



Knights of Columbus

Council 2505

St. Joseph's Church

Lakeland, FL

April 2024

A message from the Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

Do you believe Judas was the devil, or do you believe that the devil used Judas to work his evil to betray Jesus?

I ask this question because of a real life situation I faced years ago. I was told by someone that the devil will be in your presence to knock you down. To make me fail in a task I was involved in. I was warned to be ready for a fight. I kind of brushed this off but remember this conversation very clearly. Weeks later the devil worked through this same person looking for a fight. At this time in my life I was physically and emotionally exhausted and gave up without a fight. I did not understand all of this at the time when this was happening. This is something that I have not gotten over to this day. Today I believe that the devil is still present and is looking for another fight.

He is in my frustrations and thoughts with the Knights of Columbus, he is present in Knights' meetings, and in Knights' events. I see him there egging me on to give up. He puts thoughts in my head and entices people to stand in my way. I am a stronger man than the last time he showed his face. He will not win and I will not fail. Now at this time you may have your phone in your hand, dialing the nearest nut hospital to have me picked up. This guy claims to have seen the devil. I have claimed this but I see miracles and pure evil every day. You just have to look close. I am not too worried about being turned into the nut house. There are probably only a few Knights that read the newsletter and they are as nutty as I am.

For those that volunteered during the fish fries, a big thank you goes out to you. It was a successful year for two reasons. One, we as Knights provided a service to our church community. Two, we made some money this year. Everyone's efforts were much appreciated.

A couple of events coming in April.

April 2nd is a Fraternal Benefit Night webinar. You can help your Council out by registering for this and watching this either at home or at the Parish Hall. We will have pizza and refreshments for all that come to the Parrish Hall. The doors will open at 7:15 and the webinar will start at 8:00pm.

Also, the week of April 2nd the St. Joseph Icon will be on display in our church. The Icon travels all over to be displayed for a short time at a Council's parish. The Icon comes from the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. During the Masses on the weekend of April 6th and 7th there will be a short pulpit speech before Mass starts and the Icon will process in with the Priest.

April 25 (Thursday) is our first social of 2024. Dinner starts at 6:00pm. More information to follow. Everyone and their families are invited.

I hope you and your families have a Blessed Easter.

Vivant Jesus,

Mark Sagen



Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, You called Your priest, Father Michael J. 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 Your venerable servant Father Michael J. 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.

Considering a 4th Degree?



Hello Brother Knights of Council 2505: This message is for those of you whom have not yet attained your 4th Degree. Please see below the schedule of 4th Degree Exemplifications scheduled in 2024 here in Florida.

May 11th, 2024 (Saturday) Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Naples, Fla. Naples is about a 2 1/2 to 3 hour drive from Lakeland. It is just south of Ft. Myers.


June 15th 2024 (Saturday) Church of the Little Flower in Coral Gables, Fla; Coral Gables is near Miami.

August 25th 2024 (Saturday) San Juan del Rio Catholic Church in St. John, Fla (St. John is just south of Jacksonville, Fl and is about 190 miles from Lakeland (about a 3-4 hour drive).

The Exemplification is now open for wives and family members to attend the exemplification ceremony.

If you are interested in progressing and making your 4th Degree in our Order, ***or learning more about the 4th Degree***, please contact Charlie Stokes by phone at 863-899-6005 to discuss.


Lectio Eucharist – A note from our program leader SK Jay Bice



**Lectio:
Eucharist**
Videos by Dr.
Brant Pitre

- Presented consecutive Tuesdays at 6:30 PM for 5 weeks beginning February 20th
- Saint Joseph Lakeland Parish Hall
- Small group discussions follow videos
- Snacks and light refreshments will be provided

Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council #2505



The Lectio: Eucharist series was quite successful according to the course evaluations that were submitted by the attendees after the series was completed on March 19, 2024 at Saint Joseph's Parish Hall in Lakeland.

Among the comments were: "Excellent presentation"; "very enlightening"; "the discussions after videos really helped reinforce the material"; "awesome Doctor Pitre"; "videos were an excellent instructional tool. Well presented"; "very good. Enjoyed the discussions"; "I would definitely take it again"; "Everything was good!"; "encourage (more) parish members to attend"; and "Do it again".

One other note on an evaluation stated: "A big thanks to Jay, Daniel, and the K of C for putting this on!" Yes, thank you to the Knights of Columbus Council #2505 (especially our Grand Knight, Mark Sagen) for hosting this series, setting it up and providing refreshments and snacks. Many other Knights fully participated. It should also be noted that Brother Daniel Wagner ran the entire session on March 12 and did a great job!

Considering the positive responses and enthusiasm from attending Knights, Columbiettes and other Parishioners, there are tentative plans to present another Lectio series at Saint Joseph around Advent 2024. The subject will be "The Blessed Virgin Mary" (also videos by Dr. Brant Pitre). This is subject to approval and availability. More information on this to follow.

Vivat Jesus -

Jay Bice

Recognizing other Knights' Faith in Practice this Lent

Brothers Mark Sagen, Bob Renna, John Duncan, and Jim Schmidt presented the Stations of the Cross and GK Mark Sagen led the church in the Liturgy of the Hours Vespers, in addition to his serving at Mass.

Congratulations to our Council's newest Sir Knights

Jay Bice and Mike McFarland have taken their 4th Degree, the Patriotic Degree, March 9th, 2024, at St. Frances X Cabrini Catholic Church in Parrish, Fla. thereafter joining the Archbishop John Carroll 4th Degree Assembly #2546

THE VIRTUE OF PATRIOTISM – THE LOVE OF AND DEVOTION TO ONE'S COUNTRY – HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE VIRTUE OF PIETY, A TWIN OF THE VIRTUE OF RELIGION. SO IT IS THAT, AS PRACTICAL CATHOLIC MEN, THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE LOYAL SONS OF THEIR COUNTRY AND THEY ARE ALSO LOYAL SONS OF THEIR CHURCH.



April Call for Volunteers

Tootsie Roll Drive Dates Volunteers Are Needed !!!

April 6th and 7th after each Mass

Contact Bob Renna 863-646-0129

April concludes our Tootsie Roll Drive for 2024. We are seeking additional volunteers for the Tootsie Roll drive that is scheduled after Masses *April 6th and 7th* at each entry to St. Joseph Church.

Special thanks to SK Bob Renna for leading this program that directly supports Special Olympics and special needs programs in Lakeland.

URGENT REQUEST FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY – CHARLIE STOKES

My Worthy Brother Knights of Council 2505: As the Financial Secretary of our Council I am required to verify each member of the Council's mailing address, phone numbers and email addresses at a minimum of once per year.

I have sent multiple emails and made phone calls in which I have left voice mail messages to the below Council members with no response. If you find yourself on the below list please either email me at cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com or **call me at 863-899-6005** and provide me with your current mailing address, phone numbers and email address.

Wayne R. Hanneken

Thomas Kernan

James Manning

Ray G. Meche

Jesse Outlaw

Ray G. Meche

Gaetano A. Pizzuti

John Spano

Dakota Trull

Benjamin A. Vano

Lenten Fish Fry – A great time in giving to our Parish and our visitors and in working together. A toast to all our volunteers in this photo and others not pictured here who contributed to earlier weeks' efforts



Our Cooks



**Our Servers
and Ministers
of the
Checkout**



**And our
many
guests**



Our Fish Fry final results are in.

After six weeks of working together we produced more than 900 meals plus a group of meals that are not included in the chart below prepared for clergy, students and volunteers. Overall, the project was a financial success in spite of ongoing competition from the Strawberry Festival, Lakeland's First Friday of the Month street fair held in Munn Park, and of course the other Catholic Parishes in Lakeland. A financial review will be presented at our next Business Meeting in April.

KofC Fish Fry - February - March 2024							
Item Name	Items Sold						
	Week 1 16-Feb	Week 2 23-Feb	Week 3 1-Mar	Week 4 8-Mar	Week 5 15-Mar	Week 6 22-Mar	Total Sales
Baked Fish Dinner with Fries	4	10	4	8	5	6	37
Baked Fish Dinner with Baked Potato	15	12	15	13	16	26	97
COMBO Dinner with Baked Potato	14	17	18	13	14	8	84
COMBO Dinner with Fries	11	14	16	3	17	5	66
Fried Fish Dinner Baked Potato	31	30	40	26	18	32	177
Fried Fish Dinner with Fries	19	17	14	17	19	23	109
Shrimp Dinner with Baked Potato	7	11	8	8	6	16	56
Shrimp Dinner with Fries	13	8	7	6	8	3	45
Total Dinners Sold	114	119	122	94	103	119	671
Baked Fish A LA CARTE	1	4	1		1	1	8
Clam Chowder	17	12	9	11	13	15	77
Fried Fish A LA CARTE	5	4	5	5	8	11	38
Salad Bar	4	3	2	1	3	5	18
Shrimp A LA CARTE	4	2	2		1	3	12
Total A LA CARTE ITEMS Sold	31	25	19	17	26	35	153
Total Transactions	164	164	149	120	147	173	917
Individual Items	<u>Baked Fish</u>	<u>Fried Fish</u>	<u>Baked Potato</u>	<u>Fries</u>	<u>Shrimp</u>		
Individual Items - Total Sales	142	474	414	257	263		
Individual Items - Sales Per Week	24	79	69	43	44		

A special tip of the hat to Brother Richard Miller, Council Treasurer, for providing updates on our progress in the above chart and the many Brother Knights and Columbiettes who participated in our Fish Frys

April Fraternal Benefits Meeting –

Time is running out. Call Charlie Stokes, Doug Cooper or Mark Sagan to attend.

Fraternal Benefit Event: Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning

Fraternal Benefit Event: Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning

Knights of Columbus is offering an informational webinar. This special live webinar, "**Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning**," features nationally recognized speaker, television personality, and best-selling author, Ed Slott. Ed combines current research, in-depth expertise, and humor to teach viewers about the ins and outs of their retirements and provides insight into the latest tax and planning information. Click the link below to register for an individual viewing.

April 2nd at 8:00 PM EST

<http://tinyurl.com/KofCApril2>

However, our Council is in the final stages of planning a **group meeting** to view the presentation together in the Parish Hall, Room 102. We will need to know how many brother Knights are interested in gathering for this program in order to get an understanding of whether enough Knights would like to participate.

Please contact Doug Cooper via eMail at DougStJoe@Gmail.com or respond directly to this posting on Facebook to add you into the count. You must be present in Room 102.

We'll have some refreshments for the meeting.



*Brothers – please take a few moments
to remember our Brother Knights*

*Deacon Ray Sakowski
Eric Thomas
Bob Hoffman*

*And their families in your
Prayers for the Sick.*



The Pilgrim Icon Program

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. Each jurisdiction receives one or several of these icons which travel from Council to Council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order. Since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979, more than 174,800 Council and parish prayer services with some 22 million participants have been held.



Flowing from the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis, and inspired by his apostolic letter *Patris Corde*, comes our new Pilgrim Icon Program in honor of St. Joseph. Devotion to St. Joseph was understandably slow to develop in the history of the Church. The “just man”, whom God chose to protect, defend and raise the most precious of his gifts to humanity, had not a word of his recorded in Scripture.

Tradition tells us that our Lord’s foster father died — likely with Jesus and Mary at his side — even prior to Jesus beginning his public ministry.

St. Joseph carried out his mission of raising, guarding and preparing Christ quietly, courageously and faithfully. For that faithful work, St. Joseph was rewarded — not with seeing the fruits of his labor in this life, but with the incomparable prize of glory in heaven.

This year our Council will receive the icon from April 2nd to April 8th. At the beginning of each Mass during the weekend of April 6th and 7th, the Knights serving as Ministers of Hospitality will escort the procession of the Icon from the Narthex to its resting place in the Sanctuary, where it will remain during Mass. *Please consider taking a moment to venerate the holy Icon and our patron, St. Joseph, during the week and after Mass.*

Dates to Remember

Member Birthdays		
April		
Name	Birthday	Age
Mr Billy W Antley	04-02-1957	67
Mr John D Duncan Sr	04-03-1949	75
Mr Benjamin A Vano	04-06-1995	29
Mr Robert C Hoffman	04-15-1951	73
Mr David M Hurban	04-15-1959	65
Mr George H Watson Jr	04-20-1954	70
Mr Robert J Renna	04-22-1944	80
Mr Rick B Stevens	04-23-1947	77
Mr Jonathan T Tebo-Hardin	04-23-1989	35
Mr John A Spano	04-24-1931	93
Member Wedding Anniversaries		
April		
Name	Date	Wife's Name
Mr Gerald F Karels	04-03-1959	Marianne Karels
Mr Steven W Lannon	04-05-1986	Peggy Lannon
Mr Gregory L Thomas	04-08-1989	Kathleen Elizabeth Thomas
Mr Gary L Cavender	04-14-1973	Tana Cavender
Mr Philip J Maitino	04-30-1977	Ginny Maitino
Member Wives Birthdays		
April		
Name	Wife's Name	Date
Mr. Kenneth Conklin	Sharon Conklin	4-Apr
Mr. Louis Stella	Lucy Stella	17-Apr
Mr John Graham	Leticia Graham	20-Apr
Dr. Joe Mari Maja	Miraflor (Mimi) Flora	28-Apr

April Important Dates

April 2nd	Tuesday	Fraternal Benefits On Line Webinar	7:15 PM McDonald Building
April 4th	Thursday	Council Planning Meeting	6:00 PM
April 11th	Thursday	Knights' Business Meeting (Rosary at 6:00 PM) (Meeting at 6:30 PM)	6:00 PM
April 25th	Thursday	Assembly 2546 Meeting St. Anthony Hall	7:00 PM
April 25th	Thursday	Council 2505 Social	6:00 PM



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*"Be anxious about nothing, but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." **Phillipians 4:6-7***

Have something to share, an idea for an article or leading an event?

Contact Doug Cooper Dougstjoe@gmail.com to have your contribution included in next month's newsletter.