

# St. James Council 12402

*Serving the Chancery and St. James Cathedral*

**Date:** Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024    **Issue:** Feb Newsletter



## Grand Knight's Report



*Brothers,*

*As we navigate through a year marked with both change and unexpected challenges, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for your flexibility and ongoing support. The recent adjustments due to the construction at our social hall have certainly tested our adaptability, and your understanding response has been both inspiring and deeply appreciated. I know it is difficult when things are canceled or re-scheduled and your positive attitudes mean a lot.*

*I would like to take a moment to express a huge thank you to Brother Tim Regan for his outstanding efforts in orchestrating the successful essay contest at SJCS. The event's great attendance and the lauds from the school are a testament to the positive impact we can have in our community. Speaking of youth activities, I want to remind everyone of the upcoming free throw contest on February 28, 2024. This is another fantastic opportunity to support Brother Tim and to engage with our youth in a meaningful and enjoyable way.*

*An important initiative in our parish that needs your attention is the Marriage Ministry, led by Jedidia "Kiko" Altre <[jaltre@stjamesorlando.org](mailto:jaltre@stjamesorlando.org)>. They need volunteer "Mentor Couples" who are practicing Catholics and have been married for at least five years. If you volunteer, you will be asked to attend a brief training session and then meet with couples who are preparing for marriage. The "Fully Engaged" curriculum provides a robust methodology, so you will have clear guidance and support throughout the process. This is a wonderful way to support and nurture the sacrament of marriage within our community. Email Kiko for information.*

*In the spirit of celebration, I am thrilled to announce the upcoming 25th Anniversary of St. James Council. We will be commemorating this significant milestone on March 14th at Firebirds in the Mills district. This celebration will take the place of our regular membership meeting for March, so please make sure to respond to the SignUp sent out by George Olson for RSVPs.*

*Our next meeting in February will focus on a cleanup and reorganization of our storage space. With access to the Bishop Dorsey Room and the construction dumpsters, we have a unique opportunity to declutter and evaluate our needs. Your participation in this cleanup effort will be invaluable. Beverages afterward across the street - first round on me.*

*Additionally, as part of our ongoing commitment to community service and the Pro-Life movement, keep an eye out for more information on the 'Laps for Life' event. In conjunction with this, we're planning a bake sale on March 2nd, weather permitting. This bake sale is not only a chance to showcase your (or your spouse's) baking talents but also a way to contribute to this worthy cause.*

*As we continue through this unique and exciting year, your dedication, service, and enthusiasm are what drive the success of our council. I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events, including the cleanup meeting, the bake sale, our 25th-anniversary celebration, and hope many of you will consider becoming involved in the Marriage Ministry.*

*May God bless each one of you for your commitment to our council and the community at large.*

*Vivat Jesus,*

## In Memoriam

REVEREND ROBERT HOFFNER

AUGUST 20, 1947 - JANUARY 28, 2024  
ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD: APRIL 28, 1973



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Father Robert "Bob" Hoffner and his sister, Sally, who were tragically murdered.

Jesus, may your great mercies, O Lord, and the prayers of your saints, grant them the repose of all the faithful departed. Through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*We lost an extraordinary priest this past weekend who touched the lives of many Brothers and their families in the Central Florida area. Fr. Bob and his sister, Sally, were tragically murdered on Sunday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Bob did the TV mass for 28 years and was tremendous with the children. His homilies were exceptional and he had a way of making parishioners feel so welcomed. Fr. Bob will be sorely missed. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Bob and his sister Sally.*

*There will be a memorial service On Feb 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Palm Bay. A funeral service for Fr. Bob and Sally will take place on Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Community in Viera. Both services are open to the public.*

## Welcome our New Member

**Ian Hamilton**



*Please welcome Brother Ian to the Knights of Columbus. Ian joined our Council on Jan 18<sup>th</sup>. He has been in Orlando and at St. James Cathedral for 5 months. Ian and Megan are planning to get married in June. Ian is an attorney with Nelson Mullins and is an avid Seminole football fan. It is wonderful to have you onboard Ian and Megan.*

## 2024 Central Florida Laps for Life

*In 2024 we will be celebrating the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Florida Laps4Life, a fund raiser that started at St. James Council. This wonderful initiative has raised \$1.5M over the past 10 years which resulted in the purchase and installation of 50 ultrasounds.*

*Let's keep up the momentum and please consider donating and/or raising funds for this year's Laps for Life fundraiser at Bishop Moore HS on Sat, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Donations can be made via this link <http://www.cflaps4life.org>*

## Life Director



Brother Knights,

The Florida Division of Elections has reported it has verified 910,946 signatures submitted by Floridians Protecting Freedom, which is nearly 20,000 more than needed, to get a proposed abortion amendment on the 2024 Florida ballot. The Florida Attorney General needs to confirm the signatures before the process can move forward and has until February 1st to respond. The proposal also has to be reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court for clear language before hitting the ballot. The Court has scheduled a hearing for February 7th. The University of North Florida ran a poll Nov 6 - 26th and found 62% of those polled would vote "yes" if the question appears on the ballot. Only 60% of votes are needed for amendment approval. Several other states will have or possibly have similar proposals on their ballots. Surprisingly, many of these states have much lower thresholds for signatures needed. 7000 of the 78,250 recorded abortions in Florida in 2023 were provided to non-residents. They came from surrounding states and the Caribbean.

The JMJ Pregnancy Center continues to receive donations to fund their services. Two recent donations of \$25,000 and \$10,000 have been recently offered. Plans are already underway for this year's Gala event.

A report titled "Hope for a New Generation" surveyed 2750 pregnancy centers in all 50 states. Results showed nearly 975,000 women and families received services in 2022 valued at \$358M. 40 Days for Life reported 30 abortion facilities closed where vigils were held since Roe v Wade was overturned. However, 92,000 women crossed state lines in the first 6 months of 2023 to get abortions. The latest Marist poll reveals that 83% of all Americans are in favor of supporting crisis pregnancy centers.

Planned Parenthood will now provide the means for minors to travel to other states for an abortion. Staff at a facility in Missouri unknowingly told an investigator that they treat 13 year-olds as adults. That facility would provide whatever it took to get the child to another state and no one would have to be notified including parents.

The National March for Life was held on January 19th in Washington D.C. A number of states also held marches. In Florida, there were marches in Tampa and Pensacola. In Tallahassee, Pro Life/Pro Family Days activities were also held. The USCCB January prayer guide focused on the end to abortion and encouraged participation in the "9 Days for Life Novena" held January 16th - 24th.

The 40 Days for Life fall campaign runs from February 14 - March 24. Vigils will be held across the globe in efforts to dissuade abortion minded women to reconsider their decision. Locally a vigil will be held outside the Planned Parenthood facility in Kissimmee. In conjunction, the Orlando Laps for Life is scheduled for March 2nd at Bishop Moore High School. Funds raised will provide ultra sound machines to pregnancy centers.

The chemical abortion drug mifepristone is currently used in 40% of all abortions. The US Supreme Court will be reviewing a lawsuit objecting to FDA changes to the dispensing and prescribing of the drug. The FDA wants to relax current regulations and offer it essentially over the counter without a prescription. Even many doctors who do prescribe the drug are opposed. In the state of Washington pharmacists are taking advantage of a state law that certifies them to prescribe and dispense chemical abortion pills.

The AMA again voted to keep existing policy against euthanasia. Euthanasia, along with Assisted Suicide, are currently illegal in the US. However, medically-assisted or physician-assisted suicide is legal in 10 states. Vermont and Oregon now have laws removing the residency requirement for such assistance. In Oregon, nearly 50% of those who ended their lives cited being a burden on their families as the primary reason. In addition, 10 more states-including Florida-have proposed laws to allow the practice. Laws in Nevada

## Youth Essay Contest

St. James School



Brother Tim Regan worked with St. James School to hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Essay Contest. We had 30 papers submitted by 8<sup>th</sup> graders and we had 3 winners (pictured above). This year's essay contest was concerned with writing about the many ways that social media can be used to evangelize our wonderful Catholic faith. There were 30 8<sup>th</sup> graders from St. James Cathedral School that participated in a very professional manner and the creative ideas made it a difficult task for the judges to determine the top 3 entries. In addition to Brother Tim, we had help grading the essays from Brother Michael Laughlin and great support from Principal Jayne Hartmann and her team. Great job as always.

## Prayers

- For the repose of the soul of Rev Robert Hoeffner and his sister Sally.
- For Sue, sister of Brother David Bessette, who was diagnosed with lung cancer; Sue is the caregiver for their 99 year-old mother, Audrey.
- For Camille Dixon, mother-in-law of Brother John Vasse, who is having knee replacement surgery on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>.
- For Trish, sister of Brother Brian Lazusky, who is having hip replacement surgery for severe arthritis on Feb 7<sup>th</sup>.
- For Michael Kraynak.
- For Brother Jacob & Viviana del Campo after their traumatic experience with powerful waves over in the Marshall Islands.
- For Fr. Shannon Collins, MSJB, cousin of Brother Yebraill Brennan, who has been dismissed from his pastoral duties by the Bishop of Covington, KY; also pray for Fr. Sean Copczinski, MSJB, during this difficult time.
- Prayer of thanks for Katie Manning's, daughter of PGK John & Ruth Rice, successful delivery.
- For the vocations of marriage, Priesthood, and religious life.
- For the That Man Is You ministry, that men are encouraged to attend and learn something each time they attend.
- For our Cathedral parish community, that we prioritize strong families and faith filled youth.
- For peace in the Middle East and in the Ukraine.

## Upcoming Events

### Feb

Mon, Feb 5 – Feed the Homeless – Christian Service Center, 11:30 am  
Thurs, Feb 8 – Council Membership Meeting – Bishop Grady Room, 7 pm  
Wed, Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday  
Wed, Feb 28 – Free Throw Competition – St. James School, 2-5 pm

### Mar

Sat, Mar 2 – Laps for Life – Bishop Moore HS, 8 am  
Thurs, Mar 14 – St James Council's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration @ Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, 6:30 pm  
Sun, Mar 24 – Palm Sunday  
Fri, Mar 29 – Founder's Day  
Sun, Mar 31 – Easter

### Apr

Mon, Apr 1 – Feed the Homeless – Christian Service Center, 11:30 am  
Thurs, Apr 11 – Council Membership Meeting – Bishop Noonan C/R, 7 pm

## Life Director (cont)

and those proposed in Arizona allow for doctors to withhold food from patients to allow death by starvation even if the patient is asking for food. These patients must have a written directive to withhold food already on file in a living will. In the Netherlands, 700 people a year die by this method.

Euthanasia is legal in several countries around the world with Canada apparently leading the way by removing nearly all restrictions. 4% of all deaths in Canada are the result of euthanasia. Also in Canada, 28% believe being poor or homeless are reasons for assisted suicide. In Australia, there is a proposal to include children to the current assist in dying laws. In Belgium and the Netherlands, doctors are permitted to euthanize children from birth to 18 and the parents' consent is not necessarily required.

## Financial Benefits Advisor



### Happy Valentine's Day!

I've been reading about different kinds of parties to throw to celebrate Valentine's Day. One site online listed 35 different suggestions, from a Fondue Night to a party centered on serving a heart shaped pizza. I guess Valentine's Day is another well-established holiday to celebrate and I'm also guessing that the greeting card industry is happy. (The candy companies and florists are right there with the greeting card industry.) From individual cards that adults send each other to the packs designed for school kids to give to classmates, the stores are stocked with a myriad of selections.

The celebration of love is always popular. After all, isn't love what every holiday celebration is about? Whether it's a birthday, wedding anniversary, or holiday, it's all about love! Valentine's Day, though, sees love get a spotlight. We celebrate our love for another.

Insurance is all about love. Most people buy insurance because they love someone. A husband buys life insurance because he loves his wife and children. If he's not there to provide for them he wants to make sure they can stay in the same home, enjoy the same lifestyle, provide a college education for his children. With many two income families, wives buy life insurance for the same reasons.

Long Term Care Insurance and Disability Income Insurance help protect the family from the vagaries of life: Needing care in the home or in a long-term care facility or being hurt or sick and unable to work affects the family. These products help protect the family one loves.

Even our retirement annuity products help the ones we love. With forward thinking and fiscal discipline, a retirement annuity helps spouses spend their retirement years knowing they can have a guaranteed lifetime income. Less worries for the ones we love.

All the products we have available are centered around protection; protecting the ones we love. Is your protection where you want it to be for your loved ones? Let's meet and discuss what you want. I'll give you a call or feel free to contact me.

Vivat Jesus!

## Sponsors

**\$5 per person / month**

Sign-up to be a sponsor for the next 6 months; 50/50 drawing will be held at the Jul Meeting. As of right now there is \$150 in the drawing; \$75 to the winner. The cost is only \$5 per month to sponsor a newsletter.

Members	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	2024
Les Castro	x	x	x	x	x	x	+6
George & Kim del Campo	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Chris Ewing	x	x	x	x	x	x	
John Rice	x	x	x	x	x	x	+1
Brian Schanen	x	x	x	x	x	x	+6

PGK John Rice won the Jul – Dec drawing at \$70.

## February Birthdays – Members

4 Feb	John Layman	19 Feb	Dr. Gil Lavoie
10 Feb	Lynn Hinson	20 Feb	Louis Adams
10 Feb	Brian Kirwan	21 Feb	Alfred Tripodo
12 Feb	Daniel Adjei	22 Feb	PGK George Olson
14 Feb	Nathan Aleskovsky	26 Feb	Bishop John Noonan
14 Feb	Daniel Coombs	28 Feb	Matthew Steiger
14 Feb	Timothy Phan		

## March Birthdays – Members

2 Mar	Tim Regan	19 Mar	Richard Paolo
2 Mar	Mark Mahoney	20 Mar	Dr. Marcelo Fabela
4 Mar	Daniel Almaguer	21 Mar	Luis Prada
5 Mar	Ryan Koren	21 Mar	Raul Rodriguez
6 Mar	Mark Ashman	23 Mar	Robert Anschuetz
8 Mar	John McIntosh	23 Mar	Carmine Bonacci
15 Mar	Rene Blanco	24 Mar	Eligio Colon
16 Mar	Wilson Ariza	25 Mar	Chris Groom
18 Mar	JT Griffin	25 Mar	Mark Zeitler
19 Mar	Florencio Hernandez	29 Mar	Carlos Bajana Jr.
19 Mar	Miguel Kaled	29 Mar	Rob Matey

## Feb/Mar Birthdays – Spouses

5 Feb	Maureen Hutcherson	2 Mar	Maria Laughlin
7 Feb	Carol Quartano-Weigand	6 Mar	Marcy Eelman
21 Feb	Lisa Sojourner	11 Mar	Katherine Rodriguez
23 Feb	Julie Bayly	16 Mar	Kristina Blem
23 Feb	Gisela Briscoe	18 Mar	Janet Lemmen
		19 Mar	Wendy Grant
		21 Mar	Tamara Larocque
		21 Mar	Stacy Palvisak

## Feb/Mar Anniversaries

11 Feb	Walter & Susan Rutledge
14 Feb	Gary & Sherry Herring (48 years)
14 Feb	Frank & Kristy Terrizzi (25 years)
18 Feb	Bill & Elizabeth Simpson (58 years)
3 Mar	Chris & Milena Marquette (18 years)
31 Mar	James & Julie Bayly

## Years of Service

Date	Member	Years	Date	Member	Years
1 Feb	Bishop John Noonan	40	10 Feb	Daniel Adjei	6
15 Feb	Thomas Brown	25	10 Feb	Rene Blanco	6
9 Feb	Jake del Campo	16	10 Feb	Nicholas Cotroneo	6
19 Feb	Eugene Damaso	16	10 Feb	Santos DeLeon	6
14 Feb	Carlos Bajana Jr.	15	10 Feb	Mark Gumula II	6
9 Feb	Dr. Greg Coffman	11	10 Feb	Rob Owen	6
7 Feb	Dr. Gil Lavoie	9	10 Feb	Nicholas Pinto	6
11 Feb	Bruce Croteau	9	10 Feb	David Venincasa	6
20 Feb	Rev Serge Pardo	8	4 Feb	Fernando Pinhal	5
20 Feb	Jonathan Rivera	8	8 Feb	Carmine Bonacci	5
11 Feb	Phil Perfito	7			

Date	Member	Years	Date	Member	Years
1 Mar	PGK George Olson	37	25 Mar	Daniel Rios Doria	9
24 Mar	Robert Kalakauskis	25	27 Mar	Luis Prada	8
24 Mar	Dan Wallace	25	8 Mar	Gerrit Lemmen	7
30 Mar	Ed Gold Jr	20	14 Mar	David Helenthal	6
23 Mar	Josh del Campo	18	28 Mar	Timothy Brown	6
6 Mar	Mike Ciappetta	16	11 Mar	Frederick Jonassen	4
24 Mar	Steve Palvisak	15	1 Mar	JB Coward	3



# **Charitable Donations – 2023**

## **FAITH**

Seminarian (RSVP) - \$500  
St. James School - \$500  
Bishop Grady Villas - \$500  
Morning STAR School - \$500  
St. James Cathedral – \$500  
Military Chaplain Fund - \$350  
Vocations - \$150

## **FAMILY/YOUTH**

Toys for Tots - \$749  
Youth Group - \$566  
St. Vincent de Paul - \$500  
Coats for Kids - \$400  
Coalition for the Homeless children - \$248  
Youth Athletics - \$225

## **COMMUNITY**

Disaster Relief - \$800  
Habitat for Humanity - \$800  
Food for the Poor - \$500  
Gary Sinise Foundation – \$500  
Wounded Warrior Project – \$500  
Christian Service Center - \$480  
Tunnels to Towers – \$362  
Center for Independent Living - \$300  
Catholic Charities - \$300  
The Russell Home - \$300  
Autism Speaks - \$300  
Nat'l Ctr on Sexual Exploitation (Human Trafficking) - \$300  
Epilepsy of Central Florida - \$150  
Wheelchair Fund - \$150

## **LIFE**

JMJ Pregnancy Center - \$2100  
Special Olympics - \$600  
Ultrasound Initiative (Laps for Life) - \$500  
Life Choices - \$300

# Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge

## FEBRUARY 2024

**Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."** (Gospel for Feb. 25, Mk 9:7)

In last month's challenge, we talked about recognizing Jesus' presence and power in our lives. Here, at his baptism, we hear the voice of God instructing us very simply: "Listen to him." It is not enough to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. We must also be attentive to his teachings — communicated through sacred Scripture and sacred tradition — and respond by following him faithfully. This is the path of the true disciple who understands his own baptismal mission. May we follow this path faithfully throughout our lives.

### Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to spend at least 10 minutes each day in prayerful silence, contemplating the presence of Jesus and listening for his voice.

### Questions for Reflection:

How do you listen for the voice of Jesus? What steps can you take in your prayer life, your spiritual reading, your pious practices and your religious study to hear his voice more clearly? What dispositions and virtues should you foster within yourself in order to become more open and responsive to what Christ is telling you?

## MARCH 2024

**"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me."** (Gospel for March 17, Jn 12:26)

Next to Our Lady, what greater model of faithful service to Jesus do we have than St. Joseph, the Lord's own adoptive father? In humble obedience to God, Joseph protected Mary and Jesus under the most difficult of circumstances. Although he says not a word in Scripture, the "silent" Joseph speaks volumes through his faithful actions. He is a model of manhood and discipleship for all Knights today.

### Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month — in which we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph — I challenge you to pray a novena or another prayerful devotion to this great saint.

### Questions for Reflection:

What virtues do you see in St. Joseph as you read the Gospel narratives about the nativity and early life of Jesus? How well do you practice these virtues in your own life, not only as a husband or father, but as a faithful disciple of Jesus? What specific, concrete things can you do to grow in these virtues in your day-to-day life?

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