

Highland Council 1580

Grand Knight: Jacob Rose

Deputy Grand Knight:
Blake Kohlbrecher

Financial Secretary: Dan McCloud

Chancellor: Tim Lucia

Recorder: Tyler Beck

Treasurer: Craig Wieseman

Advocate: Terry Marks

Warden: John Kapp, Jr.

Trustees: Kim White, Ken Krausz, and
Wayne Henze

Chaplain: Fr. Pat Jakel

Upcoming Events

Council Meeting 7 pm
Second Tuesday of the Month
Bingo Every Wednesday

Jan. 3

KC District Deputy Meeting
9:00 AM, St Jerome, Troy

Jan. 15

Higland Chamber of Commerce
Business After Hours Highland KC
Hall 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Jan. 16

Relevant Trivia Night Highland KC
Hall Doors Open 6:30 PM

Jan. 17

Sheriff Jeff Conner 5th Annual
Trivia Night
Doors Open 6:00 PM

Jan. 23

KC Community Trivia Highland KC
Hall Doors Open 6:00 PM

Jan. 25

KC Chicken Dinner
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Drive Thru

Contact Us!

Council Website:
www.highlandkc.org

Supreme Council Website:
www.KofC.org

Email:
knightshighland@gmail.com

Hall Phone:
618-654-9049

Knight Times



Volume 43, Issue 1

January 2026

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE: JANUARY 2026

My Brother Knights, and friends,

Happy New Year!

Thank you to everyone that braved the weather and came to our Christmas Party. Many thanks to everyone who made the celebration possible. A big THANK YOU TO ROSE KEPPLER and the team that put out our Christmas Decorations! Rose is truly a gift to our community and council, using her hospitality skills! Another special thank you to the Columbus Club for assisting with the bartender, and our kitchen crew. Lastly, thank you Amanda Wick and your team for providing the music.

Hope you all got the opportunity to meet our new Semi-

narian, Samuel Lutostanski, and thank you all for giving such good hospitality in making him feel welcome as he integrates back into our parish. Sam told me he was very excited with his journey so far, getting to know all of us (or reacquainted!), and will be giving prayers for us. Lastly, special shout out to Father Pat in helping Sam and anyone else who was involved in getting reacquainted with the Parish.

We have a couple events at the end of this month. A friendly reminder that we have our KSHE KC Blood Drive on Friday, December 26th from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. Impact life really appreciates our support in

providing them the hall, and brother Weiseman has reported that out turnouts have been booked for these types of drives. So please check in on them!

Don't forget! We have a SPECIAL BINGO on DECEMBER 31ST!

Lastly, I will be making calls after the holidays for our Drive Thru Chicken Dinner on January 25th, and don't forget about our KC Community Trivia Night on January 23rd!

Hope you all have a safe new year!

Vivat Jesus!

Jacob W. Rose
Grand Knight



DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT: KC members and guests, including local priests and representatives from the 14 organizations that Council 1580 supports, enjoyed a meal by the KC Fry Crew and entertainment by Amanda Wick and friends.

Photo Contributed



KNIGHT OF THE YEAR:

Craig Weisman (center) was present the Knight of the Year Award by Grand Knight Jacob Rose (left) and Deputy Grand Knight Blake Kohlbrecher (right). Craig serves as the Council Treasurer.

Photo Contributed

SENIOR KNIGHT OF THE MONTH, KNIGHT OF THE MONTH, AND FAMILY OF THE MONTH AWARDS

SENIOR KNIGHT OF THE MONTH:

Our Brother Knight is a member of St. Paul parish and a member of our Council. A past Chancellor, assisted with our activities with the Madison county fair in the past and currently assists with our Bowling Tournaments. It is with great appreciation that we honor as Senior Knight of the Month for December 2025, Tracy Poehling. Congratulations from the Knights of Columbus – Council 1580!



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH:

This brother knight is a member of St. Paul Parish, and a

staple within our community. Whenever someone has a question of what is going on in our community, our city council, or another organization, this is the brother knight to go to. This brother knight is a member of St. Paul Parish, currently serves as our Warden, and assists with nearly all council functions. While outside of our council, he participates in many family activities, and get togethers, most of all, spending time with his Brother Dan. A wonderful person and gentle soul to speak to, it is with great appreciation that we honor as Knight of the Month for December

2025, Johnny Kapp. Congratulations from the Knights of Columbus Council 1580!



FAMILY OF THE MONTH:

This December's Family of the Month Award is given to a family for their continued service and support to the Church, as well as our school. This Knight currently serves as Chancellor of our council, Editor of our Newsletter, and a retired Capitan of the Highland Fire Department. While working a full time job, this brother Knight makes time by assisting in our fundraisers and many council activities. His Lady is Director of the

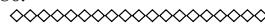
Viking Kid Care Program at St. Paul School and works as an aide in the Junior Kindergarten classroom, providing a much needed role in assisting kids in the classroom. Outside of her work, she focuses on the mission of faith and supporting members of our community through small acts. While she sings in the choir, together, they serve as Eucharistic Ministers at weekend masses. It is with deep appreciation and love that we have selected the family of the month, for December 2025, Timothy and Lori Lucia. Congratulations, from Council 1580.



SENIOR KNIGHT OF THE YEAR, KNIGHT OF THE YEAR, FAMILY OF THE YEAR, AND LADY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

SENIOR KNIGHT OF THE YEAR:

Selected as our Senior Knight of the Year, is our immediate Past Grand Knight, Kenneth Krauz. While aside from serving as a trustee for our council, brother Krauz spends much energy in serving as Treasurer of the Columbus Club using his Financial Skills to better communicate to his fellow board members and our council, the current status of the Columbus club finances. Brother Krauz is also responsible for his advocacy and efforts to improve the usage of our hall with the incorporation of our Sunday Dances. A friendly face to talk to and always able to give advice. Ken Krauz, congratulations again from the Knights of Columbus Council #1580.



KNIGHT OF THE YEAR:

Selected as Knight of the Year for 2025, is Brother Knight Craig Wieseman. Brother Wieseman contributes a lot of his time to our council while serving in different roles such as our Treasurer, our Columbus club board of directors, and organizes all of our quarterly blood

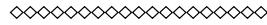
drives. Through Craig's work with Impact Life, Impact Life has been successful in increasing its work in the metro east area. Outside of our council, Brother Wieseman works full time while taking care of his family, and attends St. Paul Parish with them. Craig Wieseman, congratulations again from the Knights of Columbus Council #1580.



FAMILY OF THE YEAR:

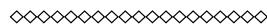
Selected as our Family of the year for 2025 is Dennis and Mary Jo Kampwerth. The Kampwerths are an exemplary model of what it means to build up the domestic church, and serve the community doing what they do best, Hospitality. Dennis, and Mary Jo (along with many others) responsible for the food preparation of dozens of events throughout each year, from Funeral Visitation Lunches, family reunions, to council functions. While providing for Council Functions, the Kampwerths, along with the rest of the team, ask for nothing in return. Always wonderful to speak with, Dennis, Mary Jo, with, congratulations again

from the Knights of Columbus Council #1580.



LADY OF THE YEAR:

Our lady of the year for 2025 is Rose Clarkin does for our Community, Parish, Ladies Auxiliary, and our Council. Rose has served as Treasurer for the Auxiliary for over 10 years, staying over an extra year. Rose is one bedrock of our community, from the fundraising to the rosaries she helps facilitate.



APPRECIATION AWARDS:

We want to express our appreciation and thankfulness for our Brother Knight, Dave Gall. Brother Gall is truly a bedrock of our council, having served the Knights of Columbus in many roles. More roles than what many of us could likely count, being a Past Grand Knight, Past Faithful Navigator, Past District Deputy, and most recently, our Past Secretary after serving many years. Brother Gall continues to provide support for our council in anyway he can, serving as our Hall Manager, helping facilitate many coun-

cil functions and fundraisers, Brother Gall is truly a blessing on our community.

We want to express our appreciation to Bill and Monette Augustin for their work, on behalf of St. Paul Parish, for the Soulard Men's Shelter. The Augustins, on behalf of the parish, are responsible for providing a meal to over 60 individuals at the shelter once a month. This is truly of caring for the poor and needy. This facility helps those in giving them a new chance at life and rebuilding themselves.

We want to express our appreciation for all the work that Pat White does. Pat is responsible for helping with many of the functions at our Parish, Auxiliary, and Council. Most notably, Pat is responsible for the baking of many pies for various functions, the beautification of our exterior sign at the hall, and the instrumental work of the Mega Flea Market for Kitchenfest. Along with her husband, Pat White is truly a blessing among us!

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS: NANCY GENTEMAN, SECRETARY

New Year's Greetings! It's time for new beginnings and a fresh start! A traditional time that we make resolutions! Who wants to remain the same as before? I know I don't. I want to improve myself both personally and continue to grow in the Lord.

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

2 Peter 3:18

As we embark on a new year, on behalf of the board, I wanted to thank those who volunteered and participated with the auxilia-

ry in 2025. We had a busy year helping the Knights with their various dinners, bingo, Sunday dances, and Disability Awareness Day. We were also busy with our own fundraisers, such as the quilt raffles, bake sales, butter braid sales, bowling tournaments, and the spring garage sale. Without your help and support, these fundraisers would not have been successful. Now would be a good time to make your resolution to become more involved with the auxiliary in 2026.

We have some upcoming events so mark your calendars...

The outing to the Old Cathedral originally scheduled for Sunday, January 4, 2026 has been postponed. We will let you know more once the details have been finalized.

The auxiliary will continue to assist the Knights during Wednesday Night Bingo. Help is needed in the kitchen. Please contact Jan Abbott if you are able to help.

The Knights will be sponsoring their annual chicken dinner on Sunday, January 25, 2026. We will be selling raffle tickets at the dinner and helping out with desserts.

There will be more information forthcoming.

Don't forget to pay your dues to Rose Clarkin.

In closing, ponder this quote from the singer, Brad Paisley regarding the new year,

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one!"

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

January

By Tim Lucia, Chancellor

Off to a running start this year, lots's happening at the hall this month ! Check out the calendar for all the events, if you like Trivia, this month is your month, and don't miss February either, just as busy! With this year's coming 50th year celebration it will be an exciting year for the Council!

And that's where we would like to ask for your much needed help, there's a need for help in contacting members for all events, we are looking to bring back the Call Captain system. This is important in ensuring there is enough help for each event, if you can step up

and be a Captain and contact members to fill time slots for events it would be greatly appreciated!

To become a Captain send an e-mail to editor.knighttimes@gmail.com

This is a great way to serve your council, and live your faith at home, church, and in the community. Our parish has many needs also,

volunteering to be a Hospitality Minister, or Eucharistic Minister is a way to serve the Parish and as a Knight it fulfills our obligation to our Fraternal organization.

Enjoy the Day.

NEWS FROM THE FOURTH DEGREE FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR JOE WHALEN

Hope everyone had a great and Blessed Christmas. It was a time to reflect on why Jesus came into the world and what he has done for us.

In November we had forty-three Knights that made the decision to become Sir Knights and continue to help deliver the good will of our Lord. How exciting! From now until the end of January the Assembly is reimbursing \$250.00 to any Highland 4 th degree

member that choose to get their uniform, which is about half the cost.

We will be having another raffle to help support the uniform fund. First prize is \$1500 and second prize is \$1000. The tickets cost \$20 each. Everyone have a great and happy new year.

SAVE THE DATE – HIGHLAND KNIGHTS TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, January 23, 2026 – Highland Illinois Knights of Columbus – Council 1580 – presents their second annual community trivia night, hosted by Jeff Herman.

We realize many of the organizations that we have assisted with support are looking for ways to earn funds for their daily needs. So, we are providing an opportunity for the organizations that we have partnered with in the past to earn some funds while having a night of FUN at the trivia night.

For every table that registers as being associated with your organi-

zation, you will receive a portion of money back to your organization. This will be returned to your organization sometime after the event.

The event will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 12454 IL Route 143, Highland, IL on January 23, 2026. Doors open at 6 pm and trivia begins at 7 pm. There will be cash prizes for 1st place, mulligans, and 50/50 drawing. Popcorn is provided. You are welcome to bring your own snacks. Drinks must be purchased at the K of C Hall.

The cost is \$160 per an 8-person table (\$20 per person).

To register, send a check payable to 'Knights of Columbus – Council 1580', along with a list of attendees to: Dan McCloud, Highland Knights of Columbus, PO Box 195, Highland, IL, 62249.

For additional information, please contact Dan McCloud at 618-531-8082 or by e-mail at: dan29.mccloud@gmail.com . Please include the phrase "KC Trivia Night" in the subject line.



Highland Knights of Columbus

January 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Knights of Columbus INSURANCE YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE Niemeyer Agency 618-526-7991				1 New Year's Day	2	3 KC District Deputy Meeting 9:00 AM, St Jerome, Troy Private Event
4	5 7:00 PM Fourth Degree	6 7:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 PM Columbus Club 8:00 PM KC Officers	7 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	8	9	10 Private Event
11	12 Boy Scouts	13 7:00 PM Council Meeting	14 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	15 Highland Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Highland KC Hall 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	16 Relevant Trivia Night Highland KC Hall Doors Open 6:30 PM Trivia Begins 7:00 PM	17 Sheriff Jeff Conner 5th Annual Trivia Night Doors Open 6:00 PM Trivia Begins 7:00 PM
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr.	20	21 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	22	23 KC Community Trivia Highland KC Hall Doors Open 6:00 PM Trivia Begins 7:00 PM	24
25 KC Chicken Dinner 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Drive Thru \$14.00	26 Boy Scouts	27	28 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	29	30	31



Highland Knights of Columbus

February 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 KC District Free Throw Contest 12:00 Noon Father McGivny H.S.	2 Groundhog Day 7:00 PM Fourth Degree	3 7:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 PM Columbus Club 8:00 PM KC Officers	4 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	5	6	7
8 KC Spelling Bee Doors Open 12:00 PM Bee Begins 1:00 PM	9 Boy Scouts	10 7:00 PM Council Meeting	11 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	12	13 Viking Night Dinner Auction Highland KC Hall Doors Open 5:00 PM	14 Valentine's Day
"Big Game" Wing Sales 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM						
15 KC Sunday Dance 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Jeff Caldwell and the Vinyl Frontier	16 Presidents Day	17 Fat Tuesday Special Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	18 Ash Wednesday KC Lenten Fish Fry 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	19	20 KC Lenten Fish Fry 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	21
22 Washington's Birthday	23 Boy Scouts	24	25 Bingo Doors Open 5:00 PM Games Start 7:00 PM Euchre 7:00 PM	26	27 KC Lenten Fish Fry 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	28

HELP WANTED – POSITION OPENING SOON!!!

We are looking for someone who would like to step-up and be a leader to take over the Financial Secretary position. We are looking for someone who takes pride in serving their faith and community.

Duties:

- Sending bills to members and applying their payments to the KC software.
- Verify the monthly payments from the treasurer and mailing them.
- Completing a memoriam form when a member dies.
- Giving approximately 1-2 hours per week (Flexible times)
- Training will be provided and step-by-step documentation is available.

Reason for Vacancy: The term is expiring for the current Financial Secretary.

This is a great position to be an integral part of the Highland Knights of Columbus and learn about the organization. Please contact the Grand Knight, Jacob Rose, if you are interested.



OBITUARIES

We pray for those who have passed in the month of December and their families.

Marilyn Rudolph, wife of deceased brother knight Max Rudolph
Donna Budde Wife of Brother Knight-Tony Budde

PRAYER REQUEST CORNER

Please remember in your prayers any Brother Knights, Ladies Auxiliary, or their families who may be going through health struggles, financial struggles, or personal struggles.

Lord,

Grant peace of mind and healing to those who need it. Be with them through all their worries and struggles. Help them find comfort in your presence.

In this we pray.

Amen

KNIGHT SPOTLIGHT

Please wear your Knights of Columbus Shirts To Church on the Second Sunday of the Month



NEWS FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

IT'S DUES TIME !

As the Holidays pass us by, I hope you get to enjoy it with your family and friends.

Seeing that the new year is upon us, I wanted to let you know that the Knights of Columbus dues statement have been mailed to all the members in early December. You can pay these by dropping it off at the KC Hall (8:30am – 12pm, Monday – Friday) or mailing to the address below:

Knights of Columbus –
Highland Council 1580
PO Box 195
Highland, IL 62249

Your dues help support many of the activities that we sponsor. Your membership is greatly appreciated..

Vivat Jesus!
Dan McCloud
Financial Secretary –
Highland Council 1580
Email: Dan29.McCloud@gmail.com

Wayne Branger Member since 1979

Fred Donni Member since 1967

Jeremy Eilers Member since 2017

Luke Goring Member since 2023

Thank you for becoming a Knight !



FAMILY OF THE YEAR: Dennis and Mary Jo Kampwerth received the Family of the Year Award for their commitment to the success of the KC Chicken Friers.

Photo Contributed

FROM THE EDITORS

We are mostly an email newsletter now, so please let us know if you would rather receive the email version as opposed to the print.

If your email is currently on our mailing list, but you have not received the email newsletter, check your spam folder, sometimes it likes to hide out there.

For those that like having the print edition or do not have an email address, no worries! We will have a limited number of copies available at the Church and KC Hall.

If you haven't already, go on over to @HighlandKnightsofColumbusCouncil1580 at Facebook.com and give us a like and a follow! We're doing some fun things over there such as live-streams

of various events, articles from our newsletter, and notices about our events or contributions to our community. It's a fun time over there!

The Ladies Auxiliary have a Facebook page as well. Go give them a like and follow if you haven't already. They can be found @LadiesAuxiliary-Council1580,Highland KnightsofColumbus

As usual, if you have a change of address or email, please contact the council to update their records. The council is charged for postage when the newsletter is sent back.

Please do not hesitate to email me with any questions or concerns or even ideas for articles. You can email me at editor.knighttimes@gmail.com. Our Facebook page is also a great new line

of communication. We're usually pretty quick to respond!

And as always, the council's website is a fantastic source for additional information. Please check it out at www.highlandkc.org.

Thank you for reading!



SETTING SAIL: A CHRISTMAS TIME VOYAGE



THE CREW: Members of the crew faced cold weather, wind, and eager, but festive crowds at the Highland Lighted Christmas Parade and the St. Jacob Christmas Parade.

Photo Contributed



THE VESSEL: The ship float all lit up at the Highland Lighted Christmas Parade.

Photo Contributed

The Highland Knights of Columbus boat float has sailed again! This time for two Christmas parades to end the 2025 season. Prior to these events, the boat was in drydock. Four ship mates painted, glued, nailed, installed signs and provided general repairs. The team included Captain Dennis Weber along with First Mate Ron Williams, Ensign Gerry Klosterman and Swabbie John Genteman. In 2025 the boat sailed the treacherous waters of Highland and St. Jacob twice and has even travelled to the far shores of Grantfork and Marine.

Thank you to the many who have endeared the challenges of scurvy and Davey Jones

locker on these voyages. Including Dennis Weber, Myron Potthast, Gerry Klosterman, Ron and Jean Williams, Ken Krausz, Rick Aholt, Kevin Lamparter, Marvin and Connie Grapperhaus, Tyler Beck, Dave Thole, Terry Marks, Matt Dermondy, Scott and Ben Wick, John Kapp, John and Nancy Genteman along with their dog Walter. My apologies to anyone who has sailed but wasn't mentioned. Let me know and I will include you in the log prior to walking the plank. If anyone is interested in joining the crew, let anyone mentioned know. Next ship will sail in the summer of 2026. Anchors away and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

