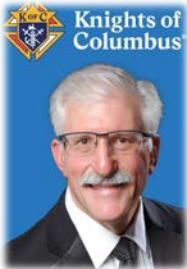




The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Worthy Brothers & Ladies,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Easter Season. As you know I suffered a heart attack and a cardiac arrest on Divine Mercy Sunday which Margaret will detail later in this letter. I would like to thank everyone who prayed for me. The prayers really worked. I would like to ask everyone to keep Paul & Rosie Harvey in their prayers as Paul had surgery on his carotid artery and Rosie has recently been taken to the hospital. Let your prayers work for them and be a blessing like they did for me.

We started off the month with Holy Week. Thank you to everyone who participated in Holy Thursday and those who stayed until midnight. Thank you, Brother Knights, who helped with Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday.

Then on Divine Mercy Sunday, we had our Monthly Coffee & Donuts. We had a respectable turnout. Thank you to everyone who helped with Coffee & Donuts.

Tom Harkins	Kay Strehle	Betty D'Amelio
Karen Jajuga	Jack Strehle	Joe D'Amelio
Gene Jajuga	Doug deWolf	Mark Feldman
Keith Taylor	Garrett Phoebe	

We reached our goal of 15 new members with Doug McFall going through the Exemplification on Thursday

Issue 05, May 2026

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, May 14 @ 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

April 16. Please welcome Doug into our Council when you see him.

Lady Margaret & I were fortunate to attend Fr Frank's reception for his Uganda School on Sunday where we learned the progress they have made and what they are still trying to accomplish. We gave Fr Frank a check for \$2,500.00 from the Council. Fr Frank was so pleased and grateful for such a large donation.

Upcoming Events

Let me to be the first one to wish all the mothers, grandmothers and anyone who is like a mother to someone, a Happy Mother's Day.

I want to thank Wally Vazquez for the terrific job he has done as the Faith Director the past four years. I will be looking for a new Faith Director starting in July. Wally has said he is more than happy to help anyone who is interested in taking the position. If you are interested in the position, please feel free to contact me so I can answer any questions you may have.

We will have our monthly Rosary on Thursday, May 14th at 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco Center.

Our Coffee & Donuts has been moved to Sunday May 24th to help celebrate our Parish Feast Day. I will send out a sign-up sheet for this event.

Gene, Karen, Margaret & I will be attending the State Convention in Orlando on the weekend of May 22nd – 24th. Hopefully we can bring home some recognition for our council.

- Officers Meeting – Thursday, May 7th at 7:00 PM In the St. John Bosco Center
- Mother's Day – Sunday, May 10th
- Rosary – Thursday, May 14th at 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council 7109 Membership Meeting – Thursday, May 14th at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting -Thursday, May 14th at 7:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- The Kimberly Home Workday – Saturday, May 17th at 8:00 AM at The Kimberly Home in Clearwater, FL
- Pinellas Hope Food Prep – Thursday, May 21st at 8:00 AM in the Parish Center Kitchen
- State Convention – Friday Thru Sunday, May 22nd – May 24th in Orlando
- Coffee & Donuts– Sunday, May 24th at 7:30 AM in the St. Johns Bosco Center
- Memorial Mass & Flag Retirement – Monday, May 25th at 8:30 AM Main Church
- Assembly 2474 Business Meeting – Thursday, May 28th at 7:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Officers Meeting – Thursday, June 4th at 7:00 PM In the St. John Bosco Center
- KofC Corporate Communion Breakfast – Sunday, June 7th at 9:00 Mass followed by breakfast at The Lucky Dill
- Rosary – Thursday, June 11th at 6:15 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council 7109 Membership Meeting – Thursday, June 11th at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center



Dear Knights and Ladies,

First of all, I want to thank all of you for your prayers, kind words and caring during this very difficult and unexpected event in our lives. You have all been extraordinary, and we are so grateful and humbled in the outpouring of love that we experienced. Many have asked us what happened. Tom's cardiac arrest happened at 4:13am on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Fortunately, we had attended Mass on Sunday. So, we had the strength and graces of the Eucharist to sustain us for what was to come. I had awakened at 4 to take an ibuprofen for my back. Tom asked me to bring him the Robitussin. On the way back from the kitchen, I heard a crash and ran into the bedroom to find Tom face down on the floor. He had hit his head in the fall and was not breathing. I called 911 immediately and she dispatched the paramedics. It was the first day of our vacation in Sanibel. We thank God for his incredible mercy. The paramedics arrived within minutes, and administered CPR and two rounds of electric shocks. Finally, they got a pulse. He was rushed to Health Park Medical Center in Ft. Myers which we found out was the 2nd best heart center in Florida after the one in Miami. God is so good. Tom was rushed into surgery at 6am. Dr. Pal (his name is too long to pronounce) inserted stents into Tom's arteries. The nurses told me that he was their foremost heart surgeon. While Tom was in surgery, I prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy over and again. Our sons came from Tampa to be with me. The main worry on Sunday was if he would wake up and if there had been brain injury as he was without a pulse for 5 minutes. Tom did not wake up that day, and there was concern. On Monday, when I arrived at the hospital to see him, I was praying for a miracle, and God granted my prayer. When I walked into his room in the ICU. He opened his eyes and squeezed my hand. I thought it was Christmas and the best gift I had ever received. He was in ICU for four days and discharged from there on Wednesday. His surgeon and the hospital staff called it a miracle, a miraculous recovery. God was at work and Jesus, and the Blessed Mother stood by us every moment of every day. Tom's recovery is a testimony to the power of faith, prayer and trust in God – complete surrender to His will. Tom has a long road to full recovery as his heart was damaged. I am confident that God will walk with us. Please keep praying for him. One of his first thoughts was that he needed to get back to his responsibilities with the Knights. He did not want to overburden anyone. A loving thank-you to all the knights who stepped up to help him, especially, Gene Jajuga and JJ. You have all been angels to us, and we love you.

Love and Blessings,

Lady Margaret



SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109

Holy Moments

A Milestone Achieved: A Mission That Continues

Brother Knights,
This is a moment worth celebrating. Through commitment, perseverance, and a shared sense of purpose, we have officially reached **15 new members**, achieving our membership goal for this fraternal year and removing the single largest obstacle to earning **Star Council**. This is no small accomplishment, it reflects the strength, unity, and faith of our brotherhood. We should be proud. We should celebrate. And most importantly, we should recognize the Brothers who stepped forward and made this possible.

Recognizing the Brothers Who Led the Way

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and recognition to:

- **Grand Knight Tom Krivchenia** for his leadership and unwavering support
- **Worthy Financial Secretary Tom Harkins** for his steady guidance and commitment
- **FN, PGK, JJ Coyne** for his continued leadership and example
- **Veterans Liaison Bill Galant** for his outreach and dedication
- **Tom Stanko** for his consistent support in our recruitment efforts
- **Pat Flynn**, who as a newer member, embodied exactly what we strive for by inviting another man into the Order

These Brothers and many others answered the call. They did not wait. They acted. And through their actions, they created the Holy Moments that brought us to this achievement.

Holy Moments: The Difference Between Good and Great

In Holy Moments, Matthew Kelly reminds us that transformation happens not through grand gestures alone, but through consistent, intentional choices to do what is right. This membership goal was not reached in one moment, it was reached through **many Holy**

Moments:

- A conversation after Mass
- An invitation at a council event
- A follow-up call
- A handshake that said, You belong here.

Each of those moments mattered. Each one contributed to the growth of our council. And each one reflects what it means to live our faith in action.

Do Not Lose Momentum

Now comes the most important part. We cannot slow down. Reaching 15 is not the finish line, it is the foundation for what comes next. The health, growth, and future of our council depends on our ability to continue inviting, welcoming, and engaging new Brothers. There are still Catholic men in our parish who are waiting. Waiting for someone to ask. Waiting for someone to care enough to invite them into something meaningful.

That responsibility belongs to **all of us**. Let us continue creating Holy Moments by extending those invitations, building relationships, and strengthening the brotherhood that makes this council so special.

A Call for Leadership: The Next Membership Director

As we celebrate this success, we must also look ahead. I will be stepping away from the role of **Membership Director**, and our council needs a Brother willing to step forward and lead the next chapter of growth. Let me be very clear: **This is one of the most important roles in our council.**

This is the role that drives our future. This is the role that ensures our mission continues. This is the role that helps bring new Catholic men into a life of faith, service, and fraternity. If you have ever felt called to do more.... If you have ever wanted to make a lasting impact... If you have ever believed in what this council stands for... **Now is your moment.** This is your opportunity to step forward and create Holy Moments not just for yourself, but for every man who will join because of your efforts. I am fully committed to supporting, training, and

guiding the next Membership Director to ensure continued success. You will not be stepping into this role alone.

Final Reflection

Brother Knights, what we have accomplished together is remarkable. But even more remarkable is what lies ahead if we continue to act with purpose and faith. Matthew Kelly reminds us: **“Every Holy Moment you create sends ripples through time that you may never fully understand.”** Let us continue to create those moments. Let us continue to build this council. Let us continue to invite, serve, and lead. Together.

Vivat Jesus!



SK Edward J. Amador

Chancellor, Captain, Director of Membership
Barney Gonyea Council #7109
Assembly 2474
Knights of Columbus



WGK Tom & Lady Margaret Krivchenia present Fr Frank Labowa with a \$2500 check for his Good Samaritan Mission School of Uganda



Opening Ceremony at the Patriotic Degree Biennial State Meeting in Orange Beach, Florida



One of our newest Brother Knights, Garrett Phoebe is presented his Third-Degree Certificate by WGK Tom Krivchenia

Unity - Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2026
Jun 16

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2026
Jun 18

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	338
Insurance Membership	127
Honorary Life Members	62
Honorary Members	07
2025-2026 Membership Growth vs Goal	17/15
2025-2026 Insurance	04/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	126
Honorary Life Members	14
Honorary Members	00
2025-2026 Membership Growth vs Goal	03/06



Council Officers 2025-2026

Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
Chaplain	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Deputy Grand Knight	Mark Feldman	727.366.5959
Chancellor	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
Recorder	Bill Krajieski	727.784.2817
Financial Secretary	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Lecturer	Paul Harvey, PFN	727.286.7171
Advocate	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Warden	Jim Lankford	813.455.2292
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper	727.736.6837
Outside Guard	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Guard Alternate	Brian Annis	727.204.7490
Trustee Three Year	Gene Jajuga, PGK, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
Trustee Two Year	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Trustee One Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN	727.331.7278
Regional Administrator	John Papa, PGK, PFN	727.482.3734
District Deputy	Alan Gauzens, PGK	727.483.8250
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	John Ruckart	813.855.5111
Special Assistant to the Council	Vincent Cristiano	
Special Assistant to the Council	Gary Murphy	

Happy Birthday Brothers! Many Happy Returns!

Sean Casey, Kenneth Chmara, Terrell Clampitt, Frank Colucci, Vincent Cristiano, Jerry Custin Sr, Joseph Favia, Mark Feldman, Jim Gencur, Mark Gurley, Robert Gwinner III, James Haitz, Bob Justiana Sr, Thomas Kelly, Raymond Kraker, Stephen Leger, Kevin McMullen, Michael O'Neill, Brian O'Connor, Richie Resler, John Rieman, Walter Rybowiak, Ken Seguin Sr, Robert Shepherd

Prayers for the Sick

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, George Smith (d), Pauline Sager (d), Vicki Nolan (d), Steve Gorey (d), Felice D'Elia (d), Stanley Kwiatowski (d), Ethan Griswold (d), Dick LaLuzerne (d), Fr Rich Rosin (d), Mary Duell (d), Tony Doyle (d), Mary Frances Lowe, Dwight Rochester, Jim & Pat Nolf, Frank Diaz (d), Ed Warticki (d), Jack Mills (d), Bob Justiana, Kathleen Griffin, Evely Harvey (d), Jack Greenwald (d), Don Bishop (d), Frank Nunziata (d), Dave Weber (d), Nicholas Burriesci (d), Anthony Burriesci (d), Thomas Ziegler (d), Sal Burriesci (d), John Saleses (d), Zoe DuFour (d), Gobind Sujjanani, Maurice Chin, Betty D'Amelio, Jim Slattery, Kenny p-SIL, Pushpa Sujjanani, Margie Waters, John Papa, Don Puchalski, Ed Fucillo (d), Kyle LaChance, Tammy Harrison, Michael D'Amelio, Adel Nammour, Frank DiMattei, Brian Jones, Tom Krivchenia, Paul Harvey, Tania Carnet, Pat Flynn, Rose Marie Harvey,

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

Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to two seminarians. Austin and Mark are located at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. Austin Smith is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Mark Wegener is from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville.

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!

Edward & Violet Amador, Mark Barrett, Donald Borbath, James & Jean Burris, William Cullen Jr, Joseph & Betty D'Amelio, Douglas & Carol De Wolfe, Peter Demzak, Frederick & Suzanne Di Masi, Sean Donahoo, Robert & Zoe Dufour, Michael & Sue Engelmann, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Michael & Lisa Furman, Joel & Karen Gray, Robert & Catherine Gwinner IV, James & Anna Haitz, Thomas & Anne Harkins, Timothy & Ann Hartle, James Hayes, David & Donna Heezen, Joseph & Sandra Hoherl, George & Claire Inderwies, Steven & Anne Ippolito, Robert & M. A. Justiana Sr, Michael & Katherine King, Dan & Donna Kistel, Mark & Renee Kraf, William & Katherine Krajewski, Frank Laffey, Stephen & Ellen Leger, Milton Levine, Amaro Lionheart, Jerry Maratea, Frank & Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen Sr, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, John Morgan, Adel Nammour, Chris & Leah Nesci, Thomas & Carolyn O'Rourke, John & Susanne Papa, Paul & Virginia Pappas, Mark & Christine Peterman, Robert & Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto Jr, Kenneth & Gabriella Seguin Sr, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheafer Sr, James & Karin Smith, Thomas Stanko, John & Kay Strehle III, Matthew Sunski, Roy & Linda Vanderveer, Steven & Jaclyn Verba, Paul & Josefina Vilchez, Mario & Judy Zaccaria, Dennis & Joyce Ayril, Jonathan & Marianne Boyce, Sean Casey, John Coyne, Gerald Custin Jr, James & Sylvia O'Neill, Michael & Mary Kathleen Dixon, Philip & Jane Farney, Mark & Elaine Feldman, Charles & Raquel Friesema, John & Peggy Gohman II, Michael Gutknecht, Thomas Hart Jr, Paul & Rose Marie Harvey, Eugene & Karen Jajuga, Shawn & Pattie Jajuga, Christopher & Celise Jones, Gregory & Kim Juedes, Richard Kamball-Cook Jr, Timothy Kielich, Matthew Killeen, Tom & Margaret Krivchenia, Jack Kuczej, Christian Kuczej, Thomas Kukulski, James & Maria Lankford, Brian & Christina Lapointe, Brian & Angela Lawandus, Santo Loparo Jr, Patrick Mackin, Michael & Maria McCarthy, James & Patricia Nolf, Brian & Lisa O'Connor, Gerald & Holly Pappa, Frank Pensabene, Daniel & T Peterson, Donald & Alexis Reed, Andrew Rodnite, Juan & Rosemary Romero, Peter & Susan Salesses, Daniel & Paula Saracki, William & Mary Scott, Jim & Nancy Shirer, Michael & Melissa Short, Massimo & Valeria Simeoni, Chuck & Elizabeth Sullivan, Keith & Griselda Taylor Sr, Thomas & Jean Wozniak, Patrick & Joan Alix, Patrick & Beatrice Boland, Sal & Ingrid Burriesci, Ryan Burriesci, Patrick Carroll, Joseph Celic III, Terrell & Victoria Clampitt, Joseph Cortese, Joseph Culmone, Hoyt Decker, Frank & Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Terry & Shirley Drake, Richard & Joan Ducheny, Frederick & Christi Effein, Zach Faraone, Joseph & Megan Gajewski, Ward & Kathleen Griffin, Mark Gurley, Irving Hernandez, Kenton & Sue Heuertz, Jarret & Lesley Ann Honahan, Mark & Maryann Kapinos, William & Elizabeth Kasak, Brian & Christine Kearns, Robert Kenny, Raymond Kraker, Dennis Lentz, Francis & Carol Mahoney, Frank & Juliann Marsalek, Edward Martinenko, Kevin McMullen, Clifford & Michelle Merz, Anthony Metty, Darryl & Mary Miller, Thomas Myers, Javier & Xiomara Ortega, Todd & Margaret Owers, Edmund & Diane Pagnott, Donald & Carol Palacheck, Robert Papariella, Thomas Penders, Glen Pettersen, James & Suzanne Preston Jr, Christopher Purcell, Edward & Sandra Riley, James & Drema Servoss Rooney, John Ruckart, Kurt & Mary Lynn Salac, Julius & Minnie Silva, Thomas Smith, Bryan & Krista Snyder, Gregory & Carolina Sohn, James & Darlene Stanley, Jugdesh & Sucheta Sujjanani, Alvah & Margaret Vankleeck, Walberto & Ramona Vazquez, Margaret Watson, Vincent Baldwin, Fred & Caroline Bennett, Thomas Bergevin, Victor Berggren, Jacob & Mary Burnett, Mark & Janet Busing, Jerome Dewberry, Timothy & Marcy Dolan, Eric & Maria Flores, Gerald & Lorraine Grubba, Lawrence & Nancy Harkins, Robert Kelly, James Kleinsorge, Stanley Lipiarz, Gerald & Renee Lubig Jr, John Malone, Will & Jennifer Maxwell Jr, Christopher Mazzone, James & Phyllis Montali, Michael O'Neill, Miguel & Sammantha Perez I, Guillermo Romero, John J Liu, John T Liu, Albert Masselli, Peter & Susan Salesses, Brian & Carolyn Annis, Peter & Susan Salesses, William Dan Brandon, Francis Cayer, Andrew Jack Rodnite

Total Collected to Date: \$4796.93



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Brother Knights and Ladies,

As intentional and committed men and women of the Church, we are called to be loyal and active companions of our American Pope Leo XIV. Our Pope has made quite an impression not only on Catholics but also on many, many other women and men of faith as well as on other fellow human beings. He has followed in the footsteps of Pope Francis in trying to give welcome, love, and care to all women, men, and children. As we saw in last Sunday's Parish Bulletin, all the last six Popes have said that war is a mistake. So too, Leo calls for **peace and dialogue as the alternative to war**. He has just come back from an extended trip to Africa. He has affirmed the leadership of women in the church and **called us all to reach out to those in the margins of existence**. He has also reminded us of the very Catholic affirmation of looking to the **common good** in all our choices. That means in our ordinary everyday lives.

Time magazine has named him as one of the top one hundred most important people today. We certainly have been blessed with our last two Popes, Francis and Leo. Our parish bulletin has been publishing many of Francis' and Leo's talks each week - a good source for prayer and reflection. You can retrieve them by going on Google to "Espiritu Santo Catholic Church."

Michael Cooper, SJ
Chaplain



May blessings and a month of honoring all the special women who are unconditionally there for others. We are off on a good start of donations for the annual Mother's Day Tree and hope to surpass the thousand-dollar goal by May 4th.

We will also honor our special men for Father's Day and will be taking donations for the honor trees. Dates will be posted in the bulletin of when this event will be offered to parishioners, and our collection table will be in front of the Parish Center.

The Ladies Auxiliary will have their final meeting of the fraternal year this month until resuming in September. So many of us are traveling during the summer, attending to graduations and wedding festivities, and busy attending to family needs, therefore our meetings will be on hold.

Until next month, God bless you and yours.

Service Program Directors 2025-2026

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	Matt Sunski	
Public Relations Director	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
Life Director	Jack Strehle	
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,

I hope that everyone had a blessed and enjoyable Easter. As always, the Holy Week celebration went beautifully. Mother's Day will be celebrated on the Sunday the 10th. It gives us the opportunity to remember all the wonderful memories of our moms. I know my mom is looking down. There are a few events this month as we wind down from a wonderful fraternal year. Our Officers meeting will be on Thursday the 7th at 7:00p. The Council membership meeting will be the following Thursday, the 14th along with the saying of the Rosary at 6:15p in the John Bosco Center. Coffee & Donuts will be moved to the 24th instead of the 17th; this is to coincide with the Parish Feast Day. Pinellas Hope Food Prep is on the 21st at 8:00a in the Parish Center Kitchen. As always, we need you to volunteer where and when you can. Thank you! Our final event will be the KofC Memorial Day Mass and Flag Retirement being held on Monday the 25th at 9a. Currently there is nothing to report from the Program Directors Desks.

May Liturgical Calendar

- May 01 – St. Joseph the Worker, optional memorial
- May 02 – St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, Memorial
- May 12 – Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, martyr, optional memorials
- May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima, optional memorial
- May 14 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord or St. Matthias, Apostle, Feast
- May 15 – St. Isidore, optional memorial
- May 17 – The Ascension of the Lord, Solemnity
- May 18 – St. John I, Pope and Martyr, optional memorial
- May 20 – St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest, optional memorial
- May 21 – St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and companions, Martyrs, optional memorial
- May 22 – St. Rita of Cascia, Religious, optional memorial
- May 24 – Pentecost – OUR PARISH FEAST DAY, Solemnity

- May 25 – Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial
- May 26 – St. Philip Neri, Priest, optional memorial
- May 27 – St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, optional memorial
- May 29 - St. Paul VI, Pope, optional memorial
- May 31 – Most Holy Trinity, Solemnity

St. Isidore, optional memorial

St. Isidore of Seville, born in 560 AD, died in 636 AD, was a Roman Scholar, Theologist and Archbishop of Seville for 32 years. His is widely regarded as "the scholar of the ancient world." Isidore was born in Cartegena, Spain to a noble family in Roman Hispania, of high social rank.

Isidore received his elementary education in the Cathedral school of Seville. Scholars may debate whether Isidore ever personally embraced monastic life or affiliated with any religious order, but he undoubtedly esteemed the monks highly. After the death of Leander of Seville, Isidore succeeded to the See of Seville. On his elevation, he immediately constituted himself as the protector of the monks.

Archbishop Isidore used resources of education to counteract increasingly influential Gothic barbarism throughout his jurisdiction. Isidore presided over the Second Council of Seville in 619 AD in the reign of King Sisebut. The council was attended by 8 other bishops from southern Spain. The Acts of the Council fully set forth the nature of Christ, countering the conceptions of Gregory, a Syrian representing the heretical Agophali.

All bishops of Hispania attended the Fourth National Council of Toledo in December 633. The aged Archbishop Isidore presided over its deliberations and originated most enactments of the council. Through his influence, this Council promulgated a decree commanding all bishops to establish seminaries in their cathedral cities, along the lines of the cathedral school of Seville, which had educated Isidore decades earlier.



John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

Brothers,

A consistent income brings financial stability and well-being to your family. If it were to vanish unexpectedly - whether because of death or disability - consider what might happen next:

Would your loved ones need to sell or downsize their home? Would your children need to change schools? Would it impact retirement savings?

Insurance from the Knights of Columbus can help replace that crucial income, protect savings and prevent major lifestyle disruptions.

Depending on your stage of life, there are products designed to fit your needs.

If you're a young man, you may be working hard to pay rent or cover basic living expenses. As you age into your prime working years, there may be mouths to feed, a mortgage and a car payment. Then finally as you approach or enter retirement, you might be looking for supplemental income or to protect what you've built.

If you're supporting a family, term or permanent life insurance can help give you peace of mind that they will be financially protected if you or your wife should pass away. Even amid tragedy, it helps give the people you love stability and time to adjust without the added weight of financial hardship.

Term life insurance, which gives you coverage for a specified time period, can be a great option if you have a young family with temporary needs. It's an affordable choice that typically provides coverage for 10, 15 or 20 years.

Later, you could choose to convert your policy to whole life, which can provide coverage for your entire lifespan and accrue cash value. This can be helpful if you want a potential way to supplement retirement income or if you're interested in using insurance as part of your estate plan.

Not sure what coverage is right for you?

I would be glad to schedule a time to sit down and talk about your needs. I'm here to help you protect your family and the life you've built.

Vivat Jesus!

John D Ruckart, FICF
813.855.5111

Book an appt with me here:
<https://bookRuckart.flkofc.com/>

Learn about our investments:
<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE



JJ Coyne
 Faithful Navigator
 johnjjcoyne@gmail.com
 901.832.7332 (m)

Faithful Navigator's Log

Brother Sir Knights,

As we enter the month of May, we continue to reflect on both our fraternal mission and our patriotic duty. I encourage all members to participate in our upcoming Memorial Day Mass and Flag Retirement Ceremony, where we will honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. This meaningful event is a powerful reminder of the principles of patriotism and reverence that guide our Assembly. Our Color Corps Commander has a callout for the Memorial Day Mass (Monday, May 25) as well as the Espiritu Santo Catholic School graduation on Friday, May 22.

This past month, I had the privilege of attending the Biennial Meeting in Port Orange alongside our Faithful Captain, Ed Amador. The meeting provided valuable insight, fellowship, and renewed focus on the mission of the Fourth Degree. We look forward to sharing more from that experience as we continue strengthening our Assembly.

Looking ahead, the upcoming slate of officers was presented at our social meeting at Beef O' Bradys in April. It will also be published in in this newsletter and reviewed once more at our next meeting prior to the vote. Your engagement in this process is important, and I encourage all Sir Knights to stay informed and participate.

Speaking of the social meeting at Beef O' Bradys, I want to that those that came out. We had a great showing which did lead to pretty tight quarters, but we managed and I believe the staff did a great job and the food hit the spot! It was truly prayers-answered to see WGK Tom Krivchenia and Lady Margaret out with us...God's Loving Hand at work.

Thank you for your continued dedication and service to our Assembly, our parish, and our community.

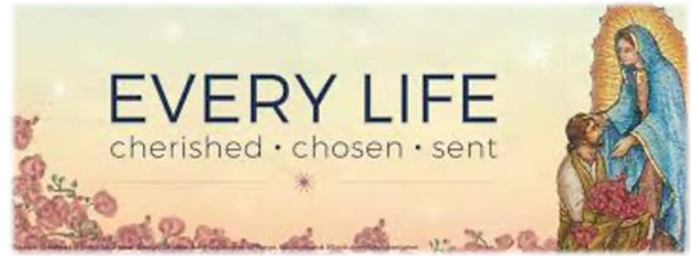
Vivat Jesus,
 JJ Coyne

2026-27 Proposed Assembly 2474 Slate

- **Faithful Navigator**
Edward Amador
- **Faithful Friar**
Fr Michael Cooper, SJ
- **Faithful Captain**
Amaro Lionheart
- **Faithful Pilot**
Mark Feldman
- **Faithful Admiral**
JJ Coyne, PGK, PFN
- **Faithful Scribe**
Santo Loparo
- **Faithful Comptroller**
Tom Harkins
- **Faithful Purser**
Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
- **Inside Sentinel**
Vincent Cristiano
- **Outside Sentinel**
Richie Resler
- **Trustee 3Y**
John Gohman, PFN
- **Trustee 2Y**
Wally Vazquez, PFN
- **Trustee 1Y**
Frank McEwen, FDW, PGK, PFN
- **Color Corps Commander**
Tom Wozniak, FDD, PGK, PFN
- **Veterans Liaison**
Bill Gallant



Njällssen Amaro Lionheart
 realamarolionheart@gmail.com
 305.761.3419



The Month of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Mother of the Church

May arrives like a soft procession of blossoms and birdsong, a gentle hymn rising from creation itself as if the earth remembers the footsteps of the Virgin and longs to echo her purity. In this month the Church, with ancient instinct and childlike devotion, lifts her gaze to the Mother of God, the first disciple whose yes became the doorway through which the Eternal stepped into time. May is the month of beauty because Mary is the Mother of Beauty. Roses open as if imitating her virtues. Breezes carry a quiet reverence. Children bring flowers to her altar with hands still untouched by cynicism, and the faithful kneel before her image with hearts drawn to the tenderness of a Mother who has never forgotten her children. She is the dawn that heralds the rising Sun of Justice, the Star of the Sea guiding souls through storms unseen, and the Queen whose reign is carved not in marble but in humility, purity, and love. To honor Mary in May is not to look backward, but to stand in awe before the masterpiece through whom the Creator reshaped the destiny of the world.

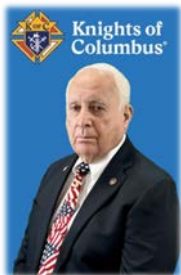
Mary's presence in Scripture is quiet, yet every silence is weighty with revelation. She is the woman who treasured divine mysteries in her heart, the soul whose Magnificat split the night with its prophetic fire, and the disciple whose faith surpassed the faith of patriarchs and kings. At the Annunciation, she became the hinge upon which the history of salvation turned. At Cana, she revealed her Son's heart with a whisper that altered the course of His ministry. At Calvary, she stood when others fled, becoming the Mother who shared in the suffering of the Redeemer with a courage forged in the furnace of grace. In the Upper Room, she prayed as the Spirit descended, becoming the silent midwife of the newborn Church. May calls us to walk these mysteries anew, to see in Mary not a distant figure but the model of every Christian life. Her purity teaches integrity. Her humility teaches surrender. Her

courage teaches endurance. Her motherhood teaches that greatness is measured in love, not acclaim. To honor her is to recognize the genius of God who chose to send His Son into the world through her, and who continues to send grace into the world through her ceaseless intercession.

To live May rightly is to place our lives beneath her mantle, to let her lead us through the mysteries of her Son with the gentleness of a Mother and the wisdom of a Queen. And to my brother Knights, this month is a summons to embody her virtues with renewed conviction. Let us rekindle the practice of family prayer, especially the Holy Rosary, the spiritual sword she placed into the hands of her children for an age in need of courage. Let us teach our children to love her as their Mother and to see in her the surest path to Christ. Let our councils honor her through works of charity that reflect her own care for the vulnerable, the forgotten, and the weary. Let us crown her images, lead Marian processions, and consecrate our families and parishes to her Immaculate Heart. May is the month when heaven's Queen walks more closely among her children. Let us meet her with fidelity, follow her in purity, and allow her to guide us ever deeper into the luminous mystery of her Son.

Ad Jesum per Mariam.





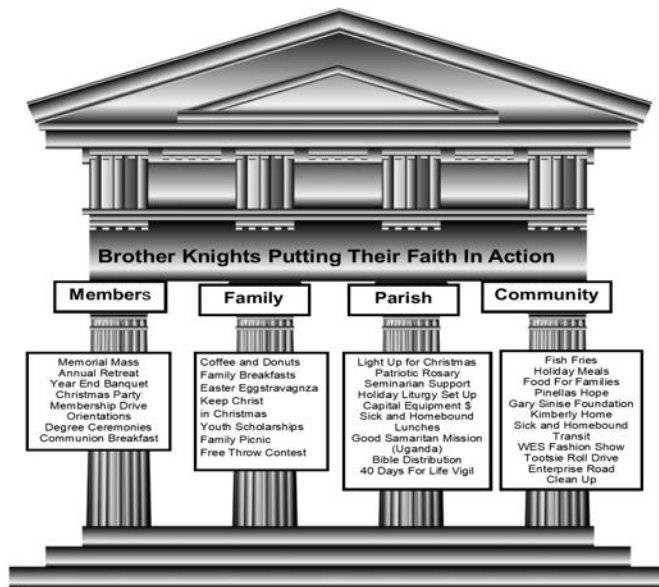
Jerry Custin
 PGK, PFN
 jcustin@gmail.com



Harmonize Work and Family Life

Psalm 127 was written by Solomon, son of David and the wise king. Solomon reigned for 40 years. He requested "an understanding heart" from God to govern justly, which was granted along with immense wealth. He built the first Temple in Jerusalem, also known as Solomon's Temple. This is important as he's a good guy to listen to. The main message in this Palm is that we get nothing done without God being in charge of our lives. Much of the activity and angst we spend time on, Psalm 127 tells us that **God gives to his beloved in sleep**. So, it's seek harmony in our lives, recognizing that God is ALWAYS in our lives as we so often walk toward Emmaus but fail to recognize His presence. The second part of the Psalm addresses the blessing of our children, especially sons, at that time in history. The blessings of family life are boundless.

The unsaid lesson is perseverance. Solomon was indeed a great and wise King. However, towards the end of his life, he was known for taking many foreign wives and indulging in idolatry, which brought divine displeasure. Harmonizing our work and family life is the objective. Making sure we understand that God is our Father and Protector is even better. But forgetting who is in charge? Not so good.



Psalm 127

*Unless the LORD build the house, they labor in vain who build. Unless the LORD guard the city, in vain does the guard keep watch. It is vain for you to rise early and put off your rest at night, To eat bread earned by hard toil all this God gives to his beloved in sleep. Certainly sons are a gift from the LORD, the fruit of the womb, a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one's youth. Blessed is the man who has filled his quiver with them. He will never be shamed for he will destroy his foes at the gate.**

Photo Gallery



L to R: WGK Tom Krivchenia recognizes Julius & Minnie Silva (January 2026), Jerry & Lara Custin (February 2026), and Gene & Karen Jajuga (March 2026) as Family of the Month



WGK Tom Krivcheia presents Fr Theo Weria and SK John Lutch with Honorary Life Cards

Letter to the Editor

Do We Recognize Christ?

We are in the Liturgical Season of Eastertide. The fifty days after Christ's Resurrection and the Feast of Pentecost, ten days after Christ's Ascension into Heaven. This is a special season where we transition from the despair of Christ's death through uncertainty, fear, and desperation, the pure awe and joy of His resurrection, and the anticipation and excitement of His Ascension and the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon us for eternity.

A lot is packed into that. Can you imagine the confusion and undoubtedly the disbelief of His Resurrection as that word spread? Luke 24:13-35 is the only Gospel that captures the confusion of two men, Cleopas and another disciple, as they walked away from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a village about seven miles away, disheartened by Christ's death and unaware of His Resurrection. They are joined by another stranger on that walk. It was Jesus, but their eyes were not open to him.

Jesus asked what they were talking about. In Luke 24:18 Cleopas asks, ***"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?"*** He then goes on to tell the stranger about Jesus' capture, crucifixion, burial, and adds, ***"Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see."***

In verse 25, Jesus said to them, ***"Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into***

his glory?" The conversation continued, and Jesus revealed more Scripture to them regarding the coming of the Savior. On reaching Emmaus, the men invited the stranger to dine with them. He did. During dinner, the stranger took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. With that, their eyes were opened to His presence. With that, He vanished from their sight. They immediately returned to Jerusalem and found the eleven disciples to tell them of their encounter.

Why didn't they recognize Jesus immediately? Was it a lack of faith? The presence of fear? Fear of what would happen without Christ in their lives? Fear that the followers of Christ would be persecuted? Fear that they were identifying themselves as followers of Christ to this stranger? But they had enough faith to invite Him to dinner, and their eyes were opened in the breaking of the bread. They later reflected, in verse 32, ***"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"***

Do we feel that same burning each time we hear and discuss the word of God in our Liturgy of the Word? Do we share that same sense of awe when we meet Christ at every Mass in the Liturgy of the Eucharist? Or, does the business, complexities, and disruptions in our lives distract us from His real presence – body, blood, soul, and divinity – at every Mass, every day, all across this planet?

Do we truly grasp this astonishing gift, or are we sometimes like Cleopas and his friend, walking with Christ in our midst, but not really recognizing Him? St. Faustina was deeply devoted to the Eucharist and reported seeing numerous visions of Christ as she received Communion. I'll close with her words. ***Jesus, delight of my soul, Bread of Angels, My whole being is plunged in You, And I live Your divine life as do the elect in heaven, And the reality of this life will not cease, though I be laid in the grave.***

Do we recognize and fully recognize the presence of Christ in the breaking of the bread?

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

The Argument of Holiness

The witness of Venerable Fulton Sheen reminds us that the most convincing testimony to the Gospel is a life transformed by Christ and lived for others

In February, the Holy See informed the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois, that the beatification of Venerable Fulton J. Sheen could move forward. This followed the approval in 2019 of a miracle attributed to Sheen's intercession.

Archbishop Sheen first came to national prominence in the 1950s through his syndicated television series, *Life Is Worth Living*. He was a man of tremendous talents: a television personality, author, teacher and one of the greatest evangelists of the 20th century. He was also a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and member of Council 178 in Rochester, New York.

Sheen spent his entire life bringing people to Christ. He was particularly eloquent when urging the laity — and especially the Knights of Columbus — to take bold action in defense of our faith. In an address to the 88th Supreme Convention in 1970, he called Knights to read the “signs of the times” amid the social upheaval of the day. He urged us to meet those challenges by embracing a “theology of the laity” — one grounded in action that keeps Christ at the center. Our focus, he continued, should not be on “Christ in the abstract, but in the concrete, [Christ] who is in this world needing and wanting our help.” We must see Christ in everyone, he said. “Christ is in agony in men until the end of the world.”

Archbishop Sheen knew that real change is not brought about through political programs or social revolutions. Rather, he said, “the only argument that is left to convince others is holiness. The world has heard every other argument and it is ready to reject them all except one: holiness.”

Whether speaking to millions on television or to a family in their living room, Archbishop Sheen was always calling people to an encounter with Christ. When I was a boy in the mid-1970s, he spent several days at my family's parish, Holy Family, in Grand Blanc, Michigan. Our pastor brought him to our home one evening for dinner, and we spent several hours captivated by the stories he told. I will never forget his gripping account of handing crucifixes to 500 lepers living in a colony in Uganda — a story he vividly recounts in his autobiography, *Treasure in Clay*.

Archbishop Sheen put enormous talents at the service of God — and he urged all of us, no matter our talents, to do the same. He wrote: “God has given different talents to different people. There is no basis for feeling inferior to another who has a different gift. Once it is realized that we shall be judged by the gift we have received, rather than by the gift we have not, one is completely delivered from a sense of false inferiority.”

The archbishop drew his energy and insights from a daily Holy Hour, which he called “the hour that makes my day.” It was his daily encounter with Christ. He wrote in his autobiography, “Neither theological knowledge nor social action is enough to keep us in love with Christ unless both are preceded by a personal encounter with Him.” A full hour was necessary, he added, because it is “not so brief as to prevent the soul from collecting itself and shaking off the multitudinous distractions of the world. Sitting before the Presence is like a body exposing itself to the sun to absorb its rays.”

For Archbishop Sheen, his daily Holy Hour was like “oxygen”: “Even when it seemed unprofitable and lacking in spiritual intimacy, I still had the sensation of being at least like a dog at the master's door, ready in case he called me.”

Until his death in 1979, Sheen never stopped pursuing holiness — for himself and for others. His secret was a combination of using his God-given talents to their utmost while persevering in prayer every day. It worked for him, and it can work for us, too.

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Open Wide The Doors For Christ

In this most sacred season of the Church, of the Passion, Crucifixion, and glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are reminded that our faith is not simply something we profess it is something we are called to live. The Cross stands before us not as a symbol of defeat, but as the ultimate expression of sacrificial love. And the empty tomb proclaims to the world that death is not the end, but the beginning of eternal life. It is within this holy context that we reflect on our mission as brothers of the Knights of Columbus, especially here within the Florida State Council.

Easter is not just a moment in time it is a call to transformation. It is an invitation to draw closer to Christ, to die to ourselves, and to rise with Him in a renewed spirit of faith, hope, and charity. As Knights, we are uniquely positioned to live out this calling in a powerful and visible way. Our Order was founded on the principles of charity, unity, and fraternity, and it is through these virtues that we become instruments of Christ's love in the world.

At the heart of our mission is the salvation of souls. Everything we do every act of charity, every hour of service, every prayer offered is ultimately directed toward bringing souls closer to Jesus Christ. This is not a task we can accomplish alone. The world today presents many challenges to faith, many distractions that pull people away from God. But what we cannot do individually, we can accomplish together as brothers united in purpose and guided by the Holy Spirit.

There is something deeply spiritual about the unity we share as Knights. When we gather in fraternity, we are not merely a group of men we are a brotherhood rooted in Christ. We strengthen one another, encourage one another, and hold one another accountable in our journey of faith. In this unity, we reflect the very nature of the Church itself, the Body of Christ, where each member plays a vital role in the mission of salvation.

During this holy season, we are called to reflect on the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. He gave everything for us His body, His blood, His very life. This total gift of self is the model for our own lives. As Knights, we are called to give of ourselves generously, to serve without expecting anything in return, and to love as Christ loves. Whether it is supporting our parishes, assisting those in need, standing for the dignity of life, or simply being present for a brother in need, each act becomes a reflection of Christ's sacrificial love.

The Resurrection, however, reminds us that sacrifice is not the end of the story. There is hope. There is victory. There is new life. This is the message we are called to bring into the world a world that so often struggles with despair and uncertainty. Through our actions, our words, and our witness, we proclaim that Christ is alive, and that His love has the power to transform lives.

The Florida State Council has been blessed with dedicated men who live this mission every day. Across our state, Knights are serving their communities, supporting their parishes, and standing as witnesses to the Gospel. But as we reflect during this Easter season, we must also ask ourselves: how can we do more? How can we deepen our commitment? How can we bring even more souls to Christ?

The answer lies in our willingness to grow spiritually. Our works are important, but they must always be rooted in a deep and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Prayer, the sacraments, and a life grounded in faith are essential. Without Christ at the center, our efforts lose their true purpose. But with Him, everything we do becomes a means of grace.

Continued on next page...

Open Wide The Doors For Christ

Continued from previous page...

We must also be intentional in inviting others to join us in this mission. There are many men who are searching for purpose, for brotherhood, for a deeper connection to their faith. The Knights of Columbus offers all of this and more. By inviting them to become part of our Order, we are not simply growing our membership we are extending the reach of Christ's love and bringing more souls into a life of service and faith.

As we stand at the foot of the Cross and gaze upon the empty tomb, let us renew our commitment as Knights. Let us be men of faith, men of action, and men of charity. Let us embrace the mission of bringing souls to Christ with renewed passion and dedication. And let us remember always that we are not alone in this mission. We are brothers, united in Christ, working together for His glory.

In the end, it is not about what we achieve as individuals, but what we accomplish together in the name of our Lord. Through our unity, our faith, and our commitment to service, we become instruments of God's grace in the world. And in doing so, we fulfill the true purpose of our calling as Knights of Columbus.

May this Easter season renew our hearts, strengthen our resolve, and inspire us to continue the sacred work entrusted to us. And may we always strive to lead others to the One who gave everything for us Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

And please always remember. God loves you and so do I.



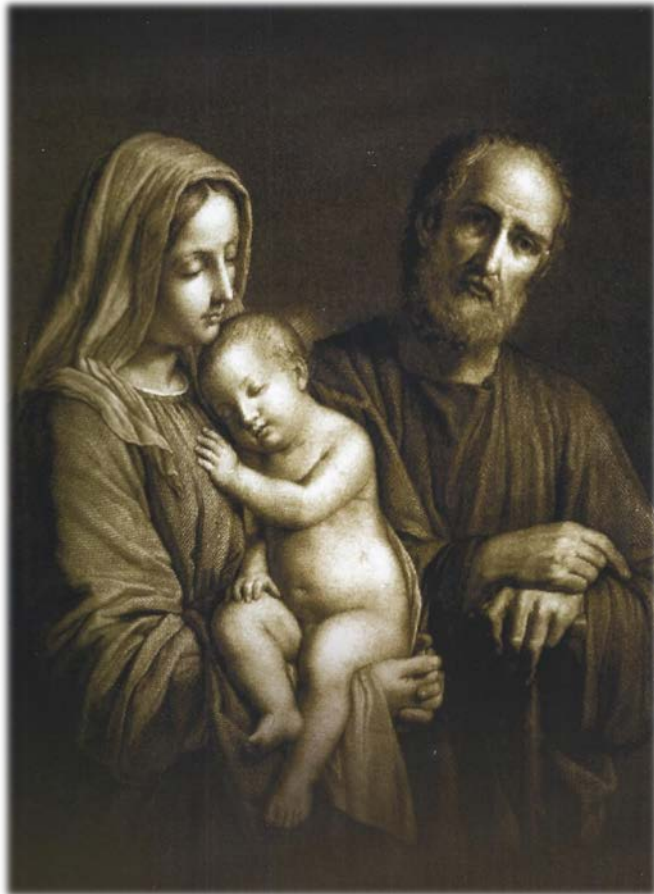
Members of our Council serve at the Veterans Homeless Stan Down



Members of the Assembly Color Corps stand watch over the Eucharist following Easter Vigil

Assembly Officers 2025-2026

Faithful Navigator	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Faithful Friar	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Faithful Captain	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
Faithful Admiral	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Pilot	Amaro Lionheart	305.761.3419
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	Wally Vazquez, PFN	727.542.5376
Trustee Two Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Trustee One Year	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727.871.6506
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.

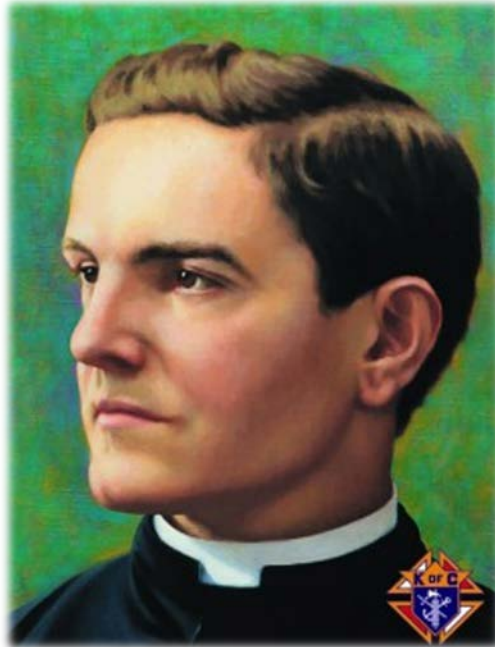
In our daily life and work,
 May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
 O Father, eternally show with your Son
 and the Holy Spirit.

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...

May 2026

- 05/14 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 05/14 | Thu 7:00p Council 7109 & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 05/17 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home WorkDay
- 05/21 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 05/24 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 05/25 | Mon 8:30a Memorial Day Mass & Flag Retirement Ceremony



Assembly Calendar of Events...

May 2026

- 05/28 | Thu 7:00p Monthly Meeting
- 05/09 | Sat 9:30a Patriotic Exemplification
St John the Evangelist CC
Naples, FL 34108
- 06/27 | Sat 9:30a Patriotic Exemplification
St Bonaventure CC
Davie, FL 33325

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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.

