

# The Anchor

## Grand Knight's Message

Dear Brother Knights,

As we look ahead to the future, it is important to reflect on the incredible work we have done together to build and maintain our council home. Our efforts have not only improved our physical space but have also strengthened our community and commitment to each other.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the members who participated in our Saturday Clean-up days. Your dedication and hard work have made a significant impact. A special thank you goes out to those who went above and beyond, contributing their time and skills to maintenance projects such as plumbing, painting, and restoring and installing our new building sign. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful for your contributions.

As we continue to build for the future, it is crucial that we focus on engaging our current members and recruiting new ones. Our council's growth and success depend on the active participation and support of each member. I encourage all of you to bring in a new member this year before our June 30<sup>th</sup>, the end of the fiscal year. Together, we can ensure that our council continues to thrive and make a positive impact on our community. Dates for upcoming Exemplification Degree ceremonies will be announced at our next council meeting. Let's make this a banner year for bringing in new members who can really help Council 551 make a greater impact on the community in 2025!

Thank you once again for your dedication and hard work. Let's continue to build a bright future for our council.

Fraternally yours,

Bill  
Grand Knight



## District/State/Supreme News

In January's monthly council meeting, we elected officers to serve on the 1492 Home association. Members elected (or re-elected) to the Home Association board and will serve a 2-year term are: Frank Goss, Kevin Byrne, Rick Tomlinson, Mike O'Connor, and Mike Miller. Congratulations on your re-election.

Rick Tomlinson and Erick VanOrmer recently completed restoring and installing our new building sign. Over the last several months, they secured new plexiglass, refurbished the metal casing, painted, and installed new lighting. The new sign looks great! Thank you to Pat Symanski and Allegheny Glass & Mirror who donated the plexiglass and paid for the printing of the sign! Thank you, gentlemen, for your hard work on completing this update.

## Anniversaries

2025 will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Council building which was formerly opened in 1925. We are planning a dedication and celebration to mark the anniversary. Stay tuned for further plans in the coming months. Additionally, 2026 will be the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Council. Planning for an event to celebrate this will begin in 2025.

## COUNCIL NEWS

**KofC Rental Space** – The rental space 1506 12<sup>th</sup> Ave (space to the right of the building) is available for rent. If you know of any small business or nonprofit in need of space, please spread the word. Interested parties can contact the club at (814) 942-6262 or kofc551@gmail.com.

**C.O.A.L Tickets**

Chance of a Lifetime (C.O.A.L) Tickets are here! Two tickets are available in this newsletter. More are available for purchase at the club. Please sell or purchase your two tickets (or more) and return to the club no later than Friday March 28. This deadline ensures we make \$2.50 per ticket (money goes back to our Council). Tickets returned after April 1<sup>st</sup> up to April 30<sup>th</sup> will still be eligible, our council just makes less per ticket. \$65,000 in total prize money available with \$15,000 as first prize and \$1,000 as the lowest winning prize. Please make any check payable to Knights of Columbus 551. More tickets can be requested by calling the club at (814) 942-6262 and leaving a message or email [kofc551@gmail.com](mailto:kofc551@gmail.com) with your name and quantity requested.

**Hoagie Sale** – Our last two hoagie sales were tremendously successful selling almost 1,000 hoagies. The hoagie sales provide an important influx of capital to help maintain the building and cover utilities through the winter months. The turnout of volunteers for our Hoagie sales has been great and we could always use a few more hands. Keep an eye out for future hoagies sales and pitch in when you can. Thank you.

**Council 551 Nite at the Races** – Our next Nite at the Races is Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 6pm and races start at 7pm. We will also stream The Preakness prior to the event. Tickets will be available next month and are \$50 for two people. We can use help at the event with small games selling rip-tickets and 50/50. Consider bringing someone you think would be a good candidate for membership to introduce them to the Council. It's always a great time, and your help is always appreciated.

**Council Football Parties:**

The Council hosted several parties for members and guests to celebrate the CFP playoffs and championship as well as the Superbowl. It was a great opportunity for members to get together socially. We hope to continue doing similar events in the future.

With each event, we collected boxes of cereal to donate to the SVDP Food Panty. In all, we donated over 100 boxes. Nice job all!

**Our Lady of Lourdes Fish Fry:**

OLL Parish will be hosting a Fish Fry dinner for dine-in or take-out beginning Friday, March 7 through Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>! Open at 3PM for TAKEOUT or 4PM for EAT IN. Joe Franco, a recent OLL Council transfer, is asking for Council 551's help with prepping and working the fish fry's. As you know, OLL Council recently disbanded, and several members have transferred into Council 551 and have been active in our Council. This is a great opportunity to help some Brother Knights in need as well as an excellent way to prepare our hearts and minds for lent. To sign up to help on any day, contact brother Knight, Joe Franco, at (814) 932-6129. All volunteers also get a discounted meal!

**Knights of Columbus Insurance**

Congratulations to **Mike McAndrew**, our Worthy Field Agent, who was recently promoted to Asst. General Agent. In his new role, Mike will continue to serve his current membership as well as lead a team of agents in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. Congratulations Mike!

**\*\*\*NEXT MEETING MARCH 6th – 8PM\*\*\***

**Note: THE BLESSED ROSARY RECITED AT 7:45PM**

**Upcoming Events:**

March 6 – Monthly Council Meeting, 8pm – Rosary recited at 7:45pm

March 27<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly Monthly Meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Degree Members only), 7pm, Hollidaysburg Start of the Sea Council Hall

April 3 – Monthly Council Meeting, 8pm – Rosary Recited at 7:45pm

April 13 – Palm Sunday (April 17 Holy Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> Good Friday)

April 20 – Easter Sunday

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Council 551 Nite at the Races