



THE SHIELD

Grand Knight's Message



Gene Jajuga
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

ISSUE 12, December 2022

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, December 8 @ 7:30 pm
Live in the Parish Center

View the Newsletter online at:
www.safetyharborkofc.org

Visit the State Website at:
www.floridakofc.org

Visit the Supreme Website at:
www.kofc.org

Worthy Brother Knights & Ladies!

Greetings and blessings from the dairy state of Wisconsin! Karen and I are up here celebrating an early Christmas visiting with our son Shawn and his wife Pattie, our daughter Kim and her husband Greg and our three grandchildren, Jakob, Max and Sam.

We had another very busy month in November! I'm beginning to sound like a broken record as all of our months have been very busy since the start of our new fraternal year on July 1st. On Saturday, November 5th, we had a very successful "Let's Celebrate" Dinner Dance. It was great to see a very nice turnout for the first dinner dance that we have had in about three years. I would like to thank all of our Brother Knights and Ladies for all of their assistance with taking on this huge project and to pull it off with awesome reviews from all attending! I would also like to thank and acknowledge the wonderful job that our volunteer servers did from our school!

On Thursday, November 17th, we had our monthly "Pinellas Hope Meal Prep and Delivery." I would like thank the following Knights and Ladies for all of their help with this awesome ministry:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Santo Laparo | Robin LaChance | Bob Justiana |
| Betty D'Amelio | Ann Harkins | Paul Cooper |
| Bill Krajieski | John Malone | John Gohman |
| Tom Harkins | Tom Stanko | Joe D'Amelio |

If I have missed anyone, my sincere apologies.

Also, on Thursday, November 17th, we had our yearly "Memorial Mass and Reception." What a wonderful tradition this has become in our council acknowledging all of our past Knights who have served our council with honor. I would like to recognize and thank the following for all of their help with the Memorial Mass, Chapel and Reception set up:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Frank McEwen | John Ruckart | Fr. Michael Cooper |
| JJ Coyne | Doug de Wolfe | Wally Vazquez |
| John Gohman | Paul Harvey | Tom Krivchenia |
| Peter Salesses | Terrell Clampitt | |

Again, if I have missed anyone, my sincere apologies.

Lastly, On Saturday, November 19th, our Knights and Ladies assisted the St. Vincent de Paul ministry with their annual Thanksgiving Meal Basket Delivery to the less fortunate in our community. We thank the following Knights and Ladies for all of their efforts with the delivery of much needed food baskets:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Pater Salesses | Adel Nammour | Delpha Nammour |
| Tom Fitzpatrick | John Malone | Brian Jones |
| Ellen Jones | Joe D'Amelio | Betty D'Amelio |
| Frank McEwen | Cindy McEwen | Chris Nocerino |
| Pat Nocerino | Mark Feldman | Mark Peterman |
| Christine Peterman | | Ken Seguin |

Gabby Seguin Skip van Kleeck Peggy van Kleeck
Rob Pickard Vickie Pickard

Once again, please forgive me if I missed anyone.

We will continue with another very busy month in December. We are so blessed to have a council of Knights and Ladies that will give so much of themselves to make this an outstanding parish, council and community! Please see this very busy schedule as listed below:

UPCOMING EVENTS DECEMBER

- “Keep Christ In Christmas” Cards and more Sales - Weekends of 11/26, 12/3 & 12/10 Parish Center Pavilion
- Assembly Social Meeting – Wednesday, November 29th, 6:30 PM at Ford’s Garage, (26210 U.S. Highway 19 N)
- Council Officer’s Meeting – Thursday, December 1st, 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- “Light Up For Christ” – Christmas Lights Installation – Saturday, December 3rd, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Sign Up Sheet Sent Out)
- Lighting of Christmas Lights & Caroling – Saturday, December 3rd, immediately after 6:00 PM Mass
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, December 8th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, December 8th, 7:30 PM in the Gathering Room
- KOC Christmas Party – Friday, December 9th, 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM in the Parish Center (Sign Up Sheet Sent Out)
- Full Family Breakfast with Santa – Sunday, December 11th, 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Parish Center (Sign Up Sheet Sent Out)
- Church, Large Christmas Tree Set Up – Monday, December 12th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)
- Church, Large Wreaths and hang Garland all around including choir area Tuesday, December 13th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)
- Informational Open House – Fraternal Benefits Night Tuesday, December 13th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Get Christmas Trees from Garage and set up in JBC and PC, garland, lights and Nativity sets – Wednesday, December 14th, 9:45 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)
- Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, December 15th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen - (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)
- Unified Degree Exemplification – Thursday, December 15th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

- Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, December 17th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)
- Distribute plants and flowers to Church, JBC & PC – Tuesday, December 20th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)
- CHRISTMAS DAY
- St. Joseph Icon in our Parish – Tuesday, December 27th, to Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023

K OF C FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL – RAFFLE TICKETS

We will continue the distribution and sale of the Knights of Columbus - Florida State Council Raffle Tickets at our Council Business Meeting on Thursday, November 10th, at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center. Please see Sir Knight Doug de Wolfe.

Thank you.

Blessings for an awesome Christmas!

Vivat Jesus!

Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
grandknight7109@gmail.com
727-403-3261



Sir Knight Gene Wolanin is manning the “Keep Christ in Christmas” card sale table

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Happy Advent My Brothers,

We have a very busy month with a TON of activities going on. Could be a good opportunity to invite your closest friends to help out with parish activities and share what it means to be a Knight of Columbus. We also have a few opportunities this month going into next to invite potential new Knights to our KofC sponsored events where we'll have our Membership table setup and ready to speak to new recruits. We still have a goal of 15 new members, so let's try to bring a few guests to our Membership table at the Family Breakfast or to our Open House.

- 12/11/22 – Family Breakfast with Santa
- 12/13/22 – Informational Open House
- 12/15/22 – Unified Degree Ceremony
- 1/08/23 – Coffee & Donuts

Peace Always!

Brian Riley

Membership Director

Brian.S.Riley@gmail.com

Cell: 303-921-9861

Informational Open House Schedule:

Dec. 13, Feb. 14, Apr 18, June 13

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule:

Dec. 15, Feb. 16, Apr. 20, June 15

Look for more information from our Grand Knight.

Council Membership Report

Total Membership	343
Insurance Members	142
Honorary Life Members	69
Honorary Members	8
2022-2023 Membership Growth vs Goal	2/15
2022-2023 Insurance Growth vs Goal	0/2

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2022 - 2023

Grand Knight	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA	727-403-3261
Chaplain	Fr. Michael W. Cooper, S.J.	727-644-5544
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727-366-5422
Chancellor	Mark Feldman	727-366-5959
Recorder	Bill Krajieski	727-784-2817
Financial Secretary	Tom Harkins	727-772-0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727-244-6464
Lecturer	Paul Harvey, PFN	727-286-7171
Advocate	Richard Resler	727-744-8923
Warden	Mark Peterman, PFN	727-403-5993
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper	727-726-6837
Outside Guard	Jim Lankford	813-455-2292
Guard Alternate #1	Tim Rush	727-797-7818
Trustee Three Year	John J Coyne, PGK	901-832-7332
Trustee Two Year	Kenneth Seguin, PGK, PFN	727-331-7278
Trustee One Year	Frank McEwen, PGK	727-239-2687
District Deputy	Alan Gauzens, PGK	727-483-8250
District Warden	Frank McEwen, PGK	727-239-2687
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	John Ruckart	813-855-5111
Special Assistant to the Council	Vincent Cristiano	
Special Assistant to the Council	Gary Murphy	

Happy Birthday Brothers. Many Happy Returns!

Robert Carman, Patrick Clarke, Anthony Crevello, Jonathan DiMattei, Arnold Grohskopf, Kenneth Grubba, Thomas Harkins, James Hart, Kenton Heuertz, Brian Kearns, Robert Kenny, James Kleinsorge, Richard LeClerc, Stanley Lipiarz, Christian Lyon, William Mansfield, Charles McEwen, William McFadden, Stuart Miller, Francis O'Dea, Thomas O'Rourke, Thomas Panton, Robert Pickard, Jeffrey Rogers, Timothy Rush, Jugdesh Sujamani, Sean Swauger, Dennis Thelen, Mario Zaccaria

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Marie Burke (d), Bryan McGuire (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Guillermo Romero Sr (d), Cecile Sweeney, Mario Zaccaria, Mohan Vaswani (d), Ben Perry (d), Audrey Hritz, Ken Seguin, Elizabeth Inderwies, John Salesses, Avis LaChance (d), Baby Jonas, Phil Farney

Please pray for all our sick and deceased Brothers, Ladies, and family members. Please report illnesses and deaths to Sir Knight Paul Harvey, Lecturer, at (727) 286-7171 or pharvey10@verizon.net

Support our Vocations Fund



Austin Smith



Benjamin Harris



Nicholas Gunn

Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to three seminarians. Two of our three new seminarians this year are located at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami. Austin Smith, Sophomore Year who is from Nativity parish in Brandon. His birthday is 11/19. Benjamin Harris, Freshman Year from St. Theresa parish, Spring Hill. His birthday is 12/31. Nicholas Gunn, in his Freshman Year, is studying at St. Vincent's in Boynton Beach.

Please get your name on the list by giving \$5.00, \$10.00 or whatever you can in support of this worthy endeavor! We need to continue to support these young men and vocations but it will take everyone's help. Thank You!

Mark Barrett, David and Patricia Behrle, Patrick and Beatrice Boland, James and Jean Burris, John and Sharon Cathcart, Christopher and Debra Constantine, John Coyne, Joseph and Biagia D'Amelio, Douglas and Carol DeWolfe, Peter Demzak, Jerome Dewberry, Frank and Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Francisco and Mildred Diaz Estrella, Terry and Shirley Drake, Robert and Zoe Dufour, Robert and Patricia Ehrman, Philip and Janet Farney, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Charles and Raquel Friesema, William and Marie Gallant, John and Peggy Gohman II, Joel Gray, Gerald and Lorraine Grubba, Thomas and Anne Harkins, Thomas Hart Jr, Paul and Rose Marie Harvey, David and Donna Heezen, Kevin and Gidet Hernandez, Joseph and Sandra Hocherl, Jarret Honahan, George and Claire Inderwies, Steven and Anne Marie Ippolito, Eugene and Karen Jajuga, Shawn and Pattie Jajuga, Gregory and Kim Juedes, Peter and Nancy Jula, Matthew Killeen, William and Katherine Krajewski, Tom and Margaret Krivchenia, Frank and Deborah Laffey, James and Maria Lankford, Stephen Leger, Santo and Karen Loparo Jr, Frank and Juliann Marsalek, Frank and Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen Sr, Kevin McMullen, Stuart Miller, James and Phyllis Montali, Adel Nammour, David Neal, Chris Nesci, James and Patricia Nolf, Thomas and Carolyn O'Rourke, Mark and Melissa Ostapowicz, Todd and Margaret Owers, Donald and Carol Palacheck, John and Susanne Papa, Gerald and Holly Pappa, Paul and Virginia Pappas, Brandon and Mirela Parrinello, Mark and Christine Peterman, Richard Roberto Jr, John and Kathleen Ruckart, Peter and Susanne Salesses, Morgan Sheafer Sr., James and Karin Smith, Thomas and Janet Stanko, Matthew and Julie Sunski, Walberto and Ramona Vazquez, Steven and Jaclyn Verba, Eugene and Rita Wolanin, Mario Zaccaria, Patrick and Joan Alix, Victor and Suzanne Berggren, Donald and Linda Motika Borbath, Herman and Mary Jo Brames, Sal and Ingrid Burriesci, Robert and Nancy Carman, Anthony Crevello, Sean Donahoo, Zach Faraone, Mark and Elaine Feldman, Edward and Anne Fucillo, Joseph Guizzerotti, David and Paula Harvey, Karl and Lisa Held, James Jessup, James and Karen Kurzdorfer, Brian Lawandus, Francis and Carol Mahoney, Christopher Mazzone, William Mc Fadden, Michael and Maria Li McCarthy, Clifford and Michelle Merz, William Nies, George and Tracy Paradise, Thomas and Nancy Penders, Daniel and Teresa Peterson, Glen and Jennifer Pettersen, Christopher and Carol Purcell, Richard and Rosalie Resler, Brian and Erin Riley, Juan and RoseMary Romero, Guillermo Romero, William and Mary Scott, Kenneth and Gabriella Seguin Sr, Jim and Nancy Shirer, Jugdesh and Sucheta Sujanani, Chuck and Elizabeth Sullivan, Roy and Linda Vanderveer, Brian and Carolyn Annis, Dennis and Joyce Ayril, Paul and Jacqueline Barry, Fred and Caroline Bennett, Robert and Ann Marie Bonvicino, Jonathan and Marianne Boyce, Tim and Stacey Bruggeman, Jacob and Mary Burnett, Patrick Carroll, Francis Cayer, Kenneth and Debra Chmara, Terrell and Victoria Clampitt, Joseph and Ellen Cortese, Anibal Cruz, Austin Davis, Eric and Bernadette Flores, Michael and Lisa Furman, Joseph Gajewski, Ward and Kathleen Griffin, Mark Gurley, Lawrence and Nancy Harkins, James and Janetze Hart, James Hayes, Michael and Anna Heider, Kenton and Sue Heuertz, Christopher and Celise Jones, Mark and Maryann Locascio Kapinos, William and Elizabeth Kasak, Brian and Christine Kearns, Richard and Cecilia Kembell-Cook Jr, Dan and Donna Kistel, James and Patricia Kleinsorge, Brian and Christina Lapointe, Milton Levine, Louis Lyons, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, Javier and Xiomara Ortega, Edmund and Diane Pagnott, Frank and Patricia Piro, Edward and Sandra Riley, Jeffrey and Roxann Rogers Sr, James and Drema Rooney, Timothy and Barbara Rush, Mario and Karen Russica, Kurt Salac, Daniel and Paula Saracki, Robert and Teresa Shafer, Hugh and Katie Siegel, Massimo Simeoni, Bryan and Krista Snyder, Gregory and Carolina Sohn, James and Darlene Stanley, Keith and Griselda Taylor Sr, Edward Warticki, Benjamin and Rosmeli Workman, Kevin Cordaro, Gerald Custin Jr, Timothy and Marcy Dolan, Christian Lyon, Edward Martinenko, Thomas and Gwendolyn Odmark, Bradford Patterson, Lawrence and Corinne Steinhardt, Skip and Margaret Vankleeck, John Willyoung, Darryl and Mary Miller, John J Liu, John T Liu

Total Collected to Date: \$1,866.22



Father Michael W. Cooper, S.J.
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

ADVENT—SO WHAT?

We enter the season of Advent. It often seems like a waiting game between Christmas parties, gift-buying, and waiting for Christmas Day. As I said last year, Advent is a very special season to celebrate and deepen our appreciation of the Incarnation, meaning that God chose then and continues to choose to become a human being like us. We rarely hear much about the human side of Jesus. Often things human get a bad rep, "That's just human!"

By becoming a human being God affirms the sacredness and beauty of being human. Advent thus becomes a season to reflect and come to a deeper appreciation of our own humanness and the humanness of others. In Luke 2:44 the Evangelist reminds us that Jesus return home to Nazareth with his family where "he grew in wisdom, age, and knowledge before God and the human family." Jesus had to learn to read like other Jewish children, so he could read the Scriptures in the synagogue. He played with other kids and probably had fights with other kids who caused trouble or even mocked him. He was criticized by the scribes and pharisees for not always keeping the Mosaic law when there was a higher or more pressing value like picking grain on the Sabbath with his disciples, because they were hungry. Jesus was not "a loner ranger," but invited other men to join him in the Mission. Jesus had a good number of women friends like Mary of Magdala, who also joined his company and shared the Mission also. Jesus had a nurturing side and was comfortable with little children.

Moreover, the human Jesus did not have a plastic bubble protecting him from life and its challenges and tragedies. The religious leaders set him up and tried to humiliate him: Should we pay taxes to Caesar? Should we stone this woman taken in adultery? Are you a king?

Advent this year reminds us to spend time appreciation the humanity of Jesus and my own humanity "wondrously made." [Psalm 139:10] I was struck this year by the fact that human beings are different—not all the same. I have caught myself judging others because "they are different. Not like me!" The Incarnation this year invites me to let go and let others be themselves whether they are like me or not! Conservative or Liberal. Democrat or Republican, et cetera Let the Spirit inspire your prayer and reflection.

Michael Cooper, S.J., Chaplain

P.S. I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Party this Friday and our full-family breakfast this Sunday. We also hope you will join us Christmas Eve at 4:15pm for Mass in Philippe Park. Bring your own chairs and your pets are welcome.

Also, consider going to the Formation Class for Eucharistic Ministers this Saturday, December 10 at 9am in the Gathering Room. Being an EM is a fabulous way of serving our parish community and it makes our presence at Mass more our own. We are involved. It really is "our" Mass.

Service Program Directors 2022 - 2023

Program Director	Tom Krivchenia	727-366-5422
Membership Director	Brian Riley	303-921-9861
Faith Director	Wally Vazquez	727-542-5376
Community Director	Jim Lankford	727-698-3489
Family Director	Tom Wozniak	727-214-8377
Public Relations Director	John Gohman	813-810-3735
Life Director	David Behrle PGK, PFN	727-723-1169
Vocations	Frank McEwen, PGK	727-239-2687
Retention Chairman	Frank McEwen, PGK	727-239-2687



Tom Krivchenia
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights

What a beautiful Memorial Mass led by Fr. Cooper. Thank you to all those who participated in the Mass and who volunteered for the reception afterwards. December is the busiest month of the year. We had the Christmas Lighting on December 4 after the 6pm Mass. Thank you to all who helped with the set up and the serving of the refreshments which were enjoyed by all. We are having our Full Family Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 11th. We will celebrate with friendship and joy this beautiful season at our Christmas party on December 9. My wife, Margaret and I want to personally wish all of you the most wonderful Christmas and health and happiness in the New Year. May God richly bless you!

From the Faith Director

Activities in the month of November 2022 and Beyond!

- Memorial Mass Celebrated on 11/17/22
- Rosary - 12/08/22 Jerry Custin will conduct a Rosary on 12/08/22 at 6:30PM in the Gathering Room
- Gene will issue an invitation to the Ladies Auxiliary and the Knights to participate.
- Rosary – 12/29/22 Fr. Cooper will have a Mass at 6pm with the Scriptural Rosary to follow after words. Knights reciting the mysteries for each decade. Volunteers will be requested. Church will be reserved from 6PM-7PM.
- Altar Server Party – January 22, 2023 in the Parish Center. Pizza will be funded and served by the Knights.
- Knights of Columbus Annual Retreat – May 18, 5PM-10PM
- Corporate Communion Breakfast – June 4, 9:00 AM Mass

From the Family Director

As we enter the Second Week of Advent, may you and your family have peace as you prepare for the birth of the Baby Jesus, our Savior. We anticipate an exciting Christmas morning, especially, if there are little ones in your household. Our Knights of Columbus invite your whole family to enjoy a breakfast with Santa this Sunday,

December 11. This event has always been a great family affair for all who attend.

Let us “Keep Christ in Christmas” and not get caught up in the commercial hustle and bustle of this season. Your Officers of Council 7109 wish you and your family a blessed and memorable Christmas.

From the Community Director

Brothers, in this season of giving, we have an opportunity to give back to our greater community this Saturday, December 10th. Our chapter has for some time had the responsibility for road cleanup for Enterprise Road from the railroad tracks eastward to Philippe Parkway. We will be doing the cleanup monthly on the 2nd Saturday. This Saturday, I will be at the Church at 9AM and would welcome your help in doing the cleanup. This project should take no more than an hour and likely less than that. This is a wonderful way for the greater community to see our work in action. We will have a sign-up sheet for this project.

In the new year, we will have additional opportunities for this and other projects to help our greater community and your support for these will be greatly appreciated. It is a wonderful way for us to be making our area a better place to live.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12

On December 9, 1531, Juan Diego, a Chichimeca Indian, encountered a beautiful woman near Mexico City. Speaking in the native Nahuatl, she revealed herself as “Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live.” She requested that a chapel be built. After the local bishop refused to believe Juan, the Virgin herself arranged roses in Juan’s rough cloak. When Juan opened the cloak before the bishop, a miraculous image appeared. The bishop was astounded and convinced of the authenticity of the apparition. Numerous volunteers constructed Mary’s chapel in less than two weeks. In seven years, eight million native people were converted. Pope St. John Paul II called the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe the “Marian heart of America.” This feast day

is celebrated every year on December 12. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patron Saint of the unborn and of the Americas.

December Liturgical Calendar:

- Dec 3 Saint Francis Xavier (Memorial)
- Dec 6 St. Nicholas
- Dec 7 Saint Ambrose (Memorial)
- Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
- Dec 9 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtatoatzin, Our Lady of Loreto
- Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast)
- Dec 13 Saint Lucy (Memorial)
- Dec 14 Saint John of the Cross (Memorial)
- Dec 21 St. Peter Canisius
- Dec 23 St. John if Kanty
- Dec 25 The Nativity of the lord (solemnity)
- Dec 26 Saint Stephen (Feast)
- Dec 27 Saint John (feast)
- Dec28 The Holy Innocents (feast)
- Dec 29 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the lord, St. Thomas Becket
- Dec 30 The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph (Feast)
- Dec 31 7th Day within the octave of the Nativity of the lord, St. Sylvester I

Tom Krivchenia
Deputy Grand Knight



Christmas Light Installation team lead by Sir Knight Mike Engelmann





John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR REPORT

Merry Christmas! To all my brothers and their families, I extend my very best wishes for a Merry and a Blessed Christmas. As we are celebrating the Christmas season, we give thanks that God sent his Only Begotten Son to live among us and save us! That gift from God the Father sets the stage for our giving gifts at Christmas.

It seems we say it every year: "It's Christmas; where did the year go?" Seems like a good time to look back on the year and note all the gifts given by you and our members worldwide. As Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly mentioned in his annual report this year in Nashville, Tennessee, we have much to be thankful for and much more work ahead of us.

Consider these gifts that SK Kelly mentioned. The Order gave more than \$154 million and more than 48 million hours of volunteer service. But those are the big totals. Look at these specifics: we gave the gift of warmth to more than 150,000 children through the Coats for Kids campaign. We gave 8,891 physically challenged individuals the gift of mobility this year through our wheelchair program. We raised more than \$19 million for Ukraine support and gave those families the gift of respite at Mercy Centers and Easter packages. RSVP gave the gift of financial support to nearly 5,900 seminarians or postulants. And we had more than 450,000 members give the gift of life through donating blood.

These are gifts that change lives. Real people, real individuals benefited from these gifts.

As I consider Christmas I think of the gift of support and encouragement that you have given me. I appreciate the opportunity to work with you and your families this past year and I look forward to a new year and renewing connections with you.

Again, a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Vivat Jesus!
John D Ruckart, FICF
813-855-5111
Book an appt with me here: kofc.ruckart.com



Christmas Lighting and Caroling after 6:00pm
Mass Saturday, December 3



Frank McEwen
Faithful Navigator
fmcewen99@gmail.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

Worthy Sir Knights

Please note there will not be an assembly meeting in December. The fourth Thursday of December falls just three days before Christmas, so we will not be holding our regular assembly meeting. Our next assembly meeting will be on Thursday, January 26th.

It is sad we need to make extra efforts to "Keep Christ in Christmas", or worse yet to keep Christ in our daily lives. Modern culture is a vulgarity of so many false allurements that ignore God's natural law. There is but one deposit of love, truth, and justice. On bended knee we should express our gratitude to Jesus. He should be ever present in our daily thoughts and actions. A sad commentary that we need campaigns to "Keep Christ in Christmas".

The greatest sin of humanity is when we separate ourselves from God; to make the prideful presumption that we are self-sufficient. When man presumes to be the master, this evil tendency inevitably leads to tragic outcomes often inflicting the worst forms of human torment and agony. Throughout history this pattern repeats. The total rejection of God's natural law is all too evident today. As conditions worsen, humanity finally cries out to God; "Come Save Us". The miraculous birth of Jesus Christ is the proof that God hears our cry.

God loves us so much he could not remain aloof and distant from our cries for help. He sent his own son to save us. Born in a humble manger in Bethlehem, our Creator came to earth as a servant rather than king. He chose to suffer and sacrifice out of deep love for humankind. He lovingly bestowed us His gifts of the Apostolic Church and the Eucharist. Throughout all the travails of this life, what a blessing it is to know, at the end of the day, there is the guiding hand of such a gentle and loving God. His divine spark is ever present within each one of us. As we prepare for Christmas, let us be thankful for all the gifts bestowed on us by our Creator and be inspired to serve others with loving and respectful kindness as the face of our loving Jesus on earth.

Together this Christmas Season, let us ask our Savior's intercession for all who are suffering today. Cry out for all

the victims and refugees of war-torn areas. Pray for all peoples who toil daily under totalitarian regimes. Pray for all with serious health issues and painful ailments. Pray for reconciliation of broken families and relationships. Pray for all who are alone and feel abandoned. Pray for our military and first responders who put their lives on the line to protect and defend us from evil. Pray for God's mighty hand to stoke the flames of peace, goodwill, and unity in the hearts of all humankind. Pray for the illumination of conscience for all those who war against God. Our compassionate Savior is ever present to respond to the cries of his children on earth.

Life in this world would have no meaning without the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Only by living in the presence of Jesus among us will we find lasting peace and contentment. As members of the Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus we are called to model our lives after the great saints. Our only hope is found in Christ, who can transform us and by transforming us, we can transform our culture for Him.

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." - Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Christmas Blessings to all my Brother Knights and families.

Vivat Jesus!
Frank McEwen

Assembly Membership Growth

Current Membership	145
2020/2021 Goal	0/6



Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
(727) 723-1169



Praise be to God from whom all blessings come! Merry Christmas to you and yours. May you continue to seek God this Advent and see Him in your family, your neighbors, and in your fellow Brother Knights. Advent is a great liturgical season, for it calls us to prepare to celebrate Jesus's coming as a Babe in a Manger on Christmas and to remember that Jesus will come again for us individually when He calls us home, and when He comes again at the end of the world. The Magnificat for November, highlighted saints who teach about the Four Last Things that comes to everyone: Death, Judgment, Heaven, & Hell. (If you would like to increase your prayer-life and have great spiritual reflections, and get the readings for all daily Masses, check out www.magnificat.com. Subscriptions for this wonderful monthly booklet are available starting at \$4.08/month. There are discounts for longer-term subscriptions.)

Well, the mid-term elections are now over. Many pro-life candidates prevailed, and many did not. The Supreme Court decision in June to over-turn Roe v. Wade and return the issue of abortion back to the states is still a most welcomed and momentous decision. Some of the most disappointing mid-term results were the enshrinement of rights to abortion in the state constitutions of California, Michigan and Vermont.

CA proposition 1: Yes (pro-abortion) 65%,
No (pro-life) 35%

MI proposal 3: Yes (pro-abortion) 57%,
No (pro-life) 43%

VT proposal 5: Yes (pro-abortion) 77%,
No (pro-life) 23%

All of us who are pro-life awake every day learning more tragedies from abortions. It's my opinion that the prevailing disrespect for life in the womb shows up in all kinds of ways: bullying, assaults, human trafficking, road rage, senseless violence, _____ (fill-in your own). We know now that our prayers and work for Life is not over

but needs to continue. Thankfully, The Kimberly Home and other pregnancy centers continue to offer support for pregnant women and their un-born babies.

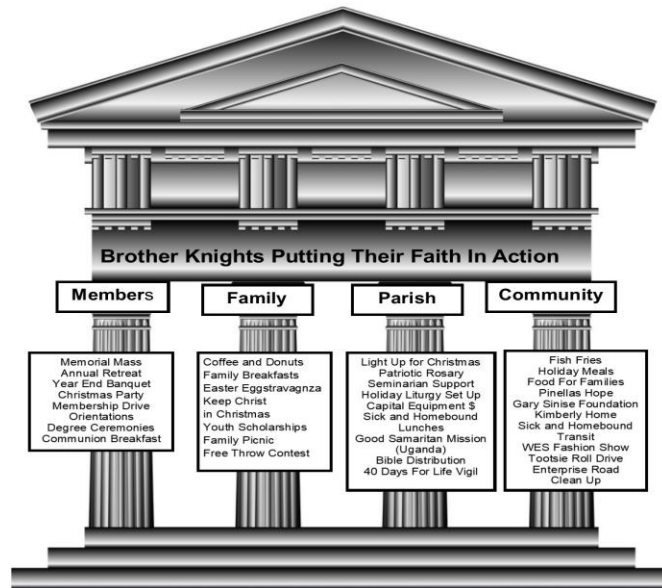
So, pray thanks for the blessings we have, for the incremental pro-life successes that have been achieved, and pray for resolve to continue the fight for Life!



4th Degree Social Meeting at Ford's Garage on
Wednesday, November 30



Celebrate Advent. Psalm 84 reminds us of the great desire of the Israelites to seek the Lord and live in His house as well as the great benefits that relationship brings. During Advent we yearn for and anticipate the birth of our Savior. But the last verse reminds us of our part. The LORD withholds no good thing from those who walk without reproach. O LORD of hosts, blessed the man who trusts in you! We must strive to remain above reproach and trust in the Lord.



Psalm 84

How lovely your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD. My heart and flesh cry out for the living God. *As the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest to settle her young, my home is by your altars, LORD of hosts, my king and my God! Blessed are those who dwell in your house! They never cease to praise you. Blessed the man who finds refuge in you, in their hearts are pilgrim roads. As they pass through the Baca valley, they find spring water to drink. The early rain covers it with blessings. They will go from strength to strength and see the God of gods on Zion. LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; listen, God of Jacob. *O God, watch over our shield; look upon the face of your anointed. Better one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere. Better the threshold of the house of my God than a home in the tents of the wicked. For a sun and shield is the LORD God, bestowing all grace and glory. The LORD withholds no good thing from those who walk without reproach. O LORD of hosts, blessed the man who trusts in you!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

"Keep Christ In Christmas" Cards and more Sales - Weekends of 11/26, 12/3 & 12/10 Parish Center Pavilion

Council Business Meeting – Thursday, December 8th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, December 8th, 7:30 PM in the Gathering Room

KOC Christmas Party – Friday, December 9th, 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM in the Parish Center (Sign Up Sheet Sent Out)

Full Family Breakfast with Santa – Sunday, December 11th, 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Parish Center (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Church, Large Christmas Tree Set Up – Monday, December 12th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Church, Large Wreaths and hang Garland all around including choir area Tuesday, December 13th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Informational Open House – Fraternal Benefits Night Tuesday, December 13th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

Get Christmas Trees from Garage and set up in JBC and PC, garland, lights and Nativity sets – Wednesday, December 14th, 9:45 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, December 15th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen - (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Unified Degree Exemplification – Thursday, December 15th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, December 17th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)

Distribute plants and flowers to Church, JBC & PC – Tuesday, December 20th, 9:30 AM – (Sign Up Sheet Will Be Sent Out)

Assembly Business Meeting – Thursday, December 22nd, 7:30 PM in the JBC

CHRISTMAS DAY

St. Joseph Icon in our Parish – Tuesday, December 27th, to Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023

PHOTO GALLERY



Caroling and Lighting at the Church on Saturday, December 3

In Memorium



Andrew Frank Szeltner

Born: December 31, 1954

Died: May 23, 2022



Andy was born on December 31, 1954 to Peter and Theresa Szeltner (Mueller) in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the oldest of six boys and the first member of the family born in the United States. Andrew studied marketing at John Carroll University, where he was captain of the varsity soccer team (and received the 1976 MVP Award), was president of the Marketing Association, and was a founding pledge-master of Iota Phi Theta Service fraternity. After graduating, he started his first job at The Higbee Company, kickstarting his long and successful career in men's retail.

In 1989, he met Elizabeth Szeltner (Bailey) and her daughter April Bailey in El Paso, Texas and they went on to have three children who were his pride and joy: Catherine (Matthew) Hadro, Anthony (Madison), and Samuel.

Andy was a 30-year parishioner at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church and was heavily involved in several ministries; he was the longtime coordinator of Lector Ministry and was a Fourth-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 7109. Andy was always quick to step up and help with any and all of the Knights of Columbus events. During the "Drive Up" Fish Fries, he served as one of the "Traffic Cops" directing cars thru the maze of the Order and Pick-up lines.

He spent his last year of life working part-time at the local John Geigle YMCA, where he was known for his big smile and ability to talk to members of all ages. Andrew was an avid golfer, the most reliable airport chauffeur, great sports fan, a faithful Catholic, and the most loving father, brother, and uncle. Andrew is survived by his children, five younger brothers, Peter (Renate), John (Heidi), Joseph (Lynda), George (Julie), Thomas (Mary), his 13 nieces and nephews, and his three cousins who were like sisters, Elisabeth Filippi (Robert), Barbara Hermann (Hanz), and Theresa Gutwein (Bob).

Follow this link to view and hear the eulogy given by his children Catherine, Anthony and Samuel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QardcmYYLVA&t=3s>



The Meaning of Advent

Of course, we know the meaning of Advent! It's the start of the Church Year and it means Christmas is coming. We have two other "seasons", Lent where Christ is crucified, resurrected and ascends into Heaven; and Ordinary Time which is all the rest. Ordinary time? Really? Is there anything ordinary about our faith and its Mysteries? That's what got me thinking about advent.

We associate Advent with Christmas so why all the purple vestments? I thought Christmas was a happy time. The Savior is born. The simple answer is the Feast of Christ the King ends our liturgical year and the next Sunday starts Advent. This connotes that Christ has not yet come and Advent is the announcement that something big is about to happen. In that sense, we are warned and encouraged to prepare for the event.

Advent comes from the Latin *adventus* which means to arrive. The Greek word *perousia* is also part of the etymology. *Perousia* means presence.

Actually, Advent signifies three very important things in our faith journey.

- Our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas
- The coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion
- His second coming at the end of time

So, the Advent season is marked with other signs and symbols, like the Advent Wreath and its candles of faith, hope, love and joy, helping us to prepare the way; and the readings are chosen to remind us of the three meanings of the season. This year we are on Cycle A with the Gospel's featuring the writings of Matthew. Cycles B and C feature Mark and Luke completing the synoptic Gospels. This is done to make sure we are getting the complete perspective of these three Evangelist's. The Gospel of John is intermixed to add yet another perspective to complete the big picture.

I'll conclude with some extracts of the readings from the first Sunday of Advent which opens the story. First, Paul tells the Romans, "Brothers and sisters, You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." Basically, I'm not sure when the second coming will happen but clean up your act.

Isaiah then tells us of the impact of our Savior on a society that accepts Him, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!" We will have peace IF we recognize the Lord and walk in his ways.

Matthew concludes with the words of Christ, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

In sum Advent means we are about to welcome our Savior. We need to reflect and prepare for this event. His arrival will bring us wonderful gifts of peace and love including His own body and blood. And, He will come again in Glory at a time that is unpredictable so we need to stay prepared by following His word.

Lines from the

Ladies Auxiliary

Blessed holidays to all of you, ladies and your families. We are nearing the end of this year activities, having our Christmas get together Thursday, December 8th, sharing sweets, treats ,and some Christmas Cheers! As always, we will be gifting needy children by bringing unwrapped toys gifts for Toys for Tots. Busyness continues with our Knights of Columbus Christmas party Friday night Dec. 9th.

Captain Dave of Oldsmar fire department has contacted me and the Marines will be picking up the toys from their location that we have donated on the December 14. A blast out for updates will follow and be discuss at our meeting.

Our ladies are truly a blessing in so many ways and I personally thank all of you for the sisterhood we share. May this season be of the greatest Joy, best of memories in the making, and the New Year of health and peace. In His divine love.

Jean Wozniak

from the desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

SINCE OUR ORDER'S founding, one of the great hallmarks of the Knights of Columbus has been our loyalty to the successor of Peter, the pope. In 1882, Father Michael McGivney proposed "Unity and Charity" as our first principles. Unity — that is, in the Catholic faith — is mentioned even before Charity. Christ Jesus is the center of true unity, and as he built his Church on the rock of St. Peter, the successor of Peter is always the visible center of the Church's unity on earth.

I had the great honor of pledging our continued loyalty to Pope Francis when he received me in a private audience at the end of October.

The Holy Father welcomed Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori and me with remarkable warmth and kindness. On a personal level, it was a moving experience to be introduced to the pope by our worthy past supreme knight. I've worked closely with Past Supreme Knight Anderson and with Archbishop Lori for many years, so it meant so much for me to be with these two great men as I met with Pope Francis for the first time as supreme knight.

It was, in a sense, a passing of the baton from one supreme knight to another. And it was a privilege for me to speak with the Holy Father about our continuity of leadership and mission. I reaffirmed the Order's commitment to serve him as the successor of Peter, and I shared details about our work around the world. I also thanked the Holy Father for the great gift of declaring the Year of St. Joseph.

Pope Francis was very pleased to learn about our new Pilgrim Icon Program featuring an image of St. Joseph. I gave him a copy of the program book in Spanish and informed him that the reflections in the program are taken from Patris Corde, his beautiful letter on St. Joseph published last year.

The pope was grateful that we made St. Joseph a central focus of our spiritual efforts.

He expressed his enthusiasm not only through his words, but also by blessing and signing the framed copy of the icon that I had brought to the audience.

I also presented a first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney to the Holy Father. His reaction was deeply moving. He took the reliquary from its box, and then, with much reverence, he venerated the relic with a kiss. Pope Francis has already done much to draw attention to Father McGivney's life, and it was clear in that moment that he has a personal appreciation for the exemplary parish priest who founded the Knights of Columbus. That, too, should be a source of pride for every Knight.

Vivat Jesus
Patrick Kelly
Supreme Knight

from the Florida State Council Chamber...



The goal of the membership team and of councils is to increase membership in our order. Many ask why growth in the order is so critical and why such emphasis is place on increasing membership. The answer is simple. Without growth our programs fail to have new ideas and become stagnant. The various charitable, church, council, and youth programs are what the Knights of Columbus are known for and those programs require new members.

In the State of Florida, and across the country, our order continues to grow. But we need to extend the benefits of membership to all Catholic Men. The insurance benefits alone are a reason that Knights of Columbus exist. But more to the point imagine if even half of the men in your local parish were Knights, think of the good charitable works that can be accomplished!

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson said "President John F. Kennedy once said about Americans that 'we are builders, and we build best when we build greatly.' I believe the same can be said of Knights of Columbus. My brother Knights, the Order has built greatly in the past; now it's our turn!"

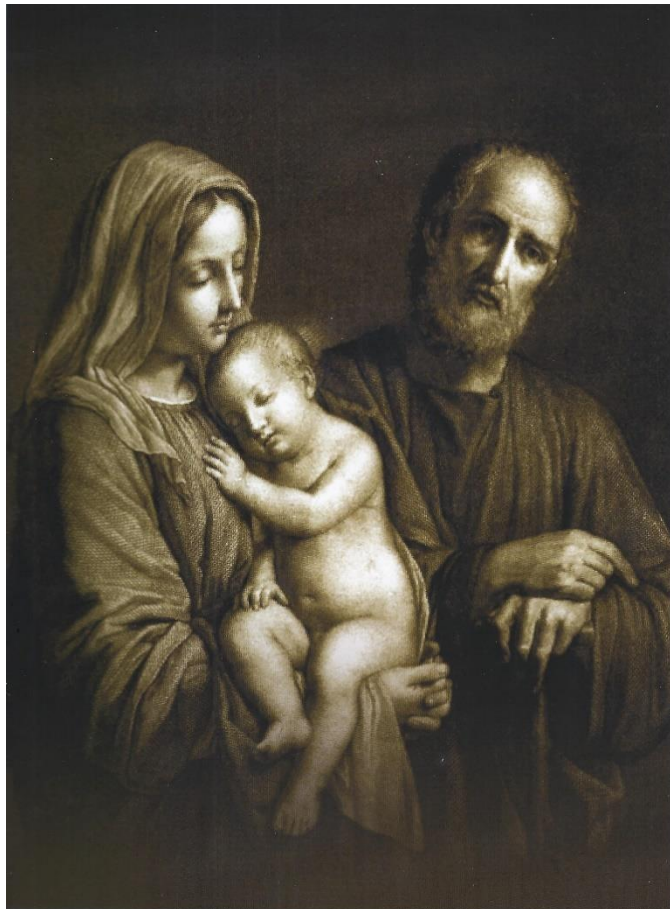
Today, the Order has grown to over 2.0 Million members, more than 55,000 here in the state of Florida. Our resources are utilized to support countless causes, programs, and parishes all over the world and most importantly in our local communities. And through continued growth, we not only preserve the goal of our founder, Father McGivney, we seize the opportunity to help parishes themselves prosper through the five key areas of service - faith, community, family, youth, and fellowship. Because of his vision and the hard-work of dedicated Knights, today the Knights of Columbus is a well-respected service organization of more than 300 local councils in the state of Florida. Councils that help their community and their parishes, flourish.



Danny R. McIntyre
State Membership Director

ASSEMBLY OFFICERS July 2022 – June 2023

Faithful Navigator	Frank McEwen, PGK	727-239-2687
Faithful Friar	Deacon Greg Nash	813-267-1535
Faithful Captain	Walberto Vazquez	727-542-5376
Faithful Admiral	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727-871-6506
Faithful Pilot	John Gohman	813-810-3735
Faithful Scribe	Jack Tipton, PGK	727-510-9997
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins	727-772-0607
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727-244-6464
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano	727-725-5647
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler	727-744-8923
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Trustee Three Year	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA	727-403-3261
Trustee Two Year	Mark Peterman, PFN	727-403-5993
Trustee One Year	Paul Harvey, PFN	727-286-7171
Color Corps Commander	John Papa, PGK, PFN, FDD	727-482-3734
Veterans Liaison	Tim Rush	727-797-7818



A Family Prayer

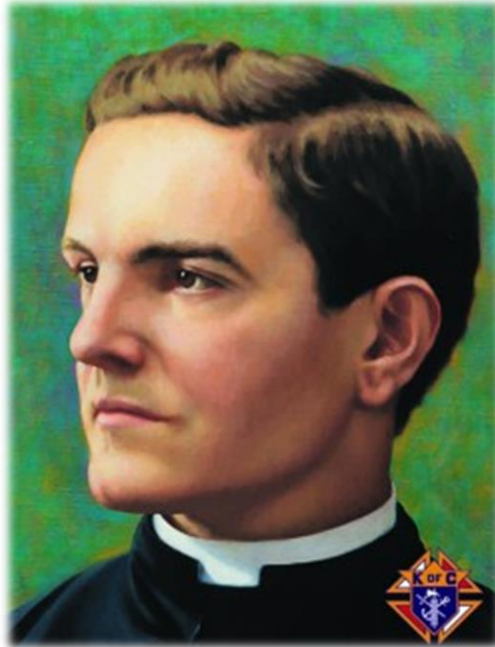
Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family.
 Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more
 fully this vocation to love.

In our daily life and work,
 May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
 O Father, eternally show with your Son
 and the Holy Spirit.

Let your love be evident in the peace that reigns in our
 home and in the faith, we profess and live. May our
 family always be a place of generosity, understanding,
 forgiveness and joy.

Kindly give us the wisdom and courage to be witnesses
 to your eternal design for the family; and grant that the
 Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to
 holiness as a family.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
 Spirit, one God for ever and ever.
 Amen.



Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney
Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

What's Happening???



Council Calendar of Events...

December 2022

- December 8 Council Membership Meeting in the Parish Center at 7:30pm
- December 9 Knights of Columbus Christmas Party in the Parish Center at 7:00pm
- December 11 Breakfast with Santa after all morning masses
- December 13 Informational Open House in the Gathering Room at 7:30pm
- December 15 Unified Exemplification in the Parish Center at 7:30pm



Assembly Calendar of Events...

December 2022

- December 9 Knights of Columbus Christmas Party in the Parish Center at 7:00pm



THERE WILL NOT BE AN ASSEMBLY MEETING THIS MONTH

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RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF SUICIDE RISK

- Thinking about hurting or killing yourself
- Looking for ways to kill yourself
- Talking about death, dying or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse, weapons, etc.
- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

The presence of these signs requires immediate attention. Call us if you experience any of these warning signs.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to Your loving care.

You are the rock on which this nation was founded.

You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.

Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death."

Lead us into a new millennium of life.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.