The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 06, June 2026

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, June 11 @ **7:00 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 Brothers & Ladies,
It's hard to believe that it's the end of the fraternal year already. Time does fly by when you are doing the work of God helping others in our church community and the surrounding community. I hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day Weekend spent remembering those brave souls who gave their all in serving our country and making it the best place to live in enduring freedom, hope, love and patriotism.

We were honored by Spirit FM for our amazing Fish Frys. They awarded us First Place for the Best Lenten Fish Fry among all the other parishes. I hope you saw the full page in the church bulletin announcing this honor. A heartfelt thank you to all of you who made this happen. So many of you worked diligently each Friday with joy and the utmost hospitality. It was truly a joint effort, and this award is for each and everyone of you. The plaque is on its way and will be displayed proudly in the Knights display case.

May was a less eventful month for us. I want to thank everyone who helped with all the First Communion and Confirmation Masses. We had our monthly Coffee & Donuts on Pentecost Sunday. We had a good showing of parishioners for this event. Thank you to all of you who helped make this community event possible.

Ed Amador	Kay Strehle	Jack Strehle
Tom Harkins	Joe D'Amelio	Betty D'Amelio
Matt Sunski	Carlos Zalazar	Garrett Phoebe

Gene Jajuga and I, along with our wives attended the State Convention in Orlando where we won two awards. We won first place for our Monthly Newsletter and we won 3rd place for our Memorial Mass for honoring our fallen brothers. The state is also raising our per capita $2 per person, from $12 to $14 annually.

Thank you to all our Fourth Degree Color Corp for processing with our 8th grade graduating class and for the Memorial Day Mass and Flag Retirement Ceremony.

We are saddened with the news that our beloved Deacon and brother knight, Dom Friscia, has passed into the waiting arms of the Lord. We offer our sincere condolences and comfort to his dear wife, Vickie, and his entire family. His funeral Mass will be celebrated on June 5, at 10:30AM. A reception will follow in the Parish Center.

Upcoming Events
We are having our Annual Corporate Communion Mass at the 9:00AM Mass on June 7th. Immediately following the Mass, we will have our breakfast at the Lucky Dill.

Our reservation is for 10:30AM. We will need to get our breakfast order in by 10:50 AM, otherwise we will be ordering lunch. This is a great way to catch up with some old friends and make new friends. I have two sign-up sheets out, one for the Mass and one for the breakfast at the Lucky Dill. Please sign up for which you would like to attend, or both so can get a count for the pews that we need to save and for the restaurant.

We will miss you, Father Michael, at our Mass and breakfast. It will not be the same without you. We are praying for you every day. May God grant you a speedy and complete recovery.

I would like to wish everyone who is a father, grandfather, stepfather, a Happy Father's Day! May it be a day filled with family fun and relaxation.

We will have our last Unified Degree Ceremony of the year on Thursday, June18th at 7:00PM in the St. John Bosco Center. This is for anyone who wants to become a new member of the Knights of Columbus and for anyone who did the online degree ceremony and would like to do the in-person ceremony.

- Officers Meeting – Thursday, June 4th at 7:00PM In the St. John Bosco Center
- KofC Corporate Communion Breakfast – Sunday, June 7th at 9:00AM Mass followed by breakfast at The Lucky Dill
- Rosary – Thursday, June 11th at 6:15PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council 7109 Membership Meeting – Thursday, June 11th at 7:00PM in the Parish Center
- Coffee & Donuts – Sunday, June 14th at 7:30AM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Flag Day – Sunday, June 14th
- KofC Open House – Wednesday, June 17h at 7:00PM in the Parish Center
- Pinellas Hope Prep – Thursday, June 18th at 8:00AM in the Parish Center Kitchen
- KofC Unified Degree Ceremony – Thursday, June 18th at 7:00PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- The Kimberly Home Workday – Saturday, June 20th at 8:00AM at The Kimberly Home in Clearwater, FL
- Father's Day – Sunday, June 21st
- Assembly 2474 Business Meeting – Thursday, June 25th at 7:00PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Last Day of the Fraternal Year – Tuesday, June 30th
- First Day of the New Year – Wednesday, July 1st
- Officers Meeting – Thursday, July 2nd at 7:00PM In the St. John Bosco Center
- 4th Of July – Saturday, July 4th Happy 250th Birthday America!!!!
- Rosary – Thursday, July 9th at 6:15PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council 7109 Membership Meeting – Thursday, June 9th at 7:00PM in the Parish Center
- Coffee & Donuts – Sunday, July 12th after morning Masses in the St. John Bosco Center

Billing for Fraternal Year 2026/2027

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

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

Pay Dues Online - You can pay your Dues online through PayPal. Just go to our website: www.safetyharborkofc.org and click the Dues dropdown link and then follow the instructions on that page. You do not need a PayPal account to pay this way. If you pay via PayPal there is a fee added to cover the fees the Council is charged by PayPal. If you have your own PayPal account connected to your bank, you can send your payment directly to fs@safetyharborkofc.org with no fees.

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Email listing for Council 7109 Members

To ensure you are keeping abreast of Council activities, make sure we have your updated email address. You will be copied on prayer request, the monthly newsletter, and weekly activities of your council from the Worthy Grand Knight. Please send new or updated email addresses to teharkins@gmail.com.
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SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109 Holy Moments



Unity – Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2026
Jun 17

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2026
Jun 18

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	338
Insurance Membership	127
Honorary Life Members	63
Honorary Members	06
2025-2026 Membership Growth vs Goal	17/15
2025-2026 Insurance	04/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	126
Honorary Life Members	15
Honorary Members	00
2025-2026 Membership Growth vs Goal	03/06

Council Officers 2025-2026

Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
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	
Special Assistant to the Council	Gary Murphy	

Happy Birthday Brothers! Many Happy Returns!

Patrick Alix, Brian Annis, Wilbert Bacon, Brent Basich, Donald Behles, Patrick Boland, Patrick Carroll, Austin Davis, Frederick DiMasi, John Duffy, Louis Fiorella, Christopher Garill, Paul Harvey, Martin Jackson, James Lankford, John Lutch, Patrick Mackin, Edward Martinenko, Gary Murphy, Mark Ostapowicz, Jim Shirer, Robert Stowell, Wally Vazquez

Prayers for the Sick

Marie Bishop, Sean Michael Cook (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Susanne Papa (d), Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Linda Cooper (d), Bob Ehrman, Antonia Rosin (d), Frances Hamacher (d), Jacquline Barry (d), Mary Branham (d), Mary Williams (d), Frank Schuster II (d), Kennedie McFadden, George Smith (d), Pauline Sager (d), Vicki Nolan (d), Steve Gorey (d), Felice D'Elia (d), Stanley Kwiatowski (d), Ethan Griswold (d), Dick LaLuzerne (d), Fr Rich Rosin (d), Mary Duelk (d), Tony Doyle (d), Mary Frances Lowe, Dwight Rochester, Jim & Pat Nolf, Frank Diaz (d), Ed Warticki (d), Jack Mills (d), Bob Justiana, Kathleen Griffin, Evely Harvey (d), Jack Greenwald (d), Don Bishop (d), Frank Nunziata (d), Dave Weber (d), Nicholas Burriesci (d), Anthony Burriesci (d), Thomas Ziegler (d), Sal Burriesci (d), John Salesses (d), Zoe DuFour (d), Gobind Sujanani, Maurice Chin, Betty D'Amelio, Jim Slattery, Kenny p-SIL, Pushpa Sujanani, Margie Waters, John Papa, Don Puchalski, Ed Fucillo (d), Kyle LaChance, Tammy Harrison, Michael D'Amelio, Adel Nammour, Frank DiMattei, Brian Jones, Tom Krivchenia, Paul Harvey, Tania Carnet, Pat Flynn, Rose Marie Harvey, Daniela Salazar, Kathy Akbari, Fr Michael Cooper, Terry Mueller, James O'Neill (d), Dn Dom Friscia (d)

Please pray for all our sick and deceased Brothers, Ladies, and family members. Please report illnesses and deaths to Sir Knight Paul Harvey, Lecturer, at 727.286.7171 or pharvey10@verizon.net

Support Our Vocations Fund



Austin Smith

Mark Wegener



Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to two seminarians. Austin and Mark are located at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. Austin Smith is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Mark Wegener is from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville.

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!

Edward & Violet Amador, Mark Barrett, Donald Borbath, James & Jean Burris, William Cullen Jr, Joseph & Betty D'Amelio, Douglas & Carol De Wolfe, Peter Demzak, Frederick & Suzanne Di Masi, Sean Donahoo, Robert & Zoe Dufour, Michael & Sue Engelmann, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Michael & Lisa Furman, Joel & Karen Gray, Robert & Catherine Gwinner IV, James & Anna Haitz, Thomas & Anne Harkins, Timothy & Ann Hartle, James Hayes, David & Donna Heezen, Joseph & Sandra Hocherl, George & Claire Inderwies, Steven & Anne Ippolito, Robert & M. A. Justiana Sr, Michael & Katherine King, Dan & Donna Kistel, Mark & Renee Kraf, William & Katherine Krajeski, Frank Laffey, Stephen & Ellen Leger, Milton Levine, Amaro Lionheart, Jerry Maratea, Frank & Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen Sr, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, John Morgan, Adel Nammour, Chris & Leah Nesci, Thomas & Carolyn O'Rourke, John & Susanne Papa, Paul & Virginia Pappas, Mark & Christine Peterman, Robert & Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto Jr, Kenneth & Gabriella Seguin Sr, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheafer Sr, James & Karin Smith, Thomas Stanko, John & Kay Strehle III, Matthew Sunski, Roy & Linda Vanderveer, Steven & Jaclyn Verba, Paul & Josefina Vilchez, Mario & Judy Zaccaria, Dennis & Joyce Ayral, Jonathan & Marianne Boyce, Sean Casey, John Coyne, Gerald Custin Jr, James & Sylvia O'Neill, Michael & Mary Kathleen Dixon, Philip & Jane Farney, Mark & Elaine Feldman, Charles & Raquel Friesema, John & Peggy Gohman II, Michael Gutknecht, Thomas Hart Jr, Paul & Rose Marie Harvey, Eugene & Karen Jajuga, Shawn & Pattie Jajuga, Christopher & Celise Jones, Gregory & Kim Juedes, Richard Kemball-Cook Jr, Timothy Kielich, Matthew Killeen, Tom & Margaret Krivchenia, Jack Kuczej, Christian Kuczej, Thomas Kukulski, James & Maria Lankford, Brian & Christina Lapointe, Brian & Angela Lawandus, Santo Loparo Jr, Patrick Mackin, Michael & Maria McCarthy, James & Patricia Nolf, Brian & Lisa O'Connor, Gerald & Holly Pappa, Frank Pensabene, Daniel & T Peterson, Donald & Alexis Reed, Andrew Rodnite, Juan & Rosemary Romero, Peter & Susan Salesses, Daniel & Paula Saracki, William & Mary Scott, Jim & Nancy Shirer, Michael & Melissa Short, Massimo & Valeria Simeoni, Chuck & Elizabeth Sullivan, Keith & Griselda Taylor Sr, Thomas & Jean Wozniak, Patrick & Joan Alix, Patrick & Beatrice Boland, Sal & Ingrid Burriesci, Ryan Burriesci, Patrick Carroll, Joseph Celic III, Terrell & Victoria Clampitt, Joseph Cortese, Joseph Culmone, Hoyt Decker, Frank & Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Terry & Shirley Drake, Richard & Joan Ducheny, Frederick & Christi Elflein, Zach Faraone, Joseph & Megan Gajewski, Ward & Kathleen Griffin, Mark Gurley, Irving Hernandez, Kenton & Sue Heuertz, Jarret & Lesley Ann Honahan, Mark & Maryann Kapinos, William & Elizabeth Kasak, Brian & Christine Kearns, Robert Kenny, Raymond Kraker, Dennis Lentz, Francis & Carol Mahoney, Frank & Juliann Marsalek, Edward Martinenko, Kevin McMullen, Clifford & Michelle Merz, Anthony Metty, Darryl & Mary Miller, Thomas Myers, Javier & Xiomara Ortega, Todd & Margaret Owers, Edmund & Diane Pagnott, Donald & Carol Palacheck, Robert Papariella, Thomas Penders, Glen Pettersen, James & Suzanne Preston Jr, Christopher Purcell, Edward & Sandra Riley, James & Drema Servoss Rooney, John Ruckart, Kurt & Mary Lynn Salac, Julius & Minnie Silva, Thomas Smith, Bryan & Krista Snyder, Gregory & Carolina Sohn, James & Darlene Stanley, Jugdesh & Sucheta Sujanani, Alvah & Margaret Vankleeck, Walberto & Ramona Vazquez, Margaret Watson, Vincent Baldwin, Fred & Caroline Bennett, Thomas Bergevin, Victor Berggren, Jacob & Mary Burnett, Mark & Janet Busing, Jerome Dewberry, Timothy & Marcy Dolan, Eric & Maria Flores, Gerald & Lorraine Grubba, Lawrence & Nancy Harkins, Robert Kelly, James Kleinsorge, Stanley Lipiarz, Gerald & Renee Lubig Jr, John Malone, Will & Jennifer Maxwell Jr, Christopher Mazzone, James & Phyllis Montali, Michael O Neill, Miguel & Sammantha Perez I, Guillermo Romero, John J Liu, John T Liu, Albert Masselli, Peter & Susan Salesses, Brian & Carolyn Annis, Peter & Susan Salesses, William Dan Brandon, Francis Cayer, Andrew Jack Rodnite, Mario & Katie Camario

Total Collected to Date: $4806.93



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Brother Knights,

As we enter the month of June, the Church invites us into a season rich with opportunities for prayer, reflection, and deeper discipleship. June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, reminding us of Christ's boundless love, mercy, and compassion. As Knights, we are called not only to honor the Sacred Heart in prayer, but also to imitate that love through acts of charity, fraternity, and faithful service.

This month also brings several beautiful celebrations within the liturgical calendar, including Pentecost, the Most Holy Trinity, Corpus Christi, and the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. Each feast reminds us that our faith is not simply something we profess, but something we live and share within our families, parishes, and communities.

Corpus Christi especially calls us to renew our devotion to the Eucharist - the true source and summit of our Catholic faith. In a world often filled with distraction and division, the Eucharist remains our spiritual center and our greatest source of unity and strength.

As Jesuit spirituality teaches us, we should continually seek to "find God in all things." Summer often brings busier schedules, travel, and changing routines, but it also offers moments to slow down and recognize God's presence in everyday life: in family gatherings, acts of kindness, time spent in prayer, and service to others.

I encourage each of you to spend a few quiet moments each day in reflection and gratitude. Consider asking yourself the simple Ignatian question: *Where did I encounter God today?* Through this practice, we grow more attentive to the Lord's guidance and more responsive to His call.

Thank you for your continued witness to faith and patriotism through your service as Knights of Columbus. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus strengthen our Assembly and bless each of your families abundantly.

Vivat Jesus!

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As our Faithful Friar/Chaplain continues his recovery and convalescence, this month's article was prepared on his behalf. We are grateful for his ongoing spiritual guidance and ask that you keep him in your prayers during this time.

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to Your servant Father Michael Cooper, the help of your power, that his sickness may be turned into health, all pain and discomfort relieved, and any sorrow or worry comforted by Your love and peace. We ask this through the intercession of our Heavenly Mother, the ever Virgin Mary and Queen of the Knights. Amen.

Service Program Directors 2025-2026

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	Matt Sunski	727.423.9524
Public Relations Director	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
Life Director	Jack Strehle	727.433.0081
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,

Summer is upon us. Take this time to enjoy your family with fun activities and vacations. School will be back before we know it. It is now the summer season. Our children and grandchildren are out of school, with all the summer activities and vacations lined up. Make sure that you make the time to enjoy your family.

The events this month will start with the KofC Corporate Communion Mass, Sunday, June 7, 9am. Breakfast will follow at Lucky Dill in Palm Harbor. Coffee & Donuts will be on Sunday the 14th from 7am to noon. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Our Informational Open House will be held on Wednesday the 17th at 7pm in the JBC. Please bring a friend that might be interested in becoming a Knight. Pinellas Hope food prep will be on Thursday the 18th at 8am in the Parish Center Kitchen. And last on the list will be the KofC Unified Degree Exemplification at 7pm on the 18th in the Parish Center. Enjoy your Summer.

St Aloysius Gonzaga
St. Aloysius Gonzaga is honored as the patron saint of youth, students, plague victims, and those suffering from HIV/AIDS, as well as their caregivers. His devotion to serving the sick, even at the cost of his own life, made him a lasting example of compassion and holiness.

Born into Italian nobility in 1568, Aloysius was raised to inherit wealth and status, yet from a young age he felt called to a life dedicated to God. While studying in Florence, he made a vow of perpetual chastity at only nine years old. He later received his First Holy Communion in 1580 and continued his studies while serving at the Spanish royal court in Madrid. During this time, he discerned a vocation to join the Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits.

Although his father strongly opposed his decision, Aloysius remained steadfast. In 1585 he renounced his title and inheritance in favor of his brother and left for Rome to enter the Jesuit order. Two years later, he professed vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Despite poor health, Aloysius volunteered to care for victims during a plague outbreak in Rome. In 1591, after carrying an abandoned plague victim to the hospital and personally tending to him, he contracted the disease himself. He died peacefully on June 20, 1591, at just 23 years old.

He was canonized in 1726 and later declared patron saint of students, Catholic youth, and AIDS patients by successive popes.

- June 01: Paul and Peter, Martyrs, optional memorial
- June 03: St Charles Lwanga and companions, Martyrs, Memorial
- June 05: St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr, Memorial
- June 06: St Norbert, Bishop, optional memorial
- June 08: Pentecost – Our Parish Feast Day, Solemnity
- June 09: Blessed Vigin Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial
- June 11: St Barnabas, Apostle, Memorial
- June 13: St Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church, Memorial
- June 15: Most Holy Trinity, Solemnity
- June 19: St Romuald, Abbott, optional memorial
- June 21: St Aloysius Gozaga, religious, Memorial
- June 22: Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, Solemnity
- June 24: The Nativity of St John the Baptist, Solemnity
- June 27: The Mos Sacred Heart of Jesus, Solemnity
- June 28: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary;
  St Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr, optional memorials
- June 29: Sts Peter and Paus, Solemnity



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

Brothers,

Father's Day is June 21. When you think of the qualities of a good father, what comes to mind?

You might picture someone who leads by example, works hard, makes sacrifices, and loves unconditionally.

I think one of the most important ways a father shows his love is when he protects his family in this world that can be so uncertain.

For example, we can't always control what influence the world might have on our family's lives. That's why a father knows it's crucial to guard his family spiritually, leading by example in faith.

Similarly, we can't always predict how life circumstances might impact our ability to provide for our families financially. Will our employment remain secure? Will we experience a long-term disability? And, as much as we don't like to think about it, will the Lord call us home at a time we don't expect?

There are many unknowns, but there are things you can do to protect your family and build security. For example, you can guard your loved ones through life insurance, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance.

Before I close, I'd like to share a story about our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney. When he was 20 years old and in seminary, his father, Patrick, passed away. This left young Michael uncertain whether he would need to leave seminary and work in a factory to support his siblings and widowed mother. Thankfully, his bishop intervened and provided financial support to allow him to continue his studies for the priesthood.

As a result of this experience, Father McGivney knew firsthand how the death of a loved one could bring about uncertainty for the family.

In founding the Knights of Columbus, he started an Order that allows Catholic men like you to be the protectors their families need — even during life's hardest moments.

I invite you to meet with me to review your current coverage or to partner in finding you the coverage to match your family's needs. I would also be glad to share some of the other services offered by our affiliates, including Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors and Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund.

Vivat Jesus!
John D Ruckart, FICF
813.855.5111
Book an appt with me here:
https://bookRuckart.flkofc.com/
Learn about our investments:
https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart





JJ Coyne
Faithful Navigator
johnjjcoyne@gmail.com
901.832.7332 (m)

Faithful Navigator's Log

Sir Knights,

As we begin the summer season and prepare for a new fraternal year, I want to thank all our Sir Knights and families for your continued dedication, patriotism, and service to our Order, the parish and the community.

Our Assembly's Color Corps has remained active over the past several weeks. I extend my sincere appreciation to all who participated in the Memorial Day Mass and the Flag Retirement Ceremony. These events provided meaningful opportunities to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed for our nation while also demonstrating the reverence and patriotism that define the Fourth Degree.

I would also like to thank those Sir Knights who supported the parish school graduation ceremony. Your presence and participation helped make the event especially memorable for the graduates and their families. Representing the Knights of Columbus at these important parish events reflects our commitment to faith, community, and youth.

Looking ahead, our Color Corps is preparing to resume support future Honor Flight homecomings, the first of which will be Tuesday, June 09, at St Pete Clearwater Airport; showtime will be 7:30p. Welcoming our Veterans home with dignity and gratitude is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by so many members of our armed forces, and we look forward to participating in these meaningful events.

As we close out the current fraternal year, we voted on the proposed slate of officers for the new fraternal year during our May meeting. The Installation of Officers is scheduled to take place at our July meeting. I encourage all Sir Knights to attend and participate as we continue building a strong and active Assembly.

Thank you again for your continued service, fellowship, and commitment to the principles of our Order.

Vivat Jesus!

JJ Coyne, PGK
Faithful Navigator

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2026-27 Elected Assembly 2474 Slate

- **Faithful Navigator**
  Edward Amador
- **Faithful Friar**
  Fr Michael Cooper, SJ
- **Faithful Captain**
  Amaro Lionheart
- **Faithful Pilot**
  Mark Feldman
- **Faithful Admiral**
  JJ Coyne, PGK, PFN
- **Faithful Scribe**
  Santo Loparo
- **Faithful Comptroller**
  Tom Harkins
- **Faithful Purser**
  Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
- **Inside Sentinel**
  Vincent Cristiano
- **Outside Sentinel**
  Richie Resler
- **Trustee 3Y**
  John Gohman, PFN
- **Trustee 2Y**
  Wally Vazquez, PFN
- **Trustee 1Y**
  Frank McEwen, FDW, PGK, PFN
- **Color Corps Commander**
  Tom Wozniak, FDD, PGK, PFN
- **Veterans Liaison**
  Bill Gallant

Thank you for voting and your confidence in the slate!
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Photo Gallery



WGK Tom Krivchenia recognizes SK Edward Amador as Knight of the Month March 2026



WGK Tom Krivchenia recognizes SK Jim & Marie Lankford as Family of the Month April 2026



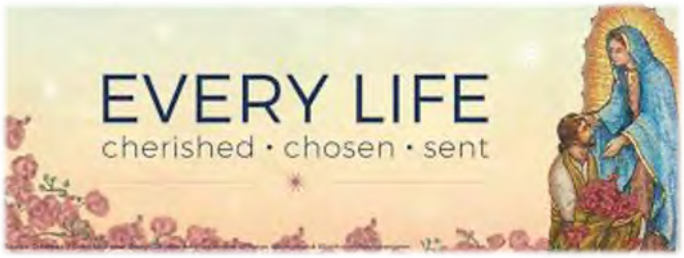
WCCC Tom Wozniak presides over the annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on Memorial Day; performed by SKs Tom Fitzpatrick and Santo Loparo



SK Vincent Cristiano celebrated a milestone birthday this past month! The BIG Five – Oh! Happy Birthday Vince!



Njällssen Amaro Lionheart
realamarolionheart@gmail.com
305.761.3419



The Month of the Sacred Heart, Furnace of Love and Mercy

June enters the year like a heartbeat, steady and solemn, calling the faithful to contemplate the mystery at the center of all creation: the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In this month, the Church turns her gaze to the Heart that loved unto the end, the Heart pierced yet unbroken, the Heart whose every beat was a declaration that God does not love from afar but enters the wounds of humanity to transform them from within. The Sacred Heart is a furnace in which divine love burns without exhaustion. Flames rise from it like a hymn of mercy, crowned with thorns that testify not to defeat but to a love willing to suffer for the beloved. To look upon this Heart is to behold the Gospel not as words on a page but as fire, as blood, as life poured out. June invites us to draw near, not in fear but in longing, for this Heart is sanctuary, refuge, and triumph. It is the beating center of a God who desires to be known not through commands alone, but through love that makes itself vulnerable.

Every detail of the Sacred Heart is a theology of love written in living flesh. The thorns wrapped around it reveal the pain Christ accepted for our sins, yet even in their piercing, the Heart burns brighter. The wound opened by the soldier's lance speaks of a God who withheld nothing, who allowed His very soul to be laid bare so that humanity might approach without hesitation. The flames rising from the Heart proclaim a passion stronger than death, a charity no betrayal can extinguish. This Heart loved in Nazareth with the simplicity of childhood. It loved in the desert with steadfast resolve. It loved in Galilee by healing the sick and forgiving the guilty. It loved in the Upper Room when it gave the Eucharist as the food of immortality. It loved on Calvary when each beat became agony. It loved in the tomb when the world thought hope extinguished. And it loves now from the throne of heaven with the same gentleness that once rested against the chest of the Virgin. To meditate upon this Heart is to meditate upon the mystery of God's very being.

To live June rightly is to allow our own hearts to be shaped by His, softened where they have hardened and ignited where they have grown cold. And to my brother Knights, this month calls us to a deeper consecration, a renewal of our mission in the fire of His love. Let us become men of reparation, offering prayer for the sins that wound this Heart. Let us become men of courage, defending truth with charity and serving others with compassion drawn from the Heart of Christ. Let us enthrone the Sacred Heart in our homes and councils, reminding all who enter that His love is the true foundation of our families, our parish, and our brotherhood. June is the month when heaven shows us the divine Heart that has forever beaten for humanity. Let us respond with fidelity, allowing our lives to become living offerings of love, mercy, and devotion to the One whose Heart has already conquered the world.

Ad Jesum per Mariam.

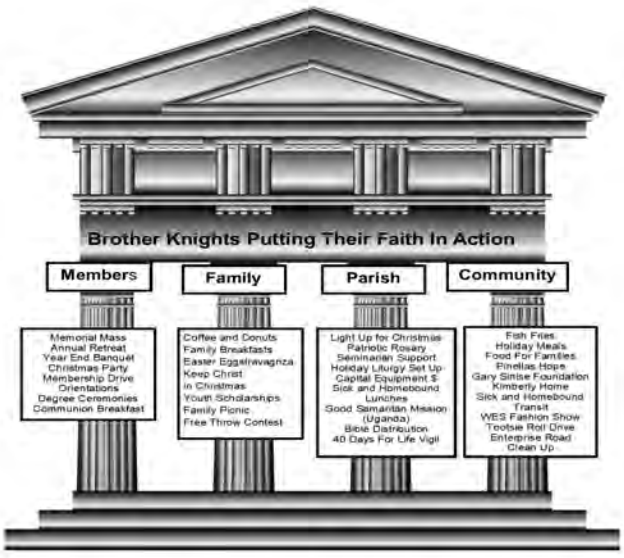




Jerry Custin
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Share Our Faith
The writer of this Psalm is not known. It is believed to have been written after the Babylonian exile, a time when Israel was re-establishing its identity and focusing on God's role as Creator. What we do know is this is a universal Psalm of praise, and that call to praise is not limited to humans, but it includes the entire created order. In other words, it's chaos, just like our fish fries. But the result is that we are sharing our faith with our brothers and sisters, our parish, and our broader community. Nothing is getting our way, not sea monsters, thunder and lightning, storm winds, or wild animals. We are all focused on one thing. Praising the Lord of the Universe. All hands on deck. A perfect Psalm for our highly engaged Council.

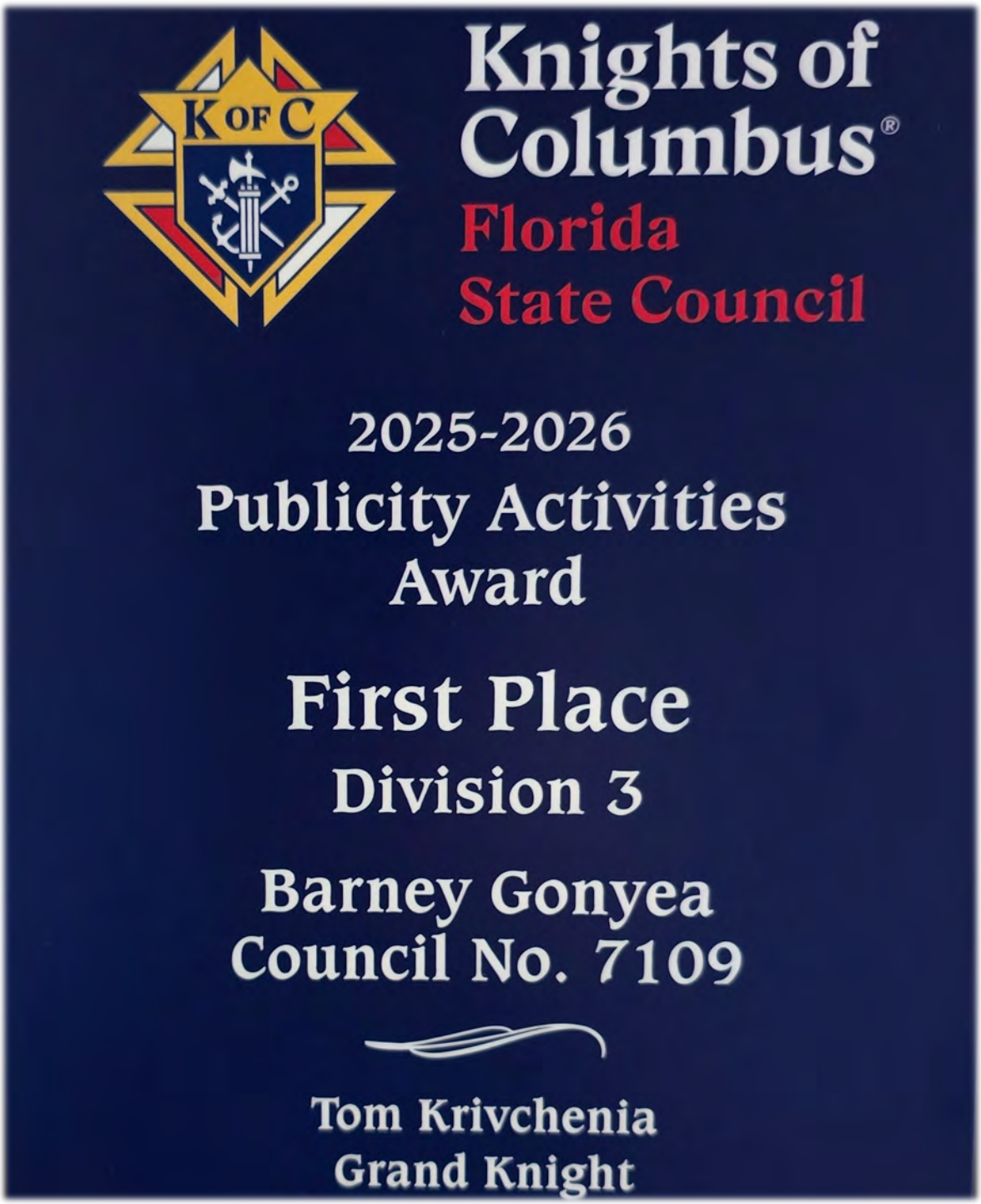


Psalm 148
Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you his angels; give praise, all you his hosts. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, you waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the L**ORD**'s name; for he commanded and they were created, assigned them their station forever, set an order that will never change. Praise the L**ORD** from the earth, you sea monsters and all the deeps of the sea; Lightning and hail, snow and thick clouds, storm wind that fulfills his command; Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Animals wild and tame, creatures that crawl and birds that fly; Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all who govern on earth; Young men and women too, old and young alike. Let them all praise the L**ORD**'s name, for his name alone is exalted, His majesty above earth and heaven. He has lifted high the horn of his people; to the praise of all his faithful, the Israelites, the people near to him. Hallelujah!

2026 Fish Fry FryDays



"The Shield" Recognition



In Memoriam

James Richard O'Neill
June 11, 1941 – May 11, 2026



James Richard O'Neill, age 84, of Safety Harbor, Florida passed away on Monday, May 11, 2026. James was born on June 11, 1941, in Buffalo, New York to Robert F. and Florence E. O'Neill.

Jim joined the Air Force in March 1960. During his time in the Air Force, he was competitive in Judo and swimming. While stationed at MacDill Air Force Base, he met his future wife, Sylvia, at the service club dances on base.

In 1964, after his time in the Air Force, Jim joined the Clearwater Police Department as a Patrolman. He retired as a Captain after a 22-year career. In April 1965, he married Sylvia Penzato. They were married 61 years and had two daughters: Karen and Sharon.

After retiring from the Clearwater Police Department, he joined the City of Safety Harbor as a Code Enforcement Officer where one of his responsibilities was to instruct city employees on safety in the workplace. He retired in June 2003 after 16 years.

During his tenure at Clearwater Police Department, he earned his associates degree from St. Petersburg Junior College, attended the FBI academy, and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He was awarded the Palmitier Award for assisting with an airplane crash, looking for survivors, and taking charge of the situation. He received several commendations for his alertness and dedication to duty, the apprehension of three burglary suspects, apprehension of car thieves, and rescuing 3 citizens from Tampa Bay in the face of heavy and dangerous seas after their boat capsized, averting a tragedy. He was an expert marksman and earned a spot in the Governor's 20.

He was a member of Espiritu Santo Catholic Church for over 60 years. During that time, he was active in the 3rd and 4th degree Knights of Columbus and at one time, held a seat on the parish council.

He was very active in both the City of Clearwater and the City of Safety Harbor communities. He was a mentor to many young men in the Police Athletic League and as a Boy Scout leader. He was a founding member of Paint Your Heart Out Safety Harbor and an active member of the Kiwanis Club for many years.

As a volunteer, he supported the Safety Harbor Library, Museum, Chamber of Commerce, Meals on Wheels, and coached his daughter's softball team.

As a veteran, he was a member of the American Legion and VFW.

He loved spending time with his family, playing cards, cruising, and traveling to the mountains. He was an avid reader, fisherman and hunter.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Sylvia O'Neill; their children, Karen Davis and Sharon O'Neill (Greg); their son-in-law James (PJ) Davis; grandson Austin (AJ) Davis (Venetia); three great grandchildren, Tyler, Keiden, and Rain; his sister Patricia Loretto (Robert); and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert F. and Florence E. O'Neill, and his brothers, Robert and Thomas.

Cremation has already taken place, and a Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at 11:00 am at Sylvan Abbey Funeral Home and Memorial Park, 2853 Sunset Point Rd, Clearwater FL, 33759. Visitation will commence at 11:00 am, service will be held from 12:00-1:00 pm, inurnment will be across the street in the Memorial Park at 1:00 pm with lunch immediately following at Sylvan Abbey Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Safety Harbor Library.



I Will Not Leave You Orphans

We have just completed the Easter Season—a liturgical season marked by a wide range of actions and feelings. We have the horror, grief, and despair of Christ's passion and death. Then the exultant joy and amazement of His resurrection and time back in our midst. He gives us commands to spread the word of His ministry throughout the earth. But then he tells us that He is not here to stay. This causes tremendous confusion and anxiety among His closest disciples and followers.

In John 14, during discourse at the Last Supper, **Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while, the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live.**

In John 15, Jesus gives the disciples their charge. **"You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends,* because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."**

These were indeed challenging and puzzling instructions, and the next day, they experienced the shock of Christ's capture, scourging at the pillar, crucifixion, and death. We know the rest of the story, including the arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. As Bishop Barron says, once the Spirit came, twelve largely uneducated and timorous men went forth to spread God's word.

We, as Catholics and Knights, have committed to that same mission of sharing our faith freely and openly. Infused with that same Spirit of God, we've structured our work around the pillars of unity, charity, fraternity, and patriotism. We certainly are not timid in implementing our mission. And, as Christ told us two thousand years ago, He has not left us orphans. We are filled with His grace and Spirit.

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From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

To the Heights Together

In an age of loneliness and isolation, authentic friendship and fraternity help men discover and live their God-given mission

One of the biggest problems of Blessed Michael McGivney's time was young men leaving the Catholic Church. He built our brotherhood, in part, to address that crisis, seeing that when Catholic men come together in fraternity, they can become who God made them to be.

This was one of Father McGivney's great insights - not only that men desire fellowship, but that they need it to find and fulfill their mission. This remains true today, yet we live in a time of isolation.

One man in particular puts a face on this crisis: Luigi Mangione. In December 2024, he allegedly killed UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson - taking another's life and ruining his own. Mangione is just 27 years old, and by all accounts had much going for him: academic success, opportunity, a Catholic upbringing. Yet something fundamental was missing.

In the aftermath of the murder, it became clear that Mangione was deeply isolated. He had cut off contact with friends and family. Alone with his thoughts, he turned toward a destructive end.

There are, of course, complex factors behind such a tragedy. But there is no question that a lack of real friendship made things worse. Mangione had no one to guide him.

Most disturbing of all, his story is not unique. It reflects a broader pattern among young people today - especially men.

A 2021 Harvard study found that 61% of 18- to 25-year-olds feel lonely most or all of the time. About one in four people under 30 report having no close friends. And over the last 35 years, the share of men who say they have no good friends has increased fivefold.

Catholics are not immune. In many of our parishes and schools, young men are searching - often in the wrong places - for purpose, identity and belonging.

But there is another young man who shows what is needed today: Pier Giorgio Frassati. Living in early 20th-century Italy, he took the opposite path from Mangione - a contrast that goes to the heart of what Father McGivney calls us to do.

Like Mangione, Frassati had much going for him - a good family, a strong education and an awareness of the challenges of his time. He refused to be indifferent to injustice and suffering, and he sought to take action. But while Mangione directed that drive toward evil, Frassati devoted himself to doing good.

Frassati's mission was to serve the poor. He gave them everything he had, including friendship, meeting them not as a volunteer but as a friend. He died at just 24, after contracting polio from those he served and loved.

What Mangione lacked, Frassati had: a strong Christian community. He surrounded himself with friends he called "precious guides," who helped him discover the mission God had chosen for him. Canonized last year by Pope Leo XIV, he remains a powerful witness today.

Frassati famously wrote on a photograph of himself climbing a mountain, *"Verso l'alto"* - "To the heights." And that is where he went. With the help of his friends, he continually sought God's will and, by his grace, climbed to the heights of heaven.

Father McGivney founded our Order to help us follow that same path. He built this brotherhood so that we could be guides for one another. This is what Blessed Michael McGivney calls us to in this time of isolation: to provide the friendship Catholic men need to find their mission.

We were never meant to go it alone. God created us for communion - with one another and with him. And his plan is that we follow that path together, so that we may climb "to the heights" in this life and the next.

Vivat Jesus

From the Florida State Council Chamber…

A Job Well Done

Brothers, there are moments in our journey when we pause - not to rest, but to recognize the grace of God moving through the work of our hands. This is one of those moments.

As of May 1, the Florida State Council has reached its Circle of Honor membership requirement. What a tremendous accomplishment. What a powerful testament to your dedication, your sacrifice, and your unwavering commitment to the mission entrusted to us. Simply put - well done.

And yet, even in celebration, we remain grounded in who we are and why we serve.

We are not an organization that exists to meet quotas or check boxes. We are Catholic men called to action. We are men of faith, men of charity, men of fraternity. Every number we report represents a soul. Every new member represents a man who has heard something stirring in his heart and responded to that call. That is the true meaning behind this achievement.

So yes, we celebrate. But we do so with humility, knowing that the work is not finished.

Our fraternal year does not end until June 30. That means there are still weeks ahead - weeks filled with opportunity, with purpose, and with responsibility. Because the truth is this: there are still countless men out there searching. Searching for brotherhood. Searching for meaning. Searching for a place where they can live their faith more fully and serve something greater than themselves.

We have what they are searching for

We have the gift of the Knights of Columbus - a gift given to us through the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney, a priest who saw the needs of his people and responded with courage and faith. That same call echoes today. It echoes in our parishes, in our communities, and in the quiet hearts of men who are waiting - perhaps without even realizing it - for someone to invite them.

That someone is us

Each of us has a responsibility, not born out of obligation, but out of love. Love for our faith. Love for our families. Love for our brothers. And love for those who have yet to join us.

There is a certain joy that comes from inviting a man into this Order. Not because we are growing our numbers, but because we are changing lives. We are giving a man a path - a way to deepen his faith, to serve his community, to stand shoulder to shoulder with other men striving to be better husbands, better fathers, better disciples of Christ.

Think about the moment you joined. Think about what the Knights have meant to you. The friendships. The service. The faith. The sense of belonging. Now imagine that same gift waiting for someone else - waiting for you to extend the invitation.

This is where our work continues

We cannot become complacent because a goal has been reached. We cannot slow down when there is still so much good to be done. If anything, this accomplishment should ignite us. It should inspire us to go further, to reach higher, to bring even more men into this brotherhood.

Because the mission has never been about doing just enough. The mission is about doing everything we can for the glory of God.

Continued next page…

A Job Well Done

…continued from previous page

In these remaining weeks of the fraternal year, I ask you to reflect on that mission. Look around your parish. Look at the men sitting beside you at Mass. Look at your friends, your neighbors, your coworkers. There are men there who are waiting. They may not say it out loud, but they are searching for purpose, for direction, for something more.

We have the answer
But an answer unspoken is an opportunity missed.

So let us go forward with renewed energy. Let us go forward with courage. Let us go forward with the joy that comes from knowing we are part of something truly meaningful.

Let us be bold in our invitations, but always gentle in our approach. Let us be proud of who we are but always humble in how we serve. Let us be persistent, not for our own recognition, but for the sake of the men who have yet to hear the call.

And above all, let us keep Christ at the center of everything we do.

Because it is not through our own strength that we achieve anything. It is through Him. It is through His grace that we have reached this moment, and it is through His guidance that we will continue forward.

Brothers, thank you
Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for your faith. Thank you for your willingness to serve. You have done something extraordinary, and you should take pride in that - but never lose sight of the greater purpose.

There is still work to be done.
There are still souls to reach.
There are still lives to change.

And together, with God's grace, we will continue this mission - not just until June 30, but for as long as we are called to serve.

Proposed Council Officer Slate Fraternal Year 2026-2027

• Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN
• Deputy Grand Knight	Edward Amador
• Chancellor	George Inderwies
• Recorder	Bill Krajeski
• Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
• Advocate	Richard Resler
• Warden	Jim Lankford
• Inside Guard	Paul Cooper
• Outside Guard	Mark Peterman, PFN
• Guard Alternate	Vincent Cristiano
• Trustee Three Year	Gene Jajuga, PGK, PFN
• Trustee Two Year	JJ Coyne, PGK, PFN
• Trustee One Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN
• Special Asst to Council	Gary Murphy
• Special Asst to Council	Jacob Bandy
• Chaplain (*appointed*)	Fr Michael Cooper, SJ
• Financial Secretary (*appointed*)	Tom Harkins
• Lecturer (*appointed*)	Paul Harvey, PFN

Assembly Officers 2025-2026

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Faithful Friar	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Faithful Captain	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
Faithful Admiral	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Pilot	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen	727.792.4471
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano	727.725.5647
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Trustee Three Year	Wally Vazquez, PFN	727.542.5376
Trustee Two Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Trustee One Year	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727.871.6506
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.

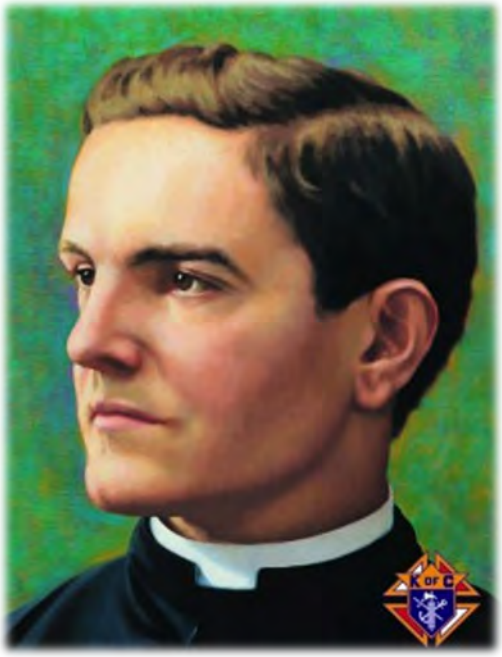
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

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…

June 2026

- 06/07 | Sun 9:00a — Corporate Communion Mass
- 06/07 | Sun 10:30a — Corporate Communion Breakfast – Lucky Dill
- 06/11 | Thu 6:15p — Rosary
- 06/11 | Thu 7:00p — Council 7109 Meeting
- 0614 | Sun 7:00a — Coffee & Donuts
- 06/17 | Wed 7:00p — KofC Informational Open House
- 06/18 | Thu 8:00a — Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 06/18 | Thu 7:00p — Unified Degree Exemplification
- 06/20 | Sat 8:00a — Kimberly Home WorkDay

Assembly Calendar of Events…

June 2026

- 06/25 | Thu 7:00p — Monthly Meeting
- 06/27 | Sat 9:30a — Patriotic Exemplification
  St Bonaventure CC
  Davie, FL 33325
- 07/23 | Thu 7:00p — Monthly Meeting – Installation Ceremony

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Knights of Columbus

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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.

