

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 10354

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization of Catholic men. It was started in 1882 by Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney in Connecticut to serve primarily orphans and widows. The four pillars of the Knights of Columbus are: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Since its founding in 1990, Council 10354 has done its best to uphold these principles and to protect and serve human life at all its stages and support the Church and its Priests. To those ends, Council 10354 has contributed finances and volunteer hours performing charitable works in our Parishes and in the community. Some of the highlights of these many activities of 2018 are as follows:

Knights performed the Last Supper Reenactment during the Lenten Season to four different parishes in the Diocese. During the presentation, the Twelve Apostles make personal testimonials concerning how they came to follow Jesus and how He has changed their lives. By “stepping out of the DaVinci Last Supper painting,” the disciples give the audience a new insight and understanding of the call to ministry, the betrayal of Jesus, and the institution of the Eucharist.

Several Council members are deep into Prison Ministry and work at various positions in the Kairos and Epiphany Movements. Their ultimate goals are to convince and prevent vulnerable youths from choosing the wrong paths in life and to give prisoners a chance to reform their lives and experience love and forgiveness, for maybe the first time.

A handful of Knights kept up the grounds at St. Elizabeth for two and one half months during the recovery of Rex Gill from a serious heart condition. The Knights also did minor repairs at the church and parish hall. These men trimmed bushes around the church and kept the grass mowed at the rectory, the church, and the parish hall at no cost to the parishioners for their work. Two Knights also volunteered to cut the limbs away from the rectory roof while Father was away.

Knights smoked over 200 Boston butts on two occasions (Super Bowl weekend and Columbus Day weekend) to raise monies to support two seminarians, the Priesthood Scholarship Fund, and the Intellectual Disabilities Campaign (the Tootsie Roll Drive).

Knights served as ushers for the Healing and Deliverance Service and Fourth Degree Knights participated in an Honor Guard in full regalia for Bishop Baker’s first visit to St. Henry. They contributed to the financial support of the Clergy/Religious Appreciation dinner and a few Knights were able to attend and personally thank our priests, deacons, and religious for their great work in the Diocese.

Knights through the North Jefferson Charity raised monies to purchase 301 food baskets for needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas...delivering 201 of those baskets to the Catholic Center of Concern.

These are only a few of the many activities and projects conducted by the Council in 2018. They have reported over 70 individual charitable functions benefiting the church, the community, the council, families, youth, and pro-life movements. They have donated their time as lectors, ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, sacristans, choir etc. They have accumulated thousands of volunteer hours whenever called on by the Church and by its people.