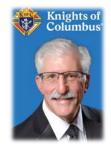
The Shield



The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN Grand Knight GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Worthy Brothers & Ladies,

October was another treacherous month for the state of Florida and the Bay Area with Hurricane Milton hitting just south of us in the Sarasota area saving us from the strong storm surge, but did we ever get the rain and wind causing major flooding, falling trees and power outages that lasted from a day to over a week for some people. I hope that my letter finds you doing well and back to normal or well on your way. The storm caused us to cancel or move several of our events. The biggest one was the Assembly Charity Golf Tournament at the Ardea Country Club which has been moved to Sunday, November 24th. With everyone trying to put their lives back together, we moved the Fall Dinner Dance to late Spring or early Summer.

With all the interruptions and problems that we faced, we did have a very successful Coffee & Donuts on Sunday, October 6^{th,} with the help of the Religious Education children and their families, we were able to sell out of donuts. Thank you to all of you who made this event a success. I do apologize if I missed anyone who volunteered and gave assistance.

John Clarke	Jack Strehle	Gene Wolanin
Ed Amador	Kay Strehle	Frank McEwen
Matt Sunski	Bill Krajeski	Mark Feldman
Tom Harkins	-	

We did have a very busy end of the month with three events taking place on the same day. We had Sir Knight Stanley Kwiatkowski funeral at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in New Port Richey, FL. I would like to Issue 11, November 2024

Next Council Meeting Thursday, November 14 @ **7:00 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>

thank the Color Corp who were present at the Mass including John Papa, Gene Jajuga, and Frank McEwen. Thank you for honoring Sir Knight Stanley.

Just an hour before Sir Knight Stanley's funeral Mass, Sir Knight George Smith was having his funeral Mass here at Espiritu Santo. Thank you to the Color Corp who were present at his funeral: Matt Sunski, Tom Fitzpatrick, JJ Coyne, John Gohman, and George Inderwise.

A few hours later, on this same day, the students at the school had their Halloween Trunk or Treat party. Thank you to all of you who showed up and helped with this wonderful event. I'm sure the parents and teachers were happy to have our support to make this a big success.

Upcoming Events

- Council Officer's Meeting Thursday Nov 7th, 7:00PM in the Gathering Room.
- Assembly 2474 Coffee & Donuts Sunday, Nov 10th, 7:30AM in the St. John Bosco Center.
- Veterans Day Mass Celebration (Color Corp Presenting Colors) - Monday Nov 11th, 8:30AM Mass.
- Rosary Hosted by the KofC Thursday, Nov 14th 6:15PM in the St. John Bosco Center.
- Council Business Meeting Thursday, Nov 14th, 7:00PM in the Parish Center.
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting Thursday, Nov 14th, 7:00PM in the Gathering Room.
- Kimberly Home Work Day Saturday Nov 16th, 8:00AM
 10:00AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)

- Informational Open House Tuesday, Nov 19th, 7:00PM in the Gathering Room.
- KofC Unified Degree Ceremony Wednesday, Nov 20th, 7:00PM in the Parish Center.
- Pinellas Hope Lunch Prep and Meal Delivery -Thursday, Nov 21st, 9:00AM - 12:00PM in the PC Kitchen.
- KofC Memorial Mass and Reception Thursday, Nov 21st, 7:00PM in the Main Church. Reception in the Parish Center.
- Thanksgiving Meals Delivery Saturday, Nov 23rd, 8:30AM in the St. John Bosco Center.
- Assembly Charity Golf Tournament Sunday, Nov 24th, 6:30AM – 3:00PM at Ardea Country Club South Course in Eastlake Woodlands.
- Thanksgiving Thursday, Nov 28th, Happy Thanksgiving to all.
- "Light Up for Christ" Light Install Saturday, Nov 30th, 9:00AM in the Courtyard.
- "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale Saturday, Nov 30th, after all Masses under the Pavilion.
- Caroling and lighting of Christmas lights Saturday, Nov 30th, after 6:00PM Mass.
- "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale Sunday, Dec1st, after all Masses under the Pavilion.
- Council Officer's Meeting Thursday, December 5th, 7:00PM in the Gathering Room.
- "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale Saturday, Dec 7th after all Masses under the Pavilion.
- "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale Sunday, Dec 8th after all Masses under the Pavilion.
- Council Coffee & Donuts Sunday, Dec 8th, 7:30AM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Rosary Hosted by KofC Thursday, Dec 12th 6:15PM in the St. John Bosco Center.
- Council business Meeting Thursday, Dec 12th 7:00PM in the Parish Center.
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting Thursday Dec 12th 7:00PM in the Gathering Room
- "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale Saturday, Dec 14th after all Masses under the Pavilion.

Coffee & Donuts

The Assembly will be hosting the Coffee & Donuts this month on Sunday, November 10th in honor of the Veterans after the morning Masses.

Unified Degree Exemplification

We will have a Unified Degree Ceremony on Wednesday, November 20th at 7:00PM in the Parish Center. This is a great time for anyone who has not gone through all threedegree ceremonies to become a full Knight. If you know of anyone who might want to join the Knights bring them to the Open House on Tuesday November 19th at 7:00PM in the Gathering Room.

Memorial Mass

We will be having our Annual Memorial Mass on Thursday, November 21st at 7:00PM in the Main Church. Our Chaplin Fr. Cooper will be presiding over the Mass. This is the time that we honor our brothers who have passed away over the years and spend time with family members remembering their lives and how much they meant to us. There will be a small reception after Mass in the Parish Center with desserts and fellowship.

The Assembly Charity Golf Tournament

With the major destruction of the golf course from Hurricane Milton, we had to move this wonderful event to Sunday, November 24th. Sign in starts at 7:00AM with a 9:00AM shotgun start. There is still time to sign up to play in the Assembly 2474 Charity Golf Tournament benefiting the Gary Sinise Foundation. This life-changing golf tournament is for JT Doody; we are raising money for the construction of a specially designed home that meets his special needs. There are on-course prizes like a putting contest, closest-to-the-pin and a longest drive. There are 50/50 tickets available with the winner taking home over \$1,300 during the last two years. Please check out our auction website with great prizes for you to bid on. With this great event, it takes many people to make this work. We are still looking for a few more volunteers to sign up for this rewarding event. You can spend a few short hours or the whole day helping make this event a success. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Keep Christ In Christmas

We will be selling Christmas cards and bumper stickers and yard signs every weekend after all Masses in the Pavilion beginning the weekend of November 30th. This is a perfect way to connect with your loved ones during this beautiful Christmas Season and to stay in their hearts with these beautiful Christ-themed Christmas cards. With many new styles, these are the only Christmas cards you'll need to buy to keep Christ in Christmas.

Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

Once again, we will be delivering Thanksgiving Baskets on Saturday, November 23rd at 8:30AM. We will meet at the back of the Gathering Room. We are in need of eight to nine teams of 2 to help deliver these Thanksgiving Dinners to the needy.

We will be decorating the courtyard and the front of the church on Saturday, November 30th starting at 9:00AM. Many hands make light work, and we should be done by 11:30AM

May you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving spending time with family and loved ones.

Vivat Jesus, Tom



SK Edward Amador Membership Director Edamador00@gmail.com

Brother Knights,

As we move into November, I want to thank every one of you for your commitment and efforts in reaching out to Catholic men in our parish and community. Last month, we celebrated the addition of Brother **William Brandon** to our council, and while we are grateful for this new beginning, our mission to grow and strengthen **Barney Gonyea Council 7109** is far from complete. This is a reminder that every new member represents an opportunity to expand our service, grow our programs, and deepen our faith together.

The Power of Personal Invitation and Holy Moments

As we've shared before, our recruitment efforts are most successful when they're rooted in the concept of **Holy Moments**, as inspired by **Matthew Kelly**. These Holy Moments are the times when we act in alignment with God's will, using our talents and gifts to do good for others. When we invite another man to join the **Knights of Columbus**, we are giving him the opportunity to experience Holy Moments through service, prayer, and fraternity.

A Holy Moment doesn't have to be grand, it could be as simple as a heartfelt conversation, an invitation to share coffee and donuts after Mass, or a discussion about the meaningful work we do for our community. Each of these small actions can plant the seed that brings a man closer to our brotherhood. Think about how you can create a Holy Moment this month by reaching out to someone who would be a great addition to our council.

Thanksgiving and Gratitude

As we approach Thanksgiving, I encourage each of you to take a moment to reflect on the blessings that come from our shared faith and fellowship. In the spirit of gratitude, let's remember how fortunate we are to be part of such a supportive and devoted council. Let's use this time of gratitude to inspire others to join us. When we invite a man to become a Knight, we're inviting him to experience the blessings that come with serving others, deepening his faith, and forming lasting bonds with fellow Catholics.

Best Practices for Growing Our Council

Here are some effective practices that have helped other councils grow and that we encourage each of you to adopt:

1. **Build Relationships**: Before inviting someone to join, take the time to get to know him and his family.

Council 7109 Holy Moments

Building relationships creates a strong foundation and makes the invitation to join the Knights more personal and impactful.

- 2. **Share Your Own Story**: Sometimes, personal testimony is all it takes. Share what being a Knight has meant to you, how it has strengthened your faith, or how it has impacted your family life. Real stories resonate.
- 3. **Involve the Family**: When possible, invite a potential recruit and his family to one of our council events. Seeing our camaraderie and family-friendly activities firsthand can often be the deciding factor.
- 4. **Make It Easy to Engage**: Encourage men to join our events informally. Whether it's a parish breakfast, coffee after Mass, or one of our charitable programs, providing opportunities to get involved without a full commitment can make joining feel less intimidating.

Looking Forward: Advent and Christmas Season

As Advent approaches, we are entering a season of preparation and anticipation. This is a perfect time to invite Catholic men to join us, as the spirit of the season brings us closer to the core values of faith, charity, and unity. Think about those around you who may be seeking a deeper connection with their faith this Christmas. Perhaps all it takes is your invitation for them to find that connection within the Knights.

Call to Action: Make an Invitation Today

I encourage each of you to make a conscious effort this month to reach out to one Catholic man you know who could benefit from becoming a Knight. Let's set the stage for a strong end to our fraternal year by welcoming new members and strengthening our council for the future. Every member count, and every new brother brings fresh energy, perspective, and dedication to our shared mission.

Emmaus Retreat

Brothers, please keep **Wally Vazquez** and **Tim Bruggeman** in your prayers as they attend the Emmaus Retreat, so they may experience profound spiritual growth and blessings

In the spirit of gratitude and brotherhood,



Edward J. Amador Chancellor, Pilot, Director of Membership

Unity – Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2024: Nov 19 **2025**: Feb 18 | Apr 15 | Jun 17

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2024: Nov 20 **2025**: Feb 20 | Apr 17 | Jun 19 Look for more information from our Grand Knight





Council Membership Report		
Total Membership	336	
Insurance Membership	137	
Honorary Life Members	66	
Honorary Members	09	
2023-2024 Membership		
Growth vs Goal	03/15	
2023-2024 Insurance	01/02	

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	133
Honorary Life Members	15
Honorary Members	01
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	00/06



BARNEY GONYEA COUNCIL 7109 - WWW.SAFETYHARBORKOFC.ORG

Council Officers 2024-2025

Grand Knight	Tom Krivebonia, DEN	727.366.5422
Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	
Chaplain	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Deputy Grand Knight	Mark Feldman	727.366.5959
Chancellor	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
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	727.472.1651
Warden	Jim Lankford	813.455.2292
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper	727.736.6837
Outside Guard	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Guard Alternate	Brian Annis	727.204.7490
Trustee Three Year	Gene Jajuga, PGK, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
Trustee Two Year	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Trustee One Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN	727.331.7278
Regional Administrator	John Papa, PGK, PFN	727.482.3734
District Deputy	Alan Gauzens, PGK	727.483.8250
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	John Ruckart	813.855.5111
Special Assistant to the Council	Vincent Cristiano	

Gary Murphy

Happy Birthday Brothers. Many Happy Returns!

Special Assistant to the Council

Vincent Alterio, Dennis Ayral, Francis Baluta, Benjamin Bergin, Daniel Bergman, Donald Borbath, Herman Brames, Michael Brennan, Jacob Burnett, Mario Camario, Nicholas Conte, Anibal Cruz, Gerald Custin, Ronald DeSantis, Timothy Dolan, Michael Furman, John Gohman, Craig Hare, Steven Ippolito, Eugene Jajuga, Brian Jones, Mark Kapinos, William Kasak. Robert Kelly, Mark Kraf, Tom Krivchenia, Anthony Kuczej, John Liu, Santo Loparo, Andrew Lynn, Louis Lyons, John Malone, Christopher Mazzone, Clifford Merz, Darryl Miller, Kirk Nelson, Arthur Owens, Brandon Parrinello, Brent Rochette, Juan Romero, Ronald Theriot, Edward Warticki

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Bob Justiana, Mac Sinise (d), Stanley Gdula (d), J. Nick Martin (d), Linda Cooper (d), Edward Mandichak (d), Mary Clare Rose (d), Bob Ehrman, Felipe Hernandez (d), Tony McClure (d), Maria Palazzo (d), Burke Taylor (d), Harry Hill (d), Antonia Rosin (d), Frances Hamacher (d), Jacquline Barry (d), Mary Branham (d), Mary Williams (d), Theresa Kier, Frank Schuster II (d), Kathy Papa-Zinko, Sal Mazzara, Kennedie McFadden, Sal Burriesci, George Smith (d), Bill Kasak, Pauline Sager (d), Vicki Nolan (d), Margaret Bruggeman, Barbara Papa, Bill Gallant, Maggie Kraf, Claire Inderwies, Steve Gorey (d), Papa Felice D'Elia (d), Stanley Kwiatowski (d), Ethan Griswold (d), Alex Griswold, Paul Annis

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 & vocations, but it will take everyone's help. Thank You!

Mark Barrett, Donald & Linda Borbath, Jonathan & Marianne Boyce, Sal Burriesci, Mario & Katie Camario, Patrick Carroll, John Coyne, Joseph & Betty D'Amelio, Douglas & Carol De Wolfe, Jerome Dewberry, Francisco & Mildred Diaz Estrella, Sean Donahoo, Robert & Zoe Dufour, Philip & Jane Farney, Walter Feble, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Charles & Raquel Friesema, Michael & Lisa Furman, John & Peggy Gohman, Robert & Catherine Gwinner, Paul & Rose Marie Harvey, James Hayes, David & Donna Heezen, Irving Hernandez, Joseph & Sandra Hocherl, George & Claire Inderwies, Eugene & Karen Jajuga, Shawn & Pattie Jajuga, Gregory & Kim Juedes, William & Elizabeth Kasak, Timothy Kielich, Matthew Killeen, Michael & Katherine King, Dan & Donna Kistel, William & Katherine Krajeski, Jack Kuczej, Frank & Deborah Laffey, Stephen & Ellen Leger, Mark Lewalski, Patrick Mackin, Michael McCarthy, Frank & Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen, Stuart Miller, John & Morgan, Adel Nammour, Chris Nesci, Donald Palacheck, John Papa, Gerald & Holly Pappa, Paul & Virginia Pappas, Daniel Peterson, Glen Pettersen, Robert & Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto, Juan & Rosemary Romero, John & Kathleen Ruckart, Peter & Susan Salesses, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheafer, Massimo & Valeria Simeoni, James & Karin Smith, Thomas & J. L. Stanko, John & Kay Strehle, Jugdesh & Sucheta Sujanani, Steven & Jaclyn Verba, Mario & Judy Zaccaria, Edward & Violet Amador, Brian & Carolyn Annis, Dennis & Joyce Ayral, Patrick & Beatrice Boland, Robert & Ann Marie Bonvicino, James & Jean Burris, John & Betsy Clarke, Gerald & Cynthia Custin, Peter Demzak, Frank & Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Frederick & Suzanne Di Masi, Terry & Shirley Drake, Joseph Favia, Mark & Elaine Feldman, Dominic & Vickie Friscia, Michael Gutknecht, Lawrence & Nancy Harkins, Thomas & Anne Harkins, Thomas Hart, James & Janetze Hart, Timothy & Ann Hartle, Jarret & Lesley Ann Honahan, Steven Ippolito, Robert & M. A. Justiana, Brian & Christine Kearns, Robert Kelly, Tom & Margaret Krivchenia, Thomas Kukulski, James & Maria Lankford, Milton Levine, Amaro Lionheart, Stanley Lipiarz, Kevin McMullen, Anthony Metty, James & Patricia Nolf, Brian & Lisa O'Connor, Thomas & Carolyn O'Rourke, Miguel Perez, Brian & Erin Riley, William & Mary Scott, Kenneth & Gabriella Seguin, Kenneth Seguin, Jim & Nancy Shirer, Gregory & Carolina Sohn, Chuck & Elizabeth Sullivan, Matthew & Julie Sunski, Sean Swauger, Walberto & Ramona Vazquez, Peggy Watson, David & Patricia Behrle, Herman & Mary Jo Brames, Tim & Stacey Bruggeman, Jacob & Mary Burnett, Mark Busing, Kevin Cordaro, Joseph Cortese, Anthony Crevello, William Cullen, Richard & Melissa Ducheny, Frederick & Christi Elflein, Zach Faraone, Eric & Maria Flores, Joseph & Megan Gajewski, Ward & Kathleen Griffin, Gerald & Lorraine Grubba, Mark Gurley, David & Paula Harvey, Kevin & Gidget Hernandez, Kenton & Sue Heuertz, Christopher & Celise Jones, Derek Jones, Mark Kapinos, Richard & Cecilia Kemball-Cook, Jared Kirsten, James Kleinsorge, Raymond Kraker, Anthony Kuczej, Christian Kuczej, Brian & Christina Lapointe, Brian & Angela Lawandus, Gerald & Renee Lubig, Francis & Carol Mahoney, Jerry Maratea, Frank & Juliann Marsalek, William Mc Fadden, Clifford & Michelle Merz, Darryl & Mary Miller, James & Phyllis Montali, Michael O Neill, Todd & Margaret Owers, Edmund & Diane Pagnott, Thomas Penders, Mark & Christine Peterman, Frank & Patricia Piro, Christopher & Carol Purcell, Donald & Alexis Reed, Edward & Sandra Riley, James & Dreama Servoss Rooney, Timothy & Barbara Rush, Robert Shafer, Michael & Melissa Short, Hugh & Katie Siegel, Thomas Smith, Bryan & Krista Snyder, Roy & Linda Vanderveer, Alvah Vankleeck, Paul & Josefina Vilchez, Edward & Patricia Warticki, Patrick & Joan Alix, Fred & Caroline Bennett, Victor & Susanne Berggren, Benjamin & Molly Bergin, Terrell & Victoria Clampitt, Timothy & Marcy Dolan, Mark & Renee Beth Kraf, Edward Martinenko, Christopher Mazzone, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, Javier & Xiomara Ortega, Robert Papariella, Kurt & Mary Lynn Salac, James & Darlene Stanley, Albert Masselli

Total Collected to Date: \$1998.73



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

"All Saints Day—a Holy Day of Obligation!"

Our Church's pastoral practice has done us a big disservice by tying this feast of All Saints to "obligation." Too many Catholics get fixated on the obligation part and miss the great gift and blessing of this feast. Other faith communities don't even have this feast. All Saints Day give us a chance to celebrate great models of our faith, including living saints today. We are part of a great legacy, so even after the fact, I invite you to reflect on the blessings of this feast.

All Saints invite us to prayerfully savor the inspiration and blessings of our Saints. You might start with Holy Ones of Early Christianity like the evangelists. I personally like Luke for his very human presentation of both Jesus and of the importance of women in the life and ministry of Jesus. I also am inspired and educated by the Epistles of Paul like his Letter to the Galatians. "We should live by Faith and not by Law," aka observance. In the early centuries of the Church, I especially love Augustine and his *Confessions*, where he reflects on his faith journey, "Our hearts are made for you, O Lord, and they shall not rest until the rest in you."

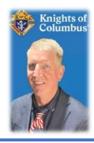
In the Middle Ages I obviously have received much from Ignatius Loyola and Francis Xavier. I jump to our time to remember Jesuit spiritual giants like Teilhard de Chardin and his *Divine Milieu*. Teilhard was silenced by Pope Pius XII who felt this French Jesuit's spirituality was too human! Today his vision lies at the heart of many contemporary spiritualities. Once told that maybe he should leave the Jesuits and the Church and go out on his own, Teilhard replied, "My gifts are for the Community. Without the Community, I have no gifts." I love Father General Pedro Arrupe and theologian Karl Rahner who both renewed—Jesuit spirituality and eventually contemporary Christian spirituality.

Among my list of Saints today are my parents and even living Jesuit classmates and other Saints like Sisters Irene Dugan and Caroline Cerveny. In our parish I think of Dr. Larry Dewberry, Marie Burke, and Cecil Ruckart. These and many others, including some Knights in our Council, are my Saints today who have inspired me and helped me be who I am today as a Jesuit priest and fellow Knight.

I suggest you take some time to reflect and pray about your Saints—maybe your parents, teachers, friends, and even fellow Knights and Ladies have been an inspiration and blessing to us—all worth celebrating and claiming as part of your spiritual family. Be sure to include how they have made a difference in your own life. All Saints Day—a celebration, not an obligation.

Michael Cooper, S.J. Chaplain

Service Program Directors 2024-2025				
Program Director	Mark Feldman	727.366.5959		
Membership Director	Edward Amador	305.606.8632		
Faith Director	Wally Vazquez	727.542.5376		
Community Director	Mike King	727.453.8843		
Family Director	Vacant			
Public Relations Director	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419		
Life Director	David Behrle, PGK, PFN	727.723.1169		
Vocations	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687		
Retention Coordinator	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687		
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Mark Feldman Deputy Grand Knight dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights,

I opened last months' newsletter hoping everyone was safe from Hurricane Helene. This month's letter is hoping everyone was safe from Hurricane Milton. Due to the storms, our annual golf tournament has been moved to Sunday November 24th. If you couldn't play in October, it's now a great chance to golf in November. Our Dinner Dance scheduled for November 8th will be moved to after the new year, the date to be determined. Other events happening in November include Coffee & Donuts on the 10th from 7:30am to 12pm in the John Boscoe Center. The KofC Memorial Mass & Reception will be held on the 21st at 7:30pm. Yes, with Christmas around the corner we will be gearing up with events in November starting with the SVDP Thanksgiving Meal delivery on November 23rd. "Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale will start on Nov 30th and run to Dec 14th. "Light up for Christ" light instillation will take place on Nov 30th starting at 9am. Caroling & Light of Christmas Lights will be held on Nov 30th after the 6pm mass. We will have an Open House in the Parrish Center on Nov 19th at 7:00pm. A Unified Degree Ceremony will be in the Parrish Center on Nov 20 at 7:00pm.

St Josaphat Bishop & Martyr Memorial

Josaphat was to dedicate his life and die for the same cause. Born in what is now Ukraine, influenced by the clergy he became a Basilian monk, then a priest and soon was well known as a preacher. At a young age upon becoming both a bishop of Vitebsk and Archbishop of Polotsk, Josaphat faced a difficult situation. Most monks did not want to union with Rome. However, by reform of the clergy, catechetical instruction and personal example Josaphat was successful in winning the great part of the Orthodox in the area. Despite warnings he went to Vitebsk. Attempts were made to drive him from the diocese. Members of a mob formed to remove Josaphat. The mob broke into the bishop's home, struck him with a halberd, then shot, and then his body was thrown into the river. It was later recovered and is now buried in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Josaphat's death brought movement toward Catholicism and unity.

November Liturgical Calendar

- Nov 1 All Saints, Solemnity
- Nov 2 Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, All Souls
- Nov 4 St Charles Borromeo, Bishop, Memorial
- Nov 8 Anniversary of the Dedication of Espiritu Santo Catholic Church, Solemnity
- Nov 9 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast
- Nov 11 St Martin of Tours, Bishop, Memorial
- Nov 12 St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr, Memorial
- Nov 13 St Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin, Memorial
- Nov 15 St Albert the Great Bishop and Doctor of the Church, optional memorial
- Nov 16 St Margaret of Scotland and St Gertrude, Virgin, optional memorial
- Nov 18 Dedication of the Basilica of Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles, St Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin, optional Memorials
- Nov 21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial
- Nov 22 St Cecilia, Virgin ad Martyr, Memorial
- Nov 23 St Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr, optional Memorials
- Nov 24 Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Solemnity (Last Sunday of Ordinary Time)
- Nov 25 St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr, optional memorial
- Nov 28 Proper Mass for Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 30 St Andrew, Apostle, Feast



John Ruckart Field Agent John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus

Brothers,

This time of year, we give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. I'm thankful to call each of you my brother Knight, and I give thanks to God for all he has helped us do in our community this year.

Like many of you, I became a Knight out of love for my family. I wanted to join other Catholic men in becoming a better man, husband and father. I wanted to be a better protector of my family.

Knights of Columbus is your capable partner in this pursuit. In addition to helping form members in faith, we also offer a variety of insurance products to help you protect your family financially.

One way to protect your family is to start thinking about your family's future and how an extended care event could make a large impact. Do you know somebody that has experienced an extended care event – if so, how did that impact their family's situation?

I want to take this opportunity to help you prepare for the possibility that you or your spouse may one day need extended care. **November is Long-Term Care Awareness Month.**

With that in mind, I would like to share a valuable resource available to you and your family and would encourage you to check this out.

WhatCareCosts gives you access to view the costs of Skilled Nursing Homes, Home Health Aides and Assisted Living Facilities in your area and across the country. This service is available free of charge to all our members regardless of whether or not you hold an insurance policy with Knights of Columbus. Visit <u>www.whatcarecosts.com/KnightsofColumbus</u> and enter sponsor code "KofC" to get started. We want to help families focus on their time with their loved ones – not the financial cost of caring for them.

Now is the time to prepare for your family's future needs. As your Knights of Columbus agent, I can help you review your financial goals and ensure you have

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

an extended care plan in place. Give me a call or use my link below to set up an appointment.

I wish you and your loved ones a blessed Thanksgiving.

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





John Gohman Faithful Navigator john.gohman2@gmail.com Faithful Navigator's Log

Giving One's Death Away

According to the renowned mystic John of the Cross, we have three essential struggles in life: to get our lives together, to give our lives away, and to give our deaths away. What is asked of us in the first two struggles is more obvious. But what does it mean to give our deaths away? In essence, it means this: How we die leaves behind a legacy, a particular spirit, which either nurtures or haunts those left behind. If we die in bitterness and anger, not at peace with our loved ones, ourselves, and our God, we will leave behind a spirit which is more toxic than nurturing. Conversely, if we die reconciled and at peace with our loved ones, the world, and with God, then like Jesus, we will leave behind a spirit which nourishes, warms, consoles, and gives our loved ones sacred permission to be at peace. How we die colors our legacy, and that legacy is either a gift or a burden to those we leave behind.

On November 23rd, 2023, Richard (Rick) Gaillardetz, a renowned theologian, died of pancreatic cancer while still in the prime of his life. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, gifted lecturer, friend and mentor to many, a sports enthusiast, with a robust sense of humor. He also had a solid Christian faith that would be put to the test during the months of his terminal illness.

When he was diagnosed with cancer more than a year before he died, his doctors told him it was terminal, there was to be no cure; he needed to face the brutal fact he was going to die within the next two years. He did face that. Moreover, in doing so, he tried (not without some agonizing struggles) to make his death a conscious gift to his family and to the world. During the months leading up to his death, he kept a blog which shared what it is like to know you are dying and to accept that in love and faith, even within the agony of having to let go of life and wrestle with the powerful instinctual resistances within us.

Those blogs have been brought together in a book, *While I Breathe I Hope – A Mystagogy of Dying*, edited by Grace Agolia.

Here are some of Rick's feelings and thoughts:

 Unlike many saints in our tradition, I did not choose this diminishment; it has been thrust, unbidden and unwanted upon me. But I do see in it an invitation to a graced vulnerability, a call to abandon a misplaced confidence in my own vigor and bodily autonomy.

- I am praying for both the grace for diminishment and the grace of diminishment.
- One of the demons I confront daily is an overweening ego that endlessly clamors for attention like a whining toddler, drowning out the needs and concerns of others. One of the unexpected graces of diminishment appears as I am drawn kicking and screaming out of my natural egotism to discover within a much-neglected reservoir of compassion for the suffering of others.
- I must confess to an occasional preoccupation with the final dying process. What will it be like? How will I handle it when my bodily organs begin to break down and the real dying begins? Will the peace I now feel sustain me through that quite 'different' time? ... What I hold most firmly in my heart through all this is the conviction that God has so profoundly encompassed me in love over these past several months since my diagnosis that, surely, God will not abandon me in those final days and hours.
- I now belong to the ragged band of the elderly and infirm. These are now my people, my last tribe.
- Giving my death away is not just a matter of accepting my inevitable physical demise; giving my death away bids me to embrace experiences of passive waiting, diminishment, and marginality as a liberation from the slavery of personal achievement and self-importance. If I give these experiences due space, they beckon me beyond my egoistical self and enlarge my soul. They draw me to a greater compassion for the pain and suffering of others and encourage me to pray for others in the midst of their own suffering and impending death. Herein lies the gentle pedagogy of dying and rising.
- "My final task is to return to God the life graciously given to me."

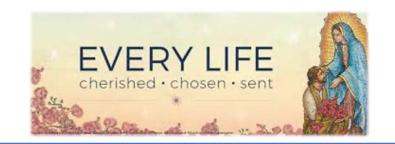
In his farewell speech to his disciples, Jesus promised that after he had been taken from us, he would leave behind his spirit, the spirit of peace. When we go away we all leave behind us an unspoken spirit which affects those we have left behind. If we die at peace with God, others, and ourselves, then like Jesus, our loved ones, while grieving our loss, will in the deeper part of themselves, feel nourished, warmed, and consoled by their every memory of us.

The Shield

Volume 36, Issue 11, November 2024



Dave Behrle PGK, PFN 727.723.1169



Election Day 2024 is coming up, now only 5 days away. Here in Florida, we should know the results to the voting on FL Amendments on election night Nov 5^t. Thank you one and all for your prayers and efforts to defeat #4, which, if passed will remove parental rights for minors with regard to abortion and allow late term abortions, up to birth. Kudos to our Bishop Gregory

But we may not know who our next President will be that evening. Florida results and many states should be called by midnight Pacific Time, but I doubt that every state will have a declared winner by then. The polls show a tight race, so I predict we will not have a definite winner till the Monday after Thanksgiving. December 2. I hope I'm wrong and that we, and the nation, know sooner than that.

Parkes for being so public in his opposition to FL

Amendment 4. May Life win!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours! May our fellow Floridians and others in the SouthEast harmed by hurricanes Helene and Milton recover from their losses and damages. Cleanup continues, insurance claims are being pursued, and people are helping one another recover. If you or someone you know needs help, please share with a KofC officer, and let us and our church help you. Even if it is just to hear your plight, and to cry and pray with you. But we can and will do more. We're brothers, and we stand by to help any brother in need. Please reach out and call someone today.

For Sale: Two large, metal file cabinets & one wooden desk, plus an office chair. One 2-drawer cabinet, dimensions 28" H x 36" W x 19" D. The other is a 3-drawer cabinet, dimensions 40.5" H x 36" W x 19" D. Asking \$75 and \$125, respectively. The wooden desk has drawers on both sides with a middle drawer above seating area. Dimensions are 30" H x 66" W x 31" D. Asking \$225. Office chair, with wheels: asking \$35.

Pictures available upon request via text. Please call/text me to discuss, cell 727-743-9885. Buy all 4 for \$414 (10% discount). I can deliver for no extra charge. And I will donate \$10 for each piece sold to our Seminarians fund.



PRAY TO PROTECT THEM BOTH Vote No on Amendment 4



Jerry Custin PGK, PFN jcustin@gmail.com

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH While Strengthening Our Parish

Coats for Kids

Very positive goal as a well as a positive and hopeful message from Psalm 128. But there's a catch. The Psalm tells us we will enjoy what our hands provide, our wives will be like fruitful vines and our children like olive plants around the table. What's not to like? But, what's the catch? We will be blessed **IF** we fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

What does FEAR of the Lord really mean? Does it mean we should cower and shy away from Him to avoid His wrath and harm. Quite the opposite. The phrase "fear of the Lord" doesn't mean being scared of God, but rather having a deep respect, reverence, and awe for God's power and authority. This kind of fear leads to wisdom, knowledge, and a life of obedience and peace. This tracks with this month's editorial covering the choices we will make for the unborn and our direction as a country blessed by God from the very beginning.

In essence, it's about recognizing God's greatness and living in a way that honors Him. This reverence is seen as the foundation of wisdom and understanding.



Psalm 128

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and who walk in his ways. What your hands provide you will enjoy; you will be blessed and prosper: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your home, Your children like young olive plants around your table. Just so will the man be blessed who fears the LORD. May the LORD bless you from Zion; may you see Jerusalem's prosperity all the days of your life, and live to see your children's children. Peace upon Israel!

Golf Tournament



In Memoriam

Sir Knight Stanley Kwiatkowski August 04, 1946 – October 01, 2024



Stanley Kwiatkowski, 78, of New Port Richey, Florida, passed away on October 1st, 2024. He is survived by his wife Kathy Kwiatkowski; children Diane (Kurt) Baker, Amy (Jamie) Luce, and Keith (Sarah) Kwiatkowski; as well as grandchildren Brennan, Kayla, Madison, Kyle, and Sadie.

He is preceded in death by two older brothers, Thomas and Joseph Kwiatkowski.

Stas', as he was known to his close family members and friends, was born in New York, and moved to New Jersey as a young boy. He was raised in a devout Catholic family, and he served as an altar boy at his church. As a teenager, he joined the local fire department and became a volunteer firefighter. Upon graduating from high school, he joined the Air Force. He was a patriot who served his country proudly. He met his wife, Kathy, and they were married in 1970. Over the years Stas' worked hard during the day while attending college classes at night. He and Kathy started raising a family having two daughters, Diane and Amy, and a son, Keith. Stas' graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in Accounting.

He moved his family to Florida in 1986 where he joined Espiritu Santo Catholic Church in Safety Harbor. While there he joined the Knights of Columbus where he served in many different officer positions such as Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator, and District Warden. His last accounting job was with Tampa International Airport where he retired from in 2016. He loved working at the airport, being able to watch the planes coming and going on his lunch breaks.

Stas' and Kathy were married for 54 very happy years last August 29th. He was a wonderful man, husband, father, and grandfather, who believed strongly in God, family, and country. His family was very blessed to have him, and they will all miss him so dearly.

A funeral Mass was held Friday, October 25th, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 8320 County Road 54, New Port Richey, FL 34653.

His final resting place will be at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. In lieu of flowers the family encourages a donation in his name to any Gulfside Hospice location.

in loving memorge

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"How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" Mark 10

First, let us pray and offer assistance to any of our brothers or sisters who were impacted by these two horrible and almost unprecedented storms – Helene and Milton.

This observation of Jesus speaks directly to the purpose and meaning of our lives and, to that degree, where we have evolved as individuals, a community, a church, a nation. The Gospel tells of a man approaching Jesus and asking how he gain eternal life. Jesus reviews some of the Commandments – thou shalt not kill, steal, covet, etc. The man responds, "Teacher, I have followed all these from my youth!". Jesus responded, ""You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." The man's face fell and he went away for he had many possessions.

Where do we really value? How secure are our material possessions against uncontrollable threats like Helene and Milton? How important and secure are our spiritual possessions?

The hurricanes remind us of how fragile our material lives are, yet we had choices. We had warnings. We could choose to stay or go. Try and secure our homes from floods and wind or not. However, we could not choose the end result.

This translates to the broader decisions we have in this election which is, arguably, likely the most important inflection point in our lifetimes. In a real and tangible sense, we are being asked to choose between a wide range of moral and ethical issues. These range from the Florida abortion amendment 4 - Is life a choice or is every life created in God's image and likeness which we can choose to eliminate? – to pretty much literally do we choose to remain one nation under God or not. Each of these choices is our individual freedom and responsibility to make.

I suggest taking a look at Wisdom 7 "I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepter and throne, and deemed riches nothing in comparison

with her, nor did I liken any priceless gem to her; because all gold, in view of her, is a little sand, yet all good things together came to me in her company, and countless riches at her hands."

Do we pray for prudence and wisdom? Do we accept that they produce goodness that exceeds material possessions? Do we understand Jesus' declaration in Mark 7:15 that, **"Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."**

Goodness and evil are choices from within. Nothing that comes from the outside can defile us unless we choose to let it.

Do we choose our "possessions" drop our heads and walk away? Or do we choose prudently with God's wisdom and discernment? The Kingdom of God is the stakes.



Happy Fall you all! With going through two hurricanes, things kind of got postponed in many ways. Hopefully this article finds all well and things are on the mend. We all are thankful that things didn't turn out for the worst. God is good! Our next Auxiliary meeting will be held November 14, and we hope we'll have a good turnout since last month's meeting was canceled. We will be discussing the upcoming postponed golf tournament and where help is needed. November is a time to count our many blessings. We give thanks for our guardian angels, our Patron Saints and those who have gone before. Most of all are our many friendships that we share through the Knights of Columbus and Ladies' Auxiliary. God bless you all.

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Be Happy ...

Try as we might to grasp it in the world, lasting joy can be found only in the heart of Jesus By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

We all want happiness, and we work pretty hard to make ourselves happy. One place we seek happiness is in the security of our homes. Surrounded by family, we try to find peace, contentment and joy. Often we do, but sometimes, there is conflict, dissatisfaction and sadness. Tragically, many marriages end in divorce, and it is often the children who suffer most.

We also look for happiness at work. We seek satisfaction in a job that is meaningful. Yet, how many people are unhappy with their careers, or jump from job to job at a pace that our forebears would have found dizzying? It's all very transactional — and unsatisfying.

Or, we might look for happiness in entertainment. These days, most people seek to be entertained not in grand theaters but by staring into mobile devices. Yet, the more we stare, the more isolated we become from one another.

Hard as we work at it, happiness proves elusive. We may feel it is in our grasp, that a golden period of contentment is about to open up, only to have our projects undermined by unexpected problems or to find that our plans don't live up to our expectations.

We might then resort to thinking that happiness is only for those who were born happy — people with an easygoing type of personality, a particular genetic makeup, or a particular balance of bodily chemicals. Yet, even many people who appear to be laid-back and content are not. Just below the surface, unhappiness lurks. A happy mask hides an inner turmoil of loneliness, anxiety or depression. Something isn't working.

By now, you might be thinking that I'm trying to block all the on-ramps to happiness. But I'm not. I'm just winding up for the pitch. And the pitch is this: Happiness will never be ours so long as we plan for it, reach for it, scheme for it. The more we do those things, the unhappier we become. If we want happiness, let's stop grasping for it. Instead, let's allow happiness to find us and to hold us in its grasp.

Ultimately, the secret is to allow God to love us — to allow him to overwhelm us with his truth, goodness and beauty. Do we allow ourselves to be amazed at the generosity with which God created us, the patience he extends to us, the depth of love that prompted him to give away his only Son to redeem us? Are we grateful to the Lord who loves us like no other?

For happiness to take hold of us and to overwhelm us, we need to unplug from the many sources of ersatz happiness that we think we need, and to instead quiet our souls in the living presence of the Eucharistic Lord. Not just once in a while, but regularly. Don't worry about what to say. All we need do is to let his love sweep over us and penetrate the secret recesses of our hearts.

Do we allow ourselves to be amazed at the generosity with which God created us, the patience he extends to us, the depth of love that prompted him to give away his only Son to redeem us?

When that happens, something else happens. Joy is never self-contained or self-referential. Rather, it radiates outward. Joy in the Lord translates into love of others and a willingness to give of ourselves just as the Lord has given himself to us.

Perhaps that's what Blessed Michael McGivney wanted to teach us. He had a deep devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and found in that heart a matchless depth of charity, a matchless depth of love. Finding that love and sharing it brought him joy. His joy was compounded by his life of charity. The same is true for us. Finding joy in the heart of Jesus, our happiness is only deepened as we, the family of the Knights of Columbus, reach out to the vulnerable and those in need. After all, in giving, we receive.

Let the overpowering reality of God's love find us. Let us welcome Jesus.

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From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Charity, Unity and Fraternity

State Deputy Richard Hughes

The last several weeks have been trying for Floridians with back-to-back hurricanes. Hurricane Helene devasted rural communities in northern Florida and the storm surge affected most of the west Coast. Then Hurricane Milton comes along, cutting a wide swath through central Florida with winds and torrential rain, and spawning a very large number of tornados across the entire state.

Individuals and communities are suffering, including many of our own members and our parishes. Thank you to all of those members and Councils that have already reached out with support, both material and spiritual; in many cases, the road to recovery will be long, and there will be many opportunities to help out in the coming weeks and months. The sense of charity, unity, and fraternity has never been stronger in Florida!

It is also heartening to see Councils not let these disasters alter their missions and activities in support of their parishes and communities. Putting our faith in action is a way to give witness to our faith and point the way to Jesus Christ. We should never be afraid to give that witness, and we should never be afraid to keep on forming ourselves in our faith, through Cor or other faith formation programs. We should also never be afraid to invite other Catholic men to join us on our journey. Recent surveys have shown that there are many, many Catholic men that are open to joining the Knights of Columbus. And the main reason why those men are not already Knights?

Because they have never been asked. Every Knight should be proud of the accomplishments of our Councils and our Order, and we should all be ready and willing to bring in more Catholic men. The Knights of Columbus was built one member at a time, and that continues to be the case. Imagine what we could accomplish if every Knight brought in just one member a year!

Please keep all of those affected by the recent hurricanes in your prayers.

Veni Sancte Spiritus.

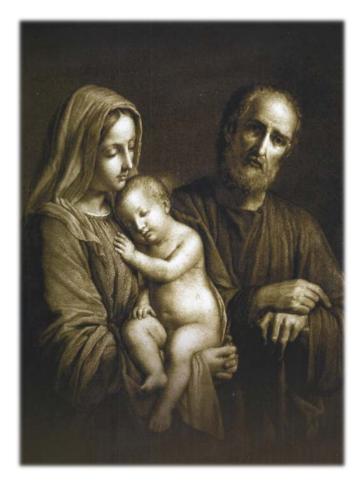




The Shield

Assembly Officers 2024-2025

Faithful Navigator Faithful Friar Faithful Captain Faithful Admiral Faithful Pilot Faithful Scribe Faithful Comptroller Faithful Purser Inside Sentinel Outside Sentinel Trustee Three Year Trustee Three Year Trustee One Year Color Corps Commander Veterans Liaison



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.

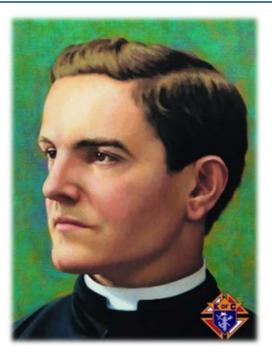
In our daily life and work, May we reflect the self-giving love which you, O Father, eternally show with your Son and the Holy Spirit.

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...

November 2024

- 11/14 | Thu6:15p
- 11/14 | Thu 7:00p
- 11/16 | Sat 8:00a
- 11/19 | Tue 7:00p
- 11/21 | Thu 8:00a
- 11/20 | Wed 7:00p
- 11/20 | Wed 7.00p
- 11/21 | Thu 7:00p
- 11/23 | Sat 8:30a
- 11/30 | Sat 9:00a
- 11/30 | Sat 4:00p
- 11/30 | Sat 7:00p
- 12/01 | Sun 8:00a

- Rosary
- Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- Kimberly Home WorkDay
- KofC Informational Open House
- Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
 - Unified Degree Exemplification
- Memorial Mass Celebration & Reception
 - SVdP Thanksgiving Meal Delivery
- Christmas Light Installation
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Card Sales
 - Light Up for Christ Christmas Lights & Caroling
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Card Sales



Assembly Calendar of Events...

November 2024

- 11/10 | Sun 8:00a
- 11/11 | Mon 8:30a
- 11/24 | Sun 7:00a
- Coffee & Donuts
- **Veterans Day Mass**
- 8th Annual Golf Tournament

The Shield

~ Thanks to Our Sponsors ~



Contact Tom Wozniak | 727.214.8377 | tjwozniak@verizon.net

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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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