



Knights of Columbus NEWS



Parkersburg Council 594 ■ John M. Yencha Assembly 1187

June 2026

From the Grand Knight's Desk

Brothers of Parkersburg Council 594:

We have an exciting summer ahead of us. Things start off with installation of Council and Assembly officers on June 18th. We will also be presenting scholarship checks to this year's recipients, as well as recognizing other achievements. This is an important evening. Please try to attend. And, of course, everyone should have August 22 on their calendar by now. Planning for our 125th Anniversary celebration and banquet is well underway. The evening will begin with Mass, followed by live music, a catered dinner, and a short program followed by dancing. Invitations will be going out later this month.

Vivat Jesus,
Joe Stocking, Grand Knight

From the Faithful Navigator's Desk

Sir Knights of John M. Yencha Assembly 1187:

If you aren't already aware, Assembly 1187 received The Star Assembly Award for Patriotism for the 2024-2025 fraternal year. This was announced at the Annual State Knights of Columbus Convention held a few weeks ago in Wheeling. The Award was accepted on our behalf by Brothers and Sir Knights Joe Stocking and Jim Udel. This is something we can all be proud of. The way things have gone this year I think it's entirely possible we could see a repeat for 2025-2026.

A few weeks ago, Tina Perkins indicated that, on behalf of Obermeyer's Florist, they would like to donate a wreath to be placed at the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery flagpole EVERY Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Tina donated the wreath for the Flagpole Dedication last November and participated in the wreath laying with Roger Nedeff. This past Memorial Day Tina, and her daughter Regan, delivered a beautiful wreath to the cemetery. Tina, Roger and I, placed the wreath by the flagpole. What an amazing and generous gift. The next time you do business or just happen to be in the area, stop and let Tina and Obermeyer's know how much their support and donation is appreciated.

Besides patriotic projects, which Fourth Degree performs on a fairly regular basis, one of the most rewarding things we do is providing an Honor Guard when requested. This past Memorial Day weekend Don Durochia and I had the privilege of providing an Honor Guard for two very special events:

Pentecost Sunday, May 24. Deacon Jerry Showalter celebrated his 45th. Diaconate Ordination Anniversary. Jerry is the longest serving Deacon in the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese. His was ordained on Pentecost Sunday 45 years ago. Don and I led a procession of 6 priests, 9 deacons and 7 altar servers. After the 11 am mass, a luncheon was held in the Parish Hall.

Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. Due to inclement weather, the outdoor mass scheduled for Mt. Carmel was moved indoors to St. Margaret Mary Church. Once again Don and I led the procession. Fr. John Rice gave an excellent homily and Greg Garvin playing "Taps", echoing through the church, still gives me goose bumps.

By the time you read this, it will have already happened. Fr. Sebastian requested an Honor Guard on June 7th. for the Corpus Christi Mass at 11:00 am. Don Durochia, Mike McDougale, Joe Stocking and I will carry the canopy and lead a procession from the church to the Catholic School Memorial. A pot luck lunch will be served afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Installation of Officers for Council 594, and for Assembly 1187, for the 2026-2027 Fraternal Year will be held June 18, 7:00 PM at the Council Hall.

The GK reminded me that this will be my last contribution to the newsletter since my term as FN has come to an end. So I'll end it with a final plea, plug, commercial (whatever you want to call it). If you don't have one, consider purchasing the new uniform. Currently only six members of our Assembly have the new regalia. Of those six, only two were available to serve as Honor Guard Memorial Day weekend. The more we have in uniform, the easier it is to fulfill requests. Yes, the uniforms are expensive. Right now the assembly will put give a \$150 refund to any member who purchases a uniform as long as we maintain a minimum \$500 balance in the assembly account. Once that limit is met we will have fund raisers to replenish the account. In my opinion, one of the most important aspects of being an Honor Guard is to honor the request of the family to provide an Honor Guard during the visitation hours of a Sir Knight that has passed. Some things you can't put a price on. We save up for other things that are important to us.



Finally, it has been my pleasure to be your Faithful Navigator for the past year and a half or so. Everything we accomplished, we accomplished together. Thanks for your help and for keeping me focused. God bless you all.

Vivat Jesus! God Bless America!
Mike Pollock, Faithful Navigator

Council Awards

Brother Jim Udell and I had the privilege of representing Council 594 at this year's State Convention in Wheeling. The weekend started Friday evening with Mass celebrating Bishop Brennan's 50th anniversary of his ordination. Of particular note, our Council received the following awards: Faith in Action, Newsletter, and Family. These awards are only given to one Council in the state each year!

Our Grand Knight Joe Stocking (left) accepting one of the three awards presented to Council 594.



Memorial Day Mass

Our annual Memorial Day Mass was held at St. Margaret Mary this year instead of Mt. Carmel Cemetery. Thank you to everyone who helped coordinate the day, and the change in venue.



Memorial Cross Project at PCHS

The Memorial Cross Project will be placed on Saturday, June 13, at 8 a.m., on the lawn of Parkersburg Catholic High School. Take down is Saturday, June 27, at 8 a.m. The Memorial Cross Project of approximately 3,123 white crosses is displayed, symbolizing the 3,123 unborn babies lost daily in the U.S. to clinician-provided abortions. 1,142,970 abortions in 2024 is the most recent data. The crosses serve as a reminder of God's forgiveness and healing.

The Knights of Columbus and Catholics for Life invite you to assist in placing the crosses and/or taking them down. Your help is invaluable, and all are welcome. The setup should take around ninety minutes with sufficient volunteers. If you can, please bring gloves and a mallet.

For information, call or text Katie Walters at 304-481-0578, Sunny at 304-482-6193, or respond to email. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the past. If you are unable to join us, we ask that you pray for an end to abortion. For pregnancy help, call 304-485-7113. For families in need with children ages 2 and under, call the Gabriel Project at 304-422-6786.



Vinyl Record Show

Did you know the Council Hall is available for rentals* – not just bingo? On May 17th Sound Exchange held a record show at the hall. This is becoming an annual event, and is quite well attended!

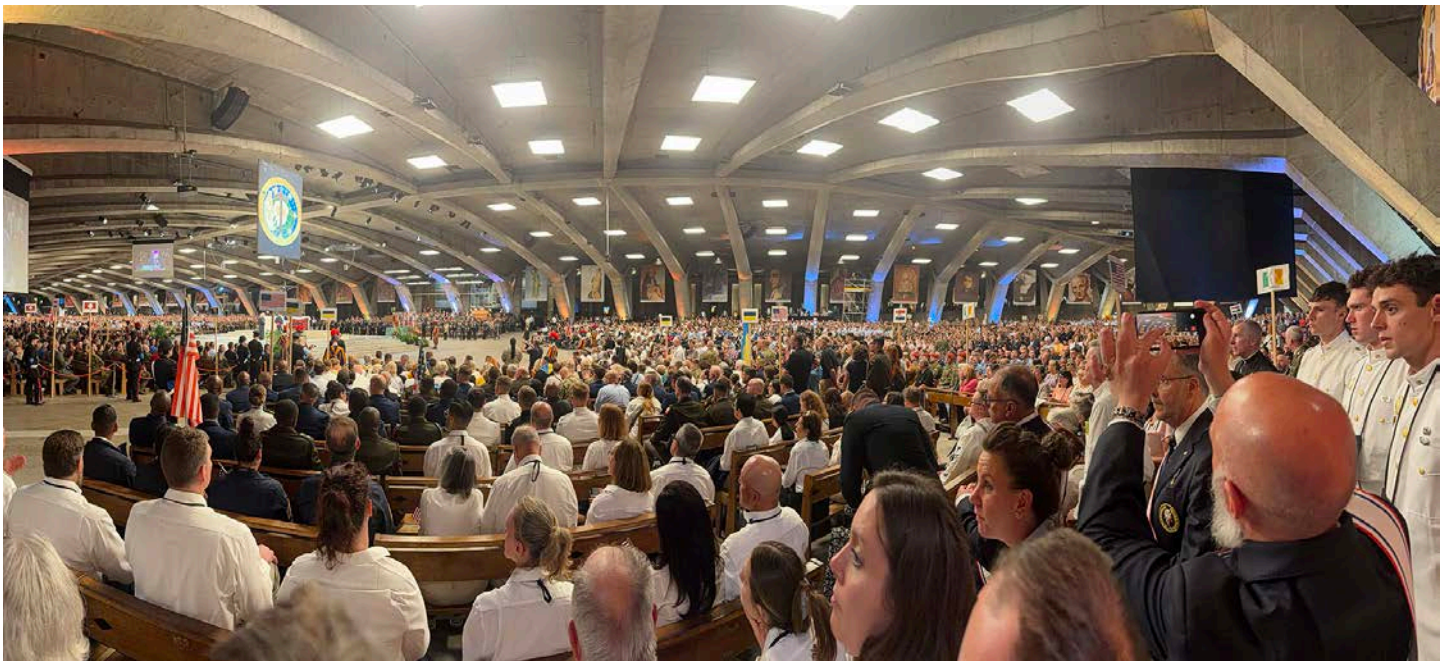


*Rental events must be sponsored by a member of this Council in good standing.

The Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage

Since 2013, the Knights of Columbus has partnered with the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, to sponsor the annual Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage.

Brother and Sir Knight Shawn McKenna was chosen to be a part of the Lourdes Pilgrimage this year. I've had a chance to hear a little bit about his trip and, well, it is truly humbling to know how great this experience was for him. To learn more about this program please visit: <https://www.warriorstolourdes.com/>





2025-2026 Council Officers

Chaplain	Very Rev. John Rice
Grand Knight	Joe Stocking
Deputy Grand Knight	Don Durochia
Chancellor	Kevin Simonton
Recorder	Dick Noel
Treasurer	John Pellegrin
Financial Secretary	David Walters
Advocate	Jim Udell
Warden	Lou Taylor
Inside Guard	Mike Pollock
Outside Guard	Kenyon Felder
Trustee (3 Year)	Harry Helmick
Trustee (2 Year)	Butch Joseph
Trustee (1 Year)	Drew Kefeli
Field Agent	Jack Walsh

Council Meeting: Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m.



2025-2026 Assembly Officers

Faithful Friar:	Very Rev. John Rice
Faithful Navigator:	SK Mike Pollock
Faithful Captain:	SK Don Durochia
Faithful Comptroller:	SK Michael McDougale
Faithful Scribe:	SK Evan Durochia
Faithful Purser:	SK Joe Stocking
Faithful Pilot:	SK Kevin Simonton
Faithful Inner Sentinel:	SK Chandler Davis
Faithful Outer Sentinel:	SK Jay Miller
Faithful Admiral	SK John Pellegrin
Trustee (3 Year)	SK Greg Herrick
Trustee (2 Year)	SK Butch Joseph
Trustee (1 Year)	SK Jim Udell

Assembly Meeting: Every 2nd Thursday following the council meeting.

June Birthdays

- 2 RIZKALLAH HELOU
- 2 WILLIAM AIRHART
- 3 JUDE WALTERS
- 8 STEVEN WINDLAND
- 9 JAMES COLOMBO
- 10 JESSE MANCINI
- 11 HONG-KIN NG
- 12 MICHAEL PETRILLO
- 13 CHARLES STOUT
- 14 DONALD SNIDER
- 14 GENE CHANCEY
- 15 DICK NOEL
- 15 MARK CARPENTER
- 16 MICHAEL MCDUGLE
- 17 JOHN WILLIAMS
- 19 MICHAEL STEPHENS
- 23 BRETT ANDERSON
- 23 GERALD SCHMIDT
- 23 THOMAS KESTERSON
- 24 MICHAEL COYNE
- 25 BENJAMIN VIERHELLER
- 28 JAMES GRAY
- 29 DONALD WHITLEY

Upcoming Events

- June 13, 8:00 am:** Placement of Crosses at PCHS
- June 16, 7:00 pm:** Mens Bible Study - Bishop Barron's "The Mass" Series Continues
- June 18, 7:00pm:** Installation of Officers and Scholarship Awards (No Meeting)
- June 25,** Mass with Bishop Brennan at St. Francis Xavier
- June 28,** PCHS Soccer Bingo at the Council Hall

Knight of the Quarter

Congratulations to Brother John Pellegrin, our Knight of the Quarter for the first part of the year!

