



**Knights of Columbus  
St. Paul the First Hermit  
Council 14222 – April 2026**

Volume 9 – Issue 10

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## Grand Knight Message

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I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our seasonal Knights for their support and dedication to our community.

We recently had a membership drive and looks like we got a couple members so far.

We most recently sponsored a Donut Sunday that we used to get our message out about the upcoming event “A Night at the Races.” People seemed interested and we already sold at least one horse. This will really be an exciting event.

I also want to take time to recognize our Knight of the Month, Tom Felten. He is a truly dedicated man and an asset to our council. The Family of the Month Award went to Tom and Maria Felten for their work on the monthly council newsletter, providing food for meetings, shopping, showing up early for everything and more.

We need more Tom Felten's. We have a few that show up regularly but we do need more. We have a big event coming up and we are going to need many work “horses.”

One more thing, we are missing KofC aprons and KofC table cover. If you have them, please call me – 352-406-2029.

Vivat Jesu

Jim Schafer  
Grand Knight



## Message from Dcn. John Rumplach

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### Jesus said, “I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.”

I would like to first tell you a story about geese. Have you ever wondered when geese migrate, why they fly in a “V” formation? As with most animal behavior, God had a good reason for including that in their instincts. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird(s) following. In a “V” formation the whole flock adds at least 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and it quickly gets back into formation.

Like geese, people who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier than those who try to go alone.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position. If people had as much sense as geese, we would realize that ultimately their success depends on working as a team or community. Taking turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership.

Geese in the rear of the formation honk to encourage those up front to increase their speed. It is important that our “Honking from behind,” be encouraging, otherwise it’s just plain honking. When a goose gets sick or wounded, two other geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and provide protection. They stay with the unhealthy member of the flock until it is either able to fly or dies. Then they launch out again with another passing flock or try to catch up with their own.

May we be so blessed, that we may be worthy of such friends in our times of need. You don’t have to be a scientist ... to learn from God’s marvelous creation; we only need to stop long enough to observe, and let God reveal his wonders to us.

In Job 12: 7-10 it is written, *“But now ask the beasts to teach you, the birds of the air to tell you; or speak to the earth to instruct you, and the fish of the sea to inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of God has done this? In his hand is the soul of every living thing, and the life breath of all mortal flesh.”*

Do you think the geese know the Way, and the Truth, and the Life? They truly follow and lead, through their instincts they know the truth of what they have to do, and in life they care for each other.

Now what about us – Knights of Columbus? What do we know? What is Jesus telling us? What did he mean? Do we know the way, the truth and the life?

So let’s see if we can further understand.

Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life.” That is one of the seven “I Am” statements of Jesus.

I AM the Bread of Life  
I AM the Light of the World  
I AM the Door of the Sheep  
I AM the Good Shepherd  
I AM the Resurrection and the Life  
I AM the True Vine  
I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life

On the last night before His betrayal and death, Jesus was preparing His disciples for the days ahead. For over three years, these men had been following Jesus and learning from His teaching and example. They had placed their hopes in Him as the Messiah, the promised deliverer, yet they still didn’t understand how He was going to accomplish that deliverance.

After the Last Supper, Jesus began speaking about His departure, which led to questions from His disciples. As Jesus patiently continued to teach His disciples, He began speaking more plainly about heaven, describing the place He was going to prepare for them.

Then Jesus said, “Where [I] am going you know the way.” Speaking for the others, Thomas said, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” It was to this question that Jesus uttered one of the seven famous “I am” statements.

The disciples followed His example and command to tell others the truth about sin, righteousness, and judgment. When we follow Him in “the way,” we can be assured of following Him all the way to Heaven. If we let Him, He will use our lips to spread His truth, our lives to show the way, and our love to give others life.

And the works He will accomplish through us will far surpass what He did in His three short years of public ministry. More hungry will be fed, more sick healed, and more people will turn to Christ as their Savior. The Good News will be preached – not what was just preached in Galilee, but all over the world – His words with each many others.

But the greatest work that He will accomplish through us is to teach us to be priests, prophets, and kings, to offer the spiritual sacrifice of our own lives to the Father through Him, with Him, and in Him. For the meaning of human life is to love, and the greatest gift we’ve received from Him is the power to give ourselves away.

So when we see the geese, following their leader in formation, let us also think of ourselves, as true Knights, following our leader, Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who is truly

***“the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”***

**Easter Egg Hunt** - held Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. It was a great success and the Knights were the cooks and servers. A good time was had by all! The kids, with their parents, had a blast with the “surprises” which were a big hit.



LeRoy, Roger & Pick



Charlie and Mike



Marie & Jim



The Egg Hunt is ON with eggs all over the Social Hall!



The Friendly Dinosaur



The Cute Little Chick



The Easter Bunny himself!

## April Awards

### **Knight of the Month - April Tom Felten**

For all the volunteering that he does.



### **Family of the Month - April Tom & Maria Felten**

For the Newsletter that we publish together every month. Without my wife, Maria, this publication would never exist.



Our first Tootsie Roll Drive of the year at St. Mark's will be the weekend of **May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** before and after all Masses.

Please sign up with SignUpGenius to volunteer. Thank you.

**Tootsie Roll Drive at Publix  
(Mulberry Shopping Center-Route 42)**



**Saturday, May 9  
New hours! 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Volunteers needed - please go to SignUpGenius. Thank you!

## Council 14222 Activities for April - May

**April 26** was our Donut Sunday after the 8:00 and 10:00 Masses.



John, Tom, Mike, Charlie, Jack, Roger, Jim and Sean  
This group of Knights saved Donut Sunday!  
Thank you Marie Schafer for taking the photo!  
The Gang that saved Donut Sunday!

Taste testing to insure freshness!



There is an interesting story to our Donut Sunday event. At about 7:45-ish a.m., John Olsen came back from Publix without any donuts!! It turns out the office never ordered the donuts from Publix and now we had a bit of a dilemma. Do we cancel the event? The only thing going at this point, was that there was coffee brewing. Some of the Knights volunteered to go to the stores, Publix, Walmart, etc. and get as many donuts as possible. When the guys came back we had about 37 dozen donuts. About 10 more dozen than we needed! So, in a way, we had our own *loaves and fishes moment*. And it could only have been successfully accomplished because we had the manpower of volunteers for the 8:00 a.m. Mass! Thank you for coming in so early on a Sunday morning and saving our Donut Sunday commitment!!

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### New Members ready to become Knights:

Trevor Yeoman  
Joseph Cangemi

### New Transfers:

Jerome Halmans  
Deacon Lou Farinella

**WELCOME TO COUNCIL 14222!**

## Knights of Columbus - Council 14222 - Room Bookings for 2026

### Officers Meetings

All Officers are required to attend - All members are invited - Doors of Enrichment Center should be open by 5:30. Officers Meetings start at 6:00 p.m. sharp.

<b>Officer Meeting</b>	<b>May 11</b>	<b>EC Rm C</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
Officer Meeting	Jun 8	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Jul 13	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Aug 10	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Sep 14	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Oct 12	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Nov 9	EC Rm C	6:00 PM
Officer Meeting	Dec 7	EC Rm C	6:00 PM

### Council Business-Membership Meetings **Note: New Location - Enrichment Center**

## **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIMES!**

All members are encouraged to attend. Doors should be open by **5:30**.

Rosary at **5:45 in the Knights Grotto**. Dinner at **6:00-ish**

Business Meetings officially start at **6:30 P.M.** sharp

<b>Business Meeting</b>	<b>May 20</b>	<b>EC Rm C</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
Business Meeting	Jun 17	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Jul 22	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Aug 19	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Sep 23	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Oct 21	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Nov 18	EC Rm C	6:30 PM
Business Meeting	Dec 16	EC Rm C	6:30 PM

## Knights of Columbus Booked Events at St. Mark's for 2026

Volunteers will be needed for ALL these events.

See "SignupGenius" email for Volunteering for any event.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Tootsie Roll Drive      May 2 & 3      Outside Church All Masses**

Knight At The Races      Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.      Social Hall

Installation of Officers      TBD

Christmas Dinner/Dance Ticket Sales      Oct 10 & 11      Outside Church All Masses

Christmas Dinner/Dance Ticket Sales      Oct 17 & 18      Outside Church All Masses

Christmas Dinner/Dance Ticket Sales      Oct 24 & 25      Outside Church All Masses

2<sup>nd</sup> Membership Drive  
(w/Pulpit Talk)

Oct 31 & Nov 1      Outside Church All Masses

2<sup>nd</sup> Tootsie Roll Drive

Oct 31 & Nov 1      Outside Church All Masses

Memorial Mass

Wed., Nov 11

Church 8:00 AM      (Veteran's Day)

Memorial Mass Breakfast

Wed., Nov 11

Social Hall 9:00 AM

Christmas Magnet Sales

Nov 28/29, Dec 5/6, 12/13      Outside Church All Masses

Christmas Dinner/Dance

Sat., Dec 12

Social Hall 6:00 PM

Breakfast With Santa

Sat., Dec 19

Social Hall 9:00 AM

The first membership drive of this year was held on April 11 and 12 at all the Masses. our Grand Knight, Jim Schafer, gave a pulpit talk about all the activities and accomplishments and words of gratitude to our parishioners for their generosity. We had a lot of interest from people with the handouts that were given to many of the men coming into church with the help of our Insurance Agent, Alberto Fernandez. The results were a bit disappointing but the seeds have been planted with the younger families moving into our parish.

## Other Knights of Columbus Events in 2026

We pray the **Rosary** on the fifth Sunday of any given month. Volunteers (5) will meet at 11:00 a.m. in the Ministry Room and we process down the aisle at 11:15. This year those dates will be **May 31**, August 30 and November 29. **Please consider volunteering.**

### Tootsie Roll Drives at Publix (Mulberry Shopping Center-Route 42)

**Saturday, May 9**                      **9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Saturday, October 3                9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### Tootsie Roll Drives at Publix (Southern Trace Shopping Center-Route 466)

Friday, June 26                      9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> date in the fall TBD

**Silver Rose Icon** will be at our Church/Council in the Spring of 2026 (look for announcements). DD had no update as of the March Membership meeting.

### Newsorthy Items:

† **Rosary for the Respect Life Ministry at the Grotto after 8 a.m. Mass on Saturday, May 16**

† Norm has requested funds to purchase a new wagon used to transport food into Belleview Elementary School. The Membership has voted up to \$200.00 for this purchase.

† We would also like to wish Deacon Kevin safe travels on his pilgrimage. We hope to hear all about it when he can address the Membership at a future meeting.

† The final totals for the Lenten Food Drive are as follows:

Cash – \$13,736 and 4,700 pounds of food, which converts to approximately \$14,100 in food value. LeRoy and all the volunteers did a great job.

† John Olsen is heading up the Exemplification Team that will perform the new version of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree installations. Our First Exemplification rehearsal was held before the April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting in the Enrichment Center. With the help of Larry Waite as the guinea pig, the guys went through the script, and they got the feel of the ceremony. It would be nice if we could do this “for real” in Church or the Chapel with our deacon.

† The **Nominating Committee** is looking for volunteers for Officers for the next Fraternal Year.

† The **Budget Committee** needs volunteers to help create our budget for the next Fraternal Year.

### FYI:

Check out the new Knights of Columbus website that has been totally redone and is filled with great information. Please note it has been brought to our attention that getting into the website is a little tricky.

# Eucharistic Mission of Love

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church  
5323 E CR 462, Wildwood, FL 34785

**Friday, May 15 or Saturday, May 16**

— Choose either day to attend —

Join us for a day of reflection centered on  
Jesus truly present in the Blessed

- ✝ Holy Mass
- ✝ Eucharistic Adoration
- ✝ Inspiring Talks
- ✝ Prayer & Fellowship
- ✝ Complimentary Lunch & Refreshments

*Featured Speaker: **Steve Lovison***

Founder of Adoration Servants  
California State Chairman for Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration  
& Holy Hours for the Knights of Columbus

*Known for fostering deeper love for the Eucharist  
through devotion and reparation.*



Whether you are new to Adoration or seeking to deepen your devotion, this mission  
offers a meaningful opportunity to encounter Christ.

**Register Online:** [svdpcc.eventbrite.com](http://svdpcc.eventbrite.com)  
Agenda available at [sumtercatholic.org](http://sumtercatholic.org) (Parish News)

**Questions:**  
Peter Birckhead | (713) 819-1980 | [peterbirckhead@gmail.com](mailto:peterbirckhead@gmail.com)



**Birthdays for May  
Happy Birthday, Guys, and Many More!**

Joseph Higgins            May 1  
 Thomas Kallus            May 2  
 Jerzy Maj                 May 6  
 Allan Benway            May 8  
 John Farren                May 8



William Villella            May 10  
 Voytek Kulesza            May 13  
 Bill Delaney               May 15  
 Frank Popeleski           May 18  
 Joseph Barton             May 29

**Good News Items!**

Mark Carter informed the Council of a possible Saturday morning meeting with breakfast, for the CORE program. This is a parish-wide men's event. Keep an eye out for more information.

Tom Felten cooked up some delicious dogs and side dishes for our April Membership meeting. Thank you for the money that was put into the donation jar to offset the cost of providing dinner. Thank you to the Knights who helped clean up and bring everything back to the Social Hall.

**Alberto B. Fernandez, LUTCF, FICF**  
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**Knights of Columbus**  
 J. Spinelli Agency

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Pray for the souls in Purgatory who need our help to reach perfection.

Also, please remember all of those in our Council Family who are ill, hospitalized and in need of our prayers.

Especially:

Gino & Joan Aultta  
Gerry Becker  
Ron Bellonio  
Jean Brett  
Yvette Carter  
Hank Casey  
Lorilee Cinella  
Rick Cinella  
Jean Clark  
Grace Colvin  
Roger & Jerry Cyr  
Bill Delaney  
Chuck Demino, D.D.  
Nancy Ellison  
Kathleen Feenaghty

Jack Fennell & his wife  
Tony Frank  
Vern Garske  
Steven Gillian  
Kathleen Gross  
Jean Henneke  
Chris Joss  
Betty Kloske  
Henryk & Barbara Kulesza  
Tom & Roberta Lane  
Rebecca Larson  
Patrick McCarty  
Ron Moxey  
Paul Murphy  
Sean & Rita O'Connell

Paul Pitonzo  
Jim Rose  
Tom Rueck  
Pat Schafer  
Chet & Harriett Sedke  
Bruce & Judy Schladen  
John Sloman  
Pat Smelas  
Bud & Sophie Stegmeyer  
Jolene Sutherland & Family  
Fred Targos  
Bob Thomas  
Lourdes Thomas  
George & Pam White  
Louis Wilkinson

- † **Rebecca Larson** is going through a rough time. She is home from the hospital, went through some tests there. Please keep her in your prayers.
- † **Gerry Becker** Our prayers and with good meds, Gerry is back on his feet and doing well!
- † **Steve Gilkeson** fell and broke his shoulder and arm.
- † **Jean Henneke**, had a procedure and is doing very well! Prayers DO work!
- † **Deacon John** is still recovering from hip replacement surgery and other medical issues. Please keep him and his wife, Michelle, in your prayers. They are both doing better.
- † **Tom Rueck** Please keep him in your prayers.
- † **Jack Fennell** recently had eye surgery & his wife is completing cancer treatment.
- † **Sean O'Connell** will be having an operation on his foot again, up north, please pray for his recovery. Hope we see Sean *running* around this fall!