



# Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Martin B. Power Council 14573



February 2024

## Council Officers

Grand Knight  
SK Dave AmRhein  
(321) 591-6697

Chaplain  
SK Fr. John Bosco Maison  
(321) 254-1595

Deputy Grand Knight  
SK Jose Montes  
(321) 795-8171

Chancellor  
SK Jose Cardet  
(321) 917-0447

Warden  
SK Bobby Sullivan  
(321) 223-2473

Recorder  
SK Bob Richmond  
(321) 298-3884

Financial Secretary  
Brother Richard Becker  
(561) 523-0499

Treasurer  
SK Randy Lascody  
(321) 626-0804

Inside Guard  
SK Joe Ameigh  
(321) 242-0694

Outside Guard  
Brother Richard Cervala

Advocate  
SK Frank Conley  
(321) 255-2392

Lecturer  
SK Deacon Chris Meehan  
(321) 242-8003

Trustee (1 year)  
SK Rob Light  
(321) 626-9641

Trustee (2 year)  
SK Eddy Merlet  
(954) 882-3687

Trustee (3 year)  
SK Bill Quinn  
(321) 917-8413



## From the Grand Knight



### Worthy Brothers and Sisters,

Wow! January flew by. I am grateful for the many Knights and Ladies Auxiliary members who supported programs throughout the month.

The Wonderful Wednesday winter series resumed in January. Thank you to Brother Frank Conley and his dedicated team who serve these meals each week. And thank you to our members and their families who come as customers. Attendance has been okay and due to Frank's frugal purchases, the Council is making sufficient funds to support charitable contributions, scholarships and operations. Please support your Council by attending future Wednesday dinners.

Thank you to Brothers Bob Holby, Carl Cioci, Rick Wilson, John DeStefon and Lady Chris DeStefon for spending the day at Ascension School judging their Science Fair. They gave an opportunity for students to practice presentation skills in a supportive environment.

Thank you to Brother Jose Montes for leading a team to conduct a successful Council Free Throw Competition. The well-organized, two-day event was supported by Brothers Bob Richmond, Mike Marzec, Carl Cioci, Wayne Hosburgh, Dan Brinkmann, Randy Lascody, Eddy Merlet, Paul Klein, and Chet Poeta. They kept score of free throw attempts for over 200 students. Boys and girls with the highest scores in six age groups will advance to District level competition at MCC.

And of course, we are fortunate that several Knights and Ladies consistently support the Daily Bread meal service, Highway Cleanup and Life Chain month after month.

**Vivat Jesus,  
SK Dave AmRhein  
Grand Knight**

You can find the Ascension 14573 Monthly Newsletters  
[here on the Ascension Knights Council & Assembly Website](#)



## **Notes from the Grand Knight (continued)**

Brother Jose Cardet and Lady Ginny Reeder are planning a first ever St. Patrick's Day Party at Ascension on March 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be live entertainment with Irish Step Dancers and a Bagpipe and Drum Corps. There will be authentic Irish food and drink, and a gift basket raffle. This event will be a lot of fun. Save the date! More information to follow.

In closing, I hope you find an opportunity to utilize your unique skills by supporting one or more of the many diverse Council events we hold throughout the year.

**Wonderful Wednesday.** We resumed Wonderful Wednesday on January 10. We had really poor attendance during the fall 2023 dinners so we really needed to increase attendance to make Wonderful Wednesday a viable fundraiser. We got off to a pretty good start on January 10 with 78 diners and on January 17 we had a few less with 71 diners. Not exceptional numbers but enough to make a profit — \$643 for the two dinners. We really need 80 or more diners every week to make Wonderful Wednesday a profitable endeavor — and we were close for both dinners. We have also stepped up the advertising with notices at the Wickham Park Senior Center as well as other senior centers around town. We have also made a push to bring in brother Knights to attend Wonderful Wednesday — emails targeting our membership each week. Proceeds are used for the council's charitable donations, scholarships, seminarian support and operations. Your participation is greatly appreciated!

Our last Wonderful Wednesday for the season will be on February 7. Ash Wednesday is February 14 and we will begin our Lenten Friday Fish Frys on February 16. These will be held in the Parish Hall immediately after the Stations of the Cross — around 6PM. We need our usual dedicated group of Knights and ladies to volunteer to work in the kitchen and serving line. Hope to see you there!

**Laps for Life.** The event will be held on March 7, 2024 at MCC. The Knights usually provide food for the participants — hot dogs and hamburgers. The event runs 9AM - 12PM. Volunteers will be needed to cook and provide other support. More information will be forthcoming. POC: SK John Barfield.

State Youth Director SK Doug and Lady Susan Blair have set up a Team for Laps for Life called **Ascension Angels for Life** which lists them as the Team Captains. Knights are encouraged to:

1. join the team as a participant / walker; and
2. donate to the cause. Our team goal is \$3500.
3. Go to: [www.brevard4l.org](http://www.brevard4l.org) to donate.

**Ministry Fair** Feb 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> After Masses. Knights were requested to setup and tear down after the event. We will also request Knights to man a table. This is also a recruiting event.

**Corporate Communion** on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:30 Mass. Wear Red Shirt —Color Corp will be present.

**Council Website.** DGK Jose Montes continues to add new features to our Council and Assembly website — the place to find the latest activities we are participating in. A few new features implemented:

- **Payment Portal.** Using PayPal and Venmo to pay for Council and Assembly [annual dues](#). These payment options for Council and Assembly functions will be added in the future.
- **SignUp Genius.** This is available on our website for events where volunteers are needed so you can easily sign up for the many activities we support. You can check all this out at the [Council Website](#).



## **Notes from the Grand Knight (Continued)**

**Council and Assembly Shirts.** The Council, Assembly and Ladies Auxiliary continue to use the embroidery services of Lady Joyce Defusco for shirts — and Joyce does an outstanding job!

Since no reliable source has been found for the Star Assembly shirts online, we are going back to using a reliable local source — Bartman. This company is owned and operated by a brother Knight and has proven to be very reliable in the past. The only downside is that the shirts are more expensive from Bartman — but the quality and service is excellent. You can order the shirt to your specifications yourself by visiting their website, calling, or visiting their shop. Or go through John and he will order the shirt for you. Any Knight shirt, hat, or other item or clothing can also be ordered from Bartman and can also be embroidered to your specifications. You can [Visit Bartman here](#).

As for tee shirts, John also suggested they can be ordered directly from the Knights online store and have Joyce embroider them if desired. See John for more information on Assembly or Council shirts and hats.

### **Council Activities.**

Lots of activity coming up over the next few months — some old and some new.

- Wonderful Wednesday
- Retreat at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in North Palm Beach
- Ministry Fair
- School Science Fair
- Free Throw Challenge
- Polar Plunge for Special Olympics
- Laps for Life
- Corporate Communion
- Friday Lenten Fish Frys
- 40 Cans for Lent food drive
- St Patrick's Day Party
- Military Spouse Appreciation Dinner
- These are just a few of our many activities — [check out the latest activity list on our website](#):

**Ascension Catholic School.** Some remaining events planned to support the students this current school year:

- **MCC Scholarships (May)** - The Knights offer three scholarships to graduating 8th graders planning to attend MCC. The school administration selects the students. For the past few years we offered two scholarships. This year we added a third Fr. Tobin Memorial Scholarship.
- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (May)** - Knights offered BBQ for the teachers and staff in appreciation for another successful school year.

Through these programs we can look forward to supporting the ACS students and to further strengthen our partnership with the school throughout year.

You can check out all the latest Council and Assembly activities by [clicking here](#).



## Birthdays for February

Heavenly Father, We praise You for all Your gifts to us. In a special way,, we thank You for our brothers as they celebrate their birthday. Bless them always in Your love. Bless us too, Holy Father, Help us all to praise You and give You glory Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<b>Richard Ceravolo</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>John Kisiel</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Stephen Gerrish</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Cyrille Laitier</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Roy Estes</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Lawrence Herring</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Michael Naughton</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Allen Jean</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>James Chatman</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Patrick Cleveland</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Michael Harrington</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Allen Allebach</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Heriberto Hernandez</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>James Marriott</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Michael Mc Elwee</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>George Provencher</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Chris De Marco</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Thomas Stauffacher</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Orlando Lopez</b>	<b>27</b>

The next monthly Council meeting will be held on February 15 at 7PM in the Knights Room. Power Rosary at 6PM in Our Lady's Chapel.



# February Activity Calendar

**Feb  
2024**

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Monsignor Martin B. Power Council #14573  
Council Email: [ascension14573@gmail.com](mailto:ascension14573@gmail.com)



Council #14573 – 2009/10/11/12/19 Florida State Council of the Year

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup>	1900	Assembly Meeting	SK WFN J. Pechar
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	0900	Highway Cleanup (Knight's House)	SK R. Lascody
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> / Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>	All Masses	Food for the Poor - Red/Assembly Shirt	SK J. Kelly
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>	1345- 1500	Life Chain (Corner of Wickham Rd & Pineda Cswy)	SK B. Sullivan
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays (School Cafetorium)	SK F. Conley
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup>	1830	Council Officers Meeting (Rm 312)	WGK D. AmRhein
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>		Polar Plunge	SK P. Kuracz
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	0715	Pray for Life (In Orlando, Meet at North Melbourne Home Depot)	SK R. Sepulveda
	0900	District Free Throw Competition (MCC Gym)	WDD P. Farrelly
	1600	Ministry Fair	WGK D. AmRhein
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	All Masses	Ministry Fair	WGK D. AmRhein
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	1900	Flag Retirement Ceremony with Scout Troop 373	WFN J. Pechar SK J. Autio
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	1600	Cook for ACCW Shrove Meal (Parish Hall)	WGK D. AmRhein
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup>	1800	Power Rosary (Our Lady's Chapel)	SK B. Sullivan
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup>	1900	Monthly Council Meeting (Rm 312)	WGK D. AmRhein

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	1500 Serve 1800	Lenten Fish Fry (Parish Hall)	SK F. Conley
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> / Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	All Masses	40 Cans for Lent Food Drive	SK D. Blair
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1900	Charity, Unity, Fraternity Exemplification	WGK D. AmRhein
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	1500 Serve 1800	Lenten Fish Fry (Parish Hall)	SK F. Conley
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup>	0900	Regional Free Throw Competition (MCC Gym)	WSYD D. Blair
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	1030- 1300	Daily Bread (Fee Avenue)	SK R. Robinson

## LOOK AHEAD

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup>	0900	Brevard Laps 4 Life (MCC Track)	SK J. Barfield
Mar 9 <sup>th</sup>	1000	State Free Throw Competition (MCC Gym)	SK D. Blair
Mar 15 <sup>th</sup>	1800	St Patrick's Day Party (Parish Hall)	SK J. Cardet

\*\*\*Please provide inputs for the monthly council events to Jose  
Cardet at: [fso123788@cfl.rr.com](mailto:fso123788@cfl.rr.com)

### Near Term Important Dates at Ascension Parish:

Ash Wednesday: Feb 14<sup>th</sup>

Each Wednesday: Holy Hour (1700-1800)

### Activity Chairmen Phone Numbers:

WGK Dave AmRhein	321-591-6697
WFN John Pechar	321-431-0982
Lady Jan O'Bryan-Wilson	913-710-5376
SK Jose Montes	321-795-8171
SK Randy Lascody	321-626-0804
SK Ric Robinson	321-501-6772
SK Rey Sepulveda	321-255-3706
SK Frank Conley	321-255-2392
SK Bobby Sullivan	321-223-2473
SK Jose Cardet	321-917-0447
SK Paul Kuracz	321-223-5627

[Click here](#) to view the latest Activity List.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to the Council and Assembly Calendar. Calendar.





✦ THE 4TH DEGREE ✦



✦ PATRIOTISM ✦

## Assembly Officers

### Faithful Navigator

John Pechar  
(724) 263-0273

### Faithful Friar

Fr. John Bosco Maison  
(321) 254-1595

### Spiritual Advisor

SK Deacon Tom Stauffacher  
(321) 242-4504

### Faithful Captain

Bill Quinn  
(321) 917-8413

### Faithful Pilot

Rob Light  
(321) 626-9641

### Faithful Admiral

Rich Passarella  
(321) 431-0982

### Faithful Comptroller

Randy Lascody  
(321) 626-0804

### Faithful Purser

Elmer Rivera  
(787) 619-7684

### Faithful Scribe

Bob Richmond  
(321) 298-3884

### Faithful Inner Sentinel

Bobby Sullivan  
(321) 223-2473

### Faithful Outer Sentinel

Joe Ameigh  
(321) 242-0694

### Trustee (One Year)

John Miller  
(321) 794-6620

### Trustee (Two Year)

Eddy Merlet  
(954) 882-3687

### Trustee (Three Year)

Jim Chatman  
(321) 223-8963

### Color Corps Commander

Eddy Merlet  
(954) 882-3687

## BISHOP NORBERT M. DORSEY CP ASSEMBLY #3482



### From the Faithful Navigator



Most of us began January taking down Christmas trees, outdoor decorations, and all the items that we cherish during the Christmas Season, putting it all into storage until next year's celebration of our Lord's birth. I personally want to wish everyone a happy new year and pray that our country can flourish during these times of uncertainty in the world. God Bless America.

On January 12, the Funeral Mass for SK Don Krupa, a long-time member of Assembly 3482, was celebrated at Ascension Catholic Church with his ashes interred in Mary's Garden. Color Corp Commander SK Eddy Merlet led Honor Guard members SK Rich Passarella, SK John Miller, SK Elmer Rivera, SK Jim Chatman, SK Joe Ameigh and SK Ralph Carestia in the procession.

January 22 is designated as the day of prayer for the legal protection of the unborn. All knights are called on to Defend the laws that recognize the sanctify of life especially the unborn. Cathy and I along with GN Dave AmRhein his wife Kathy and her mother attended the Mass for Life on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. Bishop John Noonan was celebrant of the Mass. His message was clear. We as Catholic Knights must do all we can to protect the unborn and encourage mother considering abortion to reconsider. We as Knights must continue to support outreach programs that support mothers that choose to bring their baby into the world.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next assembly meeting.

Vivat Jesus

**SK John Pechar**  
**Faithful Navigator**  
**Assembly 3482**

**Next Assembly meeting is March 7, 7PM, in the Knights Room.**



## Faithful Navigator Report (Continued)

The Assembly starts its new accounting year in January. Your dues of \$25 helps support all our Assembly activities. See SK Randy Lascody for dues payment.

Congratulations to Past Faithful Navigator SK Rich Passarella on being presented the Civic Award for his outstanding Implementation of Patriotic Programming faithful to the principals of the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus for fraternal year 2022-2023. Well done Worthy Rich.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Ascension Scout troop 373 will be demonstrating the proper method of retiring a worn or damaged American flag in a Flag Retirement ceremony on February 12 at 7 pm at the Knight's House.

## 2024 ASSEMBLY PLAN OF ACTIVITIES

FEB 12	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY KNIGHTS HOUSE BSA	FN JOHN PECHAR SK JOHN AUTIO
MARCH 17	ST PATRICKS DAY PARADE	CCC-SK EDDIE MERLET
APRIL	VIETNAM TRAVELLING WALL LAYING OF WREATH ASSEMBLY AND COLOR CORP	SK BOBBY SULLIVAN CCC-SK EDDIE MERLET
April 30	Deployed Spousal Dinner	SK Rich Passarella
APRIL	ROUNDTABLE WITH FR JOHN BOSCO	CHURCH OFFICE
MAY 1	PREPARE FORM TBP-I TO BE A PATRIOT AWARD	FN JOHN PECHAR
MAY 4 4:30	QUARTERLY COUNCIL CORPORATE COMMUNION MASS Color Corp CCC SK Eddie Merlet	GN DAVE AMRHEIN
MAY 16	MAY CROWNING COLOR CORP	CCC-SK EDDIE MERLET
MAY 31	MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY AT SHADY OAKS?	FN JOHN PECHAR
MAY	TO BE A PATRIOT AWARD FORM TBP-I DUE MAY 31	FN JOHN PECHAR
JUNE 1	PREPARE FORM 2321 CIVIC AWARD APPLICATION DUE JUNE 30	FN JOHN PECHAR
JUNE 8 4:30	ASSEMBLY CORPORATE COMMUNION MASS CELEBRATION OF BISHOP NORBERT DORSEY CP ASSEMBLY 3482 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY FOUNDED JUNE 6 <sup>TH</sup> 2014	CCC-SK EDDIE MERLET

## ATTENTION COUNCIL 14573 KNIGHTS!

### The 4th Degree – Knighthood. Come Join Us!

The fourth core principle of our Order is Patriotism. It encompasses and builds upon the three fundamental principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity and places the ideals of our faith and country side by side. The primary purpose is to encourage active Catholic citizenship and foster the spirit of patriotism in members and the community at large.

Organizationally at the local level the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree is chartered as an Assembly, and is structured and managed as an independent body under Supreme and State leadership. Our Assembly, is name after past Bishop of Orlando, "BISHOP NORBERT M DORSEY CP ASSEMBLY NO. 3482".

Interested in joining The Assembly to become a Fourth Degree Knight? -- contact Membership Chairman, SK John Miller at 321-794-6620 or Faithful Comptroller, SK Randy Lascody at 321-626-0804 or any Sir Knight for additional information and to plan an Exemplification date into Knighthood.

Vivat Jesus.



## Fourth Degree Exemplification

The next live exemplification of the Florida District of the De Soto Province will be on Saturday, March 9, at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church 12001 69<sup>th</sup> St E Parrish, FL 34219. Registration starts at 9 a.m., followed with Mass at 10 a.m. The antechamber opens at 10:30 a.m. and will provide instructions plus the recitation of the Patriotic Rosary to get the candidates into the proper frame of mind for the Patriotic Degree. The ceremony will start at noon, and will be followed by a banquet at 3 p.m. The candidate fee is \$90. Which includes the banquet.

See SK John Miller, membership Director, for more information. And please reach out to our brothers who might want more information on what it is to be a 4<sup>th</sup> degree Knight of the Patriotic Degree.

## Wreath Removal

On January 20<sup>th</sup> volunteers of Assembly 3482 and council 14573 collected the Wreaths laid at the gravesites at J.N. Tucker/Shady Oaks Cemetery place as part of the Wreaths Across America ceremony that took place on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to SK Rich Passarella, SK Rob Light, SK John Autio, SK Dan Brinkman and Brother James Peek who helped with the collection and disposal.

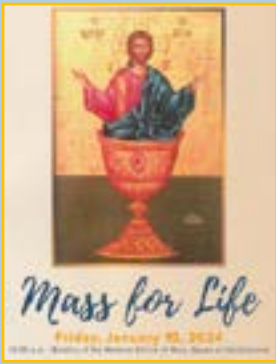


## Renewal of Obligations

On January 25<sup>th</sup> Bishop Norbert Dorsey CP Assembly 3482 of Melbourne Florida hosted the annual Renewal of Obligations ceremony at Ascension Catholic Church. Our Friar, Rev. John Bosco Maison led everyone in the opening and closing prayers. The ceremony was officiated by Florida State Master John J O'Toole. Participating assemblies were Fr. John Martin Assembly 2865 and JFK Assembly 1593. At the conclusion of the ceremony everyone enjoyed dining on pizza and refreshments and cake for dessert.







## Mass and Rosary for Life

The diocese of Orlando celebrated the Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children with a Rosary and a Mass for Life on January 19, 2024 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. Bishop Noonan presided, 7 clergy concelebrating at the altar. Several Ascension parishioners, including Knights of Columbus attended the bilingual sacrament. Let us pray for lives of the preborn and a rejection of the culture of death.





## Beginning Well: 7 Spiritual Practices for the First Year of Almost Anything

### Presented by SK Deacon Chris Meehan

We have entered a new year — 2024. What about New Year's Resolutions? Do you have any? If so, how are you doing with keeping them? But even if you don't have resolutions for 2024, many people still like to have lists — top 10 lists, bottom 10 lists, historical lists, news worthy lists — the top 10 things for 2024 — new beginnings, new expectations, new joy etc. Well there is an author — Joel Stepanek — and he has a book — *Beginning Well: 7 Spiritual Practices for the First Year of Almost Anything*. ([Amazon](#)) .

#### Some thoughts from the Book

All of us can remember something insightful in our lives — first day of school, first car, first girlfriend, first breakup with that girl — everyone has at least one significant memory that really sticks in their mind. The author points out that these things happen other than just firsts — like your first child, well then there is the second child — sure you've already had your first child but this second child still starts a new beginning — a totally different child with a unique personality. New beginnings happen throughout our lives — new job, new home, new location — all new beginnings. Many of these new beginnings are by choice. Job not working out? Maybe a change is in order. Not happy with the town you live in? You can change that. Or even a new major in school. These are all new beginnings we choose. But what about those we do not choose? Events that get thrust upon us be it a death, a breakup or whatever it happens to be. So we have these two new beginnings — some by choice, some not. Regardless of the reason or circumstance, they all give us an opportunity to change — to be transformed — for better or worse. What you do — how you intend to embrace that change — how you let that change affect you; these are all choices you need to make. Beginning something new can be unsettling — there are a lot of unknowns. A new job, a new location — it can be scary not knowing what to expect, how you are received, how they will evaluate your performance and worthiness. Being unsettled can cause that new beginning to feel like a negative to you. But there are things we can do to make every new beginning a positive one. Usually what is missing is the spiritual experience. How we call upon that spiritual experience during that change can affect everything about it. We need to recognize how God is present in that new beginning. Have God provide for us spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Call on God for the grace we need to make this new beginning successful. Most of us don't do that — we get so caught up in the practical aspects of the transition that we forget the spiritual side. So simplicity allows us to call on God and the Spiritual aspect of any transition. Call on God to be present and don't get wrapped up in all the practical steps.

So how does any of this help me? You may think "I'm not in the middle of any new beginnings" — no new transitions. "I am in the middle stage." But there are still transitions. Retirement, downsizing your home — you can still make a fresh start in the middle of any change. During each change you can ask God for Spiritual help. Here is a scripture that really points out how God can give us the Spiritual guidance we need to make a positive transition:

#### The Call of Simon the Fisherman (Luke 5:1-11)

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret.

He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets.

Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."

Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets."

When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing.

They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that they were in danger of sinking.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."

For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him,

and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything\* and followed him.

In this new year, maybe God is calling you to step into a new beginning. A new ministry, a new job after retirement or some other new volunteer experience. Or even a move to a new city or a change in your health. Whatever it is, Jesus is there during any new beginnings provided that we follow him. And as we follow Him, we acknowledge his command — "Do not be afraid." But we can refuse to accept grace that is given to us — so do not be afraid but take hold of that grace and let it change you. The author also reminds us that "You are infinite." Of all the beginnings experienced during your life you really only had one beginning — when God brought life to you — that was your first beginning of many beginnings. You are infinite — you have no end, you go on forever because your soul is eternal — God desires to bring you back to him for all eternity. The choice to enter into that light is yours. Trust in God — don't look back to what was. But look forward to what God wants to do with you.







## Monthly Council Meeting



**Family of the Month — November**  
**SK Jack Duggan & Lady Kathy Harris**



**Family of the Month — December**  
**Brother Kevin and Lady Grace Belfiore**  
**Lady Phyllis Ceravolo, Brother Richard Ceravolo**



**Knight of the Month — November**  
**SK Nick Cavano**



**Knight of the Month — December**  
**SK Rich Passarella**



**Special award from Supreme**  
**New Member Recruitment**  
**Top Recruiter Pin to**  
**SK John Miller**



## '40 CANS FOR LENT'

*A component of the Food for Families Program*

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." – Matthew 25:35

The goal of Food for Families is to ensure that as few as possible go to bed hungry each night. Our Council supports this program in various ways – collecting food at Trunk or Treat and the Parish Picnic, and by having the 40 Cans for Lent program. Last year the 40 Cans for Lent program alone brought in about 6700 cans of food. Our goal this year is 10,000 cans.

How does this work? Simply stated, 40 Cans for Lent is donating one can of food per day during Lent which will be given to our social concerns food bank. The sooner we get the word out the more pledges we should get. Ask your friends, your small Christian Community group members, your CRHP friends, etc. to participate. My wife Susan and I pledge to give one can each, per day, during Lent for a total of 80 cans of food for the poor. Please help to get the word out!

For every \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food donated, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 back to the council – up to a maximum of \$500 per council per fraternal year. With enough pledges, we can double that \$500 to \$1,000 by submitting numbers thru the Council and the Assembly. All money goes to our own Social Concerns Food Pantry. Susan, along with many of you, volunteer there – the need is real.

To accept this challenge, please email me [[dougblair54@gmail.com](mailto:dougblair54@gmail.com)] or text me [321-412-2191] your name and the number of cans you commit to bring to the church during Lent. Alternately, you can drop your donations off at Social Concerns Monday – Friday between 9 – 11 am.

Feeding the hungry is a perfect example of a corporal work of mercy that will make a wonderful impact on the less fortunate.

SK Doug Blair  
State Youth Director

*P.S. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> year that the Blair's have led this program. We are looking for someone to take over this rewarding program. The time commitment is minimal. We will train.*





## Free Throw Competition — January 29 & 30

### Ascension Catholic School Gym

In an effort to increase participation, this year we held the competition in conjunction with the school's PE classes. This gave every student the opportunity to compete in the competition and to submit official forms if they were not able to do so before the turn in date. It was a big success and something we will look forward to do again next year. A big thank you to the school for bringing this new format to the competition! Winners move on to the District Competition at MCC on Saturday, February 10.

And the winners are!

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>First Place</u>
9-year-old Girls	Lia Yemm
9-year-old Boys	Troy Seliga
10-year-old Girls	Wavy Dutra
10-year-old Boys	Dalton White
11-year-old Girls	Marley Myers
11-year-old Boys	Boston Crocker
12-year-old Girls	Holly Schmitt
12-year-old Boys	Destin Roeder
13-year-old Girls	Sofia Carter
13-year-old Boys	Gabriel Neuman
14-year-old Girls	Keira Reynolds
14-year-old Boys	Connor Potomski







## Free Throw Competition





## From the Ladies Auxiliary President

### Lady of the Month — Kathy Harris.

Kathy is a very active member of the Ladies Auxiliary as well as the entire Ascension Parish. Kathy is seen at all Knight's functions helping make, serve food, and help with the clean-up. Kathy also volunteers with many ACCW events. She helps with the food preparation for the Crafts fair, works in the Ascension gift shop, and many other activities they have. She can be seen regularly at the Church gift shop. Kathy is also a member of the current CRHP formation team helping prepare for next month's Woman's retreat. Kathy is a member of the newly formed 7 Sisters Ministry. Kathy also volunteers at Daily bread and is a regular Daily Mass goer. Personally, she sacrificed 2 days Christmas week to take me to MAYO clinic in Jacksonville for testing and has been keeping and loving on my dog Darby for all subsequent trips and treatment. Kathy exemplifies what a giving caring Lady is.



Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> Highway cleanup

Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> Life Chain-thanks to all who were there.

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24, 31<sup>st</sup>, Wonderful Wednesdays-Thanks to all Ladies who volunteered. Ticket sales, 50/50, food preparation, serving and clean up.

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> Pray for Life.

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> Power Rosary

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting-postponed Christmas Party. Fun time had by all. Knights came in at the end to share delicious food with us.

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>-Pro-Life Rally9 and Mass at Mary Queen of the Universe Basilica-thank you to all who were able to attend this service.

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> Wreaths across America clean-up.

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Free Throw Competition-thanks to all who helped.

I have been absent for many things due to health issues. I appreciate all who have stepped up to fill in and keep me current on all that has been going on. Hopefully I will get some answers soon. You all have been tremendous in your support, prayers, and concerns. I can't tell you how much my Church Family means to me.

Thank you for all you do for the Auxiliary and support of the Knights Council.

God bless

**Jan O'Bryan-Wilson**  
**President, Ladies Auxiliary**

**Save Lives!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**





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### Happy Valentine's Day

I've been reading about different kinds of parties to throw to celebrate Valentine's Day. One site online listed 35 different suggestions, from a Fondue Night to a party centered on serving a heart shaped pizza. I guess Valentine's Day is another well-established holiday to celebrate and I'm also guessing that the greeting card, candy, and florist industries are happy. From individual cards that adults send each other to the packs designed for school kids to give to classmates, the stores are stocked with a myriad of selections.

The celebration of love is always popular. After all, isn't love what every holiday celebration is about? Whether it's a birthday, wedding anniversary, or holiday; it's all about love! Valentine's Day, though, sees that love gets a spotlight. We celebrate our love for one another.

Insurance is all about love. Most people buy insurance because they love someone. A husband buys life insurance because he loves his wife and children. If he's not there to provide for them, he wants to make sure they can stay in the same home, enjoy the same lifestyle, or provide a college education for his children. With many two income families, wives buy life insurance for the same reasons.

Long Term Care Insurance and Disability Income Insurance help protect the family from the vagaries of life: Needing care in the home or in a long-term care facility - or being hurt or sick and unable to work affects the family. Both products serve the family well while layering an added shelter of protection on retirement assets. These products help protect the family one loves.

Even our retirement annuity products help the ones we love. With forward thinking and fiscal discipline, a retirement annuity helps spouses spend their retirement years knowing they can have a minimum lifetime guarantee on the accumulation of assets and/or guaranteed lifetime income. Less worries for the ones we love.

All the products we have available are centered around protection; protecting the ones we love. Is your protection where you want it to be for your loved ones? Let's meet and discuss what you want. I'll give you a call or feel free to contact me.

**Vivat Jesus!**

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## Around the Ascension Community

**Highway Cleanup — January 5**



**Daily Bread — January 28**



**Wonderful Wednesday**





## In Celebration of Life

Thousands attend the annual pre-March rally hosted by the Knights of Columbus and the Sisters of Life

By Cecilia Hadley

1/23/2024

More than 6,000 young people began the day of the March for Life Jan. 19 with Mass and Eucharistic adoration at Life Fest, a rally organized by the Knights of Columbus and the Sisters of Life for the second year in a row. The rally also featured musical performances, testimonies and the opportunity to venerate relics of several saints and blessed.

Read more: [Here on the KofC Site](#)





## 2024 Polar Plungers Campaign Update

SK Paul Kuracz



Father SK Zach and SK Paul Kuracz at the December Knights Meeting

Father Zach became an official “Polar Cub” when he received his own Polar Bear hat during our December 21<sup>st</sup> Knights meeting. The plunge itself has moved to February 9<sup>th</sup>. As of January 15, we have reached our goal of \$2000.00. Donations will be accepted until February 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

### **The choices to donate to Ascension Polar Plungers are:**

1. Special Olympics Team Page, please follow the following link:

[2024 Polar Plunge -- Council 14573 - Ascension Polar Plungers - Special Olympics Florida](#)

2. Scan our QR Code:



3. If you prefer to give by check, please mail your donation to the address below:

Special Olympics Florida  
Attn: Polar Plunge Orlando  
1915 Don Wickham Drive  
Clermont, FL 34711

**IMPORTANT!!!** Put “*Council 14573-Ascension Polar Plungers*” in the Notes of the Check

**Too much to remember?** Our wonderful Deputy Grand Knight Jose Montes has set up all this information up on our Council Website!

[Council 14573 Polar Plunge for Special Olympics](#)



## Fasting During the Lenten Season

*As we begin the Lenten Season lets pause and reflect on where we want to be in 40 days*

*In the words of Pope Francis:*

Let us pray that as we begin the season of lent we embrace the opportunity to:

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill our hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so we can listen.

We pray that  
our only desire  
and our one choice  
is to choose  
what better leads  
to the deepening  
of God's life in us.

We ask the lord to guide our decisions today and to bless the Xavier Community with His peace, His joy,  
His love.

*- Attributed to Pope Francis, offered by Tim Reilly*





## “The Heart of Religion” | The Epiphany of the Lord Fr. Mike Schmitz



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### Stop Human Trafficking

January was National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. There is also an [international day of prayer to stop human trafficking](#) on February 8.

**The Sound of Freedom** is a solid, heart wrenching film that is available now to Amazon Prime subscribers — also available through other means. If you haven't seen it yet, please take the time to do so. Not a pleasant subject but you will learn from this film how widespread the global child trafficking problem is and how one person can make a difference.





## Ascension Catholic School

### Great Cereal Box Domino Challenge

#### Ascension Catholic School 2024

Our Great Cereal Box Domino Challenge was a HUGE success this year! Thank you to everyone who donated. We beat last year's record and collected 779 boxes of cereal to be donated to our Ascension Food Pantry! See less

#### Great Cereal Box Domino Challenge Video







## 🙏 **Prayer Requests** 🙏

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### **Recently Deceased**

Brother Robert Foster

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Healthcare Providers and First Responders Worldwide

Service Men and Women serving our Country Worldwide

Victims of Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Fires and other Natural Disasters

Refugees and others suffering from the Terrorist Attack in Israel, the invasion of Ukraine and loss of life in other war-torn areas

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### **All those in need of prayers for health issues**

WRA SK Gerry Grillo

SK Marc Worchel

SK Werner Schulz

SK John Harter

SK Ralph Carestia

SK Joe "Giuseppe" Tocco

SK Robert Parker

SK John DeStefon

Brother Bill and Betsy Hampton

Lady Jan O'Bryan-Wilson

Lady Kathy Ameigh

Lady Laurie Chatman

Sister Maureen Cannon

Jacob — Son of WRA SK Gerry "Gorgeous" Grillo

### **All Those Men in Formation for the Sacrament of Holy Orders — Priest and Deacon**

Michael Anctil

Greg Lambert

SK Rob Light

---

### **Prayer for Blessed Michael McGivney**

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.



## Power Rosary



My Brothers and Sisters,

Monthly Power Rosary — Power Rosary every 3rd Thursday with SK Joe “Giuseppe” Tocco — immediately before the membership meeting in Our Ladies Chapel — 6PM. Contact Brothers Joe or SK Bobby Sullivan if you want to be a reader for one of the Power Rosaries.

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They sought strength in solidarity, and security through unity of purpose and devotion to a holy cause: they vowed to be defenders of their country, their families and their faith.

These men were bound together by the ideal of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the Americas, the one whose hand brought Christianity to the New World. Their efforts came to fruition with the incorporation of the Knights of Columbus on March 29, 1882

**We are the Knights of Columbus**

***Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for  
brothers to dwell together in unity! (Psalm 133:1)***







**Knights of Columbus  
Council 14573  
Ascension Catholic Community  
2950 N. Harbor City Blvd  
Melbourne, Florida 32935**



At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested,\* Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:12-15

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