



DISTRICT 53 KNIGHTLY NEWS

JUNE 2026



June 7 Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, commonly known as Corpus Christi, stands as one of the most beautiful and profound celebrations in the Catholic liturgical calendar. This feast invites Catholics worldwide to honor and celebrate the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist—His body, blood, soul, and divinity truly present under the appearances of bread and wine.

At the core of Corpus Christi is the Catholic doctrine of the Real Presence. This teaching affirms that during the consecration at Mass, the bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ through transubstantiation. This is not merely symbolic or metaphorical—Catholics believe that Jesus Christ is truly, really, and substantially present in the Eucharist. When we receive Holy Communion, we receive Christ Himself. Corpus Christi celebrates this incredible mystery and invites us to deepen our faith in and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

New Bishop for the Diocese of Venice

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus and District 53, we welcome our new Shepherd for the Diocese of Venice in Florida: Bishop-elect Emilio Biosca Agüero, OFM Cap. We also extend our thanks to Bishop Dewane for your pastoral guidance and for all of your support over the years! Bishop Dewane is officially the Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Venice in Florida and has been appointed its Apostolic Administrator until the day of Bishop-elect Agüero's ordination which will take place on July 11, 2026.

Consecration of USA to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

On June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. All Catholics are encouraged to join the bishops in praying for our country. A novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will begin on June 3, 2026, which draws its daily devotions from the Litany of the Sacred Heart. The Novena will conclude with the Consecration on June 11.

Cut and paste this link in your browser to sign up for the daily novena prayers:

<https://www.kofc.org/get-involved/celebrating-america-250-anniversary/>

Council Rosters should be uploaded monthly. The date to upload your roster this month is **June 9**. Supreme updates all transactions submitted by Financial Secretary's throughout the Order after normal business hours every Monday. Therefore, if you update your council Member Management on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, your council membership roster will always be up to date. **Put a note on your calendar to complete this important task!**

Officer Elections: All Councils should have their election of officers completed as soon as possible. Once the election is complete, file your Form 185 and Form 365 no later than June 30, 2026. Filing electronically is preferred. If you do not have your Form 185 and 365 submitted by June 30, your Officers and Directors will not have access to Officers Online and will not receive vital information and communications from the Supreme and State Councils. All councils have already scheduled your Installation of Officers. Thank you for your promptness.

Prepare your SP-7 Be working on your SP-7 now. Do not miss out on Star Council because your SP-7 is rejected. Remember that earlier is easier! Use May 31 as a target date for completion of the form. Review the document with the District Deputy before it is submitted. If the SP-7 is done early and rejected, you want to have plenty of time to correct it for resubmission before the drop dead date of June 30.

Annual Audit Due August 15 Councils now only have one Annual Audit to file. That Audit is due August 15. Make arrangements to meet with the District Deputy no later than August 1, 2026 to complete the audit. The District Deputy will be unavailable after that date.

Online Recruiting Incentive: Every Council will have their membership quota reduced by one (1) for every ten (10) new members AND transfers who join the council **ONLINE** between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026.

District Organizational Meeting – 18 JULY 2026 beginning at 10:00 a.m., St Maximilian Kolbe Parish Hall, Port Charlotte. We will discuss program planning, charity event ideas and membership engagement and retention techniques to make the new fraternal year the best ever. All officers and council members are welcome. Please mark your calendar and plan to start the fraternal year on the right foot.

Last **Fraternal Benefits Event** webinar of the Fraternal Year is **June 8 at 7pm**. Register at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9168683882726404949>. Each council must conduct two FBEs during the fraternal year **AND** meet your participant quota of fourteen (14) participants to qualify for the Founders Award. The Founders Award is an essential element required for the Star Council Award.

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS:

June 27, 2026 Davie, FL - St Bonaventure Catholic Church. Registration deadline is June 18, 2026. This will be a special exemplification honoring the 250th Birthday of the USA! Contact Faithful Navigator Ed Schwartz or your District Deputy for further information.

St Jude Assembly 1750

Fourth Degree Meeting – Officer Installation will be held on June 25 at 5:00 p.m. The installation will be followed by a short business meeting and a reception at 6:00 p.m. San Antonio Parish Center, Rooms 1 & 2.

Fourth Degree Ice Cream Social, June 27, 2026 at 2 p.m. Jacobson Veterans Home, Port Charlotte.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DISTRICT

Ponce de Leon Council 8074

Presenting flowers on Mothers Day Tootsie Roll Drive



St Maximilian Kolbe Council 11483

Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity – June 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

San Antonio Council 12456

Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity – June 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.



St Charles Borromeo Council 5399

Knight at the Races Winner of the
Ladies Hat Contest



Mothers Day Breakfast



Thank you for all you do for the Order and the Church.

Gary D. Miller
District Deputy, Dist 53

Vivat Jesus!

San Antonio Council 12456 Caring for Creation, One Road at a Time



On any given cleanup day, passing drivers along Capricorn Street might notice a line of volunteers in bright vests working with purpose. These are members of the San Antonio Knights of Columbus Council 12456, putting their faith into action through the *Keep Charlotte Beautiful Adopt-A-Road Program*.

Every two months, between 8 and 22 volunteers gather to clean a two-mile stretch of Capricorn Street- from Sandhill to Rampart Boulevard- helping restore and maintain a welcoming environment for the community. Their work reflects the call found in Book of Genesis 2:15, where we are entrusted to cultivate and care for the earth.



Many volunteers return regularly, building strong fellowship through shared service. The effort has also taken on a family dimension, with supervised children occasionally participating- an opportunity for younger parishioners to experience firsthand the value of stewardship and responsibility.

The work itself is straightforward but meaningful. Volunteers collect litter, cover ground efficiently, and leave behind a visibly cleaner roadway. As one participant, Michael Davis, shared, "I have enjoyed dedicating just over two hours to this effort, typically collecting an average of two to four 30-gallon bags each time."

Through this ongoing commitment, the Knights of Columbus Council 12456 continue to show that caring for creation is not just an idea, but a responsibility lived out in service to others

