



Knights of Columbus

All Saints Council 9709

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community

The official Publication of the Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709

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Saint Francis Food Drive



Our Council proudly supported the St Francis Justice and Peace Team led by Becky Cawley over the weekend to collect and distribute sorely needed food, paper products, cleaning supplies, cash, and PPE's for local agencies. The agencies include Interfaith Food Shuttle, Interact, Family Promise of Wake County, Brown Bag Ministry, Church World Services, Catholic Parish Outreach, The Hope Center at Pullen, Oak City Cares, Urban Ministries of Wake County, US Committee for Immigrants and Refugees, and North Raleigh Ministries.

The Drive was performed as a drop off to ensure safe social distancing and volunteers from J&P along with our Knights were involved in all aspects including traffic control, collections, and sorting. Volunteers wore face masks and practiced CDC guidelines to ensure the safety of both donors and volunteers. Fathers Kluge and Patti were close by offering spiritual support as well.

CPO donated their truck for collection and delivery. AND we filled that and more by the end of the day on Saturday! So the Parish rented another truck and that filled

up on Sunday! Brothers Payne and Becker drove the trucks on Monday June 1st to distribute the donations with help from eight other Justice and Peace volunteers. Based on CPO's gauge of 1,000# per bin, approximately 20,000 lbs. of food and products were collected along with \$10,000 in cash! While this is a huge success and performed in just 8 hours total, it comes as no surprise given the generous spirit that defines St Francis of Assisi. It's hard to find words to describe the gratitude on display at each of the agencies as we delivered their goods. So rewarding! Please thank the good Lord for our many blessings and our ability to serve.

A huge shout out THANK YOU to Brothers Steve Becker (there both days and Monday), Joe Mesiano (all day Saturday), David Weiss, Omar Bashi, Sergio Winter, Brian Denison, David Payne and his wife, Kathy, for their participation in making this event successful. Special thanks to Steve and wife, Cecy, for helping get the borrowed and rented trucks fueled and back to their respective homes. The presence and spirit of Council #9709 was a true beacon of hope in these unusual times.

Written by David Payne

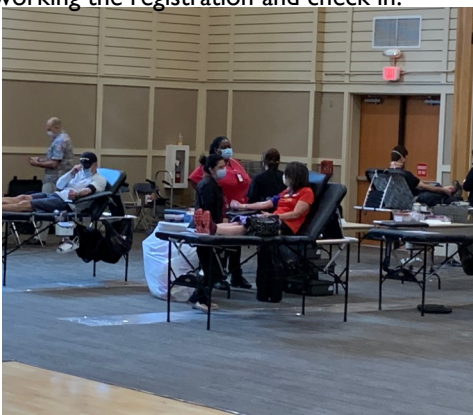
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES



Due to current requirements of separation, in order to meet current state guide lines, yet attendance was still high!



Bryan Kozak manning the telephone while working the registration and check in.



Red Cross workers worked efficiently getting donors in and out by showing us their skills.

As the shroud of COVID spread across the country the lives of every American changed for the foreseeable future. People were told to stay home, cover their face, and be distant. Even our churches were not spared as we watched the Easter season from our home yearning for the Body of Christ. Out of the darkness a call emerged to ensure “No neighbor is left behind.” Among the list of activities Knights are exhorted to participate in blood drives. A sentiment echoed by the government at the state level.

All Saints Council #9709 from St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Raleigh, NC heeded those words and answered the call. Since the beginning of the crisis in the middle of March the council and parish have joined together to host 6 blood drives and collected nearly 500 units of blood products (more than double their annual average in 3 short months). The two most recent drives held on June 15 and 16 resulted in 115 people filling the fellowship hall as donors on 5 days notice while maintaining stringent social distancing requirements! Several more drives are in the works as the Red Cross has reached out to the council to fill voids left by corporate drives that continue to be cancelled due to work from home rules and social distancing requirements

Written by Bryan Kozak, Grand Knight Council #9709

Results of 6 Blood Drives held at St Francis by Knights:

Drive Date	Appoint filled	Units Collected to Goal
June 16, 2020	71 of 70	63 of 45
June 15, 2020	42 of 43	41 of 30
April 30, 2020	95 of 100	92 of 50
April 6, 2020	54 of 55	62 of 30
April 4, 2020	83 of 84	77 of 50
March 28 2020	154 of 154	161 of 110

Each day's collection exceeded our goal thanks to the great support we received from St Francis and the community.

RSVP—ABRAHAM JOSEPH'S ORDINATION



Our All Saints Council has sponsored Abraham Joseph for the past 4 years under the RSVP program, starting with his Novitiate and now culminating in his priestly ordination on June 13th at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church, Cedar Lake, Indiana. The service was live-streamed on You Tube, as in-person attendance was limited due to the Covid-19 quarantine restrictions. Fr. Abraham has been one of our most appreciative sponsors, having sent us many personal, hand written letters and many email updates throughout his journey to priesthood. He has thanked us for each gift we have sent him, and has always sent his blessings to our council and the work we do. Fr Abraham wanted us to know that he had his first mass the next day after his ordination and used the vestments that he purchased with our ordination gift card that, in his own words, "your council generously offered".



We are proud to have sponsored another young man into the priesthood.

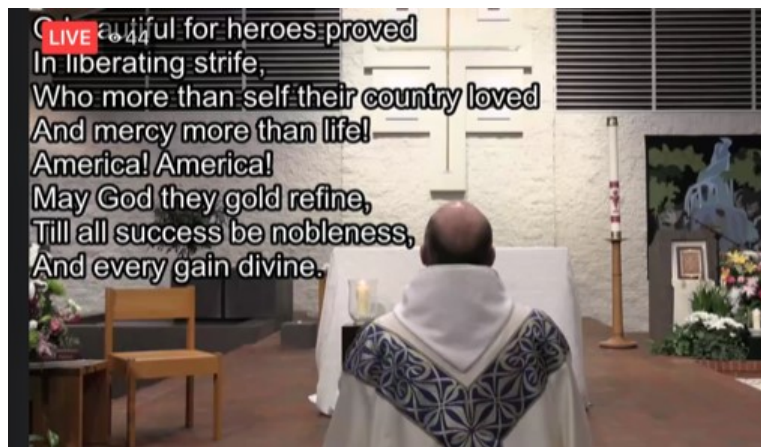


Abraham, a new priest says mass for his first time.

Knights Virtual Memorial Day Mass



Memorial Day at St. Francis of Assisi Church is a day of respect and remembrance for our deceased veterans. By doing so, a Mass is offered for all veterans and specifically for the 690 deceased veterans listed on a military roll collected over the past 16 years from our parishioners. SK Jeff Rohman is responsible for maintaining this annual ceremony which has become more and more popular. Over the past few years the Memorial Mass was celebrated in St. Mary of the Angels Chapel but because attendance began to overfill the Chapel, the Mass was moved to the Church. Just this year 30 names were added to the rolls which were read aloud by SK Mike Wrzesien during Mass. SK Kent Seifkes and GK Bob Weisenberger also assisted in the Mass celebrated by Father Jim. Usually, at the conclusion of the Memorial Mass a flag is presented to a deceased veteran's family by the Army National Guard. Unfortunately, this honor was suspended due to pandemic rules. However, next year the presentation will be made to two families, the Wrzesien family honoring Mike's father, Joseph Wrzesien and to Kathy Hayes, daughter of Henry A Michel.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY, 20 PLUS YEARS



Brother Knights salute in honor of our long commitment to helping maintain our communities roadways.

Our Brothers share pride in our long-term commitment to maintaining our stretch of road adjacent to the Parish property. The section we maintain is just over 2 miles of Leesville Rd, stretching from the Durham county border to the overpass of 540. This commitment takes about an hour with a minimum of 8 members assisting. These activities performed by many local organizations saves the NCDOT about 60 million dollars a year in labor.

Brothers and The Wagner Family, Thank you for spending part of your Saturday helping out on the Adopt A Highway service project. The 12+ of us were able to cover the route and collect 10 bags of trash and 4 bags of recycling. The council will get the word out for the fall pick up in early September. We appreciate you! Stay Safe, Brother John A. Dziadul

Knights of Columbus Founder, Who Died in a Pandemic, Moves Closer to Sainthood



A statue of Rev. Michael J. McGivney in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn. Credit... Thomas McDonald for The New York Times

Pope Francis has credited a 2015 miracle to the Rev. Michael J. McGivney, a Connecticut priest who died in 1890 during an outbreak that researchers now believe may have been caused by a coronavirus.

The American priest who founded the Knights of Columbus, the Roman Catholic fraternal organization, moved a step closer to sainthood on Thursday when Pope Francis recognized a miracle attributed to him, the Vatican announced.

According to the Knights of Columbus, the miracle involved a mother whose pregnancy was threatened by a medical condition in 2015. The family prayed to the Rev. Michael J. McGivney, the Knights of Columbus said, and the condition was healed. Pope Francis has now attributed this to Father McGivney, who died in 1890 at age 38.

The step clears the way for Father McGivney to be beatified, or declared "blessed," by the pope — the second-to-last step before a figure is canonized as a saint in the Roman Catholic Church. An additional miracle must be accredited to Father McGivney before he is declared a saint.

"Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action," Carl A. Anderson, the leader of the Knights of Columbus, said in a statement. "Today, his spirit continues to shape the extraordinary charitable work of Knights as they continue to serve those on the margins of society as he served widows and orphans in the 1880s."

Article taken from the New York Times.



OUR NEW GRAND KNIGHT



The council is honored to introduce our new Grand Knight Bryan Kozak. He currently works as a Physician Assistant at Duke University Hospital. Prior to Duke he spent a successful career in the US Army retiring in 2017 as a Major after 20 years of service. He is married to Kathleen and has 4 children; Mary Kate, Sean, Conor and Brendan. In addition to his wife and children he lives with his elderly father-in-law and disabled brother-in-law. Prior to his officer roles in the council he assumed leadership or the Council's blood drive program from Tom Dupree and his wife Elaine as well as the council representative for the NC State Council's raffle for the last two years. He has continued the strong tradition Tom started hosting numerous drives since the COVID pandemic started to fill the increased demand and decreased supply. Bryan replaces Robert Weisenberger who served admirably as Grand Knight for the last two years. This will prove to be an interesting and challenging time for Bryan, the council officers and the council itself. Thank you Bob for your outstanding leadership and guidance over the last two years Bryan congratulations on your selection.

COUNCIL 9709 NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS

Grand Knight	Bryan Kozak	Warden	Keith Houchin
Deputy Grand Knight	Steve Becker	Inside Guard	Adoki Akuro
Treasurer	Bill Quirk	Outside Guard	Gerald Kearney
Financial Secretary	Sean Flanagan	3 Year Trustee	Bob Weisenberger
Advocate	Tony Rivezzo	Recorder	Antonio Lopez
Chancellor	David Payne		

From the Grand Knight:

As the final days of this Fraternal Year come to an end, I would like to thank the Brothers of this Council and the Parish for an outstanding and successful two years. The work of many before and after me will continue to make this Council one of the Leaders in the State of North Carolina. These past few months have demonstrated our unyielding commitment to Charity, our Order's First Principle, with numerous blood drives, food pantry donations and manpower support, while continuing to support our parish in numerous ministries and service capacities. The Cap Stone of these efforts and many others this past year is the Knights of Columbus Supreme Recognition of our Council as a 'Star Council' – a combination of recruiting, insurance, charity and services goals set by Supreme annually. With this ending, however, comes the opportunity to double down and continue the support of the Council, its Officers and the Parish. The incom-

ing Officers will continue to build this Council for years to come and continue to strengthen the relationship with our Parish. Peace and Blessings to you and your families!

Vivat Jesus *Robert Wiesenberg*



FOR THE FIRST DEGREE KNIGHT . . . ELECTED OFFICERS

GRAND KNIGHT - The Grand Knight is responsible for the welfare of the Council. He presides over Council meetings, acts as an ex-officio member of all Committees, appoints the Membership and Programming Directors, convenes officers for a monthly meeting and ensures all necessary reports are submitted to the State and Supreme Councils. The Grand Knight's signature appears on all checks drawn.

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT - The Deputy Grand Knight assists the Grand Knight with Council affairs and fulfills all the duties assigned him by the Grand Knight. Should the Grand Knight be absent from a Council meeting, the Deputy Grand Knight will preside. He is also Chairman of the Council's Retention Committee.

CHANCELLOR - The Chancellor assists the Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight in the execution of their duties and oversees the Council in both their absences. He is charged with strengthening the members' interests in Council activities and is also Chairman of the Admissions Committee.

WARDEN - The Warden is the "watchdog" for Council property and degree paraphernalia, except the property of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Recorder. He is responsible for setting up the Council Chambers for meetings and ceremonial work and appoints and supervises guards during ceremonial exemplifications.

TREASURER - The Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping and maintaining of records of all Council funds and accounts. He is responsible for depositing money into the Council's accounts and provides certificates of such monies to the Grand Knight. He is also responsible of payment of all expenses.

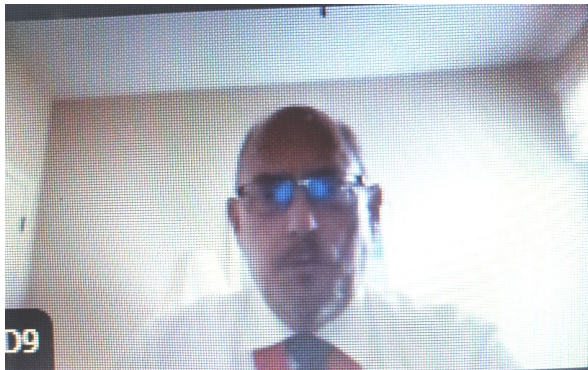
RECORDER - The Recorder is responsible for maintaining a true record of all actions of the Council and its correspondence.

ADVOCATE - The Advocate is the legal representative of the Council and serves as the Council's attorney at trials and investigations of interest to the Council. While he does not need to be a member of the legal profession, he should be familiar with the Council By Laws, Methods of Conducting a Council Meeting and Robert's Rules of Order.

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE GUARDS - The Outside Guard tends to the outer door admitting visitors and members to the inner door. Once at the inner door, the Inside Guard checks to make sure that membership cards are current.

TRUSTEES - The Board of Trustees consists of three members elected by the Council and the Grand Knight, who serves as Chairman. They oversee the work of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer, and with the Deputy Grand Knight, serve on the Council's Retention Committee. Only the three-year Trustee is voted, with the others continuing their terms.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

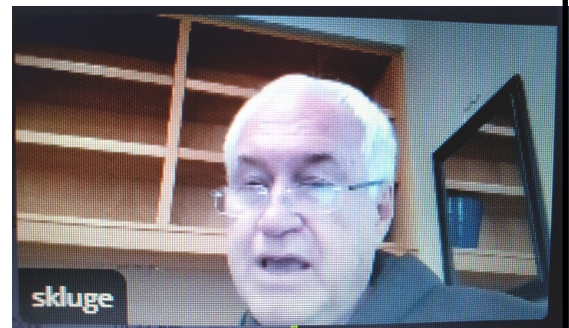


DISTRICT DEPUTY GEORGE BESEROCK DIRECTED THE INSTALLATION

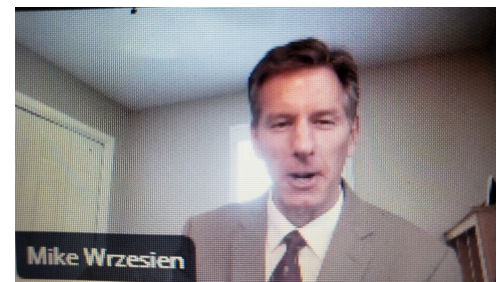


BRYAN KOZAK, NEW GRAND KNIGHT WITH WIFE KATHLEEN

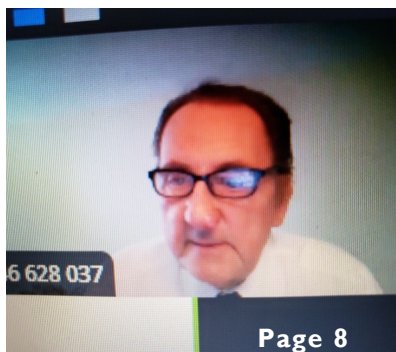
The fiscal year for the Council begins July 1st. The new officers have already been nominated and elected. The next step was the officer installation directed by the District Deputy, George Beserock. Normally the installation is accomplished in the Church but because of the pandemic the Church was not ready for assemblies due to the recent spike of cases in North Carolina. Therefore, the installation ceremony was directed virtually which allowed the Council to achieve its requirements by having its officers in place and accepting their responsibilities before the start of the new year. We were honored to have Father Steve Kluge attend the ceremony and bestowing blessings on the Council and its officers. Bob Weisenberger, PGK, began the meeting with gratitude to the Council for his two years of support in achieving its primary goal of charity in many different ways. Finally, Bryan Kozak, our new Grand Knight, was thankful for the opportunity to continue the Council's works and asking for continued support. No doubt, the officers and all of the council members are anxiously awaiting the post-pandemic time when we can once again meet fraternally and continue our works of charity.



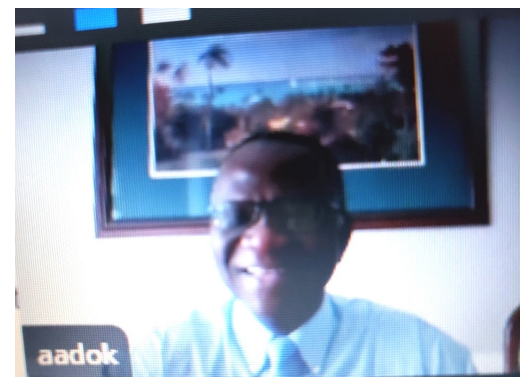
FATHER STEVE KLUGE OFFERS PRAYERS FOR NEW COUNCIL OFFICERS



MIKE WRZESIEN CONTINUES ROLE OF TRUSTEE



GERALD KEARNY, OUTSIDE GUARD



ADOKI AKURO, INSIDED GUARD



**Knights of Columbus
All Saints Council 9709
Saint Francis of Assisi
Catholic Church
Raleigh, North Carolina**

WE'RE ON THE WEB!



News Briefs for our Council

Brothers Joe McCarthy, Former DD, PGK and PFN and Tom DuPree, PGK, PFN, NC District VAVS Representative, Durham VAVS Representative have been nominated to attend the State Convention. They will represent our council as voting delegates to the convention.

Tom DuPree has been nominated to run for the position of District Master for the state of North Carolina. This is the highest position a State Officer can hold and is such an honor. Let's all pray for Tom's success in achieving his goal to win this post.

Our Council has been submitted for the honor of Star Council for the State of North Carolina.

Councils that are conducting well-rounded programs and activities in the categories of Church, community, council, family, culture of life and youth are providing meaningful help to people and families. This is why the Supreme Council celebrates the achievements of councils each year by awarding the Star Council Award. Through earning the Star Council Award, your council is recognized as fulfilling Father McGivney's vision and this is why your council should strive to earn the Star Council Award every year! For additional tips on how your council can earn the Star Council Award, visit kofc.org/star and the Knights of Columbus Fraternal Training Portal.

