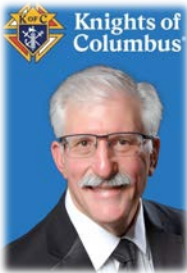




The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Worthy Brothers & Ladies,

As we approach the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we anticipate Holy Week and the glorious Solemnity of Easter. We have been travelling through the desert, and I hope that this has been a fruitful journey for all of you. For me, it has been a quiet reflection on the reason that Christ had to suffer and to die for me. It has been a time knowing where I have failed and the need to ask for forgiveness from my loving and merciful Savior. Let us approach the Passion of Our Lord on Holy Thursday where we will experience the washing of the feet at Christ's Last Supper, and, as Knights, we will stand vigil in the Parish Center before the Blessed Sacrament, at the garden during Christ's Agony in the Garden. Let us bow before the cross on Good Friday with humility and deep sorrow for our sins. We will wait in silence on Holy Saturday as Jesus lies in the tomb. We will rejoice with renewed faith and hope at the great Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday night and through every Mass celebrated on Easter Sunday. So, I would like to wish Happy Easter to everyone in advance and, I hope you will be filled the peace and joy of the Risen Christ. May you say in a little less than three weeks, "He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

Now, to revisit our busiest month of the year. It started with the Mardi Gras Masquerade Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 1st. We had about 100 people in attendance enjoying the festivities. We had gift baskets

Issue 04, April 2025

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, April 10 @ **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

and a lotto tree to raffle off and a 50/50 drawing. Thank you to Mark & Elaine Feldman who provided the music for dancing when the band was unable to attend. Even with this disappointment, we had fun visiting with each other and enjoying our Mardi Gras feast! Even without Ron and the Classics, we danced to the music!

Thank you to all the volunteers that made this dance a success.

Kay Strehle	Rich Resler	Margaret Krivchenia
Jack Strehle	Tom Wozniak	Jean Wozniak
Gene Jajuga	Karen Jajuga	Robin LaChance
Tom Harkins	Ann LeClerc	Richard LeClerc
Mark Feldman		Elaine Feldman
Peggy Gohman		George Inderwies

Our biggest endeavor of the year is our wonderful Fish Fry which started on March 7th and continues for six weeks. This has been a wonderful year. We are breaking all kinds of records for meals served. The first week we had 465 meals served. The second week we increased to 633 meals served, which is a milestone for us. The third week we dropped off a little bit with 597 meals served. This past week we had 532 meals served. Everyone has had wonderful things to say about the food and the desserts from the Ladies Auxiliary. We have served 1695 meals in just 4 weeks, which is almost what we served all last year. This will be our best year

ever, and we could not have this kind of success without all the help from our volunteers.

Matt Sunski	Mario Zaccaia	Rebecca Manetta
Rob Pickard	Joe D'Amelio	Betty D'Amelio
Kay Strehle	Jack Strehle	Sue Engelmann
Tom Harkins	Anne Harkins	Fr. Michael Cooper
Don Reed	Tom Wozniak	Jean Wozniak
Betsy Clarke	John Clarke	Tom Fitzpatrick
Bill Gallant	Paul Harvey	George Inderwies
Chris Kearns	Brian Kearns	Cathy Schaefer
John Papa	Ann LeClerc	Richard LeClerc
Ed Amador	Rita Wolanin	Gene Wolanin
JJ Coyne	Santo Loparo	Adel Nammour
Gene Jajuga	Karen Jajuga	Pat Nocerino
Shirly Drake	Terry Drake	Peter Demzak
Roe Resler	Richie Resler	Peggy Gohman
Jim Montali	Phil Farney	John Gohman
Dennis Lentz	Dan Brandon	Frank DiMattei
Tom Stanko	Mark Feldman	Angela DiMattei
Bill Krajieski	Doug deWolfe	Margaret Krivchenia
Frank Cayer	Frank McEwen	Jim Lankford

Thank you to all the women from the Ladies Auxiliary!

We have been doing the Fish Fry for the last 10 years. Throughout this time, we have been led by Frank DiMattei. With his leadership, he has taken us from just a few hundred a night to where we are now, between 500 and 600 a night. It is with great sadness that we learned that Frank DiMattei has decided to retire from organizing the Fish Fry at the end of this season. Thank you, Frank, for all the hard work and dedication you have put into making the Fish Fry event a raging success. You will truly be missed. Frank is willing to help train anyone who is interested in taking over for him next year. Please contact Frank if you are interested.

Lastly, we cooked hamburgers & hot dogs for the Confirmation Retreat last Saturday in the Parish Center for about 100 students and their parents. Thank you for your help with this function.

Gene Jajuga	Matt Sunski	Richard LeClerc
Tom Stanko	Margaret Krivchenia	

Upcoming Events

- Thu, Apr 3rd at 7:00p - 7109 Council Officer's Meeting in the Gathering Room
- Fri, Apr 4th at 4:00p - KofC Fish Fry #5 in the Parish Center

- Sun, Apr 6th at 8:00a - KofC Coffee & Donuts in the St. John Bosco Center
- Thu Apr 10th at 6:15p - Rosary in St. John Bosco Center
- Thu Apr 10th at 7:00p - KofC Council 7109 Membership Meeting in the Parish Center
- Thu Apr 10th at 7:00p - KofC Ladies Auxiliary Meeting in the Gathering Room
- Fri, Apr 11th at 4:00p - KofC Fish Fry #6 in the Parish Center
- Sat, April 12th at 8:30a - Easter Basket Delivery in the St. John Bosco Center
- Tue, April 15th at 7:00p - Program Directors Meeting in the Gathering Room
- Thu, April 17th at 8:00a - Pinellas Hope Food Prep in the Parish Center Kitchen
- Thu, April 17th at 7:00p - Holy Thursday Mass in the Main Church
- Thu, April 24th at 7:00p - Assembly 2474 Meeting in the St. John Bosco Center
- Thu, May 1st at 7:00p - Council 7109 Officer's Meeting in the Gathering Room
- Sun, May 4th at 1:00p - The Bishop's Party on the Church Campus
- Thu, May 8th at 6:15p - Rosary in the St. John Bosco Center
- Thu May 8th at 7:00p - KofC Council 7109 Membership Meeting in the Parish Center
- Thu May 8th at 7:00p - KofC Ladies Auxiliary Meeting in the Gathering Room

The Bishop's Party

Bishop Parkes is having his annual Donor Appreciation Party at our Parish on Sunday May 4th. We will be cooking and serving food for the party along with some set up and take down and clean-up. We will be sending out a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Tom

Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight Council 7109
727.366.5422



SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109 Holy Moments

Keep Creating Holy Moments!

Brother Knights,

As we welcome April, our mission to create Holy Moments and grow our brotherhood continues. Inspired by Matthew Kelly's message, let's remember that every interaction is an opportunity to bring someone closer to God and to our Order.

Membership Update

We remain at **9 new members**, sitting at **60% of our 15-member goal**. While this is great progress, we still need 6 more to reach our target! We currently have **4 prospects in the works**, and with your help, we can get them across the finish line.

The Fish Fry – A Perfect Opportunity!

With a few more **Fish Fry events** left this season, this is a prime opportunity to **invite Catholic men** to experience the fellowship and purpose of our council. A simple invitation can change someone's life—just as someone once invited YOU to join this incredible brotherhood. Special thanks to Bill Galant, John Papa, and Tom Stanko who are stepping in and helping with recruiting whilst I'm forced to slow down due to medical issues. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Our Call to Action

We need to **PUSH and PROMOTE** our council, our activities, and the power of Holy Moments. Let's continue **extending personal invitations** to friends, family, and fellow parishioners. The more men we bring in, the stronger we become in faith, service, and impact.

Brothers, **we are only 6 away from our goal!** Let's make these final weeks count by inviting others to walk this journey with us.

Vivat Jesus!



SK Edward J. Amador
Director of Membership
Barney Gonyea Council 7109



WGK Tom Krivchenia presents two of our newest Knights – Jacob Bandy & Julius Silva - with their Third Degree Certificates

Unity – Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2025

Apr 15 | Jun 17

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2025

Apr 17 | Jun 19

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	330
Insurance Membership	129
Honorary Life Members	63
Honorary Members	08
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	09/15
2023-2024 Insurance	02/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	126
Honorary Life Members	14
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 Krajewski	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!

Denis Bethke, Jonathan Boyce, Kurt Clasen, Joseph D'Amelio, Douglas deWolfe, Peter Demzak, Dominic Friscia, David Harvey, Patrick Harwood, Kevin Hernandez, George Inderwies, Daniel Jordan, John Kane, John Lenehan, Jerry Maratea, Frank Marsalek, John Mills, Patrick Nocerino, Todd Owers, Nick Petrarca, Mario Russica, Hugh Siegel, Massimo Simeoni, Matthew Sunski, Jack Tipton, Ronald Vance, Thomas Ziegler

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Sean Michael Cook (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Susanne Papa (d), Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Mac Sinise (d), Stanley Gdula (d), J. Nick Martin (d), Linda Cooper (d), Edward Mandichak (d), Mary Clare Rose (d), Bob Ehrman, Felipe Hernandez (d), Tony McClure (d), Maria Palazzo (d), Burke Taylor (d), Harry Hill (d), Antonia Rosin (d), Frances Hamacher (d), Jacqueline Barry (d), Mary Branham (d), Mary Williams (d), Frank Schuster II (d), Kennedie McFadden, Sal Burriesci, George Smith (d), Pauline Sager (d), Vicki Nolan (d), Steve Gorey (d), Felice D'Elia (d), Stanley Kwiatowski (d), Ethan Griswold (d), Alex Griswold, Dick LaLuzerne, Fr Rich Rosin (d), Mary Delk (d), Tony Doyle (d), Mary Frances Lowe, Dwight Rochester, Jim & Pat Nolf, Frank Diaz (d), Nancy Pagnott, Ed Warticki (d), Joann Finney, Joseph Genalo Jr, John Clarke, Jack Mills (d), John Cathcart, Ed Sleyzak, Thomas O'Rourke, Karen Jajuga, Bob Justiana, Wally Vazquez, Edward Amador, Santo Loparo

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

Support Our Vocations Fund



Austin Smith



Mark Wegener



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. Austin and Mark are located at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, while John Paul is located at St. Joseph Seminary College. Austin Smith is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Mark Wegener is from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville. John Paul Grabowski 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 and 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, John 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 Krajewski, 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 & Andrew Rodnite 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 Elflein, 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 Kembell-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 & Dreema 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, Patrick & Joan Alix, Fred & Caroline Bennett, Victor & Susanne Berggren, Benjamin & Molly Bergin, Terrell & Victoria Clampitt, Timothy & Marcy Dolan, Mark & Renee Beth Kraf, Edward Martinenko, Christopher Mazzone, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, Javier & Xiomara Ortega, Robert Papariella, Kurt & Mary Lynn Salac, James & Darlene Stanley, Albert Masselli, Thomas & Cynthia Bergevin, Francis Cayer, Brian & Anita Jennings, John Liu, John Liu, Andrew Rodnite

Total Collected to Date: \$3030.25



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain
727.644.5544

Chaplain's Corner

The Paschal Mystery – The Heart Of Our Faith

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are coming up to Holy Week and Easter (April 20). Traditionally we think that Jesus died for my sins and that makes us "sinners" and defines us negatively. Sin is one thing, but we did not kill Jesus. The political and religious leaders found Jesus a threat. He spoke of a loving, forgiving, and healing God - not a "law and order" and distant god above us. Yes, the crowd too contributed to Jesus' death by their following uncritically their leaders, "Crucify him. Crucify him. We have no king but Caesar!"

During his life, Jesus bravely and faithfully followed His call, and it led to his death. But that was not the end. His God raised him up to new life. This reality becomes the paradigm for us, "the Paschal Mystery." **In our own lives, our God brings us out of the symbolic death and dying in everyday life. Our God opens New Life, New Hope, New Beginnings, New Possibilities in amazing and unexpected ways.** Many of you have heard my story of Nancy who was burned over 85% of her body when a stove at her family's cabin blew up. She was universally recognized on the Xavier U campus as the most alive person. Her burns were not the last word. Jesus healed her humanly and spiritually, so her burns no longer limited her.

We heard that same Paschal Mystery healing in the Prodigal Son Sunday two week ago. To those criticizing the lavish party, the Loving Father/Mother proclaimed, "my son was dead and is now alive." Truly a miracle of the

Spirit - not an accident. Not magic. We all have had those surprise healings. "When one door in my life gets slammed in my face and will not open, e.g., the end of a friendship, or of a job, or of an illness, of a family situation, or some loss, God opens a new door. Not magic but the Paschal Mystery in my life - pure gift!

Thus, we remain **a people of Hope**. Our God is alive and with us. Sin and vulnerability are not the last word. We see that this Sunday in the woman taken in adultery. The Scribes and Pharisees are testing Jesus to see if he will follow the Mosaic Law. Jesus says, "Whoever is without sin, let them cast the first stone!" No one could, so Jesus says to the woman, "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more." Jesus affirms the goodness and possibility in this woman. He did not beat her up. (By the way, "where's the beef?" Adultery takes two but no man is accused! The event was a set up by the Scribes and Pharisees.). Instead of being condemned for her past, Jesus affirms her New Life, New Beginnings! Resurrection in her life!

Reflect on your own Paschal Mysteries in your own life.

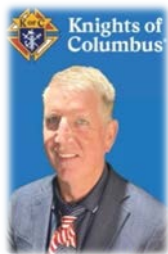
Join us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery at the Easter Sunrise Mass at 6:30am or at 8:30am in Philippe Park. Being a chair. Animals are most welcome.

During the Saturday 6PM Mass, we will anoint Ken Seguin. Ken is doing well, but we will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing for his continual recovery. If you or a family member wants to be anointed at that Mass, call me.

Michael Cooper, S.J.

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	727.453.8843
Family Director	Vacant	
Public Relations Director	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
Life Director	Vacant	
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,

Happy Easter to all. I really hope that your Lenten journey was very uplifting to deepen your faith and bring your family closer to God. Lent is a time for reflection on one's life, seeking forgiveness and striving for spiritual growth and renewal.

I want to send out a special thank you to all who have helped make our Lenten Friday Fish Frys such a great success. To this point we have had a huge number of guests. The word is spreading and each year we are seeing improvements in the number of meals sold.

We will be having our monthly Coffee & Donuts in the JBC from 7:30 AM to 12 PM on April 13th. Our KofC Open House will be held on April 15th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center. Try to get a friend to come with you. The Unified Degree Ceremony Exemplification will take place on April 17th in the Parish Center. We will need about 4 or 5 Knights to help take out the cacti plants on the altar.

From the Community Directors Desk

We will be having our monthly road clean-up, the date to be determined. It is about 1 hour of work that really makes Enterprise Road look good. Come join us as we clean up to the railroad tracks. On April 12th we will be delivering Easter Meals. This is a great way to give back to the community and to those in need.

From the Family Directors Desk

We will continue our food drive for our chapter of the St. Vincent DePaul at our weekly Fish Frys and at our April Membership Meeting. Please bring non-perishable food items to the events.

From the Life Directors Desk

We have our monthly Rosary on Thursday the 10th of April at 6:15PM in the JBC. The Rosary will be led by Wally Vasques and Jerry Custin. Please invite friends and family members to join in.

April Liturgical Calendar

- April 2 – St. Francis of Paola, Hermit, optional memorial
- April 4 – St Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, optional memorial
- April 5 – St Vincent Ferrer, Priest, optional memorial

- April 7 – St John Baptist de la Salle, Priest, optional memorial
- April 11 – St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr, Memorial
- April 13 – Passion (Palm) Sunday
- April 17 – Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper
- April 18 – Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord
- April 19 – Holy Saturday Great Vigil of Easter
- April 20 – Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
- April 21-26 – Days in the Octave of Easter, Solemnities
- April 27 – Divine Mercy Sunday
- April 28 – St Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St Louis Grignon de Montfort, optional memorials
- April 29 – St Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church, Memorial
- April 30 – St Pius V, Pope, Religious, optional memorial

St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr, Memorial

Born July 1030, he was a Polish Catholic prelate, who served as the Bishop of Krakow and was martyred by the Polish King Boleslaw II the Bold in April of 1079. He is the patron Saint of Poland. Born to Noble Parents he was educated at a cathedral school in Gniezno (then the capital of Poland) and later in Paris. Upon his return to Poland, he was ordained a priest. Following his ordination, he was given a canonry in Krakow and became known for his preaching. Later he became Vicar General. Following the death of the Bishop (1072) Stanislaus was elected his successor and accepted the offer only at the explicit command of Pope Alexander II.

His major accomplishments included bringing papal legates to Poland. He then encouraged King Boleslaw to establish Benedictine monasteries to aid in the Christianization of Poland. There arose many conflicts between the King and the Bishop. The King eventually accused Stanislaus of treason, and the court found him guilty. The King sent his soldiers to execute the Bishop, however when they would not carry out his orders, the King himself killed the Bishop. The murder outraged the people of the land and led to the dethronement of the King.



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

Brothers,

Are you on track to reach your financial goals? Are you unsure how to begin setting those goals?

As your agent, I'm dedicated to helping you find the right insurance solutions, no matter your stage of life. Whether you are in your working years with young kids, living paycheck to paycheck, or knocking on the door of retirement, I'm excited to help you protect what matters most and build financial security with insurance-based solutions tailored to meet your priorities.

The first thing to consider is whether your family would be financially taken care of if something happened to you. Would they struggle to meet the mortgage payments or to pay off other debts?

Term life insurance can be an affordable option to give you protection in case of the unexpected. You'll also have the option to convert to a permanent plan in the future without additional underwriting.

Second, start preparing for retirement, no matter how far away it may seem. The Knights of Columbus offers annuity solutions to help provide you with retirement income you can't outlive, guaranteed.

Finally, disability income insurance. For many men, regardless of their phase in life, protecting their income is their greatest financial need. What would you do if you were no longer able to work? Don't overlook how disability income insurance may be able to help you.

I understand that your financial needs are not just unique but change over time. I'm here to help you find the right solutions today and to walk with you as your insurance needs evolve. If you have any questions, please reach out to me so we can schedule a time to meet.

Thank you and God Bless!

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>



WGK Tom Krivchenia presents Family of the Month
Certificates to Tom & Jean Wozniak (Jan '25) and
Tom & Anne Harkins (Feb '25)



John Gohman
Faithful Navigator
john.gohman2@gmail.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

Casting out Demons through Silence

There is an incident in the Gospels where the disciples of Jesus were unable to cast out a particular demon. When they asked Jesus why, he replied that *some demons can only be cast out by prayer*. The particular demon he was referring in this instance had rendered a man deaf and mute.

I want to name another demon which seemingly cannot be cast out except by prayer, namely, the demon that forever fractures our personal relationships, families, communities, and churches through misunderstanding and division, making it forever difficult to be in life-giving community with each other.

What particular prayer is needed to cast out this demon?
The prayer of a shared silence, akin to a *Quaker Silence*.

What is a *Quaker Silence*?

A tiny bit of history first: Quakers are a historically Protestant Christian set of denominations whose members refer to each other as *Friends* but are generally called *Quakers* because of a famous statement once made by their founder, George Fox (1624-1691). Legend has it that in the face of some authority figures who were trying to intimidate him, Fox held up his Bible and said: *This is the word of God, quake before it!*

For the Quakers, particularly early on, their common prayer consisted mainly in sitting together in community in silence, waiting for God to speak to them. They would sit together in silence, waiting on God's power to come and give them something that they could not give themselves, namely, real community with each other beyond the divisions that separated them. Though they sat individually, their prayer was radically communal. They were sitting as one body, waiting together for God to give them a unity they could not give themselves.

Might this be a practice that we, Christians of every denomination, could practice today in the light of the helplessness we feel in the face of division everywhere (in our families, in our churches, and in our countries)? Given that, as Christians, we are at root one community inside the Body of Christ, a single organic body where physical distance does not really separate us, might we begin as a

regular prayer practice to sit with each other in a *Quaker Silence*, one community, sitting in silence, waiting together, waiting for God to come and give us community that we are powerless to give ourselves?

Practically, how might this be done? Here's a suggestion: each day set aside a time to sit in silence, alone or ideally with others, for a set period of time (fifteen to twenty minutes) where the intent, unlike in private meditation, is not first of all to nurture your personal intimacy with God, but rather to sit together in community with everyone inside the Body of Christ (and with all sincere persons everywhere) asking God to come and give us communion beyond division.

This could also be a powerful ritual in marriage and in family life. Perhaps one of the most healing therapies inside of a marriage might be for a couple to sit together regularly in a silence, asking God to give them something that they cannot give themselves, namely, an understanding of each other beyond the tensions of everyday life. I remember as a child, praying the rosary together as a family each evening and that ritual having the effect of a *Quaker Silence*. It calmed the tensions that had built up during the day and left us feeling more peaceful as a family.

Through the practice of *Oraison (Quaker Silence)*. Saint Eugene asked us to set aside a half hour each day to sit in a silence that is intended to be a time when we are not just in communion with God but are also intentionally in communion with all Christians around the world. Akin to a *Quaker Silence*, it is a prayer wherein each person sits alone, in silence, but in community, asking God to form one community across all distances and differences. When Jesus says some demons are only cast out by prayer, he means it. And perhaps the demon to which this most particularly refers is the demon of misunderstanding and division. We all know how powerless we are to cast it out. Sitting in a communal silence, asking God to do something for us beyond our powerlessness, can exorcise the demon of misunderstanding and division.

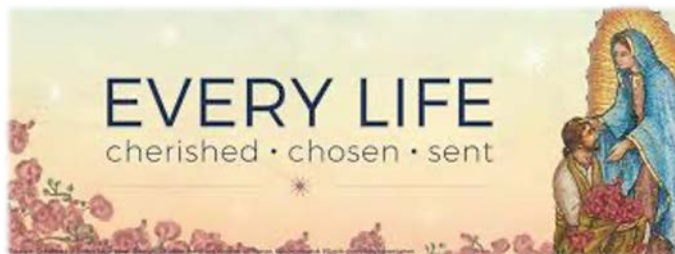
Your brother in Christ,

Vivat Jesus!

John



Amaro Lionheart
realamarolionheart@gmail.com
305.761.3419



The Tomb is Empty. Now Rise.

Death was certain. The stone was sealed. The world had already moved on. The cross had done its work, and those who had followed Him now hid in silence, their hopes buried with Him in the tomb. Rome was still in power. The religious leaders still ruled the temple. Everything seemed unchanged—except for one undeniable, earth-shattering truth.

On that morning, when the women went to the tomb, they expected only death. But what they found changed history forever. The stone was rolled away. The grave clothes lay empty. The One who was crucified, the One whom death had claimed, was gone—not stolen, not lost, but risen. And in that instant, the world was turned upside down.

Easter is not a metaphor. It is not a comforting tradition. It is not a seasonal celebration that comes and goes like the turning of a calendar page. Easter is the event that divides history, the moment when death itself was defeated. The empty tomb is not just an artifact of the past but the very foundation of our future. Because Christ lives, we are no longer bound to sin. Because He rose, we are no longer slaves to fear. Because He conquered the grave, we have been given a power that changes everything.

But the question remains: What do we do with this victory?

As Catholic men, Easter demands more from us than passive belief. It is not enough to know that Christ has risen; we must rise with Him. This is a call to transformation, to a resurrection in our own lives. If we have walked through Lent seeking renewal, then Easter is the moment we claim that renewal fully. It is a summons to step out of whatever tomb has held us captive—fear, complacency, sin, doubt—and to walk into the world as men made new. Christ did not rise so that we could remain as we were. He rose to make all things new, including us.

This is not just a faith to be spoken but a reality to be lived. The resurrection is not a distant event to be remembered; it is the power that shapes our relationships, our fatherhood, our work, our faith. As Christ left the tomb behind, so too must we leave behind everything that binds

us to darkness. We are called to be men of light, men of truth, men whose very lives proclaim that Christ is alive.

And this Easter, we stand on the edge of something extraordinary. For the first time in centuries, Catholics and Orthodox Christians will celebrate Easter on the same day. This is more than coincidence; it is a call to unity, a reminder that the same Christ who shattered the chains of death also calls His Church to be one. If the tomb could not hold Him, then surely, no human division should stand against the unity He desires for His people.

Pope Francis has said that Easter belongs to Christ. It does not belong to one denomination, one tradition, one group of believers. It is the declaration of all who bear His name. Easter belongs to every man who has fallen and risen again, to every father who has led his family in faith, to every son who has searched for meaning and found it at the foot of the cross. It belongs to those who have known the depths of sin and the joy of redemption. It belongs to those who refuse to live in fear because they know the truth—Christ has conquered, and He reigns forever.

The world will move on from Easter quickly. It will return to its distractions, its fleeting concerns, its illusions of permanence. But we cannot afford to move on. Easter is not a day; it is the cornerstone of our faith, the reason we stand firm in hope, the reason we do not fear, the reason we live not for ourselves but for Him who died and rose for us.

So let us not celebrate Easter as if it is merely an event in history. Let us celebrate as men who have encountered the Risen Christ. Let us celebrate as men who know what it means to be dead in sin and alive in grace. Let us celebrate as men who refuse to live in the shadows when the light has come. Let us live Easter in our homes, in our workplaces, in our communities. Let us carry the truth of the empty tomb into a world still lost in darkness.

Let us be the men who, like Peter and John, run toward the truth, who see and believe, who do not hesitate to proclaim with our lives that He is risen.

And if we believe this, truly believe it, then nothing can ever be the same again.



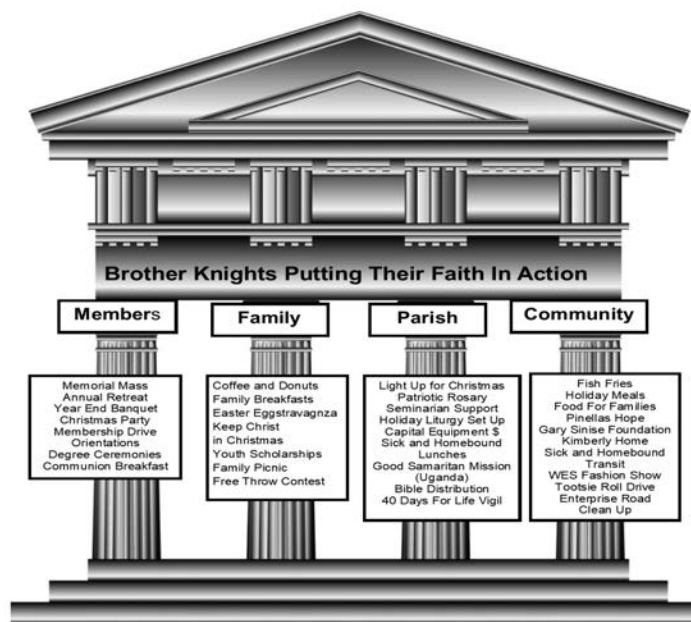
Jerry Custin
PGK, PFN
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Domestic Church Renewal of Marriage Vows

This month we are called to remember, treasure and renew our marriage vows. Psalm 16 focuses on our plea to God to keep us safe and be our refuge. On our part, we promise not to court other Gods. We express gratitude to the Lord for all we've been given. We know that with Him at our side, we will never be shaken.

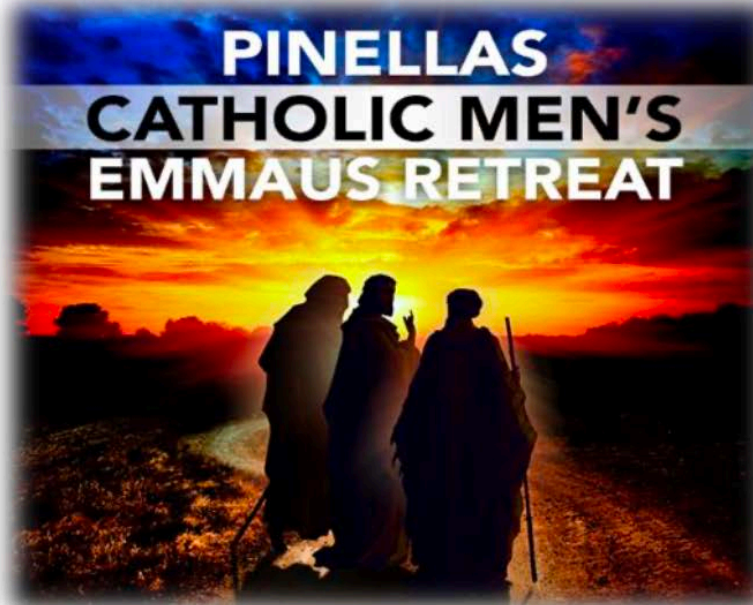
How much does this relationship with God apply to our marriages? How wonderful it is to have a strong, trusting, loving partner in our lives each and every day? Renewal? You bet. Sign me up!



Psalm 16

Keep me safe, O God; in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, you are my Lord, you are my only good. As for the holy ones who are in the land, they are noble, in whom is all my delight. They multiply their sorrows who court other gods. Blood libations to them I will not pour out, nor will I take their names upon my lips. LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you have made my destiny secure. Pleasant places were measured out for me; fair to me indeed is my inheritance. I bless the LORD who counsels me; even at night my heart exhorts me. I keep the LORD always before me; with him at my right hand, I shall never be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad, my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure, For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, nor let your devout one see the pit. You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

Special Announcement



Franciscan Center – May 2 - 4, 2025

What is an Emmaus Retreat?

Emmaus is a passive retreat weekend designed for men who would like to explore their own relationship with Jesus. It is hosted by men who are called to share parts of their own Emmaus Journey. The weekend consists of a series of talks by speakers who share their very personal life experiences along with their personal relationship with God and with their family. It may prove to be a Journey you may not soon forget. Come join us for the next step in Your Journey!

Cost: Double \$250 / Single \$350

Partial Scholarships Are Available

Contact: Chuck Warrington (727) 224-7055

Lenten Fish Fry FryDays

K of C

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For additional information, please contact our Worthy Grand Knight, Tom Krivchenia, at grandknight7109@gmail.com.

Letter to the Editor

Easter and the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes

As I write this, I do not know the final outcome of our fish fries but I can say we are gaining increasing recognition in surrounding parishes for the quality of not only our product but of the community sharing it fosters. Even Father Ted Costello, Assistant Pastor of St. Michael's Parish not only attends weekly but also markets our fish fries from the altar at Sunday Masses. We have established a reputation. So far and wide that it reminds us of the story of the loaves of fishes in Matthew Chapter 14. Because of His growing awareness Jesus went to a solitary place to escape the crowds. But the crowds found Him on foot trails. He had compassion on them and healed their sick.

As evening approached His disciples said, "Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy fish and something to eat." Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. "Bring them here to me," he said. And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Now, we didn't hit the 5,000 mark this Lenten season but we did have to multiply the loaves and fishes due to our excellent patrons as we led them to our most revered religious holiday – Easter.

Christ's death and resurrection are central to our faith. The significance of Easter is Jesus Christ's triumph over death. His resurrection means the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. The purpose of Easter also means the full confirmation of all that Jesus taught and preached during His three-year ministry. If He had not risen from the dead or simply died and not

been resurrected, He would have been thought of as just another teacher or prophet. However, His resurrection rebuked all that and provided final and undeniable proof that He was the Son of God and that He had overcome death once and for all.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the core of the Christian gospel. Saint Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and hope are in vain (1 Cor. 15:14). Certainly, without the resurrection, there would be no Christian preaching or faith. The apostles of Christ would have continued as the disheartened group, which the Gospel of John depicts as being in hiding for fear of the Jews. They were in total despair until they met the risen Christ (John 20:19). Then they touched Christ's wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the foundation of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): "...for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have" (Luke 24:39).

Nothing fishy about that or our works as Knights and Ladies of Christ!



The Ladies Auxiliary has been busy helping our Knights of Columbus Council for the first four weeks of the Lenten Fish Fry's. So many areas are covered by our dedicated ladies, from shopping for desserts, food prep in the kitchen and prepping desserts, table set-up and clean-up, serving the main service lines and take out meals, and so much more. Our help has made these events so successful. Thank-you ladies for all you do. God's blessings to you and yours as Easter is nearly upon us!

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Generosity of Heart

The virtue of magnanimity opens our hearts to always respond with charity, humility and gratitude to God

Spend any time on social media or watching political debates and you can quickly conclude that certain virtues are missing from our public discourse. Among them is the virtue of magnanimity. Often defined as a largeness or generosity of heart — from the Latin words for “great soul” — magnanimity orients us toward using our gifts in service to others. It gives us the desire to aspire to great things with the time God has given us on earth.

Magnanimity is an essential virtue if we want to effectively lead our families and our brother Knights. Why? Because it gives us a clarity of mission and purpose. It keeps us focused on striving for the highest ideals and helps us avoid the traps and snares set for us by the evil one. Whereas pride and presumption lead to envy, jealousy, rivalries and a host of other small-minded maladies, magnanimity shows us the more excellent way. St. Paul tells us: “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just ... if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (Phil 4:8).

The magnanimous man is characterized by his selfless generosity of spirit. He knows that he is loved by God and is aware of the gifts and talents that God has given to him. He knows that his gifts are not for his own use but are for serving and lifting up others. And because he is confident in and grateful for these gifts, he recognizes and even celebrates the gifts of others, especially those gifts that he himself may not possess.

In other words, magnanimity gives us the mindset to always see the best in others and interpret their actions and attitudes in the most favorable light possible. It gives us the strength to practice the spiritual works of mercy — bearing wrongs patiently and responding to difficult situations with forbearance and forgiveness rather than revenge. It can be hard to take the high road, especially when we’ve been hurt, but it’s always the better path.

How do we instill magnanimity in our children? As fathers, we should keep in mind that “more is caught than taught” — that is, our children often learn more from observing us than from our instruction. When a magnanimous father demonstrates a generous spirit and speaks well of others, his children take notice. He encourages his children, praising them for their accomplishments and gently correcting them when they need it. He measures his words carefully, for a father’s words of sincere praise are far more fruitful than words of criticism (see Eph 6:4, Col 3:21).

The magnanimous father also sees the great potential in his children. He encourages them to go beyond their comfort zones and to achieve things they may not think possible. He builds their confidence by calling attention to the gifts they have been given. He prays aloud with them and gives them a sense that they, too, have been called by God to greatness — and that they are ultimately called to be saints.

Perhaps most importantly, a father passes on the virtue of magnanimity to his children by loving their mother in thought, word and deed each day. As husbands, we are called to go the extra mile in service to our wives. That can take many forms, but it includes being lavish in our praise, quick to forgive and first to apologize.

St. Teresa of Avila often prayed that God would enlarge her heart. As husbands and fathers, we can make this prayer our own — and we can be confident that God will answer us. Speaking through the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord proclaims, “I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you” (Ez 36:26).

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

A Time for Preparation

I pray that your personal Lenten journeys thus far have been fruitful. As Bishop Robert Barron has pointed out, the practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are things that we do, involving the exterior of our lives as much as the interior and spiritual part of our lives.

In the midst of our personal Lenten journeys, Councils are stepping up their services to their parishes, ramping up recruiting efforts, and trying to finish off administrative requirements for the Fraternal Year. I continue to be amazed at how much Councils contribute to the well-being of their parishes and communities in Florida by feeding the poor, providing disaster relief, promoting the culture of life, supporting vocations, and other services and programs too numerous to mention. Our pastors' work would be much more difficult without the help of the Knights of Columbus.

As we assist our pastors and parishes with various parish activities during the Lenten and Easter seasons, we should also not forget to offer the gift of membership in our Order. Men join the Knights of Columbus for many varied reasons, but one of the most important is because they see the work that we do in service to our parishes and communities.

This is also a time of preparation for our State Convention May 23-25, 2025, which will take place in Jacksonville this year. The State Convention is a great time of fraternity, networking, and celebration of our collective accomplishments in this Fraternal Year. The State Officers, Directors, and Chairmen are working hard to make your experience as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible. You can help by making sure that administrative issues are completed well in advance:

- By the end of March, Councils should have conducted their Election of Delegates to the State Convention, and Financial Secretaries should have entered the results on the State website.
- Individual registration must be completed online by mid-May.
- Hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible, but no later than May 1.

Convention attendees that experience the most problems are the ones that have not properly registered for the Convention or Convention events before arriving. This is especially true for Ladies events—I cannot tell you how many times members have forgotten to register their wives for the Saturday Ladies luncheon or the Saturday evening banquet and are disappointed when there is no availability for those events when they arrive. So, please be sure your registration is complete before you arrive!

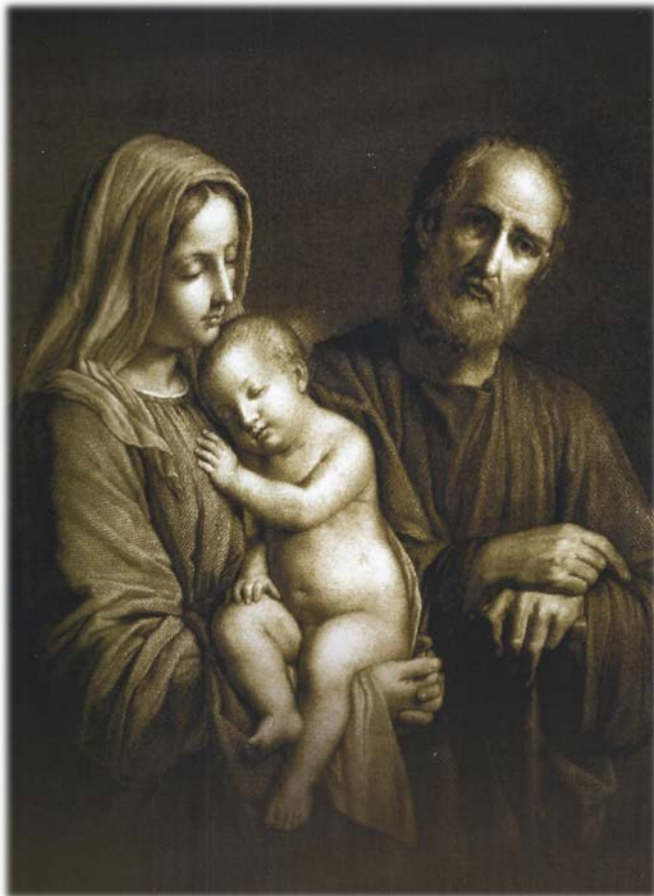
One of the great parts of the Convention is the Saturday morning awards session, where we recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the Councils in Florida. To do that, however, Councils need to help us by filling out the State Awards forms available online. We must have these forms by early April, so that we have time to evaluate the submissions and order the appropriate awards. You can't get recognized if you don't participate, so please—get those State Awards forms in!

We also plan to continue our breakout sessions on Friday afternoon—details on those will be forthcoming.

I am also very happy to announce that the Supreme Knight's representative at our State Convention will be our very own Scott O'Connor, Past State Deputy of Florida and a member of the Supreme Council Board of Directors. I pray that your Lenten journey continues to be spiritually rewarding for each of you in this Jubilee Year of Hope!

Assembly Officers 2024-2025

Faithful Navigator	John Gohman	813.810.3735
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Color Corps Commander	Tom Wozniak, PGK, PFN, FDD	727.214.8377
Veterans Liaison	Bill Gallant	727.251.6300



A Family Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family. Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more fully this vocation to love.

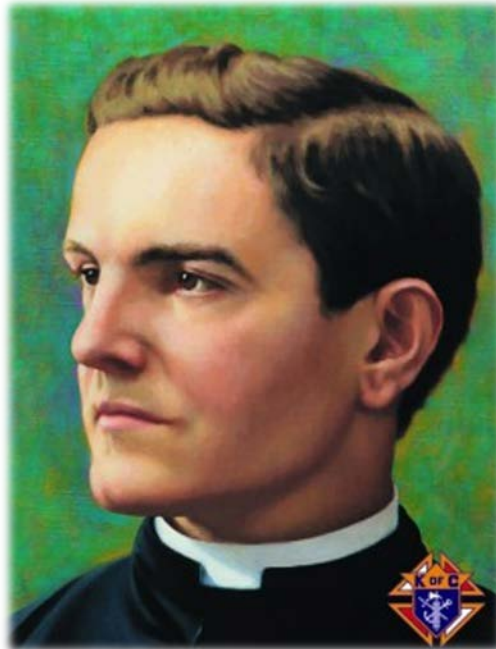
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

Let your love be evident in the peace that reigns in our home and in the faith, we profess and live. May our family always be a place of generosity, understanding, forgiveness and joy.

Kindly give us the wisdom and courage to be witnesses to your eternal design for the family; and grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to holiness as a family.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.



Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

What's Happening?



Council Calendar of Events...

April 2025

- 04/04 | Fri 4:00p KofC Fish Fry FryDay #5
- 04/06 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 04/10 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 04/10 | Thu 7:00p Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 04/11 | Fri 4:00p KofC Fish Fry FryDay #6
- 04/12 | Sat 8:30a SVdP Easter Meal Delivery
- 04/15 | Tue 7:00p Program Directors Meeting
- 04/17 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Food Prep & Delivery



Assembly Calendar of Events...

April 2025

- 04/24 | Thu 7:00p Assembly Membership Meeting
- 04/26 | Sat 9:30a Fourth Degree Exemplification
 - Our Lady of the Angels | Lakewood Ranch, FL

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Prayer for our Nation

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

You are the rock on which this nation was founded.

You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and
the pursuit of happiness.

Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.

Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities
that accompany human freedom.

Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing
Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land,
grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death."

Lead us into a new millennium of life.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

