

# Council of Palms #6673

*We are a Catholic family who loves, grows, and lives in faith through Jesus Christ*

[www.htknights.org](http://www.htknights.org)

*"A Knight is someone who steps into the breach with actions that exemplify charity, unity, fraternity, and the hope that comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ, our King."*

SUPREME KNIGHT PATRICK KELLY

**Council 6673 Earned Fraternal Year 2022-2023  
Star Council Award!**

## Knights in Action

### What happened in August and September 2023? -

**Football Ticket Raffle Sale** – Once again this year, under the leadership of Brother Mike Crosthwait, we had an extraordinarily successful football raffle sale. The following is a summary of our football raffle sales. Council 6673 at Holy Trinity sold 1179 tickets raising \$24,200. Our share of the costs this year was \$5,600. Total Proceeds were \$18,600! From that number, we payout to our partners: Daughters of Isabella - \$690; St John 4th Degree - \$975; Duchesne 4th Degree - \$355. We donated \$10,000 to the Sister Servants of Mary in Kansas City, KS. That leaves \$6,580 for the Council's yearly giving. Those gifts are \$3,000 for the High School Scholarship, \$2,500 for the Refund Support Vocation Program (RSVP) supporting five seminarians; and \$500 for the HT School Library. That leaves \$580 for various other Council uses.

The individual Councils and their numbers are:

Ascension	1097 tickets	\$23,000
Holy Spirit	759 tickets	\$15,450

Nativity	1522 tickets	\$31,050
St Michael	728 tickets	\$14,700
Holy Trinity	1179 tickets	\$24,100
Total	5285 tickets	\$108,300

**Council Receives A Thank You Note** – Our Council received a thank you note from the Servants of Mary, Ministers to the Sick which read as follows: “Please accept my personal gratitude and the appreciation of the Sister Servants of Mary for your generous donation to assist in the work we do with the sick and the dying. We are so grateful to you for choosing our community to be the recipients of your Football Raffle Fundraiser this year. With your four core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism you show our society the Christian values of love towards others.

We can see the great efforts you did to raise the funds. We know that at least 96 of your Knights bought or sold a total of 1,141 tickets to support our work as Ministers to the Sick. Your kindness and generosity through a donation of \$10,000.00 is greatly appreciated and will be applied in our healing ministry of caring for the sick of soul and body...” Signed, Sister Ema Munos, S. de M., Mother Superior.

**August and September 2023 Food Drive Results** – Our monthly food drives were held before and after all the Masses on August 19th and 20<sup>th</sup> and September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. These drives resulted in the Knights collecting a combined total of **5,027 pounds** of food and **\$4,789 in cash donations** for Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas.

**Knights Help with Youth Rummage Sale** – Again this year, the Knights helped prepare for the rummage sale by laying carpet pads on the gym floor and setting tables. The Knights also helped with the cleanup after the event.

**Devine Wine Tasting Event** – On August 12, 2023, Holy Trinity hosted its annual Devine Wine Tasting event in the Quigley Center. Again, this year, several Knights participated in the event by serving hors d'oeuvres and wine to our guests.

**Reception for Sr. Kenosis** - On Saturday, August 19, 2023, Sr. Kenosis, a young lady from Holy Trinity Parish, took her final vows at a mass celebrated by Archbishop Naumann. At the request of the Servants of the Lord, our council provided a catered meal in Quigley for approximately one hundred guests immediately following the ceremony.

The Daughters of Isabella handled the setup of the ballroom, served the meal, and cleaned up after the event.

**Knights' Quarterly Mass** – Our Knights Quarterly Mass was held at 8:00 a.m., on Saturday, September 16, 2023. This Mass was immediately followed by a Rosary and a Knights Exemplification Ceremony during which six new members joined our council.

**Refund Support Vocation Program** – Through this program, our council provides funds to support seminarians in formation in their areas. For fraternal years 2023-2024, our council has voted to support the following seminarians with a donation of \$500 each:

- Trey Niesen, Configuration Stage, Kenrick-Glennon (Holy Trinity)
- Andrew Buyle, Discipleship Stage, St. John Vianney (Holy Trinity)
- Jackson Poznich, Propaedeutic Stage, Kerrick-Glennon (Devine Mercy in Gardner)
- Dcn. Aaron Waldeck, Vocation Synthesis Stage, Kenrick-Glennon (Sacred Heart-Shawnee)
- John Donart, Configuration Stage, Kenrick-Glennon (Sacred Heart-Shawnee)

**Membership Drive Update** – Our council's membership drive was held on August 19-20, 2023. Our membership quota for the year is 15. Since the start of this fraternal year, we have added nine new members, so we sit at 60% of the quota. We have another six who have signed up and are pending exemplifications (either online or in person). Another six are considering joining. We also added four fourth-degree transfers to our assembly. Thanks to everyone who helped in making this a successful event.

**Coats for Kids** – The Knights Supreme Council has agreed with the Kansas State Knights Council this year to match our Coats for Kids purchase one for one. In anticipation of this approval, our council placed an order for eight cases in early September at the District Meeting in Leawood. That is sixteen cases we will be able to distribute. Last year our council purchased and distributed 13 cases of children's coats to the Don Bosco/Literacy KC organization in Kansas City in support of their refugee program. Catholic Charities will manage this year's coat distribution and coats will be distributed the week before Thanksgiving at four locations in our area at the Family Support Centers in Overland Park, Olathe, Leavenworth, and Wyandotte County. Our Grand Knight is also working with

Catholic Charities and St. Vincent DePaul to ensure that we also provide coats to All Saints Parish and St. Mary's Parish in Kansas City, Kansas. We are also planning to provide coats to Don Bosco/Literacy KS this year. Adult coats collected during our annual coat drive this year will go to Operation Uplift.

**Blue Santa** – Blue Santa is a charitable initiative by the Lenexa Police Department intended to provide select underprivileged students from Lenexa schools with the financial means to purchase holiday gifts for their families. Lenexa school resource officers will work together with the nine Lenexa elementary schools to select students to participate. In total, nine students in either 5th or 6th grade will be selected.

The Grand Knight and our Community Director visited with the representatives of the Lenexa Police Department to start preparation for this year's Blue Santa event which will be held on December 7, 2023, in the Quigley Center. We will follow the same format that we used last year and will seek the help of the Daughters of Isabella, Trinity Threaders, and others to help with wrapping presents, food preparations, and games. More information on this event will be shared during upcoming council meetings.

**Wreaths Across America** – The National Wreaths Across America's mission is to Remember, Honor, and Teach. This mission is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 4,000+ locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad. Wreaths Across America believes the tradition represents a living memorial that honors veterans, active-duty military, and their families. Every year since 2008, Congress proclaims a Saturday in December as National Wreaths Across America Day. **This year's Wreaths Across America Day will take place on December 16, 2023.** On that day, more than two million Veterans' Wreaths will be placed at local, national, and military cemeteries as well as Veterans' Memorials and historic sites.

This year our Council and the St. John's Assembly have combined our efforts to participate in the National Wreaths Across America Day event on December 16, 2023, at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery in Lenexa. If you are interested in sponsoring a wreath at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery this year, please visit the website at <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/176579/Overview/?relatedId=0> or use the following QR Code:



**Bunk Bed Build Cancelled** - Unfortunately, due to a variety of logistical issues, we will be unable to hold a Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bunk Bed Build in September this year as originally planned. We will try again in early spring to schedule another bunk bed build in early April/May 2024.

**Fraternal Benefits Night** - A Fraternal Benefits Night presentation was held on September 19, 2023. This presentation was titled, "Special Needs Planning Seminar." During this online seminar, the presenter talked about some of the challenges and solutions that families with special needs children should consider, discussed the planning process, and shared how the Knights of Columbus can help these families.

**Chancellor Position Filled** - During our September meeting, the council elected our former State Deputy, Sir Knight Dave Leiker, to serve as our Chancellor replacing Sir Knight John Smith.

### **2023 - MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Knights Host Donut Sunday</b>
<b>Oct 5</b>	<b>Knights assist with gym setup for Harvest Gala</b>
<b>Oct 7</b>	<b>Harvest Gala</b>
<b>Oct 8</b>	<b>Knights assist with cleanup after the Harvest Gala – 1:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct 10</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Oct 13, 14, 15</b>	<b>Annual Knights' Tootsie Roll Drive</b>
<b>Oct 14-15</b>	<b>Coat Drive</b>
<b>Oct 14-15</b>	<b>Monthly Food Drive</b>
<b>Oct 21</b>	<b>40 Days for Life</b>

Oct 24	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly Meeting
Oct 24	Fraternal Benefits Night (Webinar)
Oct 28-29	Knights Membership Drive
Oct 29	Knights Host Halloween Pancake Breakfast (Coats for Kids)
Nov 4-5	Monthly Food Drive
Nov 12	Veteran's Day Mass and Knights Breakfast
Nov 17-22	Knights Distribute Coats for Kids at various locations
Nov 18-19	Annual Knights Turkey Drive
Dec 2	Knights Christmas Party
Dec 2-3	Toy Drive
Dec 7	Blue Santa Event with the Lenexa Police Department
Dec 10	Breakfast With Santa
Dec 14	Don Bosco Christmas Shop – Coats for Kids
Dec 16	Wreaths Across America – Resurrection Catholic Cemetery
Dec 16-17	Food Drive

### [Our Knight of the Month for August 2023 - Brother Mike Huerter](#)

Mike has been a Knight since 2005 and has continually participated in various Knight-related activities and events. Some of these activities include participating in the bunk bed build, serving both as a parish celebration coordinator and volunteer, working with faith formation families and youth, assisting with parish campus maintenance, as a member of the snow removal team, and serving as an Extraordinary Eucharist Minister to only mention a few areas where he has continually helped the parish, school and our community. Additionally, he coordinates and schedules participants in the Knights Adoration Hour throughout the year.

The Knight of the Month Award is presented each month to a member whose contribution to the Church, council, school, and community has gone beyond the norm. Mike, this award is our council's way of saying, "Thank you for your efforts!"

### [Our Family of the Month for August 2023 - Sara and Jeff Bierbaum](#)

Jeff has been a Knight since 1991. For the past several years, Jeff has served as the volunteer ministry coordinator for the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. He has also served on the liturgical council, as a member of the Communio

Ministry Leadership Team, a participant in various Small Faith Groups, and continues as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Sara is also an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, a participant in various Small Faith Groups, and a member of the Communio Ministry Leadership team. Sara and Jeff also work with the Witness of Love Marriage Prep Program with engaged couples and mentor them in the program under the leadership of Deacon Steve and Marilyn.

Beyond their lists of involvement, Jeff and Sara Bierbaum are shining examples of Christ's love for others – an extraordinary, faith-filled couple. This award is our council's way of saying thanks for all you have done and continue to do for our council, our parish, and the community.

### [Our Knight of the Month for September 2023 - Brother Dennis Green](#)

Dennis has been actively involved in food collection and distribution for an impressive 22 years, starting his journey in January 2001. His dedication to this cause and his leadership have had a significant impact on the community's efforts to support those in need.

Initially, Dennis and his wife Pat began their involvement by volunteering to take the Sunday children's collection to Catholic Charities in Olathe in January 2005. Their commitment soon expanded to include taking the 5th Sunday children's collection to the Johnson County food pantry.

Dennis and his wife also played a pivotal role in transforming the 5th Sunday food drive into a parish-wide initiative, rallying more parishioners to participate by bringing in food.

Even in the face of challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Dennis and other Knights spearheaded the creation of a Saturday food drive drop-off and the establishment of monthly food drives. This adaptation allowed them to continue their vital work despite the difficulties posed by the pandemic.

Dennis's leadership, dedication, and ability to mobilize the community for a common cause have made a substantial impact on the food collection and distribution efforts in the region. His consistent involvement over two decades and the collective efforts of those he has inspired have made a significant difference in the lives of those in need. Dennis, thank you for all you have done and continue to do for those in need in our community.

**Our Family of the Month for September 2023 - Mary and Jim Wedeking**

Sir Knight Jim Wedeking has more than 49 years of continuous service as a member of the Knights of Columbus. He serves as a lector, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, helps with various Parish events, serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the Homebound, participates in the Communio Ministry, That Man is You, Alpha, Journey New Life in Christ Retreat, leads the Saturday morning Rosary and along with Pat Thomas leads the rosary before our Knights council meetings.

Mary is a member of the Legion of Mary and the Daughters of Isabella. She and John Bodensteiner coordinate Perpetual Adoration. She helps Sally with church accounting, and tirelessly helps volunteer with many different events around the parish, such as the parish celebration, spaghetti dinner, divine wine, and women's day of reflection; about everything that the Daughters help with, Mary is there.

Each month, our council selects a family whose contribution to the Church, Council, and Community has gone beyond the norm. This award is your council’s way of saying, “Thank You both for your contributions.

**Special Intentions** - Let us all pray for our Brother Knights who have fallen since the pandemic began and those who have contracted the disease. Finally, let us pray for those contracting other diseases while this pandemic continues.

**Fraternal Year 2023-2024 Knights of Columbus Council #6673**  
**Officers and Directors**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Officer/Director</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Grand Knight	J.D. Call	(913) 961-1450
Deputy Grand Knight	Jeff Adams	(913) 638-8025
Chaplain	Fr. Keith Chadwick	(913) 888-2770
Financial Secretary	Steve Jackson	(913) 788-0867
Treasurer	Roger Lawrence	(913) 894-5524
Chancellor	Dave Leiker	(913) 957-9262
Recorder	Pat Thomas	(913) 288-3252
Advocate	Calvin Todd	(913) 207-3794
Warden	Chris Cecil	(783) 371-6150
Inside Guard	Don Goertzen	(913) 894-6519



Outside Guard	Joe Crostarosa	(913) 492-4934
Trustee 1st Year	Ken Kleekamp	(913) 748-6321
Trustee 2nd Year	Mike Crosthwait	(913) 645-5203
Trustee 3rd Year	Kim Bienhoff	(913) 302-5677
Membership Director	Doug Feist	(913) 768-1755
Program Director	John Lorg	(913) 257-8133
Vocations Director	Mike Huerter	(913) 599-5974
Faith Director	Mike Stompoly	(913) 302-2909
Community Director	Ken Kleekamp	(913) 748-6321
Life Director	Jeff Slaven	(913) 897-8074
Family Director	Stan Nill	(913) 486-4153
Communications Director	George White	(586) 329-9757
Lecturer	Wayne Zetzman	(913) 541-9648
Health Services	C.J. Hare	(913) 909-9069
Insurance Agent	Ray Garretson	(541) 360-8386