



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Our Mission

Welcome to the Wilton Knights of Columbus Quarterly Newsletter.

Our Mission is to provide our members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities' families, and our young people.

We want to partner with our sister organization, the Columbiettes, to empower Catholic men and women to live their faith at home, in their parish, at work and in our own community.

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Father Jim DiVasto was ordained to the sacred priesthood on May 20, 2023 by Bishop Frank Caggiano. Bishop Caggiano immediately appointed Father Jim parochial vicar for Our Lady of Fatima Church in Wilton. He subsequently transferred his KofC membership to our parish Council 12698 and became our Chaplain. Father DiVasto was born in Stamford, Connecticut. He graduated from Saint Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire. During the latter half of his 37-year career with the Knights of Columbus Supreme office, he served as a complaint administrator regarding the KofC insurance program and its agents. Upon early retirement in May 2018, he found himself overwhelmed by thoughts and feelings that God might be calling him again to serve Him in the priesthood as once he experienced upon college graduation. After five years of priestly formation as a seminarian for the Diocese of Bridgeport, he has come to understand that God has been calling and forming him to be a loving servant all along through every person, place, and event of his life. "I'm just very, very grateful, humbled and thrilled," he said. "I'm here today in no small way because of all the prayerful support of my family, friends, brother seminarians, religious sisters, priests, deacons, and everyone at Pope Saint John XXIII National Seminary, and especially Bishop Caggiano. What a gift! Thanks be to God!

Dear Brothers and families, the grace and peace of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ be with you all this Easter season! During these coming seven weeks to Pentecost, the Sunday gospels will be entirely from the Gospel of Saint John with only one exception. On the Third Sunday of Easter, we will hear the Gospel of Luke in which the two disciples returned from Emmaus and telling the other disciples of what happened are suddenly interrupted by the arrival of the Risen Lord Jesus.

British poet, artist, and spiritual author, Caryl Chessman (+1954) offers you and me a profound, deeper meaning of the disciples' journey to Emmaus that no doubt is a fruit of the work of the Holy Spirit in her.

"After his Resurrection, Christ showed himself to his friends five times, which are recorded. But what was he doing, where was he during the rest of the forty days? We may guess that he visited many unknown people; he may have gone to the slums of Jerusalem, the prisons, the caves of lepers. He may have been suddenly among children, playing with them, not recognized for who he was, but not questioned either. But this is guesswork. Saint John simply tells us that, 'there are many other miracles Jesus did in the presence of his disciples, which are not written down in this book.'

Some of the Fathers of the Church say that when Christ broke the bread at Emmaus, he gave his Body to the two disciples in Communion; in our life now that miracle is worked day after day with just the same secrecy . . . Yet while we watch we see nothing. There is the wafer of unleavened bread; it is changed to the Body of Christ who is God; it looks, feels, tastes, the same as before. The Blessed Sacrament is so much part of our ordinary life that we hardly ever realize that we are involved in a deed greater than any miracle every day . .

There is another record of those forty days which brings us the key of this secrecy: 'He had shown them by many proofs that he was still alive, after his Passion; throughout the course of forty days he had been appearing to them and telling them about the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3)'

The lock into which this key fits is our own lives today. He wanted to prove then, as he wants to prove in us now, that it was He who was still alive, with the same character, the same way of doing things. Those of His miracles that need not be made public to give glory to his Father he works in secret, with such courtesy . . . Such are the daily unobserved, unguessed miracles of grace, contrition, conversion, hope, forgiveness, love, taking place secretly in human souls."

May Blessed Father Michael McGivney intercede for you and me this Easter season and help us to allow the crucified and risen Lord to accomplish his secret works in us now and always.

Vivat Jesus! Father Jim DiVasto

Fish Fry Friday

Given that the first "Fish Fry Friday" was thrown in 2023, it was a very pleasant surprise to see the huge turnout for this years event held on Friday March 22nd. We had every age group represented and the food was second to none - needless to say, there was nothing left at the end of the night. Everyone had a great time and the laughs just kept on coming.

We would like to thank the Columbiettes who organised this event. Their dedication and hard work made this event the success it was. Thanks also goes to the Knights who volunteered and attended.

And, of course, our Guests. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for attending the "Fish Fry Friday" event. Your presence and engagement helped to make it a huge success! We look forward to seeing you all again at next years event.

The Easter Flower Offering

The Columbiettes also organised a successful Easter Flower offering to help memorialize our loved ones and a Soup Dinner night for all our parishioners



Easter Saturday – Church Cleaning and Egg Hunts Galore!

A huge crowd turned out for Our Lady of Fatima's Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Saturday 2024. The anticipation on the kids faces as they dove into the donuts while waiting for the Egg Hunt to begin was a delightful sight, and the weather cooperated as well.

The morning started early with the Knights, the Columbiettes and a bunch of Teenage volunteers eagerly setting about multiple tasks including the setup for the Coffee and Donuts, the Church Cleaning and Decorating, the setup outside for tricks and treats, the Blessing of the Baskets before 10am and, of course, the hiding of the eggs which provided as much fun for the older kids as it was for the younger kids to find them. Everyone that was involved worked together like a well-oiled machine and everything was ready before you knew it.

The Egg Hunt itself kicked off at exactly 10:30am with a countdown that would rival the Daytona 500. The eggs were split out into 3 different sections for different age groups. The youngest kids were in the circle of grass at the front of the Church and they scurried around quickly as they gathered their share of eggs, with some of the older kids helping out the younger. Within minutes, the eggs were gone. While all of this was happening, we had the privilege of having the Easter Bunny turn up - he mingled among the crowd and was more than pleased to have his picture taken - he even had time to appear in a Tic Toc video towards the end!

Overall, it was a fantastic morning - much thanks goes to our Volunteers from the Knights, the Columbiettes and our Teenagers for the energy they provided in the setup and, of course, to the kids themselves who made the event special. Its events like these that make you realise you are lucky to be part of a community like this!

You can view photos of the event by going to our Wilton Knights website and clicking on the "Photo Galleries" on the left hand side of the Home page or by clicking [here!](#)

We can't wait for Next Years event!



The Christmas Creche Build

Now an annual event, the Knights worked together as a team to build Our Lady of Fatima's Creche in Wilton Town Center.

The event is always a joyful event and a great social occasion for all the Volunteers involved. We had a fantastic turnout, and the result was fantastic.

As can be seen from the pictures, the end result was a beautiful Creche that took center stage in the Christmas Town Festival.

The Christmas Tree Lighting

The Christmas Tree Lighting was held on Saturday December 25th to a large gathering with a family dinner afterwards.

Other Notable Achievements

The Coats for Kids drive was held late last year; there were many very grateful recipients at the event, and we would encourage more people to get involved in this year's event.

A successful Soup Supper was organized by the Columbiettes on Friday March 1st

On Wednesday, March 6th, there was a Presentation and Veneration of the Relics of the Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney at Our Lady of Fatima.





Digital Transformation

Over the past 3 months, the Wilton Knights of Columbus have revamped their digital presence for their members with the goal of better, and more consistent channels for communications.

Email

We have created a new email address that will allow people to recognize emails more easily from the Wilton Knights – this is WiltonKnightsOfColumbus@gmail.com

Zoom for Virtual Meetings

Facebook

A new Private Facebook group has been created which allows anyone interested in either the Wilton Knights of Columbus or the Wilton Columbiettes to join. It's an Invite Only membership and members are expected to act appropriately. It facilitates easier 2-way communication for feedback and new ideas. Please send an email to WiltonKnightsOfColumbus@gmail.com with a request to join and an Invite will be returned to you shortly.

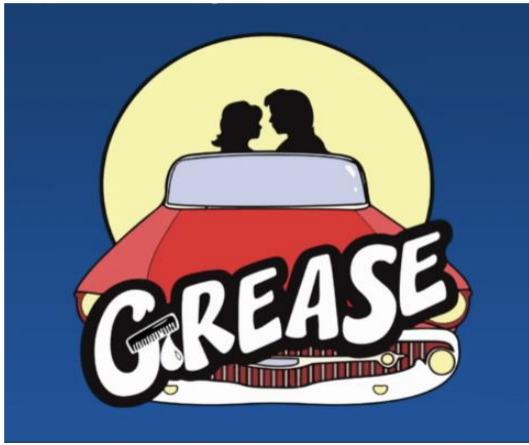
Website

The Knights of Columbus Council 12698 have re-established their website. The new web site can be found at <https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/index.asp?CNO=12698>.

The new site offers much flexibility; it can be viewed by the General Public and offers an opportunity for us to reach people who are not yet members. We can post Announcements, Newsletters, Public Events, a Knights in Memoriam page, and information on our Officers for everyone to see.

Additionally, there is a private membership page that be used to view upcoming members birthdays and send birthday wishes, view the member list, manage our Council Officer election process, view private Events and Pray Requests, view Meeting Minutes and the Council Budget, the ability to record your volunteer hours and visits, and the ability to access State Council Forms and Reports to mention some.

Please visit and take a test drive – you won't regret it!



Come Join the Wilton Knights for a presentation of **Grease**

**The Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs
and Warren Casey**

- **Directed by John Atkin**
- **Music Direction by Ken Knox**
- **Choreography by Christine Titus**

The Wilton Knights are pleased to announce our next Annual gathering at the Wilton Playshop on Saturday May 11th for our members and families to see a presentation of Grease. Last year's event was a huge success. Everyone will need to purchase their own tickets but can use the discount code KOC2024 for a 10% discount on tickets. We will once again have a roped off area prior to the show for drinks and food. Please bring your own beverages. Everyone should plan on being there by 7pm – the show itself will begin at 8pm. Don't miss it – book your tickets now!



Card and Board Game Night

Join us for our first ever **Card and Board Games** night on Friday evening May 31st from 6pm – **Everyone is invited!** Pizza will be served from 6:00pm to 6:30pm, which will then be followed by a Card Game of 110 Irish Style – there will be a great choice of Board Games for those who are not up for cards. Please bring your own Beverages (BYOB).