



# Knights of Columbus



Joseph Gerke Assembly 3080 Newsletter

May 2026

# Contents

- Activities
  - Assembly Activities
  - Upcoming Exemplifications
  - Important Dates
- Closing Thoughts
- Closing Prayer



# Assembly Activities

Thank you to SK David Shimp for representing the Assembly at the Special Olympics Track and Field in Belton on May 7th. Photos from the event are forthcoming.

The Honor Guard Roll Call is available with most names. The remainder of SK names are in progress

Assembly shirts are in and they are great! Please reach out to SK Jim Moss if you ordered one.

Joseph Gerke Assembly #3080 Honor Guard Roll Call		
Max Cooper	Bob Jackson	David Blountinger
William Benschak	John Hickey	Bryan Sibley
Dennis Gerke	Art Carter	
Mike Carvan	Darrell Lee	
Jim Carroll	Farrest Williams	
Joe Cunningham	George Babinett	
Johnnie Coday	Ray White	
Steve O'Brien	John Cunningham	
Larry Francis	Paul Wise	
Handy Gentry	Jim Moss	
Mike Jensen	Colin Deaver	
Red Messner	David Shimp	



# Assembly Activities

Raffle time! This was issued from the Supreme Council and is a paperweight of Fr. McGivney comforting a distressed widow and her small son.

This is a wonderful reminder of our core tenant of charity and would look nice in a home office or mantelpiece. \$5 per ticket and drawing at the Assembly Meeting on 21 May.

SK Chris Teel, who won the eagle pommel sword for our first raffle, proudly wore it at the State Convention.



# Honor Guard Events

- Transitional Diaconate Ordination --- Saturday, May 23 @ 10:00 AM at Cathedral of St. Joseph
- Missouri Special Olympics Summer Games Opening Ceremonies Friday, May 29 - @ 7pm Truman State University, Kirksville (be there by 6:30pm).
- Priestly Ordination --- Saturday, May 30 @ 10:00 AM at Cathedral in KC
- Jubilee Ordination for Fr. Joseph Weber - Sunday, May 31 at Our Lady of the Pillar Church, 401 S. Lindberg Blvd, St. Louis.. Mass will begin at 12:30 PM

# Honor Guard Events

- Permanent Diaconate Ordination --- Saturday, June 20 @ 10:00 AM at Cathedral in KC
- Saturday, August 15 - The Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau will be holding a Eucharistic Congress
  - Location: West Plains Civic Center, West Plains
  - Time: Doors will open at 8:30 AM with the Opening Eucharistic Procession and Opening Prayer beginning at 10:00 AM.
- Thursday, September 24 - Beatification Mass for Bishop Fulton Sheen
  - Location - The Dome at the America's Center, St. Louis
  - Time: 2:00 PM

# Upcoming Exemplifications

## **Friday, June 12**

Location: St. John Henry Newman Parish, Columbia

Time: Exemplification will begin at 7:00 PM

## **Saturday, August 22**

Location: St. Augustine Catholic Church, Kelso

Time: Degree will begin between 9:30-10:00 AM

## **Saturday, October 3**

Location: St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Ozark

Time: Degree will begin between 9:30-10:00 AM.

## **Saturday, October 24**

Location: St. Clair of Assisi, Ellisville

Time: Degree will begin between 9:30-10:00 AM



# Upcoming Events

## Important Dates for 2026

- **May 21, 2026**
  - Business Meeting 7pm
  - Election of Officers
- **May 23, 2026 - DATE CHANGE**
  - Memorial Day. Assist Cass Co, VFW Post #4409 with flag placing



# Upcoming Events

## Important Dates for 2026

- **Jun 7, 2026**

- Honor Guard and Corpus Christi Procession

- **July 16, 2026**

- Business Meeting 7pm



**AMERICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS WILL CONSECRATE THE UNITED STATES TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS IN JUNE 2026.**

**THE DECISION WAS MADE AT THE 2025 FALL PLENARY ASSEMBLY IN BALTIMORE, WITH A WIDE MAJORITY OF VOTES IN FAVOR.**

**THE CONSECRATION IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, WHICH IN 2026 FALLS ON JUNE 12.**

**THE YEAR 2026 ALSO PROVIDES THE CONTEXT FOR THE SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED STATES (CELEBRATING 250 YEARS SINCE 1776).**

# Upcoming Events

## Important Dates for 2026

- **September 5, 2026**
  - Joseph Gerke Memorial Mass
- **September 12, 2026**
  - Begin Food for Veterans Drive



# Upcoming Events

## Important Dates for 2026

- **September 17, 2026**
  - Social Meeting
- **November 8, 2026**
  - End Food for Veterans Drive
- **November 19, 2026**
  - Flag Retirement Ceremony



# Upcoming Events

## Important Dates for 2026

- **November 22, 2026**
  - Honor Guard for Feast of Christ the King
- **December 19, 2026**
  - Wreaths Across America

**\*\* Note: Additional events / opportunities will be added to the calendar through-out 2026\*\***



# Closing Thoughts - Medal of Honor Military Chaplains



HIGH CALLING  
PROGRAM

**DID YOU KNOW?**

5 of the 9  
military chaplains  
who have  
received the  
Medal of Honor  
were Catholic  
priests?

*Meet the priests who brought faith  
and courage to the battlefield...*

»»»

We continue to explore each one over the next 3 newsletters.

# Closing Thoughts - Medal of Honor Military Chaplains



## FR. CHARLES J. WATTERS (VIETNAM WAR – ARMY)

In the thick of the battle, Fr. Watters ran through gunfire again and again—carrying wounded paratroopers to safety, giving last rites, and refusing to rest while others were in danger.

Even after the order to pull back, he went out three more times to rescue the fallen.

*A New Jersey Air Guard chapel is named in his honor.*



# Closing Prayer

## Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.