



Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Martin B. Power Council 14573



January 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,

I hope you experienced the peace Jesus brings us through the Advent and the Christmas seasons.

Throughout those seasons we had several opportunities to serve our parish, school, and community. Thank you to Brothers Joe Ameigh, Rich Passarella, and several other Knights who setup the Keep Christ in Christmas banner and large nativity set on the east side of the church facing US-1. Perhaps the displays moved some passersby to focus on Christ's birth. Thank you to Brother Jose Cardet and several Knights and Ladies who sold Keep Christ in Christmas auto magnets. 209 magnets were sold during the first weekend, an increase from 150 magnets sold the prior year. We will need to increase inventory again for Christmas 2024 to allow more parishioners an opportunity to purchase. Thank you to the Knights and Ladies who participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest with the school. There were 231 posters reviewed by 10 judges to select winners in five divisions. The winners were recognized during the school Christmas program. You can see their work later in this newsletter. Hopefully all these activities helped commemorate the magnificent birth of Jesus Christ.

December included several other council activities. It was the council's month to serve coffee and donuts after the Sunday morning Masses. Thanks to all Knights and Ladies who assisted. In early December, Knights from our council joined Knights from other councils to hold the State Soccer Challenge at MCC. Thank you to Brothers Jose Montes, Nick Cavano and Dwight Collins for supporting this last of the four annual competitions held for area youth. Also in December, we had a successful American Wheelchair Mission fundraiser. Due to your generosity and that of the Ascension parishioners, \$3,758 was raised which allows for the purchase of 25 wheelchairs! The council was also blessed to receive a \$700 donation from Ms. Margaret Rich, a parishioner and neighbor of Brother Richard Ceravolo and Lady Phyllis Ceravolo.

**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)

December activities culminated with our Annual Christmas Party for clergy and religious, the Ladies Auxiliary and Knights. Thank you to Lady Grace Belfiore for her considerable efforts in leading a team to put on a fantastic event. Grace was assisted by her sister Phyllis Ceravolo, nephew Brother Richard Ceravolo, Lady Joanne and Brother Jim Voltaire, Lady Angela and Brother Bobby Sullivan, Lady Teresa and Brother Dan Romano and several others to include Grace's husband Kevin. The dinner from Slices Italian Kitchen was excellent. We had great entertainment from Brother Ashley Breaux. And there was a raffle of many baskets and gift certificates. Several brought home some nice prizes.

As we look forward to 2024, please stay tuned for more opportunities to serve our parish, school and community. Some near-term activities are mentioned in this newsletter. It would be great to see you at one or more of the events!

Wonderful Wednesday. We will resume Wonderful Wednesday after the new year on January 10 and hope that we can get a better attendance with returning snow birds — we really need 80 or more diners every week to make Wonderful Wednesday a profitable endeavor. We will need our usual dedicated group of Knights and ladies to volunteer to work in the kitchen and serving line. But we also need any and all of our brother Knights and ladies to come out to eat with us — if we could have more participation from Council members, we would be well on our way to a more profitable operation. As before, volunteers need to arrive after 3:30 since the school requires all visitors in the school while students are present to be approved through the Diocese Safe Environment Training program which includes fingerprinting. Contact Frank Conley for additional information.

Free Throw Competition. The KofC Council Basketball Free Throw Competition will be held in the Ascension school gym Monday and Tuesday, January 29 & 30. Sign up [here](#) to volunteer. This year we will be conducting the competition in conjunction with PE class — this should give us a lot more participation than we have seen in previous years. As with Wonderful Wednesday, volunteering for Free Throw will require approval through the Diocese Safe Environment Training program which requires fingerprinting. Some of you already have this approval from other Parish programs such as Church Usher or EM for the Sick and Homebound (note: EMHC in itself does not require fingerprinting).

School Science Fair. Tuesday, January 23rd - Ascension Catholic School will be conducting their annual Science Fair and requested judges. Sign up [here](#).

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 to donate.



Notes from the Grand Knight (Continued)

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](#).

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
- School Science Fair
- Friday Lenten Fish Frys
- Polar Plunge for Special Olympics
- Free Throw Challenge
- Laps for Life
- 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 events planned to support the students throughout the school year:

- **Council Free Throw Competition (Jan)** - participants shoot free throws. Top scorers in two age groups and boys and girls categories advance to District competition.
- **Science Fair Judging** - Knights provide some judges for the annual Science Fair.
- **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 January

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.

Matthew Chavez	1
Robert Connors	1
Raymond Carrasco	2
Charles Taylor	4
James Jones	6
Sean O Toole	6
Vincent Ramos	7
Phillip State	9
Eddy Merlet	10
Stephen O'Neill	10
James Voltaire	11
Edward Mc Caffrey	13
Hector Babilonia	21
Robert Caldo	21
John Pechar	21
Warren Burton	22
Rudolph Mahler	23
Marc Worchel	25
Christopher Kelly	26
James Peek	26
Jerome Sicinski	27
Brandon Bishop	28
Timothy Timmermann	29
David Acosta	31

The next monthly Council meeting will be held on January 18 at 7PM in the Knights Room. Power Rosary at 6PM in Our Lady's Chapel.



January 2024 Activity Calendar

**Jan
2024**

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Monsignor Martin B. Power Council #14573
Council Email: ascension14573@gmail.com



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

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Thu 4 th	1900	Assembly Meeting	SK WFN J. Pechar
Fri 5 th	0900	Highway Cleanup (Knight's House)	SK R. Lascody
Sat 6 th	1300	AHG Flag Retirement Ceremony	WFN J. Pechar SK J. Autio
Sat 6 th / Sun 7 th	All Masses	• Food for the Poor/ Red/Assembly Shirt • Polar Plunge Donations	SK J. Kelly Paul Kuracz
Sun 7 th	1345- 1500	Life Chain (Corner of Wickham Rd & Pineda Cswy)	SK B. Sullivan
Wed 10 th	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays (School Cafetorium)	SK F. Conley
Thu 11 th	1830	Council Officers Meeting (Rm 312)	WGK D. AmRhein
Sat 13 th	0715	Pray for Life (In Orlando, Meet at North Melbourne Home Depot)	SK R. Sepulveda
Tue 16 th	1500	Roundtable with Fr. John	WGK D. AmRhein
Wed 17 th	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays (School Cafetorium)	SK F. Conley
Thu 18 th	1800	Power Rosary (Our Lady's Chapel)	SK B. Sullivan
Thu 18 th	1900	Monthly Council Meeting (Rm 312)	WGK D. AmRhein
Sat 20 th	0900	Wreaths Across America Cemetery Cleanup	WFN John Pechar SK J. Autio
Tue 23 rd	0830	ACS Science Fair (School Cafetorium)	WGK D. AmRhein

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Wed 24 th	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays (School Cafetorium)	SK F. Conley
Thu 25 th	1900	Charity, Unity, Fraternity Exemplification (Rm 312)	WGK D. AmRhein
Fri 26 th - Sun 28 th	TBD	Men's Retreat (Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center, North Palm Beach)	SK R. Passarella
Sun 28 th	1030- 1300	Daily Bread (Fee Avenue)	SK R. Robinson
Mon 29 th - Tue 30 th	0830	Council Free Throw Competition (ACS Gym)	WDGK J. Montes
Wed 31 st	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays (School Cafetorium)	SK F. Conley

LOOK AHEAD

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Feb 7 th	1530 Serve 1700	Wonderful Wednesdays	SK F. Conley
Feb 10 th	0900	District Free Throw Competition (MCC Gym)	WDD Pat Farrelly
Feb 10 th /11 th	All Masses	Ministry Fair-Outreach and Evangelization Ministries	WGK D. AmRhein
Feb 16 th & 23 rd	1500	Lenten Fish Fry	SK F. Conley
Feb 17 th	All Masses	40 Cans for Lent	SK Doug Blair
Feb 24 th	0900	Regional Free Throw Competition (MCC Gym)	WSYD Doug Blair

***Please provide inputs for the monthly council events to Jose Cardet at: fso123788@cfl.rr.com

Near Term Important Dates at Ascension Parish:

Jan 1st: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Jan 20th: March for Life, Washington DC
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



December will shortly be a memory as we enter the new year. We as Patriotic Catholic Knights celebrate this season with peace and good will to our fellow countrymen. Christmas day has come and gone. But let us never forget the "Reason for the Season", to keep Christ in Christmas. As gentlemen of the 4th Degree, we are here to keep it alive. Merry Christmas and God Bless.

The Christmas party committee, chaired by Lady Grace Belfiori pulled out all the stops to help us celebrate the Christmas season. Everyone had a great time, even though the weather did not cooperate due to the storm. The food was excellent and thanks to Brother Ashley Breau who provided the musical entertainment.

On Dec 16, the day "of the storm" our assembly, council and members of the Ladies Axillary participated in "Wreaths Across America" ceremonies at J.S. Stone and J.N. Tucker memorial cemeteries in the laying of the wreaths at veteran's graves. Bruce Rothschild was hoping to conclude both ceremonies before the storm arrived but decided to move the time up from 12 noon to 11 am for the ceremony at J.N. Tucker. Unfortunately, due to the short notice participants who did not receive word of the change arrived at 12 noon. But everything turned out fine as we finished before the storm arrived.

Bruce Rothschild president of Veterans cemetery Restoration organized and presided over both locations and gave a historical presentation on the history of both veteran's cemeteries. Several local dignitaries were present to speak on the mission of the ceremony. Vice Mayor and District 3 Council Member Yvonne Minus presented "Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom."

Vivat Jesus

SK John Pechar
Faithful Navigator
Assembly 3482

Next Assembly meeting is February 1, 7PM, in the Knights Room.



Faithful Navigator Report (Continued)

Lt. Colonel Tim Thomas Sr. Instructor from Vierra HS ROTC also addressed the audience and Mayor Paul Alfrey placed the service wreath for the US Coast Guard and gave the closing remarks.

The program started with opening prayer by Sir Knight Deacon Chris Meehan from Ascension Catholic Church.

Bishop Norbert Dorsey Assembly 3482 Color Corp Commander SK Eddy Merlet Led the presentation of Colors. SK Joe Ameigh carried the flag of our country and Honor Guards SK John Miller, ED Barry, Elmer Rivera, and Rich Passarella. Patriotic attendees from the American Legion Posts, members of council 14573 Msg. Martin B Powell, Members of our Ladies Auxiliary and other civic organizations participated in the laying of the wreaths.



Lisa Farrall sang the national Anthem at J.S.Stone. Thanks to SK Dan Brinkman of the “Harbor City Harmonizers” for arranging the “Muddy River Boys Quartet” to sing the National Anthem at J.N.Tucker. A great rendition by Nathan Wyble, David Whitney, Gordon Yurich and Mark Amaral.

Bill Slover and Skip Watson echoed each other playing taps with everyone standing in silence or in salute. This was followed by closing remarks from Mayor Paul Alfrey.



"Wreaths Across America" Ceremonies at J.S.Stone and J.N.Tucker Memorial Cemeteries

Contributed by SK Rich Passarella

Bishop Norbert M Dorsey, CP Assembly 3482 participated in the Wreaths Across America program on Saturday Dec. 16th at JS Sloan/Grant and JN Tucker / Shady Oaks Memorial Cemeteries in Melbourne. As part of the Assembly's patriotic activities, Faithful Navigator John Pechar coordinated this activity with Bruce Rothschild, President of Veterans Cemetery Restorations Inc. who is the site coordinator for this WAA event. Melbourne City Vice Mayor and District 3 Council Member Yvonne Minus welcomed everyone at JS Stone cemetery and presented the mission of Wreaths Across America to "Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

LtCol Tim Thomas (Ret) District 1 Councilman and Sr Instructor of VIERA H.S. Jr. ROTC program welcomed the attendees at JN Tucker cemetery and also presented the mission of WAA.

Sir Knight Deacon Chris Meehan of Ascension Catholic Church led the Opening Prayer for the ceremony. The Assembly Color Guard was lead by Color Corps Commander Sir Knight Eddy Merlet with flag bearer Sir Knight Joe Ameigh and

Honor Guard Sir Knights: John Miller, Ed Barry, Elmer Rivera and Rich Passarella. Sir Knight Jack Duggan was also present to assist with the WAA wreaths.

At Stone cemetery, Lisa Farrall sang the National Anthem and at Tucker cemetery, the Muddy River Boys, a quartet from Harbor City Harmonizers sang the National Anthem; Nathan Wyble on tenor, David Whitney lead, Gordon Yurich base, and Mark Amaral baritone. Thanks to Sir Knight Dan Brinkman for making the arrangements for the Harbor City Harmonizers quartet.

Veterans and volunteers representing the various armed services placed WAA wreaths at national flag and each of the service flags.

Everyone present stood in respectful silence or saluted as buglers Bill Slover and Skip Watson played Taps to honor these service members recognized during this Wreaths Across America memorial ceremony.

Patriotic attendees from local American Legion Posts, DAR and other civic organizations and local churches were present to place WAA wreaths on all the veterans graves. Over 200 WAA wreaths intended for Sloan and Tucker cemeteries were donated by many local individuals.

Melbourne City Mayor Paul Alfrey was present to place a wreath at the US Coast Guard service flag and to present closings remarks and thank everyone for attending. Bruce Rothschild in sincere gratitude offer his appreciation to the many volunteers especially those working in the background to make Wreaths Across America program a successful reality at these two separate locations. It was a wonderful ceremony and turnout considering the stormy weather conditions and we thank God that the heavy rains held off till after the event was completed.





"Wreaths Across America" Ceremonies at J.S.Stone and J.N.Tucker Memorial Cemeteries





LOOKING AHEAD IN 2024

Coming up on January 6th, Bishop Norbert Dorsey Assembly 3482 will be hosting a Flag Retirement Ceremony with the American Heritage Girls at the Knight's House located at Ascension Catholic Church. Start time 1 pm.

I have been in contact with MSgt. Daniel L Howard from PSFB regarding the Spousal Deployment Dinner put on by members of the Assembly, Council and Ladies auxiliary. The date is April 30th this year. I will have more information as we get closer to the date.

2024 ASSEMBLY PLAN OF ACTIVITIES

JAN 3-24	PREPARE FORM 1728 ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY REPORT DUE JAN. 31	FN JOHN PECHAR
JAN	ROUNDTABLE WITH FR JOHN BOSCO	CHURCH OFFICE
JAN 6	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY KNIGHTS HOUSE AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS	FN JOHN PECHAR SK JOHN AUTIO
FEB TBD	FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY KNIGHTS HOUSE BSA OR TRAIL LIFE BOYS	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 TH 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 4th 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.



The Lord Created Us for This Time

Father SK Zach Parker

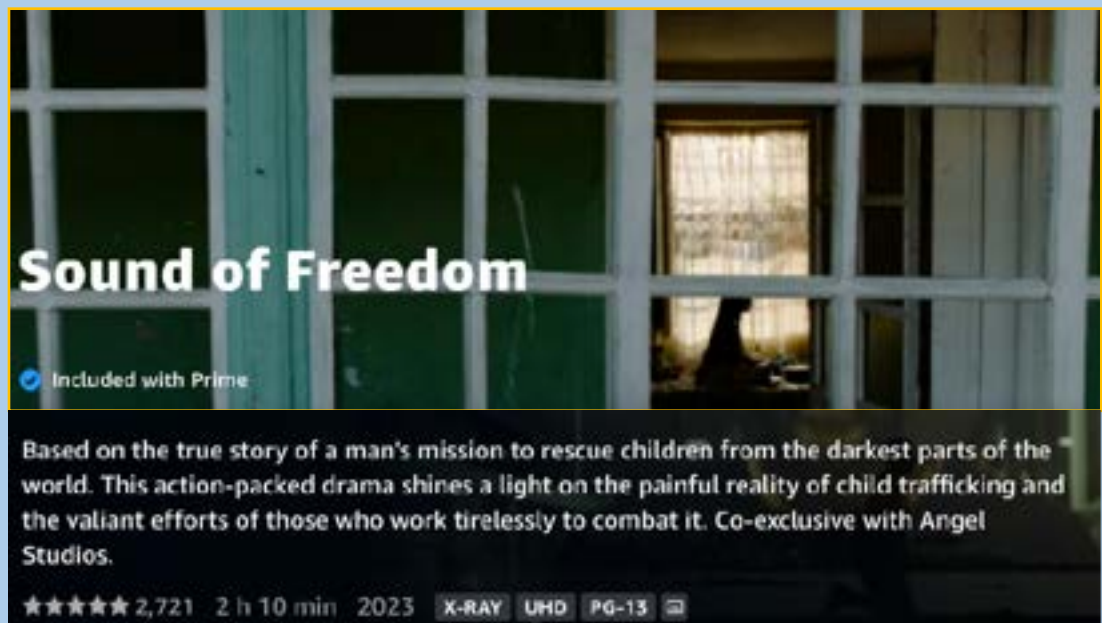
Always remember that the Lord created us all for this moment. He created us in this time — not some past time — but for today — for this very moment. It is important to realize that the Lord chose us for this time — to be deacons of hope. We are able to come here as brothers even with all the chaos in the world today. It is very important that we know this as we live in a very chaotic world. A lot of us are unsure and confused about what is happening in the world around us. A good example is what we see on TV when there are advertisement for cars — “come on down, 75 percent off every car on the lot.” Then when you get there is is more like 2 percent off and in fact you could end up paying even more. The media loves to take any news story and present it completely out of context. This is especially true with the recent news stories of what Pope Francis said — or didn’t say — about prayer. This is something the media has presented completely out of context. Please go and look up what Pope Francis said and read it for yourself and don’t rely on what the media wants you to think. As a church, we are called upon to bring good news regardless of the situation. And that often involves praying over people who are not perfect — to pray with people who desire to be closer to Jesus. That is not what got reported in the New York Times. That desire to be closer to Jesus did not get reported in the news — that does not line up with the ideology of the news media today. There is really a fear of Jesus in the world today. In fact, Jesus tells us that the world will not accept us. God has chosen us to be the face of the world — to show the world that “Wow, look at how wonderful the Christian life is!” He chose us in this church and this council to convince the world that “I want this!” “Look how beautiful the Christian life is!” God wants us to be that face in this place and this time. I encourage all of us as Knights to take up that beacon because he has chosen us for this moment.



[Doctrinal Declaration on Blessing Couples from Vatican News](#)

Sound Of Freedom

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.





Christmas Party — December 16





Monthly Council and Assembly Meetings



Father Zach and SK Paul Kuracz prepare for Polar Plunge



FN SK John Pechar welcomes the latest Sir Knights to our Assembly SK Stephen Gerrish, SK Phillip State and SK Paul Klein



A yearly tradition by SK Joe “Giuseppe” Tocco — our very own version of the Time Man of the Year for our Assembly. Joe has been out of commission for awhile due to health issues, but he was back at the December Assembly meeting to present his very special awards to SK Rich Passarella and SK Eddy Merlet





From the Ladies Auxiliary President

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!

This past month has been a hard one physically for me. I really appreciate all the eucharist, prayers, cards, food and rides this Ladies Auxiliary has offered me. You are all EXCEPTIONAL! While we still search for answers, I'm hoping testing the end of the month gives us insights.

The Decision to move our Christmas meeting to January was prompted by many of you asking to reschedule due to the closeness of the Holiday, traveling and having company. I was moved by the expressions you wanted me to be there.

We have no Lady of the month to feature, but we will present her in January.

We had a lot of activities in December. Besides our normal functions we are involved in 2 major things that stood out.

#1. The Annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster submissions by the Ascension School. Many thanks to all who came and helped judge the entries. I really missed being a Judge.

#2. The Annual K of C Christmas Party. There are many who worked on the Committees to make for a fun, entertaining night. I was told the food and entertainment were awesome as well as the record # of raffle baskets. I even won a basket, and I wasn't there!!!! A very special THANK YOU to Grace Bono and Dan Romano and all the volunteers who made this such a special night.

I wish al of you a very Happy, Holy and Healthy 2024!

God bless

Jan O'Bryan-Wilson
President, Ladies Auxiliary

Save Lives!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

- Author Unknown



INSURANCE FIELD AGENT



**Knights of
Columbus®**



New Years Resolutions

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a joyous and Merry Christmas.

As start the new year afresh, we make resolutions. Let's plan now to look back at the end of 2024 and be able to say, "I kept those resolutions to improve myself, to improve my relationship with my family and friends, and my relationship with God!" An improved prayer life is the goal of many. I know I've made that resolution almost every year. Some years I do better than others.

But here are few things I've found about making resolutions that helped me.

First, I don't want to make a resolution that is not possible to keep. I've got to be realistic. I can't go to an extreme. For example, to improve my prayer life, I can't go from praying for 15 minutes in the morning to reading a chapter of the Bible, attending daily Mass, reciting the rosary, and saying the Liturgy of the Hours each day. For me, that's too much of a jump. I'm going to follow that for a day or two and then something will get me off track. Myself, I need to take baby steps. Maybe start with saying the rosary each day. I've got to make my resolution achievable.

The same is true of all those other resolutions we make.

I can't go from being a couch potato to running six miles a day...but I could start by walking a mile each day as an achievable step in that direction.

I can't starve myself trying to lose weight...but I could cut out snacks between meals as a start. Again, an achievable step.

I might want to read more, so I can start by reading a chapter a day in a book.

You get the idea. The resolution has to be reasonable, achievable, and specific.

Now here is one resolution that is reasonable, achievable, and specific: Resolve to meet with me to update the information on your family's financial needs analysis. (Or maybe you need to complete a financial needs analysis.) Let's see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. As your field agent I'm charged to meet with each of my members each year. We can take a look at your goals and aspirations and make sure you're on track to keep your family appropriately protected.

I'll contact you soon to see if an appointment should be our next step.

Vivat Jesus!

John Barfield FICF, MDRT

1900 S. Harbor City Blvd.

Suite 321

Melbourne, FL 32901

www.johnbarfieldkofcbenefits.com

Email: john.barfield@kofc.org

Office Ph#: 321-294-3086

Personal Ph#: 407-433-5421



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 21st Knights meeting. The plunge itself has moved to February 9th. As of January 1st, we have reached 15% of our goal of \$2000.00. Just a reminder that we need volunteers to help with collections before and after each January 6th/7th Mass. Donations will be accepted until February 10th. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Signup Genius Link to volunteer to collect after the January 6th and 7th Masses

[Ascension Council 14573 Polar Plunge for Special Olympics -- Collection Volunteer\(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com/Ascension-Council-14573-Polar-Plunge-for-Special-Olympics--Collection-Volunteer)

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](https://2024.Polar-Plunge--Council-14573-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](https://Council-14573-Polar-Plunge-for-Special-Olympics)



Around the Ascension Community



Highway Cleanup — December 1



Daily Bread — December 24



We had a successful American Wheelchair Mission fundraiser. \$3,658 was raised which allows for the purchase of 24 wheelchairs.



SK Rich Passarella — Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets sales. 209 magnets sold during the first weekend — \$800 profit.



The Council provided donut hall support during December.



Ascension School Poster Contest Winners



Kindergarten: Sunaina P



Grades 1-2: Ben D



Grades 3-4: Reese W



Grades 5-6: Sarah C



Thank You to the Knights and Ladies who participated in the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. There were 231 posters reviewed by 10 judges to select winners in five divisions. Each winner received a certificate and \$25 check from the Council. Winners have an opportunity to advance to District Level competition.



Grades 7-8: Charlie K



Dear Brother Knights,

Christmas is a time of both giving and receiving. Therefore, it is a most appropriate time for gratitude.

It's a time — at the end of the year — for taking stock of our lives and giving thanks to God for all that he has given to us.

The apex of my gratitude is for the gift of Christ's birth and God's coming to dwell among us.

But among my thanks is the gratitude I have for you — my brother Knights of Columbus. It is truly an honor and a privilege to lead our fraternity, comprised of some of the finest men in the world.

Know of my prayers for you and your loved ones this Christmas and in the year to come. And please know of my gratitude.

Our Savior is Born! *Vivat Jesus!*

Fraternally,

Patrick E. Kelly
Supreme Knight



Prayer for a Blessing on the New Year

.....

O sacred and adorable Trinity, hear our prayers on behalf of our holy Father the Pope, our Bishops, our clergy, and for all that are in authority over us. Bless, we beseech Thee, during the coming year, the whole Catholic Church; convert heretics and unbelievers; soften the hearts of sinners so that they may return to Thy friendship; give prosperity to our country and peace among the nations of the world; pour down Thy blessings upon our friends, relatives, and acquaintances, and upon our enemies, if we have any; assist the poor and the sick; have pity on the souls of those whom this year has taken from us; and do Thou be merciful to those who during the coming year will be summoned before Thy judgment seat. May all our actions be preceded by Thy inspirations and carried on by Thy assistance, so that all our prayers and works, having been begun in Thee, may likewise be ended through Thee. Amen.

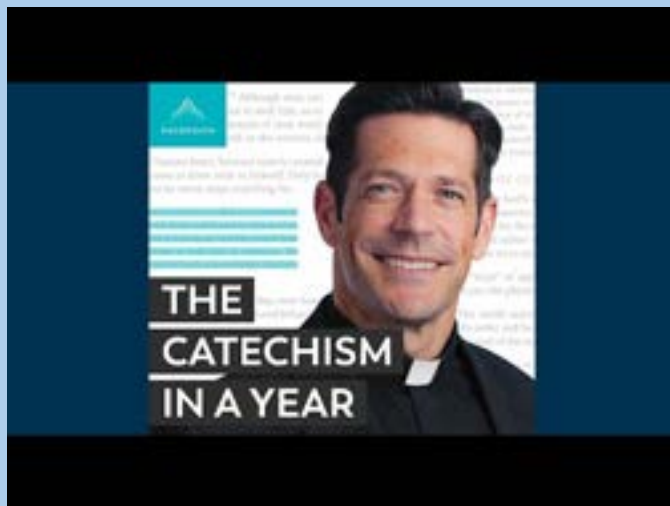
Bible in a Year — Catechism in a Year

It's a new year — 2024 — and what a great way to usher in the new year by devoting a short time each day — or whenever you can fit it in — to really learn about the Holy Bible and our Catechism with Father Mike Schmitz. I've included the links again in January — Happy New Year!

The Bible in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)

In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz guides you through the **entire Bible** in 365 episodes. Using an exclusive reading plan rooted in The Bible Timeline (a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by Biblical scholar Jeff Cavins) you won't just read the Bible ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!

[Ascension Press Bible in a Year](#)
[You Tube Videos](#)



The Catechism in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)

Read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days with Fr. Mike Schmitz. If you have ever wanted to **understand what it means to be Catholic** and allow those truths to shape your life—this podcast is for you!

[Ascension Press Catechism in a Year](#)
[You Tube Videos](#)



Christmas at Ascension Catholic School



Father John
Bosco Maison

Father Zachary
Parker





Prayer Requests

Recently Deceased

SK Don Krupa

Daniel John Romano, father of Brother Dan Romano

Mary Cavadeas, mother of Lady Sue Kuracz

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

All those in need of prayers for health issues

WRA SK Gerry Grillo

District Deputy SK Pat Farrelly

SK Marc Worchel

SK Werner Schulz

SK John Harter

SK Ralph Carestia

SK Joe "Giuseppe" Tocco

SK Will Davis

SK Ric Robinson

SK John DeStefon

SK Elmer Rivera

SK John Loft

Brother Bill and Betsy Hampton

Lady Jan O'Bryan-Wilson

Lady Angela Sullivan

Lady Janet Autio

Lady Virginia LeMasters

Sister Maureen Cannon

Aja, Daughter of Lady Karen Mitchell

Genevieve Harris — granddaughter of Kathy Harris and Jack Duggan

Jacob — Son of WRA SK Gerry "Gorgeous" Grillo

Liva Pilia — Mother-in-Law of SK Dwight Collins

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.

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)





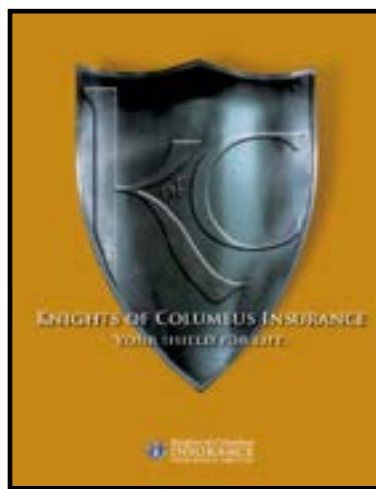
**Knights of Columbus
Council 14573
Ascension Catholic Community
2950 N. Harbor City Blvd
Melbourne, Florida 32935**



“Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (Romans 5:5)

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