



The Compass

John A. Hill Council 4955 / Chartered 1960

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DISTRICT 71

DISTRICT DEPUTY John Yardley, PGK..... 954-798-8596

PAST GRAND KNIGHTS

1960 Louis Georgen +	1973 Eugene Ciotoli +	1986 Thomas Armento +	1999 Donald Tomlin +	2012 Daniel Davis +
1961 John A. Hill +	1974 Edward Millar +	1987 Richard Chisholm +	2000 Prospero "Nick" Pavia +	2013 Daniel Davis +
1962 Edward A. O'Neil +	1975 Earl Sloane +	1988 Jim Salisbury +	2001 Gerald Sherlock +	2014 Leon Lacroix +
1963 Walter A. Millar +	1976 James W. Cupp +	1989 Richard A. Fetchik Sr.	2002 Tom Miller +	2015 William W. Whiting
1964 Thomas Brown +	1977 Jack Spanola +	1990 Dave Kacprowicz	2003 Ray Peglow +	2016 Donald W. Macejko
1965 Robert Dugdale +	1978 Charles Schramm	1991 Dave Teitz +	2004 Martin Gabriel +	2017 Miguel Dorante Ramia
1966 Fred Lassiter +	1979 James Zilai +	1992 Jack Chadwick	2005 Don Scalzo +	2018 Kyle D. Riebel
1967 John Bussen +	1980 Jose Vales +	1993 John Papetti +	2006 Charles Monteforte Jr.	2019 Terence M. Sheen
1968 Steve Santa Lucia +	1981 Frank Braun +	1994 Frank Ricciardelli +	2007 Martin Dunne III	2020 John G. Yardley
1969 Robert Sorrelle +	1982 Rocco Bochetto +	1995 Raymond Drew	2008 Charles Monteforte Jr.	2021 John G. Yardley
1970 Joseph Massarella +	1983 Edward Joncas +	1996 Walter Kuhn +	2009 Daniel Davis +	2022 John G. Yardley
1971 Albert Vincent +	1984 Raymond Gauthier +	1997 Tom Miller +	2010 Leon Lacroix +	
1972 Ed Gross +	1985 George Vargo +	1998 Mack Courson +	2011 Daniel Davis +	

*Dated Material
Please Rush!*

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 St Gabriel Parish
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Let's tone down the volume

Today it seems like we are in a world where nothing can be tolerated, or we are just becoming way too sensitive.

It is easy to listen to folks who agree with us and espouse our opinions, but to have true free speech we must be able to listen to others who disagree with us or share different opinions.

Tolerance for free speech means that we must be able to listen to others who say things that we don't agree with and remain respectful. We are certainly able to disagree and not believe in their thoughts. It is important to explain why we disagree.

Our opinions need to be expressed using good civil discourse. Yelling, screaming, canceling and threats of violence can make the ears of all people close and create a negative reaction.

As good Catholics and Knights of Columbus, fairness, professionalism and the willingness to listen are what sets us apart from others.

The divisions in this country are deep, and that is fine. The way it is handled by us is how divisions are bridged and right now I believe it is not being handled well.

It is up to the Knights to continue to show grace and leadership to others as an example of **tolerance**.

Ralph Amato, Grand Knight

Archbishop honors Knights

Four members of Council 4955 were honored recently by Archbishop Thomas Wenski for their service to the church. Their recognition was part of the Archdiocese of Miami's 65th Anniversary celebration. The honorees included:

Jim DeTore, Our Lady of Mercy

Paul Ludwick, St. Paul the Apostle Church

Dave Rouchard, St. Elizabeth

Herb Yardley, Assumption Church

Congratulations to our brother Knights, whose service to the Church reflects the best of our Order's principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

More congratulations

Brother Knights Frank Laverty and George Norton recently were awarded Honorary Life membership recognizing their 25 years of continuous service to the Order.

In our prayers

Our dead: Nicholas LaRocco, Rev. Jeremiah Singleton

For healing: Martin Dunne family, Larry Martin, Tomas Vazquez, Kurt Kohler, Chris Maccio, James Blaine, Roger Harris, PGK Richard and Marian Fetchik Sr., Rev. Mathew Thomas, Vincent Casale, Jeff and Paula Graham, PGK Chuck and Mary Monteforte, Lynn White, Joe Dziminski, Beverly Cunningham, Joseph D'Jay, Bill Farrington, Mark Ardis, Margaret and Herb Hays, Joseph Smith, James Walker.

If you know a member who needs help, is ill, or has passed away, contact Bill Whiting, 561-368-6531, or email kofc4955@yahoo.com.



Columbiettes enlisted Council 4955 and Assembly 1534 members in distributing clothing and personal supplies donated in November at St. Ambrose Church to the regional veterans home in December.

Calendar of events

Join our monthly Rosary devotion to Mary Mother Guardian of the Faith at 5:30 p.m. before our membership meetings. Refreshments and fellowship follow. Visit kofc4955.com for events reservations. Contact parish representatives to help with Disabilities Drive collections – our biggest fundraiser.

JANUARY			
Mon	1/1/24		New Year's Day
Tue	1/2/24	6:30 PM	Officers Meet
Mon	1/8/24	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Mon	1/15/24		M.L. King Day
Fri	1/19/24		DC March for Life
Wkd	1/28-29/24		Disabilities Drive @ St. Ambrose & St. Paul the Apostle
Sun	1/29/24		St. Gabriel Coffee, Donuts
FEBRUARY			
Sat	2/3/24	5 PM	Dinner @ Our Lady of Mercy
Mon	2/5/24	6:30 PM	Officers Meet
Sun	2/11/24	5 PM	Game Day Party @ St. Gabriel
Mon	2/12/24	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Wed	2/14/24		Ash Wednesday
Mon	2/19/24		Presidents Day
	2/22-25/24		St. Ambrose Carnival
Sun	2/25/24		St. Gabriel Coffee, Donuts
MARCH			
Wkd	3/2-3/23		Disabilities Drive @ Assumption
Mon	3/4/24	6:30 PM	Officers Meet / Scholarship Applications Due
Wkd	3/9-10/23		Disabilities Drive @ St. Gabriel
Mon	3/11/24	6:30 PM	Council Meet

Local Shirt Vendor: Council 4955 red golf shirts \$37 at Monograms Plus, 716 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33060; 954-785-4725.

Veterans: For help with questions on your benefits, contact Don Macejko, PGK, 330-506-7500.

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"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

Mergers from councils spun-off in the past point to a brighter future

A few years ago, my column introduced the 16 councils that were "spun-off" from 4955's original boundaries. Now I want to focus on three of them because of their recent ramifications upon 4955.

Around 2000, Supreme and State were both pushing for "a council in every parish." Today, they acknowledge that what matters is "a council *presence* in every parish" (i.e. "Round Tables").

On November 13, 4955 members properly approved the mergers of Councils 12872 and 14698 into 4955. As I detailed in January 2021, the process still has (assured) approvals through the Supreme Council, but -- as with Council 5235 three decades earlier -- *"the older number [4955] remains ... The past grand knights ... of the council[s] ceasing to exist by reason of the merger shall be entitled to the title, right and privileges of past grand knights."* (SEC 249.2 Laws & Constitution).

Council 12872: Chartered in 2001 at St. Joseph Haitian Mission in Pompano Beach. Their first several years were very strong and their membership participated in many events of the Third and Fourth Degrees, both within their parish and throughout the state. Although they were initially sad to see their mission merge into St. Elizabeth in 2009, they continued to give a strong effort long afterwards, genuinely making St. Elizabeth their home. However, in recent years there has been little, if any, council activity of any kind.

Council 14698: Chartered in 2009 at St. Henry Church, Pompano Beach. It "hit the ground running." It earned several accolades for not only its numerous activities but, more-so, its explosive growth. Facilitating them was "Henry's Hideaway" a large social hall that received national media attention in 1984 for becoming the first (and so far only) church of any faith to have a liquor license. Unfortunately, some unforeseen setbacks a few years after its start contributed to a rapid decline and ultimate dormancy of the Council.

Council 12395: Although not an "official" merger, 12395 plays a part in our current situation. It was chartered in 1998 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church as a "Spanish" council, but



4955 corporate communion at St. Henry in 1984.

it hardly got any traction, so by 2004 the State Council decreed that 12395 would be "Bilingual" -- and that 4955 was no longer to engage with St. Elizabeth Parish, though numerous 4955 members, including myself, were still parishioners. 12395 held some degrees, meetings and socials, but by 2005 all activity ceased. In 2009 the State asked me as District Deputy to reactivate 12395, but when St. Joseph -- and with it 12872 -- unexpectedly moved into St. Elizabeth later that same year, it created further confusion, as now one parish technically had three councils associated with it. 12395 no longer exists. It hasn't for years, and I've been assured it's not coming back.

I see great opportunities for 4955 at the parishes of St. Elizabeth and St. Henry to build upon the deep histories we've developed at those parishes since 1960 and 1969 respectively. But as with all our parishes, we will continue to strive to serve its priests, parishioners and communities, all the while growing 4955 without any drawbacks from the mergers ... an exciting springboard into 2024!

**Rev. Martin Dunne, PGK
Council Historian**



Veterans were honored at the council's Salute Our Soldiers Dinner Dance November 11 at St. Gabriel.



Santa was a big hit with Trish Macejko and Paula Dziminski at the council's Christmas Family Potluck at St. Gabriel December 2. Donations totaled \$2,568 for Our Father's House Soup Kitchen in Pompano Beach run by brother Knight Jim and Katie Crissy.

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

20__ Individual Member Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES/FAITHFUL COMPTROLLERS/BURSARS

Note: Knights should separate reported assembly activities from their reported council activities.

Located on the lower portion of this page are individual Member Worksheets to assist you in determining the number of hours of volunteer service expended by members during 2023__.

To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return it at our next meeting. This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members.

COUNCIL HOURS

Faith Activities (where applicable) Hours of Service

a. Refund Support Vocations Program	
b. Church Facilities	
c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries	
d. Religious/Vocations Education	
e. Prayer & Study Programs	
f. Sacramental Gifts	
g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities	

Family Activities (where applicable)

a. Food for Families	
b. Family Formation Programs	
c. Keep Christ in Christmas	
d. Family Week	
e. Family Prayer Night	
f. Miscellaneous Family Programs	

Community Activities (where applicable)

a. Coats For Kids	
b. Global Wheelchair Mission	
c. Habitat for Humanity	
d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief	
e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities	
f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care	
g. Hospitals/Health Organizations	
h. Columbian Squires	
i. Scouting/Youth Groups	
j. Athletics	
k. Youth Welfare/Service	
l. Scholarships/Education	
m. Veteran Military/VAVS	
n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities	

Life Activities (where applicable)

a. Special Olympics	
b. Marches for Life	
c. Ultrasound Initiative	
d. Pregnancy Support	
e. Christian Refugee Relief	
f. Memorials to Unborn Children	
g. Miscellaneous Life Activities	

Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable)

Visits to the Sick	
Visits to the Bereaved	
Number of Blood Donations	
Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families	

TOTAL

ASSEMBLY HOURS

Faith Activities (where applicable) Hours of Service

a. Refund Support Vocations Program	
b. Church Facilities	
c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries	
d. Religious/Vocations Education	
e. Prayer & Study Programs	
f. Sacramental Gifts	
g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities	

Family Activities (where applicable)

a. Food for Families	
b. Family Formation Programs	
c. Keep Christ in Christmas	
d. Family Week	
e. Family Prayer Night	
f. Miscellaneous Family Programs	

Community Activities (where applicable)

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b. Global Wheelchair Mission	
c. Habitat for Humanity	
d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief	
e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities	
f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care	
g. Hospitals/Health Organizations	
h. Columbian Squires	
i. Scouting/Youth Groups	
j. Athletics	
k. Youth Welfare/Service	
l. Scholarships/Education	
m. Veteran Military/VAVS	
n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities	

Life Activities (where applicable)

a. Special Olympics	
b. Marches for Life	
c. Ultrasound Initiative	
d. Pregnancy Support	
e. Christian Refugee Relief	
f. Memorials to Unborn Children	
g. Miscellaneous Life Activities	

Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable)

Visits to the Sick	
Visits to the Bereaved	
Number of Blood Donations	
Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families	

TOTAL

