



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

FEBRUARY 2026
NEWS & NOTES

COUNCIL #5644 1330 SUNSHINE AVE. LEESBURG, FLORIDA 34748

GRAND KNIGHT
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(914) 329-7010

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT
Daniel Gonzalez, Sr.
(630) 379-2850

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Tom Diemer
(352) 267-9502

INSURANCE AGENT
Alberto Fernandez
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A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

I first want to thank my Brother Knights for their support in elevating me to the position of Grand Knight though I think it was by default. I also want to thank Brother Dan Gonzalez for stepping up to accept the position of Deputy Grand Knight. With Deputy G/K Dan, Chancellor Brother John Hickey, Warden Brother Ryan Cimino and many other capable people waiting in the wings, I feel the future of Council 5644 is in good hands.



As we enter February and the Lenten season we have many things on our agenda, including The Citizens with Disability Campaign on Feb. 7th & 8th at all Masses, we're hosting the Sacred Heart Icon from Feb. 8th to 15th, the Polish Dinner on Valentines Day 2/14, the Ash Wednesday Luncheon on 2/18, Friday Lenten Fish Dinners starting February 20th through March 27th all needing volunteers. So don't hesitate to jump in and respond to Brother Tom's email of January 22nd.

Due to our scheduled monthly meeting date falling on Ash Wednesday and with the many functions scheduled, our February meeting is cancelled. Our next meeting is March 18th and will include an Exemplification.

In closing I hope everyone is enjoying our balmy Florida weather, stay warm and healthy. Please keep our Military, First Responders and all those in need, in your prayers.

Vivat Jesus!

GK Bill and Joyce Collins



Honorees

St. Paul Council 5644 & Ladies' Auxiliary wish

Fr. Seno Best Wishes on his new assignment.

Thank you!



Knight of Month ~ Family of Month (Pg. 2)



**“DO YOU NOT HAVE
ONE HOUR TO
SPEND WITH ME”**



EVERY FRIDAY

9am Until 12 Noon

St. Paul's Church

**Exposition & Benediction
Everyone Welcome!**

Council #5644 Website
KofC5644.org

Florida State Website
FloridaKofC.org

Supreme Website
KofC.org



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

 Tom & Carol Cane, Jim Cecil, Ryan Cimino, Joyce Collins, Pat Detweiler, Tom & Cindy Diemer, Andrew Dul, Anthony Durkin, William Ehrbar, Gary Edwards, Melody Fraser, Stephen Gabriel, Susan Gaucher, Ron Golembiowski, Jim Gorman, Terry Graham, Maria Iturbe, Joey Landon, Dixie, Edward, Kathy, Ken and Marianne Lynch, Mike Magister, Lynn Manns, Greg Matthews, George & Linda Mello, DW Jerry & Joanne Moreau, Sonia Nikolai, Bob Nixon, Greg & Mark Ochalek, Dawn & Joni Pauline, Susan Polito, Al Ragona, Phil Reed, Rockin' Rose, Tom Schweitzer, Joann Siedhoff, Jim Suleski, Karen Watson, Sharon Way, Haley Williams, Joan Woodson, Walt & Marilyn Young, Mary Clare Zedler.



LADIES' AUXILIARY

 Greetings
Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Valentines Day. Top off your celebration by joining us at the K of C Polish Dinner on 2/14, presale tickets at the parish office. We will be assisting with the Ash Wednesday Luncheon and Lenten Fish Fries. We will have interesting raffle items available during each Fish Fry. The proceeds from our raffles support our mission of donations to church, priests, school and other charitable non-profit organizations i.e. The Haven, Villagers for Veterans, Habitat for Humanity, JMJ Pregnancy, Rosary Makers, Forward Paths, St. Paul School Scholarships and more. All of these are made possible from your generous support.

Our next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 12th at 11 am at the BMMMC. The K of C Ladies' Aux membership is open to ALL ladies. You do not have to be married or married to a Knight. Actually, you do not even have to know a Knight... you are welcome, as we join to support the Knights and their activities that support St. Paul Catholic Church and our own Mission.

Faith over Fear in ALL things... Always!!

Cindy Diemer
Joyce Collins
Co-Presidents



mail: ladiesaux5644@aol.com



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

January Knight of the Month is PGK Dick Davis. SK Dick has been a Knight for 3 years, a 4th Degree for just over a year. PGK Dick was DGK for Council 5644, before he was elected GK for the 2025-26 fraternal year. He was a Kitchen Krew member, pitched in at fish fries & picnics. He is also an EMHC. Dick was half-way through a successful term when he and Barbara decided they had to move closer to family in N.C., forcing his resignation.

Your service as a Knight and to the Church are greatly appreciated. Congratulations on being selected Knight of the Month for January!

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

January Family of the Month are PGK John & Charlene Hoffman. Brother John is a PGK from his home council at their summer residence in Illinois; he and Char were instrumental in having a Keep Christ in Christmas billboard erected in Illinois and proposed their idea to St. Paul Council 5644, in fact financially backing the project a couple of times. They also supported other parish and council events while they are here.

Your service to the Knights and the Church are greatly appreciated. Congratulations on being selected Family of the Month for January!

St. Paul Council 5644

Monthly Mass Intention



During 2026, the Council will be sponsoring a Monthly Mass for the Intention of All Living & Deceased Members of St. Paul Council #5644

Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Mar. 25 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Apr. 22 at 8:30am
Wednesday, May 27 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Jun. 24 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Jul. 22 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Aug. 26 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Sep. 23 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Nov. 25 at 8:30am
Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 8:30am

The 2026 Annual Memorial Mass for the Deceased Members of Council 5644; Will be Sunday, November 15 at 9am

Membership Meeting Highlights

The January Membership Meeting was held the 21st, in the BMMMC; meetings are held the 3rd Wed.; Food Service: 5:15 to 6:15pm, Rosary 6:30p, Membership Meeting 7pm. (if no Exemplification)

Exemplification of Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity; All 1st & 2nd Degree Knights are encouraged and reminded they can immediately advanced to the 3rd Degree by merely attending an Exemplification; If you have not yet attained your 3rd Degree, sitting through this 30 minute ceremony automatically advances you! Contact your GK, Bill Collins.

DGK Bill Collins opened the meeting with Prayer, then he lead the Pledge of Allegiance; he then called for the Draping of the Charter and prayers for +SK Thomas De Fina, +SK Norbert Hoffman, +SK Joseph Swiderski and Brother Wally Satter. When the meeting resumed, a Motion made to Approve the prior meeting's Minutes, was seconded and passed;

- GK report: Dcn. Balchus sent a Thank You card;
- Chaplain Report: None
- Treasurer: Reported on accts;
- FS: in Good Order with Supreme; 1 new Candidate application was read and accepted;
- Kitchen: Polish Dinner is Feb. 14th, 1-3pm; Ash Wednesday we're preparing grilled cheese for the Soup Luncheon; Fish Fries beginning Fri. the 20th;
- Faith Dir: Need a leader to start visits to home-bound members Dul & Young to pray the Rosary; Dan Gonzalez talked to Kate Hedrick, she will not be doing the Monthly Adoration Hour; a Knights' Prayer Book is available on-line for purchase; the Sacred Heart Icon here Feb 8-15, from St. Tim's;
- Scholarship Raffle 2026: 600 tickets sold out, plus 12 "virtual" tickets; we also sold 35 KCIC magnets;
- DD: Mid-Year Mtg. reports a recruiting record Oct and Nov; State Convention is Memorial Day wknd;
- Old Bus: JMJ Baby Bottle campaign totaled \$13,715, St. Paul's continues to be the largest contributor among parishes, bulletin ad shows what activities etc. that will cover this year;
- New Business: nominations/elections for GK and DGK; Polish Dinner 2/14, tickets on sale; Citizens w/Disabilities Drive, All Masses 2/7-8; the Ash Wed. soup lunch & Lenten Fish Fries are scheduled;
- Good of the Order: Honorees: KOM Dick Davis & FOM John & Char Hoffman were announced; Prayer List adds: Joann Siedhoff & Lynn Manns;
- Attendance Draw \$3 not won by Russel Vance; 50/50: \$30 won by Bill Collins, donated back to the Council; Thank You!; 24 present, meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

No Meeting in February: due to Ash Wednesday...



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 rd Lloyd S Blydenburgh	14 th Christopher Procise
6 th Theodore Kanczurzewski	16 th Keith A Wagner 82
Kelly E Way 88	21 st Theodore J Kornhoff
7 th Fr. Seno	24 th William L Hendry
Gil L Pierson	Monte M Moon 88
11 th Alan R Albert	26 th Robert H Pusateri 82
Vidal Garcia Viramontes	27 th Dennis R Anderson 81
12 th George Mello 88	Brian J Beck
14 th Thomas V Cane 86	28 th Dick D Davis

Attendance Drawing:

\$3 was NOT won... by Russel Vance...

Next month's drawing will be \$6.

You must be present to win!

50/50 Raffle:

\$30 was Won by Bill Collins and donated back to the council! Thank You!!

You have to be present to play & win!

MEMBERSHIP

As of 1/25/2026, the Council has 159 members: 69 insurance, 90 associate; 45 Honorary Life, 5 Honorary.

Tom Diemer, FS



SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE: 2026

Tickets SOLD OUT!



February 2026 Winners

- 1st Prize - \$100 - #375 Nancy Smith-Masti
- 2nd Prize - \$50 - #612 Hugh/Marian Lyttleton
- 3rd Prize - \$35 - #129 George/Sally Leonhardt
- 4th Prize - \$25 - #368 Judy Ballew

The Knights graciously thank you for your
Continued Support of this Program!!
God Bless you!!

COUNCIL SHIRTS & VESTS



Show you're a member of the Knights of Columbus by purchasing a council shirt or vest.



For information and ordering contact:
Tony Lause:
tonylause@gmail.com
or phone: 573-346-0643



"When the Spirit awakens in our hearts the desire to turn away from sin, he also opens our minds to Christ. And in Christ we can penetrate the mystery of the Father and his love."

~ by Fr. Gary Caster (book Inspired)

Ray Crowell, Faith Director



Knights of Columbus
J. Spinelli Agency

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WORDS OF WISDOM

"One, remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Two, never give up work. Work gives you meaning, and purpose and life is empty without it. Three, if you are lucky enough to find love, remember it is there and don't throw it away."

~ Stephen Hawking

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Paul Council 5644

Annual Citizens with Disabilities Fund
Drive will be held before and after all
Masses the weekend of February 7th & 8th



We Thank You for your
continued support of
this worthy project.



St. Paul Council #5644 - St. Paul Catholic Church, Leesburg, FL

PGK Mark O's Corner Offering !

Peace be with you! Mind if I digress for a moment? As I pen this, Indiana University won the 2025 College Football National Championship; coming soon, the NFL's Super Bowl, The NBA is in Full Bounce, Auto Racing's Revving Up, Golf is in Full Swing, and Pitchers & Catchers report for Spring Training.

I am a Sports Spectator (Go Browns!) for one very good reason, I stink at playing sports; no medals, no trophies, no rings or jackets. And I'm Ok with that, because I have a few memories where I (in my mind) was a star. For an example, the Gannon University intramurals, Greek Fraternity Division, flag football; I was center for the Pikes. I hiked the ball, held my block for 2 counts and ran to the endzone catching the perfect spiral; a defender upset I'm sure, submarined me, but as if held by my Guardian Angel, I slid on my knees and stood straight up to the displeasure of my foe; feeling bad, I held out the ball as if offering it to him, then dropping it to the ground as my teammates came cheering. I don't recall if we won, but I do know that 'this' day, I did. This month begins Lent, we fast and give alms, but are to wash our faces & comb our hair so as not to appear that we are atoning. Do Not Show Pride! Luckily, I'd already shown mine.

Vivat Jesu!



Please Pray for Vocations!



"Carry it with you Always...

And Pray it Often!

FEBUARY 2026

Feb 1 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Feb 2 Presentation of the Lord



Feb 3 St. Blaise



Feb 5 St. Agatha



Feb 6 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church

Feb 7/8 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Citizens With Disabilities Fund Drive @ All Masses

Feb 10 St. Scholastica



Feb 11 Our Lady of Lourdes



4th Degree Meeting ~ BMMMC ~ 7pm



Feb 13 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church

Feb 14 Valentines' Day



Annual Polish Dinner



Feb 14/15 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feb 16 Presidents' Day



ASH
WEDNESDAY

Feb 18 Ash Wednesday



Lenten Soup Dinner - HFR - 1pm-3pm

Feb 20 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church



Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm

Feb 21/22 1st Sunday of Lent



Feb 23 St. Polycarp



Feb 27 St. Gregory of Narek



Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church



TBD Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm

Feb 28/Mar 1 2nd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 2026

Mar 1 2nd Sunday of Lent



Mar 3 St. Katherine Drexel



Mar 5 St. Casimir



Mar 6 1st Friday Adoration: 9am-12pm Church

Stations of the Cross 4pm - Church



Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm



Mar 7 Sts Perpetua & Felicity



Mar 7/8 3rd Sunday of Lent



Daylight Savings Time Begins



Mar 09 St. Frances of Rome



Mar 11 4th Degree Meeting ~ BMMMC ~ 7pm



Mar 13 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church



Stations of the Cross 4pm - Church



Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm



Mar 14/15 4th Sunday of Lent



Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day



Mar 18 Council Membership Mtg ~ BMMMC ~ Dinner 5:15pm ~ Rosary 6:30pm ~ Mtg 7pm



Mar 19 St. Joseph, Spouse of BVM



Mar 20 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church



Stations of the Cross 4pm - Church



Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm



Mar 21/22 5th Sunday of Lent



Mar 25 Annunciation of the Lord



Mar 27 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church



Stations of the Cross 4pm - Church



Lenten Fish Fry - SPCS Cafeteria 5-7pm



Mar 28/29 Palm Sunday



Knights in the News

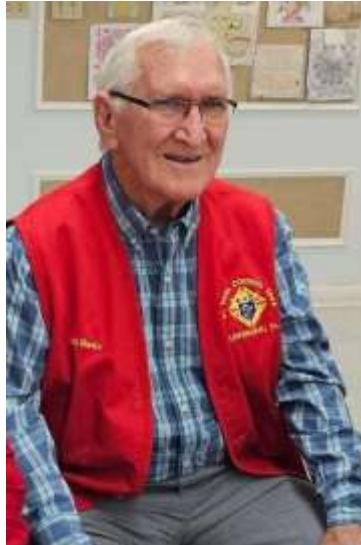


Congratulations Grand Knight Bill Collins, who was officially elected to finish the term vacated by PGK Dick Davis, at the January Membership Meeting.



Congratulations & Thank You to Deputy Grand Knight Daniel Gonzalez; who was officially elected to finish the term vacated by Bill Collins, at the January Membership Meeting.

GK Bill Collins announced the Knight of the Month for January was awarded to PGK Dick Davis.



GK Bill Collins announced Family of the Month for Jan. was awarded to PGK John/Char Hoffman.





KofC 4th Degree Assembly 1675

1975 ~ 50th Anniversary Year ~ 2025



Coffee & Donuts for Vets

We will be at the Taveras V. A. Clinic Friday, Feb. 6th from 8:30am until 10:30am serving coffee and donuts in appreciation to our veterans.

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(Assembly Meetings: 2nd Wednesdays at St. Paul's Blessed Michael McGivney Center, 1320 Sunshine Ave.)

The Assembly is in the process of re-establishing their Color Corps/Honor Guard

Any Sir Knight interested please contact our Faithful Navigator Tim Jaskiewicz  
50% of the uniform cost will be covered through the support of the Assembly.



### Calling All 3rd Degree Knights!!

All 3rd Degree Knights are invited to advance to the **FOURTH DEGREE** - The Patriotic Degree of the Order

Next Exemplification: January 31st in Tampa, FL  
(Contact Mark Ochalek for more Information)

#### ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for 4th Degree, one must:

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Be a citizen of the United States.
3. Be a 3rd Degree member in good standing.
4. Be a practical Catholic.

### February 2026 Council Meeting Message: Field Agent Rpt.



Brothers,

Do you have goals in mind for this year?

It may be February, but the year is still fresh. Instead of new year's resolutions, I like to think in terms of setting concrete, actionable goals. I recommend that at least once a year, you make it a goal to take inventory of your financial health.

You can start by asking yourself if you've experienced any major life events in the last year that may call for an update to your insurance plan or to acquire a policy for the first time. If you've gotten married, welcomed or are expecting a baby, changed careers, or purchased a home, these are good reasons to evaluate your life insurance coverage.

Don't forget that if your life insurance policy is dependent on your current employer, you could be underinsured and only protected while you are still working.

It's also important to consider whether you're on track to maintain the lifestyle you want in retirement. Do you know how much money you'll need to retire comfortably?

Finally, consider if you're missing an opportunity to grow your assets. With faith-based investment options through our affiliate, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, you can pursue your financial goals with products that adhere to Catholic investment guidelines.

It's not too late to set goals for 2026.

I'd love to sit down with you and conduct a complimentary needs analysis. If you have any questions, please come chat with me and we can schedule a time to meet.

Thank you!

Alberto



**Alberto B. Fernandez, FICF, LUTCF**  
*Field Agent*

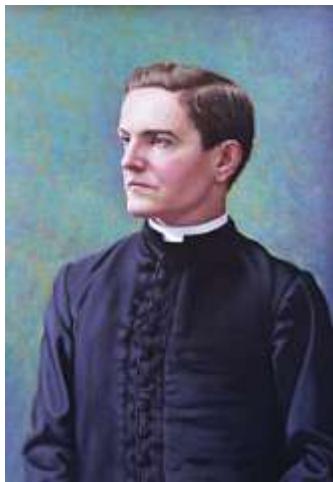
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# BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY Pray for Us!

## A Litany of Blessed Michael McGivney

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us. God, the Father of heaven, have mercy on us. God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us. God, the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, ... Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelization, St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary and Guardian of the Redeemer, St. Michael the Archangel, Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us. Humble Servant of God, ... Faithful Disciple of Jesus, Son of the Immaculate Heart, Obedient Son of the Church, Exemplary Priest of Purity, Zealous Priest of Christ, Gentle Shepherd of Souls, Devoted Parish Priest, Wise Counselor, Teacher of the Faith, Servant to All, Protector of the Poor, Defender of the Widow and Orphan, Friend of the Lonely and Suffering, Companion to the Imprisoned, Comforter of the Sick and Dying, Apostle of Christian Family Life, Father to the Young, Advocate of Workers, Evangelizer of Those Gone Astray, Champion of the Gospel of Life, Guardian of the Laity, Pastor of Immigrants, Exemplar of Charity, Model of Unity, Builder of Catholic Fraternity, Instructor of Christian Patriotism, Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael, humble in service, pray for us. Blessed Michael, devoted to the Sacred Heart, ... Blessed Michael, pure in heart, Blessed Michael, faithful in priestly duties, Blessed Michael, strong in suffering, Blessed Michael, peaceful in dying, Blessed Michael, conformed to Christ crucified, Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord! Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord! Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us!

V/ Pray for us, Blessed Michael McGivney,

R/ That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. God, our Father, inspired by the heroic example of the life and virtue of your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, 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 outcast. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.