



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWSLETTER

— St. Ignatius of Antioch Council 7621 —

December 2025 - Issue 42



*Veteran's Day Collection - November 10, 2025*

## DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 7	Big Breakfast
December 14	KC Christmas Party
December 16	Parish Penance Service
December 20	Toys for Tots
December 24	Christmas Eve
December 25	Christmas
December 31	New Year's Eve



## Baptismal Program

*Want to assist?  
You don't have to be a Knight;  
couples are welcome!*

Contact: Steve Thomas (508-320-6423)

**JOIN**  
★ **THE** ★  
**4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE**



*Become a Sir Knight!*

Contact: Don Tobey (727-815-8912)

## SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us  
a son is given... and his name shall  
be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace."  
— Isaiah 9:6*

## ALTAR SERVERS APPRECIATION DINNER - NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>



Thank you to all who joined us for the Altar Servers Appreciation Dinner on Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. We are deeply grateful for the dedication and reverence our altar servers bring to every Mass. Congratulations to each of you, and thank you for your continued service to our parish community!



# KC MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS

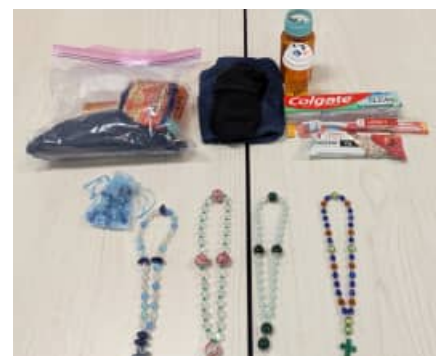


A \$350 check was presented to **Thelma Chance**, adult advisor for Community Project Leader **Jayvin Small**. The award will fund seeds and plants for their youth garden, as well as hot dogs and chicken for the dinners served after the weekly Youth Bible Study at the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The funds will support these efforts for the next three months. Thelma is a dedicated Tarpon Springs community leader who works tirelessly to guide local teens toward productive, purposeful lives in the name of Jesus Christ.



**Florida Collegiate High School** received a \$375 check to create Christmas Gift Bags honoring widows and widowers. Pictured is **Rachel Abel** being presented with the check. The bags will include a Christmas card, a small trinket, hygiene items, and an encouraging letter. With a large population of widows and widowers in their church, the students wanted to spread holiday cheer and show care for this special community.

**Aiden Simpson**, a local teenager, received a \$500 check to support his "Brite Bag" project for people experiencing homelessness and to continue making handmade bead Rosaries. The first photo shows Aiden and his mother (**Andrea Simpson**) receiving the award, the second features Aiden himself, and the third provides a close-up of his work. This project is a wonderful example of the impact our mini-grant program aims to support.



# **KOC CHRISTMAS DINNER - DECEMBER 14TH**

**Cypress Run Golf Club**

**Social 5:30pm - Dinner 6:30pm**

## **\$37.50 per person**

**(INVITE FRIENDS & FAMILY TO JOIN US!)**

**FINAL RSVP Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at  
727-815-8912 (call or text)**

**Please pay prior to RSVP deadline\*  
by cash, check or on-line tickets--->**



**Entrée choice(s):**



**NY Strip Medallions w/Demi-glace'**

**Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian)**

**Butter Crumb Cod**

**ALL entrees served w/sautéed mixed vegetable & baby baked  
potatoes (Includes House salad & dessert)**

**\*(Checks, cash collected at KOC  
Oct./Nov. Meetings w/RSVP!)**





## DISTRICT DEPUTY NOTE - SIR DAVID CREAMER

**Brother Knights,**

*Merry Christmas!*

Advent is a wonderful season due to it leading up to the most important and glorious day of the year, Christmas, without which we would not have chance at a life with God after our mortal existence is over. One of the Knights basic tenets is Charity, which is played out as much at this time of the year as is ever.

Being charitable and helpful is so important in our lives as Knights in that it is special to be an example to those around us. Always being an inspiration to others to the point where they want to join us so that they can do good deeds also in the fellowship of our brothers is what it is all about.

“Keeping Christ in Christmas” is what we need to keep in mind as we deal with our busy schedules and hectic lives so that we are focusing on the joyous event that is about to occur. Let’s make it a very blessed season, holiday, and holy day. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

May God bless us all for all that we do.

*Vivat Jesus!*

**David Creamer**  
**District Deputy 37**



St. Ignatius of Antioch Council 7621  
Tarpon Springs, Florida

# GRAND KNIGHT'S NOTE - SIR PHIL HOYLE

## **Brother Knights,**

As we enter the sacred month of December, we turn our hearts toward the mystery and joy of Christ's birth. The season of Advent calls us to slow down, reflect, and prepare the way for the Lord. In our homes, in our parish, and in our Council, may we make room for Christ with renewed faith, hope, and charity. Advent reminds us that Christ comes to us in three ways — in history, in mystery, and in glory. We look back to His humble birth in Bethlehem, we welcome Him anew into our hearts today, and we look forward to His return in glory. As Knights, may our works of service, fraternity, and charity shine His light into our parish community.

### **Christmas Social – Saturday, December 14**

Please join us for our annual Christmas Social — a celebration of gratitude for a year well done and a joyful gathering as we honor the birth of our Savior. Bring your loved ones, share fellowship, and help us close this year in unity and thanksgiving.

### **Parish Reconciliation Night – Tuesday, December 16**

This important night of grace and preparation invites our parish family to encounter God's mercy. Volunteers are needed to help guide parishioners to the available priests and assist with flow throughout the evening. Your presence will make a meaningful difference in helping our community prepare spiritually for Christmas.

### **Thank You**

A heartfelt thank you to all who continue serving faithfully in our **Donut Ministry**. Week after week, you provide an opportunity for families to connect, laugh, and build relationships after Mass. This fellowship has become a cherished part of parish life, and it is only possible through your dedication.

We also offer special thanks to **Brother John Donnell** for organizing the outstanding **Altar Server Appreciation Dinner**, and to all Knights who helped and attended. Your support has deeply blessed our young servers and strengthened our parish community.

### **Gratitude for Your Prayers**

Brothers, thank you for the many prayers offered for the Good of the Order, and especially for your prayers for my family personally. Your support, care, and fraternity mean more than words can express. It is an honor to serve as your Grand Knight, and I am deeply grateful for each of you.

As we celebrate this holy season, may the peace and joy of Christ's birth fill your hearts and homes. Thank you for your steadfast service, your brotherhood, and your faith.

*Vivat Jesus!*

**Phil Hoyle**  
**Grand Knight**

*Grow our Council, Support our Parish, Grow as Catholic Men in Charity, Unity, Fraternity*





**Fr. Edward J. Farrell**  
**Assembly #1774**

**St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**  
**4843 Mile Stretch Dr, Holiday, FL 34690**

## Do **YOU** want to be a Sir Knight?

- 1) **Eligibility:** Be a Third Degree member in good standing
- 2) **Application:** Obtain an application from your local Assembly or Council.
- 3) **Sponsorship:** Secure a sponsorship from a **Sir Knight** in good standing.
- 4) **Exemplification:** Participate in the Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony. This inspiring event will formally welcome you into the ranks of the **Sir Knights**.

**It's Local>Here in Tampa**  
**Jan. 31, 2026**

Deadline to turn in  
paperwork

& Fee is: **Fri. Jan. 9th**

**CONTACT: Don Tobey**  
**Faithful Navigator**

**727-815-8912**  
(Call or Text)



### Knights of Columbus FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

**REACH YOUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL**

The Fourth Degree is a group of outstanding Knights, dedicated to promoting patriotism enlightened by their Catholic faith. These Knights, distinguished by exemplary deeds for God, for country, and the Order, are united by the Fourth Degree to support religious, civic, and charitable causes.

Fourth Degree members belong to local units called assemblies. Each assembly is involved in a wide range of public patriotic activities.

Each assembly maintains a Fourth Degree Color Corps and Honor Guard. Uniformed members wearing the Official Uniform, and swords participate in special civic and religious ceremonies. For this reason, the Fourth Degree is often called the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.

**CHARITY★UNITY★FRATERNITY★PATRIOTISM**

**ELIGIBILITY**  
To qualify for the Fourth Degree, one must:

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Be a member in good standing with your Council.
3. Be a practical Catholic.

For Further Information Contact:  
Robert Urrutia PSD, Master  
Florida Jurisdiction  
407-486-7883  
Robert.S.Urrutia84@gmail.com  
<https://www.floridakofc.org/Fourth-degree-Forms>

**Jan.  
31,  
2026**

St. Mark the Evangelist Church  
9724 Cross Creek Blvd  
Tampa, FL 33647  
Registration at 9:00 AM  
Exemplification at 11:00 AM  
Banquet at 2:00 PM  
Mass at 4:00 PM

\*\*\*All applications for membership for the Fourth Degree and banquet reservations must be received by January 17



# SPIRITUAL REFLECTION - FATHER SOJAN

## **Preparing Our Hearts: A Knight's Advent Journey Toward Christmas**

As we begin the sacred season of Advent, the Church invites us into a time of watching, waiting, and deepening our hope. Advent is far more than a countdown to Christmas. It is a spiritual pilgrimage—a quiet path that leads us from darkness into light, from noise into peace, and from ordinary days into the joyful mystery of Christ's birth. For us as Knights of Columbus, and for our families, Advent offers a beautiful opportunity to renew our hearts and homes in faith.

One of the most familiar symbols of this season is the Advent wreath. Its circular shape reminds us of God's endless love. The evergreen branches speak of life that never fades. And the candles—three purple and one rose—mark the four weeks of preparation. Each week, as we light another candle, the flame grows brighter, symbolizing our increasing readiness to welcome Christ, the Light of the World. Lighting the Advent wreath at home is a simple but powerful family tradition. A short prayer, a moment of silence, a shared intention—these small gestures open our hearts to grace.

Advent is also a season that calls us to slow down. The world around us rushes toward Christmas with noise, decorations, shopping, and busyness. But the Church invites us to something different: quiet expectation. Mary waited in silence. Joseph listened in faith. The prophets longed with hope. We, too, are invited to make room—for prayer, for reflection, and for God's gentle voice. A Knight's life can be busy, but even a few minutes of prayer each day can transform our outlook and strengthen our spiritual foundation.

This is also a time to bring Christ's presence into our families. Advent gives us a chance to gather around the table, bless our homes, share Scripture, and teach our children the true meaning of Christmas. Families can create simple traditions: placing a Nativity set in a special spot, reading a verse of Scripture before dinner, writing down small acts of kindness and placing them in a "manger" for the Infant Jesus, or attending Mass together during the week. These little acts help shape a home where Christ is loved and welcomed.

For us as Knights, Advent is a reminder of our mission. Our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, built this Order on the virtues of charity, unity, and fraternity. Advent calls us to live these virtues more fully. This season invites us to notice the lonely, to support the poor, to encourage one another, and to bring hope where there is darkness. A phone call, a visit, a donation, a prayer—each act becomes a candle of charity in someone's life.

As we journey through Advent, let us prepare not only our homes, but our hearts. When we light the Advent wreath, let every flame remind us that Christ comes to bring peace, healing, and joy. When we gather with our families, let us remember that the Holy Family walks with us. And when Christmas Day arrives, may we welcome Jesus not merely as a child in a manger, but as the Lord who desires to dwell in our hearts and guide our lives.

May this Advent season be a time of blessing for every Knight and every family—a time of renewal, of hope, and of joyful preparation for the great feast of Christmas.

*Vivat Jesus!*

**Fr. Sojan  
Chaplain**