



THE SHIELD

Grand Knight's Message



Gene Jajuga
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 6, June 2023

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, June 08 @ 7:30 pm
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!

I hope that my report finds you and yours doing well and that you all enjoyed a wonderful Memorial Day Holiday! Let us please never forget those who paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives for the freedom that we all have and enjoy with our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren our families and friends. Also, to all those that have served our great nation with honor and for those that continue to serve to now include my grandson Jack, who is attending Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island with the Navy. I couldn't possibly be more proud of him and his choice to serve our great country. Even with all of our faults it's still the greatest nation on earth!

We are quickly approaching the end of the 2022 – 2023 Fraternal Year on June 30th, for our Barney Gonyea Council here at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church and School. When you take a look at our upcoming events for June that is listed later in my report, we still have a very busy month ahead of us so let's all work hard on closing out this very successful year! Once again, thank you for all that you do for our council, parish and community.

KofC Council Annual Retreat:

We held our annual Council Retreat on Saturday, May 13th, that featured Dr. J. Wayne Phillips that made a very insightful presentation on "The Shroud of Turin." We had 77 people attend our retreat which was opened to the parish for the first time which was very gratifying to see, however, and I don't like to sugar coat things and pretty

much tell it like it is, I was disappointed with only having 25 Knights from our Council attend out of the 330 members we have on our roster. That is not at all like our Council to not support one of our yearly events.

I want to acknowledge and thank all that volunteered for this awesome event.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Joe D'Amelio | Wally Vazquez | Ramona Vazquez |
| Richie Resler | Bob Justiana | Vincent Cristiano |
| Roe Resler | Mary Justiana | Tom Krivchenia |
| JJ Coyne | Mark Feldman | Tom Fitzpatrick |
| Tom Wozniak | Betty D'Amelio | Frank McEwen |

If I missed listing anyone, my sincere apologies.

Council Full Family Breakfast:

We had our final Full Family Breakfast for this Fraternal Year on Sunday, May 21st. Our attendance was a little light for this one but that's all we can do is try. We did everything that we could possibly do with having church bulletin ads, signs etc. but for whatever reason, it just didn't work out great for us this time.

Thank you one and all that volunteered for your terrific work on behalf of our entire council.

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Santo Loparo | Ed Amador | Tom Fitzpatrick |
| Bob Justiana | John Clarke | Frank McEwen |
| Brian Annis | Fred Elfein | Carolyn Annis |
| Rich Roberto | Paul Harvey | Joe D'Amelio |
| Pat Nocerino | Brian Riley | Betty D'Amelio |
| Tom Harkins | Anne Harkins | Brian Kearns |
| Phil Farney | Mark Feldman | Adel Nammour |

If I have missed recognizing anyone, my sincere apologies.

Upcoming Events June:

- Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, June 1st, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Parish Dinner Dance & Show Tickets on Sale – Saturday, June 3rd, after all Masses Parish Center Pavilion
- Parish Dinner Dance & Show Tickets on Sale – Sunday, June 4th, after all Masses Parish Center Pavilion
- Corporate Communion Breakfast – Sunday, June 4th, at 7:30 AM in the Parish Center
- Corporate Communion Mass – Sunday, June 4th, at 9:00 AM in the Main Church
- Rosary – Thursday, June 8th, at 6:30 PM in the John Bosco Center
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, June 8th, at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Parish Dinner Dance & Show Tickets on Sale – Saturday, June 10th, after all Masses Parish Center Pavilion
- Parish Dinner Dance & Show Tickets on Sale – Sunday, June 11th, after all Masses Parish Center Pavilion
- Informational Open House – Tuesday, June 13th, at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, June 15th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen
- Unified Degree Exemplification – Thursday, June 15th, at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Parish Dinner Dance & Show – Friday, June 16th, at 7:00 PM – 10:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, June 17th, 8:00 AM–10:00AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)
- Assembly Business Meeting – Thursday, June 22nd, 7:30 AM in the John Bosco Center
- END OF THE FRATERNAL YEAR 2022 - 2023
- Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, July 6th, 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Rosary – Thursday, July 13th, at 6:30 PM in the John Bosco Center
- Council Installation of Officers & Social – Thursday, July 13th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

A Very Special Thank-You:

I would also like to send a very special thank you out to Brian Riley who has served over the past year as Membership Director for our Council. Brian has taken our efforts to a whole new level when it comes to being the face of our Council and trying to recruit new member for us. With the new membership banners, tablecloths and his smiling face to greet potential new candidates, it's no wonder that we have enjoyed having nine new members join our ranks this year alone. Brian and his family will be missed here at

our Council and Parish. Wishing you the very best on your upcoming move.

Blessings to all for an awesome month!
Gene

Vivat Jesus!

Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
Grand Knight – Council 7109
727-403-3261
grandknight7109@gmail.com



WGK Gene Jajuga presents SK Terry (& Shirly) Drake with February 2023 Family of the Month



WGK Gene Jajuga presents SK Wally Vazquez with April 2023 Knight of the Month



WGK Gene Jajuga presents SK Richie (& Roe) Resler with April 2023 Family of the Month

Council 7109 Membership Corner

Happy Father's Day My Brothers,

Whether you're a biological father, stepfather, adoptive father, foster father, grandfather, father-to-be, priestly father, or a father figure to a single mother's child, happy Father's Day to all my brother knights. As we honor all our father's, let us not forget to honor St. Joseph, foster father of our Lord and patron saint of the universal church. St. Joseph has set an example for us to follow of how to be a good and protective father. The day we pledged to be a Knight of Columbus and donned our council shirts, we accepted the responsibility of being father figures and protectors of the church. As fathers and knights, we ourselves should lead by example of building the "Domestic Church" and practicing and sharing our faith with others.

My brothers, this is the last month of the fiscal year to meet our goal of 15 new members. We only need 6 more catholic brothers to join our ranks of the finest institution on God's green earth. If you've been talking with someone about the Knights or thinking about talking to someone, the time to act us now. June 13th is our last Informational Open House of the year to bring a new member to. I know there are a few of you that have already been in discussions with potential new members. Get with them and sign them up via the QR Code below and bring them to the Degree ceremony on June 15th.

If you have any questions or need assistance in signing anyone up, please call me and I'll be more than happy to help. Here's a list of membership events over the next month for opportunities to introduce new prospects to the Knights of Columbus.

- 06/13/23 – Informational Open House (7:30pm in Gathering Room)
- 06/15/23 – Degree Ceremony (Be sure to RSVP)



If you have somebody ready to join, no need to wait for an event, feel free to sign them up on the spot with this QR Code or visit:

<https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html> and a brother Knight will reach out to them.

Blessed Michael McGivney, please pray for us to enroll 6 more Knights to support our cause!
St. Joseph, patron saint of the universal church, pray for us.

Good Luck, God Bless, and Peace Always!

Brian Riley
Membership Director
Email: Brian.S.Riley@gmail.com
Cell: 303-921-9861

Informational Open House Schedule:

Jun 13

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule:

Jun 15

Look for more information from our Grand Knight

Council Membership Report

Total Membership	333
Insurance Members	137
Honorary Life Members	69
Honorary Members	7
2022-2023 Membership Growth vs Goal	9/15
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, SJ	727.644.5544
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
Chancellor	Mark Feldman	727.366.5959
Recorder	Bill Krajeski	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 "JJ" 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!

Patrick Alix, Brian Annis, Wilbert Bacon, Donald Behles, John Benincasa, Patrick Boland, Patrick Carroll, Christopher Constantine, Austin Davis, John Duffy, Louis Fiorella, Christopher Garill, Joseph Guizzerotti, Paul Harvey, Thaddeus Horbowy, Martin Jackson, Jim Lankford, John Lutch, Patrick Mackin, Edward Martinenko, Gary Murphy, William Nies, James O Neill, Mark Ostapowicz, Jim Shirer, Robert Stowell, Wally Vazquez

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Marie Burke (d), Bryan McGuire (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Mario Zaccario, Ken Seguin, John Maloney (d), Jim Gencur, Joseph McHale (d), Alfred Bonvicino, Ed Mandichak, Ron Lexa (d), Susanne Papa (d), Jim Schownek, Ed Warticki, Desiree, Mrs LeClerc, Barbara Dimartino, Don Breitzman, Brady Cobb, Kathy Kukulski, Andrea Coe (d), Maggie Cappabianca, John Benincasa, Lillian Custin (d), David Flori (d), Annemarie Montali

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



John Paul Grabowski

Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to three seminarians. All three of our seminarians are located at St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, Louisiana. Austin Smith, junior year who is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Benjamin Harris, junior year from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville. John Paul Grabowski, in his sophomore year, is from Catholic Student Center, USF – Tampa.

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 Hochoerl, 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 Susan Salesses, Morgan Sheaffer 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 Guazzerotti, 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 Kemball-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, Peter and Susan Salesses

Total Collected to Date: \$2,166.22



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Brother Knights and Ladies,

Father's Day is June 18th

I have been reading a wonderful spirituality book by Jesuit Greg Boyle, *The Whole Language*. He is the founder of Homeboy Industries, which gives work to former criminals and juvenile delinquents. Greg is a very charismatic person and Homeboys is not just a job but a sense of belonging and being loved for who they are—wounds and crimes and all. Greg lives relationship with these guys and gals. The "homies" attest all the time that love and relationship heal. Reading the witness from some of the homies will blow you away. We cannot imagine what some of these guys have gone through. Prison and death are all around them. Homeboys gives them a sense of belonging and the affirmation and the permission to appreciate and be themselves.

Closer to home, I am blown away at the percentage of young people who feel lost and even *suicidal*. Given *all of that*, I suggest we take time to individually talk to our sons and daughters and to our grandsons and daughters and tell them how proud we are of them. Affirm them and let them know explicitly how much we are proud of them and we appreciate them and are glad we are family and belong to each other—no matter what! Love and relationship heal and transform. Our Catholic faith will be evident in how we are unconditionally for them and that we belong to each other.

I think there is a pastoral application here as well to our service of others at the full family breakfast, Pinellas Hope, and wherever we serve. Besides our great and very

generous serving, I would suggest we take some time to go around and talk to the people and let them know how welcome they are and that we appreciate their own goodness and belonging to our parish. Relationship and love, aka appreciation and welcome, make the difference. People should look forward to coming to our events because they feel so much at home and welcome. I know many of us already do that, but I thought it was worth repeating.

Michael Cooper, S.J.,
Chaplain



Happy Summer and all holidays and special events upcoming. The Ladies will be collecting donations for the Father's Day honor tree, the first two weekends of June. This year mustaches are the theme. We hope to collect the same amount of donations as we did for Mother's Day. Also, the Ladies will be featuring raffle baskets for the upcoming KofC Dinner Dance to be held on Friday, June 16. Ladies Auxiliary will be helping with set-up and anything else needed. Happy travels to all, God keep you safe until we meet again.

Service Program Directors 2022-2023

Program Director	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	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, PGK, PFN, FDD	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!

Wow what a year it has been. I can't believe that it is almost over. I would like to thank all my directors for all their effort and support this year. We would not have been able to accomplish everything without you and the help of our fellow brother knights. These are some of the things that we accomplished this year. We started a Rosary program, the Memorial Mass, the Retreat, Keep Christ in Christmas, road clean up, the basketball free throw, the hockey shootout and many more. Some of the programs we are trying to set up for next year are The Silver Rose, the soccer shootout, the essay contest, the Christmas poster contest and coats for kids.

I want to thank Wally for organizing and everyone who helped with the set up and serving the food for the retreat, which was a great success.

I look forward to what we can accomplish next year with all the new programs we have started this year. Have great summer and I'll see you at our meetings next year!

From the Faith Director's Desk

Our last Rosary of the fraternal year will be on June 8, 2023, at 6:30 in the JBC. Jerry Custin will be leading the Rosary. Our first Rosary of the new year will be in July. Our Corporate Communion Mass will be held on Sunday June 4th at the 9a Mass. We will have a little get together before the Mass with coffee and donuts in the JBC.

From the Community Director's Desk

Brothers, Thank You for your support through the year in our outreach to our greater community. Next year we will have many more opportunities to continue our involvement to better our greater home. For the end of our fraternal year, we will have one more road cleanup for our portion of Enterprise Road on June 10th. Please meet at the Church at 9:00a for this rewarding project. It takes about a half hour and a great way to start a Saturday morning. Next year we are planning on doing coats for kids with the St Vincent DePaul Society.

From the Family Director's Desk

As we enter the summer months, our council family events will slow down a bit. So, we ask you as the leader of your family to keep going strong throughout the summer. Whether you are the father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, or a father figure, please continue to lead your family in prayer, spiritual guidance and leadership. Father's Day is June 18th. Celebrate this day as we fathers are honored for all we do and for who God asks us to be. Celebrate with your family. Remember your family is as much a part of our Knights of Columbus as you are. Enjoy the summer!

Saint Anthony of Padua – June 13, 2023

Saint Anthony was born Fernando Martins in Lisbon, Portugal to a wealthy family. At the age of fifteen, he asked to be sent to the Abbey of Santa Cruz in Coimbra, the then capital of Portugal. During his time in the Abbey, he learned theology and Latin. Following his ordination to the priesthood, he was named guest master and was responsible for the abbey's hospitality. When Franciscan friars settled a small hermitage outside Coimbra dedicated to Saint Anthony of Egypt, Fernando felt a longing to join them. Fernando eventually received permission to leave the Abbey so he could join the new Franciscan order. When he was admitted, he changed his name to Anthony. He was moved by the first Franciscan martyrs, and when he joined the Friars Minor, he hoped for martyrdom. However, he became extremely ill in Morocco where he was spreading God's truth and was to return to Portugal to recover. However, his ship was blown off course and he landed in Sicily. He and his party then travelled to Tuscany where he was assigned to the hermitage in San Paolo due to his health issues. Anthony performed menial tasks until an extraordinary event occurred when he attended an ordination alongside Dominicans and his fellow Franciscans. Confusion came when neither Order had prepared a homily. Anthony was asked to speak by the head of the Franciscan hermitage on whatever the Holy Spirit told him to speak of. He humbly stepped forward and delivered an eloquent address that stunned his listeners. Hearing of this, Saint Francis asked Anthony to instruct the brothers in theology. He continued to preach throughout Italy and France. He died in 1231 at the age of thirty-five. He was

canonized less than one year afterward by Pope Gregory IX. He is typically depicted with a book and the Infant Child Jesus and is commonly referred to today as the “finder of lost articles.” St. Anthony is credited with many miracles involving lost people, lost things and even lost spiritual goods.

June Liturgical Calendar

June 1 Saint Justin (Memorial)
 June 2 Saints Marcellinus & Peter
 June 3 Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions (Memorial)
 June 4 The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)
 June 5 Saint Boniface (Memorial)
 June 6 Saint Norbert
 June 9 Saint Ephrem
 June 10 Blessed Virgin Mary
 June 11 The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) (Solemnity)
 June 13 Saint Anthony of Padua (Memorial)
 June 16 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (Solemnity)
 June 17 The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memorial)
 June 19 Saint Romuald
 June 21 Saint Aloysius Gonzaga (Memorial)
 June 22 Saint Paulinus of Nola, Saints. John Fisher & Thomas More
 June 24 The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (Solemnity)
 June 27 Saint Cyril of Alexandria
 June 28 Saint Irenaeus (Memorial)
 June 29 Saint Peter and Paul (Solemnity)
 June 30 The First Martyrs of The Holy Roman Church

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Krivchenia, PFN
DGK7109@gmail.com
 727.366.5422



Welcome to our newest Brother Knights from the April Unified Degree Exemplification



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Dues

Billing for Fraternal Year 2023/2024

On or about June 15, you will be receiving a membership dues notice for the upcoming fraternal year. If you have an email address in your KofC profile, your notice will be emailed to you. Otherwise, a notice will be sent via US mail. Our fraternal year runs from July 1 to June 30. Annual dues are \$30.00. We also offer the feature of donating to the three seminarians we support. We ask \$5.00 from single members and \$10.00 from couples. Honorary Life members, who owe no dues, will not receive a notice for the seminarians. If you want to donate, please see me at a future meeting, or send a check to the address below.

Newsletter Ads - If you would like to have your business card in the newsletter for one year please send \$20.00 and your business card along with your membership payment.

Pay Dues Online - You can pay your Dues online through Paypal. Just go to our website: www.safetyharborkofc.org and click the Dues dropdown link and then follow the instructions on that page. If you pay via Paypal there is a fee added to cover the fees the Council is charged by PayPal. If you have your own Paypal account connected to your bank, you can send your payment directly to fs@safetyharborkofc.org with no fees.

Email Listing for Council 7109 Members

To ensure you are keeping abreast of Council activities, make sure we have your updated email address. You will be copied on prayer request, the monthly newsletter, and weekly activities of your council from the Worthy Grand Knight. Please send new or updated email addresses to teharkins@gmail.com.

Thomas E Harkins
 Financial Secretary
 1770 Stable Trail
 Palm Harbor, FL 34685



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

When June rolls around a couple of things come to my mind: grilling and graduations. Now these two things don't seem to have much in common. In fact, some may say they have nothing at all in common. It simply illustrates how amusingly my mind works.

But let me expound a bit on both. Outdoor grilling comes on full force this time of year. Yes, in our warmer climate we grill all year round. But for most, June starts that season when the grill is often fired up and all the succulent goodness of charbroiled food is readied for the table. Now let me relate that to graduations: I've been to many graduation parties and there always seems to be that one person who is the designated grill master. Flipping hamburgers, turning hot dogs, kielbasa, and sausage, and tenderizing vegetables over an open flame for the celebrants.

How's that for a segue? From grilling to graduations! The end of the school year means graduations. Some, from the lowest educational levels...all the way to the highest. At whatever level your children or grandchildren may fall, I offer hearty congratulations! Graduating may mean moving up one more grade level or for some who are at the end of the educational journey, it might mean a step into a new career. Or maybe advancing in an already established career. Graduating has as a natural consequence, a moving on, taking the next step. Carefully preparing for a career, taking stock of talents and newfound knowledge, thinking of the impact your career may have on your family and the greater community; the graduate is ready!

I think of the work I do with my members and their families in the same way: getting you to graduate at the top of your class; well-prepared, knowledgeable, setting a course with impact for your family. Sitting down with me for a consultation starts the preparation. We can take stock of where you are and any recent changes in your situation with our state-of-the-art financial needs analysis program. The end result is to help make sure you and your family are prepared: Prepared for the expected and the unexpected. The expected might be a comfortable

retirement with adequate income to do the things you've always wanted to do. Being prepared for the unexpected is important, too: an untimely loss, an extended care event, a disability. Understanding the impact of having a strategy now is the first step in preparation.

Contact me now to take that important next step!

Vivat Jesus!
John D Ruckart, FICF
813-855-5111

Book an appt with me here: johnruckart.10to8.com

Learn about our investments:
<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>





Frank McEwen
 Faithful Navigator
fmcewen99@gmail.com

Faithful Navigator’s Log

This is my last month as Faithful Navigator, I want to thank all for your tremendous support this past year. I want to especially thank all the assembly officers and our golf committee. It was a great accomplishment this year to present \$25,000 to the Gary Sinise Foundation. I want to also thank our veteran’s liaison, Tim Rush. In April, Tim presented forty \$25 McDonald’s gift cards from the assembly to the Bay Pines VA for distribution to homeless veterans...Thank-you Tim!

On Friday, May 19, the assembly Honor Guard was present at the Espiritu Santo School graduation. Before the ceremony, the Father Hempel \$500 scholarship and Cecil Ruckart \$500 scholarship checks were presented to the school. Father Len acknowledged and thanked the Knights for their support of the parish school.

On July 1, Sir Knight Wally Vazquez will become our new Faithful Navigator. I want to thank Wally and all who have stepped up to serve as assembly officers next year. In lieu of our July 27 Assembly meeting, we will have our Assembly installation of officers. State Master John O’Toole will be attending to preside over the installation. The installation will be open to wives and family members.

At our Assembly Installation last August, District Marshall Ken Jeffres encouraged all Fourth-Degree members to join the Color Corp, stating the Color Corp is the “Face of the Knights”. One of the most important roles of the Corp is providing an Honor Guard at the funeral services for our brother Knights. If you are not a member of the Color Corp, I wholeheartedly encourage you to join. The graces and rewards that come from this special service are extraordinary.

Last Sunday we celebrated Pentecost Sunday. The power of the Holy Spirit is indisputable. In the upper room, the Holy Spirit transformed the Apostles. In the book, *The Spirit of Catholicism*, Karl Adam says, “Twelve simple, uneducated fisherman revolutionized the world, and that with no other instrument than their new faith and their readiness to die for that faith.”

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are, according to Catholic tradition, wisdom, understanding, council, fortitude, piety, and fear of God. The fact that we may call on the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance is almost too good to be true. How thankful I am for such a blessing.

Saint Pope John Paul II stated, “How can we not give thanks to God for the wonders the Spirit has never ceased to accomplish in these two millenniums of Christian life? Indeed, the event of grace at Pentecost has continued to bear its marvelous fruits, everywhere instilling apostolic zeal, a desire for contemplation, the commitment to live and serve God and our brothers and sisters with complete dedication” (Pope John Paul II, May 31, 1998).

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Thy love.

Send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created,
 And thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

O God, who didst teach the hearts of Thy faithful people by sending them the light of Thy Holy Spirit, grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore rejoice in His holy comfort.

Through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

Vivat Jesus!
 Frank McEwen
 FN



Assembly Membership Growth	
Current Membership	133
2020/2021 Goal	0/6



Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
727.723.1169



June 18 is a Sunday and Father's Day. Happy Father's Day to all Dads, Grand-dads, and Great Grandfathers! Did you know that I am Italian? Well . . . not really, but I've taken the name of Popi for our five grandchildren. They range in age from 3 to 12. How quickly kids, and especially grand-kids, grow up.

We also have another vocation to celebrate in June, and that is the 50th Anniversary to the priesthood for our Council Chaplain, Fr. Michael W. Cooper, S.J., S.T.D. He was ordained a Jesuit priest on 6-16-1973. STD means Doctorate in Sacred Theology, a church degree Fr Cooper received from the Institut Catholique in Paris, where he spent five years and learned French, so he speaks French without an accent. That's Wonderful! Fr. Cooper is also a 4th degree knight. He took his 1st degree on 6/27/2015 and his 4th degree on 3/23/2019.

His brother Paul is also a member of our Council. They were both born in Cincinnati, OH. By joining the Knights, they continue the legacy of their father who was a Grand Knight and a District Deputy. The Chaplain of their dad's Council in Cincy was Fr. Garrity, who was a Jesuit and a regular and welcome guest to the Cooper home. Both Michael and Paul went to the parish grade school until they transferred to the Archbishop's Choir School. And, then both went to St. Xavier Jesuit High School, which Fr. Cooper says "marked my identity and Catholic faith."

For the two big liturgical feasts of Easter and Christmas, the Cooper family went to St. Xavier Catholic Church, a Jesuit parish. Fr. Cooper recalls working the golf course as a caddy, and at the local Kroger grocery store, saying that he was the largest depositor in their parish credit union.

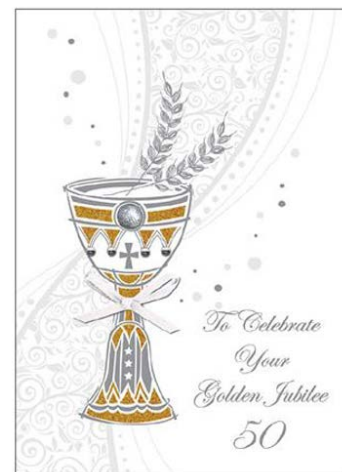
After high school, and with a full scholarship, Fr. Cooper enrolled at Xavier University in their pre-med program, as he planned to be a psychiatrist. And that's when he got God's Call, so he entered the Jesuit Novitiate, a 2-year program, in September, 1962. Fr. Cooper marks this date as becoming a Jesuit, and proudly claims that he has been a Jesuit for 61 years. [He thinks his Jesuit roots run back further in time, maybe another 4-6 years to Fr. Garrity and/or going to the Jesuit high school. What about you?]

Fr. Cooper shares that who he is, as a human being and priest, are rooted in his Jesuit-Ignatian spirituality and the Community he has been with for the last 61 years. "Jesuit spirituality and training", Fr. Cooper said, "emphasize the importance of the human as also very divine." Fr. Cooper hopes his homilies and ministry are very pastoral and practical, and that they make our shared Catholic faith both alive and nurturing.

Fr. Cooper has taught high school, college, and graduate courses—including 22 years at Saint Leo. He has given seminars, workshops, and retreats as well and has led many spiritual pilgrimages. Fr. Cooper is currently the Founder and CEO of the Arrupe Digital Spirituality Community, which offers retreats, internships, a book club, and weekly Mass—all on Zoom. More information on this 501c3 charitable organization is available at www.arrupespirituality.org

Fr. Cooper appreciates the close friends he has made with the Knights and is thankful for Knight's help at the Mass in the Park on Easter Morn and the Christmas Eve Mass in Philippe Park. Those events, he says, happen because of a joint effort by a team of brother Knights. My take is that they happen because of Fr. Cooper's leadership and willingness to say Mass there and "share" Jesus outside our church walls.

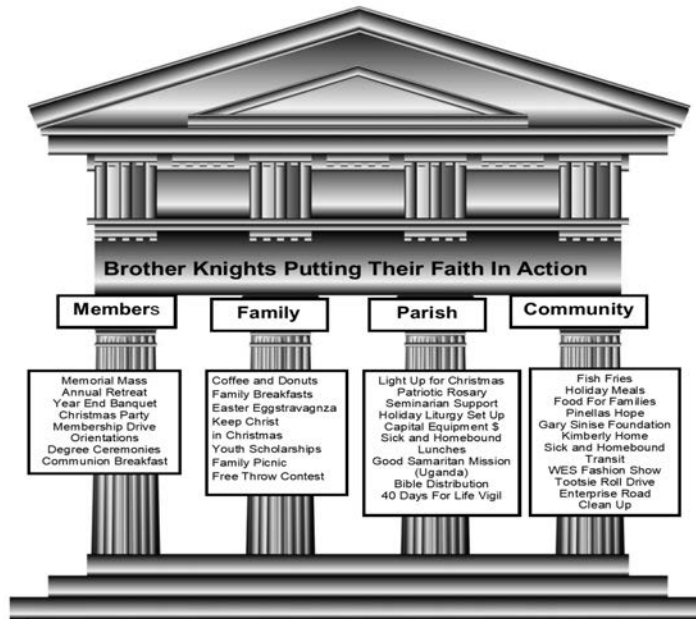
Thank you, Fr. Cooper, for your vocation and for being our Chaplain! May God continue to bless you.





Share Our Faith

Psalm 148 speaks to us about praising the Lord for his infinite power and love. It also clearly speaks to our need for gratitude for all the many gifts of the universe and His blessing on all His creations. If all the heavens, angels, sun and moon and waters of the earth praise His Holy Name then how can we not share this praise as Catholic gentlemen by praising Him through our acts of unity, charity, fraternity and patriotism? Hallelujah!



Psalm 148

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you, his angels; give praise, all you, his hosts. Praise him, sun, and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the LORD's name; for he commanded, and they were created, assigned them their station forever, set an order that will never change.

Special Announcement

“PARISH DINNER DANCE & SHOW”



“Featuring Dave DeLuca”

American Trilogy celebrates the music of three men who lived the American Dream, rising from humble beginnings to become international musical superstars: Neil Diamond, Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley.

Friday, June 16th, 7:00-10:30p in the Parish Center

Join us and enjoy a menu of Shrimp Cocktail, Spring Green Salad, Stuffed Chicken with Cheese & Broccoli, Green Beans, Rolls & Butter and Dessert. There will be Raffles and a Cash Donation Bar. Tickets will be for sale after all Masses during the weekends of June 3 & 4 and June 10 & 11, under the Parish Center Pavilion.

For more information, please call Gene Jajuga 727-403-3261 or via email at grandknight7109@gmail.com

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Table of Eight Adult \$180**

Photo Gallery



Brother Knights of District 40 help assemble donated playground equipment during Kimberly Home WorkDay



WGK Gene Jajuga and SK Brian Annis present a \$500 check and youth Bibles to Kate Kelly of Kimberly Home



Dr J. Wayne Phillips presents on The Shroud of Turin during Council 7109's Annual Retreat



The District Deputy with Worthy Grand Knights and other Delegates of District 40 at the 2023 Florida State Convention

In Memoriam

Jim Manetta

March 14, 1954 – June 17, 2022



The world became a brighter place on March 14, 1954, when Jim Manetta was born in Highland Park, Michigan to Sarah (Carbone) and Emil J. Manetta. Jim spent most of his life in the greater Detroit area, relocating to the Clearwater, Florida area upon retirement. He was a man of faith and family, and always willing to help others. He had a great love for science and was a tinkerer of computers to carburetors. Jim was an inventor, entrepreneur, and restorer of classic autos. Jim thoroughly enjoyed passing along his knowledge to his children. Jim entered eternal life on June 17, 2022, in Lakeland, FL, after a lengthy battle with AML, with family by his side. Jim is survived by his children, Randall, Rebecca, Jeffrey, Timothy and James; grandchildren, Ashton, Austin and Liam Manetta, as well as his fiancé Mary Ann Dillon. He will be missed by many friends and family, especially his brother Frank (Barb) Manetta. Cremation has taken place. Jim was active in his church community and served with the Knights of Columbus for many years, most recently with Council 7109 of Espiritu Santo Catholic Church, Safety Harbor, Florida. He had attained the rank of 4th degree Knight, the highest and most prestigious degree within the Knights of Columbus. Donations may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Knights of Columbus, or the charity of your choice. A memorial Mass was celebrated July 20, 2022, at St Mary Magdalen, Brighton, Michigan, and a Rite of Christian burial was held at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church, Safety Harbor, Florida, Saturday, August 6, 2022.





WHY DID JESUS ASCEND? WHAT DOES HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION MEAN?

This is written with a heavy heart in memory of all the brothers, sisters and family members that our Council and Assembly have lost in the past year (and beyond). We all grieve at the passing of a loved one and ask why? Why him or her? Why now. The culmination of Jesus's life on earth may help answer that question and provide relief and hope.

Jesus was taken up into heaven in full view of eleven disciples forty days after His resurrection. During that time, he continued to teach, proving the reality of His resurrection and spreading the Good News. He gathered the disciples on a mountain. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for "the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. *They asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel? He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Matthew conveys the same message of Christ in a little different way. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

So, at His Ascension marked the establishment for the transfer of authority for His Church and the continuation of the mission of salvation through the power of the Holy Spirit who would empower the disciples and followers of Jesus ten days after His resurrection? But Jesus would

also continue His mission forever (until the end of the age).

We all know that His passion and death were for our salvation and to open the gates of Heaven for us. But why did He have to suffer and die and why 40 days of Lent and 40 more until His Ascension. Could His Father have chosen another message to let us know His love for us and spare His only son? He is, after all, all-powerful. But He chose passion and death for His Son to let us know the depth of His love for us and to let us know that life is truly everlasting.

Forty days is full of interesting symbolism in the Scriptures. It is mentioned nearly 150 times. While the Bible definitely seems to use 40 to emphasize a spiritual truth, it is pointed out that the Bible nowhere specifically assigns any special meaning to the number 40. Most scholars assess this as signifying a period of testing or trial that God allows us to go through challenges in order to grow spiritually. The 40-day time period highlights the importance of strengthening our faith by relying on God's help in challenging circumstances. It takes time to process the grief of loss. The existential question why is difficult to grasp, and time is a primary tool.

Dear Jesus, we adore you O Lord and we praise You because through Your life and death you have saved the world and provide us with everlasting life. This is the promise of our faith. It is also the conqueror of our grief. Just like God the Father, the pain of the loss of a loved one is tremendous but the realization that all lives are unique and precious in God's eyes and that we will meet again in a place of everlasting comfort and joy is our reward.



From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Hope That Saves

Passing on the Catholic faith to our children is a crucial antidote to a growing epidemic of anxiety and despair

I was recently talking with a priest who serves as a chaplain at one of the top universities in the United States. I asked him what his Catholic students are struggling with the most. His response was immediate: anxiety and feelings of low self-esteem. I was bit surprised because these students are among the best and the brightest. But I shouldn't have been. This is a symptom of our age.

Earlier this year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that nearly 3 in 5 (57%) teenage girls in the United States felt persistently sad or hopeless, and nearly 1 in 3 (30%) have seriously considered attempting suicide. Both statistics are up nearly 60% from just a decade ago, and it's likely no coincidence that these disturbing trends coincide with the rise of smartphones.

The pressures upon young people are daunting, and they are often intensified by social media: hyper-sexualization, fashionable ideologies, the temptation to compare oneself to illusory personas projected by peers and "influencers." It's no wonder so many young people struggle with depression and despair as they try to make their way in a culture that has lost its moorings.

Faced with this situation, what can Catholic parents do? Putting aside the question of how parents should regulate the use of smartphones and electronic devices, the most important foundational thing we can do is pass on the beauty of our Catholic faith to our children. It is the most powerful bulwark against the false gospels being pushed on our children. It alone can provide them with the perspective, security, and confidence they will need to make sense of the world.

Our faith offers a coherent — and attractive — vision of the human person. It makes clear to our children that they have inherent dignity and are deeply loved by God, who has willed them into existence for a purpose. It establishes that, as members of the Church, they are part of something much larger than themselves — participants in an ancient struggle between good and evil, light and darkness, and surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses" (Heb 12:1). Finally, it reaffirms that victory is possible through Christ, who died for us and calls us to be children of the light (Eph 5:8).

Witnessing to our children the truth of this faith is a tall order for parents, myself included. But it can be done. Christian Smith, a sociologist at the University of Notre Dame known for his study of adolescent spirituality, has observed four traits in parents who successfully pass on their faith to their children.

First, these parents are genuine and authentic in their practice of the faith. If the faith of the parents is joyful and life-giving for the family, the children will be attracted to it.

Second, they adopt a parenting style that is authoritative but also abundantly affectionate. Children need rules, of course, but they also need personal warmth. This combination helps children embrace faith for the long haul.

Third, they regularly talk to their children about their faith — what they believe, what they do, and why. Discussions about faith need to be a consistent part of our everyday life, not compartmentalized or awkward.

Lastly, these parents introduce children to relationships that reinforce their beliefs. Children need to be around friends and other families who take their faith seriously.

None of this is easy, to be sure. But we need to have confidence that the God who brought order out of watery chaos at the beginning of creation (Gen 1:2) can do so again, helping us bring order out of the cultural chaos of our day. Swimming against the current, our children can experience real joy and genuine hope in Christ — and in so doing, become a light to the world.

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Adopt A Sister Program



The idea for the Adopt a Sister program was born in Tampa out of great need. With many of the Salesian Sisters aging, the reality of retirement and its increasing care costs became an urgent issue.

In 1991, Mr. Fortune Bosco, upon hearing of the plight of the Sisters, suggested that it was time to “adopt our Sisters” intending people to take the Sisters into their hearts, not their homes. Friendships were born between people and Sisters. People would simply send a donation for their “adoption” and have a friendship with prayers, letters, emails, etc. for a year with a Sister.

Today, the funds are needed more than ever for the upkeep of the retirement home and the care of the elderly Sisters. As for the program, the Sisters’ hearts are full of love for their extended family. They pray every day for their adopters’ needs and requests, and they are delighted to hear from them. Bonds between many of the adopters and Sisters are formed, thus making it truly one big family.

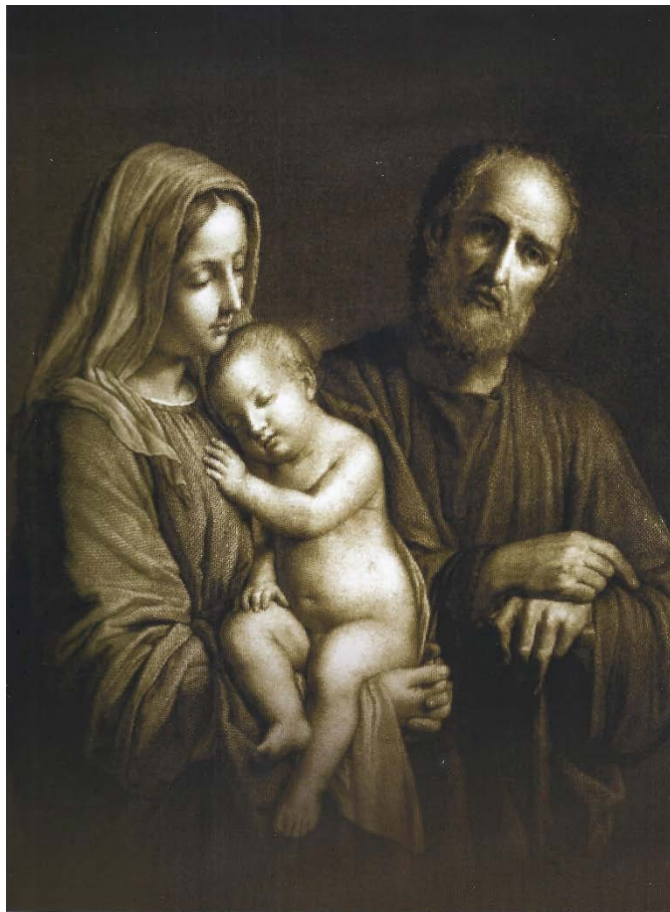
The Adopt a Sister program had a spurt of growth, and in 1999, Sr. Mary received word that the program be featured on the national news program “20/20”. The showing of 20/20 related the power of prayer and the power of good media coverage and literally by the next day, bushels of mail arrived. This gave the Sisters the ability to pay for construction of a retirement home in NJ for the elderly Sisters. To see the 20/20 TV segment, click here: www.salesiansisters.org/donation.

A starting donation of \$160 enrolls you or someone you love in the Adopt a Sister program for one year. Your gift helps provide for the Sisters’ retirement needs. In gratitude for your faith and friendship, your “adopted” Sister will pray for you each day for a year. Adoptees receive a picture and profile of their adopted Sister as well as a “Certificate of Adoption.” People from all faiths build great relationships with their adopted Sisters.

There are several Knights of Columbus Councils and Columbiette Councils from around the State of Florida as well as other states taking part in the Adopt a Sister program. We hope you will consider asking all Councils in the State of Florida to take part in this worthwhile program. It will bring much joy to the Councils as it does to the Sisters! For more information, contact Sr. Mary Rinaldi: toll-free: 877-Our-Nuns; that is 877.687.6867.

Assembly Officers 2022-2023

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
Sentinel-at-Large	George Inderwies	727.647.1601
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.

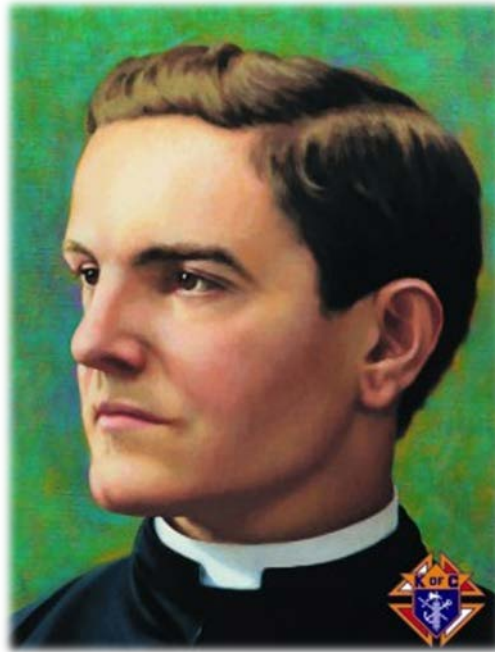
In our daily life and work,
 May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
 O Father, eternally show with your Son
 and the Holy Spirit.

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...

June 2023

- 06/04 | Sun 7:30a Corporate Communion Continental Breakfast
- 06/04 | Sun 9:00a Corporate Communion Mass
- 06/08 | Thu 6:30p Rosary
- 06/08 | Thu 7:30p Council Membership Meeting
- 06/13 | Tue 7:30p KofC Informational Open House
- 06/15 | Thu 9:00a Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 06/15 | Thu 7:30p KofC Unified Degree Exemplification
- 06/16 | Fri 7:00p Parish Dinner Dance & Show
- 06/17 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home Yard Workday



Assembly Calendar of Events...

June 2023



- 06/22 | Thu 7:30p Assembly Membership Meeting

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PRESS 1

• Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to **838255** • •

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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

Prayer for our Nation

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.

