



August 2015 **KNIGHT MOVES** INFORMATION

Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart of Jesus Council #13641

156 Valley Ave. SW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Council meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month in the academy, room # 101.

Next Meeting Monday, September 14, 2015 – 7:00 PM

Important Dates for Knights:

| | | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| August 22 nd | Haven Breakfast | September 26 th | Haven Breakfast |
| August 29 th & 30 th | Membership Blitz | September 27 th | Parish Breakfast |
| August 29 th | Baby Bottle Boomerang Starts | October 3 rd | All Saints Candy Collection Starts |
| August 31 st | Essay Contest Starts | October 4 th | Baby Bottle Boomerang Ends |
| September 14 th | General Meeting | October 12 th | General Meeting |

Please try to plug into as many of these events as possible.

Baby Bottle Boomerang – Our 11th annual Baby Bottle Boomerang kicked off on August 29th. Over the past two years the Knights have collected over \$5,000 for Help Pregnancy Crisis Aid. In 2013 the Sacred Heart council joined with many other councils across Michigan to purchase a new ultrasound machine for Help with funds collected during the Baby Bottle Boomerang. All you need to do to be part of this great event is to take home a bottle and drop your spare change in it each evening. When the bottle is full bring it back to church and drop it in the white deposit box at the back of church. Please return all bottles by Sunday, October 4th. Additional details related to the Baby Bottle Boomerang are available at our new web site at SacredHeartKofC.org.

Knight's Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest – As our religious freedoms are attacked from all sides, our council has decided to participate in the nationwide Knight's Catholic Citizenship Contest. The Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus are working with Sacred Heart Academy to sponsor a council essay contest. The essay theme is "The Importance of Religious Freedom." The contest is open to all Catholic students from grade 6 – 12 in the Sacred Heart Parish area. Here is the timeline for the contest;

- August 29th – Start of council essay contest
- October 23rd – All entries are due
- November 20th – Council winners submitted to district level competition
- December 15th – Announcement of council winners

The theme of the essay contest is "The Importance of Religious Freedom." The contest opens the doors of young minds, enabling the entrants to be creative, thoughtful and introspective in their work. Direct entrants to our web site for additional entry details and download a required official entry form. Further details are available at SacredHeartKofC.org. **Please share the information about this contest with parishioners who have students who could possibly participate.**

Parish Breakfast – is scheduled for Sunday, September 27th. The theme for this breakfast will be a Polish style Pre-Pulaksi day feast. The breakfast will feature some Polish favorites and other breakfast standards. Profits from breakfasts are a big part of the funds we use for charitable donations. Please help spread the word to your friends and relatives so that we can make this first breakfast of the fraternal year a big success. If you can help out for a couple hours on Sunday, September 27th, please contact Mike Menardie at 458-2353 or SacredHeartgr@gmail.com.

Holy Cross Children's Service Haven Breakfasts - Once a month the Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus prepare a fresh, hot breakfast for the boys housed at the Haven on the northeast side of Grand Rapids. The Sacred Heart council partners with other councils in the area to be sure that the boys have a nutritious breakfast every Saturday and Sunday. Our council is responsible for the fourth Saturday of every month. While a healthy breakfast is important, it is more important to show these boys that there are people who care about them. Many of these boys come from single parent families without strong father figures in their lives. By sharing with these young men we are fulfilling two of our principles, charity and evangelization through community service. Pictures from a recent breakfast and additional details are available at SacredHeartKofC.org. If you would be interested in helping the Knights with breakfasts for the Haven, please contact the Sacred Heart Knights at sacredheartgr@gmail.com.

Membership Blitz Weekend – our first membership drive weekend was held on August 29 and 30 along with the beginning of the Baby Bottle Boomerang. Last year we had great membership growth. Our council was one of only two councils in the state to attain the Triple Star award for programs and membership. We need to continue to invite Catholic men in our parish to become Knights. During this time of attacks on religious freedoms, it is important that we stand together professing our faith, helping those that need a hand up, supporting our clergy and speaking for those who cannot. If you know any Catholic man who is not a Knight, please ask them to consider joining our ranks.

Yearly Membership Dues – were due at the beginning of the calendar year. Some of the men from our council have not yet paid their dues. The majority of the dues collected by our council are passed along to the state and supreme level. State and Supreme are putting some of the funds collected toward very good use. Here are just a few of the recent items which our dues supported;

- 500th ultrasound machines purchased for prolife women's centers across the country (33 in Michigan)
- \$2.2 million in donations for Christian refugees in the middle east
- \$1.6 million from the Vicarius Christi Fund, for Pope's personal charities
- \$1.25 million in donations to the Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit
- Supported US and Canadian mentally impaired athletes at the recent Special Olympics World Summer Games

If you have not yet paid your 2015 dues please contact Jon Thayer at thayer.john@comcast.net. If you are having financial difficulties paying your dues please contact John or Mike Menardie. We value your membership and we will work out alternative to keep you active until things improve.

Parish Directory Council Picture – has been tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 14th after our next meeting. If possible plan to attend the next meeting so that we can have a group photo taken.

Fraternal Year Planning – This summer a group of Knights met to plan out events and dates for the fraternal year which starts July 1st and runs through June 30th, 2016. The calendar which was created was presented to Father Robert and received his approval. We will be loading the calendar to our council web site soon so that you have access to see what events are coming up. If you have an idea for a fraternal family event please contact one of your officers with your suggestions.

Holy Cross Christmas Basket Coordinator – is needed. For the past five years our wives have collected Christmas basket items for girls housed across our state at Holy Cross Children's Centers. We need to find a volunteer who will contact wives and collect the donations. Our council collection needs to be completed in October so that the items we collect can be merged with items from other councils across the state. If you know someone who would volunteer to contact wives and collect purchased dollar store items, please contact Mike Menardie at 458-2353.

Keeping Christ in Christmas Programs – it seems too early to be thinking about Christmas, but our district councils are planning to get the Christ in Christmas message out to people outside our parish communities. The councils in our district are planning on to purchase as many as 10 billboards across the Grand Rapids area from late November to late December. The billboards will feature a simple nativity scene and the message 'Keeping Christ in Christmas'. Our council is working on funding at least one of these billboards in the lower west side area. The billboards would be in addition to our council Christmas card design contest for children of our parish and academy. We will continue to create cards from previous winners and sending them to the home bound parishioners of our parish. Please watch for future details related to this initiative. **To reserve a billboard with maximum exposure and have the art work completed, we will need to finalize a plan before the end of September.**

Tuesday Evening Parish Dinners – will be starting September 15th. The Tuesday evening dinners give us a chance to share time with our fellow parishioners and increase our knowledge related to our faith. All you need to do is bring a simple dish to pass and your table setting. Tuesdays consist of;

- 5:00pm Vespers
- 5:30 Parish Potluck
- 6:30 Adult and Youth faith Formation
- 7:45 Closing Prayer and Blessing

If you haven't attended in the past, we strongly suggest you give it a try this fall.

New Council Web Site – is available at SacredHeartKofC.org. We will be adding additional features in the near future, but we wanted to get this up and available before our fall activities. Please take a minute to look at the site and provide feedback on areas that can be improved.

Project for Our Council – Father Robert has requested that the Knights work on providing additional meeting rooms for our growing parish. We will be planning renovations for the rectory basement and determining how to fund these updates. All the rooms in the academy are currently being used for students. If you are handy with a hammer please let Mike Menardie know if you would be willing to help with renovations.

Upcoming Knights Events – All Saints Candy Collection and Children's party support – During October and on October 31st, Haven Breakfasts - September 26th and October 24th, Coffee and Rolls for Veterans – November 8th, Council Tuesday evening Chili Cook-off – November 17th, Sacred Heart Christmas Market – December 12th.

The council web site is available at SacredHeartKofC.org. Our council email is available at sacredheartqr@gmail.com

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 - 7:00 PM

The printing of this newsletter is provided at no cost to our council, compliments of Heritage Life Story Funeral Homes