



Knight Digest



Vol. 65 No. 10

Council #4504
1034 Jeanette Avenue
Union, New Jersey 07083 (908) 686-4504

June 2024



Calendar of Events 2024

- June 8th Pig Roast 3 PM
- June 10th Council Meeting 8:10 PM (Elections)
- June 14th Flag Day
- June 16th Father's Day
- June 24th Shield Awards
- July 4th Independence Day
- July 8th Council Meeting 8:10 PM
- August 12th Council Meeting 8:10 PM
- September 9th Council Meeting 8:10 PM
- October 14th Council Meeting 8:10 PM
- November 11th Council Meeting 8:10 PM
- December 9th Council Meeting 8:10 PM

Dates are subject to change. Refer to our website for the latest information:

<https://www.kofc4504.org/events>



Knights and 4th Degree Apparel



<https://www.storessimple.com/creativewonders/unioncouncil>

History of Father's Day

The idea of Father's Day was conceived more than a century ago by Sonora Dodd of Spokane, Washington.

Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart, a widowed Civil War veteran who was left to raise his six children on a farm.

June 19 was chosen for the first Father's Day celebration in 1910.

Father's Day has been celebrated annually since 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed the public law that made it permanent.

Knigh Digest

This bulletin is published monthly, by and in the interest of the Knights of Columbus Union Council 4504 and registered as third class matter April 23, 1958, at the Union Post Office, Union, NJ.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION: Submissions for consideration are due in writing by the 15th of the month for the following month. Please mail or drop off submission, with contact information to:

Tom Dudek
Knigh Digest Editor
549 Robinson Ter.
Union, NJ 07083

or preferably via email to: tomdudek@outlook.com

You must clearly identify all people in photos submitted and at what council event the photo was taken. Photos with alcoholic beverages will not be considered. Photos may also be submitted via email as hi-resolution image files. Hard copy photos will only be returned when accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Council Officers

Chaplain..... Rev. Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu
District Deputy..... Michael Willemse, PGK
Grand KnightGerry Aponte
Deputy Grand Knight Vacant
Chancellor..... Anthony Spina
Warden..... Angel Rengifo
Recorder.....Mike Harms
Treasurer Greg Jones
Fin. Secretary..... Steve Nagy PGK PFN
Inside GuardRomeo Puertollano
Outside Guard..... Dennis Mann
Membership DirectorGerry Aponte
Program Director.....Mike Peter, DD, PGK
Lecturer..... Raymond Gora
Advocate..... Stephen F. Hehl
3rd. Yr. TrusteeLen Komar Jr., BC, PGK, PFN
2nd Yr. Trustee Phillip Cababe, PGK
1st Yr. Trustee Giftus John, PGK
Insurance Agent .. Joseph Donlon (908-403-1688)
4th Degree Faithful
Navigator Raymond Gora
Columbian Club President Joe Marateo
Swim Club PresidentMike Harms
Columbiette President Fran Corcione

Monthly Meetings

1st. Mon. ----- Council Officers 8pm
 2nd Mon.----- Council Mtgs. 8:10pm
 2nd Thu. ----- Columbiettes 7pm
 4th Wed. ----- 4th Degree Assembly 7:30pm
 4rd Thur. -----Columbian Club Officers 8pm

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT



Brother Knights,

Council elections are scheduled for June 10th, 2024. All are welcome to attend, and anyone who wants to run off the floor for a position may do so. After these elections, the new officers will take their positions and lead our Council to continued success.

As I come to the end of my tenure as Grand Knight, after serving two years, I am filled with gratitude and pride. Leading our Council has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Over these past two years, I have witnessed our members' dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment. Together, we have achieved numerous milestones and continued to uphold the values and traditions of the Knights of Columbus.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to this past year's officers for their outstanding service and contributions. Your efforts have been invaluable in ensuring our Council activities' smooth operation and success. Additionally, I would like to thank those not seeking reelection in the upcoming Columbian year. Your dedication and service have left a lasting impact on our Council, and we are deeply grateful for your contributions.

As we look to the future, I am confident that the incoming officers will continue to lead our Council with the same passion and dedication. The Election Committee has submitted the following names for the upcoming Columbian year:

Grand Knight:.....Joseph Burlew PGK
Deputy Grand Knight: Eugenio Gonzalez
Chancellor: Roberto Lopez
Warden: Joseph Smela
Recorder: Mike Harms
Treasurer:..... Greg Jones
Financial Secretary:..... Steve Nagy PGK PFN
Inside Guard:Romeo Puertollano
Outside Guard: Dante R. Tiongco
Membership Director:..... Vacant
Program Director: Vacant
Lecturer:..... Raymond Gora, PFN
Advocate: Stephen F. Hehl
3rd Year Trustee:..... Gerry Aponte, PGK
2nd Year Trustee: Phillip Cababe, PGK
1st Year Trustee:..... Vacant

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The Columbian Club Tiki Bar will now be open as we move towards the summer and enjoy the beautiful weather. Additionally, the week of June 14th is designated as "National Flag Week." This week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag. On June 16th, we celebrate Father's Day, a time to honor fathers and celebrate fatherhood. Although Father's Day was celebrated as early as the early 20th century, it was not until 1972 that it became a nationwide holiday in the United States.

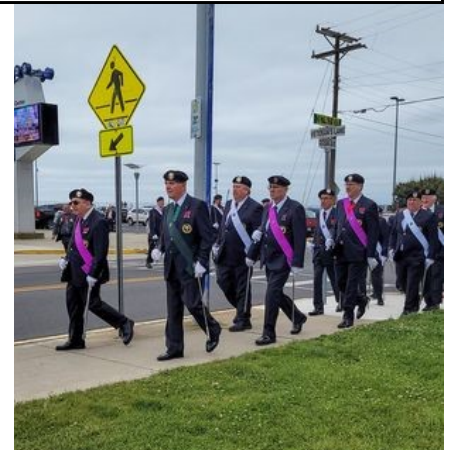
If you have yet to remit your 2024 Council Dues, we request that you submit them to our Financial Secretary. We are issuing Final Dues Notices to members still outstanding in their 2024 dues payments. If you have any problems or have questions about your dues, please do not hesitate to contact our Financial Secretary, Steve Nagy, PGK, at toys4504@aol.com. I greatly appreciate your cooperation in addressing this critical Council matter.

Lastly, any member wishing to be added to our Event Email Blast List, please email Mike Harms at knights4504recorder@gmail.com

Vivat Jesus
Gerry Aponte, Grand Knight



CONVENTION 2024



CONVENTION 2024



Coats for Kids

Congratulations to the Hands of Grace Ministry (“HUGS”) at St. Michael’s Parish for their wining the “Unity Award for Achievement” from the Union County Human Relations Commission for their work to provide needed basic daily items of necessity for mothers and children aged newborn to five years old.

Currently the HUGS Ministry serves approximately fifty families.

And thank you to HUGS Chairperson Olabisi Longe for recognizing the contributions from the Union Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes. For our contributions to the HUGS Ministry.

Each year the Union Knights of Columbus donate brand new children’s winter coats purchased through Supreme’s “Coats for Kids” program to both St. Michael’s and Holy Spirit parishes for distribution to children in need of a warm winter coat. Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile cause this Fall when our Council requests donation to help us purchase winter coats for our Annual “Coats for Kids” program.



21st Annual Unity Achievement Award Presentation

Monday, May 13, 2024

Kean University STEM Center
Union, New Jersey

Unity Award for Achievement
by a Faith-Based Organization
Hands of Grace Ministry (HUGS)
of St. Michael’s Church / Union

Award accepted by
Olabisi Longe

Recognition for
*reaching out with dignity, empathy, and compassion
to provide daily support to mothers and children in need*

In Summer 2019, Parishioner Olabisi Longe joined with Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu and other St. Michael’s Church parishioners to create a charitable ministry. Their vision was to extend the Hand of Grace to the community -- both parishioners and non-parishioners, to provide needed basic daily items of necessity for mothers and children aged newborn to five years old. Currently, the HUGS Ministry serves approximately fifty families.

The Ministry is funded by the generosity of its fourteen active members and the parishioners. St. Michael’s Parish Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) has also been very supportive, converting their Community Service Project to an annual HUGS Collection program. From time-to-time the Ministry also benefits from external support, including from the Union Township Knights of Columbus and Columbites, who supplement the daily items and also provide a large donation of brand new coats that go to as many children as possible.

The Ministry prepares and distributes “Grace Bags” monthly which contain basic items needed daily, including diapers, pull-ups, wipes, baby lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, and items used for bathing including bath wash, bath soap, shampoo, and conditioner.

Two special annual collection events also provide additional support: “Back to School” in September, and “The Giving Tree” in December/January.

In addition to providing these greatly needed items, the parishioners also serve these mothers and their children with the utmost level of dignity, respect, empathy, and love.

The Ministry has also donated Grace Bags to the Union County Division of Social Services-Intake department, the Irvington Police Department’s Domestic Violence Unit, and to help victims of the Hurricane Dorian in Puerto Rico in 2019.

Union of Saints and Nations

One of the pillars of the Knights of Columbus is Unity. You can find "unity" within the community," and we Knights are a community of Catholic men. The Union of Saints and Nations (USAN) is the one and only fundraiser at Saint Michael's Church. Although not every member of Council 4504 resides in Union or is a member of St. Michael Parish, we support all our various parishes. The mission of the Knights is to live our faith at home, in our parish, and in our community. None of us are as good as all of us.

Union Council supports the annual USAN fundraiser under the group name of Blessed Fr. Michael McGiveny, intending to raise \$2000. Living our faith helps us men, our families, and our parishes grow closer to Christ. Volunteers and commitment are sought to support this USAN Fundraiser. David Bernot is a lead contact for this fundraiser and can be contacted at 908-472-8858 and davidbernot1876@gmail.com.

You can help support this fundraiser by joining the Blessed Fr. Michael McGiveny team. You can also mail a donation to the parish office at 1211 Orange Ave, Union, NJ 07083. Be sure to include USAN and our group, Blessed Fr. Michael McGiveny, on the envelope or check. You can also drop off your donation in the Church Vestibule with the identical information.

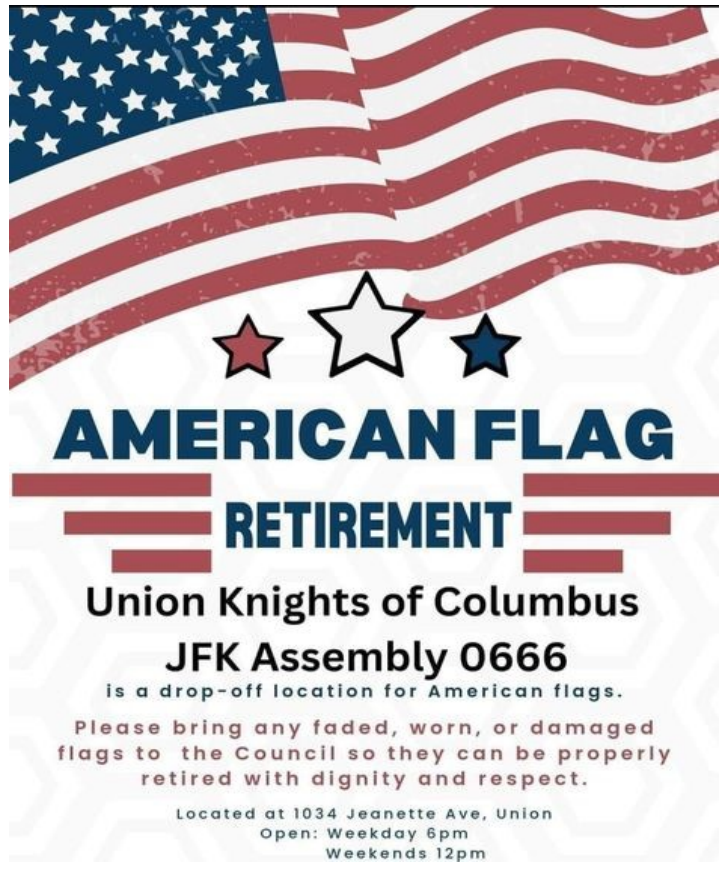
Please pray for the success of this fundraiser, which is so vital to our community and St. Michael Church.

Intellectual Disabilities Drive

The Union Knights of Columbus 4504 would like to express their profound appreciation to our Membership. This year, the collections were very successful for our Intellectual Disabilities Drive (People with Special Needs). We want to inform you that we sent our \$4400 funds to distribute these contributions in June. With these contributions, 10% will be donated on our behalf to the Special Olympics in South Jersey, which will take place in August. The remainder of the Contributions will be distributed to four worthy Recipients involved with those with Special Needs: Community Access, ARC, Camp Fatima, and Inroads Opportunities.

We are planning possibly to do more drives in the future. If you would like to assist, you can contribute to 1034 Jeanette Ave. and send it to the Intellectual Disabilities Drive Chairman in care of the address above.

Thank you, and God Bless.

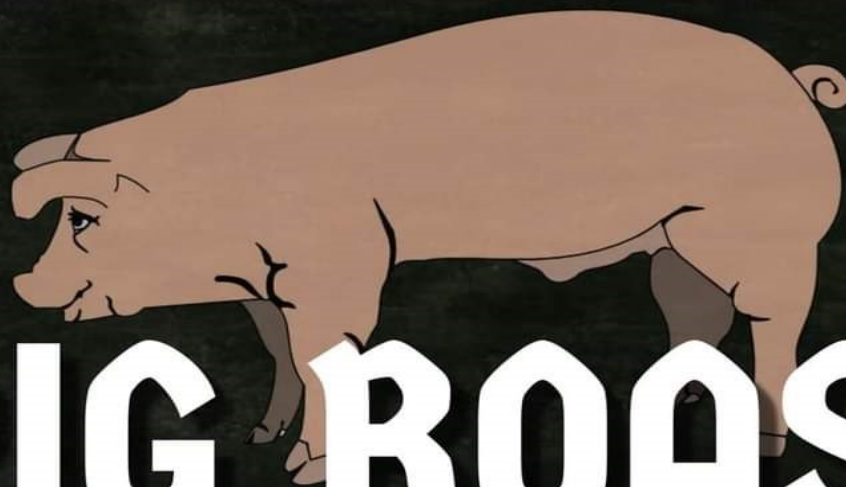


A graphic sign for American Flag Retirement. At the top is a large American flag. Below it are three stars: a red star, a white star with a black outline, and a blue star. The text reads: **AMERICAN FLAG**, **RETIREMENT**, **Union Knights of Columbus**, **JFK Assembly 0666**. Below that, it says "is a drop-off location for American flags." and "Please bring any faded, worn, or damaged flags to the Council so they can be properly retired with dignity and respect." At the bottom, it lists the location: "Located at 1034 Jeanette Ave, Union" and the hours: "Open: Weekday 6pm" and "Weekends 12pm".



Marching in the Union Township Memorial Day Parade.

Our Flag collection box is ready at the Columbian Club #4504 Tiki Bar. Any worn torn US flag dropped off will be given a proper retirement.



PIG ROAST



SATURDAY
June 8th 2024



Serving Begins at 3:00PM

The Columbian Club of Union

1034 Jeanette Ave., Union

.....
Tickets

\$30 Adults

\$15 Children 12 to 4 (3 and under free)
.....

Includes:

**Smoked Pork, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Corn on the Cob,
Draft Beer & Soda**

Questions / Info Contact:

Alex Rivera @ 908.410.2704 / John Bashaw @ 908.212.1593



Knights of Columbus
COUNCIL 4504
 1034 Jeanette Avenue
 Union, NJ 07083



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Feast of Corpus Christi Both Parishes	3 Council Officer's Mtg. 8:00 PM	4	5	6	7	8 PIG ROAST 
9 Baptisms both Parishes After 12 noon mass	10 Council Mtg. 8:10 PM ELECTIONS	11	12	13	14  FLAG DAY	15
16 	17	18	19 	20	21	22
23	24 Shield Awards	25	26 4th Degree Assembly Meeting 7:30 PM	27 Columbian Club Officer's Meeting	28	29
30						