



The Knight Times

ASCENSION COUNCIL 11139 — DECEMBER 2025

WWW.ASCENSIONKOFK.ORG

CALENDAR

January 27
Council Meeting

February 14
Felice Cuores

February 15
Blood Drive
Valentine Breakfast

February 24
Council Meeting

March 7
St. Patrick's Celebration

March 14
Derby Night
Felice Cuores

March 24
Council Meeting

March 29
Sunday with the Easter Bunny

April 11
Felice Cuores

Dates are subject to change,
and more events will be added.

[Always check our
online calendar to confirm.](#)



PASSING THE CHECKS ... Members of the Knights recently presented a contribution of \$2,500 each to Lafayette Industries and Emmaus Home from our October Tootsie Roll Drive for those with developmental disabilities. We especially thank those who helped with this major charitable fundraising campaign. The Emmaus Homes amount was matched by an anonymous Knight.



Have You Paid Your Dues?

Have you paid your 2026 Council dues? If you have not yet paid, please do so as soon as possible. You must have a 2026 membership card to attend Council meetings. Dues are \$30, and there is an optional contribution asked of \$7.50 for the Knights' Religious Information Bureau. There are two ways to pay:

- By check, payable to Ascension Council 11139
Mail to: David Copeland, Financial Secretary, 22 Marsally Drive, St. Louis, MO 63131
- Or by PayPal at this link:
www.paypal.me/ASCENSION11139

Sunday with Santa

Sunday with Santa was held December 14, and you can see [the pictures from the event at this link](#). Around 137 children visited Santa, and families enjoyed donuts, drinks, and photos with Santa. Each child who visited Santa also received a free toy, a bag of candy, and a coloring book. Live music was provided by Maggie O'Shaughnessey, her dad, and her children. Parents whom we talked to were very appreciative of the Knights putting on this event. A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers, including the Ladies Auxiliary.

Felices Cuores Update

The December dance had 168 paid guests and 34 volunteers, including six from Ascension. Santa was the main attraction, and this was a great turnout. The January dance had 146 paid guests and 30 volunteers, six of whom were from Ascension. The next dance is February 14 at St. Clare of Assisi school cafeteria. If you would like to learn more about this very special event and are thinking of volunteering, please talk to Dave Zink.

St. Patrick's Celebration

The annual St Patrick's Celebration and Dinner will be Saturday, March 7, in the Ascension MPR. Doors open at 6 p.m., and a dinner buffet will be served by Russo's Catering at 6:45. Keltic Reign and Clarkson School of Irish Dance will be performing. See the flyer in this newsletter for more details.

Sunday with the Easter Bunny

Sunday with the Easter Bunny will be from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29 in the MPR. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Dave Zink at (314) 724-2729 or zink5@sbcglobal.net if you would like to volunteer.

Football Pool Winners

Congratulations to our squad of Monday Night Football pool winners. Thank you for your support of Ascension's schools! The next winners will be determined after the AFC/NFC championship games on January 25.

Dec. 29: Brian Fenili, Dan Hagenhoff
Dec. 22: Sarah Chitwood, Mandy Roach
Dec. 15: Joe Humbrecht, Jeff Grotegeers
Dec. 8: Kevin Gallen, Tim Walsh
Dec. 1: James DeMarco, Rich Engelman
Nov. 24: Gloria Lamoureux, Tina Fenili
Nov. 17: Bill Meirink, Virginia Fenili
Nov. 10: Zack Muzik, Dave Engleman
Nov. 3: James Frain, Tina Fenili
Oct. 27: Joe Humbrecht, Jeff Grotegeers
Oct. 20: Gene Tornow, Ed Thoman
Oct. 13: Jan Lukas, Brian Kibsey
Oct. 6: Bill Burkhardt, Mike Conway
Sept. 29: Bob Blankenmeyer, Scott Borman
Sept. 22: Bob Newman, Clay Richie
Sept. 15: Sam Muzik, Bill Klein
Sept. 8: Mike Hagenhoff

RSVP Recipients Thank Knights

Last year, our Council provided \$500 contributions to five young people who are actively developing their vocations to the priesthood and religious life, via the Refund Support Vocations Program. This includes Sr. Allison Zink of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sr. Mariana Joy Ackerman of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus, Sr. Gianna Casino, LIHM, and Br. Br. Thomas Maria Johns, who is studying with the Dominicans, who each sent us a thank-you letter and update included in this newsletter. We also received a thank-you from fr. Enoch McCann, preparing for the priesthood with the Norbertines in California.



Parishioners: Plan on Attending!

AN EVENING OF IRISH FUN

St. Patrick's Dinner & Celebration

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7
IN THE ASCENSION MPR**

Doors Open at 6 p.m.

Buffet Dinner Served at 6:45 p.m.

LIVE IRISH ENTERTAINMENT!

**Musical entertainment provided by Mitzi
MacDonald and Keltic Reign, Clarkson
School of Irish Dance, and more!**

Special guest: St Patrick

**\$40 per-person includes
open bar (beer, wine, soda,
water) & delicious corned
beef dinner buffet
by Russo's Catering.
Dessert included
with coffee or iced tea.**

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Please make your reservation by FEBRUARY 20. Must be 21 or older to attend.

GROUP TABLES of 8 (can hold 10) are available. Please provide the group contact along with the names of table attendees. Tables of 8 will be assigned unless you have a specific party or parties you would like to be seated with. Please provide that information.

**Contact LaVerne Thoman for reservations, at 314-578-1500 or email at
Laverne.Thoman@cbgundaker.com**

PAYMENTS must be received by FEBRUARY 27 to hold your reservation.

**Make checks payable to Knights of Columbus #11139 and mail to:
Steve Price, 208 Woodcliffe Place Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005**

Please, no payments at the door.

**SPONSORED BY ASCENSION KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS AND LADIES AUXILIARY**



Dear Knights of Columbus,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I pray each of you and your families had a blessed Christmas season and that this new year will be filled with peace and joy. I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for your generous support of my formation, and to send a little update. I am in my second year of the International Juniorate as an Apostle of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. For this part of my formation, I have been living in Rome with other junior (that is, temporary-professed) sisters from my Congregation. Altogether, we are 12, and we are from the US, Haiti, Brazil, Mozambique, and Benin. It has been a really special time to get to know my sisters from around the world and to learn Italian, the common language of our Congregation.

This past year has been particularly special for us as we were fortunate enough to be living in the Eternal City for the Jubilee Year of Hope, the death of Pope Francis, a papal conclave, and the election of not just any pope, but the first pope from the United States! I was blessed to be present in St. Peter's square to see the white smoke and witness Pope Leo's first address to his Church.

Other special happenings of my year included: going home to be at my sister's wedding, passing my first year of theology classes at the Pontifical Lateran University, spending 3 weeks on mission in Ireland, being present at the canonization of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, renewing my vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience for the 3rd time, and most recently, going on pilgrimage around Italy to visit places that are important to the history of our Congregation and our foundress, Blessed Clelia Merloni.

God is so generous in His providence. I don't think I will ever fully understand why He wanted me to witness all of these amazing events, but one thing I am sure of: He would not have been able to bless me with any of these experiences if I had not said "yes" to Him. His ways are not our ways – they are infinitely better. Whatever God may be asking, no matter how small, our response matters. He wants so much to lavish good things on us if we only let Him have His way in everything – big or small!

These are memories I will treasure for a lifetime, and I am eager to see what God has in store for me in my second and final year in Rome. My formation and our mission as Apostles would not be possible without generous benefactors like yourselves, but most of all I count on your prayers. They truly sustain me and my vocation. Please know of my prayers for all of you, your families, and your intentions.

In Christ,
Sr. Allison Zink, ASCJ

DMJT

Dear Ken and Ascension Knights of Columbus,
Praised be Jesus Christ!

7/8/2025

Thank you so much for your continued support, generosity and prayers - it is always humbling to receive your letter and stipend each year. Please know of my deep gratitude for each of you.

By the Lord's Grace, I just renewed my vows for another year on July 1st! We had a beautiful retreat for a week leading up to vow renewals/professions.

I ask for your prayers as I prepare, God-willing, to go to our Motherhouse in the Netherlands for a year to prepare for Perpetual Vows in 2027. I will be going from July 2026 - June 2027. I am excited to go on this new adventure with the Lord!

Please know of my prayers for you and all your work at Ascension. God bless you!

United in the Heart of Jesus,
Sr. Mariana Joy, Carmel DCT


Dear Mr. Colombini,

July 2025

Thank you for reaching out to me at a difficult time, having lost both my parents recently.

Thank you for being a gift to the Church and your work in the Lord's harvest for more vocations!

I'm so touched by this wonderful ^{parish} ~~pastor~~ and your unceasing generosity.

In Him,
 Fr. Diana Casimiro,
JPM

Thank You

Dear Ascension Knights of Columbus,

Thank you once again for your prayers & generous financial support! The money that you sent will help cover the costs of our formation & will be used to purchase food, books, clothes, etc. for our Dominican brothers in formation.

Formation is going well, thanks be to God! Day by day I am continuing to grow into my identity in Christ. I just finished my 3rd year of Dominican formation & have five more years to go. One highlight of this past year was serving at MSK, a cancer hospital in NYC. I supported the patients there in whatever way I could by speaking & listening to them, praying with them, & arranging for them to receive the sacraments or supplying them myself when possible. It was tough, but grace filled work. I know that God touched many souls through my ministry at the hospital! This next year I will be on pastoral year at St. Dominic's in Benicia, CA.

Please continue to pray for me & know of our prayers for you.

God Bless,

Fr. Thomas Maria Johns, O.P.