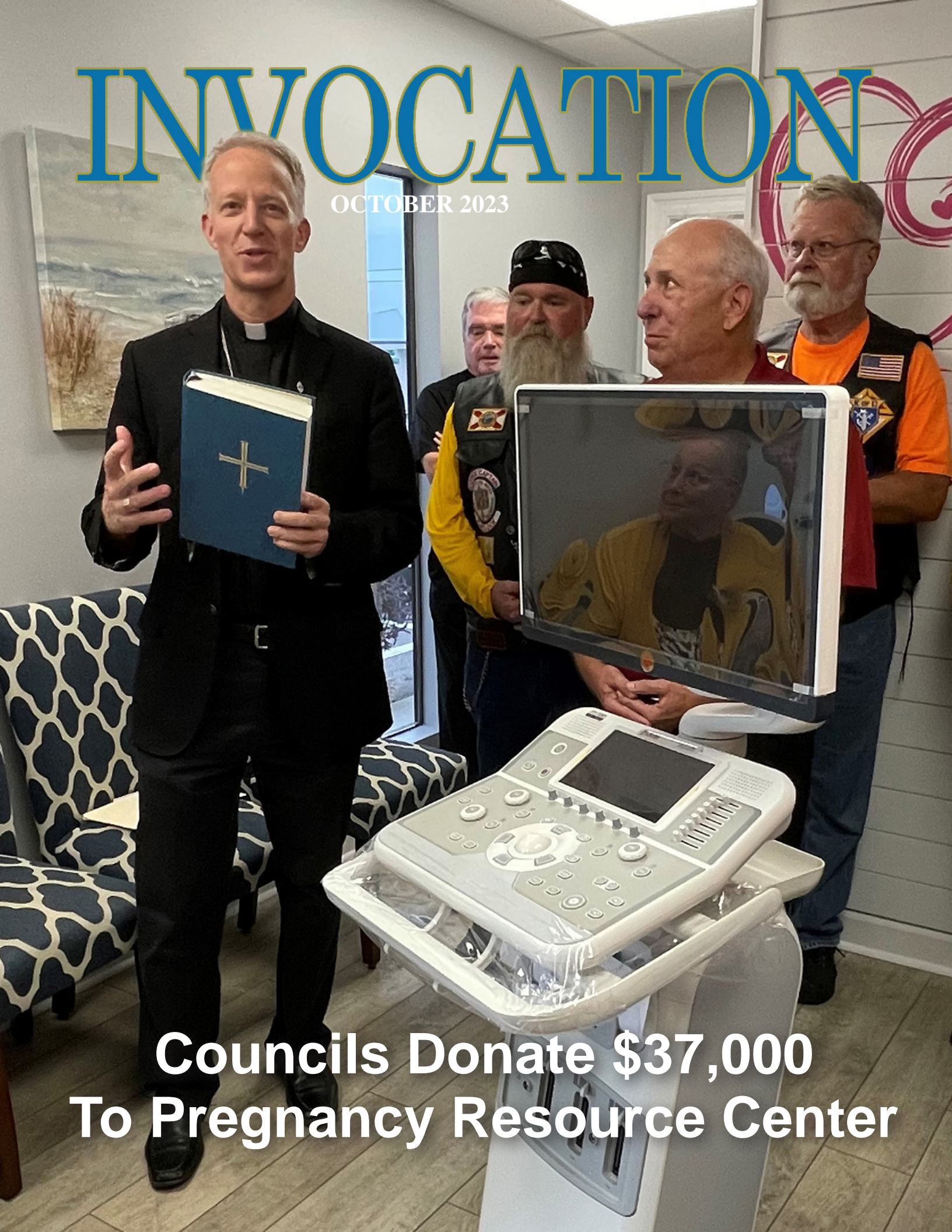


INVOCATION

OCTOBER 2023



**Councils Donate \$37,000
To Pregnancy Resource Center**

Councils Raise Funds For Ultrasound Machine



Representatives from three Florida Panhandle KofC Councils and the Florida Knights on Bikes recently joined Bishop William Wack of the Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese in presenting a check for \$37,000 to Pati Adams, Executive Director of the Pregnancy Resource Center in Panama City. The funds will be used to purchase a desperately needed ultrasound machine.

When District 6 Deputy Dr. Dennis Dillschneider learned that the center's ultrasound machine was badly in need of repair and needed to be replaced, he reached out to Councils 3599 (Father Joseph M. Baker of Panama City), 11850 (Father Brandon Heaslip of Panama City Beach) and 17689 (St. Rita of Santa Rosa Beach). The

councils initially agreed to donate \$5,000 each to cover the 50-percent required by Supreme for matching funds.

With the Pregnancy Resource Center board receptive to the KofC fundraising, DD Dillenschneider completed the request for an ultrasound diocesan evaluation to be conducted and submitted the form to Aida Bone the Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese Culture of Life Director. A site visit was conducted on June 7, the funds authorized and the form was submitted to the State Deputy. With the Supreme Convention held in Orlando, the application went through the system in expedited fashion and was approved during the convention.

Dr. Dillenschneider, joined by Bishop Wack,

representatives from the three councils and the Florida Knights on Bikes, presented the check on Oct. 6.

“Let us then bless God, as we use this new ultrasound for the good of all life, especially for those not yet born,” Bishop Wack said as he provided a Blessing of Technology over the new machine.

Executive Director Adams said this gives expecting mothers the most information to help

them make important life and health decisions. She said expecting fathers benefit from it too.

“I saw one guy dancing in the parking lot with the ultrasound picture in his hand and he was just dancing and dancing and I just, I almost started crying,” Adams said. “I’m like ‘It takes two to make that baby and it takes two to raise that child’. So I’m thankful God has placed us all here to do the work that he wants us to do.”

Council Supports Kids with Autism



In support of a cry for help from Brother Knight John Dimolfetto and the Dimofetto family, Grand Knight Robert Consolo and two members of St. Cloud/Kissimmee Council 6624 presented tablets to Kids with Autism at the Lakeview Elementary School Special Education Class for Autism. The tablets will help the students with Autism learn and keep up with their studies

Afterwards, both the Dimolfetto family and teachers at the school expressed their gratitude for the generous donation from the Council. Grand Knight Consolo replied, "We are always here when there is a need to support our Brother Knights and the local community."

Strengthening Our Member's Faith

By State Deputy Richard Hughes

The State Membership Director and I have met with the leadership of many Councils over the past few months in our Spirit of Unity Tour. It has been enlightening for me and, I hope, for those who attended the meetings.

It is very important that we all understand our mission and the goals that the Supreme Knight has given us and strive to meet those goals to the best of our ability, in the Spirit of the Principle of Unity. Always keep in mind that our activities are grounded in our faith and in the Principles of the Order. Each of us must take the time to strengthen our faith—through prayer, attendance at Mass, and Eucharistic Adoration.

The Cor initiative is a great way for your Council to strengthen the faith of its members and help your pastor with the spiritual development of the men of your parish.

Every year, we put out an appeal to all Knights of Columbus in Florida for our State Charities Funds administered by Florida K of C Charities for Vocations, Helping Life, and Special Olympics. This year, we will not be mailing our individual appeals due to the cost. We are asking every Knight to consider donating online at <https://donate.floridakofccharities.org/> or by clicking the red Donate button on the State website. 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 another expression of the Spirit of Unity here in Florida.

We had a very good First Quarter of the Fraternal Year! The scope of service activities and charitable works undertaken by Councils has been phenomenal, and I know that much more is planned in the months ahead. As well, our membership recruitment in Florida has been strong, and across the Order, this has been the best start in forty years! More and more men are joining the Knights

of Columbus because of your visibility in the Cor initiative and other faith formation activities, as well as your service to your parish and your communities. Twelve Councils have already reached their membership goals for the year, and 26 are more than halfway there!



*State Deputy
Richard Hughes*

On the other hand, 155 of our Active Councils have not yet recruited any members. The Second Quarter of the Fraternal Year is not only a very busy time for activities and charitable work but is also a prime opportunity to bring new Catholic men into our Order. Hopefully, each Council has established their membership recruitment plan and is actively putting it into place. Please integrate membership recruitment into everything you do as a Council.

Finally, Supreme is providing a unique opportunity for all Knights and prospective members—a webinar entitled “Aligning Financial Decisions with your Catholic Values”, which will be given by Anthony Minopoli, the Chief Investment Officer of Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors. The webinar will take place on October 26, 2023 at 7:30 PM EDT, and will count towards your Council’s Fraternal Benefit Night requirement. I encourage all Knights to attend.

Keep up the great work supporting our parishes and our communities! Remember that Star Council + Faith Formation = a Successful Council.



The Rosary, Respecting Life, and a Priestly Thanksgiving

By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor

October is both Respect Life Month and the month of the Rosary. They go well hand in hand. The Rosary is a powerful prayer invoking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. It's probably the most popular private devotion in the Church.

Having courageously carried the Savior of the world in her womb, who better than Mary to help us protect life and assist expectant mothers and their vulnerable children. Many of those who pray the Rosary find the practice both rhythmic and comforting. In times of peril, like Mary experienced first-hand in her flight to Egypt with St. Joseph and the baby Jesus, the Rosary calms us like a mother's lullaby soothes an infant.

The Rosary helped me on my path to priesthood. As I celebrate the 25th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood this month, the Rosary first received for my First Communion and learned as a young boy continues to have a special place in my life. As a young businessman in upstate New York, I returned to the practice of praying it as I discerned a call to priesthood. The radio, so much a part of my life as a broadcaster and partner in a radio syndication and production company, was silenced in my car in favor of praying the Rosary on my commute to the office. It led me closer to Christ. That's what Mary does. Soon, doors were opening and closing, allowing me to transition to seminary.

The past 25 years have been tremendously graced. Time as a Parochial Vicar, Vocation Director, Navy Chaplain, Pastor, and Knights of Columbus Chaplain have brought countless blessings. Mary's yes to God is a reminder that

it's fine to step forward in faith even when we don't have all the answers. Prayers to her will help us navigate those times. Please pray for me and all priests, especially the chaplains of our Order, that we will continually hear God's call, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and, like Mary, bring others to Christ.

Knights are also called by God in special ways. Now is a great time for each of us to be attentive to the still, small voice of God. October brings increased activity to most parts of our state. Seasonal residents return. Traffic gets heavier. Restaurants fill. Churches enjoy an increase of the faithful in the pews. Parish programs gear up. Knights council meetings draw larger numbers. Our programs and activities grow.

This month is an annual pivot point to the most vibrant period of the year in many places. How will we welcome it with enthusiasm and hope? How can we as Knights see it as an opportunity? I suggest we contact brother Knights who have not been as active in recent years and encourage them to return. Look for new and unfamiliar faces at church to welcome and invite to be Knights. And let's pray for one another, that under the maternal care of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we will grow as faithful disciples and exemplary Knights. Vivat Jesus!



*State Chaplain
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*



Under The Mantle Of Mary

By Former State Chaplain Reverend Salvatore Pignato

On October 1st, the Eastern Church celebrated the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God. The marauders were trying to enter Constantinople to take it over, and the people of the town were praying in the church for protection. Leaving early in the morning from the church, the people saw Mary, the Theotokos above them, on the dome of the Church extending a mantle. The people gathered under the mantle, and the town was saved.

The operative word of this Feast is the word "protection." If we fast forward in time, how does the word protection apply to us today and

in real time? First, we have to understand its application to Theotokos. On the Cross, Jesus said to His mother, referring to St. John, "Woman, behold thy son." In that moment, Jesus not only made his Mother the mother of St. John, but He made Mary our mother, as Scripture and Maryology tell us. What, then, is the essence of a



*Former State Chaplain
Rev. Salvatore Pignato*

mother? It is to protect her children.

In being made children of God by baptism and relying on Mary, our mother, she passes on to us that very same mantle she held over the people in Constantinople. Our baptismal mission is not only to evangelize the Name of Jesus when Jesus says "go teach all nations" but united with Mary, and holding out that mantle, we are the protectors of the Church, so that, along with the apostles, the Saints and the body of Christ, we build up the Church and protect it against the gates of hell.

Mary, the Theotokos, is a major person in the plan of salvation history. Let us stay close to her. Let us follow her example of missionary spirit, holding out the mantle she gave us in baptism and especially Chrismation/Confirmation that others who are alone, suffering, or looking for God can rest and find peace under that mantle.



Attracting Young Adult Catholic Men

by State Treasurer Joseph Coicou

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization deeply committed to serving the Church, community, and fellow members. As the organization continues to thrive and contribute to society, engaging and attracting young adult Catholic men to join its ranks becomes increasingly essential. This article explores practical strategies for appealing to young adults and encouraging active participation in the Knights of Columbus.

Understanding the Modern Young Adult

To attract young adult Catholic men, it's crucial to understand their values, aspirations, and challenges. This generation seeks meaningful engagement and desires to positively impact society. They value authenticity, social responsibility, and community involvement. By aligning the Knights of Columbus with these values, the organization can effectively resonate with young adults and encourage participation.

Embrace Technological Advancements

Young adults are digital natives accustomed to the convenience of technology. Leveraging social media platforms, creating interactive websites, and developing engaging mobile apps can enhance communication and engagement. Sharing inspiring stories, service opportunities, and member testimonials through digital channels can showcase the Knights of Columbus as a vibrant and relevant community.

Highlight Service and Social Responsibility

Position the Knights of Columbus as a platform for young adult Catholic men to contribute to their communities actively. Emphasize service projects that resonate with their passions, such as volunteering at local shelters, organizing charitable events, or engaging in environmental initiatives. Demonstrating the organization's commitment

to social responsibility can attract individuals seeking avenues to create a positive impact.

Foster Authentic Relationships

Young adults value genuine connections. Provide opportunities for them to build relationships and friendships within the organization. Organize social events, workshops, and discussion groups that encourage open conversations about faith, values, and personal growth. Creating a supportive network can help young men feel a sense of belonging and purpose within the Knights of Columbus.

Showcase Personal and Spiritual Growth

Highlight the Knights of Columbus as a space for young men to deepen their faith and experience personal growth. Councils can utilize Supreme Cor's faith formation program in their council activities. Offer mentorship programs that connect experienced members with newcomers, providing guidance and support. Organize retreats, workshops, and discussions centered around faith, leadership, and moral values, fostering an environment conducive to spiritual development.

Modernize Traditional Elements

While the Knights of Columbus has a rich history, adapting certain traditions to align with modern sensibilities can make the organization more appealing to young adults. Incorporate contemporary elements into meetings, ceremonies, and events to bridge the gap between tradition and relevance for younger generations.

Provide Leadership Opportunities

Young adults are eager to develop leadership skills and take on responsibilities. Offer opportunities for them to lead service projects, coordinate events, and contribute ideas. Empowering young men to take ownership within

the organization benefits the Knights of Columbus and fosters personal growth and leadership development.

Offer Flexibility

Young adults often have busy schedules due to work, education, and personal commitments. Provide flexible meeting times and virtual participation options to accommodate their needs. By removing barriers to involvement, you can make it easier for them to engage actively with the Knights of Columbus.

Conclusion

Attracting young adult Catholic men to join the Knights of Columbus requires a thoughtful approach that aligns with their values, aspirations,

and needs. The organization can effectively engage this demographic by embracing technology, promoting service and social responsibility, fostering authentic relationships, showcasing personal and spiritual growth, modernizing traditions, providing leadership opportunities, and offering flexibility. As the Knights of Columbus continues to evolve, bridging the gap between tradition and modernity is essential to ensure a vibrant and impactful future.



Our Lady of Hope Council 8086 of Port Orange recently made two donations to local women’s centers as part of the Knights’ ASAP (Aid and Support after Pregnancy) initiative. Grand Knight Roger Packard and SK Paul McNamara presented Paula and Nancy Sanchez of the Resources for Women of Daytona Beach with a check for \$400, and joined Program Director SK Tim Mell in giving the Pregnancy Crisis Center of Daytona Beach a check for \$300.



RSVP is a recent initiative of the Knights of Columbus. In its first year, the program exceeded its goal by raising \$6 million to support women who carried their child to term. Council 8086 is the host council for Terry Cassidy Memorial Coastal Laps for Life, which has placed nine ultrasound machines in Northeast Florida over the past seven years. The eighth annual event will be held on Saturday, March 23, at Father Lopez Catholic High School in Daytona Beach.

Donation to Divine Mercy House

St. Johns River Council 10850 recently used proceeds from a spaghetti dinner to present a \$2,000 check to the Mandarin Divine Mercy House. Grand Knight Steve Roadruck and Harry Kimball made the presentation on Tuesday, Oct. 3, to Amy Woodward, director of the center.

Divine Mercy House (DMH) is a Christian maternity home for women ages 18 to 28 facing a crisis pregnancy, with little to no help available to them, and who courageously choose life for their unborn babies. Open to women of all faiths, they provide a loving and nurturing environment to meet the physical, spiritual, emotional, and educational needs of each mother and her child. Since its inception in 1996, DMH has served over 100 women, averaging 6-10 per year. Whether a woman decides to parent or place the baby for adoption, all expectant mothers in our residential program receive holistic care and support throughout pregnancy and beyond.

Council 10850 in Jacksonville, Florida is one of 17,000 Knights of Columbus Councils that make up the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded in 1882 to assist working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States, today the approximately two million members of the Knights put their faith into action



through a broad range of charitable causes locally, nationally and internationally with financial contributions and hands-on service. Based on the founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the Order remains committed to strengthening Catholic families and parishes and to practicing faith in action through service to all in need.

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney

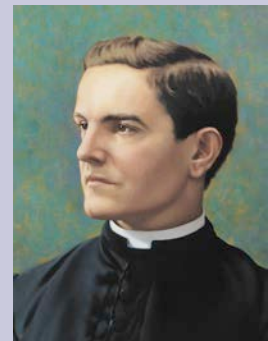
God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor.

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 your venerable servant Blessed Michael J. 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.



St. Brendan Living Rosary

Seven members of the Volusia-Flagler Fourth Degree Color Corps led the procession for the annual Living Rosary at St. Brendan's Catholic School in Ormond Beach.

Students from all eight grades participated. The younger classes provided posters to represent each of the Luminous Mysteries, while the older grades wore color-coded shirts for each decade. Eighth-grade students led the praying of the Rosary.

SK Mike Worley of Bishop Thomas J. Grady Assembly 2901 of Ormond Beach served as Color Corps Commander, joined by Sir Knights from Our Lady of Hope Assembly 2794 of Port Orange and Corpus Christi Assembly 2801 of Santa Maria del Mar in Flagler Beach.



As usual, the students were impressed with the regalia of the Color Corps – asking many questions about the swords!

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

He said to them, “Whose image is this and whose inscription?” They replied, “Caesar’s.” At that he said to them, “Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” (Gospel for Oct. 22, Mt 22:20-21)

Above all things, we have a duty to do as Christ enjoined us and give “to God what belongs to God.” However, Catholics also have a moral duty to be good citizens and take part in their communities. As good citizens, we must work peacefully to ensure our laws are just. Let us never approve or ignore injustice in our societies, especially when human life or dignity is at stake.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to make some specific effort to defend human life in your nation

or your community — whether through charitable work, writing a letter, or praying outside an abortion facility. Second, I challenge you to participate in the Faith in Action Novena for Life program.

Questions for Reflection:

Have you become complacent about defending human life? Do you recognize the tragedy of legal abortion, but fail to do much about it? Do you remember in prayer those whose lives and dignity are compromised by unfortunate circumstances or the oppression of bad laws?

Councils Hosts Clergy Appreciation Dinner



(Honoree's Name) For Sharing His Biblical Compass, K of C Council 13341. Additional special recognition goes to of Chairman Vinnie Cipriano, Mike Chapman, Gordon Shellhaas, Mat Congemi, and Gene Dolecki.

Set-Up, Clean-Up and Tear-Down were executed by 30 Knights and five members of their families. Event planning and execution

required 90 Man-Hours. The Dinner was catered by Stuffed Mushroom.

On the immediately following day, Father William celebrated a Corporate Mass in honor of Bl. Fr. Michael McGivney, delivering an excellent McGivney-appropriate homily. The Color Corps, including Sir Knights Mark O'Brien (FN), Bob Hellner, Vinnie Cipriano and Carmine Maida, provided solemn escort. A coffee and donuts social, staffed by Knights Wives, followed the Mass in the Parish Center.

St. Cosmas and Damian Council 13341 celebrated the feast day of Blessed Michael McGivney by hosting a clergy appreciation dinner at Our Lady of the Angels Parish in Lakewood Ranch.

Clergy Honorees included Fathers Sebastian Szczawinski, Shawn Roser, William Sanderson, Monsignor Joe Stearns, and Deacons Jack Milholland, Tom Harenchar, Bill Hickey, and John Schaefer. Bishop Frank Dewane was also recognized for his contributions to, and leadership of, the Diocese of Venice in Florida. He led recitation of Grace prior to dinner, which was attended by more than 200 Knights and parishioners.

Grand Knight Jerry Graceffo was Master of Ceremonies and delivered impressive biographies for each of the Honorees. He then presented each with a gift from Council 13341: double-gimbaled compasses mounted in wooden enclosures with engraved brass plates indicating Celebrating



Honoring Martyred Mexican Priests

St. Ann Catholic Church in Haines City recently paid tribute to the six Mexican martyrs of the 1920s – Catholic Priests who were also members of the Knights of Columbus.

The Fourth Degree Color Corps led a procession which featured a reliquary, a silver cross with bone chips of the six martyrs which was a gift of the Mexican Knights to the Supreme Council in 2002. Florida District Master John O’Toole and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Assembly 3200 Color Corps Commander Robert Higgins led the procession. The martyred Priests/ Knights were Sts. Luis Batiz Sainz, Mateo Correa Magallanes, Miguel de la Mora de la Mora, Jose Maria Robles Hurtado, Pedro de Jesus Maldonado Lucero and Rodrigo Aguilar Alemán

Following the ceremony was a presentation of the film For Greater Glory, a documentary exploring the untold story of the Cristero revolt against the repressive government of Mexican President Plutarco.

In the early 20th century, the Mexican government began a widespread persecution of Catholics. In 1926, priests, missionaries, and members of religious orders were expelled from the country. Ignoring the right to religious freedom, the government under President Plutarco Elías Calles took control of churches, seminaries, convents, and schools, thereby beginning the campaign to do away with all of the “fanatics” who professed their Catholic faith.

In the face of violence and persecution, more than a million Mexicans migrated to the United States seeking refuge; others spontaneously organized to defend themselves against government oppression, some peacefully and others taking up arms under the banner of “Cristo Rey” (“Christ the King”). This was the beginning of what became known as the Cristiada or Cristero



War. For three years (1926-1929), the Mexican people lived through violent persecution, in which priests and laypeople were ordered to renounce Christ in public. Refusing to do so meant facing punishment, torture, and death. Thousands of Mexican Catholics gave witness to their faith or fought to defend it. In many cases, they paid for it with their lives. Their acts of love and bravery have echoed throughout the decades; we remember their testimony today.

New Location For Fourth Degree

The Florida Fourth Degree will continue a Thanksgiving Weekend tradition by holding an Exemplification in the Orlando area at a new location: Resurrection Catholic Church, 1211 Winter Garden Vineland Road, Winter Garden, FL.

The ceremony will begin at noon on Saturday, Nov. 25. The event also includes a banquet following the ceremony; Vigil Mass; Ladies Tea; and Patriotic Rosary.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with Mass at 10 a.m. The Exemplification begins at noon. There will be the recitation of the Patriotic Rosary in the anteroom to get candidates into the proper frame of mind for the Patriotic Degree. There will also be a Ladies Tea at noon, with a Banquet following the Exemplification at 3 p.m.

The event honoree is SK Robert S. Urrutia of Davenport, the Immediate Past State Deputy and a member of the Florida Exemplification Team.

The candidate fee is \$70 (includes banquet). The fee for a Priest is \$35. Spouse and guests (\$45 for banquet, \$10 for ladies' tea), \$45 for Sir Knights attending banquet. The deadline is Wednesday, November 15. Candidates should turn in their checks to their Assembly Faithful Comptroller, who will then make out one Assembly check payable to John J. O'Toole, Master. The check and appropriate paperwork should be sent to Master

John J. O'Toole, 9686 SW 92 Place Road, Ocala 34481.

Assemblies will be required to send in a downloaded copy of the registration form (please do not write on the original), degree certificate, signed dress code letter, signed Form 4 (all four copies for each candidate) and check by Wednesday, November 16. Forms are available on the Florida State website. The Fourth Degree Certificates are available on kofc.org. Please do not send the certificate holder.

Please note the dress code for the exemplification. While tuxedos are no longer mandatory, candidates must wear a dark suit (not brown!) and black dress shoes. Candidates are encouraged to write the number of their new assembly on the back of their KofC membership card.

Everyone is invited to support our Candidates and Honoree by purchasing an ad in the Exemplification program. The cost of a full-page ad is only \$250, and will include your Assembly or Council name, number, current officers, and your message. We will have pre-made pages for your convenience. Half-page ads cost \$150. The deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 15.

For more information go to: Fourth Degree floridakofc.org



Our Lady Queen of Peace, Knights of Columbus Council 11680 recently assisted Feeding Tampa Bay and St. Vincent DePaul distribute over 80 boxes of food and cases of water to local West Pasco families impacted by Hurricane Idalia. On Thursday, September 4th, Feeding Tampa Bay in cooperation with Our Lady Queen of Peace St. Vincent DePaul utilized the Our Lady Queen of Peace Church parking lot as a staging area for food and water distribution for individuals and families in need of basic food stuffs.

"We are most grateful for our continued partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay," said Vera Koenke, St Vincent DePaul Administrator, "for making boxes of food and water available at this particular time to those most in need." Ms. Koenke also added, "We deeply appreciate the work that our Knights of Columbus do on a regular basis to help us fulfill our ministry."

Embracing COR Ministry



Newly elected Florida State Deputy Rick Hughes found a receptive audience when he talked about KofC's new COR ministry at the opening of his Spirit of Unity tour at the Our Lady of Hope Parish Center in Port Orange on July 8. The program was introduced to the State leadership at the annual convention in May, with its importance further explained at the State Organizational Meeting in Orlando in late June by Hughes and state program administrator Deacon Paul Kippie.

Immediately following the Unity meeting, Council 8086 Deputy Grand Knight Dr. Ernie Jackson challenged the three councils in District 20 to embrace the COR initiative, and Father Lopez Catholic High School Theology teacher SK Mike Godbout drafted a 12-month plan for the instructional component of the meetings.

Representatives from Our Lady of Hope Council 8086 (GK Roger Packard), Father Downey Council 4934 of New Smyrna Beach (GK Leo Decker) and Church of the Epiphany Council 12569 of Port Orange (GK Robert Reideman) met one week later, and solidified plans for a year-long series of meetings alternating at the host parishes.

Epiphany hosted the first District 20 COR

meeting on Wednesday, August 16, with 46 Brother Knights in attendance – equally spread out among the three councils. The theme of the hour-long meeting was Christ at the Center: Why we do what we do! The program opened with a decade of the Rosary. Godbout then led a spirited discussion of how the Passover meal was climaxed by the Crucifixion. Knights were given small cups of wine and pieces of pita bread to enhance the experience. The meeting ended with time for fraternization, with Knights from the participating Councils mingling while enjoying 15 trays of pizza and two coolers filled with cold beverages.

Sacred Heart hosted the COR group on Wednesday, Sept. 20, with the topic Faith without works is dead: Piety, study, action. Again, 43 men attended – with double-digit showings from all three councils -- with the one non-Knight in attendance filling out a Form 100 at the end of the meeting.

The next meeting is set for Our Lady of Hope's Parish Hall on Oct. 18, focusing on the Good News of the Gospels. Future meetings will alternate on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. COR is open to Catholic men over 18, with the December and April meetings open to their

families. Programs and lessons for year two will build on the success of year one. District Deputies and representatives of nearby councils have been invited to D20 COR meetings to assist with their COR programs. Knights are encouraged to bring their bible and rosary.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly stressed the importance of COR early in his opening address at the Supreme Convention in Orlando, calling it “A game changer.” The Convention later mentioned that Pope Francis mentioned COR by name during one of his recent homilies at the Vatican.



Vazquez Wins Vet Citizenship Award

SK Tito Vazquez was recently honored as the winner of the 2023 Alachua County Veteran Citizenship Award. Tito is a retired army Chief Warrant Officer Four who exemplifies what true service is to our Gainesville community. He serves our community daily through five different organizations: US Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement, Knights of Columbus, Special Olympics, Queen of Peace Catholic Academy, and Ironwood Golf Course. He does all this wonderful service in our community while also being the main caregiver for his mother who has advanced Alzheimer’s.



In his role at the VA, Tito helped start the golf cart program that involves driving a golf cart picking up Veteran patients and taking them to the medical facility for their appointments and back to their vehicles when they are finished. This program is very beneficial for our Veterans and their accompanying family members, especially those who have difficulty walking.

In his role with the Knights of Columbus, Tito has held several officer positions and currently is

the Grand Knight of the Queen of Peace Council 11448 and is a member of Father Paul V. Donnelly Assembly 1817.

He also coaches’ volleyball at Queen of Peace Catholic Academy which is a serious commitment of time in providing instruction to volleyball student-athletes on the fundamentals, details, and strategies of volleyball. In this role Tito also encourages and promotes academic excellence in volleyball student-athletes, provides leadership that promotes positive attitudes and good sportsmanship, and plans and directs a recruiting

program for volleyball student-athletes. And of course, his team wins often!

Tito has been a Special Olympics volunteer coach for several years. He coaches track & field and golf for the Special Olympics. There are over 40 Track and Field events that Special Olympics participants can compete in, and Tito helps with all of them. He also coaches golf for the Special Olympics which requires a lot of patience, compassion, understanding and at times a sense of humor.

On Wednesdays, he can be found at Ironwood Golf Course where he is a volunteer golf course ranger. In this role he oversees the operation of the golf course. He patrols the course and driving range, ensuring golfers follow the course's rules

and regulations, and play etiquette. At times he serves as a liaison between players, employees, and management along with communicating feedback between golfers and other staff. He also makes sure supplies, including flags, water bottles, and cups, are always available for players.

Tito does all of the above on a daily and weekly basis while also being the main caregiver for his mother with advanced Alzheimer's.

Tito Vazquez is a dedicated Veteran who makes an enormous positive impact in our community. He is a true servant leader in Alachua County. He can do so much for our community because he doesn't worry about who gets credit, therefore he can accomplish anything.



Council 10514 members showing their support for Right To Life and the end of abortions.

INVOCATION

Knights of Columbus Florida State Council Newsletter How To Write an Article

Newsworthy • Broad Appeal • Concise • Complete • Factual • Accurate
Answers the Questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why & How

INVOCATION reports on local council activities throughout the entire State of Florida

- Article size: **300 words** ideal (half page) to 500-600 words max (full page)
- Articles submitted as an attachment in Word format - not in the body of an email
 - PDF submissions are for ads or promotions - not articles
- Pictures need to be sent separately as an attachment and the original pictures **Please do not format them in any way, we will do it--** not embedded in a Word document
- **Articles need to be brief, highly relevant and actionable**
- **At a minimum, Who, What, When and Where needs to be in the first paragraph,**
- Articles need to be brief, to-the-point and **of interest** to the entire State Council
 - What is the event/activity about?
 - Whom did it benefit?
 - What was the result?
 - Who are the key players/Knights?
- **Similar story** submissions will be consolidated/batched into one article by the Editors
- Authors must submit on time per the Editor production calendar- **Deadline 1st of each month**
 - Late submittals will be placed farther down the newsletter or not published.
- Proof your article carefully for spelling and grammar before sending (**use spellcheck**)
- Document filename should reflect the office/title, i.e. State Deputy article
- Every Region needs to participate – one page of the Invocation will be dedicated to each Region respectively
 - If a region does not submit content their page will be eliminated from that issue
- Cover story submissions need to be submitted ahead of the deadline due to special photo editing
 - Cover story photos – in portrait style at least 1mb in size - not formatted or resized
 - filename “Cover Story”

Send all information:

Region 1: Robert C. Guillery rag130@outlook.com

Region 2: invocation@floridakofc.org

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Are You A Member?

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney.

The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics.

Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Blessed Michael J. McGivney's



cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild.

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July - August, and is sent free to Guild members.

To join the Guild, register online at: <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/> †

Did you know that the State of Florida Council has a YouTube Channel? Well, we do! This is a place where we can put in videos of the all the great things that we do as Knights in the State of Florida.

During the State Convention we took video interviews of some of the Dignitaries that honored us with their presence. You can

see the videos by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Please be sure to subscribe to the channel so you will be notified when new videos are added. If you have any videos that you would like to add that shows your Council doing good works please email Jim Clark, Broadcast Media Relations and Production Director at jclark1@gmail.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

Evangelize and proclaim our faith, protect families, and perform works of charity.

Through our witness and deeds attract Catholic men to our Order.

Build the Domestic Church through service, support our parishes, clergy, and communities.

Incorporate principled fiscal responsibility for charitable giving.

The Florida State Logo



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Florida State Council Social Media

Your State Council is now on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube. We need all Brother Knights to participate and Let Your Light Shine.

- Go to Facebook and "LIKE" the page
- Go to Twitter and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Check out the current issue of **Knightline**, a monthly resource for local KofC leaders. It is designed to help council officers plan events and activities, meet quarterly goals for the fraternal year and learn about Orderwide news. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the issue.

COLUMBIA

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the online version of **COLUMBIA** Magazine, a publication for the Knights of Columbus.



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