November of last year, and he has jumped in right away to become active and involved with the Council. You could have possibly seen him at the highway clean-up, pancake breakfast and set up of the Creche at the Diocese. We're happy to recognize Jason his contribution to our programs and Council.



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February KOM — Michael Tolocka

Michael is also a new Knight who has jumped in and helped serve on several of our programs. He and his family are very active in the parish and faithful members of St. Luke. His contribution doesn't go unnoticed, and he most recently took over as our Director of Faith Programs We'd like to congratulate Michael for being our February Knight of the month.



March KOM — John Puhak

Many of you know John, and if not, you should by now. He's been sending and collecting your State Raffle Tickets. John jumped in to assist and lead the State Raffle after Brother Bob Bagin organized it for the past 3 years. We are blessed to have John as a member of our Council. He brings a wealth of experience as a Knight to our Council when he transferred in a couple of years ago. He now leads our Community Program, and is active in every event we host where he is available. For KOM of March, it was an easy decision for our officers, and we'd like to congratulate John and thank him for his service and leadership.

* Available Pictures Included



From the Grand Knight

Brothers, I hope you and your families are healthy and doing well. As we are in the middle of the Lenten season, let's continue to use this time to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. Keep in mind the messages Msgr. Ingham has shared with us at recent meetings about the importance of our prayer life. Find time in your daily life to pray and keep in mind prayers for the unborn, the people of Ukraine and those in our community that need His grace and love.

Thank you for everything you have done over the past quarter. We've had a successful membership drive, sold State Raffle Tickets, held a pancake breakfast, participated in the Raleigh Walk for Life, led the Consecration to the Holy Family, Highway clean-ups, set up and took down the Creche at the Diocese, hosted a Lenten soup supper, and most recently, a few Brothers participated in Habitat for Humanity build. This does not take into account all the individual things you have done to support our parish and our community. Our next quarter looks active with another pancake breakfast, a parish dinner, coffee and donuts, a blood drive, the State K of C Convention and election of new officers for the 2022/23 year.

I am thankful for the fraternity of Council 12455, and to call you Brother.

Vivat Jesus, Craig

From Supreme—Columbian Award

Knights of Columbus Order wide are encouraged to serve and sacrifice for those around us. Many, including in our own councils and parishes, are isolated and alone. Food banks, blood centers, and other essential services have been depleted of their vital supplies. There are many people and places that require urgent help.

As we look to the coming months, the Knights of Columbus will be on the forefront of helping their communities.

The **Leave No Neighbor Behind** program has been temporarily added as the ninth Community Category option in the Faith in Action model. **Leave No Neighbor Behind** will count as a Featured Program towards the Columbian Award.

Award – Complete an activity in all five service activity categories (listed below).

• **For one program credit toward the Columbian Award – Complete at least two of the five Service activities.**

Knights are encouraged to engage in five types of service activities:

- 1. Support Your Brother Knights**
 - 2. Support Your Parish**
 - 3. Support Your Community**
 - 4. Feed the Hungry**
 - 5. Participate in Blood Drive**
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