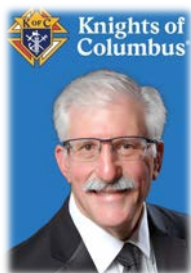




The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Worthy Brothers and Ladies!

Summer is starting to wind down, and we are leaving the dog days of summer and heading into the fall season. Hopefully you've been able to stay cool and dry. After a slow July, we began to get things going in August. We had our first Coffee & Donuts of the year. We had a pretty good showing considering kids are getting ready for school and religious education classes had yet to begin. I would like to thank everyone who helped at this event.

Ed Amador	Santo Loparo	Mark Feldman
Tom Harkins	Kay Strehle	Frank McEwen
John Clark	Jack Strehle	Gene Jajuga
Joe D'Amelio	Betty D'Amelio	

We were blessed and honored to have the St. Joseph Icon displayed in our church for a week, and it was present for all the weekend Masses. I noticed several people spent time praying before the Icon and reading the information regarding it. I would like to thank Fr. Cooper for celebrating the inspirational Mass, so befitting the great Saint Joseph. Sue Riley did a wonderful job with the music.

Thank you, Wally Vasquez, for organizing the Mass and everyone who participated.

Issue 9, September 2024

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, September 12 @ **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

Ed Amador	John Gohman	Amaro Lionheart
Violet Amador	Wally Vasquez	Margaret Krivchenia
Roe Ressler	Betty D'Amelio	Robin LaChance

I apologize if I missed anyone who helped organize or participated in the Mass.

Every year, we give frozen fruit bars to all the religious education students and some of their parents. We provided over 200 frozen fruit bars for them. I want to thank Tom Stanko, Addy & JJ Coyne, John & Betsy Clark, and Joe & Betty D'Amelio for helping to hand out the fruit bars to everyone.

Lastly, we had a pizza party for all the altar servers following their orientation meeting. There were approximately 70 young people and their parents. We provided 16 large pizzas from Pizza Hut. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed the pizza and drinks. A big thank you to Tom Wozniak, Santo Loparo and Ed Amador for helping with this rewarding event.

Upcoming September Events

- . The Silver Rose - September 1st during the 10:30 AM Mass
- . Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, September 5th, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- . Coffee, Donuts & More – Sunday, September 8th, at 7:30 AM in the St. John Bosco Center

- . Rosary – Hosted by the KofC Thursday, September 12th, at 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- . Council Business Meeting – Thursday, September 12th, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center
- . Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, September 12th, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room following the rosary in the John Bosco Center
- . Informational Open House and Fraternal Benefits Night – Tuesday, September 17th, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center
- . Pinellas Hope Food Preparation – Thursday, September 19th, at 9:00 AM in the Parish Center Kitchen
- . KofC Unified Degree Ceremony – Thursday, September 19th, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center
- . Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, September 21st, at 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM (1189 NE Cleveland Street Clearwater)
- . KofC Annual Retreat - Saturday, September 21st, at 8:30 AM in the Parish Center
- . Assembly Business Meeting – Thursday, September 26th, at 7:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- . KofC Family Picnic – Saturday, September 28th, at Philippe Park Shelter #5, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- . Council Officer's Meeting - Thursday, October 3rd, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- . Coffee, Donuts & More – Sunday, October 6th, at 7:30 AM in the St. John Bosco Center
- . Rosary – Hosted by KofC Thursday, October 10th, 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- . Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, October 10, 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- . Council Business Meeting – Thursday, October 10th, 7:00 PM in the Parish Center

We are less than two months away from our annual Espiritu Santo Assembly 2474/Gary Sinise Golf Tournament. We are still in need of items for the auction. So, if you have any bottles of wine or liquor you want to donate to this worthy cause, please bring them to the next business meeting. We are also selling raffle tickets for the golf tournament, and they are \$20.00 each. In the past two years, the winner has taken home over \$1200.00. Be sure to pick up your tickets. Don't forget to sign up for the auction and check out the great items we have for you to bid on.

We are also providing food for families this year. If you have any non-perishable food items that you would like to donate, please bring them to our next business meeting.

Our Chaplin, Fr. Cooper, will be conducting our annual retreat this year on Saturday, September 21st. The topic

of the retreat is Cultivating the Spirit of Gratitude. The retreat will start at 8:30 AM with continental breakfast and lunch included.

Our family picnic will be on Saturday, September 28th from 11 AM – 3 PM in Philippe Park, Shelter #5. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings including potato salad, chips and other sides along with some great tasting desserts. Games and fun activities for the kids and horseshoes for the adults will be provided. This is a great time for the family and an opportunity to build relationships with other Knights. For our several new Knights that joined our Council this past year, this is a great way to meet your fellow Knights and build relationships that will last a lifetime.

May you have a great month!
Vivat Jesus,

Tom

Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight – Council 7109
727.366.5422



The St Joseph Icon spent several days at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church and was highlighted during Mass



SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109

Holy Moments

Embracing Holy Moments in Our Recruitment Journey

Dear Brother Knights,

Revisiting Our Mission and Reaffirming Our Commitment

As we move into September, we find ourselves in a critical moment for our council. Over the past month, our efforts to bring new members into our brotherhood have not yielded the results we hoped for. Despite our dedication, we currently have no new members and no strong leads to pursue. This reality serves as a stark reminder that our mission requires continuous, **proactive engagement**—not just from a few, but from every Knight in our council.

Creating New Opportunities Through Holy Moments

Matthew Kelly's concept of "Holy Moments" teaches us that even in moments of challenge, there lies an opportunity for grace and transformation. Our recruitment efforts are no different. Each interaction, each invitation, and each conversation is a chance to create a Holy Moment—a moment where we extend the gift of brotherhood and purpose to another man seeking meaning in his life.

This September, I urge each of you to embrace the opportunity to create Holy Moments in your daily lives. Look around you—whether at Mass, in your workplace, or in your community—and identify Catholic men who might be yearning for the sense of fulfillment and belonging that we have found in the Knights of Columbus.

Fresh Approaches to Recruitment: Best Practices

Here are some fresh approaches to recruitment that we can all implement this month:

Intentional Conversations: Rather than relying on casual mentions, have intentional, meaningful conversations about the Knights of Columbus. Explain what drew you to the order and how it has positively impacted your life. Share how our values align with the teachings of the Church and how we live those values through our actions.

Offer Specific Invitations: When inviting someone to consider joining the Knights, be specific. Invite them to a meeting, a service project, or a **Fraternal Benefits Night**. When you extend an invitation, it becomes a tangible opportunity for them to take the first step.

Showcase the Brotherhood: Often, the strength of our brotherhood is what draws men in. Make sure your potential recruits see that strength. Invite them to a social event, introduce them to other Knights, and let them witness the camaraderie and support we offer one another.

Holy Moments in Service: Invite men to participate in a service project alongside our Knights. Serving others is at the heart of what we do, and it's in these moments of service that we often experience the most profound Holy Moments. Let them see firsthand the impact we can have on our community and on each other.

A Call to Action:

September 17th Fraternal Benefits Night

Our first Fraternal Benefits Night of the fraternal year will be held on **September 17th, 2024**. This event is a golden opportunity to showcase the Knights of Columbus and what we stand for. I strongly encourage **ALL Brother Knights to attend, and more importantly, to bring an eligible Catholic man with you.** This is our chance to introduce them to the benefits of joining our order, not just in terms of fraternal benefits, but in the spiritual, emotional, and communal support that comes with being a Knight.

Let's make this event a turning point in our recruitment efforts. Together, we can ensure that the room is filled with potential new members who are eager to learn about how they can contribute to our mission and how they can find fulfillment in service.

Reflecting on the Journey Ahead

As we face the reality of having no new members and no solid leads, we must not be discouraged. Instead, let us see this as a call to action—a call to renew our commitment to our mission and to each other. By focusing on creating Holy Moments, we can turn the tide and build the pipeline of new candidates who will carry our legacy forward.

Remember, the work we do as Knights of Columbus is not just about numbers; it's about changing lives, one Holy Moment at a time. Whether it's through a simple invitation, a shared story, or an act of service, we have the power to make a lasting impact on the men we invite to join us. Let's recommit ourselves to this mission and move forward with determination and faith.

Gratitude and Encouragement

In closing, I want to thank each of you for your ongoing dedication to our council and our mission. I know that recruitment can be challenging, but I also know that together, we can overcome these challenges and continue to grow our brotherhood.

Let's make September a month of action, of Holy Moments, and of renewed commitment to the values that make us Knights of Columbus of Barney Gonyea Council. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fraternal Benefits Night on September 17th, and to welcoming new brothers into our fold. **As a reminder** we have opened the donation site for our Assembly fundraiser for U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal John 'JT' Doody, a severely wounded (quadriplegic) Tampa veteran. Please consider giving: [Support John "JT" Doody, USMC – Council 7109 – Assembly 2474 \(safetyharborkofc.org\)](https://www.safetyharborkofc.org) by going to this URL and pressing the red donate button.

Fraternally,



Edward J. Amador, MPS
Chancellor
Director of Membership



Hello Ladies!

Well, Summer is about to end, so happy Fall y'all! I pray everyone had a great Summer with family get-togethers and traveling. Tom and I had seven weeks on the road in our RV, visiting three National Lakeshore Parks, family and class reunion, and enjoying beautiful Michigan sites and weather.

We also were blessed to have attended one of the Eucharistic Pilgrimage leg sites in St. John, Indiana on the Fourth of July! The Cathedral was standing room only. What a great celebration of our Catholic faith and our country's birthday. The pilgrimage was the first in 85 years, started at the four far points of our country, and concluded with the meeting of the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 16th.

We also attended Masses in Upper Peninsula of Michigan, at founded Jesuit churches by two missionary priests bringing our region to indigenous tribes in the 1800s. These great men are honored to this day by the tribes, and Bishop Baraga, known as the "Snowshoe Priest," is up for canonization, with his first miracle recently verified.

I hope everyone else's travels were just as memorable and now going forward to beginning our year, supporting our Knights. Our first Auxiliary meeting will be held Thursday, September 12 in the Gathering Room at 7:00p. I am looking forward to seeing everyone and sharing our summer experiences. Also, please invite other ladies to join us as I have reached out to potential new members. We love to have more join us and our efforts to increase our charitable works. God bless. In His love.

Jean W.

Unity – Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2024: Sep 17 | Nov 19
2025: Feb 18 | Apr 15 | Jun 17

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2024: Sep 19 | Nov 20
2025: Feb 20 | Apr 17 | Jun 19

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	335
Insurance Membership	137
Honorary Life Members	66
Honorary Members	08
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	00/15
2023-2024 Insurance	00/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	132
Honorary Life Members	15
Honorary Members	01
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	00/06



Council Officers 2024-2025

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 Krajieski	727.784.2817
Financial Secretary	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Lecturer	Paul Harvey, PFN	727.286.7171
Advocate	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Warden	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!

Edward Amador, Victor Berggren, Mark Busing, Ernie Cline, Thomas Coughlin, Robert Deane, Sean Donahoo, Anthony Doyle, Robert Dufour, Frederick Elflein, Robert Faw, Stephen Gorey, Irving Hernandez, Joseph Hoherl, Timothy Kielich, John Lambert, Gilberto Latorre, Gregory Nash, David Neal, Chris Nesci, Victor Nunez, Donald Palacheck, John Papa, Paul Pappas, Frank Pensabene, Brian Riley, Andrew Rodnite, Guillermo Romero, James Rooney, Martin Spolarich, Roy Vanderveer

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Bob Justiana, Jewel Allen (d), Ed Mandichak (d), David deWolfe (d), Joseph Raponi (d), Mac Sinise (d), Stanley Gdula (d), J. Nick Martin (d), Linda Cooper (d), Edward Mandichak (d), Katherine Krajieski, Frank Pensabene, Mary Clare Rose (d), Bob Ehrman, Felipe Hernandez (d), Max Kostioukovski, Angela DiMattei, Tony McClure (d), Maria Palazzo (d), Joyce Ayrall, Burke Taylor, Mike Taylor, Bill Kasak, Karen Loparo, Marijon Reed, Katherine Lima, Nelson Amador, Carlos Usera, Richard Roberto, Harry Hill (d), Antonia Rosin, John Hamm, James Bonvicino, Frances Hamacher (d), Jacqueline Barry (d), Katie Griffin, Mary Branham (d), Judith Rodnite, Joseph Genalo, Mary Williams (d), Theresa Kier, Frank Schuster II (d), Kathy Papa-Zinko, Sal Mazzara, Kennedie McFadden, Sal Burriesci, George Smith (d), Bill Kasak, Pauline Sager (d), Vicki Nolan (d), Margaret Bruggeman, Barbara Papa, Bill Gallant, Maggie Kraf, Claire Inderwies

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

Support Our Vocations Fund



Austin Smith



Benjamin Harris



John Paul Grabowski

Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to three seminarians. All three of our seminarians are located at St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, Louisiana. Austin Smith, junior year who is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Benjamin Harris, junior year from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville. John Paul Grabowski, in his sophomore year, is from Catholic Student Center, USF – Tampa.

Please get your name on the list by giving \$5.00, \$10.00 or whatever you can in support of this worthy endeavor! We need to continue to support these young men & vocations, but it will take everyone's help. Thank You!

Mark Barrett, Donald & Linda Borbath, Jonathan & Marianne Boyce, Sal Burriesci, Mario & Katie Camario, Patrick Carroll, JJ Coyne, Joseph & Betty D'Amelio, Douglas & Carol De Wolfe, Jerome Dewberry, Francisco & Mildred Diaz Estrella, Sean Donahoo, Robert & Zoe Dufour, Philip & Jane Farney, Walter Feble, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Charles & Raquel Friesema, Michael & Lisa Furman, John & Peggy Gohman, Robert & Catherine Gwinner, Paul & Rose Marie Harvey, James Hayes, David & Donna Heezen, Irving Hernandez, Joseph & Sandra Hoherl, George & Claire Inderwies, Eugene & Karen Jajuga, Shawn & Pattie Jajuga, Gregory & Kim Juedes, William & Elizabeth Kasak, Timothy Kielich, Matthew Killeen, Michael & Katherine King, Dan & Donna Kistel, William & Katherine Krajeski, Jack Kuczej, Frank & Deborah Laffey, Stephen & Ellen Leger, Mark Lewalski, Patrick Mackin, Michael McCarthy, Frank & Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen, Stuart Miller, John & Morgan, Adel Nammour, Chris Nesci, Donald Palacheck, John Papa, Gerald & Holly Pappa, Paul & Virginia Pappas, Daniel Peterson, Glen Pettersen, Robert & Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto, Juan & Rosemary Romero, John & Kathleen Ruckart, Peter & Susan Salesses, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheaffer, Massimo & Valeria Simeoni, James & Karin Smith, Thomas & J. L. Stanko, John & Kay Strehle, Jugdesh & Sucheta Sujanani, Steven & Jaclyn Verba, Mario & Judy Zaccaria, Edward & Violet Amador, Brian & Carolyn Annis, Dennis & Joyce Ayril, Patrick & Beatrice Boland, Robert & Ann Marie Bonvicino, James & Jean Burris, John & Betsy Clarke, Gerald & Cynthia Custin, Peter Demzak, Frank & Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Frederick & Suzanne Di Masi, Terry & Shirley Drake, Joseph Favia, Mark & Elaine Feldman, Dominic & Vickie Friscia, Michael Gutknecht, Lawrence & Nancy Harkins, Thomas & Anne Harkins, Thomas Hart, James & Janetze Hart, Timothy & Ann Hartle, Jarret & Lesley Ann Honahan, Steven Ippolito, Robert & M. A. Justiana, Brian & Christine Kearns, Robert Kelly, Tom & Margaret Krivchenia, Thomas Kukulski, James & Maria Lankford, Milton Levine, Amaro Lionheart, Stanley Lipiarz, Kevin McMullen, Anthony Metty, James & Patricia Nolf, Brian & Lisa O'Connor, Thomas & Carolyn O'Rourke, Miguel Perez, Brian & Erin Riley, William & Mary Scott, Kenneth & Gabriella Seguin, Kenneth Seguin, Jim & Nancy Shirer, Gregory & Carolina Sohn, Chuck & Elizabeth Sullivan, Matthew & Julie Sunski, Sean Swauger, Walberto & Ramona Vazquez, Peggy Watson, David & Patricia Behrle, Herman & Mary Jo Brames, Tim & Stacey Bruggeman, Jacob & Mary Burnett, Mark Busing, Kevin Cordaro, Joseph Cortese, Anthony Crevello, William Cullen, Richard & Melissa Ducheny, Frederick & Christi Effein, Zach Faraone, Eric & Maria Flores, Joseph & Megan Gajewski, Ward & Kathleen Griffin, Gerald & Lorraine Grubba, Mark Gurley, David & Paula Harvey, Kevin & Gidget Hernandez, Kenton & Sue Heuertz, Christopher & Celise Jones, Derek Jones, Mark Kapinos, Richard & Cecilia Kemball-Cook, Jared Kirsten, James Kleinsorge, Raymond Kraker, Anthony Kuczej, Christian Kuczej, Brian & Christina Lapointe, Brian & Angela Lawandus, Gerald & Renee Lubig, Francis & Carol Mahoney, Jerry Maratea, Frank & Juliann Marsalek, William Mc Fadden, Clifford & Michelle Merz, Darryl & Mary Miller, James & Phyllis Montali, Michael O'Neill, Todd & Margaret Owers, Edmund & Diane Pagnott, Thomas Penders, Mark & Christine Peterman, Frank & Patricia Piro, Christopher & Carol Purcell, Donald & Alexis Reed, Edward & Sandra Riley, James & Dreama Servoss Rooney, Timothy & Barbara Rush, Robert Shafer, Michael & Melissa Short, Hugh & Katie Siegel, Thomas Smith, Bryan & Krista Snyder, Roy & Linda Vanderveer, Alvah Vankleeck, Paul & Josefina Vilchez, Edward & Patricia Warticki

Total Collected to Date: \$1839.28



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

"HUSBANDS BE SUBJECT TO YOUR WIVES"

Adaptation of Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

For nearly 2000 years we have heard the opposite as we did last Sunday, "Wives be subject to your husbands." Many men have used that text taken literally to lord it over their wives and too many women have felt obliged to follow that passage literally as God's will. As a result, many women lost their own humanity and personal freedom - pretty serious stuff. As Catholics, how do we understand Paul's words in Ephesians today?

Modern scripture scholars remind us that as we look at passages, we can be helped by seeing them in terms of **time** - when was it written; **place** - **where and in what culture?** And **circumstances** - what were the cultural and theological values of the times. If Paul would come to give us an update today, he would say I was blind sighted by the culture of the Roman Empire which occupied and ruled Israel. "I wrote to the Ephesians around 62 AD after having lived under Roman rule and culture. As part of the circumstances, I accepted the **paternalistic culture where men were all important and women were subservient.** Thus, women were in no way equal to men. In my pastoral reflections at the end, I was encouraging husbands and wives to be good examples in the cultural ideal of this paternalistic culture. I should have known better. I was wrong and the text was wrong then and today. Husbands and wives are equal partners.

Thus, having a contemporary biblical commentary and using our heads can help us better to understand and appreciate the living Word of God in the Scriptures. Time, place, and circumstances remain indispensable in understanding the meaning of the Sacred Scriptures.

Michael Cooper, SJ, STD, Chaplain

P.S. Don't forget our retreat on Saturday, September 21 on "Developing a Spirit of Gratitude."



Former Espiritu Santo CC Parochial Vicar, Father Brad Reed, is installed as Pastor at Sacred Heart CC by Bishop Gregory Parkes

Service Program Directors 2024-2025

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	
Family Director	Vacant	
Public Relations Director	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
Life Director	David Behrle, PGK, PFN	727.723.1169
Vocations	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Retention Coordinator	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687



Mark Feldman
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights,

Well, everyone we are getting back into the year. School has started for our children and grandchildren. I hope you all enjoyed your summer. We will have a busy September, so please join in where and when you can. The KofC will host Coffee & Donuts on the 8th. On the 14th we will hold the Road Clean Up Project; meet at 8:00a at the shed. The Knights will be holding our Family Picnic on the 28th starting at 10:00am at Philippe Park at Shelter #5. There will be lots of food and games, especially for our children and grandchildren. Please try to attend and spend time with family and friends.

As always, we will have the Rosary prior to our Council Membership Meeting on Thursday 12 September at 6:30p. Please attend if you can. Also invite someone from the Parrish to attend with you. Other events this month include an Open House on the 17th and a KofC Unified Degree Ceremony on the 19th. Our Annual KofC Retreat will be held on the 21st. We will send out more information on that later.

St Matthew Feast Day September 21st

When Jesus summoned Matthew to follow him, he was a tax collector for the Romans. His profession was hateful to the Jews because it reminded them of their subjection. St Matthew is known to us principally as an Evangelist with his Gospel being the first in position in the New Testament. His Gospel was written to convince the Jews that their anticipated Messiah had come in the person of Jesus. Not much else is known about Matthew. According to tradition he preached in Egypt and Ethiopia.

September Liturgical Calendar

Sep 03 Saint Gregory the Great (Memorial)
Sep 08 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
Sep 09 Saint Peter Claver (Memorial)
Sep 10 Blessed Virgin Mary
Sep 12 The Most Holy Name of Mary

Sep 13 Saint John Chrysostom (Memorial)
Sep 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast)
Sep 15 Our Lady of Sorrows (Memorial)
Sep 16 Saint Cornelius and Cyprian (Memorial)
Sep 17 St Robert Bellarmine, Blessed Virgin Mary
Sep 19 St Januarius
Sep 20 St Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang, and Companions (Memorial)
Sep 21 Saint Matthew (Feast)
Sep 23 Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (Memorial)
Sep 24 Blessed Virgin Mary
Sep 26 Sts. Cosmas and Damian
Sep 27 Saint Vincent de Paul (Memorial)
Sep 28 St. Wenceslaus, St Lawrence Ruiz and Companions
Sep 29 Saint Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (Feast)
Sep 30 Saint Jerome (Memorial)

Faith In Action



FAITH

COMMUNITY

FAMILY

LIFE



**We are still in need of a Family Program Director.
If you are interested, please let us know.
Thank you in advance.**

Vivat Jesus,
Mark Feldman, DGK



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

Brothers,

Working with Knights like you and your families every day is a blessing. I truly enjoy my work. With that said, I appreciate a long weekend as well. I hope you all will be able to enjoy Labor Day and get some well-deserved rest.

Whenever we have a long weekend, it's like a little preview of what retirement might look like. If you're like me, I hope my retirement is one that's restful where I'm also able to remain productive, be an active member of the Knights, pursue my personal hobbies, and enjoy a bit of travel here and there.

And to those of you who are already retired, I commend you for all the time you dedicate to our Order.

But if you're like me and not quite there yet, I hope you will take the necessary steps to prepare yourself financially for your retirement. A good way to do that can be through an annuity.

Now, what is an annuity? Simply put, it's a retirement savings product. You make contributions and, after a specified amount of time, the annuity pays you a regular income stream.

The amount of money you'll need in retirement can be difficult to calculate. But with a properly structured retirement annuity through Knights of Columbus, you can have retirement income that you cannot outlive, guaranteed.

There are many different payment and plan types you can choose from. Once established, the money within the annuity continues to earn value, before eventually being disbursed according to the options you elect.

Knights of Columbus annuities come with two important guarantees.

First, your principal is guaranteed. Regardless of market condition or company results, your Knights of Columbus annuity will not lose value.

Second, each Knights of Columbus annuity comes with a guaranteed minimum interest rate. No matter the market fluctuations, your annuity is guaranteed to never earn less than the contractually stated amount on an annual basis.

As you can see, annuities can be a key part of your retirement strategy.

If you'd like to learn more about how annuities can help you, please schedule an appointment with me and I would be happy to discuss your options.

Vivat Jesus!

John D Ruckart, FICF
813-855-5111

Book an appt with me here:

johnruckart.10to8.com

Learn about our investments:

<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>





John Gohman
Faithful Navigator
john.gohman2@gmail.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

My reflection this month focuses on the question of **“what does my future hold?”** Each of us, at different ages and stages of life ask this question even if unconsciously. Some ask it because of job change, or a family change such as a new child, or some ask because of the onset of an illness. Some even ask it because death is near.

Some may pray that their current situation will change for the better, that the outcome requested is in fact the outcome delivered. Often this is not the case and most of us know from this experience and these prayers seemingly go unanswered.

Now for a little backstory. As many of you may know I went to college for my undergraduate degree at a Seminary in Cincinnati, at the time named St. Gregory's Seminary. Later it was merged with the Theologate and was renamed The Athenaeum of Ohio. During my 4 years there I met two brothers Dave and Jim Willig. Dave was in my class and his younger brother by two years went on to be ordained for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Dave and I left the seminary after our college days, but Jim after his ordination was assigned to various parishes in the Archdiocese.

Jim formed many relationships and was a popular and dynamic preacher. Although not a Jesuit, he formed friendships with the Jesuits who at the time work at the Milford Retreat Center. In his ministry in Cincinnati, he was assigned to various parishes and made many friends along the way. At age 47, he was diagnosed with Renal Cell Cancer. This was July 1999. Like any of us, he had to adjust to this news with a spectrum of emotions.

Jim shared this news with his mom and dad and his many siblings. They gathered with him on the night he got the news. Later that week he shared the news with his parish. Of course, the community wanted to

pray for their Father Willig. A Mass was organized, and over 2000 people showed up for the Mass that it was moved to the parking lot.

Fr. Jim passed into the arms of the Lord on June 24, 2001. He was 50 years old. He suffered and ministered by his witness until he breathed his last. He wrote a book in his last days entitled ***Lessons from the School of Suffering*** which chronicled his own Paschal Mystery.

His Spiritual Director was J. Michael Sparough SJ. Fr Sparough asked Fr. Jim how he saw his future – essentially the question I posed at the top of this reflection. Spontaneously and without hesitation, Jim said **“I don't know what my future holds, but I know WHO holds my future.”** It is worth taking to prayer.

Jim touched so many lives that after his death a small building on the grounds of the Milford Retreat Center was remodeled into the Willig Chapel, place of quiet contemplation and prayer on the Little Miami River. Jim's memory lives on. His ministry was such that a mass on the 20th Anniversary was celebrated and live streamed by his good friend and spiritual director Fr. Sparough.

One of the lives he touched was mine and I am grateful.





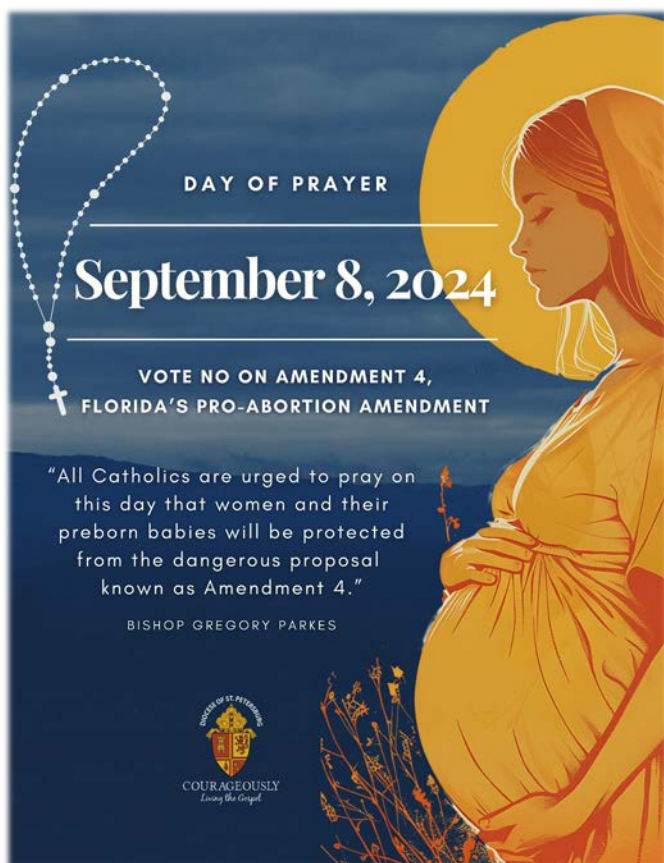
Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
727.723.1169



feel pain, and late term abortion, up to birth. These are extreme and evil realities that will come if approved in the upcoming General Election on Nov 5.

Vote NO on #4!

Included herein is the *Prayer for Life* and the *flyer* promoting the Sep 8 – Day of Prayer. Please pray this prayer now through Nov 5. Share your support for Life and encourage family and friends to join us in Voting NO on #4!



Sunday, September 8, will be a Day of Prayer for Life throughout our Diocese. This is being promoted by Bishop Gregory Parkes. All parishes should be actively promoting this and sharing the evils of FL Amendment #4. Please see www.dosp.org for parish and individual resources.

FL #4 will remove parental consent protections of our minor daughters and granddaughters. In the words of Bishop Parkes, heard on SpiritFM: "This is wrong!" FL #4 will allow late-term abortion, past the point where science has determined that the baby in the womb can

Prayer to Defeat Florida's Abortion Amendment

Ever-living God, you give life and desire a future for all your children. Take hold of our nation, state, and community and awaken in every heart awe for the gift of life. Send your Spirit to strengthen us with wisdom and fortitude as we defend mothers and children in Florida from laws that disregard their health and safety.

Mary and Joseph trusted in you and welcomed Jesus into our broken world. God Almighty, we ask their intercession to protect the preborn and their mothers, and to guide all parents in raising their children. May they help us build a civilization of love by upholding the sacredness of life and accompanying pregnant women in need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Mother of the Family,
pray for us!

St. Joseph, Protector of the Unborn,
pray for us!



Jerry Custin
PGK, PFN
jcustin@gmail.com

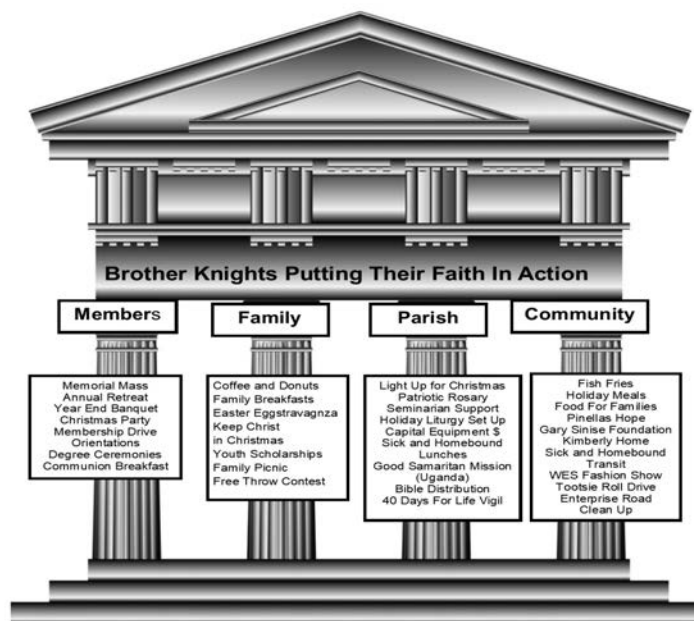


Build The Common Good.

This is a call to unity, charity and fraternity. **Build**, don't just talk the talk; walk the walk. **Common**, life isn't just me about me, it's inclusive. **Good**, as the Psalm proclaims God has blessed us with infinite goodness and mercy and guides us along right paths.

Psalm 23 is one of the best-known books of the Old Testament. What a superb month to have this one as it relates perfectly to this month's editorial and Mary's prayer, the Magnificat. Both proclaim the greatness of the Lord and list His blessings and power. Even walking through the valley of the shadow of death we fear no evil. His promises, like those He made to Abraham, are endless and we will dwell in the house of the Lord for endless days.

All we have to do is.... build the common good.



Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures he makes me lie down; to still waters he leads me; he restores my soul. He guides me along right paths for the sake of his name. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me. You set a table before me in front of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the LORD for endless days.

Special Announcement



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*Rev. Michael Cooper SJ
Retreat Leader*

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Knight & Family of the Year



Knight of the Year Sir Knight Edward Amador

PGK Gene Jajuga announced SK Ed Amador as Barney Gonyea Council's KoY at the Annual Installation Banquet.

Ed joined the Knights and our Council during last year's Fish Fry Fridays. He has been incredibly active taking on additional roles within the Council and Assembly.

He is the driving force behind Council 7109 attaining Star Council. His recruiting efforts led to nearly 20 new Knights joining the Order during the last fraternal year. Ed performed a complete and awesome overhaul of our website.

He is part of the succession plan in both the Council and Assembly.

Family of the Year Sir Knight Joe & Lady Betty D'Amelio

PGK Gene Jajuga announced Beety & Joe D'Amelio as Barney Gonyea Council's FoY at the Annual Installation Banquet.

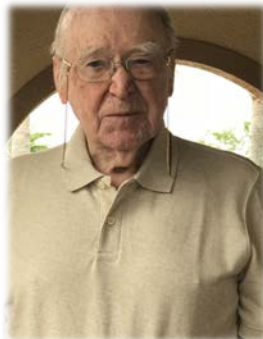
Betty & Joe have taken to heart the message to get involved. If there is an event hosted by the KofC, it is a safe bet that Betty & Joe will be there lending a hand. Be it a Fish Fry, a Dinner Dance, Coffee & Donuts, a special Mass, handing out ice cream to religious ed students, etc. They show up early and they work until the job is done. A wonderful example, we are blessed to have them in our Council!



In Memoriam

George Koch Smith

August 12, 1929 – July 28, 2024



SMITH, George Koch born on August 12, 1929, passed away at the age of 94 years from heart failure due to COVID 19 and pneumonia, on Sunday, July 28, 2024 in Palm Harbor, FL. He began his life in Hot Springs, AR, and at the age of 17 years old, joined the Army Air Force. He then transitioned to the Army when he accepted a call for Officer's Candidate School. While waiting for a billet to open, he was stationed at Fort Dix, where he met the love of his life, Dottie. They married there on March 12, 1952, and this began an adventure of Army life for the next 23 years. They travelled to many places on the East Coast as well as Italy, Europe, and Brazil, experiencing different cultures and raising two children along the way. He retired with honor as a Lt. Col. in 1970, then started his second career as a Procurement Officer for a steel company. He and Dottie then retired to Oldsmar, Florida in 1992, where they lived the rest of their lives. He was a member of the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW), the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), as well as a member of the Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree. George was preceded in death by his bride of 67 years, Dorothea "Dottie" (Belanger) Smith in 2019. He is survived by his two children, George David Koch Smith (Lisa), and Judith Lynne (Smith) Hill (Bradley); sister, Elizabeth Smith Kiker; sister-in-law, Jaqueline Belanger Lothrop; two grandsons, David George Smith and Timothy Winston Smith, and numerous nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life for both George and Dottie is scheduled on October 25 at Espirito Santo Catholic Church in Safety Harbor, FL at 10:30 am, followed by a full Military Honors Ceremony at Florida National Cemetery, in Bushnell, FL.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).



Letter to the Editor

Mary Queen Of the Knights

Last month we celebrated the Assumption of Mary, body and soul, into heaven. The Gospel reading relates that Mary traveled in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth who also was blessed to conceive her first child, John the Baptist, in her old age. The Gospel reading includes Mary's acceptance of her role in our salvation in her spontaneous and beautiful prayer, The Magnificat. This had to be a very hard and mysterious choice for Mary. How could she become pregnant and remain a Virgin? How would everyone, including her family, accept her. In the words of Bishop Robert Barron, she had to choose between being part of the Theo-drama, recognizing and following God's will, or, the ego-drama where we write the script, direct, produce and star in our own plan.

As Knights we, like Mary, choose the Theo-drama, and the Magnificat provides the basis for our script including our pillars of unity, charity fraternity (and maybe it sneaks in patriotism).

How? Let's look. Elizabeth in her greeting to Mary concludes with this observation, **"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled"** recognizing the importance of Mary's choice.

For her part, Mary responds, in part, with words that lay the foundation for us:

Unity. "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" Isn't our recognition of God the basis of our faith and commitment to this brotherhood?

Charity. Several statements witness this. **"He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation"** and He **"has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things."**

Fraternity. **"He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers..."**. We're in this together, by choice and promise. And God knows Israel needs our help in this discordant world.

Interestingly, Mary may not have been the only person assumed into heaven. Two Old Testament prophets, Enoch and Elijah, may have been spared death by God and taken into Heaven and this is documented in Scripture. Also, Moses and St. Joseph may also have been taken into Heaven.

The Catholic Church teaches dogmatically and therefore infallibly that Mary was assumed into Heaven. This dogma was proclaimed by Pius XII in 1950. However, the Church has also taught by the universal and ordinary magisterium that Saints Enoch and Elijah were assumed into Heaven. This **IS NOT** dogma. Further the Church indicates that it is acceptable as a pious belief that Saint Joseph was assumed into Heaven as well as Moses.

Now you know the rest of the story.



From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Core Exercises

The Order provides resources for members to grow in spiritual health and encounter Christ

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

In a [column](#) this time last year, I mentioned my daily exercise routine. Consider this a follow-up report. Like others my age who exercise, it is easy to overdo it. I did just that recently. As the result of my imprudence, I woke up one morning “down in the back,” as they say. I couldn’t sit in anything but a straight chair. Getting in and out of a recliner was excruciating. Getting dressed wasn’t exactly a picnic.

I took a pain reliever, but it didn’t do much good. After a while, I began to think that I had seriously injured my spine. Reluctantly, I went to my doctor. He poked around and then he shared some good news: My bones weren’t the problem. But I had strained my back muscles in the course of my workouts. “What you need,” he said, “are core exercises,” and with that he packed me off to physical therapy.

There I learned a new set of exercises designed to strengthen the muscles of my body’s core, or center — muscles that help to maintain balance and flexibility amid daily activities. I started the recommended exercise routine and soon discovered muscles I didn’t know I had. By stretching the same muscles that I had strained, the pain soon went away, and I felt much better.

You can probably see where this is going. It’s not a big stretch to see the connection between core and [Cor](#), between exercising the core of the human body and the spiritual exercises of the Knights of Columbus initiative called *Cor* — the Latin word for “heart” and a biblical word for “soul” or the center of one’s existence. I hope [many of you are already doing your Cor exercises](#) or will soon begin them.

Why do we need *Cor* exercises? To start with, we often experience inward, spiritual pain. It may not be excruciating — more of an annoyance, a pain we try to ignore, deny or minimize. Or perhaps we’ve just become spiritually flabby. We tell ourselves that our spiritual life and relationship with God are in good shape and that we are pleasing in his eyes. But then something happens that causes us to think twice about our life, and the pain of guilt is harder to ignore.

What to do? When my back hurt, my first move was to medicate, but it didn’t work. Pain relievers weren’t the answer. No, I went to the doctor to find out the underlying problem and to seek a remedy. So too, when we falter spiritually or experience guilt, we shouldn’t try to medicate ourselves with food or alcohol or distractions. No, we should go to the doctor. Encountering the divine physician in the sacrament of reconciliation, we receive God’s mercy and discover that we are not broken beyond his ability to repair.

We also discover that going back to the same old sins and failings will only result in more spiritual discomfort and pain. So, a good next step is to engage in spiritual exercises. That is why the Knights of Columbus offers us *Cor*. Through prayer, formation and fraternity, it is designed to help us strengthen not our physical core but our spiritual “cor.”

Like the core exercises I was assigned, the spiritual exercises of *Cor* might be new to some. They take different forms: praying the rosary, reading Scripture, participating in spiritual discussions, to name a few. *Cor* aims to help Knights encounter Christ and support one another in growing in faith and virtue, in becoming better followers of Christ, better husbands and fathers. *Cor* is exercise for the heart!

At first, I was hesitant to start my core exercises, just as some may be reluctant to participate in *Cor*. But I’m glad I did, and you will be too.



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Knights On Mission

The 142nd Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council was held in Quebec City earlier this month, and a very successful meeting it was. The theme of the Convention was "On Mission". In his address to the Delegates, the Supreme Knight quoted St John Henry Newman, saying that "...every great change is effected by the few, not the many; by the resolute, undaunted, zealous few."

The Supreme Knight said that is what we must be: resolute, undaunted, and zealous in advancing our mission in today's world. There is no greater task of ours than to build up families, parishes, and communities that are centered on Christ. We are Knights of the Eucharist, and we are On Mission!

The Supreme Knight covered many works and initiatives the Order has accomplished this year. Of particular note, in preparation for the Church's Jubilee Year in 2025, the Order will be assisting with the restoration of baldacchino—the massive bronze canopy that rises above the papal altar above St Peter's tomb in St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, as well as a bronze sculpture at the altar of the Chair of St Peter. The Supreme Knight also reviewed the humanitarian efforts the Order has done in Ukraine, aiding persecuted Christians, assisting with Disaster Relief, and many other works worldwide. All of us should be proud of what the Order stands for, and what we are able to accomplish as a unified Order!

I strongly encourage each of you to read the Supreme Knights address, as well as other materials about the Supreme Convention, available on the Supreme website.

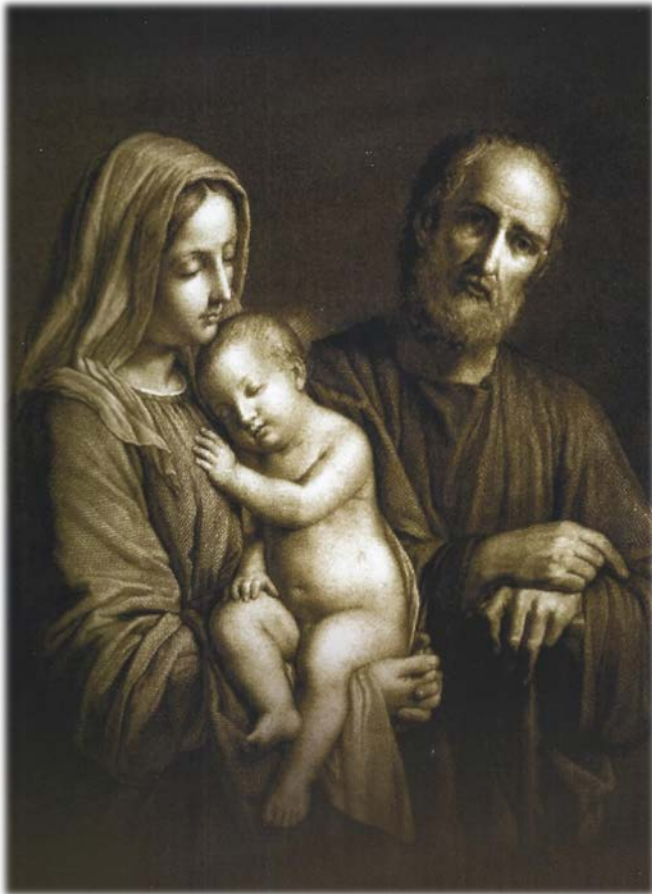
The Supreme Knight also announced a new pilgrim icon program, to replace the St Joseph icons currently in circulation. This year is the 350th anniversary of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque receiving her visions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1674, and Pope Francis, has announced that he's writing a new document — a reflection on the Sacred Heart — that will be released probably in September. Therefore, in early 2025, the Order will help spread devotion to the Sacred Heart with the launch of a new pilgrim icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We will not be able to schedule anything in Florida until we get more details, but Councils can and should tell their pastors and parishes about this forthcoming opportunity and seek their support in hosting this new pilgrim icon.

Finally, as I have mentioned before in this publication and other forums, the vote on the proposed Amendment 4 to the State of Florida constitution is a very grave matter that all of us should be concerned about. The Bishops of Florida are unanimously opposed to this amendment, and many of them have posted video messages on Diocesan websites. I once again strongly encourage all Councils in Florida to engage with their parishes and Diocesan Life Committees and support the efforts to educate and help foster opposition to the amendment. While we cannot reasonably expect to have a mass conversion to the pro-life point of view, we can help to spread the word about the flaws in the language of this proposed amendment, and we can strongly help encourage our like-minded fellow Catholics to vote "no" on this proposed amendment in November.

Vivat Jesus

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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.

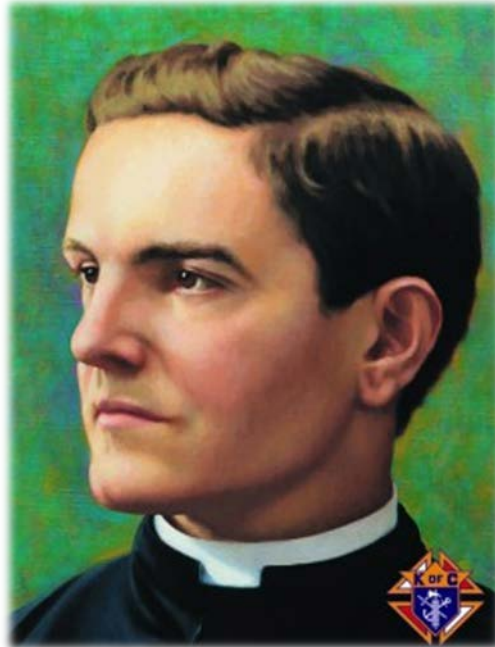
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

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...

September 2024

- 09/01 | Sun 10:30a Silver Rose Icon Mass
- 09/08 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 09/12 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 09/12 | Thu 7:00p Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 09/14 | Sat 8:00a Road Clean Up Project (Meet at the shed)
- 09/17 | Tue 7:00p KofC Informational Open House
- 09/19 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 09/19 | Thu 7:00p KofC Unified Degree Exemplification
- 09/21 | Sat 7:30a Kimberly Home WorkDay
- 09/21 | Sat 8:30a KofC Annual Retreat
- 09/28 | Sat 11:00a KofC Family Picnic



Assembly Calendar of Events...

September 2024

- 09/26 | Thu 7:00p Assembly Membership Meeting

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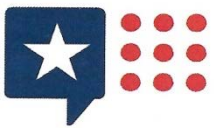
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God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to
Your loving care.

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.

