



# The Compass

John A. Hill Council 4955 / Chartered 1960

Volume 66 / Issue 3

[www.kofc4955.com](http://www.kofc4955.com)

November / December 2025

## 2025 - 2026 COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT David Rouchard..... 754-224-1402  
CHANCELLOR Ronald Sacco..... 954-856-5259  
RECODER Mathew Donohue..... 646-668-0943  
TREASURER Michael Charles..... 803-312-2302  
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ADVOCATE Peter Assumma..... 914-589-5830  
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2-YEAR TRUSTEE Don Macejko, PGK..... 330-506-7500  
3-YEAR TRUSTEE Ralph Amato, PGK..... 954-650-4610  
INSURANCE AGENT Deacon Benny Matos..... 561-619-3050  
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FAITH DIRECTOR Rev. Mr. Jerry McGuinn..... 954-821-5782  
FAMILY DIRECTOR Kyle Riebel ..... 954-552-7559  
LIFE DIRECTOR Mathew Donohue..... 646-668-0943  
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## PARISH ROUNDTABLE COORDINATORS

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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

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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 +  
1961 John A. Hill +  
1962 Edward A. O'Neil +  
1963 Walter A. Millar +  
1964 Thomas Brown +  
1965 Robert Dugdale +  
1966 Fred Lassiter +  
1967 John Bussen +  
1968 Steve Santa Lucia +  
1969 Robert Sorrelle +  
1970 Joseph Massarella +  
1971 Albert Vincent +  
1972 Ed Gross +

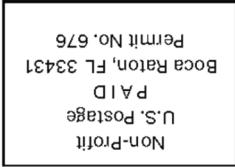
1973 Eugene Ciotoli +  
1974 Edward Millar +  
1975 Earl Sloane +  
1976 James W. Cupp +  
1977 Jack Spanoli +  
1978 Charles Schramm  
1979 James Zilai +  
1980 Jose Vales +  
1981 Frank Braun +  
1982 Rocco Bochetto +  
1983 Edward Joncas +  
1984 Raymond Gauthier +  
1985 George Vargo +

1986 Thomas Armento +  
1987 Richard Chisholm +  
1988 Jim Salisbury +  
1989 Richard A. Fetchik Sr.  
1990 Dave Kacprowicz  
1991 Dave Teitz +  
1992 Jack Chadwick +  
1993 John Papetti +  
1994 Frank Ricciardelli +  
1995 Raymond Drew  
1996 Walter Kuhn +  
1997 Tom Miller +  
1998 Mack Courson +

1999 Donald Tomlin +  
2000 Prospero "Nick" Pavia +  
2001 Gerald Sherlock +  
2002 Tom Miller +  
2003 Ray Peglow +  
2004 Martin Gabriel +  
2005 Don Scalzo +  
2006 Charles Monteforte Jr. +  
2007 Martin Dunne III  
2008 Charles Monteforte Jr.+  
2009 Daniel Davis +  
2010 Leon Lacroix +  
2011 Daniel Davis +

2012 Daniel Davis +  
2013 Daniel Davis +  
2014 Leon Lacroix +  
2015 William W. Whiting  
2016 Donald W. Macejko  
2017 Miguel Dorante Ramia  
2018 Kyle D. Riebel  
2019 Terence M. Sheen  
2020 John G. Yardley  
2021 John G. Yardley  
2022 John G. Yardley  
2023 Ralph Amato  
2024 Ralph Amato

Please Rush!  
Dated Material



A PUBLICATION OF  
JOHN A. HILL COUNCIL 4955

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

# ***Knights events build stronger communities***

Worthy Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this message finds you well and filled with the same joy and gratitude that I feel as I reflect on our recent San Gennaro celebration. What an incredible event! It was a true testament to the strength of our Council and the spirit of our parish community. From the delicious food and lively music to the fellowship shared among friends and families, the day was a beautiful reminder of why we do what we do as Knights of Columbus: to serve, to unite, and to celebrate our faith and heritage.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed their time, talent, and treasure to make San Gennaro such a success. Whether you were setting up tables and place settings, preparing meals, selling tickets, or simply spreading the word, your efforts did not go unnoticed. Together, we created an event that not only honored a beloved tradition but also strengthened the bonds within our parish and community.

As we look ahead, I am excited to share details about our upcoming **Salute Our Soldiers Dinner Dance at 5 p.m. Saturday, November 15, at St. Gabriel Parish Hall**. This is more than just another gathering -- it is an opportunity for us to live out our mission of charity, unity, and patriotism in a profound way. On this day, we will honor the brave men and women who have served and continue to serve our country. Their sacrifices ensure the freedoms we enjoy every day, and it is our duty and privilege to show them our gratitude.

The event will feature a special ceremony recognizing local veterans and active-duty service members, along with a meal and fellowship for all attendees. We are also planning a fundraising component to support programs that assist veterans in need, primarily the K of C Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund. I encourage every member of our council to participate, whether by attending, volunteering, or helping us spread the word. This is a chance for us to come together as a council and as a community to say, "Thank you" in a meaningful way. Please consider helping us out -- with setup, with breakdown, in any way you can. As the saying goes, many hands make light work.

Our calendar is certainly full this fall, and it is because we want to keep reaching out -- reaching out our hands to meet new families, to serve each of our parishes, and to grow our Council with future Knights who can take our work into perpetuity.

Finally, on a personal note, I recently lost a friend way too early, who fell, hit his head and was gone at the age of 66. It really got me thinking how my family would survive if I were gone and my income as well. We are so fortunate to have our Insurance Agent, Deacon Benny Matos be part of Council 4955. He has one overriding goal for our members and their families -- to make sure they are protected, in the event of a loss of a member. This was the reason Father McGivney started the Knights of Columbus and remains an important part of who we are today. If you do not have life insurance or have concerns regarding your family's ability to survive



**Bob Daw served up salad to more than 130 guests at the San Gennaro Festival, while Matt Donohue carried the saint's banner for donations. Ralph Amato headed the kitchen team. Proceeds underwrote the council's \$6,000 donation to St. Gabriel Parish this year.**

without you -- then please reach out to Deacon Benny as soon as possible. I know I sleep better at night knowing my protection is in place, and my family will be secure financially -- with or without me.

Brothers, these events remind us that our work as Knights is never done. Each gathering, each act of service, and each prayer we offer brings us closer to fulfilling our mission. Let us continue to lead with faith, serve with charity, and stand united in fraternity.

Thank you again for all you do. I look forward to seeing you at the Soldiers event and to continuing this journey together.

**Vivat Jesus!  
Chris Long, Grand Knight**



## **Jubilee Mass for the Holy Year**

with Knight's Memorial Remembrance

Celebrated with the Very Rev. Michael Greer,  
Rev. Wilfredo Contreras, Rev. Sahayanathan Nathan,  
and Deacon Jerry McGuinn

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus District 71

San Isidro 16980 \* John A. Hill 4955 \* Ft. Laud. 3080

**Thursday, November 13, 2025**

**Saint Clement Roman Catholic Church  
2975 N. Andrews Avenue, Wilton Manors, FL 33311**

**6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**7:00 p.m. Celebration of Jubilee Mass**

**8:30 p.m. Coffee and refreshments  
served at Fort Lauderdale Council 3080 Hall  
3999 N. Dixie Hwy, Oakland Park, FL 33334**





**K N I G H T S  
O F C O L U M B U S®**

# **Salute Our Soldiers Dinner Dance**

Proceeds benefit St. Gabriel Church  
and KofC Military Chaplains Scholarship Fund



**5 p.m. Saturday,  
November 15  
St. Gabriel Parish Hall**

731 N. Ocean Blvd., Pompano Beach

**Donation \$30  
(Children under 11 free)**

Featuring music for dancing; pulled pork shoulder seasoned with savory sauces, served with pan-seared paprika potatoes, green beans, applesauce and dessert, beverage (beer, wine, soda)



Seating limited; please reserve by November 10 online  
at [kofc4955.com](http://kofc4955.com) or contact Mike Charles, 803-312-2302



**K N I G H T S  
O F C O L U M B U S®**



# **Christmas Family Potluck**

**5 p.m. Saturday, December 6**

St. Gabriel Parish Hall

731 N. Ocean Blvd., Pompano Beach

**Donations to Our Father's House Soup**

**Kitchen matched up to \$500**

*All welcome. Bring a dish to share.*

*Raffles, prizes, James Olsen DJ music.*

KofC4955.com / 561-368-6531



**K N I G H T S**  
**OF COLUMBUS®**

*Feliz  
Navidad*

*A Night*  
*in Havana*

Dinner provided by Barbies Gourmet Cantina,  
including, beer, wine, soda; DJ music, dancing;  
77-inch TV raffle and prizes; outside cigar smoking

**6 p.m. Saturday, December 13**

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish Hall**

**Donation \$25**

Benefits Our Lady of Mercy Church

Seating limited; please reserve  
by December 8 online at

[kofc4955.com](http://kofc4955.com) or contact  
Hector at 305-498-0165



## *KofC burgers, hot dogs welcome St. Elizabeth religious education families*



Kurt Kohler manned the pass-through window.



PGK Ralph Amato cooked hot dogs and hamburgers Sept. 23, 27.



PGK John Yardley and DGK Dave Rouchard bused tables.



Over 400 family members in religious education were served.

## *Sallarulo Race runs November 8*

Council 4955 is donating \$2,000 to Special Olympics – Broward's Sallarulo Race for Champions, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary on the campus of Nova Southeastern University on Saturday, November 8. A South Florida institution, the event celebrates respect and compassion for all by providing an opportunity for the entire community to walk or run alongside Special Olympics Florida athletes.

The funds raised through Sallarulo's Race for Champions support Special Olympics Florida's programs in Broward County, serving more than 6,000 athletes and their families each year. Athletes benefit from year-round sports training and competition in a variety of 19 sports and receive health services, inclusive programming and leadership training.

**Where:** NSU, 3300 S. University Dr., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328. Register in the courtyard between the Carl DeSantis Building and the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. Free parking is available in the adjacent parking lot across from the Art Center. The garage entrance is on Ray Ferraro Jr. Blvd off SW 30th Street (Abe Fischler Blvd).

**When:** 8 a.m. Saturday, November 8, 2025. Registration 6:30 a.m. rain or shine.



GK Chris Long presented a certificate of appreciation to brother Knight Bob Chisholm for the family's B-PAN Warriors Foundation that sponsors research of rare medical conditions. The council awarded the foundation \$2,576 from the annual Disabilities Drive.

## 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.

OCTOBER – Rosary/Respect Life Month			
Mon	10/13/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet @ Our Lady of Mercy / Columbus Day / Exemplification
Wkd	10/26-27/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Fri	10/31/25		Halloween
NOVEMBER			
Sat	11/1/25		All Saints Day
Mon	11/3/25	6:30 PM	Officers Meet
Sat	11/8/25	8 AM	Sallarulo's Race for Champions Special Olympics
Mon	11/10/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Thu	11/13/25	6 PM	Holy Year Jubilee Mass @ St. Clement Church
Sat	11/15/25	5 PM	Salute Our Soldiers Dinner Dance @ St. Gabriel
Mon	11/17/25		St. Elizabeth of Hungary Feast
Thu	11/20/25	Noon	Thanksgiving Luncheon @ St. Gabriel
Wkd	11/23-24/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Thu	11/27/25		Thanksgiving
DECEMBER			
Mon	12/1/25	6:30 PM	Officers Meet
Sat	12/6/25	5 PM	Christmas Family Potluck @ St. Gabriel (Our Father's House Benefit)
Sun	12/7/25		St. Ambrose Feast
Mon	12/8/25		Immaculate Conception Feast
Tue	12/9/25	6:30 PM	Council Meet
Wed	12/17/25	6 PM	Night in Havana Latin Dinner @ Our Lady of Mercy
Tue	12/16/25		St. Gabriel KofC Travel Icon
Wed	12/17/25		St. Paul KofC Travel Icon
Thu	12/18/25		Our Lady of Mercy KofC Travel Icon
Fri	12/19/25		St. Elizabeth KofC Travel Icon
Sat	12/20/25		St. Ambrose KofC Travel Icon
Sun	12/21/25		Our Lady of Mercy KofC Travel Icon
Thu	12/25/25		Christmas
Wkd	12/28-29/25		Coffee @ St. Gabriel Masses
Sun	12/28/25		Holy Family Feast Consecration

**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](mailto:amy@bocacolorgraphics.com).

### PATRONS

Brent J. Andersen  
Peter Assumma  
John Brogan  
Edward Butler  
Michael C. Caroccia  
Michael Charles  
Randy Chisholm  
Christopher M. Courson  
Daniel M. Courson  
Joseph W. Curran  
Mark L. Dachsteiner  
Charles P. Davis Jr.  
Robert Daw

### Nino De Rosa

John DiPompeo Jr.  
Matthew Donohue  
Rev. Martin Dunne III PGK  
Dr. David J. Erdman  
Edmund F. Fee  
Richard Fetchik  
Richard Fetchik Sr. PGK  
Richard Fetchik Jr.  
Matthew Flynn Sr.  
Victor Garcia  
Michael Garelli  
Eli Ghazel  
Jeff Graham

### Joseph Greco Jr.

Kenton Hajdic  
Rev. Paul VI Karenga  
Kurt Kohler  
Charles E. Long Jr.  
Chris Maccio  
James McDavitt Sr.  
James P. Mc Lane  
James W. McNeal  
David Miller  
Ralph Natale  
Albert Ott  
Rev. Mr. Charles W. Parlee Jr.  
Robert E. Payeur

### Steven R. Payeur

Kyle Riebel PGK  
Charles J. Roach  
Dennis M. Romanelli  
David Rouchard  
Gordon S. Scott  
June & Hank Schoepp  
Jeremiah T. Sheehan  
Timothy A. Sheehan Sr.  
Rev. Joseph R. Sileo  
Kenneth Staab  
Michael J. Stock  
Daniel White PGK  
Bill Whiting PGK

### John Wohlford

Daniel Woronkiewicz  
Rev. Stanley F. Wulinski

### MEMORIALS

Daniel Davis PGK  
Elmer S. Dewey  
Joseph Dziminski Jr.  
Leon Lacroix PGK  
Charles Monteforte Jr. PGK  
Beth Schoepp  
Steve Schoepp

## Notes from the district deputy

It is my pleasure and honor to represent the Florida State Council and Supreme Council as your District Deputy again for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. To assist this effort, Fort Lauderdale 3080 Grand Knight Dean McGrady serves as our District Warden.

The duty of a District Deputy is to assist the Grand Knight and Officers in serving their mission of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, and to coordinate with the State Deputy and his team to insure councils meet their requirements and goals of the jurisdiction and Supreme Council.

Our jurisdiction has 88 Districts representing Florida and the Bahamas, and John A. Hill Council 4955 is a member of District 71 that includes our partners in San Isidro Council 16980 and Fort Lauderdale Council 16980.

I am most pleased to report John A. Hill Council 4955 achieved the Star Council Award for the 2024-2025 fraternal year, which is a wonderful accomplishment!

Winning Star Council means the council completed the mission of our Order by conducting robust and productive faith, family, community and pro-life programs and events, supported the financial and insurance efforts of the Knight of Columbus, achieved its new membership goal, and protected the vulnerable by completing Safe Environment training.

Only a team of dedicated Knights can achieve Star Council, but it took particular individual effort from Grand Knight Ralph Amato, Program Director Christopher Long and Financial Secretary Bill Whiting to win the Star Council Award and we all owe them our thanks and gratitude!

I hope to see you in your parish soon, or at one of our events or activities, and I greatly appreciate your support and work for the Knights of Columbus and John A. Hill Council.

Please pray for our officers and council to have a successful and enjoyable fraternal year.

**Vivat Jesus! John Yardley**

## In our prayers

**For our dead:** Elmer Dewey.

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

**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](mailto:kofc4955@yahoo.com).