



The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 06, June 2025

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, June 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

Worthy Brothers & Ladies,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Mother's Day and Memorial Day Holiday weekend. After the hectic months we have had with six weeks of the Fish Fry dinners plus Holy Week and the beautiful Easter season which will conclude next week on Pentecost, May has been a slower month for us. We will be celebrating the special feast day of our parish on Pentecost. May the Holy Spirit shed his light, love and gifts on all of us. May was the month of First Communions and Confirmation. Congratulations to all of you whose children or grandchildren received these extraordinary Sacraments. The one big event we had at the beginning of May was the Donor Appreciation Picnic. Espiritu Santo hosted Bishop Parkes' cook out for all donors of Catholic Charities. We had about 250 people come to the event, and we cooked and served the meals. Thank you to all who participated and helped to make it a huge success.

Kay Strehle	Tom Stanko	Betty D' Amelio
Jack Strehle	Paul Harvey	Joe D' Amelio
Matt Sunski	Bill Krajeski	Robin LaChance
Karen Jaguga	Mark Feldman	Jean Wozniak
Gene Jaguga		Tom Wozniak

Margaret Krivchenia

Tom Krivchenia

Sorry if I have missed anyone who volunteered.

We had our final Coffee Donuts & More of the fraternal year. Thank you for helping with this event.

Ed Amador	Paul Harvey	Mark Feldman
JJ Coyne	Tom Krivchenia	

Sorry if I missed anyone.

May concluded with our trip to Jacksonville to attend the Knights of Columbus Convention where we reconnected with other Councils throughout Florida. This too was a blessed and inspiring event.

June is now upon us, and we started this month with our Corporate Communion Mass and breakfast at Lucky Dill's in Palm Harbor. There were about forty attendees, and a good time was had by all, both with conversation and delicious food. Soon, vacations will be calling all of us. School is out and graduations are being held. Congratulations to our graduates from 8th grade, high schools and colleges and universities. May their futures be bright and always filled with faith and hope in our good God.

Up Coming Events

- Council 7109 Officers Meeting – Thursday, June 5th at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Rosary – Thursday, June 12th at 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco center
- Council 7109 Business Meeting – Thursday, June 12th at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center
- KofC Open House Tuesday, June 17th at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Pinellas Hope Food Prep – Thursday, June 19th at 9:00 AM in the Parish Center Kitchen
- KofC Unified Degree Ceremony – Thursday, June 19th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Kimberly Home Workday – Saturday, June 21st at 8:00 AM

We are so close to making our membership goal for the year. We just need two new members to make Star Council. Our open house is on June 17. Please invite someone you know who is not at Knight. Let's finish the year strong and get a head start for next year.

It's hard to believe that the fraternal year is almost complete. It just seems like yesterday that I was being sworn in as Grand Knight. Time sure does fly. I couldn't have accomplished all that we did this year without the help of our Trustee's Gene Jajuga, JJ Coyne and Ken Seguin, our outstanding Membership Director Ed Amador, our wonderful Deputy Grand Knight Mark Feldman, our Program Directors staff, and all of you who volunteered this year to help us achieve our goals for 2024-2025.

As I look back at what we as a Council have accomplished this past year, I am amazed and astounded. Even though Helene and Milton tried to deter us in the fall, we stood strong! Here are some of the events we did this past year:

The Saint Joseph Icon Mass and Devotion, The Silver Rose Ceremony, Our Retreat and the Family Picnic. We helped the Assembly with their Golf Tournament for Gary Sinise. We had our Memorial Mass and decorated the church for Christmas. Keep Christ in Christmas card sales, a shared Christmas party with other District Councils and Assemblies and Breakfast with Santa were part of our December activities. Our

Dinner Dance, which was literally washed out in the fall, was postponed and became our Mardi Gras celebration before Ash Wednesday. We hosted the Altar Server Party, cooked for the Religious Education students and their families, cooked and served for the Bishop's Donor Picnic. Of course, let us not forget, all the Coffee & Donuts on Sunday mornings after the Masses, our Open Houses and the Unified Degree Ceremonies, Rosaries, and numerous meetings throughout the year and our Kimberly Home work days. I am so grateful for the outstanding fish fry's we offered during Lent. It has truly been an honor to work with all of you Brothers and Ladies this year to accomplish these activities. There are more that I didn't list.

We made many donations throughout the year to various organizations in out reaching out to the needy. A few of these are listed below. There are many more. A thousand pounds of food to St. Vincent de Paul as well as delivering food to families at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Cash donations to Kimberly Home, Fr. Len for Catholic Ministry Appeal (CMA), Fr. Frank for his Good Samaritan Home for the children in Uganda.

Thank you for your wonderful support this past year. Without you, we could not have succeeded in the way that we did. You are a remarkable group of people, and I am so grateful and humbled by your selfless dedication, generosity and love in service to the Lord.

Vivat Jesus,

Tom

Tom Krivchenia

THANK YOU!



SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109

Holy Moments

13 Down — 2 To Go!

Let's Cross the Finish Line Together!

Brother Knights,

With the month of May ending, we are thrilled to share that we have now welcomed **13 new Brother Knights into Council 7109 this fraternal year!** We are at **87% of our 15-member goal**, and we are so incredibly close to achieving **STAR Council for a second consecutive year.**

Let us extend a heartfelt welcome to our most recent Brother Knights who joined our ranks in May — your presence is a blessing to our council, and we are grateful to walk this journey of faith and service with you. Welcome Brothers Joseph Culmone and Justin Harrington!

One Prospect. Two More to Go. One Last Push.

At this moment, we have just one viable prospect in the works. That means we need at least two more eligible Catholic men to say **"yes"** to joining us in our mission to serve the Church, our community, and each other through faith in action. We cannot reach this goal without your help.

This is the moment — the Holy Moment — to invite, encourage, and accompany someone in your life who may be seeking more purpose, more connection, and more faith-filled community.

Holy Moments: One Invitation Can Change a Life

As Matthew Kelly writes in Holy Moments:

"Some moments are holy because we make them holy. Holy Moments are when we open ourselves to God. We make ourselves available to Him. We set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment, we do what we prayerfully believe God is calling us to do."

A simple invitation to a Catholic man—your friend, neighbor, son, or brother—could be the **Holy Moment** that changes his life... and strengthens ours. Help us create those moments together. Let's not leave this journey unfinished. Let's push together, pray together, and finish strong as a united council and brotherhood.

Mark Your Calendars - Open House & Info Night -

Tuesday, June 17, 2025- 7:30 PM ET Espiritu Santo Parish Center - Invite someone to come and learn more about who we are and what we do. **Final Exemplification Ceremony of the Fraternal Year -** Thursday, June 19, 2025-7:00 PM ET- Espiritu Santo Parish Center

Let's fill the room with support and fellowship as we welcome our final candidates.

Together, let's continue to lead with faith, serve with purpose, and create Holy Moments that echo beyond ourselves.

Vivat Jesus!



SK Edward J. Amador

Director of Membership
Barney Gonyea Council 7109



Unity – Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2025
Jun 17

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2025
Jun 19

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	332
Insurance Membership	128
Honorary Life Members	63
Honorary Members	08
2024-2025 Membership Growth vs Goal	12/15
2024-2025 Insurance	02/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	125
Honorary Life Members	14
Honorary Members	01
2024-2025 Membership Growth vs Goal	05/06



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!

William Abbey, Patrick Alix, Brian Annis, Wilbert Bacon, Donald Behles, Patrick Boland, Patrick Carroll, Matthew Cox, Austin Davis, John Duffy, Louis Fiorella, Christopher Garill, Joseph Guazzerotti, Paul Harvey, Thaddeus Horbowy, Martin Jackson, James Lankford, John Lutch, Patrick Mackin, Edward Martinenko, Gary Murphy, William Nies, James O'Neill, Mark Ostapowicz, Jim Shirer, Robert Stowell, Robert Sutton, Walberto Vazquez

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Sean Michael Cook (d), Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Susanne Papa (d), Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Linda Cooper (d), Bob Ehrman, 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 Duell (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, Sue Engelmann, Madison Lentz, Helen Lentz, Kathleen Griffin, Karen Loparo, Taylor Dumke, Richard Roberto, Peter Salesses, Peggy Gohman, Barbara Papa, Kathy King, Richard Roberto, Joe LaGuardia

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 Hoehrl, 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 Saleses, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheaffer, Massimo & Valeria Simeoni, James & Karin Smith, Thomas & J. L. Stanko, John & Kay Strehle, Jugdesh & Sucheta Sujani, 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 Clappitt, 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

Chaplain's Corner

“The Delusion of Porn’s Harmlessness”

I came across this article in the New York Times and I think it brings us very helpful and possibly unknown information on the very violent and all-pervasive presence of pornography - much more influential today than when we were growing up. The porn industry is a very profitable industry, which influences men and women today - perhaps our children and grandchildren. Young men's first exposure to sexuality comes on the internet and objectifies and sexualizes women. That means boys and men basically see women as sexual objects. Women feel that pressure to be sexy, violent in competition with the cultural norm found on the internet, TV, film, and wherever. Encounters with women on these sources emphasize violence, spitting, choking, slapping, et cetera - hard to believe! Women are seen primarily as sexual objects and young men find it difficult to get beyond this. Porn becomes **addictive and often out of control**. **“Porn has not been good for us.** Because of the pervasive images in our culture, men and women have a difficult time entering into a healthy relationship.

Christine Emba, the author, also points out that there is a silence regarding this porno in our culture. People are expected to be more “open-minded” and

accepting of all sorts of things. This article attempts to overcome that silence and have people speak up about the addiction to porno on all of us. What can you do.

I am not an expert here, but I suggest you might casually mention to your children and grandchildren that you read this article on the effects of porno in our culture and ask them what they have experienced. Depending on what you hear, you might be able to affirm the gift and blessing of sexuality from our Creator and the importance of having a healthy appreciation of men and women.

Michael Cooper, SJ, STD

See the New York Times article on following pages

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

New York Times Opinion Guest Essay

May 19, 2025

The Delusion of Porn's Harmlessness**By Christine Emba**

Ms. Emba is the author of “Rethinking Sex: A Provocation” and a contributing Opinion writer.

These days, virality is difficult to achieve. But the British OnlyFans creator Lily Phillips managed it this winter, when she appeared in a documentary titled “I Slept With 100 Men in One Day.”

The film (available on YouTube in an edited form and unexpurgated on OnlyFans) followed Ms. Phillips as she planned for and executed the titular stunt, capturing everything from the shuffling feet of the men waiting outside her rented Airbnb to her shaken visage in the aftermath of the deed. (“It’s not for the weak girls,” she tells the filmmaker Josh Pieters, with tears in her eyes. “I don’t know if I’d recommend it.”)

Excessive? Certainly. Off-putting? To some. But perhaps not unexpected, if one considers how inured American society has become to women’s sexualization and objectification — so much so that extremism seems like one of the few ways for an ambitious young sex worker to stand out.

Pornography floods the internet. A [2023 report](#) from Brigham Young University estimated that pornography could be found on 12 percent of websites. Porn bots regularly surface on X, on Instagram, in comment sections and in unsolicited direct messages. Defenders of pornography tend to cite the existence of ethical porn, but that isn’t what a majority of users are watching. “The porn children view today makes Playboy look like an American Girl doll catalog,” one teenager wrote in 2023 in [The Free Press](#), and it often has a [focus on violence](#) and dehumanization of women. And the sites that supply it aren’t concerned with ethics, either. In a column last week, Nick Kristof exposed how Pornhub and its related sites [profit off videos](#) of child rape.

There are consequences for members of Gen Z, in particular, the first to grow up alongside unlimited and always accessible porn and have their first experiences of sex shaped and mediated by it. It’s hard not to see a connection between porn-trained behaviors — the [choking, slapping and spitting](#) that have become the norm even in early sexual encounters — and young women’s [distrust](#) in young men. And in the future, porn will become only more addictive and effective as a teacher, as virtual reality makes it more immersive and artificial intelligence allows it to be customizable. (For a foretaste of where this might end up, you can read a [recent essay](#) by Aella, a researcher and sex worker, on Substack defending A.I. child porn.)

In her new book, “Girl on Girl: How Pop Culture Turned a Generation of Women Against Themselves,” Sophie Gilbert critiques the mass culture of the 1990s and 2000s, noting how it was built on female objectification and hyper exposure. A generation of women, she explains, were persuaded by the ideas that bodies were commodities to be molded, surveilled, fetishized or made the butt of the joke, that sexual power, which might give some fleeting leverage, was the only power worth having. This lie curdled the emerging promise of 20th-century feminism, and as our ambitions shrank, the potential for exploitation grew.

Ms. Gilbert has a talent for pinpointing moments that, in hindsight, signal a change: when the “ferocious activist energy” of the Riot Grrrl movement was supplanted by the Spice Girls’ sexy, consumerist pop; when grown-up, self-assured supermodels are pushed off magazine covers in favor of easily manipulated waifs; when reality television and paparazzi hounds made self-exposure (willing or unwilling) the norm.

And she’s clear about the thread that runs through it all: the rise of easy-to-access hard-core pornography, which “trained a good amount of our popular culture,” she writes, “to see women as objects — as things to silence, restrain, fetishize or brutalize. And it’s helped train women, too.” But while Ms. Gilbert is unsparing in her descriptions of pornography’s warping effect on culture and its consumers, she’s curiously reluctant to acknowledge what seems obvious: Porn hasn’t been

good for us. While her descriptions of the cultural landscape imply that the mainstreaming of hard-core porn has been a bad thing, she pulls her punches.

“I’m not interested in kink-shaming,” she writes, “and I’m not remotely opposed to porn” — immediately after describing a 2019 study that found that 38 percent of British women under 40 reported having experienced unwanted slapping, choking, gagging or spitting during sex. That data point comes at the tail end of a chapter that draws a disturbing and convincing line from the emergence and popularization of violent, extreme pornography in the late 1990s to the photos that emerged from Abu Ghraib in 2004 of prisoners being sexually humiliated.

But in its reluctance to acknowledge what the evidence suggests, “Girl on Girl” is not unusual. Despite significant evidence that a deluge of pornography has had a negative impact on modern society, there is a curious refusal, especially in progressive circles, to publicly admit disapproval of porn.

Criticizing porn goes against the norm of non-judgmentalism for people who like to consider themselves forward-thinking, thoughtful and open-minded. There’s a dread of seeming prudish, boring, uncool — perhaps a hangover from the cultural takeover that Ms. Gilbert so thoroughly details. More generously, there’s a desire not to indict the choices of individuals (women or men) who create sexual content out of need or personal desire or allow legislation to harm those who depend on it to survive.

But a lack of judgment sometimes comes at the expense of discernment. As a society, we are allowing our desires to continue to be molded in experimental ways, for profit, by an industry that does not have our best interests at heart. We want to prove that we’re chill and modern, skip the inevitable haggling over boundaries and regulation and avoid potentially placing limits on our behavior. But we aren’t paying attention to how we’re making things worse for ourselves. Ms. Phillips’s case is one example of how normalization of pornographic extremes has made even lurid acts de rigueur; it’s

not hard to imagine a future that asks (and offers) more than we can imagine today.

Most recently, the only people who seem willing to openly criticize the widespread availability of pornography tend to be right-leaning or religious, and so are instantly discounted — often by being disparaged as such. But cracks are beginning to appear in the wall, as shown by sources as varied as the recent, if quiet, revival of the anti-porn feminist Andrea Dworkin (Picador books rereleased a trio of her most famous works this winter) and the heartfelt podcasts of Theo Von, who frequently discusses his decision to stop watching porn.

And members of Gen Z seem more willing to openly criticize it than their careful elders. The Oxford philosopher Amia Srinivasan, whom Ms. Gilbert quotes in the introduction to “Girl on Girl,” notes this in her 2021 essay “Talking to My Students About Porn”: “Does porn bear responsibility for the objectification of women, for the marginalization of women, for sexual violence against women? Yes, they said, yes to all of it.” In my own experience speaking to college students and young adults, they’re dismayed and discouraged by the role pornography has played in their sexual formation. In their eyes, it colors everything.

“I wanted to understand how a generation of young women came to believe that sex was our currency, our objectification was empowering,” Ms. Gilbert writes. “Why were we so easily persuaded of our own inadequacy? Who was setting the agenda?”

The thing is, we all know. Perhaps we should be so gauche — or brave — as to simply admit it.

Christine Emba is the author of “Rethinking Sex: A Provocation,” a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a contributing Opinion writer.



Mark Feldman
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights,

We are coming to the end of the Fraternal Year. I feel that we got a lot accomplished last year and am looking forward to the next Fraternal year. We are now into the summer season; our children and grandchildren are out of school with increased summer activities. Enjoy your time with your family.

June's events are the Corporate Communion Mass on June 1st at the 9am mass. Breakfast at Lucky Dill on 19 in Palm Harbor will follow. A membership meeting will be held on the 12th at 6:30 in the Parish Center. An Open House will be held on 17th at 7pm in the Parish Center. Pinellas Food Prep will be on the 19th at 9am, and the KofC Unified Degree Ceremony will also be on the 19th at 6:30pm in the Parish Center.

We are always in need of volunteers. I am still requesting a volunteer to head the Family Directors Position for next year. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thank you!

Faith In Action



FAITH

COMMUNITY

FAMILY

LIFE

From the Faith Director's Desk

Our monthly Rosary get-together will be on Thursday 12 June at 6pm in the JBC. Wally Vazques will be leading the Rosary. It is a great opportunity to invite friends to join you.

From the Community Director's Desk

There is nothing to report from the Community Director's Desk

From the Family Director's Desk

Summer is upon us. Take this time to enjoy your family with fun activities and vacations. School will be back before we know it.

From the Life Director's Desk

We are continuing our food collection. We are almost at 100%. If you can donate at our meeting on the 12th that would be great. Thank you for your support.

St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

Saint Boniface (named Wynfrid at birth), was born into a noble family in the Kingdom of Wessex in southern England in 675 AD. As a youth, Wynfrid was raised in the Catholic faith and received a good education. When missionary monks visited his hometown, Wynfrid was inspired to follow their example. His father initially disapproved but eventually gave his consent. Wynfrid was first sent to a nearby Benedictine monastery for 7 years and then to a Nursling about 100 miles away. At Nursling he made his vows as a Benedictine monk and was ordained a priest at age 30. He was known as an excellent preacher and teacher, with profound understanding of the Sacred Scriptures.

He spent most of his career evangelizing the people of his ancestral homeland. He received permission to travel north to Frisia, modern-day Netherlands, to assist a missionary priest in that territory. At that time the local pagan King was at war with the Christian Frankish King. This made his converting of the pagan very difficult. He returned home in 718 and traveled to Rome to seek permission from the Holy Father to evangelize the Germanic pagans. He received permission and while in Rome, the Pope

changed his name to Boniface, which means “doer of good.”

In 722 the Pope was so please with Father Boniface that he ordained him a Bishop. At the age of 79 he returned to Frisia where it all started. After much success, while preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for the new converts, the bishop and dozens of companions were murdered by common thieves. His last words were recorded as, “Cease, my sons, from fighting, give up warfare, for the witness of the Scripture recommends that we do not give an eye for an eye but rather good for evil. Here is the long-awaited day, the time of our end has now come; courage in the Lord!”

June Liturgical Calendar

- June 01: The Ascension of the Lord, Solemnity
- June 02: Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs, optional memorial
- June 03: St Charles Lwanga and companions, Martyrs, Memorial
- June 05: St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr, Memorial
- June 06: St Norbert, Bishop, optional memorial
- June 08: Pentecost – Our Parish Feast Day, Solemnity
- June 09: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial
- June 11: St Barnabas, Apostle, Memorial
- June 13: St Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church, Memorial
- June 15: Most Holy Trinity, Solemnity
- June 19: St Romuald, Abbott, optional memorial
- June 21: St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious, Memorial
- June 22: Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, Solemnity
- June 24: The Nativity of St John the Baptist, Solemnity
- June 27: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Solemnity
- June 28: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr, optional memorials
- June 29: Sts Peter and Paul, Solemnity



The Ladies' Auxiliary has finished this year's Knights of Columbus Council 2024-2025 fiscal year with great donations, thanks to everyone's generosity! Over the past year, we have gathered donations made through our raffle baskets at dinner dances, desserts at the Lenten Fish Fry's, and the Mother's Day's flowers on the Trees of Love. The recent donations were over \$1000 for Mother's Day. We were able to give \$4300 to our chosen organizations this year; these were The Good Samaritan School in Uganda, Morning Star School, St. Vincent de Paul, The Kimberly Home, CMA, Lady of Perpetual Help, and Pinellas Hope. I personally want to thank our ladies for the time and talents this past year for our success. Our final year-end donation drive will honor one's special men for Father's Day and month of June. Ladies will be taking donations weekends of May 31 and June 7 under the portico of Parish Center; bow ties are the theme.

We will resume our monthly Ladies Auxiliary meetings starting September 11. We encourage any women who are interested in helping our Knights of Columbus Council to join. Hope to see new and old faces then. God be with you in your summer travels, enjoy the sites and time spent with family and friends.

In His Love,

Jean Wozniak



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

Many people this time of year are wrapping up spring cleaning around their home. But if you're like me, you might need a little nudge each year — a reminder to get started on that process.

Similarly, we could all use a reminder to do some "spring cleaning" for our finances.

Just as spring cleaning in your home might help you realize that a piece of furniture no longer suits your needs, we might also find that it's time to reconsider our financial strategy in light of our current life situation.

For example, have you recently gotten married, welcomed children, or made a career change? Do you have children heading off to college, or are you welcoming any grandchildren? It may be time to think about life insurance.

If you do have life insurance, when's the last time you reviewed your policy? Do you have coverage only through your employer? Now is a great time to ensure it matches your family's current needs.

Have you started preparing for retirement? Whether close to your golden years or still decades away, you can learn more about annuity options that give you a guaranteed income.

Additionally, through our affiliate Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors (KofCAA), you can maximize your contributions to your retirement and investment accounts. If you're close to retirement, you want to ensure that you diversify your retirement portfolio and have proper asset allocation that aligns with both your risk and return preferences. KofCAA can help you review your investment strategy to ensure you're on the right track to hitting your retirement goals.

You might find that things have changed in your life since your last "spring cleaning." Even if it's been a while since you last reviewed your financial goals — or even if you're just getting started — I'm here to help. Let's set up a time to talk and make sure you have the coverage you need.

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>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BARNEY GONYEA COUNCIL 7109

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7:30 PM

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COLOSSIANS 3:23

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP PLEASE CONTACT:
GRAND KNIGHT TOM KRIVCHENIA | 727.366.5422 | GRANDKNIGHT7109@GMAIL.COM
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR EDWARD AMADOR | 305.606.8632 | EDAMADOR000@GMAIL.COM



John Gohman
Faithful Navigator
john.gohman2@gmail.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

Civility Has Left the Building

Why do we no longer get along with each other? Why is there such bitter polarization inside of our countries, our neighborhoods, our churches, and even in our families? Why do we feel so unsafe in many of our conversations where we are perpetually on guard so as not to step on some political, social, or moral landmine?

We all have our own theories on why this is, and mostly we choose our news channels and friends to bolster our own views. Why? Why this bitter polarization and nastiness among us?

Well, let me suggest an answer from an ancient source, scripture. In the Hebrew scriptures (our Old Testament), the prophet Malachi offers us this insight on the origins of polarization, division, and hatred. Echoing the voice of God, he writes: "Therefore, I have made you contemptible and base before all the people, since you do not keep my ways, *but show partiality in your decisions*. Have we not all the one Father? Has not the one God created us? *Why do we break faith with one another?*"

Isn't this particularly apropos for us today, given all the polarization and hatred in our houses of government, our churches, our communities, and our families, where for the most part we no longer respect each other and struggle even to be civil with each other? We have broken faith with each other. Civility has left the building.

Moreover, this afflicts both sides of the ideological, political, social, and ecclesial spectrums. Both sides have their particular ideological wings which are scornfully unsympathetic to those who don't share their view, paranoid about hidden conspiracies, rigidly uncompromising, and disrespectful and belittling of anyone who does not share their perspective. And, for the most part, they preach,

advocate, and practice hatred – believing that all this is done in service of God, truth, moral cause, enlightenment, freedom, or nationalism.

Someone once said, not everything can be fixed or cured, but it should be named properly. That's the case here. We need to name this. We need to say out loud, this is wrong. We need to say out loud that none of this can be done in the name of love. And we need to say out loud that we may never rationalize hatred and disrespect in the name of God, the Bible, truth, moral cause, freedom, enlightenment, or anything else.

This needs to be named, regardless of wherever we find ourselves amid all the divisive and hate-filled debates that dominate public discourse today. Each of us needs to examine himself or herself vis-a-vis our partiality, namely, how little we even want to understand the other side, how much disrespect we have for some people, how civility is often absent from our speech, and how much hatred has unconsciously crept into our lives.

After this, we need a second self-scrutiny. The word "sincere" comes from two Latin words (*sine* – *without* and *cere* – *wax*). To be sincere is to be "without wax", to be your real self, outside of others' influence. But that's not easy. How we picture ourselves, what we believe, and our view on most anything at a given moment is heavily colored by our personal history, our wounds, who we live with, what work we do, who our colleagues and friends are, the country we live in, and the political, social, and religious ideologies we inhale with the air we breathe. It's not easy to know what we really think or feel about a given issue. Am I sincere or is my reaction predicated more on who my friends and colleagues are and where I get my news? At the core of my being, who am I really, without wax?

(continued from page 13...)

Given our struggle for sincerity, particularly in our present climate of division, disrespect, and hatred, we might ask ourselves, how much of what I am passionate about enough to generate hatred inside me, is really rooted in sincerity as opposed to ideology or my instinctual emotional or intellectual reaction toward something I dislike?

This is not easy to answer, understandably so. We are pathologically complex as human persons, and the quest for sincerity is the quest of a lifetime. However, while on that journey towards sincerity there are some non-negotiable human and spiritual rules. The biblical prophet Malachi names one of them: "Do not show partiality in your decisions and do not break faith with each other". When we parse that out, what is it saying?

Among other things, this: You have a right to struggle, to disagree with others, to be passionate for truth, to be angry sometimes, and (yes) even to feel hateful occasionally (since hate is not the opposite of love, indifference is). But you may never preach hatred and division or advocate for them in the name of goodness; instead, in that place inside you where sincerity resides, you need to nurse a congenital distrust of anyone who does proactively advocate for hatred and division.

Civility has left the building.

FN John

Postscript: Since this is my last Navigator's Log, I want to thank all the brothers for their support during this past year. I wish the new officers the very best in the year to come. Vivat Jesus!



WGK Tom Krivchenia presents Brent Basich with his Third-Degree Certificate



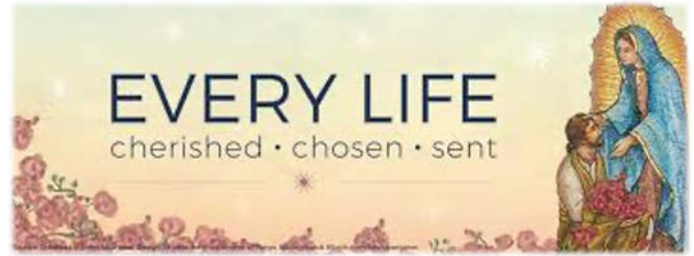
WGK Tom Krivchenia recognizes SK Gene Wolanin as January 2025 Knight of the Month



WGK Tom Krivchenia recognizes the D'Amelio Family as March 2025 Knight of the Month



Amaro Lionheart
realamarolionheart@gmail.com
305.761.3419



The Sacred Heart

There beats beneath the veil of heaven a heart crowned with thorns and wrapped in flame. A heart wide open, yet so often ignored. A heart that bleeds love into a world too distracted to notice the drops. This heart is not carved from marble, nor is it cast in bronze. It is flesh and blood. It is divine and human. It is the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the burning furnace of charity, the wellspring of mercy, the throne of justice, the ocean of tenderness that has no shore.

June is no ordinary month. It is the month of this heart. Not weak, not sentimental, but burning. Crowned with thorns. Pierced and bleeding, yet undefeated. It is the heart of a King. The heart of a Warrior. The heart of a Father who loves with such ferocity that He endured the cross to win back His sons.

This is not mere devotion. This is not soft piety. This is the rallying cry of heaven to every man who calls himself Knight. Every man baptized into the brotherhood of Christ's Church, charged to defend, to provide, to lead, and to love as Christ loves with strength, with sacrifice, with unbreakable resolve.

When our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, revealing His Sacred Heart, He did not show a heart untouched by this world. He showed a heart encircled by thorns. The thorns of betrayal, of indifference, of sin. But a heart still aflame with love. Still offering itself without hesitation. "Behold this heart which has so loved men," He declared, "yet receives from them only ingratitude." These were not the words of a passive god. These were the words of a wounded King calling His soldiers to attention.

And it calls to men.

It calls not with the softness of sentiment but with the thunder of destiny. It calls not to the faint-hearted but to those willing to shoulder the armor of sacrifice. To bind their souls to a cause higher than self. To rise like lions whose strength is found not in their roar but in their restraint, their resolve, their devotion.

We, the Knights of Columbus, are such men.

We are not drifters on the tides of this age. We are not reeds swaying with the winds of culture. We are oak trees planted by the waters of faith. Roots deep. Branches high. Leaves reaching toward eternity. We are the sons of the Church. Forged in the fire of Charity. Held fast by the iron bands of Unity. Bound by the sacred cords of Fraternity. And raised beneath the banner of true Patriotism. Not the shallow love of flag alone, but the deeper love of justice, freedom, and truth poured out like incense before the throne of God.

The Sacred Heart is our standard. His wounds are our badge. His love is our weapon.

O brothers, look upon this Heart. Encircled by thorns that bear the names of our sins, yet still burning, still beckoning. Each thorn pressed into His flesh by pride, by indifference, by every moment we chose comfort over courage, ease over effort, silence over witness. And yet, still He calls. Still He invites. Still He loves.

Have we grown too dull to hear it? Has the iron of our hearts cooled in the forge?

The world is starving. Not for words. But for witnesses. Not for gestures. But for men who live like Christ lives. Who bleed like Christ bleeds. Who forgive like Christ forgives. Men who understand that leadership is not found atop a pedestal but at the feet of those we are called to serve. Men whose backs

are strong enough to carry the cross and whose knees are humble enough to bend before the altar.

Charity is not a coin tossed into the cup of the beggar. Charity is the bread broken at your own table. It is the sweat upon your brow as you build the house of mercy brick by brick, soul by soul. Charity is the echo of the Sacred Heart within your chest. Pounding against the walls of your ribs. Demanding not less, but all.

Unity is not the absence of disagreement. It is the presence of love greater than division. It is the shield wall where brothers stand shoulder to shoulder. Where no gap is left for the enemy to slip through. Where every man knows the back of his brother is guarded as fiercely as his own.

Fraternity is not a word. It is the bond of blood and spirit. The hand that lifts the fallen. The arm that steadies the weak. The voice that calls out in the darkness, "Brother, I will not let you fall." It is the echo of Christ's own promise. I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Patriotism is not mere allegiance to land. It is allegiance to the good, the true, the beautiful. It is the refusal to let lies govern our children's hearts. It is the courage to stand before kings and tyrants alike and declare, "We serve no ruler but Christ the King."

O Knights, look to the Sacred Heart. Do you not see? It is a battlefield. It is a fortress. It is a chalice overflowing. The heart of Christ is not a symbol for the weak. It is a command for the strong. Strong not in violence but in virtue. Strong not in domination but in devotion.

The flames of His heart are not meant to warm you. They are meant to consume you. To make ashes of your selfishness. To make dust of your pride. To set ablaze your apathy until there is nothing left of you but love. Love that feeds the hungry. Love that guards the altar. Love that stands between the wolf and the lamb. Love that kneels before the Eucharist and rises ready to give all.

June is the month of this Heart. But one month is not enough for men like us. One day is not enough. Our oath is not seasonal. Our vow is not part-time.

We are Knights.

We are the watchmen on the walls. The sons who will not leave the vineyard untended. The fathers who will not leave the home undefended. We are the men who understand that to kneel is to conquer. That to serve is to reign.

Because in the end, brothers, the measure of a man is not in the titles he carries but in the weight he bears for others. Christ bore the cross for us. What cross are we willing to carry for Him?

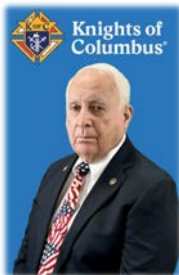
This June, as the world celebrates pride in its many false forms, let us stand boldly for the only pride worth having. The pride of belonging to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The pride of being sons of the King. The pride of being Knights.

Let this be our battle cry:

Sacred Heart of Jesus, enkindle within us the fire of Your love. Make our hearts like unto Thine, unyielding, unbreakable, undivided. Grant us the courage to lead, the humility to follow, and the strength to serve. We will bear the standard. We will fight the good fight. We will not yield. We will not flee. We are Yours. Always. All in.

Omnia Ad Jesum Per Mariam.



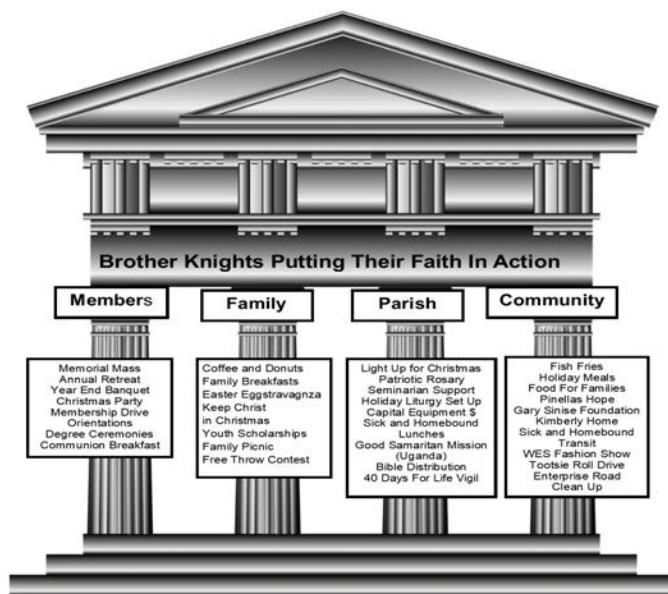


Jerry Custin
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Garden For The Needy

To say Psalm 148 is a Psalm of praise is an understatement. This Psalm is the inspiration for over 250 hymns including Let All Things Now Living, Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow and Joyful We Adore Thee. What a wonderful Father and Creator we have. Father Mike Schmitz explains that praise is one of the four elements of a complete prayer life. The four parts are: our petition to God for some request we may have from a simple blessing to a miraculous intervention; giving thanks to God for His presence in our lives; giving Him praise for His magnificence and unconditional forgiveness and love; finally, and very importantly, repentance for our sins. We can't keep asking if all we do is keep sinning without repentance. Give praise to the Lord for He is good....and there are hundreds of ways to that in prayer and song.



Psalm 148

Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you, his angels; give praise, all you, his hosts. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens, your waters above the heavens. Let them all praise the LORD's name; for he commanded, and they were created, assigned them their station forever, set an order that will never change. Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all the deeps of the sea; Lightning and hail, snow and thick clouds, storm wind that fulfills his command; Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Animals wild and tame, creatures that crawl and birds that fly; Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all who govern on earth; Young men and women too, old and young alike. Let them all praise the LORD's name, for his name alone is exalted, His majesty above earth and heaven! He has lifted high the horn of his people; to the praise of all his faithful, the Israelites, the people near to him. Hallelujah!

Food For Families

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**WE NEED YOUR
HELP NOW!**



**URGENT
FOOD DRIVE**

Help Us Reach Our Goal!

Please bring your canned goods donation to the next meeting. We're aiming for 1,000 pounds, and every can counts. Together, we can make a powerful difference for families in need.



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



Letter to the Editor

The Rosary and the Apostles Creed

First, I'd like to remind all our brothers and sisters that Sir Knight Wally Vazquez leads a rosary group before every Council and Auxiliary meeting the second Thursday of each month starting at 6:15 PM. This is a great place to share your faith and intentions with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Of course, each rosary is initiated with the Apostles Creed. I've noticed that, as a group, we seem to have some confusion on this prayer, and we tend to drift a little. The source of this hesitation seems to be intertwining elements of the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed we say at every Mass. They are very similar but different. Interestingly, there are 13 major creeds in the Catholic faith starting with the Apostles Creed (roughly 150 AD) and the most current creed is the Credo of the People of God proclaimed after Vatican II by Pope St. Paul VI to capture the most current proclamation of the Catholic faith.

The Apostles Creed was written when there were few challenges to the expression of faith being developed by the early church fathers. On the other hand, the Nicene Creed had its origins in the Church's response to an ancient heretical movement (Arianism), which taught that God the Son was a creature made by God the Father and thus was not fully equal with Him.

The Nicene Creed is based on the Apostles Creed but adds elements to confirm that Jesus Christ is indeed the Son of God the Father. It emphasizes the full divinity of Christ and proclaims that Christ is "the **Only** Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the

Father; through Him [that is, through God the Son] all things were made." It goes on to add specificity to his conception, birth and the Holy Trinity in these words, For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

Interestingly, the Nicene Creed is a point of contention between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox regarding "how" the Holy Spirit is tied to the Father and the Son. It's related to this sentence: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

The Eastern Orthodox Church rejects the Apostles Creed basically as replaced by the Nicene Creed with the more complete explanation of the Trinity and the divinity and humanity of Christ. Their version of this sentence reads: **And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.**

Our faith is a living faith and shaped by inspired Scripture, oral and written traditions and proclamations of the Magisterium of the Church in response to changes in our culture which may in some way challenge our beliefs. We are called to stay constant in our faith and beliefs. Pope Leo XIV intends to be a bridge builder. The Greek translation of the Gospel was read at his inaugural Mass. Is a bridge being built?

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

Making Room for Grace

The virtue of humility opens us to God's love and power, as we seek to build his kingdom on earth

Humility can be a rare commodity these days. It's not often spoken of in business or in the halls of government as a virtue to be pursued. Instead, popular books on the "rules of power" frame it as a personal deficiency that should at least be hidden if it cannot be overcome.

Such views betray a misunderstanding. Humility does not equal weakness or a lack of confidence, nor does it mean pretending that you are unworthy and have nothing of value to contribute. To the contrary, humility is not about you at all. It's about thinking of others more than yourself.

Real humility acknowledges that God has created each of us with certain strengths and weaknesses. Our strengths are meant to serve others, while our weaknesses are meant to show us our need for God and our need for others. Humility gives us the courage — and it takes courage — to acknowledge our weaknesses and ask for help. It allows us to move beyond the prison of our own self-interest and value the gifts and talents that others bring to the table. In short, humility gives God's grace the space to work.

True humility is a virtue and a sign of personal strength, even freedom. The humble leader knows how to "get out of his own way." He's willing to subordinate his ego and focus on the strengths and needs of others. He sets others at ease because he has no need to prove his superiority. And he is often the most effective of leaders because he is willing to listen, surrounding himself with the best people he can, recognizing their gifts and learning from them. This gives him the knowledge and tools to make the best decisions possible.

The opposite of humility is pride — what St. Gregory the Great called the queen of vices. Last year, during a series of Wednesday audiences on virtues and vices, Pope Francis noted that pride "ruins human relationships [and] poisons the feelings of fraternity that should unite men."

We see the destructive nature of pride everywhere we turn — even in our families, our workplaces and our KofC councils. Pride leads to division and rivalries that block God's grace and prevent us from advancing the mission he has given us, whereas humility brings unity and collaboration. As St. James writes, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (Jas 4:6).

The Church has powerful examples of humility in the saints and blessed, including Blessed Michael McGivney. When he founded the Knights of Columbus at age 29, he surrounded himself with some of the very best men he knew: Civil War veterans, lawyers, policemen, small-business owners — all of whom were making their way in a society beset with fierce anti-Catholic bigotry. These men pleaded with Father McGivney to be their leader, the first supreme knight. In humility, he declined, believing the Order's mission would be better served with laymen at the helm.

It would have been easy for Father McGivney to set himself up as our first leader, but he knew it wasn't about him. It was about the mission — and recognizing the gifts of others. This simple, humble decision allowed the Knights to flourish to this day, even though Father McGivney died just eight years after the Order's founding.

Pope Francis concluded his cycle of catechesis on the virtues and vices last May by reflecting on the centrality of humility. "Humility is the source of peace in the world and in the Church," he said. "And humility is precisely the way, the path of salvation."

God has accomplished much through the humility of Father McGivney, and he can do the same with you and me. "So humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. Cast your worries upon him because he cares for you" (1 Pt 5:6-7).

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Florida KofC Programs



Faith

Our goal is to strengthen men and their families in the Catholic faith. Formation in our faith goes beyond mere facts or religious practice to an authentic connection with a loving God and his son Jesus Christ. Programs in this category are designed to draw us closer to God and the Church in a tangible and meaningful way.

- **Spiritual Reflection** – Create annual opportunities for prayer and reflection together as a fraternity.
- ***Refund Support Vocations** – Keep the faith alive by supporting seminarians and postulants.
- **Building the Domestic Church Kiosk** – Help strengthen families as the domestic church by providing exceptional religious education materials to all Catholics.
- **Holy Hour** – Encourage a profound personal encounter with God.
- **Into the Breach** – Deepen members spirituality and formation to combat the crisis of religious faith in the world.
- **Marian Prayer Program** – Spread devotion to Our Lady and pray for our brothers and sisters in faith who are at risk around the world.
- **Rosary** – Build faithful families and communities through rosary prayer.
- **Sacramental Gifts** – Support families during the most important events in the life of the domestic church: the sacraments.

Family

Father McGivney sought to strengthen the familial bond of father to mother and children to parents. His vision for family life was not only financial and material aid but also spiritual strength. The majority of our time is easily spent in secular circles unless we intentionally create ways to live the domestic church. These programs, created for families by families, help us to live this call.

- **Consecration to the Holy Family** – Invite each family of the parish to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family.
- ***Food for Families** – Help end hunger in communities across North America.
- **Family Fully Alive** – Help families place God and the faith at the center of their lives every day.
- **Family of the Month/Year** – Each month, the council selects a Family of the Month from its parish family that models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day, and names one of these recipients as its Family of the Year.
- **Family Prayer Night** – Families of council members, and other Catholic families, gather for prayer, dinner and fellowship.
- **Family Week** – Dedicate a week to celebrate our families.
- **Good Friday Family Promotion** – Bring families into more robust practice and understanding of our Catholic faith and the triduum.
- **Keep Christ in Christmas** – Promote the true spirit of Christmas in our homes, schools, parishes and communities.

(Continued from page 21...)

Florida KofC Programs



Community

Knights are called to serve others. Our first principle is Charity – at home with our families and in our communities. When Knights of Columbus members come together as one through their council and parish, they accomplish great things.

- **Helping Hands** – Put your faith into action and help those less fortunate in your community.
- ***Coats For Kids** – Provide the gift of warmth to children during cold winter months.
- **Global Wheelchair Mission** – Change the lives of people with disabilities worldwide.
- **Habitat For Humanity – Build homes for families in need.**
- **Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest** – Encourage youth to become citizens grounded in their faith through creative writing.
- **Disaster Preparedness** – Prepare your community before disaster strikes.
- **Free Throw Championship** – Offer an athletic outlet for youth ages 9 to 14 through fun free throw competition.
- **Soccer Challenge** – Provide an athletic outlet for youth ages 9 to 14 through penalty kick competition.

Life

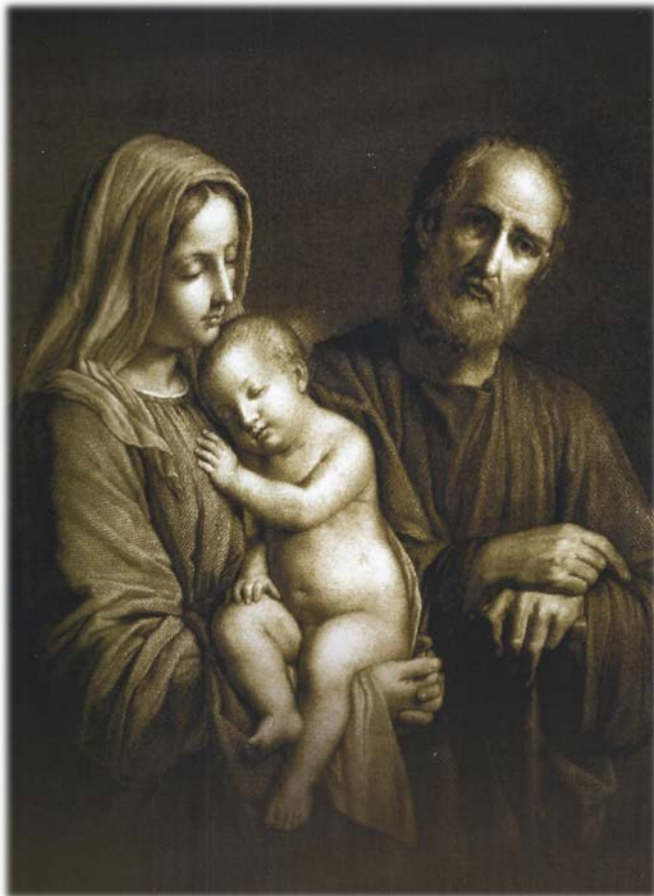
"Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition" (St. John Paul II, 1995). The urgency of the threat to a culture of life in our world cannot be misunderstood. The Knights of Columbus vigorously defends the dignity of each human being at every stage of life. Councils and parishes can work to build a culture of life and a civilization of love through these important programs.

- **Novena For Life** – Lead your community in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life.
- **March For Life** – Show public support for the right to life.
- ***Special Olympics** – Celebrate the intrinsic worth and dignity of every single human being.
- **Ultrasound** – Provide much-needed spiritual and material support for mothers, fathers, and their children before and after birth.
- **Christian Refugee Relief** – Help save persecuted and at-risk Christians facing genocide all over the world, particularly in the Middle East.
- **Mass For People with Special Needs** – Welcome individuals or families who might not normally feel comfortable participating in a regularly scheduled Mass.
- **Pregnancy Center Support** – With aid from the Knights, pregnancy centers can offer support to help women choose life.
- **Silver Rose** – Share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life through this pilgrimage.

* *Featured Program*

Assembly Officers 2024-2025

Faithful Navigator	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Friar	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Faithful Captain	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Faithful Admiral	Wally Vazquez, PFN	727.542.5376
Faithful Pilot	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen	727.792.4471
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano	727.725.5647
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Trustee Three Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Trustee Two Year	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727.871.6506
Trustee One Year	Gene Jajuga, PGK, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
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.

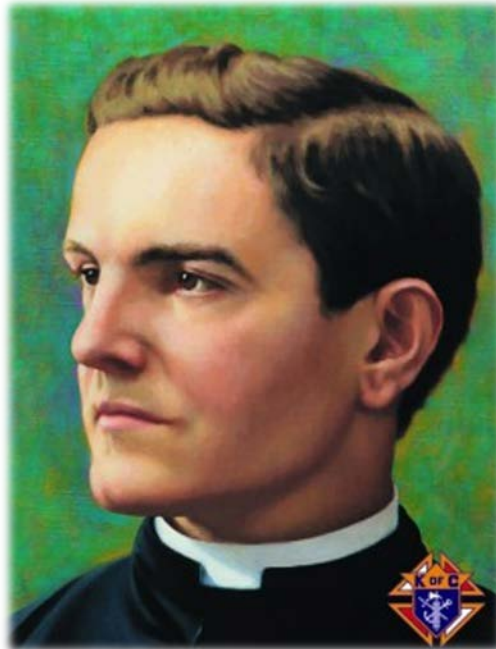
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

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...

June 2025

- 06/01 | Sun 9:30a Corporate Communion Mass & Breakfast
- 06/12 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 06/12 | Thu 7:00p Council Membership Meeting
- 06/17 | Tue 7:30p KofC Open House
- 06/19 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Food Prep & Delivery
- 06/19 | Thu 7:30p Unified Degree Exemplification
- 06/21 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home Work Day



Assembly Calendar of Events...

June 2025

- 06/26 | Thu 7:00p Assembly Membership Meeting
OY 2025-26 Installation Ceremony

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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.

