

Knights of Columbus  
 Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council 5618  
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The  
**Pinta Log**  
 April, 2026

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Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council 5618, Altamonte Springs FL



The Pinta Log



**Knights of  
 Columbus®**

Inside This Issue:	
Acting GK/Chaplain's Messages	2-3
Upcoming Events & Calendar	3-4
Birthdays	5
From Faith Director	5
From Life Director	6
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	7
Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Results	7
Knight/Family of the Month	8
Helping Hands	8

**Important Dates - Looking Ahead:**

- **Wed Apr 1** – Clean the World 1:00 pm
- **Thu Apr 2** – Holy Thursday
- **Fri Apr 3** – Good Friday
- **Sat Apr 4** – Holy Saturday
- **Sun Apr 5** – Easter
- **Tue Apr 7** – Officer's Planning Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Sat Apr 11** – Sharing Saturday 9:00 am
- **Mon Apr 13** – Assembly #1667 Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Tue Apr 14** – Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- **Sat Apr 18** – Rosary 4 Life 8:45 am
- **Sat Apr 18** – State Hockey Challenge 10:30 am
- **Thu Apr 30** – Pinta Log Content Deadline
- **Sat May 2** – Family Picnic/Honor Altar Servers

**Pinta Log Staff:**

Editor: **Nick Leon**  
 Photo Contributors: **Tom Przybyla, Roger Copeland, Tom Poppell, Tom Weninger**  
 Council website: [www.bishopgradykofc.org](http://www.bishopgradykofc.org)



# The Pinta Log

## Acting Grand Knight's Message to the Council

By Deputy Grand Knight, Joseph Pocius



### Worthy Brother Knights,

As we enter into Holy Week, the most sacred time in our Church year, we walk with Jesus through His Passion, Death, and ultimate Resurrection. These days — from Palm Sunday's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, through the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, the agony of Good Friday, to the silence of Holy Saturday — invite us to reflect deeply on Christ's infinite love and sacrifice for each one of us.

In the Knights of Columbus, we are called to imitate that sacrificial love through our pillars of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. This Holy Week, let us renew our commitment to serve as Christ served: offering our time in prayer, participating fully in the Triduum liturgies, and supporting one another in faith and charity. May we draw strength from the sacraments and allow the events of this week to transform our hearts.

During this sacred time, we also remember our brothers and their families in prayer. Please join me in lifting up our Grand Knight George Meyer, who recently suffered a stroke. May God grant him healing,

## Our Chaplain's Message

By Fr. Duberney Rodas



### Dear Brothers!

Now that we have begun the month of April celebrating the sacred days of Holy Week, let us immerse ourselves in the Paschal Mystery which reveals God's boundless love and triumph over sin and death. This is our time to unite as Knights, living these mysteries with fervent faith, and emerging as joyful heralds of the Risen One, sharing His goodness through charity, fraternity, and unwavering witness.

As we carry the light of the Resurrection, we cannot ignore the shadows that currently stretch across our world. To be a Knight of the Risen One in 2026 is to be a Knight of Peace in a time of profound conflict. The Holy Father has tirelessly reminded us that "every war leaves our world worse than it was before." As we contemplate the wounds of Christ during Holy Week, we see them mirrored in the wounds of displaced families, orphaned children, and those living under the terror of bombardment. Our prayer for peace is not a passive wish; it is a spiritual battle. Here is our answer:

### Living the Passion with Courage and Service

Holy Week calls us to accompany Jesus from Palm Sunday's triumphant entry through the agony of Gethsemane, the scourging, crowning with thorns, and the Cross. The Servant Songs of Isaiah proclaim the anointed one who brings good news to the oppressed, binds the brokenhearted, and proclaims liberty, yet endures suffering for our sake. (Is 61:1) In the Passion narratives, we see Christ, "obedient to the point of death" exalted by the Father. (Phi 2:6-11) As Knights, founded by Blessed Michael McGivney to support families in trial, we live this by our principle of charity: aiding the vulnerable (unborn children, disaster victims, persecuted Christians) as you have done generously, in our parish, carry your cross with Christ's strength, offering concrete relief that echoes His mercy.

### Fraternity in the Triduum: From Darkness to Dawn

Through the Last Supper, betrayal, and burial, Jesus institutes the Eucharist and priesthood, holding fast as our High Priest who sympathizes with our weaknesses. On Holy Saturday, we vigil in hope. Knights, our council embody fraternity, gathering for prayer, formation, and mutual support, just as the Apostles did before Pentecost. Pope Leo XIV reminds us: "The Church has always been called to be a sign of hope through the proclamation of the Gospel in words as well as in actions," especially for those in hardship. Let Holy Thursday's washing of feet inspires our service; Good Friday's silence, our prayerful solidarity.

### Joyful Heralds of the Resurrection

The first words of the Risen Christ to His disciples were: "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). He did not say this to a world that was calm, but to a group of men hiding in fear. As Knights, we refuse to hide. We share the goodness of the Risen One by being men of reconciliation. We believe that the empty tomb is the ultimate proof that death and destruction do not have the final word. Our joy is to proclaim Christ's victory over death, and to uphold hope against the despair of war.

In Christ,

**Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.**

**(John 20:21)**

**Fr. Duberney Rodas G,  
Chaplain**



strength, and peace, and may He comfort and sustain George's family with His loving presence during this difficult time. Let us storm heaven with our prayers for his full recovery.

I want to thank all of you for your hard work and participation at our Lenten Fish Fries this past month. From Tom Przybyla March 28 th email, we served a record total of 1,917 dinners for FY2026 which was the highest since 2012. That is incredible. With happy faces from customers and hard work from our Brother Knights and families, its beautiful through Gods grace seeing our Brothers showing Charity, Fraternity and Unity at these dinners.

As our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, taught us, we are stronger together in faith. This Holy Week, may we grow closer to Our Lord and to one another, preparing our hearts to celebrate the joy of Easter with renewed hope. Wishing you and your families a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a blessed Easter.

**Vivat Jesus! Joseph Pocius Deputy Grand Knight**

## Clean the World - Wed April 1 / Sharing Center - Sat April 11



**April 1.** You will be sorting out the soap bars and plastic bottle amenities that Clean the World collects from the hospitality industry and recycles. You may also pack the recycled soap into boxes that are then distributed via global NGOs, such as The WASH Foundation.

Bring your family, especially teenagers who need service hours. Clean the World is located near the Orlando International Airport at: [2544 E Landstreet Rd Ste 600, Orlando, FL 32824](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2544+E+Landstreet+Rd+Ste+600,+Orlando,+FL+32824) (click to open a map). For more information: <https://cleantheworld.org/doing-good/#volunteer>

Our Council participates with a volunteer event at Clean the World every 1st Wednesday of the month, from 1pm – 3pm **The next event will occur on Wednesday,**

## Serve Saturday

**Join us for a Saturday of service helping our community in need!**

Our Council participates with **Serve Saturday** at the Sharing center every 2nd Saturday of the month, serving from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm Noon. **Our next event will occur on April 11.** If you can attend, please email Tom Przybyla at [tomprzybyla3@gmail.com](mailto:tomprzybyla3@gmail.com). There were 5 volunteers at February's event. Bring your family, especially teenagers who need service hours. The Sharing center is located at: [600 North Highway 17-92, Suite 130 Longwood, FL 32750](https://www.google.com/maps/place/600+North+Highway+17-92,+Suite+130+Longwood,+FL+32750).

You can view all of the pictures from both of these event on our website's Home page.



## Council Meeting - Tue April 14



Our Council's next Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 14** at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria. A Rosary will be recited starting at 6:00 pm in the Cafeteria. Our Lecturer Lou Elrose will be providing a delicious meal after the meeting and there will be time to socialize and get to know each other. If you are relatively new in the Council and haven't quite found a part to play, this is a fine time to figure that out. Please attend this meeting and support and participate in our many activities.

### Dear Worthy Brothers,

Please join us in prayer for the healing of our Brother and Grand Knight, George Meyer, as well as for his wife, Jan, and their children.

Loving God, we pray that you will comfort George in his suffering, lend skill to the hands of his healers, and bless the means used for his cure. Give George such confidence in the power of your grace that, even when he is afraid, he may put his whole trust in you, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please continue to keep the Meyer family in your prayers during this time.

**2025 - 2026 Annual Calendar Schedule of Events:** [Annual Calendar](#)

**Upcoming Council Events:** Click on the link to view more details: [Upcoming Events](#)

April 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			 Tenebrae/ Clean the World	 Holy Thursday	 Good Friday	
 Happy Easter!		 Virtual Officer's Planning Meeting				 Save Saturday Sharing Center Serve Saturday
 Divine Mercy Sunday	 1667 Assembly Meeting	 Council Meeting				 Rosary 4 Life / State KofC Hockey Shootout
				 Pinta Log Content Deadline		

- Check our Council's website for up-to-the-minute information on new events or changes to scheduled events. Add the site to your browser's 'Favorites' for quick access.

- If you have a story you would like to be considered for inclusion in *The Pinta Log*, please submit the article by email to: [nick.a.leon96@gmail.com](mailto:nick.a.leon96@gmail.com)

*The content deadline for the May edition is **Thursday April 30.***

Submission does not guarantee your article will be published.

## Rosary 4 Life - Saturday April 18

**On Saturday, April 18**, our monthly rosary for LIFE will be held in front of [All Women's Abortion Clinic, 431 Maitland Ave, Altamonte Springs](#). It will commence after the 8 am Mass.

We calculate that we should begin about 8:45 am. Please join us Saturday. These rosaries will repeat monthly on the third Saturday (mark your calendars accordingly) at 8:45 am.

## FL State KOFC Hockey Shootout Challenge - Sat April 18

**Looking for Brothers to help volunteer with this Hockey Shootout Challenge on Saturday 4/18 at St Peter Catholic School's Gymnasium in Deland from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.**

If interested in helping out please reach out to our Hockey Chairman & Acting GK, [Joe Pocius](#).

# Brothers Celebrating April Birthdays



<b>Apr 2</b>	George F Meyer	<b>Apr 4</b>	James H Coppens	<b>Apr 20</b>	Robert W Schmidt
<b>Apr 2</b>	Michael S Vitale	<b>Apr 10</b>	Mathew E Fisher	<b>Apr 23</b>	Patrick M Braun
<b>Apr 2</b>	Jason B Wright	<b>Apr 12</b>	Michael J Maciejewski	<b>Apr 29</b>	David Godzisz
<b>Apr 3</b>	Roger A Repstien	<b>Apr 14</b>	James P Panico	<b>Apr 29</b>	John Paul D'sa
<b>Apr 3</b>	Angel G Retana	<b>Apr 15</b>	Antoney J Manipadam	<b>Apr 30</b>	Peter C Markusic
<b>Apr 4</b>	Dante F Farina	<b>Apr 17</b>	Manuel O Bejarano	<b>Apr 30</b>	Nicholas A Leon
<b>Apr 4</b>	Joseph Spinella	<b>Apr 18</b>	Deacon Gerard H Kelly		
<b>Apr 4</b>	Joe M Frank	<b>Apr 20</b>	John J Bowers		



## From our Faith Director

By Tom Przybyla



### My Brothers in Faith,

This meditation is from Word Among Us March 24. *We have sinned in complaining against the Lord. (Numbers 21:7)*

How easy it can be to forget all that God has done for us! Look at today's first reading, for example. The Israelites had seen God perform countless signs and wonders as he rescued them from slavery and led them toward the Promised Land. But when faced with the hunger and thirst of their long sojourn in the desert, they questioned whether God cared for them at all. It took an outbreak of deadly snakes to get them to finally repent!

But what God did next was curious. Yes, he gave them a way to be healed from the snakes' bites—by having them gaze upon a bronze serpent that Moses had mounted on a pole. But he didn't make the snakes go away! Wouldn't you expect God to get rid of the threat altogether, now that the people had turned back to him?

Maybe, but maybe not. The fact that God allowed the snakes to remain shows us that he didn't send them just to punish his people for complaining against him. He didn't want to just shut them up. He had deeper and more important goals in mind. He wanted to teach them more about what it means to live by faith in him. He wanted them to learn that they could trust him, even in those times when danger was all around them.

Fast-forward to today, and we can see that we're not very different from the Israelites. We, too, can be tempted to complain about the challenges of life—especially when "snakes" show up to make things worse. But we have something even more powerful than a bronze serpent to gaze upon. We have the cross of Christ, the greatest symbol of God's love and power to help us overcome evil and sin. We have the testimony of the Son of God, who endured the greatest of evils yet never lost faith in his Father—and who was raised up because he trusted in the Lord!

So, the next time you want to grumble about your life, lift up your eyes to the cross. The next time you feel surrounded by snakes, fix your eyes on Christ crucified. Let him show you how to live in trust and how to walk by faith. Let him show you that no force in heaven above or on earth below can ever separate you from the love of God!

*Prayer: "Jesus, help me to keep my eyes fixed on your cross!"*

Everyone of us deals with snakes in our lives, having to deal with the challenges of everyday life: health worries for yourself or loved ones, praying to get enough volunteers to participate in an event, money, or job issues, stresses that we are experiencing. These are the times when we need to ask our Lord to answer our prayers. We ask because we trust in His word ("Ask and you shall receive") and we believe He will answer our prayers. Believe, Ask, and Trust, with expectant faith knowing that He is a merciful God who loves you. Ask for everything you need and ask often. Depend on the Lord to help you with you or your loved ones' lives.

I hope that you participate in all 3 of this Holy Week's Masses. God would love to see you there and hear your prayer requests. May God bless you and your family and may you experience a Happy and Blessed Easter.

**Tom Przybyla,**  
Faith Director



**Brothers**, with great joy I want to advise you that as of this morning, we raised \$101,764 (a new record). Of that, Bishop Grady Council raised 12,080. As you are aware, I set our goal at 20,000. It is achievable...difficult? Absolutely. But Achievable. YES. On to next year...6-MAR 2027 Bishop Moore High School 9AM

On 12-May 2026 Prolife Action Ministry (PLAM) will be hosting it's annual fundraising Banquet at:

Calvary Orlando  
1199 Clay Street  
Winter Park

Doors open at 6:15 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM.

The Knights are sponsoring a table. We have four seats remaining. Currently those registered are:

## Palm Dinner

12-May-26

Taglia 2  
Rasch 2  
Philip 2

First come first serve. To register, contact Jamie Taglia at 407/492-0329 or [jtaglia@gmail.com](mailto:jtaglia@gmail.com)

On 5-APR we will celebrate Easter Sunday. Scheduled Easter services for 2026 including a 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, and Sunday masses on April 5 at 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. Good Friday services on April 3 feature stations and passion services starting at 12:30.

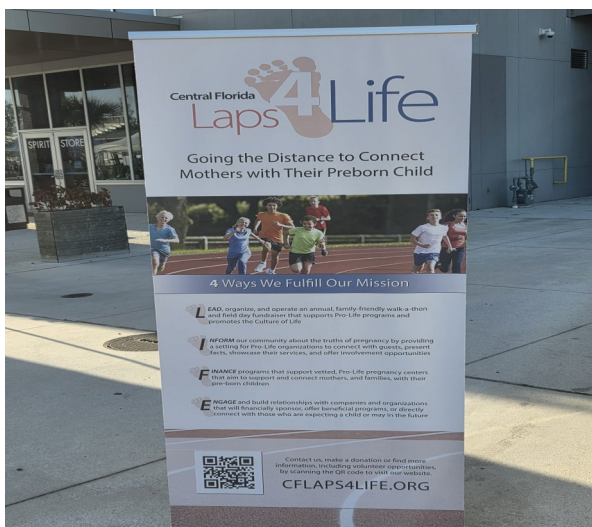
Remember, the THIRD SATURDAY of each Month we pray the rosary in front of All Women's Health (Abortion) Clinic. We begin at 9AM.

**Vivat Jesus,**

**James J Taglia, PFN  
Life Director**

<http://www.cflaps4life.org>

[jtaglia@gmail.com](mailto:jtaglia@gmail.com) (407) 492-0329





**Brothers,** Trying to achieve financial strength and stability can feel overwhelming, especially when life is already full. This month, I want to share a simpler way to think about it: holistic financial wellness. You can work toward this goal by developing an overall financial strategy and determining how Knights of Columbus products can be a part of that foundation.

A good place to start is protecting your family through life insurance. Term life coverage can help with temporary needs, while whole life coverage can last your entire lifetime and build guaranteed cash value over time. Next, let's think about retirement. Whether it's years away or right around the corner, having a strategy for income in retirement matters.

The Knights of Columbus offers solutions that can be part of an overall plan you feel confident about. It's also important to prepare for the unexpected. Thinking ahead about how your family would handle an extended care need or a disruption in income due to disability is part of protecting what you have worked hard to build. The Knights has products to help ensure your family's life will not be financially disrupted in either case.

Attaining financial wellness doesn't need to feel overwhelming. You can start right away by simply using our life insurance calculator at [www.kofc.org/calculator](http://www.kofc.org/calculator). With a few key details, it will help you assess your insurance needs. If you have any questions, please contact your agent to schedule a time to meet.

## Thank you!

The Knights of Columbus and its agents are not authorized to provide financial planning, legal or tax advice.

Life insurance, annuities, long term care insurance and disability income insurance is offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510. Cash value growth is gradual and may take time to accumulate. Guarantees are based on the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

Access to the policy's cash values is through loans and withdrawals and will reduce the policy's cash value and death benefit, may result in a taxable event, and could cause the policy to lapse if not properly managed. Policy loans accrue interest.

Eric M. Monte  
Field Agent

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Web: [financialsecurityforcatholics.com](http://financialsecurityforcatholics.com)

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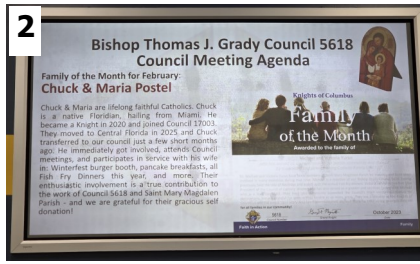
# Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Results

By Tom Przybyla



God is merciful and kind; He answers our prayers. All glory, praise and honor to God for helping the volunteers from our Council, the CCW and Men's Club to conduct a very successful Lenten Fish Fry Dinner this year. Thank you so much to our volunteers and our supporters of these 6 dinners. Thanks to everyone's efforts, our net proceeds for this year's dinners are approximately \$10,668.66 (pending receipt of final expenses). All these funds will be donated to benefit our Council's many designated charities. Our overall revenue this year was more than last year. Through our continuing efforts to minimize expenses, the total expense amounts have decreased each of the last 3 years. Here's some statistics for this year's fish fry dinners: We served a total of 1,917 dinners, which was 291 more than 2025. This is the highest number of dinners served since we started keeping records in 2012. The last highest number of dinners served was 1,669 in 2024. Our higher numbers may be attributed to keeping our prices the same for 3 years, Nick Leon's promotions of the dinners through our social media pages (Facebook & Instagram), more promotion/communication of the dinners from the office, and the efforts of all our volunteers serving our customers with a smile and kindness and providing them with a delicious homemade dinner every week for 6 weeks! [Home page](#). All glory and thanksgiving to God for his kindness, mercy and his help that allowed us to be successful, and I thank everyone who worked and attended these Fish Fry Dinners. May God bless you!

# Knight/Family of the Month Spotlight



**Congratulations  
Council 5618  
Knights on your  
achievements!!**

**Picture #1:** Worthy

Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Knight of the Month award for February to Frank Scarlata. Frank is a recent addition to our Council. He immediately became a regular meeting attendee and got involved with the Fish Fry dinners jumping in with both feet volunteering to help make the calm chowder. His instant participation is a model of Knighthood and has impressed all of us. Frank is a blessing to this Council and we are grateful for his hard work and volunteerism! **Picture #2:** Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Family of the Month award for February to the Chuck & Maria Postel. Chuck and Maria are lifelong faithful Catholics. Chuck is a native Floridian, hailing from Miami. He became a Knight in 2020 and joined Council 17003. They moved to Central Florida in 2025 and Chuck transferred to our council just a few short months ago. He immediately got involved, attends Council meetings, and participates in service with his wife in: Winterfest burger booth, pancake breakfasts, all Fish Fry Dinners this year, and more. Their enthusiastic involvement is a true contribution to the work Council 5618 and St Mary Magdalen Parish - and we are grateful for their gracious self donation! **Picture #3:** Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer & Deputy Grand Knight Joe Pocius welcomed 3 new brothers (Nathan Obit, Shawn French, and Justin Hernandez) at our last month's meeting.

## Leave No Neighbor Behind - Helping Hands Program



If you know of a brother Knight, Men's Club member or SMM parishioner who needs the labor to help with a small project, such as yard work, pressure washing, or small repairs, and they have purchased the needed supplies, please contact our

Helping Hands program chair Tom Poppell at [tompopl@aol.com](mailto:tompopl@aol.com) or 407-920-2497 or Tom Przybyla at [tom-przybyla3@gmail.com](mailto:tom-przybyla3@gmail.com) or 407-460-8109. We need 2 weeks of lead time to make arrangements for the project.



**Project: Recovery House Dedication- Msgr. Thompson Room**  
The attached photo is of our very own brothers, Tom Poppell (R) & Tom Weninger (L), who have been very hard at work making the Msgr. Ed Thompson room for the Recovery House project.

We truly appreciate their dedication and their hard work on this initiative. You can view more photos on our [homepage](#).