



Knights of Columbus

Msgr. Martin B. Power Council 14573



January 2025

Council Officers

Grand Knight
SK Jose Montes
(321) 795-8171

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

Deputy Grand Knight
SK Jose Cardet
(321) 917-0447

Chancellor
SK Dwight Collins
(321) 960-6540

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
SK Ralph Carestia
(321) 432-8439

Advocate
SK Frank Conley
(321) 255-2392

Lecturer
SK Deacon Chris Meehan
(321) 242-8003

Membership Director
SK John Miller
(321) 794-6620

Trustee (1 year)
SK Eddy Merlet
(954) 882-3687

Trustee (2 year)
SK Bill Quinn
(321) 917-8413

Trustee (3 year)
SK Dave Amrhein
(321) 591-6697



**From the
Grand Knight**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



Worthy Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all are having a nice Christmas season and now that we have entered into 2025, I wish you a healthy and happy new year.

If we briefly look in the rearview mirror, there was a lot that this council accomplished in the first half of our fraternal year. Since July, we had the St Joseph's Icon prayer service, a membership drive, 2 corporate communion events, worked at the polls for the primary and general elections, helped the school with their Eagle Pride run, helped put on the Parish Picnic, organized and prayed the Novena for Life, ran the Soccer Challenge, Citizenship Essay Contest, and Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest with the school, hosted the Trunk or Treat, helped the scouts with pallets for their pumpkin patch fundraiser, helped the young adults with their retreat, helped pack meals for the Children Hunger Project, assisted with the All-Souls Prayer service, sent letters and financial support to 2 seminarians, contributed to Christmas gifts for seniors at Ascension Manor, and conducted our Keep Christ in Christmas magnets fundraiser. We also assisted as one of our families had the initiative to host an Italian dinner to raise funds for hurricane relief. And that was all in addition to the monthly regular activities of highway cleanup, food for the poor collections, life chain, the power rosary, and Daily Bread. That was a busy first half!

As we enter into the second half, we plan to be busy again, starting in January with the council Free Throw Championship at the school led by Mike Marzec and Bob Richmond. We will also have a Global Wheelchair Mission donations weekend, and in early February the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics led by Paul Kuracz. Fr. John and Fr. Zach have agreed to take the plunge! Please check the Calendar, Activities Sheet, and stay tuned to emails with information about dates, times, and how you can help at those events.

I would like to thank all of you who helped with the State Soccer challenge, the Keep Christ in Christmas magnet sales, the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, the 3 Sundays of Coffee and Donuts service, and the planning of the Christmas Party, which turned out to be a great evening. Your hard work is noticed and much appreciated.

We are blessed with an active council and I look forward to a productive 2025!

Vivat Jesus,

**SK Jose Montes
Grand Knight**

The next monthly Council meeting will be held on January 16 at 7PM in the Knights Room. Power Rosary at 6:15 in the Ministry Building, Room 313.



Grand Knight Remarks Continued

We also need to soon start planning 3 main activities happening in Lent that will require your help to carry out. Please let me know if you are interested in planning or being involved to make any of these happen.

1. **40 Cans For Lent** – Collect pledges from parishioners. Emails and bulletin adds will encourage parishioners to pledge a donation of 40 food items during lent. To run it you collect the names and number of pledges. Parishioners can tell you about their pledge via our website, email, phone call, text, or in person. Parishioners bring the items to Church or Social Concerns at any time during lent and they get collected as usual. At the end of Lent you report the number of pledges made so we can report that to Social Concerns and to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. 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. We then pass that to Social Concerns.
 2. **Lent Fish Frys** – The First Friday in Lent is March 7th – The Parish Hall is reserved for 6 Fridays starting with March 7th for our Fish Dinners after the Stations of the Cross. – You'll hear about a meeting in mid-January to start planning this. If you are interested in helping, please let me know or come to the meeting.
 3. **St Patrick's Day party** – Saturday March 15th in the Parish Hall. You'll also soon hear about a call for help to plan this event!
- **Keep Christ in Christmas magnet sales** were held before each Mass the weekend of November 30-December 1. We sold most of our magnets during this first weekend. We sold most of the remaining magnets the following weekend. This took a huge effort for the volunteer Knights and Ladies who were at the Church doors after each Mass to sell our magnets. Since we have not had Wonderful Wednesdays, we hoped to be successful and sell 416 magnets before and after the weekend masses in Advent. The magnets were \$5 each with 4 versions available. We started with 416 magnets and sold all but 19 magnets for a total profit of almost \$1500.
 - **Coffee and Donuts** - December is the month assigned for our Council to help serve Coffee and Donuts after the Sunday morning Masses. This year there are 5 Sundays in December but due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays, the last Sunday for Donuts was December 15. Thanks to everyone who helped serve donuts and helped with cleanup and other chores necessary to put this on every week. Special thanks to SK John Pechar for stepping in to help take on SK John Miller's role due to his illness and recovery — Keep John in your prayers.
 - **Membership.** We were able to bring in 8 new members so far this Fraternal Year. We are ahead of our recruitment goal of 15 new members but we can't let down our recruitment efforts — we still have a ways to go to meet our goal for this fraternal year. We need to meet our recruitment goal in order to be eligible for the Star Award.
 - We will plan another membership drive early in 2025 with the focus on showing Parish members what we as Knights do for the Ascension community. We will add this item to the next Roundtable with Father John.



Grand Knight Remarks Continued

- **Free Throw Competition.** The first event with the school for the new year is the [Free Throw Competition](#). We usually like to pick a Monday and Tuesday in the same week a few weeks before the District Competition. This year that will be held at MCC on February 8. So we originally picked January 27 and 28 for the Ascension School competition. But there is a possibility the special election primary slated for January 29 could affect Brevard County and many of the volunteers for the Free Throw also volunteer to operate one of the polling places. So with coordination from the school we will hold the local completion in the school gym Tuesday, January 21 and Monday, January 27 — this avoids any possible conflict with the election and also the school holiday on January 20. Monday and Tuesday allow the best opportunity to ensure all students get to participate in the free throw during PE class.
 - We still have a few open spots for score keepers and you can use SignUp Genius to volunteer. Since this is an event held in the gym during school hours, all volunteers must be fingerprinted, take Diocesan Safe Environment Training and be in the school system. So if you are eligible, please consider volunteering. [Sign up here](#)
- **American Wheelchair Mission.** This is another annual event that helps the Ascension Community by providing wheelchairs for those in need. This will be coming up January 26 and 27. More information on the program here:
 - [Council 14573 American Wheelchair Mission](#)
 - [Knights of Columbus Global Wheelchair Mission](#)
- **Ascension Thrift Store.** The store continues to fall short in having enough volunteers to support all the hours necessary to bring in the revenue needed to support the Social Concerns Ministry and the Ascension Catholic School. The store is a key source of revenue for these ministries. If you can spare a few hours, please consider volunteering. The Thrift Store is also looking for a number two person to help out John Casco. You can contact the Thrift Store to [volunteer here](#).
- **Ascension Catholic School Science Fair** on Tuesday, February 4th, 2025 from 8:15 AM to 2:00 PM in the school cafetorium. They have requested judges for the event. If you have a STEM background and are available that day, please consider volunteering. You will provide an important opportunity for students to practice their presentation skills. If you can't judge for the entire school day, just a few hours of participation is welcome. Lunch will be provided. POC: SK Dave AmRhein
 - Sign up [HERE](#) and include your preferred science discipline (physical, biological, environmental etc.)
 - Additional information is available on the [Upcoming Events](#) page of the council website.
- **2025 Polar Plunge.** This great fundraiser for Special Olympics will be coming up soon after the New Year. We are planning to collect donations the first weekend in February. The plunge is planned for February 6 at the beach in front of the Tides at Patrick Space Force Base. Both Father John and Father Zach are scheduled to take the plunge this year. POC: SK Paul Kuracz.
- **Ascension Thrift Store.** The store continues to fall short in having enough volunteers to support all the hours necessary to bring in the revenue needed to support the Social Concerns Ministry and the Ascension Catholic School. The store is a key source of revenue for these ministries. If you can spare a few hours, please consider volunteering. The Thrift Store is also looking for a number two person to help out John Casco. You can contact the Thrift Store to [volunteer here](#).



Notes from the Grand Knight

School Activities. We have provided the school staff with a plan of activities for this school year. This plan was approved by the school principal Mrs Claudia Stokes. Below are the scheduled activities ahead that we will participate in:

- **Adopt a Family (Dec)** - The Knights provide an assistance check to two families during the Christmas season. Your administration selects the families based mostly on need.
- **Council Free Throw Challenge (Jan/Feb)** - participants shoot free throws. Top scorers in two age groups and boys and girls categories advance to District competition.
- **Science Fair Judging (Jan/Feb)**, Knights provide a few judges for the annual Science Fair as requested by school staff.
- **MCC Scholarships (May)** - The Knights offer three scholarships to graduating 8th graders planning to attend MCC. Your administration selects the students.
- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (May)** - Knights offered lunch for the teachers and staff in appreciation for another successful school year.

Prayer Requests – Prayer requests can be sent via email to ascension14573@gmail.com, and can now also be submitted from the [council's website](#). Just [click on the Prayer Requests image](#) on the home page and you will be directed to a form where you can enter your request. An email will be sent to the Council and The Ladies Auxiliary to ask them to unite in prayer with you and your request will be also included in the monthly Power Rosary.

Renew Your Dues Now. July 1st marked the start of a new Fraternal Year. Our membership dues for the K of C Council 14573 are due at the beginning of the Fraternal Year. Regular dues are \$40 per year. If you have any questions about your dues, email Richard Becker at rit3722@gmail.com. Below are two options to pay our dues:

1. Pay by check payable to "K of C Council 14573" and hand the check to Richard Becker (Financial Secretary) or Randy Lascody (Treasurer) at the next council meeting or mail it to: "K of C Council 14573, Attention: Richard Becker, 4825 Tiverton Court, Melbourne, FL 32934"
2. Pay electronically using a Credit Card, Debit Card, PayPal, or Venmo. This can be done from the Council's website Dues page by [clicking on this link](#). If that URL link does not take you to the dues page, visit the main page here — [Council Website](#).
3. Please remember that your membership dues support Council sponsored charitable contributions, operations, and per-capita assessments from Supreme and the Florida State Council. The combined annual Supreme and Florida State Council assessments must be paid by the Council for all members on the roster, even if the member did not pay his dues. Paying your dues avoids the Council from having to use someone else's dues or funds targeted towards charitable contributions to cover members who do not pay, therefore we ask that you please stay current with your membership dues.





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! We also have red tee shirts available for \$20 which includes embroidery services. Tee shirts can also 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.
- **Assembly Star Shirt.** This is something we are always on the lookout to find. We have them sourced from Bartman but they are pricy there. FN John found a new source for the shirt that is much cheaper. You can take a look at [Epic Sports here](#) to see the shirt.
 - If you do use this option, Joyce will be happy to put your name and Assembly emblem on the shirt for a small fee. The total cost will be the shirt and the embroidery from Joyce. To keep things simple for Joyce, please order your Star shirt from John and pay him up front.
- **Bartman.** This too is always an option for Council and Assembly shirts. A little more expensive but you can order the shirt and get your name and Council or Assembly emblem on the shirt there — one stop. 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.

[Visit Bartman here](#)



Family of the Month – November
Tim and Eileen Hillmann



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	January, 1
Robert Connors	January, 1
Raymond Carrasco	January, 2
Vincent Ramos	January, 7
Phillip State	January, 9
Dominick Leone	January, 10
Eddy Merlet	January, 10
Stephen O'Neill	January, 10
James Voltaire	January, 11
Edward Mc Caffrey	January, 13
Robert Caldo	January, 21
John Pechar	January, 21
Warren Burton	January, 22
Marc Worchel	January, 25
Christopher Kelly	January, 26
James Peek	January, 26
Jerome Sicinski	January, 27
Brandon Bishop	January, 28
Timothy Timmermann	January, 29
David Acosta	January, 31

You can find the Ascension 14573 Monthly Newsletters
[on the Ascension Knights Council & Assembly Website](#)
[Click here](#) to view the latest Activity List.

**Jan
2025****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 2 nd	1815	Chaplet of the Divine Mercy	SK B. Sullivan
	1900	Assembly Meeting Knight's Room - 312	WFN B. Quinn
Fri 3 rd	0900	Highway Cleanup (Knight's House)	SK R. Lascody
Sat 4 th – Sun 5 th	All Masses	Food for the Poor/ Red/Assembly Shirt	SK J. Kelly
Sun 5 th	1345	Life Chain	SK B. Sullivan
Thu 9 th	1830	Council's Officer Meeting	SK J. Montes
Sat 11 th	0715	Pray for Life (In Orlando, Meet at North Melbourne Home Depot)	SK R. Sepulveda
Wed 15 th	1830	Meeting with District Deputy & other councils	WGK J. Montes
Thu 16 th	1815	Power Rosary	SK B. Sullivan
	1900	Council Meeting	WGK J. Montes
Tue 21 st	0800	Council Free Throw Competition (Ascension Gym)	SK Mike Marzec
	1500	Roundtable with Fr. John Bosco	WGK J. Montes
Thu 23 rd	1900	Charity, Unity, Fraternity Exemplification (if candidates available)	WGK J. Montes

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Fri 24 th - Sun 26 th	See Note 1	Men's Retreat (Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center, North Palm Beach)	SK R. Passarella
Sat 25 th - Sun 26 th	All Masses	Global Wheelchair Mission and Membership Drive	WGK J. Montes
Sun 26 th	1030	Council 14573 Daily Bread (815 E Fee Avenue)	SK R. Robinson
Mon 27 th	0800	Council Free Throw Competition (Ascension Gym)	SK Mike Marzec
Tue 28 th	1800	Deployed Service Member Family Appreciation Dinner	WFN B. Quinn

LOOK AHEAD

DATE	TIME	EVENT	CHAIR
Feb 1 st – Feb 2 nd	All Masses	Polar Plunge Donations	SK P. Kuracz
Feb 4 th	0800– 14:30	Ascension School Science fair	SK D. AmRhein
Feb 6 th	1000	Polar Plunge (PSFB Tides Beach)	SK P. Kuracz
Feb 8 th	0900	District Free Throw Competition (MCC)	SK D. Blair
Feb 8 th – Feb 9 th	All Mases	Ministry Fair - Outreach and Evangelization Ministries, Membership Drive	
Feb 15 th	1630	Council Corporate Communion Mass	
Feb 22 nd	0900	Regional Free Throw Competition (MCC)	SK D. Blair

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

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

Notes:

1 Starting Friday at 1700 and ending Sunday at 1500.

Near Term Important Dates at Ascension Parish:

- Each Wednesday: Holy Hour (1700-1800)

Activity Chairmen Phone Numbers:

WGK Jose Montes	321-795-8171
WFN Bill Quinn	321-917-8413
DGK J. Cardet	321-951-6476
SK Randy Lascody	321-626-0804
SK Mike Marzec	321-543-1404
SK Ric Robinson	321-501-6772
SK Rey Sepulveda	321-255-3706
SK Bobby Sullivan	321-223-2473
SK R. Passarella	321-431-0982
SK D. Blair	321-412-2191
R. Carestia	321-432-8439

Ladies Auxiliary President Becky Richard	412-779-9970
Ladies Auxiliary Vice President Lyn Becker	561-531-3173



+ THE 4TH DEGREE +



+ PATRIOTISM +

Assembly Officers

Faithful Navigator
SK Bill Quinn
(321) 917-8413

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

Spiritual Advisor
SK Deacon Tom Stauffacher
(321) 242-4504

Faithful Captain
SK Rob Light
(321) 626-9641

Faithful Pilot
SK Ralph Carestia
(321) 432-8439

Faithful Admiral
SK John Pechar
(724) 263-0273

Faithful Comptroller
SK Randy Lascody
(321) 626-0804

Faithful Purser
SK Elmer Rivera
(787) 619-7684

Faithful Scribe
SK Bob Richmond
(321) 298-3884

Faithful Inner Sentinel
SK Bobby Sullivan
(321) 223-2473

Faithful Outer Sentinel
SK Joe Ameigh
(321) 242-0694

Trustee (One Year)
SK Eddy Merlet
(954) 882-3687

Trustee (Two Year)
SK Jim Chatman
(321) 223-8963

Trustee (Three Year)
SK Rich Passarella
(321) 431-0982

Color Corps Commander
SK Eddy Merlet
(954) 882-3687

BISHOP NORBERT M. DORSEY CP ASSEMBLY #3482



From the Faithful Navigator



Sir Knights

A few of our upcoming events:

- **Flags for Heros.** Planning for the Independence Day 2025 Flags for Heroes event will begin after the first of the year. We have also repurposed the stages stored in the Knights House to hold the flags in between events — each stage can store 250 flags. POC: John Pechar
- **Spouse Deployment Dinner** is coming up on Tuesday, January 28. As we did last year, we will be providing dinner at the Patrick Space Force chapel to all spouses of deployed troops and their families. POC: SK Ralph Carestia.
- **Flag Retirement Ceremony.** We held a Flag Retirement Ceremony with the Ascension school on May 9. We plan to do this again in 2025 with the 7th and 8th grade students. Ascension School staff has been contacted to provide a date and we did hear back from Principle Claudia Stokes and she has asked if we could perform the ceremony on Friday, April 4, at 1:45. So we will put this date on the Assembly calendar. Most of the ceremony will be done inside to avoid problems with passing trains — possibly in the Parish Hall or School Cafetorium. The Flag Burning Ceremony will then be conducted at the Knights House.

I hope all is well with you and you had a wonderful Christmas.

I wish you a healthy, happy and blessed New Year. See you at our next meeting.

Vivat Jesus

SK Bill Quinn
Faithful Navigator

Next Assembly Meeting — February 6, 7 PM in the Knights Room
Chaplet of the Devine Mercy Prior to the Meeting at 6:30



- **Assembly Dues** are due on January 1. Please pay your annual dues of \$25 at your earliest convenience. Followup notices will sent after the first of the year to all members who have not paid their dues — you can pay in person or through the mail. Dues are the main funding for the Assembly so please pay promptly.
- **Membership.** We need to continue our push for new members. So please talk to Council members when you see them and I encourage you all to personally contact at least one member of the Council and let them know they are welcome as members of the Fourth Degree.
 - One way to stand out is to wear your Assembly shirt to Mass — especially on the first weekend of the month. You may get asked about the shirt which will open the opportunity to bring in new members into not only the Assembly but also the Council.
 - We need to keep up the recruitment efforts and make our goal to bring in any and all members from the Council who want to move up to the Patriotic Degree. Spread the word that they are very much welcome into the ranks of the Assembly. It will be a very rewarding experience for them as we support the patriotic activities of the Knights. And let them know they do not need to join the Color Corps to be a member of the Assembly.
 - Make it your goal to approach one Council member to bring forward to the Fourth Degree.
 - We have 6 new members this Fraternal Year so we need one more to meet our goal of 7 new members.
 - You don't need to be part of the Color Corps to join the Patriotic Degree but we do need more members for our Color Corps. We support many activities in the local area — especially important are funerals for our departed members. We need to be there to honor them so the more members we have in the Color Corps, the easier it is to support these important ceremonies. Some activities do not need the Color Corps to be there — these can be supported by any Fourth Degree member.

From Color Corps Commander SK Eddy Merlet

The month of December November has been somehow very slow for the Color Corp with the following events:

December 17th, SK PDD Donald Lee Carothers funeral @ LOG. The following SK attended: Eddy Merlet, Jim Chatman, Rich Passarella, Joe Ameigh, Edward Barry, Elmer Rivera.

December 18th, Sir Knight Patrick Marshall's wife Annette funeral @ HNJ. The following SK attended: Eddy Merlet & Elmer Rivera.





Wreaths Across America

We supported Wreaths Across America on December 14 at the J.N. Tucker Memorial/Shady Oaks Cemetery at 9:30. This is a national program and you can support it by purchasing wreaths and having them placed at a cemetery of your choice.

- We have supported Shady Oaks for several years with veterans projects. Now we need to also turn our attention to the veterans interred at our own Ascension Memorial Garden. We plan to have Ascension included in the Wreaths Across America program in 2025.

[Wreaths Across America](#)



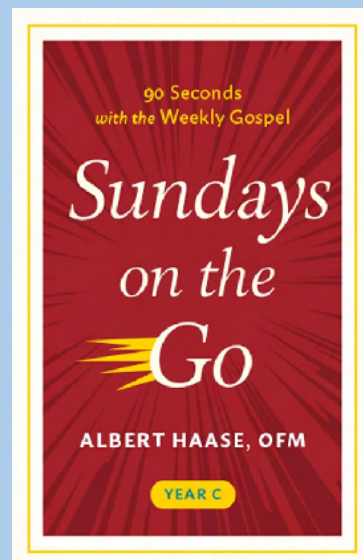


Spiritual Corner from SK Deacon Chris Meehan

Deacon Chris wanted to highlight the books from an author he is very familiar with — hearing him at lectures and also on his radio show — Father Albert Haase. Father Haase has written numerous books and one in particular — well actual 3 books as each book is dedicated to a cycle of the church year — A, B, and C — “[Sundays on the Go](#)”. And these books are available on [Amazon](#).

Got a minute? That's all it takes to brighten your day with the weekly Gospel!

Thanks to beloved Franciscan priest and retreat leader Fr. Albert Haase, you only need a minute to stay in touch with the Gospel every Sunday through the Church year. Inspired by his early days in a busy urban parish, *Sundays on the Go Year C* is Fr. Albert's gift to busy Catholics – just enough to keep you on track with Jesus, even when you're on the run! Fr. Albert's words will help you to prepare for Sunday Eucharist, and give you nuggets of spiritual wisdom and encouragement to last all week long. Enjoy Year C – the third in the series.



This third edition of *Sundays on the Go* features:

- A reading for every Sunday of the liturgical year C
- Handy Scriptural references to each Gospel passage
- A brief, direct, and pithy homily from Fr. Albert
- A reflection question and a prayer
- Special readings for Solemnities and Feasts throughout the year

Fr. Albert's words will help you to prepare for Sunday Eucharist, and stay in touch with the Gospel all week long. Sundays on the Go Year C is the perfect gift for all ages – professionals, parents, students, and anyone who's short on time – in need of spiritual wisdom, encouragement, and a strong connection with the Gospel.

One reflection — from Luke Chapter 2 — *The wonder of weakness*. Details of the trip to Bethlehem is filled with detail with so much to say about this story. But do we ever think of the fact that God chose to come into the world as a child — a baby. At that time children had no value, basically equivalent to a stock animal. But God chose to come as an infant — the most vulnerable. Vulnerable to everything, the elements, lack of hygiene, lack of food. So as we contemplate this wonderful gift from God, we should all look to try and make ourselves vulnerable especially during this season of Advent.

Next up — Santa Claus — the who, why, how and where — [Click to watch](#)

[Why Does Santa Wear Red? | Origin of Everything](#)



Annual Mens Retreat



This is an annual event organized locally by SK Rich Passarella and held at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center, North Palm Beach.

- Every year in January, a group of Knights and some Ascension parishioners and 10 other men's groups mostly in So Florida, invest in their spiritual growth at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in North Palm Beach. It's run by Passionists.
- This year Men's retreat weekend is Friday 01/24/2025 to Sunday 01/26/2025.
- The weekend theme will be 'To Proclaim Liberty to the Captives' Isaiah 61:1
- This retreat is a time you can spend with God, assessing your relationship with God away from the ordinary distractions of life. In the Gospels, we read that Jesus would simply go off and pray.
- Each and every one of us needs time to be alone, and a retreat provides us with this opportunity. We need to pause and discern where we are; where we are going; where we want to be and how we can get there. A retreat provides these possibilities for us.
- Our Lady of Florida offers the opportunity for us to experience God, a time of prayer and the wisdom and counsel of gifted and seasoned retreat Preachers.
- The retreat will include presentations on the retreat theme, the celebration of the Sacraments, fellowship, personal reflection, prayer time, and meals. Dress is casual.
- They provide bed linens, towels, pillows and blankets, and a bar of soap. Rooms do not have alarm clocks, hairdryers, or personal toiletries. Registration fee is \$260.
- On Friday, Registration begins at 5 pm, Dinner is served at 6 pm. The program begins at 7:30 pm.
- On Sunday, the weekend ends after 11:30 am Mass
- If you would like to car pool please contact Rich Passarella at rich@passarella.org or at 321-431-0982
- To register you can call OLOFSC at (561) 626-1300 or [register on-line](#)





Annual Christmas Party

Our Annual Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 14th from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM in the Buescher Center, Room 411. All who were able to attend had a grand time — a huge success — so thanks to all who helped with the organization and execution of this massive event. Special thanks to Richard and Lyn Becker, and Lady Ginny Reeder for taking the lead for the party. And to SK John Pechar for arranging the wonderful dinner from Genna Pizza. As in years past, we take the opportunity at the Christmas party to recognize our wonderful clergy and were blessed to have most of our clergy in attendance. This year we also invited the church staff to attend — they help the Knights and Ladies Auxiliary with each and every project and event we undertake and we very much appreciate their outstanding support.





Around the Ascension Community



Daily Bread — December 22



Presentation to SK John Autio from Wreaths Across America in recognition of his support and dedication to this program that places wreaths on the final resting place of these American heroes.



Presentation to Past Faithful Navigator SK John Pechar by District Deputy SK Eddy Merlet for his outstanding efforts and team building that let to our Assembly attaining Star Award during his tenure.

Soccer Challenge

Thank you also to Nick Cavano, Dwight Collins, and Eddy Merlet for helping with the District and Regional Soccer Challenge competitions at MCC. The State competition was held on December 7th at 10 AM — and Ascension had a winner — Congratulations to Liana Roeder! Certificates to all winners were presented by WGK Jose after the School Mass on December 18.



Council-Level Winners

Age Group	Place	Name
9-year-old Girls	1st	Valentina Sanchez
9-year-old Boys	1st	Pablo Guzman
10-year-old Girls	1st	Wavy Dutra
10-year-old Boys	1st	Hank Polinski
11-year-old Girls	1st	Liana Roemer
11-year-old Boys	1st	Emmanuel Montoya
12-year-old Girls	1st	McKenzie O'Connell
12-year-old Boys	1st	Isaac Diaz
13-year-old Boys	1st	Gio Vargas

District Winners

AGE	BOY/GIRL	PLC	SCORE	NAME
9	BOY	3rd	165	Pablo Guzman
10	BOY	1st	310	Hank Polinski
10	GIRL	1st	175	Wavy Dutra
11	GIRL	1st	190	Liana Roeder
13	BOY	1st	170	Gio Vargas



Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

This was a great activity coordinated with the school to have the kids draw posters with the theme of Keeping Christ in Christmas. A judging team of 13 looked at over 160 posters Friday morning, December 13 and picked a winner in each division of: Kindergarten, grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8. Winners received a \$25 check, certificate and the chance to move on to the District competition. Checks and certificates were presented after the school Mass on December 18 by SK Bob Richmond.

- Winners are:

Kindergarten:	Luciana Lemieux
Grades 1-2:	James Welch
Grades 3-4:	Benjamin Durango
Grades 5-6:	Samuel Durango
Grades 7-8:	Dylan Sokol-Robinson





Father John and Father Zach Joins the 2025 Ascension Polar Plungers! by SK Paul Kuracz



Father John and Father Zach joins the 2025 Ascension Polar Plungers (Sir Knights Joe Ameigh, Jim Voltaire, Bobby Sullivan and Paul Kuracz) with Grand Knight Jose Montes

We are blessed and excited to announce that Father John and Father Zach will be joining the 2025 Polar Plungers! The quickly accepted to participant in our annual polar plunge on Feb 6th at the beach north of Patrick Space Force's The Tides around 10 am. Our goal this year is \$2500.00 and we need your help. We need volunteers to help us collections after each Mass February 1st and 2nd.

[Sign up with SignUp Genius here](#)

Did you know that more than 60,000 unified partners and athletes with intellectual disabilities receive health exams and compete in year-round sports competitions at no cost to them or their families? By raising funds, even more athletes will get to experience the joy of sports through the programs of Special Olympics Florida.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me at pkuracz@cfl.rr.com or 321-223-5627. Donate online at:



By check please send your donations by check:

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

* Please put K of C Council 14573 Ascension Polar Plungers in the

note section!

God Bless and Thank You for your Support!



Pearl Harbor Day — December 7

At the December Assembly meeting, Deacon Chris gave a very informative and interesting talk to coincide with the [83rd Anniversary](#) of the attack on Pearl Harbor. But there is a twist to his talk in that he wanted to let us all be aware of another attack directly on the US mainland — Alaska. Although like Hawaii, Alaska was not yet a state — it was a US territory and the result was a direct attack by the Japanese on US soil.

You can learn all about this Japanese campaign in Alaska by [clicking on this link](#).



With the help of the Knight of Columbus and Ascension Catholic School, the Scouts of Pack 3373 and Troops 373 and 4373 were able to provide Christmas gifts to the senior citizens of Ascension Manor. Hand-made cards were contributed by the middle school students, and Pack 373 made Christmas ornaments for each senior. Thank you to this wonderful community for spreading Christmas blessings!



Save the Date!

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday and Sunday, January 25th and 26th 2025!** The Knights of Columbus invite you to a very special event, the **AMERICAN WHEELCHAIR MISSION.**

It is estimated that over 100 million children, teens and adults lack mobility worldwide, due to birth defects, war, disease, accident, natural disaster or advancing age, and are in need of a wheelchair but cannot afford one. Please see the Knights from Martin B. Power Council 14573 after all January 18th and 19th Masses to learn how you can help answer the prayers of entire families.





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Happy New Year - Resolutions

Happy New Year to all my brothers and their families! I wish you peace, joy and good health this coming year!

It's that time of year when we make resolutions. Have you made any yet? Maybe the realistic question is, "Have you already broken some of them?"

Here are 10 popular New Year's resolutions from the internet along with some of my own:

- 1. Get in shape; for some of us this means to lose some weight, exercise more and staying fit; to stop smoking or eat healthier foods.
- 2. Stop procrastinating; I don't know about you, but I'm going to put this off for yet another year!
- 3. Improve my prayer life; there's an app for that! The Laudate app claims it is the most downloaded Catholic app. It has an immense library of prayers, devotions, daily readings, podcasts and Vatican documents.
- 4. Improve on a skill or develop a new hobby; maybe you want to lower your golf handicap or learn to bowl. Go for it!
- 5. Be more thankful; God has Blessed me in so many ways and sometimes I forget to thank Him for all of those things...usually because I'm too busy asking for something else.
- 6. Spend more time with the people that matter most; sometimes I get so busy working, keeping the house up or going to some meeting, I forget the ones I do these things for. I've got to set aside more time to just be with them.
- 7. Reduce stress; in this sometimes hectic and seemingly crazy world, it's easy to get swallowed up in the latest tragedy and worry all the time. Cutting out those sources of stress or learning how to deal with them more effectively means a more settled life.
- 8. Read more; with so much on the internet, TV and radio it's easy for me to get lost in those. Reading for pleasure has become something of a lost art.
- 9. Spend wisely; it's so easy to spend money on things we really don't need, buy on a whim or because we're keeping up with the Joneses.
- 10. Review your current financial situation; it's always a good idea to take stock on a yearly basis.

Now this last resolution I can definitely help you keep. My resolution is to contact each of you this year to check in and if appropriate, set up a time to meet. We can update your information and see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. We'll look at your goals and aspirations and help make sure you're on track to reach them.

Vivat Jesus!

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JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

What is Human Trafficking? It's the buying and selling of human persons.

"One of the most troubling of the world's open wounds is the trade in human beings, a modern form of slavery, which violates the God-given dignity of so many of our brothers and sisters and constitutes a true crime against humanity." —Pope Francis, November 7, 2016

Trafficking does not just happen 'over there'. It is happening all around us, even in Florida. In fact, Florida ranks third in the nation for overall number of reported cases. The low risk of conviction and the high profit makes this a huge enterprise and therefore a rapidly growing problem. One can sell a package of drugs only once, but then you need to resupply; a person can be sold over-and-over again.

How can you help prevent trafficking? Begin by learning the truth about how trafficking occurs and how you can identify trafficking situations and assist those who are able to escape trafficking. Organizations that provide training about it and support for trafficked individuals include:

United Abolitionists: stophumantrafficking.com

Polaris: polarisproject.org/training

Catholic Charities of Central Florida: cflcc.org/culture-of-life-2/public-information-and-education

Florida statistics are available on the National Human

Trafficking Hotline website: humantraffickinghotline.org/en/statistics/florida

HELP PUT AN END TO MODERN DAY SLAVERY

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

CONTACT THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

Do you **want to get out of the life?**

Are you being **forced to work** against your will?

Or **threatened or tricked** by your boss?

Do you know someone who may be?



CALL

1-888-373-7888



TEXT

"BeFree" (233733)



LIVE CHAT

HumanTraffickingHotline.org

- ✓ Get help.
- ✓ Report a tip.
- ✓ Find services.
- ✓ Learn about your options.

24/7 • Toll free • Confidential • 200+ languages



Polaris received \$1.75 million through competitive funding through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant #902V0134-01-00. The project will be financed with 43.75% of federal funds and 56.25% (\$2.25 million) by non-governmental sources. The contents of this flyer are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

OPERATED BY
Polaris



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.



Videos of the Month

SUNDAY SERMONS

Freeing Your Family *for God*



SUNDAY SERMONS

Why Mary *Matters*





Ascension Catholic School





Prayer Requests

Pray For Recently Deceased

Tony O'Bryan, brother of our sister Jan O'Bryan-Wilson

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 suffering under the jack boots of oppression

All those in need of prayers for health issues

WRA SK Gerry Grillo

PGK/PFN Charlie Hunton

SK Doug Blair

SK John Miller

SK Marc Worchel

SK Werner Schulz

SK Pat Martin

SK Earl Miller

SK Allen Allebach

SK Nicholas Desimone

Brother Bill and Betsy Hampton

Brother Richard Ceravolo

Lady Phyllis Ceravolo

Jacob, Son of WRA SK Gerry Grillo

Genevieve Harris, granddaughter of Lady Kathy Harris and SK Jack Duggan

Rudy Lopez, cousin of Sir Knight Orlando Lopez

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

Michael Anctil

Jonathan Amgott

Gavin Foreman

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 Bobby Sullivan and SK Ralph Carestia — immediately before the membership meeting in the Ministry Building, Room 313 — 6:15 PM. Contact Brothers Bobby or Ralph if you want to lead one of the decades.

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

***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**



4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has passed away.” 5 The one who sat on the throne[a] said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.” 6 He said to me, “They are accomplished.[b] I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. (Revelation 21:4-6)

Editor
SK Bob Richmond
bobr52@gmail.com

!!!PLEASE BE AWARE!!! EMAIL AND TEXT SCAMS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE!!! Please spread the word among your fellow Knights.

If you receive an email or text that appears to be from any Council or Assembly Officers, Church clergy or staff member requesting a moment of your time, need your help, asking for a favor, etc. **DO NOT REPLY!!** These scam emails continue to circulate and parishioners, out of the goodness of their hearts in trying to help, are falling victim.

We will NEVER request special favors, ask for your time, ask you to buy gift cards or make any such request via email or text, nor will any clergy or staff. PLEASE DELETE IMMEDIATELY AND DO NOT CLICK ANY LINKS. No matter how authentic it looks, it is a scam.