Council 5618
March 2026

Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council 5618, Altamonte Springs FL

The Pinta Log

# Grand Knight's Message to the Council

By Grand Knight, George Meyer

**Worthy Brother Knights**,

We are already in the depths of Lent, hopefully digging deeper into the sacrificial nature of this holy season.

I have already written about the practice of 'offering up' all our sufferings in reparation for our sins and those of the whole world.

This is a worthwhile practice, especially since we are doing a good bit of suffering, aren't we?

As of this writing, we have one Fish Fry Dinner behind us. The demand was so high it seemed we had people out the door the entire time!

Everyone worked together like every year, and the blessings flowed. It is such an edifying sight to have 'new Knight' and 'old timer' showing Charity, Fraternity, and Unity at these dinners.

Laps 4 Life is happening the 7th; another wonderful event that gathers everyone of good will together to bear witness to the sanctity of human life - with our movement and money.

I thank you all for what you do for the Lord. The context of your contribution is Council 5618, but it goes further into the Kingdom of Christ.

Please persist in prayer no matter your current circumstances; whether you've been doing the same thing for years, have slowed down, or are looking for a new avenue to give.

You are always needed in whichever way you contribute!

Vivat Jesus,

**George Meyer,**
**Grand Knight**

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## Important Dates - Looking Ahead:

- ***Tue Mar 3 –*** *Officer's Planning Meeting 7:00 pm*
- ***Wed Mar 4 –*** *Clean the World 1:00 pm*
- ***Fri Mar 6 –*** *3rd Fish Fry Dinner 5:00 pm*
- ***Sat Mar 7 –*** *CFL Laps4Life 9:00 am*
- ***Mon Mar 9 –*** *Assembly #1667 Meeting 7:00 pm*
- ***Tue Mar 10 –*** *Council Meeting 6:30 pm*
- ***Fri Mar 13 –*** *4th Fish Fry Dinner 5:00 pm*
- ***Sat Mar 14 –*** *Sharing Saturday 9:00 am*
- ***Fri Mar 20 –*** *5th Fish Fry Dinner 5:00 pm*
- ***Sat Mar 21 –*** *Monthly Rosary4Life 8:45 am*
- ***Fri Mar 27 –*** *6th Fish Fry Dinner 5:00 pm*
- ***Mon Mar 30 –*** *Pinta Log Content Deadline*
- ***Tue Apr 7 –*** *Officer's Planning Meeting 7:00 pm*

Photo Contributors: **Roger Copeland, Tom Poppell, Tom Weninger & Tom Przybyla**

Editor: **Nick Leon**

Council website:
www.bishopgradykofc.org
View pictures from Council events from our Facebook group page

# Our Worthy Chaplain's Message

By Fr. Duberney Rodas G

**Dear Brothers,**

I write to you as we navigate the sacred wilderness of this Lenten season. We look toward the Solemnity of Saint Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary on March 19 as a oasis, a providential moment to recalibrate our hearts according to the model of the Most Chaste Spouse.

Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical Quamquam pluries emphasizes a truth that speaks directly to the soul of every knight: Joseph was the Guardian of the Divine household. The Pope writes: Joseph was the guardian, the administrator and the legal defender of the divine house of which he was the head… it is, then, natural and worthy of Blessed Joseph that, as he ministered to all the needs of the family at Nazareth… he should now cover with the cloak of his heavenly patronage the Church of Jesus Christ.

In our journey we are guided by the Message of Pope Leo XIV titled "Listening and Fasting: Lenten as a Time of Conversion" The Pope calls us to a deeper interiority, one that Saint Joseph perfected in the silence of Nazareth, He reminds as that "Conversion begins not in the noise of the world, but in the silence of the listening heart". He challenges us to see fasting not merely as a physical deprivation, but as a way to "make room: for the Word of God to echo within us. For a Knight, this is a call to St. Joseph's silence. Let us hold fast to the words of Matthew 1:24, this verse is the perfect synthesis of Pope

Leo XIV's message: Joseph listened (in his dream), his heart was converted from fear to courage, and he acted with the discipline of a man who had fasted his own will to embrace God's plan. Saint Joseph stands before us as a model of quiet strength, inviting us, the men of this noble Order, to draw inspiration for our personal growth, in protecting our families, in being effective in our volunteer service, and our love of country. He was a man of faith fully embraced God's salvific plan, prompt and silent obedience, chaste love for Mary, and fruitful reticence amid trials. Let us inspire in Joseph for he makes the ordinary heroic. Let his virtues fuel our Lenten journey, transforming you into better husbands, fathers, servants, and citizens. May Mary, his Spouse, and our Lord Jesus Christ bless your noble efforts.

In Christ,
**Fr. Duberney Rodas G,**
**Chaplain**

**"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."**
**(Matthew 1:24)**

# Officer Planning Meeting - Tue March 3

From the Editor

Our Council's next Officer's Planning meeting will occur on **Tuesday, March 3**. It will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. An email with the meeting link will be distributed a few days before the meeting. The primary purpose of this meeting is to take care of details that don't interest members, entertain new ideas, programs and initiatives, and agree upon agenda details for the next Council meeting.

All Knights are invited to participate with this meeting. All council officers, directors and chairpersons are expected to participate with these meetings to fulfill the responsibilities of their position.

Financial reports will be presented and all new business requests must be presented at this meeting, discussed and if needed, voted on at the monthly Council meeting.

Please read last month's Council meeting minutes before this meeting at this link: Meeting Minutes (if you need the password to the Council's minutes page, send an email to Nick Leon.

# Serve Saturday at the Sharing Center - Wed March 4

Our Council participates with a volunteer event at Clean the World every 1st Wednesday of the month, from 1 pm – 3 pm. **The next event will occur on Wednesday, March 4.** 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 (click to open a map). For more information:https://cleantheworld.org/doing-good/#volunteer. You can view all of the pictures from this event on our website's Home page.

# Lenten Fish Fry Dinners - Fri Mar 6– Fri Mar 27

By Tom Przybyla

The Knights, along with volunteers from the Men's Club and the CCW, will be providing the 2026 Fish Fry Dinners in the Cafeteria every Friday of Lent, which started on Friday February 20 through Friday, March 27, with serving from 5:00—7:00 pm. All dinners will be picked up inside the cafeteria and eaten on site or packaged to go. For those customers who do not want fried fish, we will be offering broiled Pollock on a limited basis. **For children only**, we will offer a slice of cheese pizza if they **don't** want fish. We will be offering bottled water, coffee and Milo's iced tea and lemonade free with the purchase of dinner. Soda, beer, and wine will be available with a donation. Good news! Dinner prices are the same as last year!

- Adult dinners purchased in the cafeteria will be $12, but if you prepay for dinners (before 11 am on the
Friday of the dinner), the price will be $11, discounted by $1.
- Child (6—12) dinners are $6.
- Children 5 and younger are still free with the purchase of an adult dinner.

Click on this link to open a PDF flyer document to view details of the dinners.
You can prepay for your dinners by clicking on this **Prepay** link**.** Or you can pay at each dinner using cash, check, or credit card.

# CFL Laps 4 Life - Saturday March 7

By James Taglia

**Dear Brothers,**
I am writing to invite you to the 13th annual Central Florida Laps4Life on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at the Bishop Moore High School stadium in Orlando. This family-friendly fundraiser supports preborn children and their families through a fun morning of walking or running, music, and activities.

Our goal this year is to raise $125,000 for vetted pro-life pregnancy centers. Your contributions will be maximized through two Knights of Columbus matching programs: the Ultrasound Initiative (100% match) for life-saving medical equipment, and the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program (20% match) for essential resources like education, clothing, and formula. Since its inception, Laps4Life has helped place over 50 ultrasound machines across Florida, and we remain the top global fundraiser for this equipment.

By participating, you help provide the technology and resources necessary to support mothers and save lives. You can make an impact by registering as an individual, building a team, becoming a sponsor, or donating online at https://cflaps4life.org . Please join us in building a culture of life.

# Council Meeting - Tuesday March 10

From the Editor

Our Council's next Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **March 10** 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. Please attend this meeting and support our activities. Please read last month's Council meeting minutes before this meeting (if you need the password to the Council's minutes page, send an email to Nick Leon at this **LINK**.

# Serve Saturday at the Sharing Center - Sat March 14

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**.

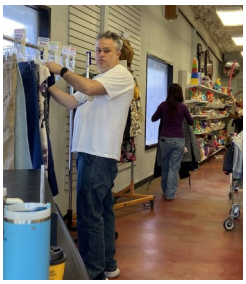
Serve Saturday

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

**Our next event is March 14.** If you can attend our next event, please sign up by emailing Tom Przybyla at . Bring your family, especially teenagers who need service hours.

There were 5 volunteers at the February event. View all of the pictures on our website's Home page.

The Sharing center is located at: 600 North Highway 17-92, Suite 130 Longwood, FL 32750 (click to open a map)



# Rosary 4 Life - Saturday March 21

By James Taglia

**On Saturday, February 21**, 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.

# Florida State Council Charity Raffle

By Don Holzemer

Click on the image to open a flyer

At our last council meeting, District Deputy Shaw presented us with an opportunity to raise funds for our council. Florida State KOFC Charites (with assistance from Florida State Council) is holding a raffle with the drawing to be held May 23rd at the Florida State Convention.

Each raffle book contains four tickets. Suggested donation is 3.00/ticket or 10.00 per book. There is also a solicitor ticket at the end of each book (Solicitor must be an individual so you cannot name the Council as a solicitor). This allows the solicitor of the tickets to be eligible for a couple of early bird drawings. The first one is in December of this year ($250) and the second one is in March of next year ($400).

The benefit to our council is that the council needs to only submit 6.00 per book and can retain the balance for our council projects.

I have over 100 books of tickets so I would like to get them into your hands as soon as possible. Please email / text me with how many books you would like and we can work out how to get them to you (click on email link; phone number below.) Checks should be made payable to KC 5618 and sent to me at 636 Mariner Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.

**Don Holzemer**
**Financial Secretary Emeritus**
**Bishop Thomas J Grady Council 5618**
**407-461-6446**

## District Hockey Shoot Out & Free Throw Basketball – Sat Jan 31 By Ed G./ Joe P.

**Hockey Results:**

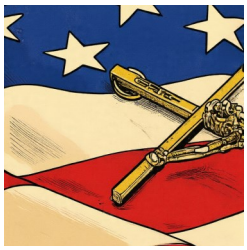
- ***Dean Amarai*** - 10 years old - Council/District Champion
- ***Anderson Lyon*** - 11 years old - Council/Champion
- ***Connor Rowland*** - 10 years old-Participated in Council. Did not move on.

**Basketball Results:**

- Boys 12-year-old
- First Place: ***Ethan Bridges***
- Boys 11-year-old
- First Place: ***Anderson Lyon***
- Boys 10-year-old
- First Place: ***Connor Rowland***
- Second Place: ***Spiko Holmberg***
- Boys 9-year-old
- First Place: ***Everett Bridges***
- Second Place: ***Ryker Holmberg***
- Third Place: ***Benton Malatesta***
- Fourth Place: ***Corbyn McLaughlin***
- Girls 13-year-old
- First Place: ***Annabella Garrett***
- Girls 12-year-old

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

## Knights/Veterans Family Communion Events By Jim Coppens

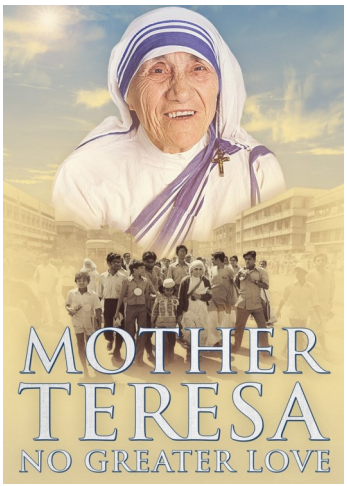


**Dear Brother Knights,**

Since 2018 my fellow volunteers and I have been putting on Knights/Veterans Family Communion Events at St Mary Magdalen Church. We have hosted almost 500 communions in the course of the events. We have been having the events celebrating Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Patriot Day (9-11), and Veteran's Day. Getting Knights and Veterans and their families together for Communions on or near Patriotic Holidays is a worthwhile activity, in accordance with the National Eucharistic Revival initiative, and promotes fellowship among Knights and Veterans. I want to get the word out to all councils and 4th degree assemblies in Florida about these events. I would be happy to share our methods and information with everyone interested in putting on these events all over the state, in K of C Councils, and 4th degree assemblies.

**Jim Coppens, Founder,**
Knights'/Veterans' Family Communion Events, St. Mary Magdalen Church,
407.261.0914, coppensjh@gmail.com

## Family Movie Night - Friday February 6 From the Editor



We want to thank all the brothers who showed up to help with this family movie night event. We had a great showing and everyone enjoyed the movie about Mother Teresa called "Mother Teresa No Greater Love." We hope to plan our next one in the near future. You can view all of the pictures from this event on our website's Home page.

# The Pinta Log Calendar

From the Editor

**2025 - 2026 Annual Calendar Schedule of Events**: Annual Calendar
**Upcoming Council Events:** Click on the link to view more details: Upcoming Events

## March 2026

The Pinta Log Calendar

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 Virtual 5618 Officer's Planning Meeting | 4 Clean the World | 5 | 6 Fish Fry Dinner | 7 Laps for Life |
| 8 Daylight Savings Time Starts | 9 1667 Assembly Meeting | 10 5618 Council Meeting | 11 | 12 | 13 Fish Fry Dinner | 14 Serve Saturday Sharing Center |
| 15 | 16 | 17 St Patrick's Day | 18 St. Joseph | 19 | 20 Fish Fry Dinner | 21 Monthly Rosary 4 Life |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Fish Fry Dinner | 28 |
| 29 Palm Sunday | 30 Pinta Log Content Deadline | 31 Seder Meal | | | | |

- 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 Leon

*The content deadline for the **April** edition is **Monday March 30.***

Submission does not guarantee your article will be published.

# Monsignor Ed Thompson's Lenten Message

On March 6, 2015, **Msgr. Ed Thompson**, being the holy and dedicated Chaplain he was, pre-recorded his Chaplain's message for the March 10, 2015 Council Business meeting on a Knight's phone at the Fish Fry Dinner because he would not be at the meeting. He was sitting in his usual Fish Fry Dinner position on his scooter right next to the table at the entrance of the Cafeteria. Msgr. Ed was the one who thought of using this then new technology to record his message on a phone. How brilliant! Fr. Ed's recording

# Attendance Drawing

The winner of the last month's $75 pot was Roger Repstien, and he was not present. Congratulations! The Attendance Drawing is a program that encourages our Council Knights to come to our Council meetings. The pot for our next month's meeting will contain **$50**. You could be the next winner! But, **you need to be present at the meeting to win**! If there is no winner, the pot increases by $25 each month to a maximum of $150. Jorge Rivero won the 50/50 drawing! — $47! It was Jorge's lucky day! Congratulations!

# From our Faith Director

By Tom Przybyla

**My Brothers in Faith,**

From Word Among Us Feb 26 meditation.

***"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Everyone who asks, receives. (Matthew 7:7-8)***

Are there days when you feel as if Jesus' words here just don't apply to you? Days—or even longer—when you think that God is, in fact, handing you a stone or a snake instead of bread or a fish (Matthew 7:9-10)? Or maybe you struggle to understand why, when you "ask," "seek," or "knock," it seems as if he's just not answering (7:7). Your faith tells you that God is all good and all loving, but your experience seems to be pointing in a different direction. Why is this?

Here's an answer you may not like—but it's an honest one: we simply don't know. It could be that his answer to your prayer is a quiet no. It could be that you're asking for the wrong thing and that God has something better in mind for you. Or it could be "not yet"—he will respond, but just not right now. Or it could be something altogether different. Whatever the reason, you are facing the mystery of God's will, and it can sometimes be hard to accept it.

But even if the answer, or "non-answer," is not very comforting, Jesus' promise remains true: "everyone who asks, receives" (Matthew 7:8). *Everyone receives.* Maybe in ways we don't expect. Maybe in ways we cannot perceive. Maybe in ways we will experience only in heaven. But our heavenly Father hears every prayer we offer. He hears the cries of our hearts. And he gives us the grace we need, the wisdom we need, or the courage or hope or correction or refocus that we need. Sometimes, he even gives us the silence that we need so that we will continue to grapple with our feelings and come to a better grasp of his calling and direction for us.

Jesus promises that God *will* "give good things to those who ask him" (Matthew 7:11). He is faithful. He is loving. He is just. He is kind and merciful. Hold onto those truths, no matter what you are dealing with. Grasp them tightly. Inscribe them in your memory. Write them on a piece of paper and keep it in your pocket as a reminder. Give yourself the gift of time and ask the Lord to give you the gift of patience. He won't fail you. Make this your prayer, day and night:

*"The Lord will complete what he has done for me; your kindness, O Lord, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands" (Psalm 138:8).*

**The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches the infallibility of prayer.**

**"'Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you receive it, and you will.' Such is the **power** of prayer and of faith that does not doubt: 'all things are possible to him who believes.'" (CCC 2610)**

Brothers, I can personally attest to God's word and promise to answer prayers. This past week I was stressing because I did not have a dishwasher and fish fryer (among other positions) for the Feb 27 fish fry dinner. All week I prayed and asked our Father with expectant faith to provide all the volunteers we needed to provide a successful dinner. As is usually the case with the Lord, he inspired people to volunteer and provided more volunteers than were needed! I want to especially thank Tom Poppell for stepping up to be the dishwasher when no one else did.

**Tom Przybyla,**
**Faith Director**

# From Our Life Director

By James Taglia

**Brothers,**
We are under 10 days from Laps. Have you registered? Have you raised money to help fund Ultrasound Machines for the preborn?

If so, thanks so much. If not, why not? We need you to help and to fund the program. As of this morning, we'd raised $49,053

| | |
|---|---|
| Easy Ed / CCW | $11,932 |
| Incarnation/ Council 16236 | $19,380 |
| Council 5357 | $8,899 |
| **Total** | **$40,804** |

This means that 83.2% of all funds raised have come from three councils. While I'm trying to get others to pick up the slack, it is imperative that we continue our efforts to bring Fr Ed Home.

For the record, we are now behind Incarnation in fundraising. This means that the Msgr Ed Thompson award would remain there. We need your help in bringing him home. I feel certain we could find a space in the lobby of the PLC where we could display the award. If not, I'll personally ask Fr Chris if we could hang it in the rectory. In either event, we need to bring him home.

Additionally, we will need all the help offered on 7-MAR. Set up begins at 5:30 AM. I think we are good; however, if anyone feels incumbent upon themselves to help at that time, we can use you. We will be moving and setting chairs, tents, tables, etc. None is heavy. We have young people to help move water (being picked up by SK Roger Copeland, SK Nick Leon, and myself).

This morning, I had a phone call. I get lots of those. Many of our Brothers know I'm up early. Often of our Brothers text me around 2AM, but lest I digress. Today's was from Relevant Radio. Att is the link to the interview. https://omny.fm/shows/morning-air/catholic-mental-health-laps4life?t=33m52s
There are tabs on their site…go ahead and tab over to mine. They wanted to know who, what, when, where, how, and why…but not an ask for money. That is a taboo.

Listen to the audio. Relevant has several hundred thousand listening. I've already received calls from around the country saying they heard it.

We are in the middle of 40 Days forLife. https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/altamontesprings
Go to the site. Register. Get out to the Abortion Clinic and pray the Rosary. The Knights are there on the Third Saturday of each Month. 21-MAR at 9AM. Join us.

Every Thursday after Morning Mass a group led by Larry & Mary Ann Scotchie are there praying. Join them

In any event, pray the rosary daily.

**James J Taglia, PFN**
**Life Director**
March 7, 2026
**13th Annual Walk for Life**
Central Florida Laps4Life, Inc.
A 501(c)3 charity
**Bishop Moore Catholic High School**
http://www.cflaps4life.org
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3kRtnrLLY0
**Jtaglia@gmail.com** **(407) 492-0329**

# Msgr. Ed Thompson Assembly #1667

By Pete Ramondetta

**Dear Worthy Brothers and Sir Knights,**

As the Faithful Navigator of Assembly 1667, It's my pleasure to be a contributor to the Pinta Log.

I became the FN for Assembly 1667 in 2023 and am now in the third year of my two-year commitment. At the time, the Assembly was close to folding, however several of us transferred in from another assembly in an effort to keep it afloat and grow it. Why? Because it was named for one of our favorite Priests from St. Mary Magdalen Church, Monsignor Ed Thompson.

The Monsignor Ed Thompson Assembly 1667 is currently comprised of three Councils; 5618 serving St. Mary Magdalen Parish, 5357 serving All Souls and Nativity Parishes and 15266 serving St. Augustine Parish.

And lately we have been growing. Last year we added four new members:

- **Robert Van Horn – Council 5357**
- **Tim Berichon – Council 5357**
- **Paul McNally – Council 5357**
- **John Frazer – Council 5357**

And we have four more candidates lined up to join us at the next exemplification:

- **Alan Blackmon – Council 5618**
- **Terrance Browning – Council 5357**
- **Nick Baggio – Council 5357 (Deputy Grand Knight)**
- **Doug Mactye – Council 5357**

We would like to invite more brother Knights from Council 5618, so please consider joining. There is still time to get in on the next exemplification. The Fourth Degree supports active military, veterans and first responders through works of charity and service. Our Color Corp members participate in community events—especially on patriotic holidays – and serve at funerals for our brother Knights.

We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Monday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Myrtle Ave. in Sanford, starting with a Rosary prayer at 6:30pm and ending with food and fellowship around 8:00pm.

Please reach out to me and I'll be happy to give you more information on how to join.

Vivat Jesus,

**Pete Ramondetta, Faithful Navigator**

**407-463-5816 | pramondetta@gmail.com**

# Brothers Celebrating March Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mar 1** | Sherman A Evans | **Mar 16** | Mike Malatesta | **Mar 26** | Thomas A Weninger |
| **Mar 1** | Robert P O Connor | **Mar 16** | Chuck H Postel | **Mar 29** | Ralph Falconi |
| **Mar 3** | Alan A Migliorato | **Mar 17** | Patrick J Floegel | **Mar 29** | Augusto S Ferreira |
| **Mar 7** | Ray R Hooper | **Mar 19** | Justin York | **Mar 30** | Esteban Rolon |
| **Mar 7** | Philip B Zaleski | **Mar 22** | John S Purcell | **Mar 31** | Paul Kelley |
| **Mar 12** | Patrick M Cavanaugh | **Mar 25** | Daniel A Scotchie | | |

***Happy Birthday Brother Knights!***

# Fraternal Benefits Advisor

By Eric Monte

**Brothers,**

Tax season is here! Whether you're ahead of the game and done filing, or you're putting it off for another couple weeks, this time of year is a good opportunity to consider whether your tax rate or bracket has changed. If so, do you know the implications for your long-term financial strategy?

People can end up in a higher tax bracket than they anticipate when their income fluctuates — for example, if your salary changed, or if you retired and are drawing on different income sources. Paying a higher tax rate may mean less disposable income or less money to leave to your family as you planned.

You can protect yourself against these potential losses and build dependable cash value through permanent life insurance with the Knights of Columbus. Permanent life insurance allows you to build cash value that you can access tax-free while you're alive. You can also create an income tax-free inheritance for your loved ones after you pass allowing permanent life insurance to be useful in a range of situations. Of course, we always recommend that you work with a qualified tax advisor or CPA in addition.

By helping to secure your financial future and legacy with the Knights of Columbus, you're living out the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney, who founded our Order 144 years ago this month.

Reach out to your field agent at www.kofc.org/faa to set up an appointment today.

*Knights of Columbus and its agents are not authorized to provide financial planning, legal or tax advice. Cash value growth is gradual and may take time to accumulate. 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**

**Knights of Columbus – Urrutia Agency**

**ONLINE Appointment Booking: CLICK HERE**

**Web: financialsecurityforcatholics.com**

**The Urrutia Agency** - Guided by faith and integrity - growing through service

# Corporate Communion Mass and Breakfast – Sunday Feb 22

Our Council's Corporate Communion Mass was held on Sunday, February 22. There was a great turnout of brother Knights and their wives at the Mass. Afterwards, people went to breakfast at Grills Lakeside. You can view all of the pictures from this event on our website's Home page.

# Knight/Family of the Month Spotlight

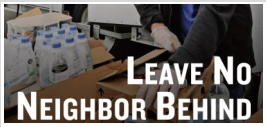
1

2

**Picture #1**: Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Knight of the Month award for January to Gabriel Russo. Gabriel is a new 'young' Knight in our Council. It was somewhat recently that he had a 'reversion' to the faith after pursuing Truth in the face of an increasingly Godless culture. Not long after coming back to the Faith, Gabriel continued to study and participate in OCIA, where he has made a committed splash. He expressed interest in getting more involved with the Council and recently spent considerable time volunteering at the KofC Burger / Hot Dog / BBQ booth. Gabriel's zeal, commitment, and warm demeanor are a powerful witness and source of encouragement for this Council. As one of the youngest among our ranks, he unknowingly gives hope to us older Brother Knights and we are grateful to God for guiding his way to us! **Picture #2**: Worthy Grand Knight George Meyer presented the Family of the Month award for January to the Emilio & Kristina Regala**.** Emilio & Kristina Regala have been active Saint Mary Magdalen parishioners for decades. Emilio, a Worthy and steadfast Brother in our Council of 23 years, is our illustrious Vocations Chairman. His diligent work supporting seminarians is core to the values of the KofC. Kristina is the daughter of Deacon Greg and Barbara Nelsen. She joins Emilio with Sacristan duties as well as several other areas of involvement, and her dedication is evident to all who know her. They have endured great sufferings within their family - such as the sudden passing of Emilio's mother last year and the passing of Kristina's father in recent years. Through it all, their faith never wavered. Their faithful service to the Church, each other, and their children are a strong witness to the Christian Life to which all Catholics are called. Their edifying lives are an inspiring roadmap to sanctity!

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

# 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 or 407-920-2497 or Tom Przybyla or 407-460-8109. We need at least 2 weeks of lead time to make arrangements for the project.

**Project: Recovery House- Msgr. Thompson Room**

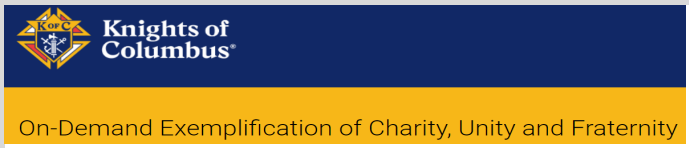
The attached photo is of our very own brother, Tom Poppell, who has been very hard at work helping to paint the Msgr. Ed Thompson room for the Recovery House project. We truly appreciate his dedication and hard work on this initiative.

# Knights of Columbus Council 5618 Facebook By Roger Copeland

For all the newer Knights who are not aware of our Council's Facebook page. Below is the link to the site. Please feel free to share your Knight pictures on this site. That was the main reason it was created.

## K of C Council 5618 Pictures & etc.

# Exemplification Ceremony on Demand!




**The Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity is now available on-demand.**

Any current 1st or 2nd Degree Knights can advance to the 3rd Degree at any time of the day or night, 24/7, at your convenience. ***To participate in the ceremony immediately, use the "On Demand" link and the 30-minute ceremony will start upon completion of your registration.***

**If you know of any Brother Knight who would like to advance to the Third Degree, please pass this information on to that Brother!**

- Provide the required information including your council number (5618).
- Please note that your family and friends are welcome to observe the ceremony.

We look forward to you becoming a third-degree Knight of Columbus!

**English**

**Spanish**

# Weekly Exemplification Ceremonies

The Florida State Council presents weekly Exemplifications of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Click the links below to register new candidates or to have your 1st and 2nd Degree members to advance to the 3rd Degree.

The English Exemplifications are held weeks 1-4 on Thursday and the 4th Monday at 7:00 pm. The Spanish Exemplifications are held the 3rd Wednesday and the 5th Thursday at 8:00 pm.

English Exemplifications  Spanish Exemplifications

# Donations for Needful Council Knights By Tom Poppell

Brothers, we are assisting 3 families who are in need of food assistance by providing food and or gift cards from Publix, Winn Dixie or Aldi markets on a weekly basis.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Donations may be dropped off at Tom's Auto Repair (Proprietor is Tom Galaida) located at 151 Obrien Road. The telephone number is 407.831.8484. The food and or gift cards will be picked up and distributed weekly. Your gifts are greatly appreciated by the recipients.

Vivat Jesus, Brother Tom Poppell 407-920-2497

# Shirt/Apron Embroidering By Tom Przybyla

Gyslaine Brasil, one of the mothers of a basketball free throw and hockey shoot-out participant told me that she can embroider shirts and aprons with your name and logo (or whatever else you want) for a small fee:

- Name: $5
- First time Logo setup charge: $50
- Logo (after initial setup) and name: $15
- Logo only (after initial setup): $10

Gyslaine's contact information is: gyslainebrasil@gmail.com and 321-420-3544

# Council Officers 2025 - 2026

Website Link: Officers

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Chaplain** | Fr. Duberney Rodas | **Advocate:** | Ed Gallagher |
| **Grand Knight:** | George Meyer | **Lecturer:** | Lou Elrose |
| **Deputy Grand Knight:** | Joe Pocius | **Trustee 1 Year:** | Roger Copeland |
| **Chancellor:** | Ricardo Diaz | **Trustee 2 Year:** | Tom Przybyla |
| **Financial Secretary:** | Richard Hosler | **Trustee 3 Year:** | Tom Galaida |
| **Recorder:** | Tom Weninger | **Fraternal Benefits Advisor:** | Eric Monte |
| **Treasurer:** | Les Philip | **District Deputy, District 24:** | Robert Shaw |
| **Warden:** | Tom Poppell | **District Warden, District 24:** | |
| **Inside Guard:** | David Henriquez (DJ) | **Outside Guard:** | Alan Blackmon |

# Faith In Action Program Directors & Chairmen 2025 - 2026

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Faith Director:** | Tom Przybyla | **Community Director:** | Ed Gallagher |
| **Family Director:** | Les Philip | **Life Director:** | James Taglia Jr |
| **Membership Director:** | Art Wright | **Youth Chairman:** | Ed Gallagher |
| **Program Director** | Joe Pocius | **Lenten Fish Fry Dinners Chairman:** | Tom Przybyla |
| **Seminarian Chairman:** | Emilio Regala | **Card Ministry Chairman:** | Wayne Fricker |

Want to order your wife a Knight of Columbus name tag? You can order a name tag from **Don Holzemer** at our next business meeting or by sending him an email at **amidon49@cfl.rr.com**.

Wayne Fricker, our Council's chairman of the Card Ministry will send out cards of hope, sympathy, or condolence in our Council's name to brothers and families who are in distress, such as when we lose a brother, or we want to cheer up a brother or their loved one who might be homebound or who is in the hospital. If you would like Wayne to send out a card, please notify him via email: wayne.fricker@gmail.com or by phone: 407-745-9247 (cell).

If you know of a Brother, or relative of a Brother in distress, contact any of your Council officers. We have many people who need your prayers as they suffer severe medical challenges. They know your prayers are a blessing. Please continue to pray all the Knights and their loved ones who are in need of prayers, especially those people on our Council's Prayer List, which is found on our website.

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Council 5618 Brother Knights can advertise or convey a message to other Knights in the electronic version of the Pinta Log. You can purchase an ad for $10 per quarter (3 month period) or $35 for a 1 year period. Send your request to **Nick Leon**. Include the wording, picture (if applicable) and instructions for your ad in the email.