



DISTRICT 53 KNIGHTLY NEWS

OCTOBER 2026



MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.



"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

"Today, when dangers far greater than those of the ancient Turks threaten not only Christianity but all civilization, we are urged by our Blessed Mother to turn again to the Rosary for help. If men in sufficient numbers do this, and at the same time carry out the other conditions that she has laid down, we have the greater reason for confidence that we will be delivered from our dangers." --
Mary in our Life by Fr. William G. Most

Council Rosters should be uploaded monthly. The date to upload your roster this month is **October 13**. 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 Start planning now by appointing a program chairman and discussing the event with your pastor.

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.

Changes to Council Offices: The Supreme Council Board of Directors has passed Resolutions which make significant changes in the structure of Council Offices. The position of Chancellor has been eliminated. Several offices have been made optional with the Councils having the freedom to not elect those officers or choose to elect officers to fill some or all of those positions. The offices which will be optional and filled by Councils as they so choose are Lecturer, Inside Guard, Outside Guard and two (2) Trustee positions.

The Financial Secretary will no longer be appointed by the Supreme Knight. The Financial Secretary will be elected annually with other council officers. The terms of office of all incumbent Financial Secretaries will terminate on June 30, 2027.

More information and guidance on the implementation of the changes will be sent to the Florida State Deputy in November. The Florida State Council will pass the guidance down through the chain of command. Your District Deputy will share the information and guidance as it is received.

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

Fourth Degree Meeting – will be held on October 22 with a social hour at 5:00 p.m. The business meeting will commence at 6:00 p.m. St Charles Borromeo Parish Center.

Fourth Degree Ice Cream Social, October 24 at 2 p.m. Jacobson Veterans Home, Port Charlotte.

Recovery Sunday

Brother McGivney is still available to speak at Council Meetings regarding the Charitable Program-Recovery Sunday. Guest House is a recovery center exclusively for clergy and religious in crisis. Feel free to contact Joe McGivney directly to get him on the agenda at your business meeting as a guest speaker. His contact information follows.

Joe McGivney | Guest House, Inc. | Mission Advancement Specialist

[1601 Joslyn Rd.](https://www.guesthouse.org), Lake Orion, MI 48360

Office: [\(248\) 393-8979](tel:2483938979) | Cell: [\(561\) 629-2527](tel:5616292527) |

Email: jmcgivney@guesthouse.org

www.guesthouse.org

Follow the Guest House community on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

Sacred Heart Grand Knight, Frank Dillon, and SK Al Borelli recently visited Guest House. The grounds and chapel are remarkable.



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DISTRICT

St Maximilian Kolbe Council 11483

Pancake Breakfast November 8, 2026

Yard Sale at the Parish October 30-31. See attached flyer

CUF 2nd Wednesday of each month as needed

St Paul Council 7567 (Arcadia)

The newly reactivated council in Arcadia will host a membership drive featuring drinks and snacks after the Spanish Mass at Noon on October 11.

The Arcadia Council is also holding a raffle for a small dirt bike.

Ponce de Leon Council 8074

Knights hard at work raising money for Special Needs with Tootsie Roll Drives



Pancake Breakfast October 4, 2026 8:00 to 11:30 am. Parish Hall

Pork Chop Dinner October 17, 2026 Parish Hall 4:00 pm -6:00 pm

St Charles Borromeo Council 5399

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



October Fest October 17 6:00 PM San Antonio Ministry Center, Rooms 1 & 2

CUF 1st Wednesday of each month as needed



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

*Faith
Family
Country*

 **JOIN THE 4TH DEGREE**
BECAUSE OUR COUNTRY NEEDS FAITHFUL CATHOLIC MEN
WHO ARE WILLING TO SERVE.

For God, Country and Community

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.

(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!

Have you completed your

Financial Protection Survey?



Complete your survey and take the first step towards helping our council achieve the Founders' Award!

Scan the **QR code** to access your individual survey using your membership number.



As a thank you for completing your survey, you'll be entered to **win a Knights branded RTIC® cooler**, with several chances to win!



Life changes, take a few minutes to complete your survey so we can help you protect what matters most.

No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Only current members of Knights of Columbus who respond to the survey are eligible. KofC employees and agents will be excluded from the drawing. The cooler giveaway starts September 1st and ends December 11th, 2026. Winners are selected by random drawing. Odds of winning are approximately one in five thousand. Winners will be notified on December 16th, 2026. This giveaway is not sponsored, endorsed or administered by or associated with Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

20373 8/26 ©Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.



Friday/Saturday, October 30th and 31st

The St. Max Knights of Columbus are having a Yard Sale on Friday and Saturday, October 30th and 31st from 8a to 2p. This year's event will be held at the St. Max Catholic Church located at 1441 Spear Street, Port Charlotte.

We are also offering table spaces for rent at \$20/day or \$30 for both days. Please contact Paul Versnik @ 941-979-0522 to reserve your space.

We have received many wonderful donations, but we are looking for more "saleable" items to help us raise money in support of St Max and our Community. We need clothing, books, furniture (small pieces that one person can handle) in good condition, tools, and medical items like walkers and canes. Unfortunately, we cannot accept electronics such as TVs and computers. Please contact us for options for dropping items off at the Church or having them picked up at your home.

Please call Paul Versnik @ 941-979-0522.



Scan to Join