



The Compass

John A. Hill Council 4955 / Chartered 1960

Volume 66 / Issue 1

www.kofc4955.com

July / August 2025

2025 - 2026 COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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INSIDE GUARD Michael Byrant.....954-304-7145
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ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY David Rouchard.....754-224-1402
ST. GABRIEL Christopher Long.....941-993-9147
OUR LADY OF MERCY Mike Tarr.....845-793-0957

JOHN A. HILL COLUMBIETTES AUXILIARY 4955

PRESIDENT Marian Fetchik.....561-909-7465

EDWARD A. O'NEIL ASSEMBLY 1534

FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR David Miller.....954-574-7943

DISTRICT 71

DISTRICT DEPUTY John Yardley, PGK, PFN.....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 +	2023 Ralph Amato
1972 Ed Gross +	1985 George Vargo +	1998 Mack Courson +	2011 Daniel Davis +	2024 Ralph Amato

*Dated Material
Please Rush!*

Knights of Columbus 4955
St. Gabriel Parish
731 N. Ocean Blvd.
Pompano Beach, FL 33062

A PUBLICATION OF
JOHN A. HILL COUNCIL 4955

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Grand Knight envisions year of charity, unity and fraternity

It is an absolute honor for me to be elected to serve as your Grand Knight for the 2025 / 2026 fraternal year. Being elected by the group of men who have faithfully served our council in many roles is very humbling.



There are past Grand Knights, current and past Trustees and officers, and current members who would give the shirt off their back to help our parishes and communities. I am excited to serve this group that represents collective strength, unwavering faith and boundless generosity that has defined our beloved council. For 65 years, Council 4955 has been a beacon of charity, unity and fraternity in our community, and it is an honor to now lead this remarkable group of men.

First and foremost, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our Past Grand Knight, Brother Ralph Amato, for his dedicated service and tireless efforts. I am also fortunate to have the following

past Grand Knights to lean on and to mentor me: John Yardley, Don Macejko, Richard Fetchick, Bill Whiting, Kyle Riebel, and Father Marty Dunne. All of these men have laid a strong foundation upon which we continue to build. Their commitment has brought us to where we are today, and I am committed to upholding the high standards they have set.

I want to thank my parents for raising me Catholic, teaching me about the importance of the rosary, and sacrificing to send me to Catholic schools all the way through high school, as well as to the University of Notre Dame.

The foundation for serving was established by my parents – and something I’ve tried to pass on to my three sons, Connor (32), Stephen (29) and Anthony (23), and my daughter Katherine (25).

Anthony is a member of 4955 and did his exemplification while at Florida State last year. I look forward to having him join us when he is in town to serve our parishes and communities on the front lines. I look forward to introducing my fiancé Carol to our members and their families. She has a magnetic personality and I’m sure you will love getting to know her and to serve alongside her.

I also would be remiss if I didn’t recognize the efforts of the Columbiettes in serving our communities. They work tirelessly behind the scenes, whether it’s selling tickets, making

gorgeous gift baskets to raise money, standing with us serving meals and at other events, but most importantly the love and support they show the Knights and the members of our parishes. I look forward to strengthening our partnership this coming fiscal year. We are exponentially better when the Columbiettes are at our side.

To each and every one of you, my brothers, thank you. Thank you for your trust, your support and your belief in my ability to serve. I recognize the weight of this responsibility, and I pledge to approach it with diligence, prayer and an unwavering commitment to the principles that bind us

together: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. These are not merely words; they are the very essence of who we are as Knights of Columbus, and they will guide every decision and action we undertake.

As we embark on this new fraternal year, I am filled with optimism for what we can achieve together. Our council has a rich history of serving our parishes, supporting our priests, and assisting those in need within our wider community. From our pro-life initiatives to our efforts in aiding individuals with intellectual disabilities, and from fostering vocations to providing a helping hand wherever it’s needed, our impact is tangible and far-reaching. I envision a year where we not only continue these vital programs but also explore new avenues for service, always seeking to expand our reach and deepen our impact.

I believe in the power of collaboration and the strength that comes from diverse perspectives. My door, and indeed my ear, will

always be open to your ideas, your concerns, and your suggestions. This is *our* council, and its success hinges on the active participation and engagement of every single member. Whether you are a long-standing veteran or a newly initiated brother, your voice matters, and your contributions are invaluable. Let us work hand-in-hand, supporting one another and striving to live out our Catholic faith in action.

Together, we will continue to strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, grow in our faith, and make a tangible difference in the lives of others. Let us embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead with enthusiasm and unwavering devotion to our shared mission. I am excited to see what we can accomplish, by the grace of God, and with the collective strength of Council 4955.

Vivat Jesus!

Grand Knight Chris Long

2024-25 Council Donations

Church: Assumption
Church: Our Lady of Mercy
Church: St. Ambrose
Church: St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Church: St. Gabriel
Church: St. Paul the Apostle
Disabilities Drive: ARC Broward
Disabilities Drive: B-PAN Warriors Foundation
Disabilities Drive: Dynamos of Pompano Beach
Disabilities Drive: Equine Assisted Therapies
Disabilities Drive: Florida Special Olympics
Faith in Action: Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy
Faith in Action: Gesture of Water Devotion
Food for Poor: Our Father's House
Food for Poor: St. Gabriel St. Vincent de Paul
Life: ADOM Respect Life Ministry
Life: Palm Beach Diocese Catholic Charities
Prayer: Mass Intentions
Prison Ministry: Palm Beach Diocese
Sacramental Gifts: Clergy
Scholarships: 6 @ St. Coleman, Cardinal Gibbons
Vocations: KofC Military Chaplains Fund
Vocations: RSVP 4 Seminarians Grants
TOTAL \$72,686



Grand Knight Ralph Amato led council members April 27 in presenting Father Jean Jadotte a check for \$25,000 in support of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish matching funds for restoration and repairs on the church. Council Special Projects Director Guy DeJohn worked with parish and archdiocesan staff to organize the work. Deputy Grand Knight David Rouchard is the Knights' parish representative.



Council members presented \$1,000 May 12 to Palm Beach Diocese Catholic Charities in support of the Women's Pregnancy Solutions and Director Chelsea Simmons. Members toured the agency's mobile exam vehicle. Volunteers take the van to remote locations in the diocese to counsel and support clients with their pregnancies.



Council members Dan Woronkiewicz and John Yardley presented Archdiocese of Miami Respect Life Ministry Director Angela Curatalo with a Certificate of Appreciation May 13 with a donation of \$3,000 from Knights. The Pregnancy Help Center on Commercial Boulevard attracts 8-12 clients a day – more since Florida's six-week abortion law took effect -- providing ultrasound exams, counseling, training and infant supplies. Mobile exam vehicles and more volunteers are needed.



Council members and friends served about 100 parishioners and youth ministry participants a taco lunch June 1 at Our Lady of Mercy celebrating the end of CCD classes.



Father Nathan and Knights Tomas Vazquez, Don Macejko, Matt Donohue and John Yardley led a Eucharistic Procession on Holy Thursday at St. Gabriel Church.

Calendar of events

Join our monthly Rosary devotion to Mary Mother Guardian of the Faith at 5:30 p.m. before our membership meetings at St. Gabriel Parish Hall. Refreshments and fellowship follow. Visit kofc4955.com for events reservations.

JUNE			
	6/10-27/25		KofC Sacred Heart Novena for Pope Leo XIV
Sat	6/21/25	4 PM	Corpus Christi @ St. Gabriel
Sun	6/22/25	1:30 PM	Corpus Christi @ St. Henry
Mon	6/23/25	6:30 PM	65 th Anniversary Installation Dinner @ St. Gabriel
Wkd	6/28-29/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Mon	6/30/25	6:30 PM	Special Officers Meet
JULY			
Mon	7/14/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Wkd	7/25-26/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
AUGUST			
Mon	8/4/25	6:30 PM	Officers Meet / Audit
Mon	8/11/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Wed	8/13/25		Blessed McGivney Feast
Fri	8/15/25		Assumption Feast
Sat	8/23/25	4 PM	KofC Barbecue @ St. Gabriel
Sun	8/24/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses



Council Lecturer Frank Laverty, a Third Order Franciscan, visits Sister Kay at the Oakland Park convent of the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy. Council members Peter Assumma, Guy DeJohn, Don Macejko and Mike Tarr made renovations of their small adoration chapel. The sisters were invited to the Archdiocese of Miami in 1992 by Archbishop McCarthy.

Officers elected for 2025-26

Officers were elected May 12 to a new term beginning July 1. They include: Christopher Long, Grand Knight; David Rouchard, Deputy Grand Knight; Ronald Sacco, Chancellor; Matthew Donohue, Recorder; Michael Charles, Treasurer; Peter Assumma, Advocate; Robert Daw, Warden; Stephen Cole, Inside Guard; Michael Bryant, Outside Guard; Kurt Kohler, Outside Guard; Ralph Amato, 3-Year Trustee; Donald Macejko, 2-Year Trustee, John Yardley, 1-Year Trustee.

At the invitation of our pastors, John Yardley is organizing Corpus Christi Eucharistic Processions at St. Gabriel and St. Henry June 21 and 22. Contact him to volunteer.

The 65th Anniversary Installation Dinner is scheduled June 23; make online reservations at kofc4955.com by July 16. The July meeting of officers is moved to 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 30, at St. Gabriel Parish Hall. There will be no meeting July 7.

Council officers and members review and approve a budget and calendar for the fraternal year in June and July.

Dues notices are emailed June 15. Current travel cards are proof of good standing and access to attend council meetings.

PATRONS

Ralph Amato
Brent J. Anderson
Kenneth J. Arena
Robert J. Bonner
John Brogan
Edward O. Butler
Michael Caroccia
Michael Caruso
Vincent Casale
Michael Charles
Randy Chisholm
Robert P. Chisholm
Steven Cole
Chris Comerford
James F. Crissy
Joseph W. Curran
Jeremy J. Darden

Charles P. Davis Jr.
Robert J. Daw
Orlando M. De Araujo
Guy DeJohn
Clair E. Deller
Angelo DelPozzo Jr.
Dante A. DelPozzo
Nino De Rosa
Gerard DeSapio
Elmer S. Dewey
John DiPompeo Jr.
Matthew P. Donohue
Miguel Dorante Ramia
PGK
Ray Drew PGK
Neil C. Duffy
William E. Duffy
Ryan Dunahoo

Rev. Martin Dunne III
PGK
Patrick S. Dunne
David J. Erdman
Edmond Fee
Marian Fetchik
Richard Fetchik Sr. PGK
Richard Fetchik Jr.
Matthew Fynn Sr.
Vince Fiorenza
Vincent P. Fiorenza
Nathan Fiorenza
Carl Fischer
Victor Garcia
William H. Gargin
Eli Ghazel
James P. Glass
Jeffrey Graham

Kenton Hajdic
Michael Karol
Rev. Bernard Kirlin
John Kohler
Steve J. Kutschynski
Frank Laverty
Dr. William Limperis
Charles E. Long Jr.
Christopher Long
Donald W. Macejko PGK
John Marcinka
Deacon Jerry T. McGuinn
John M. McKeon
James P. McLane
Bernard McLaughlin
Rev. Anthony Mulderry
Ralph Natale
James S. Olsen

George J. O'Neil Jr.
Gregory A. Park
Joseph Patchen
Daniel S. Payeur
Steven R. Payeur
Mark Petratis
Charles J. Roach
Allen Romanelli
Harvey F. Rowe
David T. Rouchard
Gordon S. Scott
Ernesto Sengeti
David Sepe
Michael J. Stock
John Sullivan
Paul F. Ternes
June & Hank Schoepp
Jeremiah T. Sheehan

Sherwood Sheehan Jr.
Timothy Sheehan
Ken Staab
Brian D. Sullivan Sr.
Daniel P. White II PGK
Bill Whiting PGK
Rev. Stanley Wulinski
Rev. Hubert Zasada

MEMORIALS

Charles Cavolina
Daniel Davis PGK
Joseph Dziminski Jr.
John Herbert Hays
Leon Lacroix PGK
Beth Schoepp

In our prayers

For healing: Kurt Kohler, Michael Bryant, Steve Cole, Dan Falvey, Rev. Kenneth D. Whittaker, Frank Laverty, Larry Martin, Tomas Vazquez, Roger Harris, Vincent Casale, Jeff and Paula Graham, Lynn White, Beverly Cunningham, Joseph D'Jay, Bill Farrington, Mark Ardis, Margaret 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.

Local Shirt Vendor: Council 4955 red golf shirts \$37 (plus \$12 shipping option) at Boca Color Graphics, 139 NW Third Street, Boca Raton, FL 33432; 561-391-2229 or email amy@bocacolorgraphics.com.

Congratulations

Very Rev. Michael Greer, VF, celebrated Mass for his 50th anniversary of his ordination at Assumption Church May 17.

The Miguel Dorante and Matthew Flynn families celebrated their First Communions in May: Abigail Dorante at Our Lady of Mercy; Matthew Flynn Jr. at St. Ambrose.

Peter Assumma's son Christopher was initiated into the Knights of Columbus in New York.