DISTRICT 53 KNIGHTLY NEWS
NOVEMBER 2026

ALL SAINTS DAY IS NOVEMBER 1



All Saints Day, celebrated on November 1 in the Roman Catholic Church, is a *holy day of obligation*. On this day, the Church honors all saints, both those formally canonized and others who have attained heaven (see Heb. 12:22-24). These saints are individuals who have lived lives of extraordinary faith and dedication to God, serving as role models for Christians. Whether officially recognized by the Church or not, these saints have played a significant role in spreading Christianity and leading others toward holiness (Matt. 28:18-20).

We observe All Saints Day by participating in Mass, as it is a *holy day of obligation*, and in honoring all the saints in a special way at that liturgy. Many Catholics also take part in prayers, reflections, and celebratory meals, as well as visit the graves of loved ones to remember and pray for those who have passed away.

The word *"Halloween"* comes from *"All Hallows Eve,"* which is the evening before All Saints Day, also known as *All Hallows Day*. The tradition of Halloween has roots in ancient Christian customs. Early Christians would prepare for All Saints Day by holding a vigil on the night before. Over time, Halloween became a secular celebration, but its Christian origins are still remembered.

All Souls' Day is on November 2 The entire month of November has been set aside as a time of prayer and remembrance for the faithful departed and the poor souls who are in purgatory. Remember to pray daily for the poor souls and all the faithful departed.



ADVENT IS NEARLY HERE



Advent begins on Sunday, November 29, 2026 and ends on Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24, 2026

The Advent season is a time of **preparation** that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Luke

21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar (linked below) can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Council Rosters should be uploaded monthly. The date to upload your roster this month is **November 10.** 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!**



SACRED HEART ICON ï Start planning now by appointing a program chairman and discussing the event with your pastor. Be sure to order your prayer cards and other supplies in advance.

The schedule (subject to change) is as follows:

Council 5399 10/27/2026 to 11/2/2026
Council 8074 11/3/2026 to 11/9/2026
Council 11483 11/10/2026 to 11/16/2026
Council 12456 11/17/2026 to 11/23/2026

Essay Contest

This year's topic is "The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God". Essays must be typed and be between 500 and 750 words in length. Councils should target their competitions for late November or early December and have their winning essays and signed score sheets (Form 4208 9/22) forwarded to the District Deputy for District Competitions no later than December 15th.

Poster Contest

Entries in the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest must include a slogan reflecting the topic and an *original* visual image. Councils should target their competitions for December, 2026 and have their winning posters and signed score sheets (Form 5025 3/23) forwarded to the District Deputy for District Competitions no later than December 31st.

Diocese of Venice Youth Rally: 14 November Charlotte Harbor Conference Center. This is a wonderful afternoon of interaction with some of the finest young people in the Diocese. Must be Diocese Safe Environment certified. Contact Gary Miller, DD 53 to volunteer: *(502) 777-5659 or gdmillerdd53@gmail.com.*

Star Council Criteria: Major changes have been made to the requirements for the Star Council Award. All Council Officers have all been briefed on the requirements for the new fraternal year. Questions or concerns may be directed to your Officers.

Fourth Degree St Jude Assembly 1750

Members of the St Jude Assembly Color Corps participated in the funeral services for Bishop Emeritus, Frank Dewane in Ft Myers. The Color Corps was commanded by SK Denny Knaub.

Veterans Day Cookout November 11 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Jacobson Veterans Home, Port Charlotte

Fourth Degree Meeting – will be held on November 19 with a social hour at 5:00 p.m. The business meeting will commence at 6:00 p.m. San Antonio Ministry Center, Rooms 1 & 2. Our guest speaker will be Tina Figliuolo from the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda.

Fourth Degree Ice Cream Social, November 28 at 2 p.m. Jacobson Veterans Home, Port Charlotte.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DISTRICT

St Maximilian Kolbe Council 11483

St Max Council was awarded the Double Star Council Award.
Congratulations to the Council for a job well done!



Past Grand Knight, Ted McDermott; Membership Director, Paul Versnik and Program Director, Ray Desjardins receive the Double Star Council Award from District Deputy, Gary Miller.

Pancake Breakfast November 8, 2026

CUF 2nd Wednesday of each month as needed

St Paul Council 7567 (Arcadia)

The newly reactivated council in Arcadia conducted a membership drive featuring drinks and snacks after the Spanish Mass at Noon on October 11. (Below Right)

The Arcadia Council is held a raffle for a small dirt bike. (Below Left)





Ponce de Leon Council 8074

The Sacred Heart Council was awarded the Double Star Council Award. Congratulations to the whole Council on this tremendous achievement!

Council 8074 sponsored the purchase of another ultrasound machine which was dedicated and blessed on Thursday October 8th at Choices Family Resource Center in Lake Placid, FL.





(Above Left) Past Grand Knight, Brian Greathouse; Membership Director, Chris Shaw and Program Director, Ed Kelly receive the Double Star Council Award from District Deputy, Gary Miller.

(Above Right) Steve Kowalski, Council 8074 Life Director makes the presentation of the ultrasound machine for dedication and blessing by Father Vincent Clemente, Pastor of St James Catholic Church in Lake Placid.

Corporate Communion Service: November 15, 2026 11:00 am.

CUF 3rd Wednesday of each month as needed

St Charles Borromeo Council 5399

Our Brothers at St Charles Borromeo hosted a rosary and Mass featuring the Sacred Heart Pilgrim Icon on October 29, 2026.



St Charles Borromeo hosted the Region 5 Soccer Challenge on October 31.





San Antonio Council 12456

Congratulations to San Antonio Council 12456 for achieving the Star Council Award!!
Past Grand Knight, Mike Coats; Membership Director, Joe Capone and Program Director, Rich Oliva and current Grand Knight, Mike Castillo receive the Star Council Award from District Deputy, Gary Miller. (Below Right)

The Council 12456 ceremonial team conducted an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity on October 7. The Council welcomed six new Third Degree Knights into the Order. (Below Left)





Parish Picnic November 8, Noon to 3 pm.

CUF 1st Wednesday of each month as needed

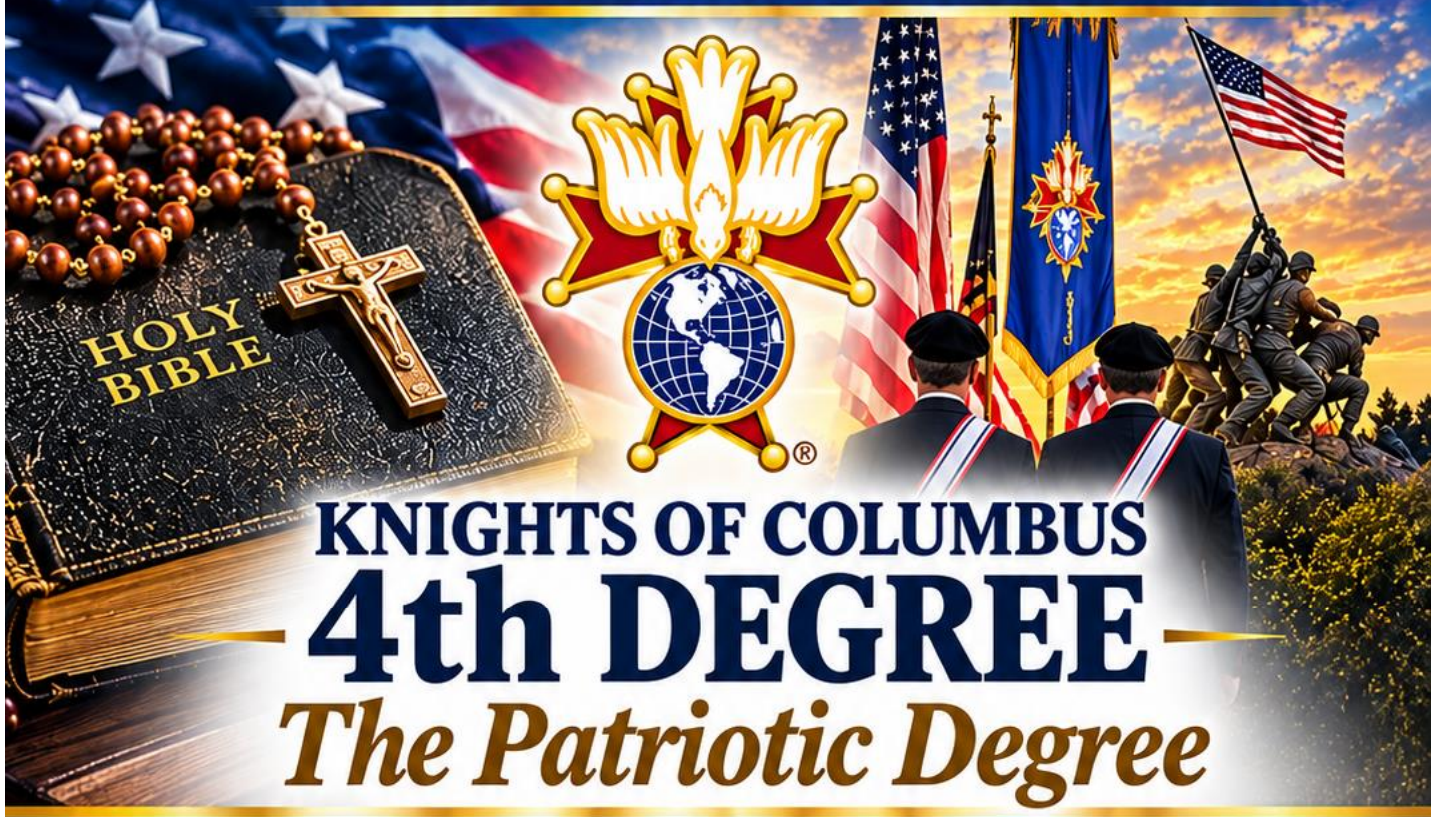
To Join the Fourth Degree, contact the St Jude Assembly 1750 Faithful Navigator,

SK Gary Miller by email at *gdmillerdd53@ gmail.com* or (502) 777-5659.

3rd DEGREE KNIGHTS

You've Answered the Call...

NOW TAKE THE NEXT STEP!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

4th DEGREE

The Patriotic Degree

THE 4TH DEGREE...

A higher level of commitment.

As a 4th Degree Knight, you will have the opportunity to support our Church, our country and our communities in a visible and meaningful way.

- Defend the values of our faith and our freedom
- Participate in patriotic events and honor our veterans
- Support the Church and our local communities
- Stand with brother Knights in a spirit of unity and service

JOIN THE 4TH DEGREE

BECAUSE OUR COUNTRY NEEDS FAITHFUL CATHOLIC MEN WHO ARE WILLING TO SERVE.

For God, Country and Community

(Please provide by email any articles including photographs for any event or program you are running in the coming six weeks that would be of interest to members of all councils and parishes.)

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

Gary D. Miller
District Deputy, Dist 53
Vivat Jesus!

