



The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 12, December 2023

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, December 14 @ 7:30 pm
In the Parish Center

View the Newsletter online at:
www.safetyharborkofc.org

Visit the State Website at:
www.floridakofc.org

Visit the Supreme Website at:
www.kofc.org

Worthy Brother Knights & Ladies!

I hope that my report finds all of you and yours doing well this month and that everyone had a blessed and wonderful Thanksgiving Day Holiday! We all have much to be thankful for in our great Country.

We had a VERY BUSY month in November with various activities and we will have another very busy month ahead in December to end the calendar year for 2023. We have a very full schedule that I have outlined below for December with prep work around the parish campus for Christmas and of course with New Year's Day.

Our Memorial Mass and Reception was held on Thursday, November 16th, with a very nice turnout. Our Council Chaplin Fr. Michael presided over a wonderful Mass in which we paid our sincere respects to our Brothers from our Council who have gone before us. Thank you to all that attended this ceremony.

DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

- Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale - Saturday & Sunday, December 2nd & 3rd, Pavilion after all Masses
- Caroling & Lighting of Christmas Lights – Saturday, December 2nd, after 6:00 PM Mass
- Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, December 7th, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale - Saturday & Sunday, December 9th & 10th, Pavilion after all Masses
- Parish Breakfast with Santa – Sunday, December 10th, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Parish Center
- Install Christmas Trees – Thursday, December 14th, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Church and Parish Center
- Rosary – Thursday, December 14th, at 6:30 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, December 14th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, December 14th, 7:30 PM in the Gathering Room
- Council Christmas Party – Friday, December 15th, 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM in the Parish Center
- Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, December 16th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street, Clearwater)
- Keep Christ in Christmas" Card Sale - Saturday & Sunday, December 16th & 17th, Pavilion after all Masses
- Council Coffee, Donuts & More - Sunday, December 17th, 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Informational Open House – Tuesday, December 19th, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM in the Gathering Room

- Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, December 21st, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen
- Unified Degree Exemplification – Thursday, December 21st, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM in the Parish Center
- **CHRISTMAS DAY** – Monday, December 25th
- **NEW YEAR’S DAY** – Monday, January 1st
- Council Officer’s Meeting – Thursday, January 4th, 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Rosary – Thursday, January 11th, at 6:30 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, January 11th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, January 11th, 7:30 PM in the Gathering Room

COFFEE, DONUTS & MORE

We had our monthly Coffee, Donuts & More on Sunday, November 12th, after all morning Masses in the Saint John Bosco Center again with some very good results. Although I was not there for this one I would still like to thank and recognize all of our Brothers and Sisters who volunteered their time and made this event a success for our Council.

Brian Annis	Carolyn Annis	Amaro Lionheart
John Clarke	Doug deWolfe	Adel Nammour
Santo Loparo	Betty D’Amelio	Joe D’Amelio
Tom Harkins	Ed Amador	Frank McEwen
Tom Krivchenia		

If I have missed listing anyone that may have helped, I sincerely apologize.

SVDP THANKSGIVING MEAL BASKET DELIVERY

Once again, this year we were blessed to be asked by the St. Vincent de Paul ministry of our Parish to assist them by making deliveries of Thanksgiving Meal Baskets to our neighbors and the less fortunate amongst us. I would like to thank and recognize the 10 Teams of Brother and Sister Knights who drove around and made these wonderful deliveries on behalf of our awesome Council.

Tom Hart	John Malone	Delpha Nammour
Jean Hart	Chris Mazzone	Adel Nammour
Joe D’Amelio	Betty D’Amelio	Edward Amador
John Clarke	Mark Feldman	Violet Amador
Betsy Clarke	Chris Nocerino	Frank McEwen
Rob Pickard	Pat Nocerino	Charles McEwen
Vickie Pickard	JJ Coyne	Tom Fitzpatrick

If I have missed listing anyone that may have helped, I sincerely apologize.

CHRISTMAS COURTYARD LIGHTING INSTALLATION

On Saturday, November 25th, we had a crew of Brother Knights help install and decorate the Parish Campus Courtyard with Christmas Lights. I would like to thank and recognize all of our Brothers who volunteered their time to make our Parish Campus look beautiful for all of our parishioners to enjoy this Holiday Season.

Bill Krajieski	Doug deWolfe	Tom Fitzpatrick
Tom Harkins	Tom Krivchenia	Mike Englemann
Gene Jajuga	George Inderwies	

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our Council Fall Dinner Dance that was scheduled for Saturday, November 4th, has now been rescheduled as our Parish New Year’s Celebration Dinner Dance for Friday, January 19th, from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM in the Parish Center. Father Eric Peters and his band will be providing the evening’s entertainment. Complete details to follow and will be sent out soon!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Blessings to all for an awesome month!
Gene

Vivat Jesus!

Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
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www.safetyharborkofc.org





SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109 Holy Moments

Dear Brother Knights,

I trust this message finds you in the warmth and joy of the holiday season. As we approach the end of the year, let's reflect on the meaningful moments we've shared and the great strides we've made together.

Membership Momentum: "Our time has come to step boldly into that breach," urges Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly. Our unity and shared purpose have brought us to 11 members, marking significant progress on our journey to reach 15. Each new member strengthens our collective impact. Let's build on this momentum and work persistently to meet and exceed our goal, ensuring that we create more opportunities for men to join our noble cause.

Welcoming New 4th Degree Members: "A time when men are hungry to live a life of meaning and mission in Jesus Christ," echoes Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly. A special congratulations to our two new 4th Degree members, Amaro Lionheart and Richard Kembell Cook. Their decision to embrace this higher call is inspiring. Their journey serves as a beacon for others contemplating the same path, highlighting the richness and fulfillment that the 4th Degree offers.

Open House and Exemplification: On December 19, 2023, we'll open our doors and hearts for our Open House. It's a perfect occasion to showcase the essence of our brotherhood to potential new members. Following this, on December 21, 2023, the Exemplification Ceremony provides a transformative opportunity for those seeking to embrace the order. Matthew Kelly's teachings echo here strongly - every moment is an opportunity to make a decision. Let us decide to step boldly into that breach and extend a heartfelt invitation to those who might be contemplating this higher call. Don't know where to look? Look in front of you, behind you, or next to you in Mass. Come to a Coffee and Donuts and seek out potential candidates and invite them to join.

The Power of Collective Action: Membership is not a solo endeavor; it's a collective undertaking. Each one of us plays a vital role in extending the invitation. Matthew Kelly encourages us to pursue greatness, to become the best version of ourselves. What greater version can we be than one who, as Christian husbands, fathers, and leaders,

steps boldly into the breach for our families and communities? Let's take pride in the strength of our collective efforts and continue to be proactive in our outreach.

The Call to Action: "As Christian husbands, fathers, and leaders, our families desperately need us to embrace our vocation," reminds Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly. As we gather during various events and Masses, let's be mindful of the potential in every moment to create Holy Moments. The simple act of asking someone next to you can be the catalyst for a transformative experience for them and for our Council. Embrace the joy of sharing this journey, knowing the impact we make is profound.

Brothers, let's approach our membership goals with renewed vigor. The joy of sharing this journey is immeasurable, and the impact we can make is profound. In Matthew Kelly's words, "Each day, we have the chance to create Holy Moments in our lives and the lives of those we touch."

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey as Knights, Catholics, & Brothers. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference in our community and in the lives of those we serve.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed holiday season.

In unity and faith,

Edward J. Amador
Membership Director
Barney Gonyea Council 7109



Unity - Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2023: December 19

2024: February 13 | April 16 | June 18

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2023: December 21

2024: February 15 | April 18 | June 20

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	340
Insurance Membership	139
Honorary Life Members	67
Honorary Members	07
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	11/15
2023-2024 Insurance	00/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	134
Honorary Life Members	17
Honorary Members	01
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	01/06



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 Krajieski	727.784.2817
Financial Secretary	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Lecturer	Paul Harvey, PFN	727.286.7171
Advocate	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Warden	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper	727.736.6837
Outside Guard	Jim Lankford	813.455.2292
Guard Alternate	Brian Annis	727.204.7490
Trustee Three Year	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Trustee Two Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN	727.331.7278
Trustee One Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Regional Administrator	John Papa, PGK, PFN	727.482.3734
District Deputy	Alan Gauzens, PGK	727.483.8250
District Warden	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	John Ruckart	813.855.5111
Special Assistant to the Council	Vincent Cristiano	
Special Assistant to the Council	Gary Murphy	

Happy Birthday Brothers. Many Happy Returns!

Patrick Clarke, Anthony Crevello, Jonathan DiMattei, Arnold Grohskopf, Kenneth Grubba, Tom Harkins, James Hart, Kenton Heuert, Harry Hill, Brian Kearns, Robert Kenny, James Kleinsorge, Richard LeClerc, Stanley Lipiarz, Christian Lyon, Charles McEwen, William McFadden, Stuart Miller, Francis O Dea, Thomas O'Rourke, Thomas Panton, Robert Pickard, Jeffrey Rogers, Tim Rush, JK Sujanani, Sean Swauger, Dennis Thelen, Mario Zaccaria

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Marie Burke (d), Bryan McGuire (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Mario Zaccario, Ken Seguin, Ron Lexa (d), Susanne Papa (d), Jim Schownek, Ed Warticki, Andrea Coe (d), Maggie Cappabianca, Lillian Custin (d), David Flori (d), Annemarie Montali, Kathy Kukulski (d), Bob Bonvicino, Peter Iaffaldano (d), Barbara Papa, Tim Lightfoot, Ward Griffin, Ana Amador, Jim Watson, Richard Caridi (d), John Gohman, Jim Jessup (d), Sandy (Gouin), Elizabeth Inderwies, Shirley Drake, Terry Drake, Bill McFadden, Kennedie McFadden, Leonard Gogola, Bob Justiana, Dorothy Algozzina

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, John 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 Hoherl, Steven and Anne Marie Ippolito, Eugene and Karen Jajuga, Shawn and Pattie Jajuga, Gregory and Kim Juedes, Timothy Kielich, William and Katherine Krajieski, 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 Sheaffer, Bryan and Krista Snyder, Thomas and TP Stanko, Matthew and Julie Sunski, Steven Verba, Eugene and Rita Wolanin, Mario Zaccaria, Patrick and Joan Alix, Edward and Violet Amador, Victor and Susanne Berggren, Jonathan and Marianne Boyce, Herman and Mary Jo Brames, Kevin Cordaro, Robert and Patricia Ehrman, Frederick and Christi Elfein, Zach Faraone, Charles and Raquel Friesema, Michael and Lisa Furman, Ward and Kathleen Griffin, Mark and Patricia Gurley, Kenton and Sue Heuertz, Jarret Honahan, George and Claire Inderwies, Brian and Christine Kearns, Matthew Killeen, Tom and Margaret Krivchenia, James and Karen Kurzdorfer, Stephen and Ellen Leger, John Lenahan, Stanley Lipiarz, Clifford and Michelle Merz, James and Phyllis Montali, Adel Nammour, William Nies, James and Patricia Nolf, Gerald and Holly Pappa, Donald and Alexis Reed, Juan and Rosemary Romero, Kurt Salac, Peter and Susanne Salesses, Jim and Nancy Shirer, James and Karin Smith, Gregory and Carolina Sohn, Chuck and Elizabeth Sullivan, Roy and Linda Motika Vanderveer, Walberto and Ramona Vazquez, Brian and Carolyn Annis, Dennis and Joyce Ayril, Vincent Baldwin, Fred and Caroline Bennett, Thomas Bergevin, Patrick and Beatrice Boland, Tim and Stacey Bruggeman, Patrick Carroll, Joseph and Ellen Cortese, Gerald Custin, Austin Davis, Peter Demzak, Terry and Shirley Drake, Mark and Elaine Feldman, Gerald and Lorraine Grubba, Joseph Guazzerotti, Lawrence and Nancy Harkins, James and Janetze Hart, David and Paula Harvey, Irving Hernandez, James Jessup, Christopher Jones, Mark and Maryann Kapinos, William and Elizabeth Kasak, Richard and Cecilia Kemball-Cook, Dan and Donna Kistel, James and Patricia Kleinsorge, Thomas and Kathy Kukulski, James and Maria Lankford, Brian and Christina Lapointe, Brian Lawandus, Mark Lewalski, Viktor Lewalski, Christian Lyon, Edward Martinenko, Christopher Mazzone, Michael McCarthy, Darryl Miller, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, David Neal, Chris Nesci, Todd and Margaret Owers, Edmund and Diane Pagnott, Robert Papariella, Frank Pensabene, Miguel Perez, Mark and Christine Peterman, James and Suzanne Preston, Christopher and Carol Purcell, Richard and Rosalie Resler, Edward and Sandra Riley, Brian Riley, Jeffrey and Roxann Rogers, Kenneth Ruckart, John and Kathleen Ruckart, Kenneth and Gabriella Seguin, Massimo Simeoni, James and Darlene Stanley, Lawrence and Corinne Rose Steinhardt, Jugdesh and Sucheta Sujanani, Keith and Griselda Taylor, Robert and Ann Marie Bonvicino, Jacob and Mary Burnett, Joseph Celic, Jerome Dewberry, Timothy and Marcy Dolan, Eric and Bernadette Flores, Jared Kirsten, Michael Lyons, Javier and Xiomara Ortega, Christopher and Teresanne Russell, Mario Russica, Hugh and Katie Siegel, Thomas Smith, Francis Cayer, Frank and Patricia Piro, Robert Shafer

Total Collected to Date: \$1,784.22



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Sisters and Brothers of our Council,

December is a busy time with getting ready for Christmas as well as attending Christmas Parties. What ever happened to the Season of Advent? I like Christmas Parties as a time to spend time with good friends. However, I also take the Advent Season to meditate and celebrate the Incarnation, one of the central aspects of our faith. Advent then is the time to reflect on the meaning of God choosing to become a human being and walk with us. Jesus is often called *Emanuel*, which means "God with Us." Some of us have been taught to hate our humanity as something evil. Not true and unhealthy theology. The Book of Genesis opens with Creation in Chapter 1. "God made them male and female and saw they were very good." God does not make junk. We are called to appreciate our humanity and the humanity of our brothers and sisters around the world and of every color, language, and culture. Thus, this Advent we are invited to savor the gift of our humanity. As Paul says, "we are God's Work of art on Christ Jesus." Psalm 139 reminds us to reflect on God's Word to us, "See I am wondrously made."

You are invited to join us in Philippe Park on Christmas Eve at 4:15pm. Come early and bring a chair. Your dog is welcome.

Merry Christmas!

Michael, Chaplain

The Advent Wreath

The first purple candle is the
Candle of Hope

It symbolizes the hope we have in Christ and our desire to spend eternity with Him. During the first week of Advent, we wait for Jesus with Hope

The second purple candle is the
Candle of Peace

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and orient ourselves toward Christ's coming, preparing our hearts to receive him anew.

The third candle is pink and is the
Candle of Joy

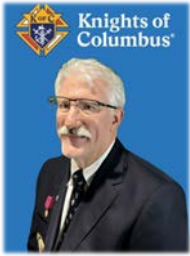
It recalls the joy we have in knowing, loving, and following Christ – no material possession or gift can take the place of the joy we have in friendship with Jesus.

The final purple candle is the
Candle of Love

It reminds us that God so loved the world (i.e., you, us...even that difficult friend or relative) that he gave His only son to us so we could have abundant life.

Service Program Directors 2023-2024

Program Director	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
Membership Director	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
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, PFN	727.239.2687
Retention Coordinator	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights!

Our favorite time of year has finely arrived, Advent, and the Christmas Season. It's a time for us to prepare for the coming of Christ which is the real meaning behind Christmas. It's also a time to share special moments and to make treasured memories with friends and family. So, bring out your Advent wreath and explain the purpose of the four candles to our children and grandchildren as we light one each week in anticipation of the coming of Christ on December 25.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with getting everything ready for our Memorial Mass. Thank you, Fr. Michael Cooper for a wonderful Mass. This was truly a celebration in honor of our fallen Knights. We will be selling our Keep Christ in Christmas Cards after all the Masses up until the 10th. Come one come all to our all you can eat breakfast with Santa and get your picture taken with Santa on Sunday December the 10th after the morning Masses. It makes a great Christmas Card. We will be setting up the main church with the Christmas Trees and all the decorations on December 14th after the 8:15 Mass. All are welcome to come and help. Many hands make light work. There will be a sign-up sheet sent out soon. We will have our annual Christmas party on Friday December 15th. We will be sending out a sign-up sheet shortly to see how many will be attending. We will be hosting Coffee and Donuts on Sunday December 17th after the morning Masses. We are also hosting an open house on Tuesday December 19th in the Parish Center. We are well on our way to meeting our quota for the year. Bring a friend to the Open House so we can show him why this will be his best gift of the year. Wishing you and your families an enjoyable and wonderful Christmas season and a Happy New Year!

Faith In Action



FAITH

COMMUNITY

FAMILY

LIFE

From the Faith Director's Desk

The Memorial Mass was conducted on November 16, 2023, and was attended by wives and family of past Knights. The Color Guard was present and added their salutes to honor those who have passed. It was an awesome experience listening to people talk about their memories of our past knights. We will be handing out Bibles to the 3rd graders who have prepared to receive First Holy Communion last formation year. We will have our monthly Rosary on Thursday December 14th at 6:30 pm in the JBC hosted by Wally Vasquez and Jerry Custin. Bring your friends as this is open to everyone. In the coming weeks we will be looking at a new initiative called COR. This is program to bring men closer to the Lord and in turn will help to bring families closer to the lord. We would like to start this program in the next couple of months.

From the Community Director's Desk

Brothers, on Saturday, December the 2nd, we will be conducting our quarterly road cleanup. We will begin at 9AM and end at approximately 10AM. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Please consider signing up and joining us for this fun and easy outreach program for our community, as we cleanup along Enterprise Road. We will be having our Basketball Free Throw Contest on Saturday January 27th from 9am to 12pm. Please invite your kids or grandchildren to attend this fun experience.

From the Family Director's Desk

Brother Knights, please take a few minutes to read the article "The Indispensable Mission of the Family" on page 8 of this month's Columbia magazine. This new "Into the Breach" series of 5, 15-minute videos gives in-depth attention to the major importance of marriage and the family. We Knights, with our wives, are the foundation of marriage with the responsibility of leading our family to heaven. This series is available now to download and watch and learn. [KofC.org/missionofthefamily](https://www.kofc.org/missionofthefamily)

We will be collecting the posters for anyone who wants to create a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster. It's open to both boys and girls from kindergarten to high school. For more information look on our web site in special events.

We all wish you a prayerful Advent season and a Blessed Christmas.

From the Life Director's Desk

Thank you to all of you who stood out in front of the abortion clinic on US Hwy 19 to help out with 40 Days of Life. A special shout out to Jerry Grubba for having to put up with a very unruly person. Much restraint was shown. Thank you for all your efforts. Thank you to all of you who show up every month on the 3rd Saturday to help out at the Kimberly home. A special call out to Tom Wozniak and Dave Behrle for helping to install new flooring midweek at the Kimberly Home. We will be collecting for the Kimberly Home again this year. We will have our baby bottles out for Breakfast with Santa and the Christmas Party.

Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr – December 26

Stephen, whose name means 'crown' or 'garland,' was the first to gain the crown of martyrdom in the Church. The account of Stephen's death is a short course in the martyrdom that would define Christian life in its first four centuries. After engaging in a debate with Hellenistic Jews, Stephen recounts for them their own history as fulfilled in Christ. To the ears of his accusers, Stephen's words are blasphemy. Stephen's marvelous countenance - "like an angel" - is a further irritant. They drag him outside the city to stone him. Stephen, "filled with the Holy Spirit," has a vision of Christ. Before he dies, he forgives his tormentors. Saul, later called Paul, is one of his persecutors. He lays down his cloak in order to throw stones at Stephen. Yet, God will call Paul, who will become one of Christ's greatest apostles and will also embrace martyrdom for his Savior. God works in miraculous ways!

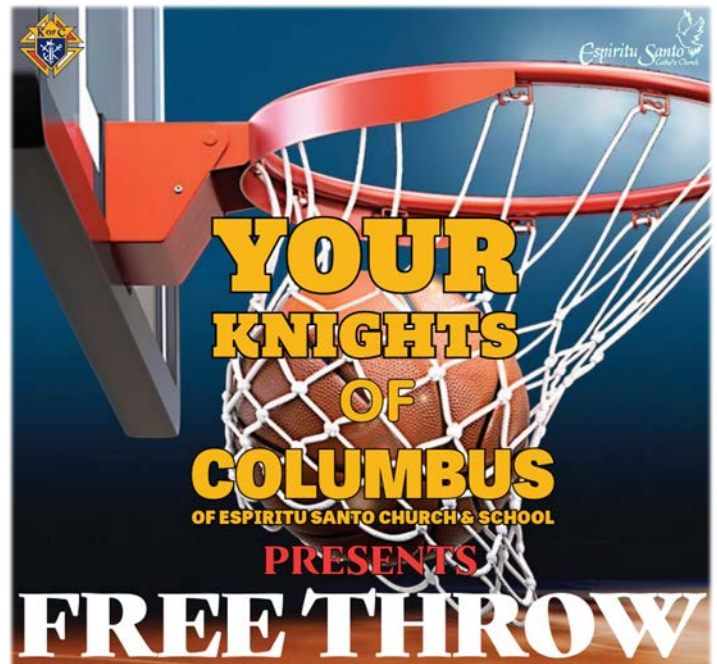
December Liturgical Calendar

Dec 2 Bl. Virgin Mary
 Dec 3 First Sunday of Advent
 Dec 4 St. John Damascene
 Dec 6 St. Nicholas
 Dec 7 Saint Ambrose (Memorial)
 Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
 Dec 9 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
 Dec 10 2nd Sunday of Advent
 Dec 11 St. Damasus I
 Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast)
 Dec 13 Saint Lucy (Memorial)
 Dec 14 Saint John of the Cross (Memorial)
 Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent
 Dec 21 St. Peter Canisius
 Dec 23 St. John of Kanty
 Dec 24 4th Sunday of Advent Feast
 Dec 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) (Solemnity)
 Dec 26 Saint Stephen (Feast)
 Dec 27 Saint John (Feast)
 Dec 28 The Holy Innocents (Feast)

Dec 29 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord, St. Thomas Becket
 Dec 30 6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord.
 Dec 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Feast)

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Krivchenia PFN,
Dgk1709@gmail.com
 727.366.5422

**FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP**

Open to Boys and Girls, Ages 9-14

Scan:

OR

Visit:



Date: January 27th, 2024

Time: 9AM - 12PM

Location:

ESPIRITU SANTO CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 2405 Phillippe Pkwy, Safety Harbor

www.safetyharkofc.org to Pre-Register, Print your Score sheet, and Read more information about the event.

Faith in Action

Please note: Entrants may compete in only one local competition.

Community



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

As we approach the end of the year, and our thoughts turn to the angelic declaration of “Peace on Earth” and “Goodwill to Men!” We remember Pope Francis’ Prayer for Peace where he prays “Lord God of peace, hear our prayer! Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last...”

In our lives there is much going on: scurrying around buying a Christmas tree, getting it decorated; looking for that perfect gift for our spouse, our kids and maybe grandkids. There are parties and school Christmas shows. Seems like we’re busier than ever.

But let me ask you to slow down for just a few minutes and consider some financial issues that come up at the end of the calendar year.

1. Because we’re so late in the year, you may have met your individual or family deductible on your health insurance plan. Financially this may be the opportune time for some minor procedure to be scheduled; or that visit to a specialist you may have put off. The same is true about dental insurance and sometimes even for vision coverage. Check with your Human Resource office or your health insurance carrier for details.

2. When it comes to health insurance, do you have a Health Savings Account? Do you have to spend the money that’s in there by year end? Some plans have a “use it or lose it” feature. Do you have to decide about how much to contribute next year? These are a couple of time sensitive issues. Again, make sure you check with your HR office or health insurance carrier.

3. If you have earned income for the year, will you contribute to a traditional IRA, Roth IRA, or 401k? Are you eligible to contribute more based on the “catch up” provision? Now is the time to start making plans.

4. Speaking of IRAs, have you received your required minimum distribution for this year? If not, the Internal

Revenue Service penalty is a hefty 50% of the amount you should have received!

All of these issues come with rules and regulations, and each individual situation is different. I’d be happy to discuss them with you.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior!

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>





Wally Vazquez
Faithful Navigator
travelwally@msn.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

The Knight's Color Guard honored the Veterans on November 10, 2023, at the Parish Center at 8:30 am. Always impressive and brings respect to any event.

The Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass was conducted on November 16, 2023. Over 80 surviving members of past Knights' families were invited. There was a long list of past Knights that were reverently read by our Faithful Admiral Frank McEwen and SK Brian Annis. There were two Color Guard members flanking the readers of past Knights that added to this honoring.

The celebrant was our Faithful Chaplin Fr. Michael Cooper, SJ, whose passion for our religion always inspires. A light repass was provided for all that attended.

There was a social gathering for all Patriotic Degree Knights on the 28th of November 2023, at Beef 'O'Bradys' located at 3687 Tampa Road. This was in lieu of our usual Assembly Meeting originally scheduled for November 23rd, 2023. There will be no Assembly Meeting in December in observance of the Christmas Holidays. The next Assembly meeting will be on 1/25/2024 and I urge all Sir Knights to attend for the Renewal of Obligation.

Remember to invite a friend, a fellow parishioner or member of your family to our KofC Open House. We would like to welcome all Knights interested in doing service for our community and church.

Future events will include Christmas Preparations, Lenten Fish Fries, Altar Servers Party, KofC Retreat.

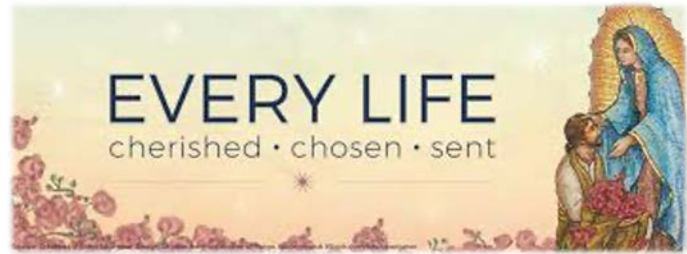
*"Life will bring you pain all by itself.
Your responsibility is to create Joy.
Sometimes your only available transportation is a
leap of Faith."*



Blessed Advent season to you and your family! The Ladies Auxiliary will be helping with the Giving Tree once again. WES placed gift card requests (Nov 25-26) for the Toys-for-Tots program on the tree. Gift cards from Walmart and Target will be returned by participants Dec 02 & 03 and Dec 09 & 10 to the WES collection table. The Ladies Auxiliary will help by shopping for toys once cards are given to coordinator, Jean. Then I will ask for volunteers to shop one evening for toys. Those interested please contact Jean Wozniak for the plan. Also, we will continue the annual toy collection at our December 14 meeting. Along with a toy, we will share treats, sweets, and spirits for our Christmas Party. All the toys will be taken to the Oldsmar fire department for the Toys-for-Tots, which is always an amazing site of the plentiful toys for needy children. We also will be busy December 15 helping decorate for the Council's Christmas Dinner Party. Details discussed via Google Group soon. May God bless you and your loved ones with the Merriest of Christmas's and a Joyous New Year!



Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
727.723.1169



Buckle up with the Armor of God! See Ephesians 6:11-17, St Paul has eloquent exhortations along these lines. From voting results in November, Ohio will now enshrine abortion in their state constitution: Issue 1 passed 56% Yes to 44% No. Virginia, another state with abortion on the November ballot, lost their pro-life majority in their House of Representatives, and their Senate pro-abortion majority increased by 1 vote. And in Kentucky, the pro-abortion incumbent Governor won re-election. Are 'congratulations' in order for those who won? It's the gracious thing to do, for they won (this round). But somehow, 'congratulations' is hard for me to say. Rather, I think we should say 'sorry' to those who will lose future family members due to legalized abortion in more and more states.

Also, in early November, 48 US Senators, including 13 who self-identify as Catholics, sent a signed letter urging the Biden administration to require insurance companies to cover over-the-counter hormonal birth control.

Abortion is evil. Infanticide is murder. Take some time during the holidays and do some bible study. See Job 31:15, Ps 127:3, Ps 139:13-16, Is 44:2, Is 46:3-4, Ex 20:13, and Mt 2:1-23. Our Catechism also expands on what we profess to believe in the Nicene Creed, paras 26 - 1065, and states Catholic positions on contraception, para 2370, murder, paras 2258-2269, abortion, paras 2270-2275, and euthanasia, paras 2276-2279.

Jesus died on the cross for my sins, for your sins, for all sins. The mercy of God is greater than any one sin, and greater than all sins. All sins can be forgiven, but one must repent and going forward, live for Christ, and do "what he tells you to do." (Ref. Jn 2:5)

With these November set-backs to the pro-life movement, will additional loss of rights follow? Will members like us, who believe we have faith, draw into our safe cocoon: we personally know Jesus, and He will save us? After all, we all know that God wins in the end!

Or, will we pray for resolve to be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus, to not only love God with all our heart, mind, and strength, but love our neighbor with public actions, including to protect Life? I pray the latter, for me and for all of you. Let's not become another historical chapter in line with the Old Testament stories of repeated exile from the promised land for not obeying God.

Merry Christmas! May the peace of Christ, the Lamb of God, be with all of us this December and going forward. As we enjoy the holidays this year with family and friends, let us also remember that King Herod tried to kill the infant Jesus. Joseph, as foster father of the Holy Family, moved them to Egypt, escaping the infanticide imposed by Herod. We too, as members of the Knights of Columbus, are called to be the 'Joseph' of our family, our community, and country. Please pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the unborn, and patroness of our Order, whose feast day we celebrate on Dec 8, that we obtain the grace to keep the faith, and defend all Life, especially those who are most vulnerable, those in the womb. Amen.

Prayer for the Unborn

Heavenly Father, in Your love for us, protect against the wickedness of the devil, those helpless little ones to whom You have given the gift of life.

Touch with pity the hearts of those women pregnant in our world today who are not thinking of motherhood.

Help them to see that the child they carry is made in Your image - as well as theirs - made for eternal life.

Dispel their fear and selfishness and give them true womanly hearts to love their babies and give them birth and all the needed care that a mother can give.

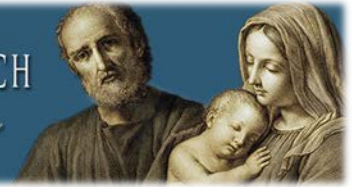
We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen.



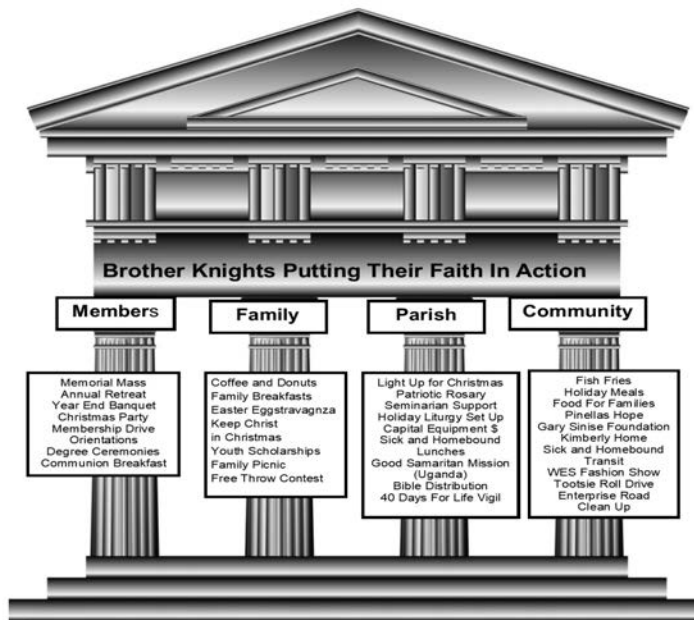
Jerry Custin
 PGK, PFN
 jcustin@gmail.com

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH
While Strengthening Our Parish



Celebrate Advent

Psalm 84 speaks to the yearning and pining of our hearts for the courts of the Lord and the flesh of the living God. Jesus was born, died to save us and gave us His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity forever. We are truly blessed by His Immaculate Conception and Virgin Birth. We should never cease to praise Him. We are better one day in His court than a thousand elsewhere. Rejoice for unto us a Savior is born. Rejoice!



Psalm 84

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

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 Catholic Church

Photo Gallery



WGK Gene Jajuga presents Donald Reed with his 3rd Degree Certificate



WGK Gene Jajuga awards Richard and Ann LeClerc as July FOM



WGK Gene Jajuga awards Pat and Chris Nocerino as October FOM



Assembly 2474 Color Corps participated in Mass on Veterans Day



Our Membership Director, SK Edward Amador, attended the 4th Degree Exemplification for our newest Sir Knights Richard Kembell Cook and Amaro Lionheart. Congrats SKs!



Several Brother Knights and Ladies assisted ESCC St Vincent De Paul Ministry in delivering Thanksgiving meals to families in need in the local community. Such a rewarding experience.

Memorial Mass

Carl F Algozzina
 Frank Aloj
 Charles Bachteller
 William J Baines
 Jack L Baralt
 William G Bartel
 Tom J Beck
 John P Berres
 Kenneth Bonadies
 August R Bortolus
 Louis A Bosco
 Howard E Brennan
 Henry Putnam Briggs
 Clarence W Brown
 Raymond E Burke
 Donald Caissie
 Alfred A Campanile
 Albert J Cappabianca
 James Caravella
 Robert Carman
 William T Carney
 Albert Catineau
 Christopher V Cecere
 Nunzy Chipoletti
 Rev. Paul L Clougherty
 Charles E Collins
 Allen R Connell
 Edward A Conrad
 Sean M Cook
 Pual F Coon
 W M Cooper
 Devin Cote
 James H Coughler
 Patrick Counihan
 K Paul Curley
 Robert S Davis
 Joseph J De Rose
 Jeremiah De Voursney
 Andrew A Dean
 Roger Della Motta
 Sebastian Digregorio
 Robert E Doering
 William P Dompier
 James P Donnelly
 William J Donohue
 Richard R Doxstader
 Gaylon J Dubois
 James L Dunn
 James H Edwards
 Frederick R Eiflein
 Frank J Eoviero
 David L Erickson

Edward A Eschen
 Ernest J Falzon
 Vincen Felletter
 Roger A Foley
 Bob L Fontana
 Edward Fontana
 Thomas G Forcier
 Robert A Forczek
 Michael J Frascella
 Carl W Fruechtemeyer
 John F Furst
 Ernest J Gallant
 Gustavo Gares
 Herman Gassenschmidt
 Donald F Glunz
 Bernard Gonyea
 John A Gracia
 Edward P Grew
 Bryce L Griffin
 Frank J Griffin
 John J Griffin
 Robert E. Griswold
 Robert C Groening
 Eric K Groteke
 Joseph G Haines Sr.
 James J Hartley
 Rev. John J Hempel
 Robert L Hiatt
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 Joseph Howard Hoch
 Peter A Hoek
 Ronald M Holzwarth
 Edward J Hopkins
 Michael H Hritz
 William Hudge
 Peter Iaffaldano
 Thomas C Irvin
 Eugene W Jennings
 Leo F Junkersfeld
 James Jessup
 Peter Jula
 Ramutis F Kaminskis
 Robert Kane
 Robert W Kearney
 Michael J Keegan
 Peter A Kelly
 Robert L Kelly
 William L Kennedy
 Brian E Kenny
 Donald F Knapik
 Richard O Knisley
 Joseph T Kwiatkowski



Our Annual Memorial Mass was held November 16, 2023



Earl La Borie
 Albert E Lang
 Thomas J Laramee
 Paul F Lebrun
 Francis W Leddy
 Thomas M Livingston
 Philip N Lombardi
 Gerard E Longnecker
 Andrew J Lopreato
 John J Lubanovich
 William J Lynch
 Francis J Lyons
 Raymond P Mack
 Anthony G Madonna
 Dennis J Magee
 John T Maguire
 John Mandula
 Jim Manetta
 Thaddeus Marcinkowski
 Robert W Marek
 Arthur F Marmillion
 Joseph McCale
 James J. McCarthy
 E J McCormack
 John D McDonald
 Bryan M McGuire
 Kevin McQuade
 Stan M McQuain
 Don McElroy
 Richard B McEntee
 Emmett J McMahon
 Rev. Arthur L Meloche
 Joseph C Morreale
 Ted S Motyl
 David B Munns
 Donald P Murphy
 William F Mutschler
 Robert L Niehoff
 Anthony C Nitti
 John R O'Hare
 George J O'Leary
 Thomas R O'Neill
 Daniel W O'Connell
 Andrew R Obergfell
 Frank P Parker
 Ralph E Pease
 Edward G Pendleton
 Ronald F Pereira
 Augusto V Perotta
 Nicholas E Petrarca
 Robert R Pictor
 Danny P Pocchiarri

William J Powell
 Joseph A Quagliana
 Walter G Ragan
 Nelson F. Rivera-Marquinez
 Scott C Robinson
 Peter Adam Rojek
 Charles R Rose
 Cecil R Ruckart
 William F Rupp
 Patrick L Russo
 Joseph F Rybak
 Joseph M Sacco
 Arthur G Salvione
 Franz P. Schmid
 Dewey T Schultz
 Russell J Sciandra
 Floyd George Seal
 Louis R Sepe
 David W Seymour
 Sylvester E Shaddock
 John H Shepherd
 Ernest A Sica
 Richard T Sloane
 Melvin R Spence
 Ernest J Spicola
 Edward J Stacy
 William F Stage
 Thomas J Sullivan
 Andrew Szeltner
 Matthew A Szykiewicz
 Leslie J Tentis
 Arthur R Thuerk
 Dennis A Thureson
 Robert J Tompas
 Alfonso Tufano
 Henry J Udouj
 Phillip W Unti
 Paul Utsch
 Joseph T Vollaro
 William J Vollenweider
 William J Waller
 Richard W Ward
 Joseph W Watson
 Roland Gene Watson
 Leonard J Weaver
 William B Weaver
 Barry Irvin Wexler
 Robert F White
 Malcolm L Wilson
 Paul F Wilson
 George E Winnegar
 Walter A Young

Letter to the Editor

Stay Awake

As we approach the end of Ordinary Time and prepare for the Advent Season, our Gospel readings are selected to prepare us for the end times and make us ready for the birth of our Savior.

Saint Paul tells the Thessalonians, *"We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words."*

Saint Matthew relates the parable ten virgins who took their lamps to await the coming of the bridegroom. Five were wise and brought extra oil for their lamps. Five were foolish and did not bring extra oil. The bridegroom was delayed, and they all fell asleep. At midnight a loud cry announced that the bridegroom was coming. The foolish virgins recognized their predicament and asked the wise virgins to share but they said no as they too would run out. While they went out to buy oil the bridegroom came and all who ready went into the feast. Saint Matthew continues, *"Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."*

This is a great message for us as Knights. We are formed on the pillars of unity, charity, fraternity, and patriotism. We are great at staying busy organizing and running various events to fulfill our charitable goals in the community. But are we wise individually or are we just busy?

Our world today is very divided. We see abuses, insurgency and active combat in many quarters and the threat of broadening those crises globally. This is unpredictable as the Israeli's horrifically learned on October 7. The Israeli's are known to have one of the best intelligence services on the planet but they were not awake.

Likewise, our Church is in some form of transition, and this causes anxiety in some quarters and stronger concern in others. Issues involved include the sacramental validity of same-sex unions, women deacons, married priests and more. Pope Francis removed Bishop Joseph Strickland from his duties in the Diocese of Tyler, Texas. In his remarks, Pope Francis said that some in the US church seem to put political ideology above faith. Bishop Strickland observed that some clergy seem not to agree with full message of the Gospel.

That leaves us with a lot to consider in our daily lives as well as spiritual lives. What does the future hold? Who knows the only thing predictable is that will be change. Will some of those changes be significant enough to challenge your faith in a Church that was founded by Christ and is one, holy and apostolic? Or is this just administrivia and not a change in theology or core doctrine?

Blessed Clemens von Galen told his flock during the Nazi regime, sometimes you are the hammer and sometimes the anvil. At that time, they were the anvil, as we are now. But he pointed out, the anvil lasts longer than the hammer. Persevere in the Faith!

What does the future hold. Stay awake so when you say Lord, Lord open the door for me that He does not reply, "I do not know you?". Stay awake, your eternal life depends on it.

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

The World Needs Fathers

Strengthening bonds of faith and fraternity can help Catholic men grow in holiness and respond to the 'crisis of fatherhood'

In late September, we launched a new video series on marriage and family called *Into the Breach: The Mission of the Family*. The aim of this five-part series is to help all of us - but particularly husbands and fathers - embrace the Catholic vision of marriage and family life amid the challenges of the modern world.

Why is this a priority for the Knights of Columbus? Quite simply, as the world's largest organization of Catholic men, we have a duty to help them become the husbands and fathers that God is calling them to be. This is especially urgent now, amid what is rightfully called a "crisis of fatherhood" in our society. For anyone with eyes to see, it's obvious that the absence of strong fathers is having a profoundly negative impact on our families, our parishes, and our society.

Recent polls paint a bleak picture. More than a quarter of millennials in the United States (27%) say they have no close friends, and 22% say they have no friends at all. Younger generations struggle with depression at a rate that's at least three times higher than it is for older generations. At least nine out of 10 men under age 24 view pornography at least monthly. The rates of substance abuse and overdose are skyrocketing - along with rates of suicide. Young men, in particular, are said to be dying "deaths of despair."

Faced with this grim reality, our work as husbands and fathers is more urgent than ever. Without good fathers and strong families, our children search for meaning and love in all the wrong places - and they are far more susceptible to the lies of the world and the evil one. What our children need more than anything else are the love and acceptance that come from strong family bonds that are rooted in Christ and the sacraments.

As fathers, it is our job to provide this solid footing. The evidence shows that when a father believes in God and lives out his faith in his daily life, his children are 10 times more likely to be committed Catholics as adults. A living faith inspires. And for our sons and daughters, no one has more power to inspire than a faithful father.

The great challenge of our time is to give men the tools to be good fathers - the kind of fathers who believe in Christ and raise their children in the faith. If we do that, we'll ensure a brighter future for our children, while dramatically improving the health of our society - one family at a time. If we want our children to rise above the moral chaos of this world, we need to be fathers who introduce them to the joy of a Christian life.

None of us should try to pursue this noble vision of fatherhood alone. All of us were made with a need for community. Scripture tells us that "a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Eccl 4:12), while "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another" (Prv 27:17). We make each other better when we unite as brothers in Christian friendship.

We're living in a time of endless moral traps and constant impediments to family life. If we hope to avoid those pitfalls and overcome those obstacles, we must do so together. Christ himself formed a band of men to carry out his mission. The Apostles didn't choose one another, but they certainly needed one another - and so do we.

The Knights of Columbus can be that place of unity and fraternity. Through the Cor initiative, we are redoubling our commitment to helping Catholic men deepen their faith while building bonds of friendship that can sustain them on the journey. None of this is easy, but we weren't called to a life of ease. Let us ask the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers, and Blessed Michael McGivney to help us embrace our noble vocation, for the sake of our children and grandchildren.

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

A National Eucharistic Revival

State Deputy Richard Hughes

As you are aware, we are in the second year of the National Eucharistic Revival. This is the Year of Parish Revival, and I hope and pray that you and your Councils are supporting the efforts of your pastors and parishes in renewing our collective faith in the Eucharist. In the words of the National Eucharistic Congress, the Revival is not something we DO; rather, it is a sovereign act of God. The Holy Spirit is asking us to respond to four invitations:

- A renewed attentiveness to HOW we worship.
- A renewed encounter with WHO we worship.
- To discover in greater depth WHY we worship Jesus in the Eucharist and what this incredible gift means.
- To ACT on our faith, bringing Christ to others and spreading the flame of revival.

As I have stated to those of you who have attended meetings on the Spirit of Unity Tour, the Knights of Columbus, by our very charter, should not be bystanders when it comes to faith formation. Under the leadership of our Bishops, pastors, and chaplains, we should be a force for evangelization both within our faith communities and beyond.

That is why the Supreme Knight and the Supreme Chaplain have led the creation and implementation of the Order's Cor initiative, to help bring form and substance to the faith formation of Catholic men, both Knights and non- Knights. If you and your Council have not yet done so, please have a conversation with your pastor about how Cor might fit in with your parish. Sometimes the timing is right for the introduction of Cor, sometimes it is not. But it is important to have the discussion with your priests, and to ensure they understand the Knights' commitment to supporting the faith formation of Catholic men, whatever form it may take.

Speaking of Cor, a new video series is now available for Cor gatherings and other faith formation activities called "The Mission of the Family", consisting of about five episodes of 13 minutes each. It is a great series professionally produced, well worth the time to watch and study. This, along with other Cor resources, are available from the Supreme website at www.kofc.org/cor.

As I said in last month's column, we will not be mailing individual appeals for our State Charities Funds this year, due to rising costs. We are asking all Councils to publicize this year's appeal through their Council communications for our Charities funds in Vocations, Helping Life, and Special Olympics.

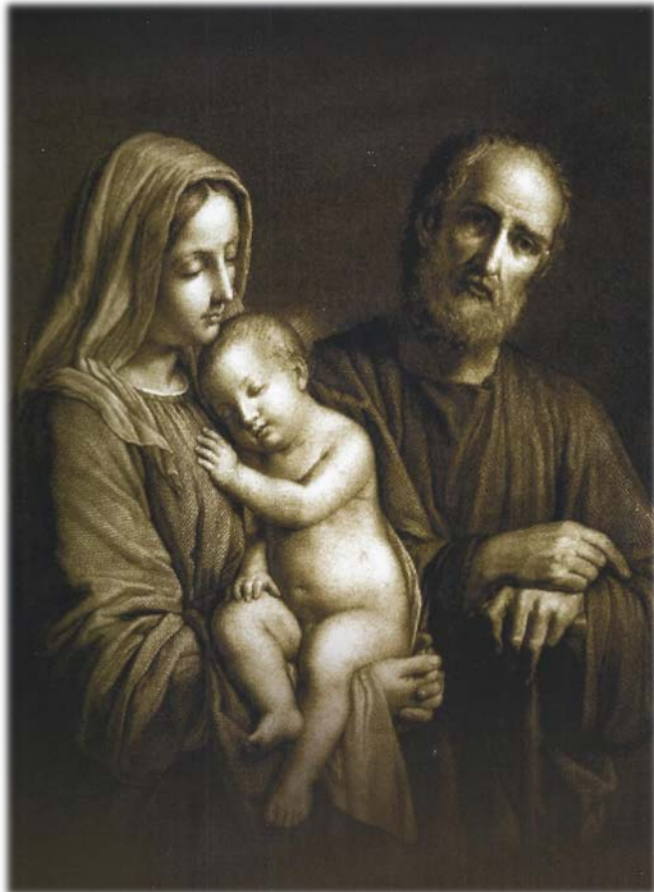
Individual donations can be made online at <https://donate.floridakofccharities.org/> or by clicking the red Donate button on the State website (www.floridakofc.org). I would also ask that each Council consider allocating at least part of its charitable fundraising to one or more of these funds. We are especially in need of donations for our Holy Angels Vocations Fund, which supports our seminaries and Diocesan Vocations programs. Our collective support of the seminaries and the bishops is an expression of the Spirit of Unity here in Florida. Our State Chaplain, along with the parish of St Agnes in Naples and Council 14202, have led the way this year, already raising over \$7,000 for the State Vocations Fund!

Our membership recruitment continues to be strong in Florida and across the Order! But there are still far too many Councils that have not yet recruited new members. With all the activities within our Councils and parishes in November and December, this is a prime opportunity to offer the gift of membership. Our commitment to faith formation, service programs, and protection for families should be appealing to every Catholic man. But the most common reason why men do not join the Order is because they are never asked. Our Supreme Knight has said that we grow the Order one man at a time, and the most important recruiting occurs on a personal basis. So, please do not be afraid to ask your fellow Catholic men to join the Order!

Again, I want to thank each and every Knight here in Florida for their prayers and their service to their parishes and communities, and for exemplifying the Principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism in everything that they do. And remember--Star Council + Faith Formation = a Successful Council!

Assembly Officers 2023-2024

Faithful Navigator	Wally Vazquez	727.542.5376
Faithful Friar	Deacon Greg Nash	813.267.1535
Faithful Captain	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Admiral	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Faithful Pilot	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen	727.792.4471
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Faithful Purser	Jerry Cistin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano	727.725.5647
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
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	Bill Gallant	727.251.6300



A Family Prayer

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

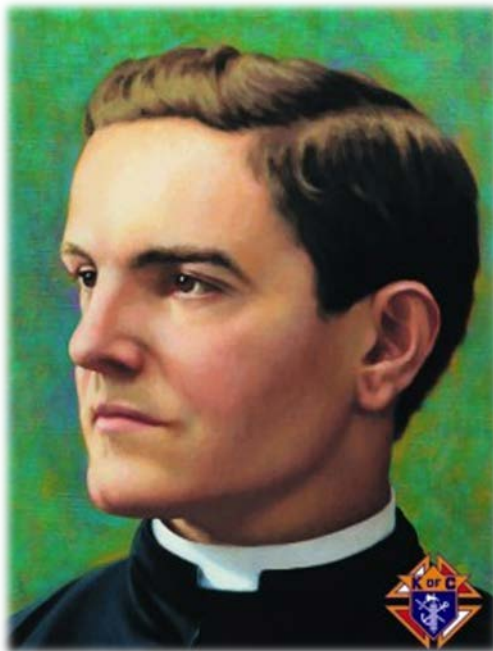
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

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

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

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

Amen.



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

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

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

What's Happening?



Council Calendar of Events...

December 2023

- 12/02 | Sat 4:00p Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/02 | Sat 7:00p Lighting of Christmas Lights & Caroling
- 12/03 | Sun 8:00a Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/09 | Sat 4:00p Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/10 | Sun 8:00a Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/10 | Sun 8:00a Parish Breakfast with Santa
- 12/14 | Thu 9:00a Install Christmas Trees & Decorations
- 12/14 | Thu 6:30p Rosary
- 12/14 | Thu 7:30p Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 12/15 | Fri 7:00p KofC Council Christmas Party
- 12/16 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home WorkDay
- 12/16 | Sat 4:00p Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/17 | Sat 8:00a Keep Christ In Christmas Card Sales
- 12/17 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 12/19 | Tue 7:30p KofC Informational Open House
- 12/21 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Lunch Prep & Delivery
- 12/21 | Thu 7:30p Unified Degree Exemplification



Assembly Calendar of Events...

December 2023

- **No Assembly Meeting in December**
- 01/25 | Thu 7:30p Assembly Membership Meeting (Renewal of Obligation)

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FREE ROSARY REPAIR

Is your rosary in need of repair? Broken beads, connecting wires, chains? Need a new center piece or crucifix?

I have most parts needed and the tools to repair and spruce up your rosary.

FREE to any Knight, family members, friends and neighbors

Contact Tom Wozniak | 727.214.8377 | tjwozniak@verizon.net

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.

