



Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

FIRST QUARTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Brothers, family and friends to the next quarterly edition of the St. George Knights of Columbus Council Newsletter. We have left one crisis, the pandemic, and entered another, the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Since February 24, 2022 millions of Ukrainians have fled their country. The KofC and friends have donated over \$9 million dollars to support humanitarian aid in Ukraine. Please pray for the people of Ukraine and for a quick end to this war.

The Knights at St. George sold State Charity tickets after masses on January 15-16, 22-23 and 29-30. Due to the generosity of our parishioners and all the Knights who volunteered to sell the tickets and make it a success. Tickets are still on sale until May at the Church Office and at the Council Meetings. Half of the total ticket sales go to St George.

On February 18th we had the privilege of helping cook the spaghetti dinner and directing traffic in the parking lot for the Teen Life Group. The funds raised at the Spaghetti Drive Through Dinner will be used for their upcoming retreat.

A Membership drive was held on March 26th and 27th. Monsignor Pinti talked prior to all Masses about the Knights of Columbus. He also played a video by Bishop Weisenburger who talked about the Knight's impact on his life and the importance the Knights have on the Church. That gave us the opportunity to sell Charity Chips. We have sold 45 thus far with only 55 more to go. Chips can be purchased on our webpage, KofC7243.org.

There are events coming up over the next few months. First is Mother's Day May 8th, we will hand out prayer cards to the mothers and grandmothers after all Masses at St. George. On Father's Day June 19th, we will do the same thing for our fathers and grandfathers. Stay tuned for information for the KofC Breakfasts which will start in May or June. Once we have the dates, we will advertise them in the Church Bulletin. The breakfasts are a great way for the Knights to work and socialize, the more the merrier.

As always, if you have family, friends or know someone who would like to be a Knight, talk to them and invite them to join. Sometimes it is a matter of just asking.

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR FRATERNAL YEAR 2021-2022



Grand Knight Matt Campbell presents the Knight of the Year Award for Fraternal Year 2021-2022 to Lecturer/Family Director Larry Beckwith.

Larry Beckwith, our Lecturer and Family Director, deserves special recognition for his leadership and commitment to council 7243. He is instrumental in all our functions and fundraising. As our Family Director Larry engages with our parish youth, most notably leading the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Along with the Youth Director of St. George, he organized meetings with all the Religious Education students to promote the Knights of Columbus. During these meetings he handed out religious bracelets to the youth to remind them of the importance of Christ in Christmas. Another program he championed was the distribution of Mother's Day Prayer cards, which were given out at masses on Mother's Day. As the Lecturer he has introduced thought provoking and interesting topics. It was Larry's idea to have a fund raiser called Charity Chips. It raised one of the largest dollar amounts for the Council's fund raising projects ever! Larry is a true Knight and a role model of what Knights can and should accomplish. Congratulations Larry!



Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

FUND RAISING UPDATE

Council 7243 has a history of supporting both church and local programs, e.g., the Boys and Girls Clubs, St. George Student Scholarship Ministry, Families in Need programs, Seminarian and Postulate education assistance, Food Pantry, Pregnancy Centers, Ultrasound Machines, Community Outreach, ... The support takes many forms, from financial donations to sponsoring programs in the church and the community to providing volunteer labor. Our most recent fund raising endeavors involve sales of Charity Chips and KofC State Raffle tickets.

CHARITY CHIPS SALES

Charity Chips Round 1 sales were so well received we were able to begin drawings early (11/08/21.) We have held 6 monthly drawings thru 04/11/22. Due to the positive response, we have instituted token sales for Charity Chips Round 2, with in-person sales taking place after all masses on March 26th and 27th. The sales effort was very successful. Thanks to all who braved the record heat to sell the Charity Chips and State Raffle Tickets: Ralph Abeyta, Doug Hughes, John Hennessey, Bob Mohle, Dennis Hale, Joe Skamel, Dave Hanf, Bill Amatucci, Greg Boyer, Larry Beckwith, Neil McMillin and Armindo Castelhana, and for everyone who purchased a chip/ticket. Per the accompanying screen capture from the web site we have sold 45 tokens to date.

Note: Charity Chips are available by contacting GK Campbell or FS Hughes, or on-line at our web site.

Charity Chips – Round 2



Round 1 of our Charity Chip program was a great success. It sold out in just over a month. There has been strong interest in having a round 2 of the program to allow our winter visitor parishioners to have an opportunity to participate as well as our year round parishioners.

Sold to date	Quantity available
45	55

STATE RAFFLE TICKET SALES

Last year we were number three in the state for raffle ticket sales. This was quite an achievement for a council our size. Each year we are assigned a goal based on last year's sales results. We are currently at \$11,359 in sales, just short of our goal of \$12,329. The council portion of the proceeds (one half) goes to St. George. Please consider buying another book or two. State Raffle tickets are available from GK Campbell or the parish office up until a week before the State Convention (drawing is May 21st.)

COUNCIL AWARDS (A LOOK BACK AT OUR HISTORY)

WGK Matt Campbell took the initiative, along with Financial Secretary Doug Hughes, to clean out and inventory our allocated storage closet in Classroom 3. Because of the clutter, the closet was basically unusable. They found plaques, awards, photographs and supplies going back several years, some to the beginning of the council in 1979. The attached listing shows (to the best of our knowledge) all special recognition awards Council 7243 has received since its inception. The plaques have been relocated to a secure file cabinet along with other council financial records under Doug's control.

Year Award

1997-98	Columbian Award	
2008-09	Columbian Award	
1983-84	Fr. McGivney Award	
1988-89	Fr. McGivney Award	
1991-92	Fr. McGivney Award	
1995-96	Fr. McGivney Award	
2019-2020	Founder's Award	Tom Wolf
1984-85	Star Council Award	
1989-90	Star Council Award	Boyd Leatherman
1993-94	Star Council Award	Rene Lesieutre
2020-2021	Star Council Award	Matt Campbell



Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

WEB SITE UPDATE



Doug Hughes continues to do an outstanding job as Webmaster for our council web site. (See the above screen capture.) It can be accessed by going to www.kofc7243.org.

Doug continues to add functionality to the menu list of items (e.g., see the ONLINE STORE button.) He has added a BLOG section where items of current interest are available for viewing. You can sign up for email alerts when new items are posted.

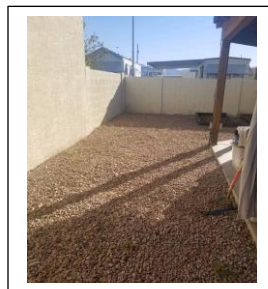
Please send your constructive comments to Doug so he can filter them into future updates—Doug Hughes <papadhughes@gmail.com>. We need lots of pictures as the current version has very few.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Director Steve Ezyk recently related how he became aware of two elderly ladies who needed help cleaning up their back yards. He enlisted the assistance of two of his young neighbors, truly Good Samaritans, 13-year-old Ammon Cook and his 11-year-old brother Hyrum, who, along with Steve, worked to clean up the back yards of both ladies, neither of whom could do it themselves. (Pictures attached.)

Steve is exploring several areas where the council can improve its community outreach.

- Homeless. Give a hand up versus a handout.
- Women's Centers. Get more involved, donate money and time for their cause. This would expand our support for women's causes.
- Pro-Life. Our only effort thus far is the \$200 donation for the Rosary Sunday ad. We can do better.
- Where can we best allocate funds from Charity Chips Round 2 proceeds?



Steve and His Helpers, Showing the Fruits of Their Labors. Some Weeds Were Over 2 Feet Tall.

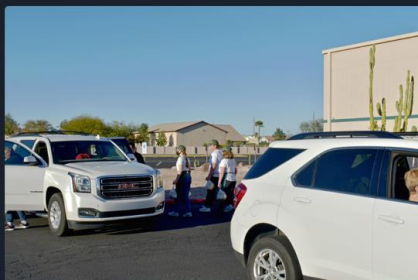
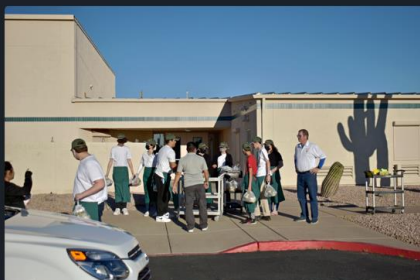


Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

DRIVE THROUGH SPAGHETTI DINNERS

The youth of St. George hosted a Drive Thru Spaghetti Dinner on Friday February 18th to support their Life Teen Retreat. The event was very successful, and the traffic flowed smoothly thanks to the Brother Knights on duty. There were over 200 vehicles involved and about 300 dinners served. Thank you to the following Brother Knights for helping on February 18th: a) Traffic Control: John Hennessey, Armindo Castelhana, LB White, Tom Wolf, Joe Skamel, Larry Beckwith, Dennis Hale, Stan Hamilton, Matt Campbell and Bob Mohle; b) Cooks: Rev. Msgr. Pinti, Deacon Paul and Rich Zollner; and c) Ring leader: special thanks to Rich Zollner.





Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

UPCOMING SUNDAY BREAKFASTS

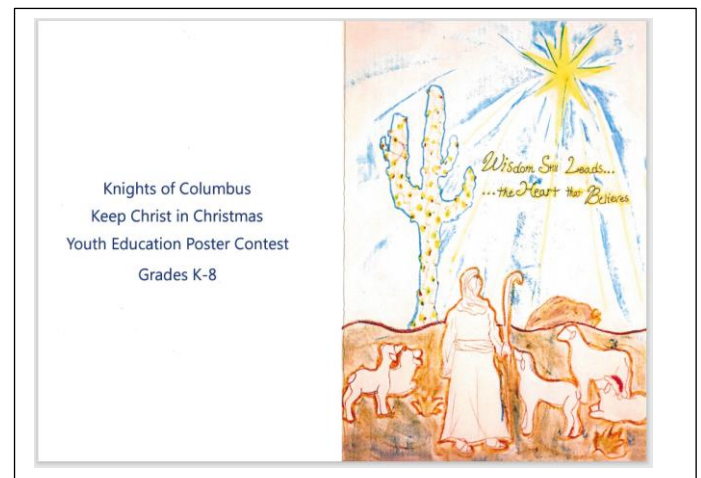
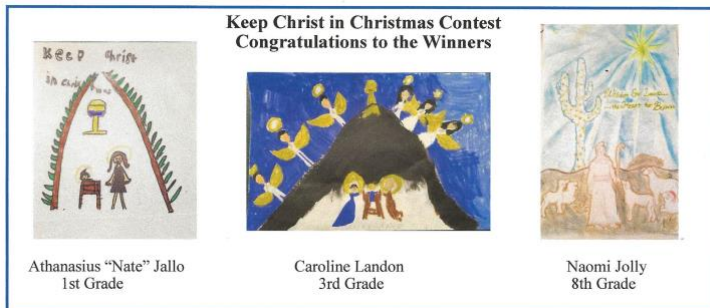
Breakfast Committee Chairman Tom Wolf has announced we will once again be sponsoring our very popular Sunday Breakfasts. Rev. Msgr. Pinti and Tom have agreed to a May and June breakfast schedule (dates are to be announced). Volunteers from last year can expect a tap on the shoulder to once again help out: Ralph Abeyta, Larry Beckwith, John Czerwinski, Don Martens, John Hennessey, Doug Hughes, Joe Lorden, Neil McMillan, Pat Prezioso, Gil Rollins, Joe Skamel, Tom Wolf and Ken Zudycki. Based on past experience we can use more help, especially at the end for cleanup. So please consider volunteering, as that is the cornerstone of what it means to be a Knight—one who serves.



Scenes From Last Year's Breakfasts.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

Every Christmas season our Family Director Larry Beckwith, in concert with Parish Youth Director Christine Ollive, sponsors a Keep Christ in Christmas contest for the youth of St. George. \$25 gift cards have been awarded to the winners of this year's Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. We are also exploring the idea of creating Christmas cards using one of the winning posters (see sample attached.)



RECRUITMENT VIDEO

Thank you, Rev. Msgr. Pinti, for talking prior to all Masses on March 26th and 27th about the Knights of Columbus and showing Bishop Weisenburger's video which highlighted his personal message on the value of becoming a Knight of Columbus. Also, a special thank you to Christine Ollive who setup up and played Bishop Weisenburger's video at all Masses. Unfortunately, even with Monsignor's promotion of the Knights we were not able to sign up any new members. But perhaps we planted a seed for prospective members to consider joining in the future.



Knights of Columbus Council 7243

Serving St. George Parish and the Local Community

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mothers' Day Prayer Card Distribution, May 8th
- Fathers' Day Prayer Card Distribution, June 19th
- Arizona State Convention, May 20th and 21st, El Conquistador, Tucson
- Charity Chip Round 2 Token Sales Continue Until We Reach 100 Total Sales
- Charity Chip Round 1 Drawings Continue
- Sunday Breakfasts, May and June, Dates To Be Announced
- Council Officer Elections for FY22-23, June 13th Council Meeting

ELECTIONS

Officer Slate for FY22-23. We are getting very close to needing our officer slate finalized. The slate of officers for the 2022 – 2023 fraternal year must be voted on at the Council meeting on June 13, 2022 after it is presented to the Council on 5/9/2022. Current status as reported by Trustee Tom Wolf, Chairman of the Nominating Committee:

Elected Positions

Grand Knight	Joe Skamel *
Deputy Grand Knight	Candidate Needed ***
Chancellor	Candidate Needed ***
Chaplain	Rev. Msgr. Pinti
Recorder	John Hennessey
Treasurer	Ken Zudycki **
Advocate	Dennis Hale
Warden	Ralph Abeyta
Inside Guard	Neil McMillin
Outside Guard	Greg Boyer
Three Year Trustee	Matt Campbell
Two Year Trustee	Tom Wolf
One Year Trustee	James Mc Cafferty

Appointed Positions

Financial Secretary	Doug Hughes
---------------------	-------------

Footnotes.

* Deputy Grand Knight (DGK) Joe Skamel, who has held numerous positions at the council and district level, including Grand Knight, is willing to take on the GK position in order to keep Council 7243 viable since, as Trustee Tom Wolf reported, "If we don't have a GK, we don't have a council. If we don't have a Council, we can't have an Assembly." Thanks to Joe for volunteering. That being said, we remain open to another Brother Knight volunteering to be of service and become GK, a very worthwhile and rewarding experience. There are many Past Grand Knights in the council, including Immediate Past Grand Knight Campbell, willing to assist.

** Treasurer Zudycki would like to be replaced for personal reasons but is willing to remain as Treasurer if Trustee Wolf is willing to fill in for him when he is on vacation travel. Tom has graciously agreed to fill in as needed. That being said, as with the GK position, we remain open to another Brother Knight volunteering to be of service and become Treasurer.

*** As can be seen, we need candidates for Deputy Grand Knight and Chancellor. Just as a reminder, the deputy grand knight fills in for the grand knight when he is not present, ultimately assisting the grand knight in leading the council and reaching council objectives. As part of the council's succession plan, the deputy grand knight usually becomes grand knight when the grand knight completes his term. The chancellor assists both the grand knight and deputy grand knight in leading the council by engaging and strengthening the council's members. His primary responsibilities include both recruiting and retaining members.

Serving as an officer can be a personally rewarding experience. Brother Knights, please pray for guidance and contact Tom to volunteer. Time is of the essence since the slate must be presented at the May 9th council meeting.