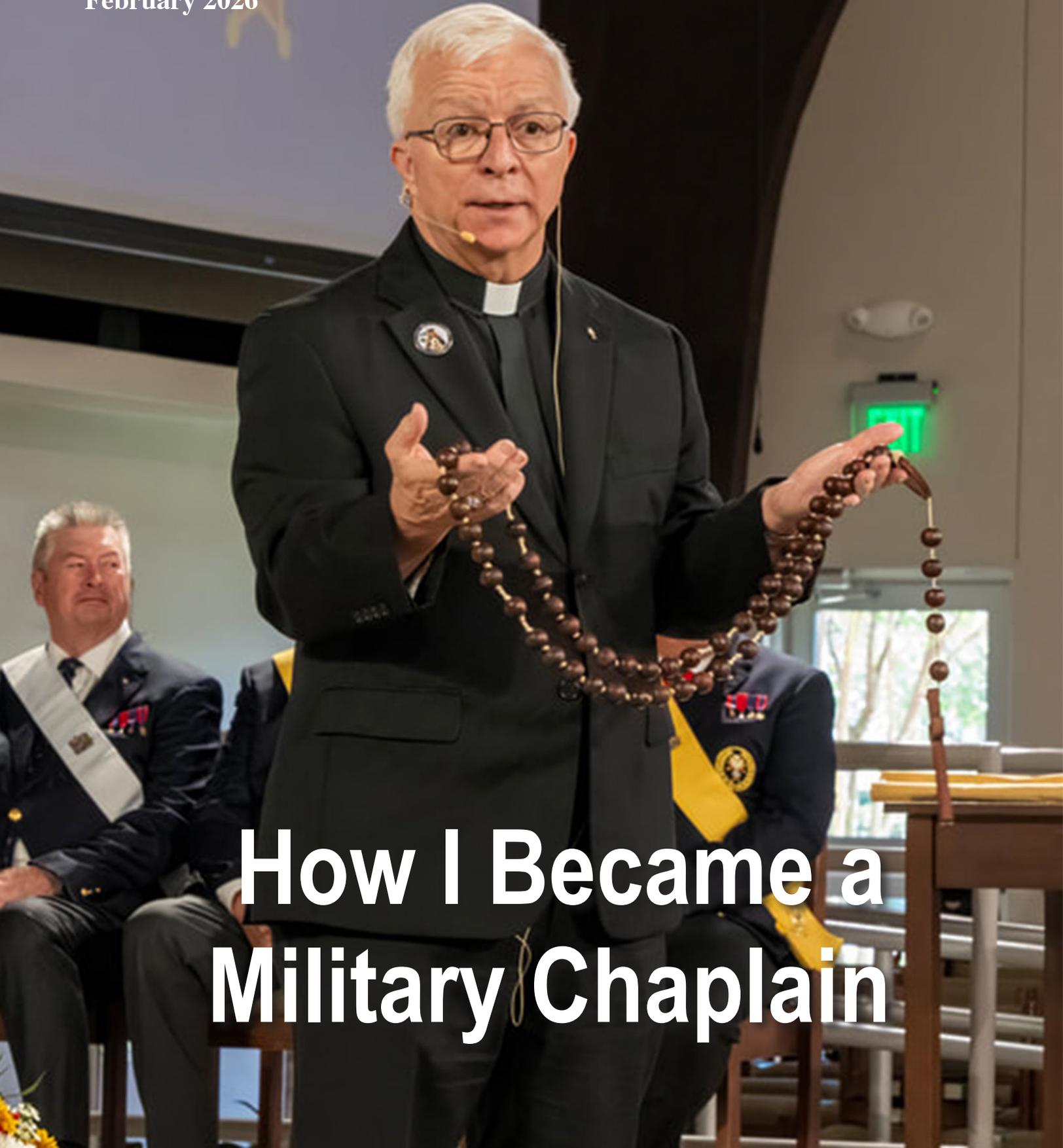


# INVOCATION

February 2026



**How I Became a  
Military Chaplain**

# How I Became a Military Chaplain

*By Father Christopher Hoffmann*



**W**hen I entered the seminary, I never really had any thoughts of being in the military or being a chaplain. My first experience with military was when I was a seminarian at St. Mary's in Baltimore and I had some friends in the ROTC.

They mentioned how important it was for them to have a chaplain who helped get them settled in their new place. I really respected that, and I thought it was a real great idea to be able to have some connection with their faith and also with the military.

I said to myself, "I can do that, I think I can manage that," so finally I asked the Orlando Diocese Bishop Thomas Grady and said I'd like to do this. He had an affinity for chaplains, and

had no problem sponsoring me. But he didn't want me to go active duty and lose me as a result for my whole career. So, I said, "That's fine, I'm happy to be a reservist."

And so it happened, and I was in the reserve for most of my 24 years in the military.

There is no "chaplain seminary." You have to be sponsored by your own diocese, and the training happens on an individual base. I was at St. Mary's in Baltimore, and I was able to do the military service during my time off.

As a seminarian, I was a chaplain candidate. Once I got ordained, then I could become a full chaplain, because then I had the ability for confidentiality and that sort of thing. I started out as a Second Lieutenant, then went up the ranks and

eventually I was Lieutenant Colonel when I retired.

Most of time I was able to be at Patrick Air Force Base, which was relatively close to where I lived, so it was easy for me to do my reserve duty and still come home at the end of the day. It didn't seem to take too much time away from my home parish, or put additional burdens on my associate pastors. Sometimes I didn't even have an associate pastor, so I had to figure out a way to make sure it would all work.

But it did work. Also, I got bonuses as well in the sense that I got to meet a lot of young guys and gals, and I was able to help them through both difficult times and fun times.

Near the end of my career before I retired in 2009, they needed volunteers and I was given the option for a four-month deployment at the Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, the largest U.S. military installation in the Middle East, and home of the Air Force Central Command.

Finally, after all those years in the Air Force, it was really great to experience how all of the pieces fit together at a big base, and also in a deployed location. I got to see the big picture, and see and enjoy time with guys and gals from around the world, because we had literally people from a lot of different nations also with us there at that base. It was varied work, sometime working with blood drives and writing articles for their newsletter.

On some nights, cadets would want to chat about military service; they put up with a lot of privation and difficulties and moves; some of the guys were Marines and they talked about how they were being shot at regularly. I thought, here I am, having a good time at the base and not worrying about those kinds of things.

In conjunction with that, one of the other jobs that the Catholic chaplain has is to go to the base in Saudi Arabia to have a Mass for the folks that were there. They were not all in the military, but because there was a priest there, they would come



from all over. They had to be secretive – they wouldn't ask when the Mass was, they asked "When is the appointment?"

I kept doing it and enjoyed it, and then it was time to go home. Some priests go even for short deployments and get to like it, and want to stay.

I'm so appreciative of all the sacrifices the people in the military make throughout their lives so that we are able to have the freedom that we do. I am honored to have been able to serve them as their chaplain.



# February: Short but Powerful

**F**ebruary not as a short month, but as a powerful one. February arrives with a quiet but powerful invitation for the Knights of Columbus of the Florida State Council: to rediscover love, renew our commitment to family, and reignite our spiritual momentum after the slower pace of December and January. As the world turns its attention to Valentine's Day, we are reminded that love is not merely a sentiment or a fleeting emotion, but a vocation rooted in sacrifice, faithfulness, and service. This is a month that calls us, as Catholic men, husbands, fathers, and brother Knights, to lead with hearts anchored in Christ and hands ready for action.

The celebration of Valentine's Day gives us a natural opportunity to reflect on the importance of family. The family is the first domestic church, the place where faith is planted, nurtured, and lived daily. It is within the home that children first learn what love looks like, not through words alone, but through example. The Knights of Columbus has always understood that strengthening families strengthens the Church, and strengthening the Church transforms society. In Florida, our councils have long embraced this mission, supporting marriages, uplifting widows, mentoring young men, and standing beside families in moments of joy and moments of trial. Love, when lived authentically, becomes a witness to the Gospel itself.

Florida is a great and unique state, rich in cultural diversity, vibrant parishes, and a rapidly growing Catholic population. From the Panhandle to the Keys, our State Council reflects this diversity while remaining united in charity, unity, and fraternity. We serve in urban centers and rural communities, along coastal cities and inland towns, always guided by the same mission: to bring men and their families closer to Christ. The strength of Florida lies not only in its size or growth, but in the willingness of its Knights to answer the call wherever the need arises.

This year is especially significant as we welcome

new bishops and newly ordained priests within several dioceses across the state. These shepherds are gifts from God, entrusted with guiding His people in faith and truth. As Knights of Columbus, we have a solemn duty to support them through prayer, collaboration, and active engagement in parish life. Our priests and

bishops rely on strong, faithful laity to help carry the mission of the Church forward. When Knights step up in humility and service, we become true partners in evangelization. Let us take this moment to recommit ourselves to praying for vocations and encouraging young men to listen courageously to God's call.

The months of December and January often bring a natural slowdown. The holidays, family gatherings, and the beginning of a new calendar year can shift our focus and energy. While these seasons are important, February reminds us that the fraternal year continues and the work of Christ never pauses. Now is the time to pick up our spiritual pace, to refocus our councils, and to reengage with renewed purpose. Spiritual growth does not happen by accident; it requires intention, discipline, and community. This is the moment to return to prayer, the sacraments, and active participation in council and parish life.

February challenges us to lead with love that is visible and transformative. Love that reaches out to the lonely, the struggling, and the forgotten. Love that defends life, supports vocations, and strengthens marriages. Love that reflects Christ's self-giving sacrifice. When Knights live this love authentically, our families grow stronger, our parishes become more vibrant, and our councils become beacons of hope within their communities.

As we move forward into the heart of the



*State Deputy  
Michael P. Gizewski*

fraternal year, let us embrace February not as a short month, but as a powerful one. A month to recommit to our families, to our faith, and to one another. A month to support our new bishops and priests, to renew our councils spiritually, and to live out the mission of the Knights of Columbus

with renewed passion. Together, as brothers in Christ, we can transform love into action and ensure that the Florida State Council continues to be a strong and faithful witness to the Gospel now and for generations to come.

## Golf Tourney Places Ultrasound Machine



**C**hrist the King Council #12165 of Tampa raised more than \$19,000 from the proceeds of its annual Golf Tournament in July. The donation, which was matched by the Supreme Council through its Ultrasound Initiative, went to purchase a state of art diagnostic machine which was installed in the Knights Women's Center in Tampa.

The Knights of Columbus Annual Golf Tournament has raised more than \$110,000 in the past four years for local charities in Tampa Bay.

Celebrating 28 Years of Service to Christ the King Parish and Tampa Bay, the Knights of Columbus are proud of their efforts to support those in need through the proceeds of their event.

The theme of this year's golf tournament is "Fore the Good of Tampa Bay" and the named

benefiting charities including the Florida Knights of Columbus Charities as well as the following Local Charities: Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Spirit FM 90.5 and Project Shoes.

Previous benefiting charities have included: Christ the King School; Feeding Tampa Bay; Society of St. Vincent de Paul; Cristo Rey High School; Habitat for Humanity; Special Olympics; Disaster Assistance; Knights Women's Clinic; Tunnel to Towers; Exceptional Adults; Metropolitan Ministries; and Wheelchairs4Kids.

Pictured are Josie Santos, DMS, Lou Richardo, Director Catholic Charities, Gene D'Amore, Grand Knight, Walt Pjetraj, DDW and Knights from Christ the King Council 12165, who are gathered around the Ultrasound Machine

# From Feast to Fast

*By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

“When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites.” - Mt. 6:16

Most of us like a good party. Mardi Gras, sometimes called “Fat Tuesday,” represents that practice, a last hurrah before entering Lent, and it has long stood in faith and culture. The world has tended to extend the celebration, even to the exclusion of what follows, the prayer, fasting and almsgiving of Lent. I guess we shouldn’t be surprised, and so communities and even theme parks have stretched celebrations of Mardi Gras well into Lent. I imagine they ask themselves, “Why spend only a day for festivities that can rake in tourist dollars for a month or more?” For people of faith, the answer is clear.

Knights of Columbus and their families make the turn from a day of enjoyment to a season of preparation for the celebration of our salvation, and that’s spiritually healthy. It leaves us ready to embrace Holy Week when we recall and enter into the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. Fasting is one Lenten practice which tells our bodies this is no normal 40 days. Bodily hunger feeds a spiritual need. A growling stomach can give us a disposition to better appreciate the One who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Some people engage in what is known as intermittent fasting, confining daily food intake to eight or fewer hours each day. Aside from the weight they have reported losing, it seems the body can benefit from fasting. And there’s something about fasting that fortifies the spirit. Jesus experienced that during his own 40 days without food before entering public ministry,

successfully rebuking the devil and rejecting all his temptations. A 40-day fast might not be healthy for you, but some element of fasting joined to prayer and almsgiving puts us in a place we might not otherwise be ... seeing more acutely the starving in the world ... perceiving the food we waste or take for granted ... and feeling hunger which we may not otherwise experience when we eat when we like, often too much.

Together, let’s make Lent a time to grow closer to Christ. Attend Mass on Ash Wednesday if able and see the ashes you receive as an outward sign of who you are and how you were saved. They will also say something to the world, so don’t be too quick to wash them off. If your health and age permit, fast according to the Church’s Lenten guidelines on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and abstain from meat on Fridays. Maybe you can fast even more than that, if not from food, then perhaps some other pleasure. We’re blessed to be in a nation of abundance, but don’t let that keep you from denying yourself in some way, so that we will grow spiritually and never deny the One who gave his life for us. Vivat Jesus!



*State Chaplain  
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*



**The 2026 Florida State Basketball Free Throw Championship** will be held on Saturday, March 7, at Melbourne Central High School.

The school is located at 154 East Florida Avenue in Melbourne.

# A Deacon's Journey

*By State Treasurer Rich Dahn*

**M**y greatest gift after becoming a husband and father was being ordained as a permanent deacon. While my ordination took place only recently, in May 2025, the impact of this calling has already been profound.

I have been blessed with the privilege of ministering to many people—strengthening faith, offering encouragement, and walking alongside those in moments of need. Through it all, one truth has become ever clearer: it is our relationship with God that shapes who we are. He has chosen each of us to play a unique and meaningful role in the life of the Universal Church.

At Mass not long ago, the Gospel of Matthew reminded us that we are called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. These words are both comforting and challenging. God does not call us to live for ourselves alone, but for the sake of others. It is through service, sacrifice, and love that we fulfill our Christian mission.

As a husband and father, I have learned that vocation is not something we live only at certain moments. It shapes every part of our lives. The lessons I learn at home—patience, sacrifice, forgiveness, and love—carry directly into my ministry as a deacon. When I walk with someone who is suffering or stand at the altar, I do so not as someone with all the answers, but as someone who has learned that God works most powerfully through humility and presence.

My involvement with the Knights of Columbus has opened my eyes to just how tangible this calling can be. Our society faces countless needs—some urgent, others quiet and unseen—and the Knights provide practical, faith-filled ways to respond. The programs and ministries of the Knights of Columbus make it possible to live out the Gospel not just in words, but in action.

Over my 20 years as a Knight, I have been blessed to stand shoulder to shoulder with remarkable

men. Together, we have responded to natural disasters, addressed food shortages, supported the Special Olympics, and served our communities in countless other ways. These experiences have revealed the strength of fraternity rooted in faith. They have also given me the joy of inviting other men in our parish—men searching for belonging and purpose—to discover that same sense of brotherhood and service.

In many ways, the Knights of Columbus have become a modern-day “city set on a hill,” a visible and reliable source of light by which others can navigate their journey toward holiness and happiness. Their witness reminds us that faith flourishes when it is lived together.

My vocation as a deacon and my involvement with the Knights of Columbus have blended seamlessly and beautifully. Whether assisting at Mass during state events, quietly comforting someone grieving the loss of a loved one, or simply welcoming new members at a COR meeting, I am continually amazed at how God’s plan unfolds—often in ways I never anticipated.

Each encounter, each act of service, reaffirms that God wastes nothing. He uses every “yes,” every step taken in faith, to build His Kingdom. It is my prayer that He blesses me with many more years of service—serving His people as a deacon and serving alongside my brothers as a member of the Knights of Columbus.



*State Treasurer  
Rich Dahn*

# Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

*By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori*

“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me.” (Gospel for Feb. 1, Mt 5:11)

**I**n the next verse, Jesus continues, “Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you” (Mt 5:12b). His words imply that his disciples are prophets in their own right, following after the prophets of old. Indeed, as his disciples, we become priests, prophets and kings by virtue of our baptism. In our prophetic role, we are called to speak God’s truth even when it is unpopular in the eyes of the world.

**Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month, I challenge you to learn more about the Church’s teachings on one or two

contemporary issues that you are concerned about, so that you can better defend the truth when an opportunity arises. Look to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and booklets from the Order’s Catholic Information Service ([kofc.org/cis](http://kofc.org/cis)) as resources.

**Questions for Reflection:**

Do you shy away from speaking the truth because you fear opposition or repercussions? Does your silence on issues of faith or morals sometimes give others the false impression of agreement? How do you make sure you are being respectful and charitable to others when speaking the truth?

## A Unique Outdoor Exemplification

**M**aster Robert Urrutia announced that the Florida District of the Degree De Soto Province will close the 125th anniversary year celebration of the KofC Fourth Degree with a unique outdoor Exemplification at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche in St. Augustine.

The ceremony will take place at dusk on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the giant outdoor cross at Mission Nombre De Dios Mission, which was originally built in 1609. Father Timothy M. Lindenfelser, Rector of the Shrine, will be the Exemplification honoree.

Since there will be no banquet following the ceremony, the candidate fee is \$70, and the fee for a Priest is \$35. The ceremony is free for family,



friends and observers.

The schedule calls for registration beginning at 2 p.m., followed by a walking rosary at 3 p.m., Mass at the rustic altar at 4 p.m. and the Degree Ceremony at 5:15 p.m.

Details are posted on [www.floridakofc.org](http://www.floridakofc.org).

# Council Provides Coats For Kids



**S**t. Peter the Apostle Council 15779 in Trinity, FL. recently took advantage of the Supreme BOGO Coats for Kids program and presented three deserving schools with a total of 288 lightweight jackets (12 cases). The schools were James Marlowe Elementary in New Port Richey, Gulf Trace Elementary and Cote River Elementary, where 86-94 percent of the students are economically disadvantaged.

The teachers all commented the timing was perfect, as the weather was about to turn cooler, and how the kids look forward to receiving the jackets. Only a sample of the children was available, but the teachers were very appreciative and assured the Council that all the coats would be distributed to those who need them.

This was the fourth year the Council has presented the jackets to these deserving schools, but with the BOGO program, we are able to



service twice as many deserving children. They are working on additional funding as the need continues grow in Pasco County.

Knights who attended included Phil Bitner, Grand Knight; Nunzio Scorcio, Program Director; Tom Ferrell, Recorder; and Mike Lockwood, Deputy Grand Knight. Also in attendance was Larry Bellegire, District Deputy 36.

# Council Hosts Vets Lunch



**B**ishop Verot Assembly 166 of St. Augustine continued its partnership with Lassen Veterans Home by organizing a picnic-style lunch for all 120 Veterans and 50 staff members at the home.

Faithful Navigator Frank Hill and Sir Knight Don Merek, both Veterans, began exploring the partnership during a visit to the home in July 2025. With several other Veterans in the Assembly, they thought it would be appropriate to offer their services to the Veterans' Home as an integral part of their Patriotic activities, Veterans honoring Veterans.

During the initial visit, they brought toiletries, books, and magazines, which were gratefully received. In the following months, they continued to inquire about further assistance, and asked if there was a list of specific needs. Activity Director Richie Inman subsequently compiled a wish list of items intended to enhance the residents' quality of life during their stay at the facility. Many of the items have been obtained through donations by Assembly members, their families, and social

media outreach.

On January 13th, 2026, Assembly 166 organized a picnic-style lunch for the center's Veterans and staff members. The menu featured grilled hot dogs, potato salad, and coleslaw. The Assembly, which draws its membership from four different Councils, donated all the food, grilled the hot dogs, and helped with serving.

One of the members, who works at a fishing supply store, garnered a donation that provided much-needed equipment – three rods and reels in addition to various tackle items – that will allow residents to take fishing field trips.

Another member bought hats adorned with American flags, which were gifted to lucky winners of a drawing. Another member, a bagpiper, played patriotic songs. Both the music and the chance to win a hat were heartily enjoyed by the Veterans.

The Assembly now plans to make the picnic an annual tradition, and looks forward to additional opportunities to honor fellow Veterans in the future.

# Wheelchair Mission Benefits Academy



**S**t. Mary Academy and St. Martha Catholic School received three wheelchairs personally delivered by a distinguished delegation of the Knights of Columbus, followed by a tour of St. Mary Academy in Sarasota on Jan. 22.

The wheelchairs will be used to assist students in reaching the school nurse during medical emergencies, ensuring timely and safe care.

Since 2003, the Knights of Columbus have funded and delivered tens of thousands of wheelchairs throughout the United States and around the world. This generous donation reflects the organization's core mission of charity, unity, and service to those in need. It also highlights the powerful impact that partnerships between community organizations and schools can have on the lives of children.

During their visit, District Deputies and State Representatives from the Knights of Columbus were given a tour of the campus and observed firsthand the programs in place to support diverse learners. They visited classrooms, met students and teachers, and learned about the individualized care and attention provided to those with special learning needs.

What began as a tour quickly became a deeply

moving experience. The Knights were touched by the students they met and inspired by the dedication of the teachers who serve them each day. Several deputies expressed admiration for the compassion, patience, and commitment demonstrated throughout the school community.

State Secretary Ed Sleyzak, who has a grandchild with diverse learning needs, shared that he was especially moved by the devotion of the faculty and staff and by the resources available to support students. Another Knight remarked that the Diocese is fortunate to have a school specifically dedicated to serving students with special needs, providing them with an environment where they can thrive academically and spiritually.

To become a Knight of Columbus, individuals must be practicing Catholic men at least 18 years old and in union with the Holy See. Those interested can join online at [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus) for a fast, free first-year membership or contact a local council to apply directly and participate in an exemplification ceremony.

Please contact the Development Director Connie Taft, at 941-366-4010 ext. 318 to learn more about how you can help support St. Mary Academy.

# Assembly Sets Call-Out Record



**A**ssembly 2810 Color Corps, under the direction of Commander SK Frank Consentino, answered 100 call-outs during the 2025 calendar year, exceeding the assembly's prior record of 95 call-outs in 2024.

If working with the Sir Knights of his home assembly isn't enough work, Consentino has taken the additional role of coordinating call-outs in an area stretching from south Jacksonville south to Edgewater, and west to Palatka, working with Color Corps Commanders from eight other assemblies. Assembly 2810 answered all but 12 of the call-outs in the region, which averaged nearly 10 SKs in regalia in activities ranging from funerals and wakes to civic and religious ceremonies.

Consentino, 87, is now entering his ninth year as Color Corps Commander, working under Faithful Navigator Ramon Marerro. **Corpus Christi Assembly 2810** has 34 Sir Knights in the Color Corps, two more than the previous year.

In the process, Sir Knights from the assembly expended a total of 3,312-man hours in 2025. Brother SKs from eight other area assemblies expended 1,617-man hours while coordinating

with Assembly 2810. In all, the nine regional Color Corps jointly expended 4,929-man hours, an average of 8.33 calls per month.

Of the call-outs, 62 were in the Assembly's home Flagler County, with the remainder in St. John, Putnam and Volusia Counties.

SKs in regalia attended 44 funerals and/or wake services; 29 special Masses (including Confirmations, Communions, etc.); 13 Knights' events (including Third and Fourth Degree Exemplifications); and 14 civic, veteran and patriotic events.

The assembly averaged 6.25 SKs per call-out. By utilizing area-wide mutual aid in callouts, they were able to have consistently good turnouts with an average of 9.1 SKs per event.

Other participating Color Corps included **Our Lady of Hope #2794, Port Orange; Bishop Thomas Grady #2901, Ormond Beach; Archbishop Michael Curly #0165, Daytona Beach; Bishop John Neumann #1930, Deltona; Bishop Verot #0166, St. Augustine; Ave Maria #3008, St. John; Father John J Heerey # 2760 Palatka; and Father Edward Masse #2564 Middleburg.**



“There is no way that I can adequately express my deep appreciation and respect for the dedication and diligence that you my Brother Knights of North Central Florida have shown in answering our many continuing callouts, especially for funerals,” said Consentino, entering his ninth year as Color Corps Commander. “The families of our fallen Brothers are appreciative and comforted by our presence, and the honors that we render at their loved ones’ funerals.

“Also, We could not have set this callout record without the help of our Brothers in the other eight area Assembly Color Corps recognized in my report. Continuing mutual aid between us is the answer to successful callouts.”

Consentino estimates that he averages eight hours per call-out doing background work including scheduling, composing emails, phone calls, preparing photos, recruiting, outfitting training new members and filing reports.

In addition to coordinating the call-outs, Consentino makes sure to get a group photo following each ceremony.

“Take several photos, they’re cheap,” is his catch phrase.



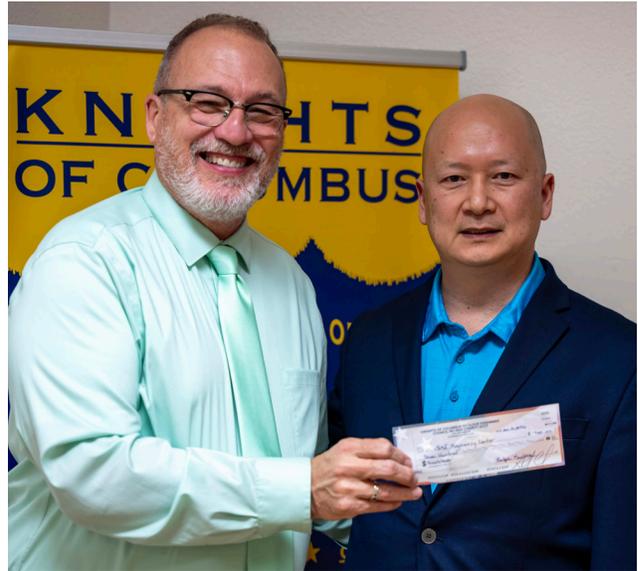
*Commander SK Frank Consentino,*

# Council Hosts Baby Shower

**G**rand Knight Robert Consolo and Pro-life Director Gerald Yeung of St. Cloud/Kissimmee Council 6624 held a baby shower for the JMJ Pregnancy Center during the January Social at the council hall again this year, on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Bob Perron, the JMJ Executive Director, provided an update for the Center in the past year -- over 600 babies were saved after women visited the Pregnancy Center. He was glowing in his praise for the Knights of Columbus, and for Council 6624 in particular, for the ultrasound machines in their three centers in Kissimmee, St. Cloud, and Orlando, and the donated baby items from diapers to car seats.

Coleen Cusick and Dr. John Hartman, a JMJ volunteer physician, described their roles at the Pregnancy Center by providing guidance and medical care not only for the duration of the pregnancy, but also for the 1st year after the baby is born. Dr. Hartman stressed that many of the



mothers are disadvantaged, and the donations of money and baby items make a huge difference. A number of Brother Knights have also volunteered at the Center as part of the partnership between JMJ and the KofC.



## Knights of Columbus® Programs



### FAITH

Our goal is to strengthen men and their families in the Catholic faith. Formation in our faith goes beyond mere facts or religious practice to an authentic connection with a loving God and his son Jesus Christ. Programs in this category are designed to...

[Learn more](#)



### FAMILY

Father McGivney sought to strengthen the familial bond of father to mother and children to parents. His vision for family life was not only financial and material aid but also spiritual strength. The majority of our time is easily spent in secular circles unless...

[Learn more](#)



### COMMUNITY

Knights are called to serve others. Our first principle is Charity – at home with our families and in our communities. When Knights of Columbus members come together as one through their council and parish, they accomplish great things.

[Learn more](#)



### LIFE

"Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition" (St. John Paul II, 1995). The urgency of the threat to a culture of life in our world cannot be misunderstood. The Knights of Columbus vigorously defends...

[Learn more](#)

INVOCATION



2026 State Deputy Tour

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> | 6:30-9:30 PM**  
 OUR LADY OF HOPE PARISH CENTER | PORT ORANGE

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PRESENT  
**CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER**  
 TO BENEFIT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
 IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

**\$55 CASINO NIGHT TICKET INCLUDES**  
**\$200 "GAMBLING MONEY"**  
 HORS D'OEUVRES, DRINKS & LIVE ELVIS SHOW!

*Dress to Impress!  
 Viva Las Vegas!*

**PLUS A CHANCE TO WIN A 2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT IN OUR VEGA-LICIOUS CAR RAFFLE!**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 AT 9:30 PM**  
 Our Lady of Hope Parish Center | Port Orange **FOR INFO, CONTACT 50CHEVYPICKUP@GMAIL.COM**

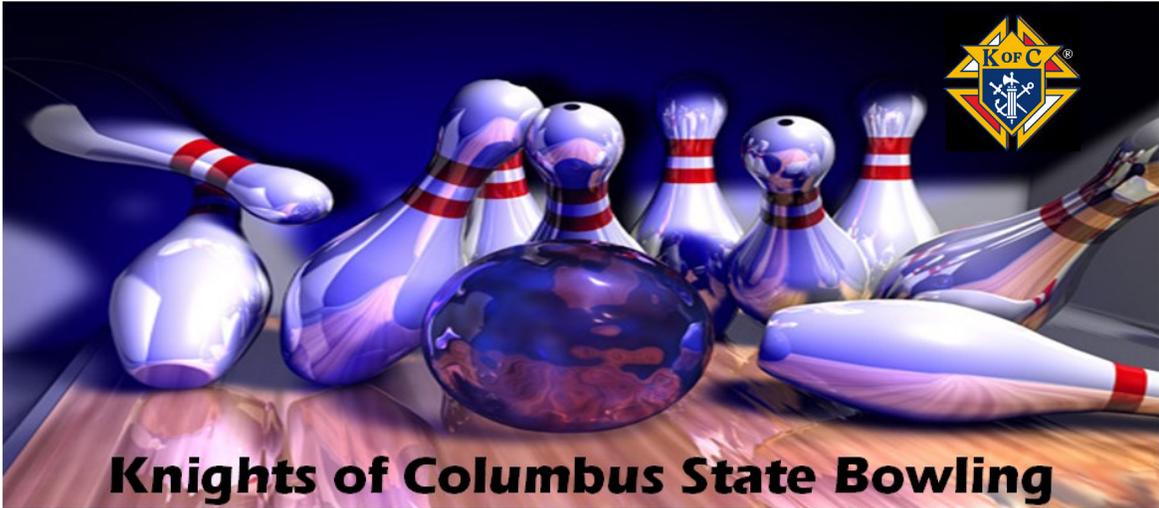
Council 8086

**D**id you know that the State of Florida Council has a YouTube Channel? Well, we do! This is a place where we can put in videos of the all the great things that we do as Knights in the State of Florida.

During the State Convention we took video interviews of some of the Dignitaries that honored us with their presence. You can

see the videos by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Please be sure to subscribe to the channel so you will be notified when new videos are added. If you have any videos that you would like to add that shows your Council doing good works please email Jim Clark, Broadcast Media Relations and Production Director at [jclark1@gmail.com](mailto:jclark1@gmail.com).



**Knights of Columbus**  
**Florida State Bowling Association**  
**WELCOMES THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**72nd ANNUAL STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT**  
**APRIL 25 & 26, 2026**

**Hosted by Msgr Martin B Power Council 14573, Melbourne, FL**

Team, Singles & Doubles Events  
 Shore Lanes Palm Bay  
 4851 Dairy Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904  
 (321) 723-7400 – Website: [infopb@shorelanes.com](mailto:infopb@shorelanes.com)

**\$100 PRIZE FOR  
 1<sup>ST</sup> 300 GAME**

USBC Sanctioned - Handicap 90% of 230  
*Proceeds to Benefit KofC Special Olympics Bowling*

	<u>Entry Fee</u>	<u>Prize Fund</u>	<u>Tourn. Expenses</u>	<u>Lane Fees</u>
Per Bowler				
Team	\$36.00	\$25.25	\$1.00	\$ 9.75
Singles	\$18.00	\$ 7.25	\$1.00	\$ 9.75
Doubles	\$18.00	\$ 7.25	\$1.00	\$ 9.75
All Events	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$ .00	\$ .00
Assoc. Fees	<u>\$ 2.00</u>	\$ .00	\$ .00	\$ .00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>			

**ENTRY DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026**



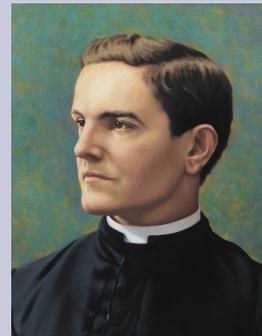
**Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney**

**G**od, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor.

*Through the example of His life and virtue 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 the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Blessed Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will.*

*Through His intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).*



## Is Your Personal Information Accurate?

**E**very member of the Knights of Columbus in the Florida jurisdiction is listed on the Florida KofC website. Financial Secretaries update council lists on the Supreme and State websites at least quarterly. To ensure your information is correct, please review the brief YouTube video link below to confirm that your personal information and your preferred contact information is correct.

The 5-minute video describes how to log on or gain initial access, and reviews how to correct or confirm your personal information.

Please note that if you are a State, Assembly or Council officer, chairman or director, you must remain subscribed to the State Council's email list. Failure to do so will result in you missing important communications concerning your position and may result in your forfeiture of that position.

Follow the instructions on the video <https://youtu.be/IVS3XkgiUs> and while you are on the site, check out the other good news and information is available to you with just a click or two.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

Evangelize and proclaim our faith, protect families, and perform works of charity.

Through our witness and deeds attract Catholic men to our Order.

Build the Domestic Church through service, support our parishes, clergy, and communities.

Incorporate principled fiscal responsibility for charitable giving.

## The Florida State Logo



### Explanation of the Florida State Council Pin 2025-2027

“**OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST**” is a powerful and fitting exhortation for the Knights of Columbus in this Jubilee Year. As men of faith, the Knights are called to welcome Christ into every aspect of their lives—into their homes, their parishes, and their communities. By echoing the words of St. John Paul II, we are reminded to live boldly and faithfully, opening our hearts to Christ’s truth, mercy, and love. Worn as a pin, it becomes a visible sign of commitment to evangelization, service, and the defense of life; encouraging all to embrace and share the Gospel in this special year of grace.

“**JESUS IN MARY’S WOMB**” is a profound symbol of the sacredness of life from its very inception. His presence as a child, unborn, reflects the divine value of every human life. The Knights of Columbus draws strength and inspiration from this mystery, standing firmly for the right to life from conception to natural death. As Mary carried the Savior of the world in her womb, so too must society recognize and protect the dignity of every human being at all stages of life.

We are a fraternity of men who love our God, love our Family, and love our country. We protect the children, we salute our veterans, and we pray to our patron Blessed Michael McGivney. We do all unashamed and with pride because we understand that which is not against us is with us. For we are the Knights of Columbus protectors of the widows and orphans, and we wear it proudly so **OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST and he shall enter.**

## Florida State Council Officers

### STATE DEPUTY

**Michael Gizewski**  
*mpgizewski@gmail.com*

### STATE CHAPLAIN

**Most Rev. Robert Kantor**  
*frbob@stagnenaples.org*

### STATE SECRETARY

**Edward Sleyzak**  
*esleyzak@outlook.com*

### STATE TREASURER

**Richard E. Dahn Jr.**  
*rdahn32@gmail.com*

### STATE ADVOCATE

**Kris Elliott**  
*kris.elliott@1980.usna.com*

### STATE WARDEN

**Richard Gallant**  
*floridaknightsofcolumbus@gmail.com*

### IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY

**Richard Hughes**  
*rhughes14084@gmail.com*

### STATE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

**Carlos Ortiz**  
*carlos.ortiz.EA@outlook.com*

### STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

**Danny McIntyre**  
*danmci@aol.com*

### STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Steve J. Zajac**  
*sjzajac@embarqmail.com*

### STATE CHARITIES DIRECTOR

**Vince Cipriano**  
*vinnie1248@outlook.com*

### STATE MARKETING DIRECTOR

**Weldon "2E" Watkins**  
*kofctuewowiii@gmail.com*

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

**Marc Anderson**  
*marcstx19@gmail.com*

# INVOCATION

**Publisher- John O'Malley** *jomalley1@cfl.com*

**Scott Huetteman** Technical & Layout Editor *fl.hutts@gmail.com*

**Harry Rother** Photographer Website: [www.kofcfoto.website](http://www.kofcfoto.website)

## Regional PR Coordinators

Region 1 Bob Gualtieri *rag130@outlook.com*

Region 2 (Open)

Region 3 John O'Malley *jomalley1@cfl.rr.com*

Region 4 (Open)

Region 5 (Open)

Region 6 Armando Minutoli *alminutoli46@gmail.com*

Region 7 (Open)

Region 8 (Open)

## Florida State Council Social Media

Your State Council is now on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube. We need all Brother Knights to participate and Let Your Light Shine.

- Go to Facebook and "LIKE" the page
- Go to X (Twitter) and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



## Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.  
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Check out the current issue of **Knightline**, a monthly resource for local KofC leaders. It is designed to help council officers plan events and activities, meet quarterly goals for the fraternal year and learn about Orderwide news. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the issue.

## COLUMBIA

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the online version of **COLUMBIA** Magazine, a publication for the Knights of Columbus.



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