

THE SHIELD

Grand Knight's Message



Gene Jajuga Grand Knight GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 7, July 2023

Next Council Meeting Thursday, July 13 @ 7:30 pm in the Parish Center

View the Newsletter online at: www.safetyharborkofc.org

Visit the State Website at: <u>www.floridakofc.org</u> Visit the Supreme Website at: <u>www.kofc.org</u>

Worthy Brother Knights & Ladies!

I hope that my report finds you and yours doing well and that you all enjoy a wonderful upcoming 4th of July Holiday!

PARISH DINNER DANCE & SHOW

On Friday, June 16th, we had our terrific "Parish Dinner Dance & Show." For all of those attending this event, I sincerely hope that you were all very pleased with our menu selections along with the entertainment provided and, that you all had a fabulous time that evening!

I just received some very exciting preliminary numbers from Tom Harkins, our Financial Secretary for our Council, that we had a total of 190 meals served with 178 of them being paid for by all attending. We had two members of our clergy, two invited guests from the Kimberly Home and our student servers that received comped meals from our Council.

We received revenue from ticket sales, 50/50 raffle, lotto tree, donation bar and other donations totaling \$5,609.26. Our expenses came from food, entertainment and gift for our Chaplin, Father Michael, who was celebrating the Golden Anniversary of his Ordination; all expenses totaling \$2,997.70. Our net profit for this event was \$2,611.56! This was a huge boost to our finances for the end of our fraternal year! THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!!

Please remember that we had some unanticipated and unbudgeted items in the Parish Center Kitchen with a new replacement freezer, a new replacement fryer and upgraded bibles for our 3rd grade school and religious education students, over these past 6 months. These expenses all totaled an additional \$8,000 over budget that we had to make up!

In addition, we had a very generous gift from Brother Knight Bob Stowell with a fabulous donation of wine for our event! Thank you, Brother Bob!

I would like to acknowledge and thank all that volunteered for this awesome event! First, I want to start by listing our cooks that really worked very, very hard over several days shopping, prepping, preparing, and cooking our delicious food:

Pat Nocerino	Santo Loparo	Tom Fitzpatrick
Bob Justiana	Ed Amador	Peter Demzak
JJ Coyne	Paul Harvey	Tom Krivchenia

Next, I would like to thank all those that helped transition the Parish Center from a Mass format setting it to a dinner dance ballroom and then resetting it back again to the Mass format setting all in an eight-hour period. WOW! This was a lot of work and is greatly appreciated. There were a few of us at the end that were running on fumes, believe me!

Brian Annis	Carolyn Annis	Robin LaChance
JJ Coyne	Terry Drake	Mike Engelmann
Don Puchalski	Frank McEwen	Sue Engelmann
Roe Resler	Richie Resler	Tom Krivchenia
Ed Amador	Karen Jajuga	Gene Jajuga
Paul Harvey	Doug deWolfe	Mark Feldman

Next, let's thank all of our plate assemblers, raffle sales, coffee service, and donation bar. Awesome job everyone!

John Papa	Phil Farney	Sue Engelmann
Richie Resler	Jane Farney	Mike Engelmann
Emma Coyne	JJ Coyne	John Clarke
Anne Harkins	Tom Harkins	Betsy Clarke

Last but certainly not least let's thank our student servers who I think did a fabulous job serving four courses to all of us!

Kiana Moreira	Sarah Williams	Morgan Petterson
Morgan Gehris	Ryan Burriesci	Gavin Rodriguez
Mark Murack	Nick Murack	Kaden Rodriguez

If I missed listing anyone, my sincere apologies.

I'm not sure that everyone in the Knights knows this so let me quickly review for you. Over my time spent selling tickets the last month or so, I was asked a number of times, why our event is being called the "Parish Dinner Dance & Show" when the Knights of Columbus are doing it? Shouldn't it be called "Knights of Columbus Dinner Dance & Show?"

Over the last year, and mainly through our advertising through the church bulletin, we are, as a large group and entity, trying to be more inclusive of our Parish Community by not identifying it as a Knights of Columbus event but a Parish event that is hosted by <u>your</u> Knights of Columbus. I want the greater Parish Community as well as the Parish Office and Staff to get over the perception that the Knights of Columbus are having all these events for themselves and not the parish as a whole. As an example: I don't belong to the Knights of Columbus so I or we can't go to the Dinner Dance. We need to continue to change that perception moving forward and be more inclusive of our entire parish community.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

Once again, for all of you that attended the "Parish Dinner Dance & Show," during all the excitement with all of us celebrating the Golden Anniversary of Father Michael's Ordination with a surprise huge cake being cut by Fr. Michael with a sword, Fr. Michael being presented with a Knights of Columbus, Priest Chasuble and Stole Set, commemorative plaque from our Council and a large Gift Basket from the Ladies Auxiliary, you may have missed a very special presentation that was made to me and our Council by Roe Resler representing our Lady Knights Auxiliary.

Our Ladies Auxiliary plays such a huge and important part of our Council and our events that I know that we couldn't do all the things that we do without their help and support. Our awesome Ladies Auxiliary presented our Council with a check for \$1,000 to help with the cost of our replacement kitchen appliances. THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR US!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS JULY

- BEGINNING OF THE NEW FRATERNAL YEAR Saturday, July 1, 2023
- Council Officer's Meeting Thursday, July 6th, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Special Olympics Hillsborough and Pinellas Sub-Area Bowling Competition – Saturday, July 8th, 7:30 AM
- Rosary Thursday, July 13th, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Council Installation of Officers & Social Thursday, July 13th, at 7:30 PM in the John Bosco Center
- Kimberly Home Work Day Saturday, July 15th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)
- Pinellas Hope Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery Thursday, July 20th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen
- Assembly Installation of Officers Thursday, July 27th, 7:30 AM in the John Bosco Center
- Council Officer's Meeting Thursday, August 3rd, 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Rosary Thursday, August 10th, at 6:30 PM in the John Bosco Center
- Council Business Meeting Thursday, August 10th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center

Blessings to all for an awesome month! Gene

Vivat Jesus!

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



Council 7109 Membership Corner

Happy Independence Day My Brother Knights of Council 7109,

As most of you already know, my family and I have decided to take up a new chapter in our lives by transferring to St. Ignatius in Tarpon Springs and would like to take this opportunity to say my "Good Byes" in my last article for our Council 7109 Newsletter.

I would like to first thank Tom Wozniak personally for reaching out to me that June Sunday morning, 5 years ago when my family and I walked into Mass through the West door. I remember it like it was yesterday. I was talking with my beloved wife Erin, the Sunday prior, that I wanted to be more involved with church activities. And by God's good grace, he sent Tom with a Form-100 that Sunday morning and the rest is history.

I want to thank ALL of you for the past 5 years in this council. You all have enriched my life and family in one way or another. You supported me when I had to take a leave of absence while I pursued my LPMI certificate that ended up being on Thursday evenings. And I would like to thank our Grand Knight Gene Jajuga and Deputy Grand Knight Tom Krivchenia for entrusting me in the role of Membership Director. And especially all of you that supported and assisted me along the way. I enjoyed meeting so many new people and helping to enroll new members into our council. I HIGHLY encourage anyone that enjoys meeting and talking with new people to consider taking up the role as our new Membership Director. I guarantee you will not be alone and will have support from everyone. You won't regret it.



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.

Although we did not reach our goal of 15 new members this year, we did enroll 9 new brothers. Alleluia!!! Evangelization never ends. Although this fiscal year has drawn to a close, the new year has just begun. Keep up the faith and keep sharing the good news of Blessed Michael McGivney and the Knights of Columbus with our brother Catholics.

I will continue to pray for the wellbeing and success of council 7109. And please pray for me as I join Council 7621 of St. Ignatius. Take care my brothers. I will come and visit from time to time.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us. Queen Mother of the Knights, pray for us. Good Luck, God Bless, and Peace Always!

Brian Riley Past Membership Director Email: <u>Brian.S.Riley@gmail.com</u> Cell: 303.921.9861

Informational Open House Schedule

Aug 15, Oct 17, Dec 19, Feb 13, Apr 16, Jun 18

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

Aug 17, Oct 19, Dec 21, Feb 15, Apr 18, Jun 20

Look for more information from our Grand Knight

Council Membership Report

Total Membership	333
Insurance Members	137
Honorary Life Members Honorary Members	69 7
2022-2023 Membership Growth vs Goal	9/15
2022-2023 Insurance Growth vs Goal	0/2

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Council Officers 2023-2024

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		727.772.0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Lecturer		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	Brian Annis	727.204.7490
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	Vi	ncent Cristiano
Special Assistant to the Council		Gary Murphy

Happy Birthday Brothers. Many Happy Returns!

Joseph Amendola, Mark Barrett, Fred Bennett, Marc Brill, Richard Bulova, James Burris, Steven Cote, JJ Coyne, Zach Faraone, Joel Gray, Michael McCarthy, James Nolf, Edmund Pagnott, Ernest Peluso, Glen Pettersen, Edward Potter, Charles Powers, James Preston, Richard Roberto, Daniel Saracki, Chuck Sullivan, Alvah Vankleeck

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, Andrea Coe (d), Maggie Cappabianca, John Benincasa, Lllian Custin (d), David Flori (d), Annemarie Montali, Violet Amador, Kathy Kukulski (d)

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, Donald and Linda Motika Borbath, James Burris, John and Sharon Cathcart, John and Betsy Clarke, JJ Coyne, William Cullen, Joseph and Betty D'Amelio, Douglas and Carol De Wolfe, Frank and Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Francisco and Mildred Diaz Estrella, Robert and Zoe Dufour, Philip and Jane Farney, Robert Faw, Thomas Fitzpatrick, John and Peggy Gohman, Thomas and Anne Harkins, Thomas and Jean Hart, Timothy and Ann Hartle, Paul and Rose Marie Harvey, James and Angy Hayes, David and Donna Heezen.,Kevin and Gidget Hernandez, Joseph and Sandra Hocherl, Steven and Anne Marie Ippolito, Eugene and Karen Jajuga, Shawn and Pattie Jajuga, Gregory and Kim Juedes, Timothy Kielich, William and Katherine Krajeski, Frank and Deborah Laffey, Milton Levine, Santo and Karen Loparo, Patrick Mackin, Francis and Carol Mahoney, Frank and Juliann Marsalek, Frank and Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen, Kevin McMullen, Stuart Miller, John Morgan, Thomas and Carolyn O'Rourke, Donald Palacheck, John and Susanne Papa, Paul and Virginia Pappas, George and Tracy Paradise, Thomas Penders, Daniel Peterson, Robert and Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto, James and Drema Servoss Rooney, Daniel and Paula Saracki, William and Mary Scott, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheafer, Bryan and Krista Snyder, Thomas and TP Stanko, Matthew and Julie Sunski, Steven Verba, Eugene and Rita Wolanin, Mario Zaccaria

Total Collected to Date: \$602.43



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ Chaplain

I think I was the only one who did not know about the recognition coming during the dinner-dance-show last month. I did not make a big deal of the 5-0, since Ordination came as part of my life as a Jesuit which equaled 61 years. I think a number of people congratulated me on the chronological time. For me these past fifty years as a Jesuit priest have been a time of blessing upon blessing. I have enjoyed celebrating Mass, teaching students of all ages—including Permanent Deacon candidates, giving retreats and talks mainly rooted in Ignatian-Jesuit spirituality. I have been a Knight and the Chaplain for our Council for almost half of those fifty golden years.

In all of this I have enjoyed the great blessings of deep friendships and community. I treasure some of my closest friends who are Knights in our Council. I have never missed a dance or dinner and my Mother and Sister Caroline Cerveny were always welcome at our table. These years of priesthood and as Chaplain for the Council have been time of great joy and blessing. I hope my fellow Knights and Ladies have also received the blessings and joy of our service and of our community on so many occasions.

Chaplain's Corner





Michael Cooper, S.J., Chaplain

Service Program Directors 2023-2024			
Program Director	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422	
Membership Director			
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			
Life Director	David Behrle, PGK, PFN	727.723.1169	
Vocations	Frank McEwen, PGK	727.239.2687	
Retention Chairman	Frank McEwen, PGK	727.239.2687	

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Tom Krivchenia Deputy Grand Knight dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights,

We are starting a fraternal new year full of anticipation of what the year will bring. I am pleased that Wally Vasquez will remain as our Faith Director as well as being the Faithful Navigator, Frank McEwen will continue as our Vocations Chairman, Jim Lankford will remain as our Community Director, David Behrle will remain the Life Director and Tom Wozniak will be our Family Director. We have many of the same activities planned as last year and a few more in the works. We will be having our Renewal of Vows during our regularly scheduled meeting on July13, at 7:30pm in the Parrish center with refreshments and fellowship with our wife's afterword's. I would like to thank all who worked on setting up the Parish Center for our Dinner/Show and resetting it for Mass the next day. Gratitude to all who prepared the food and who made the dance a great success. Thank you, Fr. Cooper, for everything you do for the Knights and the Parish. Congratulations on the Fiftieth Anniversary of your Ordination.

As we approach the Fourth of July and give thanks with family and friends for our freedom and God's blessings and grace on all of us, I extend my wishes for a very happy, safe and fun-filled summer!

Finally, we will have a flag retirement ceremony after the 8:30 Mass on July 4th. Please bring any old or unwanted flags so we can dispose of them properly.

From the Faith Directors Desk

We will continue to have the Rosary on the second Thursday of the month throughout the summer. Our next one will be on July 13th at 6:30 in the JBC. As always, it's open to the parish. So, bring a friend.

Some of the things to look forward to this year. K of C Memorial Mass is scheduled for November 16th, K of C Retreat is scheduled for May 18th, 2024.

We are trying to get the Silver Rose to come to our parish. Each year from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a Rosary-centered occasion for Knights and members to pay respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message or Our Lady of Guadalupe.

From the Desk of the Community Director

We will be doing the road cleanup on Saturday the 8th starting at 8am to avoid the heat. Jim will bring coffee and donuts. Please meet by the shed and vests will be supplied.

Some other events that we are planning on doing this year are the Soccer Challenge, the Hockey Challenge and the Free Throw Challenge.

From the Family Directors Desk

We will again be doing the Keep Christ in Christmas Cards and Family of the Month\Year. We are working on some new and exciting ideas for the coming year.

From the Life Directors Desk

We will be doing the baby bottles again to raise money for the Kimberly Home. Kate Kelly, who runs Kimberly Home needs a Doppler which lets the girls hear the sound the baby makes. We will continue helping The Kimberly Home on the third Saturday of the month. We will be looking for other ways to help this wonderful ministry.

Saint Mary Magdalene – Feast Day – July 22

On his journeys, Jesus is accompanied by "the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities," among them "Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out" (Luke 8:1-2). Following Jesus brings Mary to Golgotha, where she witnesses his death and burial. Three days later, she meets Jesus outside the empty tomb. She hastens to tell the disciples: "I have seen the Lord!" Tradition names Mary Magdalene "the apostle to the apostles": "Just as a woman had announced the words of death to the first man, so also a woman was the first to announce to the apostles the word of life" (Saint Thomas Aquinas).

THE SHIELD

July Liturgical Calendar July 1 St. Junipero Serra, Bl. Virgin Mary July 3 Saint Thomas (Feast) July 4 Independence Day July 5 St. Anthony Zaccaria, St. Elizabeth of Portugal July 6 St. Maria Goretti July 8 Bl. Virgin Mary July 11 Saint Benedict (Memorial) July 13 St. Henry July 14 Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (Memorial) July 15 Saint Bonaventure (Memorial) July 18 St.Camillus de Lellis July 20 St. Apollinaris

July 21 St. Lawrence of Brindisi July 22 Saint Mary Magdalene (Feast) July 24 St. Sharbel Makhluf July 25 Saint James (Feast) July 26 Saint Joachim and Anne (Memorial) July 29 Saint Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (Memorial)

July 31 Saint Ignatius of Loyola (Memorial)

Vivat Jesus, Thomas Krivchenia, PFN Deputy Grand Knight DGK7109@gmail.com 727-366-5422

From The Financial Secretary's Desk

MEMBERSHIP CARD DISTRIBUTION

2023/2024 membership cards for paid up regular and honorary members will be available for pick-up either at the July 13 or August 10 Council meetings in the parish hall.

Honorary Life Members – even though you have a permanent plastic membership card, Supreme still requires the Financial Secretary to issue a paper membership card (AKA Traveling card) to all Life members. These cards will also be available for distribution at the July 13 and August 10 Council meetings.

If you are unable to attend both meetings and you would like your card mailed to you, please send an email to our Financial Secretary teharkins@gmail.com. We want to minimize postage expense, so please pick your card up in person if at all possible.







John Ruckart Field Agent John.Ruckart@kofc.org



I always think of July as being the midpoint of the summer. I hope your summer is going well and you're staying cooled off indoors. If you are doing things outside, stay hydrated, it seems like each summer is hotter than the last! Although, summer will be gone before we know it!

For this month a couple of thoughts come to mind. A case that came up recently had to do with the ownership of life insurance policies. If you have policies on dependent children, it's wise to have a contingent owner listed. A parent is most often the owner of the child's policy, but often there is no provision made on the policy should that parent pass away. Having a contingent owner listed in this situation makes for a smooth transition of ownership. That's one of the many things I can help with when I review policies for you.

Fraternal benefits come with being a member of the Order. One of these fraternal benefits is known as the Spouse's Right to Apply. This benefit is spelled out in each of our insurance contracts and provides a widow with the right to apply for any of our products for up to one year after her husband's death so long as he was an insured member at the time of his death. It's another good reason to become an insured member with the Order. It gives that right to your spouse. One of the advantages of meeting with me is to review just these kinds of situations. I hope to put your mind at ease.

There are many more fraternal benefits. When I meet with a member and his spouse, I try to make sure I explain all of them that are pertinent. This is all in addition to our financial needs analysis tool that can help determine needs. I think this analysis and the insurance products we offer are two of the most worthwhile benefits the Order provides. This is a robust and cutting-edge platform that is used throughout the life insurance industry. We used to use a much simpler form called the Family Service Record to help keep track of important household information if the need ever presented itself. Now one of the benefits I provide to you and your family is to go through this financial needs analysis and help determine where you are now and where you want to go. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. We'll take a look at your dreams, goals and aspirations and help make sure you're on track to make them become

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

a reality. As always, there is never any requirement to purchase any product, but a baseline or periodic checkup is a wise idea.

I appreciate the trust you've placed in me and the opportunity to serve you! Enjoy the summer!

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



Happy 414 of July

THE SHIELD



Wally Vazquez Faithful Navigator travelwally@msn.com

This is my first month as the Faithfull Navigator for Assembly 2474. I look forward to working with you all as we serve our God, our Parish, our Council and this Assembly.

I ask God the Father to help us all to hear and respond to HIS call to Christian service, I ask Jesus the Son of God to keep us safe in the performance of our service work and duties, I ask the Holy Spirit to Illuminate our minds and open our hearts to Hear those in need and help us to serve them.

My sincerest thanks to our past Faithful Navigator Sir Knight Frank McEwen PGK and all the officers that made our Assembly outstanding.

The installation of Assembly Officers is scheduled to occur on 27, July 2023. I look forward to seeing all our 4th Degree Knights at this event. State Master John O'Toole will preside over the installation. The installation will be open to wives and family members.

There are many events being planned for this fraternal year: Golf Tournament, Family Picnic, Dinner Dances, Special Events, Christmas Events, Easter Events, and many more opportunities to serve our community and parish. Upcoming events are:

- Flag Retirement (ppd fm Memorial Day) July 4
- Installation Ceremony July 27
- Golf Outing scheduled for October 22
- Memorial Mass November 16

Please support these events and activities.

At our last Assembly Installation in August 2022, District Marshall Ken Jeffres encourage all Fourth-Degree Knights to join the Color Corp. Our past Faithful Navigator pointed out that there were many graces and rewards that come from this extraordinary special service.

Faithful Navigator's Log

Let us pray that God find each of us worthy to receive an overflowing measure of grace from that font of Heavenly gifts. Through Christ our Lord.

Vivat Jesus!

Wally Vazquez FN

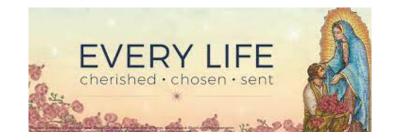


SK Ed Amador attained his 4th Degree in Pompano Beach; pictured here with State Master John O'Toole

Assembly Membership Growth		
Current Membership	134	
2022/2023 Goal	1/6	



Dave Behrle PGK, PFN 727.723.1169



Life is precious! And, a gift from God! As Genesis 1:27 says, we are all made in the image of God. We continue to mourn the loss of Lillian Custin, grand daughter of Jerry & Cindy Custin. Please continue to pray for Lillian, and all the Custin family.

Last year on June 24, the Supreme Court returned to the states the authority to regulate abortion by overturning the 1973 Roe v Wade decision that had legalized abortion in the United States. As members of the Knights of Columbus, we are pro-life, we support pro-life efforts such as the National March for Life in Washington DC, and locally, the ongoing 40 Days for Life efforts and our local pregnancy center, The Kimberly Home.

Since Roe v Wade has been overturned, 14 states have enacted abortion bans. More than 100 abortion sites have shut down. The Susan B Anthony prolife group estimates that some 129,000 children are now alive due to these actions. For this we are thankful. Praise be to God!

But other states have gone the other way, even enshrining the so-called "right to abortion" into their state constitutions. Abortion, up to birth, and/or no protection of the baby who survives a late term abortion? How can that ever be justified? The United States, with these so called 'legal protections' for late term abortion on demand, joins just a handful of nations, including China and North Korea. What about Europe? In Europe, 47 out of 50 countries limit elective abortion prior to 15 weeks. We see the violence on the nightly news. Without respect for life in the womb, all life becomes expendable.

Here is more good news. Our younger daughter, Melissa, is a chaplain at Boston's Children Hospital.

This hospital recently performed a surgical operation on a baby in the womb at 34-weeks gestation to correct a rare & fatal development in the brain called Vein of Galen malformation. I believe this in-utero operation and ultrasound-guided was the first ever for this problem. Surgery was done on March 15, just one month after the malformation was detected. CNN has a documentary article & video available; see https://www.cnn.com/2023/05/04/health/brainsurgery-in-utero/index.html On March 17, Denver Coleman was born, weighing 4 pounds and 1 ounce. Now (May), nearly two months after Denver was born, she continues to thrive, spending most of her time sleeping and eating. She's not taking any medications for heart failure, and her neurological exam is normal. There's no indication that she needs any additional interventions. Praise God for the skill of the surgeon and his team. Life is so precious. Continue to pray and work for Life!

PRO-LIFE



Serve The Lowly And Abandoned

Psalm 58 is interesting. It covers the Old Testament gods like they are current day political figures. Lack of fair justice, engage in crime, dispense violence on the earth. In short, they have gone astray. They have become like snake charmers spewing venom. David and the people of Israel call upon God to smash the teeth in their mouths and get them out of Israel. Then, the justice shall rejoice, and the people will say there is a God who is judge on earth. What are our pillars? Charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. In Building the Domestic Church that may periodically call for some teeth and fang bashing as we work to serve the lowly and abandoned.



Psalm 58

Do you indeed pronounce justice, O gods; do you judge fairly you children of Adam? No, you freely engage in crime; your hands dispense violence to the earth. The wicked have been corrupt since birth; liars from the womb, they have gone astray. Their venom is like the venom of a snake, like that of a serpent stopping its ears, So as not to hear the voice of the charmer or the enchanter with cunning spells. O God, smash the teeth in their mouths; break the fangs of these lions, LORD! Make them vanish like water flowing away; trodden down, let them wither like grass. Let them dissolve like a snail that oozes away, like an untimely birth that never sees the sun. Suddenly, like brambles or thistles, have the whirlwind snatch them away. Then the just shall rejoice to see the vengeance and bathe their feet in the blood of the wicked. Then people will say: "Truly there is a reward for the just; there is a God who is judge on earth.

Photo Gallery

Images from our Parish Dinner Dance & Show



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In Memoriam

Robert L. Carman December 25, 1944 - July 29, 2022



Robert Carman went to be with his Lord surrounded by family, at Mease Countryside Hospital on July 29, 2022. Born in Freeport, NY, in 1944, he was the son William and Louise Carman. He graduated from Florida State Fire College. He was employed at Oldsmar Fire Department and worked as Captain retiring after 20 years.

Robert was a member of the U.S. Army as a Vietnam Veteran and engineer. He was a member of Espiritu Santo Catholic Church and choir, and belonged to the Knights of Columbus, Council 7109. He will be remembered for the time he spent with his grandson Ryan, who brought him so much joy. He loved life, family, faith, and community, being a resident of Oldsmar for 50 years. He loved to sing and was an avid fan of Ford and NASCAR and "Awesome Bill from Dawsonville." He was a lifelong mechanic, engineer, building and restoration enthusiast.

Robert is survived by his wife of 52 years, one child Carolann and Raymond Dresch and Grandson Ryan; siblings Tom and Diane Carman of NY, and Linda and Rick Baker, OK. Sister-in-laws, Joyce and John Zdrodowski, Oldsmar and Karen Sterk and Frank Louderback of Gulfport. He is preceded in death by Father William Carman, Mother Louise Carman and Brother Kenneth Carman.

A visitation was held Sunday, August 7, 2022 at Curlew Hills Cemetery Funeral Home. A funeral Mass was held Monday, August 8, 2022 at Espiritu Catholic Church and a committal took place following honors at Curlew Hills Memory Gardens.

in Cooing memorye



God Loves Us; He Really Loves Us

The more we begin to understand the love story between God and Israel, the more we realize how that story applies to all of God's creations. God provides us unconditional and everlasting love as well as some guidelines on hearing His voice and avoiding false gods. But like Israel and all the Old Testament prophets we, all too often, wind up straying from His word and the results are never good.

While the Israelites were on their journey in Sinai, the Lord called Moses to Him and said to report to the Israelites: "You have seen for yourselves how I treated the Egyptians and how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself. Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. You shall be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation."

Paul takes that deeper and tells the Corinthians. "Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath."

Jesus, after His resurrection, sets the stage for His disciples empowering them and instructing them thus, "Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons.

Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."

So, God loves us: He really loves us even in our sinful state. And, He has only one ask, *hearken to my voice, and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession*.

This is our calling as Knights. Hearken to His voice; keep His covenant and we shall be his special possession. Our July focus for building the domestic church is **Serve the Lowly And Abandoned.** Notice how that perfectly aligns with God's love for us.

We have received all this from an infinitely loving God at no cost and without cost we are called to give.

Can there be a better foundation for our charitable work?





From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Our Shared Responsibility

As Knights and lay leaders, we must model the call of all the baptized to participate in the Church's mission of evangelization

A Great Blessing of my role as supreme knight is the opportunity to periodically update the Holy Father about the activities of the Knights of Columbus. It's always a moment of grace to be with the successor of St. Peter, expressing the Order's solidarity with him and with all our bishops and priests. And it's a real privilege to share with the Holy Father so much good news about the tremendous efforts of our 2 million brother Knights.

During my meeting with Pope Francis in April, I spoke about some of our remarkable charitable work, and I also discussed the increased focus that we've been placing on evangelization and the formation of men as husbands and fathers.

I explained that this is an extension of the active sense of "co-responsibility" between clergy and laity that Blessed Michael McGivney built into the Knights of Columbus — some 80 years before the Second Vatican Council underscored "the responsibility of the laity in the Church" (*Lumen Gentium*, 37). The Holy Father responded with great conviction, saying that our example of co-responsibility is extremely important. He urged me and Archbishop Lori to talk more about it — and so we will!

When Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Order 141 years ago, he didn't envision his Knights simply as helpful men in the community, but rather as men who embraced a real responsibility — alongside their priests — to advance the mission of the Church. This is one reason Father McGivney entrusted the Order's leadership to laymen.

Throughout our history, this co-responsibility can be seen in our commitment to works of charity, especially the care of widows and orphans. Co-responsibility also led us to defend the Church from threats such as attacks from the Ku Klux Klan, nativist attempts to prohibit Catholic schools, and the persecution of the Church in Mexico in the early 20th century.

More recently, Knights have modeled leadership and co-responsibility in the pro-life movement, the defense of religious liberty, and countless works of charity in our communities and around the world. For most Knights, our co-responsibility involves simply being available to the parish — being ready to help "Father" with anything he needs. And today, it increasingly means creating opportunities for men to deepen their faith, such as through our new *Cor* initiative.

Our cultural circumstances have changed. Christianity is no longer the formative basis of our society that it once was, which is evident in the large number of people who have left the faith or have no faith at all. If the Church is to thrive, each and every baptized Catholic — bishops and priests, religious, catechists, moms and dads — must engage actively in our shared responsibility to evangelize. In other words, our co-responsibility for the mission of the Church is more vital than ever.

On the individual level, taking on this responsibility can begin with Christ-centered friendships — friendships that seek to build up and challenge each other to something greater. It can involve taking the chance to share your faith with someone, explaining what your faith means to you and why you're Catholic. And it includes the realization that each of us is personally called to holiness, and then making the decision that I am going to do something about that.

As lay leaders, Knights can go places and reach other men in a way that our priests often can't. And the witness that we give in those places can draw men into deeper relationship with the sacramental life of the Church.

For decades, the Knights of Columbus has been called "the strong right arm of the Church." To continue to live up to this title, Knights must answer the call to co-responsibility according to the needs of our time.

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Final Thoughts

By State Deputy Rob Urrutia

Wow, what a ride it has been. The past eight years have been filled with excitement and joy. And yes, some downtrodden times as well. But the good outweigh the bad. I was able to meet many great people throughout my travels.

From the Panhandle to Miami and everything in between. Unfortunately, I did not make it to Key West and the Bahamas. I am hoping that I can make it down there sometime in the next year or so.

My top three things I got to be a part of was the following. Having nine Past State Deputies attend the convention. It was an honor to be with many Past State Deputies that helped make Florida what it is today. Second thing that was special to me was this past State Convention and having our Supreme Secretary Patrick Mason, Our Immediate Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, and our very own Supreme Master Emeritus Dennis Stoddard in attendance.

Having these Sir Knights in attendance was a lot of fun. My third is a tossup between throwing out the first pitch at a Miami Marlins game and attending the Coke Zero 400 for Special Olympics. There are so many more, but not enough space to write them down.

As we start June we are almost at our goal for membership. Just because the convention is over doesn't mean we are finished for the year. We need to continue to press the rest of the month to get our numbers and to continue the momentum to the new fraternal year. If every district gets four new members in June we will reach the pinnacle level at Supreme. That is a lot but achievable for Florida. We need to be on top so we can walk even taller at the Supreme Convention in Orlando.

This year's Supreme Convention is in Orlando. Please make sure you register for the hospitality opportunities we have. From 4th degree, to Transportation, and for greeters. We need a lot of support and help. Don't delay register today!

I would like to congratulate Brother Rick Hughes as our new State Deputy. He is the right man at the right time as we continue to grow the order in membership. Please give him as much support and prayers as you gave me. Congratulations to the other elected officers. State Secretary Mike Gizewski, State Treasurer Joseph Coicou, State Advocate Robert Rasch, and State Warden Ed Sleyzak. May our prayers continue to lead them these next few years. Make sure you reach out to them and congratulate them all.

I would like to Thank my staff these past two years for making them successful and rewarding. It takes a team to knock down goliath and achieve success. Specially like to Thank Fr. Robert Kantor for his prayers, Spiritual guidance, and a Friend. Danny McIntyre for doing an exceptional job in leading our membership efforts. Rich Dahn for keeping Charities heading in the right direction and to Kris Elliott for all the work he put in for the Programs team. The board members Rick, Michael, Robert, Joseph, Ed for supporting me during these past two years. To Brother Lorenzo for making the small things happen and to the Master John O'Toole for the work he done for us. Brother Bob and Tuey for making these events seem seamless. Thank you Thank you,

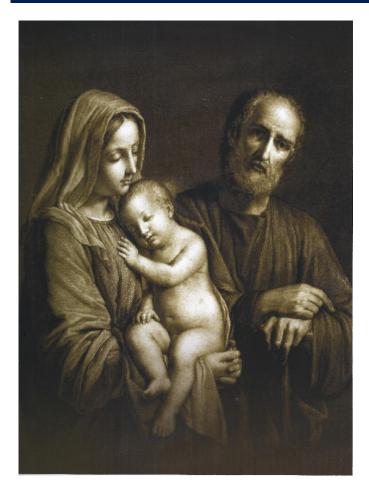
From my Wife Lucille and I one last Thank you for all your love and support. Remember we are not done yet. We have 29 days to go!

Reprinted from the INVOCATION – A Monthly Publication for the Membership of the Florida State Council Knights of Columbus

THE SHIELD

Assembly	Officers	2023-2024
Assembly	Unicers	2023-2024

Faithful Navigator	Waliy Vazquez	727.542.5376
Faithful Friar	Deacon Greg Nash	813.267.1535
Faithful Captain	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Admiral	Frank McEwen, PGK	727.239.2687
Faithful Pilot	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Faithful Scribe		
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	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727.871.6506
Trustee Two Year	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
Trustee One Year	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Color Corps Commander	Tom Wozniak, PGK, PFN, FDD	727.214.8377
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.

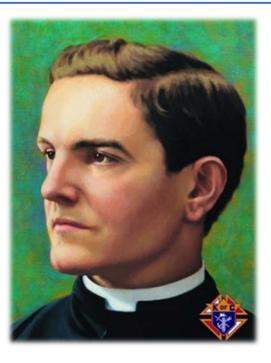
In our daily life and work, May we reflect the self-giving love which you, O Father, eternally show with your Son and the Holy Spirit.

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...

July 2023

- 07/01 | Sat
- 07/08 | Sat 7:30a
- 07/13 | Thu 6:30p
- 07/13 | Thu 7:30p
- 07/15 | Sat 8:00p
- 07/20 | Thu 9:00a
- New Fraternal Year Begins
- Special Olympics Bowling Competition
- Rosary
- Council Membership/Officer Installation
- Kimberly Home Yard Work Day
 - Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery



Assembly Calendar of Events...

July 2023

- 07/04 | Tue 8:30a
- 07/27 | Thu 7:30p

Flag Retirement Assembly 2474 Installation Ceremony

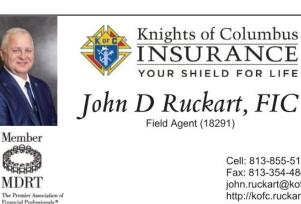
Over The Horizon

- 10/22 | Sun 8:00a
- 11/16 | Thu 7:00p

Golf Tournament Memorial Mass

Thanks to Our Sponsors





Cell: 813-855-5111 Fax: 813-354-4844 john.ruckart@kofc.org http://kofc.ruckart.com

SWIMMING POOL 10

Kevin Jajuga Owner

P.O. Box 1016 Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Phone: 727-475-7204 northpinellas@asppoolco.com

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF SUICIDE RISK

ASPNorthPinellas.com

- 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.

he presence of these signs quires immediate attention.

- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness,
- mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live ۲
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends Call us if you experience any of these warning signs.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

BARNEY GONYEA COUNCIL 7109 - WWW.SAFETYHARBORKOFC.ORG

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.



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