

# INVOCATION

A group of men dressed as gnomes are participating in a polar plunge. They are wearing red pointed hats, white beards, blue shirts, black shorts, and yellow belts. They are running through shallow water, splashing. In the background, a crowd of people is watching the event on a sandy beach.

MARCH 2025

## Taking The Polar Plunge



# Knights ‘Take the Plunge’



**T**he Knights of Columbus participated in the Special Olympics Polar Plunge at Sea World's Aquatica Orlando on February 8.

While the waters were not icy or cold, the energy and experience made for a memorable and fun day. The Knights team was made of seven men who had been fundraising for the event weeks ahead of time, and the Knights team raised over \$7,500 and finished third in the team category.

Florida District Master and Immediate Past State Deputy Rob Urrutia was joined by Chris Berens, Tuey Watkins, William Cosgrove and Bob Higgins of the KofC State Staff. Rich Dahn and Richard Gallant also participated in the fundraising, but had outside commitments on the day of the event.

There were many other companies and organizations supporting Special Olympics, and many dressed up in costumes to visibly show support. The Knights were in costume as Gnomes, attracting a lot of attention and were sought out for photographs from Special Olympic athletes and attendees alike.

The KofC team also met a new brother Knight whose granddaughter is a Special Olympic athlete. Bob Kurtz recently moved to Haines City from the Bronx and he joined council 10484. His granddaughter is 28 years old and has been competing with Special Olympics in New York since she was 11, and he wanted to get her involved with Special Olympics in Florida and the Polar Plunge was her first activity.

She enjoyed the plunge and was able to do



several other rides at the Aquatica Water Park.

On February 6, Council 14573, Asension Polar Plungers, participated in a Polar Plunge at the beach where five Knights and two Priests, Father John Boscoe Maison and Father Zach Parker went into the cooler waters of the Atlantic. They raised \$2,850 for Special Olympics!

We are proud of our continuing support for Special Olympics and our participation in the Polar Plunge is a just a small part when you consider the amount of hours our Knights volunteer around the state at the local level. Thank you to the Brother Knights who have supported Special Olympics!

## Is Your Personal Information Accurate?

Every 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](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.



# A Time For Preparation

*By State Deputy Richard Hughes*

**I** pray that your personal Lenten journeys thus far have been fruitful. As Bishop Robert Barron has pointed out, the practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are things that we do, involving the exterior of our lives as much as the interior and spiritual part of our lives.

In the midst of our personal Lenten journeys, Councils are stepping up their services to their parishes, ramping up recruiting efforts, and trying to finish off administrative requirements for the Fraternal Year. I continue to be amazed at how much Councils contribute to the well-being of their parishes and communities in Florida by feeding the poor, providing disaster relief, promoting the culture of life, supporting vocations, and other services and programs too numerous to mention. Our pastors' work would be much more difficult without the help of the Knights of Columbus.

As we assist our pastors and parishes with various parish activities during the Lenten and Easter seasons, we should also not forget to offer the gift of membership in our Order. Men join the Knights of Columbus for many varied reasons, but one of the most important is because they see the work that we do in service to our parishes and communities.

This is also a time of preparation for our State Convention May 23-25, 2025, which will take place in Jacksonville this year. The State Convention is a great time of fraternity, networking, and celebration of our collective accomplishments in this Fraternal Year. The State Officers, Directors, and Chairmen are working hard to make your experience as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible. You can help by making sure that administrative issues are completed well in advance:

-- By the end of March, Councils should have conducted their Election of Delegates to the State Convention, and Financial Secretaries should have entered the results on the State website.

-- Individual registration must be completed

online by mid-May

-- Hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible, but no later than May 1.

Convention attendees that experience the most problems are the ones that have not properly registered for the Convention or Convention events before arriving. This is especially true for Ladies events—I cannot tell you how many times members have forgotten to register their wives for the Saturday Ladies luncheon or the Saturday evening banquet and are disappointed when there is no availability for those events when they arrive. So, please be sure your registration is complete before you arrive!

One of the great parts of the Convention is the Saturday morning awards session, where we recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the Councils in Florida. To do that, however, Councils need to help us by filling out the State Awards forms available online. We must have these forms by early April, so that we have time to evaluate the submissions and order the appropriate awards. You can't get recognized if you don't participate, so please—get those State Awards forms in!

We also plan continuing our breakout sessions on Friday afternoon—details on those will be forthcoming.

I am also very happy to announce that the Supreme Knight's representative at our State Convention will be our very own Scott O'Connor, Past State Deputy of Florida and a member of the Supreme Council Board of Directors.

I pray that your Lenten journey continues to be spiritually rewarding for each of you in this Jubilee Year of Hope!



*State Deputy  
Richard Hughes*

# Lent as a Hopeful Journey

*By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

The Church, our mother and teacher, invites us to open our hearts to God's grace, so that we can celebrate with great joy the paschal victory of Christ the Lord over sin and death, which led Saint Paul to exclaim: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Cor15:54-55).  
~ Pope Francis

**I**n his Lenten message, the Holy Father picks up on the theme of the Jubilee Year, "Pilgrims of Hope," to offer ways in which we journey, forward in faith, united in fraternity, and together in hope. Our journey as Knights is not unlike the Exodus journey of the people of Israel to the Promised Land. We are guided by the Lord who loves us and gives us spiritual tools to avoid the dangers of a 21st Century wilderness filled with temptations, pitfalls and perils. The Lenten disciplines of prayer, almsgiving and fasting help keep us on the right path.

Knights, as all Christians, are called to walk side by side, never as lone travelers. Here is where our hallmark of fraternity keeps us focused on others to avoid self-centeredness. A Knight companion can never shove or step on another or let someone be left behind or excluded. We walk in the same direction with a shared purpose toward a common goal.

Finally, we journey in hope. The Lord has given us a promise. He has already won the ultimate victory over sin and death, culminating in the resurrection. Hope does not disappoint, but it does call for conversion. This Lent may our walk with Christ open our hearts to turn away from sin and commit to greater justice, love and peace.

In recent months I have seen brother Knights rise challenges that could crush lesser men with a faith that is inspiring. They are true pilgrims of hope. They trust in the One who saved us, and they are united to brother Knights who are noble companions on the journey through some challenging wilderness territory.

May this Lent be a time for dynamic growth, in ourselves and in our Order. Why not invite other men to deepen their walk of faith with Christ by joining us? We need more companions on the journey. They will enrich us as we enrich them. May these days draw us closer to God and more dedicated to His service as faithful Knights!



*State Chaplain  
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

**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).

# Florida State Council Convention

**A**s we approach the much-anticipated Florida State Council Convention, it's time to focus on the final preparations and ensure that every detail is in place. Now is the time to "dot the eyes and cross the tees," as the saying goes, meaning it's essential to attend to the small but crucial tasks that will contribute to the success of this significant event. With hard work, dedication, and a sense of spirituality, we can make this convention a truly memorable experience for all those involved.

This convention isn't just an opportunity to come together as a council; it's a chance to reflect on the work that has been done throughout the year and to set the stage for the next. Every detail, from the logistics to the tone of the event, contributes to the atmosphere we want to create. The spirit of collaboration and unity that we foster in the lead-up to this event will undoubtedly carry through into the convention itself.

Hard work plays a vital role in making the Florida State Council Convention a success. It is through the collective effort of members that this convention will be more than just a gathering – it will be a celebration of our shared commitment to Charity, Unity and Fraternity, our community, and our mission. The dedication of all involved, from the organizers to the attendees, will ensure that every aspect runs smoothly, leaving us free to engage in meaningful discussions and fellowship.

At the heart of this gathering is spirituality that will be brought to us by our Worthy State Chaplain and the clergy that participate. It is a reminder that our work and our service are not just for the sake of the organization but are rooted in our faith and our desire to make a positive impact in Florida. As we prepare for this event, let us keep in mind the greater purpose that unites us: the opportunity to serve, to grow, and to inspire others through our actions. The convention will be a chance to renew our commitment to our values, to come together in prayer and reflection, and spend time with the Eucharist along with our brothers and sisters in

Christ.

In the end, it is not only the details that make this convention a success, but the spirit in which we approach it. By coming together with a sense of purpose, dedication, and faith, we can ensure that this year's Florida State Council Convention will be a great one – an event that will leave us all



*State Secretary  
Michael P. Gizewski*

inspired and ready to continue the work that lies ahead. Let's embrace the final moments before the event with the understanding that, through our hard work and spirituality, we are making a lasting impact on our community and on the future of our shared mission.

As we continue to prepare for the Florida State Council Convention, it becomes increasingly clear that the final stages of preparation are just as important as the groundwork laid in the months prior. The work we've done so far has set the foundation, but now it's time to take those final, deliberate steps that ensure we make the most of this incredible opportunity. It is in these final moments—when every detail is scrutinized, and every plan is put into action—that we must remember the importance of both precision and purpose.

"Dotting the eyes and crossing the tees" is more than just about making sure the small tasks are completed; it is about giving our best effort in every aspect, no matter how big or small. This attention to detail not only reflects our dedication to the cause but also ensures that we deliver a seamless experience for all participants. From making sure all logistical arrangements are in place to preparing the right environment for deep discussions and reflections, these finishing touches are the elements that will set the stage for a truly exceptional convention.



What makes this event especially meaningful is the sense of community and shared purpose that it fosters. It's a time for members of the Florida State Council to unite, not only to celebrate the accomplishments of the past but to build momentum for the work yet to come. Each of us plays an integral role in bringing the vision of the convention to life. Whether we're involved in the

organizational aspects, providing support on the day of the event, or simply attending to contribute to the collective energy, every action taken in the lead-up to this convention contributes to its success.

Always remember (OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST!)

## Council 2505 Celebrates 100-Year Anniversary



Council 2505 of Lakeland FL completed its Jubilee Year (2024 – 2025) by preparing a 50 Year Time Capsule detailing its work throughout the year. The capsule contains copies of its Planning and Business Meeting minutes, its financial statements, a roster of members, copies of monthly newsletters, and other memorabilia.

The current Knights were asked to include a note to their Brothers of 2075 outlining their personal thoughts on what Knighthood means to them and what they hoped their future Brothers would aspire to in committing to the promises of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

Also included in the capsule were blessings received from the Council Chaplin, Fr. Frank Buck. St. Joseph Pastor Fr. Luis Salazar, and a special recognition and blessing from His Excellency Bishop John Noonan, Bishop of Orlando.

Council 2505 has been awarded Start Council status in its Jubilee year and continues its ongoing

work in supporting Forty Days for Life, various other Right to Life efforts, the defeat of Amendment 4, Special Olympics, Veterans causes, active participation in parish liturgies, Lenten Studies, Fraternal Benefit seminars, disaster relief, Knights in Need, St. Vincent DePaul outreach, Catholic Charities' food programs and many other projects as outlined in the Survey of Fraternal Activities.

The capsule will not be buried but will be left under the care and protection of each Grand Knight and his successor over the next 50 years, at which time the capsule will be opened by the Grand Knight of 2075 in the presence of his Council Brothers.

A digital copy of all submissions and materials was included on a thumb drive, to the concern of many of the 2505 Knights as to whether this technology would be obsolete in 2075. Be that as it is, we know our Mission will never pass into obscurity.

# Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

*By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori*

“A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles.” (Gospel for March 2, Lk 6:43-44)

**S**cripture often reminds us that our faith must be made evident through our works, through the good that we do. If we are truly prayerful and holy in an interior way, we will also be productive in the world. Like a tree, we will be known by the fruit we produce. May we always be mindful that faith calls us to lead lives of virtue in service to God and neighbor.

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

This month, I challenge you to prayerfully identify at least one area of your life where you could bear better fruit. Then, guided by the Holy Spirit, undertake at least one concrete resolution to improve.

## **Questions for Reflection:**

To borrow an old question: If you were accused of being a Christian, would there be sufficient evidence to convict you? Where do you see room for improvement in turning your faith into action? What opportunities does the Knights of Columbus provide to help you bear good fruit?

# Council Hosts Polar Plunge

**M**sgr. Martin B. Power Council 14573 of Melbourne hosted the 2025 Polar Plunge on Feb. 6 at the beach near the Tides Club near Patrick Space Force Base, attended by a number of fellow Knights, members of the Ladies Auxiliary and Ascension Parishioners.

Before taking the brisk swim, Paston Father John Bosco Maison led the group in prayer. At 10 a.m., Father John and Father Zach Parker joined Polar Cubs SK Jim Voltaire, SK Bobbie Sullivan, SK Joe Ameigh and SK Paul Kuracz to start running into the 65-degree water. As promised, Father John joined Sullivan and Kuracz in the water for three minutes. Father John said he could have stayed in longer!



“I cannot thank everyone enough for helping us with this year's campaign,” said Council Special Olympics coordinator Kuracz. “Our Priests, Church, Council, and Ladies Auxiliary are such a blessing. As of today, we are close to raising \$2,900, which is close to our highest collection of \$2,902. Simply amazing!”



# Council Hosts Silver Rose



**S**t. Mary's Council 11961 hosted a Silver Rose Prayer Service on Monday, March 17, at St. Joseph's Monastery in Bunnell.

The Silver Rose was brought to the monastery by the Knights on Bikes. Knights of Columbus members, family and friends from councils in District #17 were in attendance: St. Mary's Council 11961 (Korona), Notre Dame Council 10514 (Flagler Beach), and Mother Seton Council 17480 (Palm Coast), with the number of attendees filling the monastery chapel.

District #17 DD Greg Gully assisted with the coordination and planning of the event with the Council 11961 leadership. Knights of Columbus members of the religious, Father Robert Marcin Marciniak, Father Grzegorz R. Góra, Brother Patrick Gemmato and Deacon John Harvey planned the religious aspects of the prayer service. The Corpus Christi Assembly 2810 Fourth Degree Color Corp provided the Honor Guard. The Silver Rose was placed on a stand next to the main altar. The lectern was covered with a linen cloth that had an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Silver Rose Prayer Service booklets were made available for attendees as they entered the chapel.

Fr. Marciniak and Fr. Góra concelebrated Holy Mass to begin the service. Bro. Gemmato led the singing of Marian and Eucharistic hymns during the Mass. The homily was given by Deacon Harvey. He gave a detailed account of the history of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the impact it had on Catholicism in Mexico. He explained that within ten years of the miraculous appearance of Mary's image on Juan Diego's tilma, over nine million people were baptized into the Catholic faith.

Following Mass, Fr. Góra led the congregation in praying the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary. The rosary took place while the Blessed Sacrament was exposed in the monstrance on the main altar. Father then led the congregation in the 'Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary'. After the final blessing, the Silver Rose was processed out of the chapel. It was given to the Knights on Bikes to carry to the next location in its planned move throughout the state of Florida.

A light reception was held after Mass and the conclusion of the program.



# Silver Rose Stops at Miramar

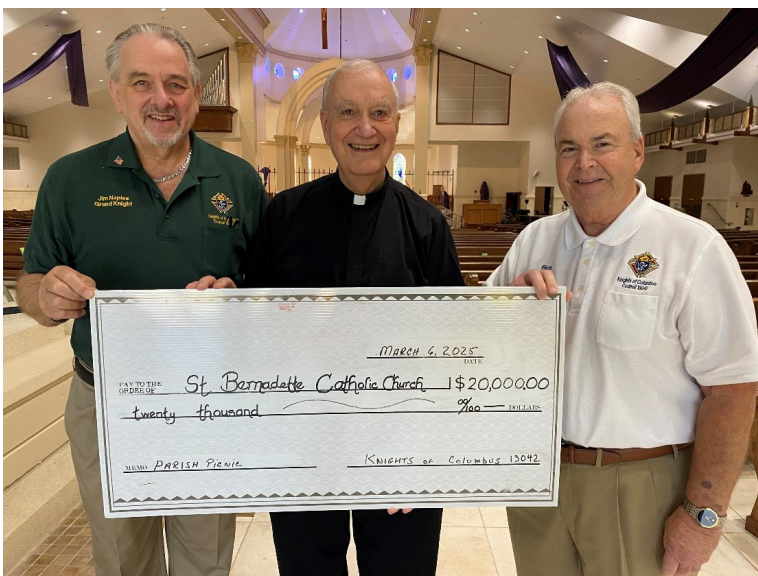


**T**he Miramar community of St. John XXIII Catholic Church was blessed to receive the Silver Rose early this year in the 8 am Mass on Sunday, February 23.

The members of Council 14390 hosted a special Silver Rose Mass and the Knights on Bikes of the Archdiocese of Miami escorted the Silver Rose to the altar. The Fourth Degree Color Corps of

Archbishop Ambrose de Paoli Assembly 3128 served as guards.

The Mass was presided by Father Julio de Jesus, who is also a fellow Knight on Bike and member of both Council 14390 and Assembly 3128. Father Julio dedicated the special service to Respect of Life and the devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe.



**St. Bernadette Council No. 13042 of Port St. Lucie** was ready to step up when Pastor Father Victor Ulto presented them with a challenge.

When Grand Knight Jim Naples asked earlier this Fraternal Year what can the Knights do for the parish, Father Ulto responded that the Parish Life Center needed to have either a new rug or flooring installed.

The Knights responded, "No problem," and presented a \$20,000 check to help defray the costs of the new flooring.

The check included funds from the recent Parish Picnic and 50/50 raffle, as well as other funds raised by the Knights.



# Casino Night Raises \$100,000



Our Lady of Hope Council 8086 spearheaded the second annual Casino Night at the Our Lady of Hope Father O'Leary Parish Center on Friday, Feb 28, which raised approximately \$100,000 for Catholic education.

Proceeds will benefit Catholic schools in the Orlando Diocese Eastern Deanery, including Father Lopez Catholic High School in Daytona Beach, Sacred Heart School in New Smyrna Beach, St. Peter in Deland, St. Paul in Daytona Beach, St. Brendan the Navigator in Ormond Beach, and Lourdes Academy in Daytona Beach.

The highlight of the evening was the raffle of a 2023 Ford Bronco Sport SUV valued at over \$27,000 that was donated by Larry Mullinax, owner of Mullinax Ford. Jennifer Stears of New Smyrna Beach – who was present at the event – won the car.

Funds raised will be used for scholarships, infrastructure, instructional materials, programs and continued building of an endowment to benefit Catholic education in the

future. Last year's inaugural efforts raised \$60,000 and enabled the establishment of the endowment.

Knights from Father Downey Council 4934 of New Smyrna manned the bank for the event. Other participants included Our Lady of Hope Fourth Degree Assembly 2794, and West Volusia Council 6274 St. Peter Catholic Church.

Expanded from last year with additional game tables, Casino Night attracted a capacity turnout.





# Central Laps for Life



**K**nights from the Orlando area teamed to host the 12th annual Central Florida Laps for Life on March 1 at Bishop Moore Catholic High School, with the goal of raising \$125,000 in support of faith-based pro-life centers.

The funds are used to purchase ultrasound equipment for pregnancy centers. To date 50 of these machines have enabled women contemplating abortion to see their unborn child and hear their child's heartbeat.

More than 300 participated. As of the day of the event, \$82,000 was pledged, with additional donations coming in.

The event gave participants the opportunity to walk or run laps around the school's track. In the infield, youth and children participated in numerous games and activities. A number of tents provided displays with various pro-life information.

Below are the standings of the Msgr. Ed Thompson Memorial Award for the top fundraising Knights' councils, as of March 1:

1. St. Thomas à Becket Council 16236 (Incarnation/St. John Fisher – two teams): \$31,549.46
2. Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council 5618 (St. Mary Magdalen – two teams): \$17,440.00

3. Fr. Richard J. Lyons Council 5357 (All Souls/Nativity, Sanford – actually two teams, likely by mistake): \$10,070

4. St. James Council 12402: \$3,675

5. Holy Family Council 11488 (Deacon Edgar Jecino – not listed as a team): \$3,620

6. Most Precious Blood parish (Oviedo; no Knights presence): \$3,355

7. St. Isaac Jogues Council 10462: \$2,660

8. St. Cloud-Kissimmee Council 6624: \$1,930

9. St. Augustine of Hippo Council 15266 (Casselberry): \$1,740

10. Msgr. Bishop Council 2112 (St. Joseph / Ss. Peter and Paul / Good Shepherd / St. Margaret Mary): \$1,142.55

11. Annunciation Council 12761: \$1,100

12. Our Lady of LaSalette Council 11328 (Blessed Trinity): \$700

13. St. Francis of Assisi Council 11673 (Apopka): \$600

14. Bl. Carlos M. Rodriguez Council 13116 (St. Catherine of Siena – Kissimmee): \$500

15. Our Lady of the Lakes Council 5150 (St. Charles Borromeo / St. Andrew): \$375



# Parish Holds Special Holy Hour



**A**scension Catholic Church in Melbourne recently held a special Holy Hour centered around the Icon of the Sacred Heart, hosted by Msgr. Martin B. Power Council 14573. The Sacred Heart Holy Hour included readings from Sacred Scripture and reflections on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, prayers to the Sacred Heart, and time for silent prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

About 60 Knights, Ladies Auxiliary and parishioners attended. The music and songs in the program were led by Director Doug Duca with Ascension's Gregorian schola was amazing.

The holy hour, flowing from the jubilee for the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Sacred

Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (Dec. 27, 2023 – Jun. 27, 2025), was inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Dilexit Nos* (He Loved Us).

An icon depicting the most famous image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome, was on display. This reproduction of the original image bears the blessing of Pope Francis and is one of more than 300 icons traveling across the world as part of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon Program.

SK Rich Passarella is the council's Pilgrim Icon coordinator.

**Council 1895 of the St. Paul Basilica of Daytona Beach** will hold its annual golf tournament on Saturday, April 5, at the Daytona Beach Municipal Golf Club.

The tournament supports the Pregnancy Crisis Center and other KofC charities. The format is a four-player scramble. The cost is \$75 by check or \$80 credit card, payable at the time of registration.

Individual golfers are welcome, and will be placed on a team. There is a maximum of 20 foursomes, with the cutoff March 30. Lunch will be provided.

Check-in is 7:15-8:15 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8:30. For additional information, contact Financial Secretary Russ Wetherington 407-595-8934 or email: [russref@cfl.rr.com](mailto:russref@cfl.rr.com).



# Florida State Council State Convention

## ***Important dates for the upcoming State Convention***

March 31<sup>st</sup>- Election of Delegates must be certified by the Financial Secretary

April 1<sup>st</sup>- Supreme Roster must be current to calculate the State Per Capita for the 2025-2026 FY

April 7<sup>th</sup>- Deadline submit State Award Forms

April 8<sup>th</sup>- Deadline to submit Resolutions to State Advocate

April 15<sup>th</sup>- State Rosters need to be current for the Necrology repo

May 1<sup>st</sup>- You must have your hotel reservations completed or risk not getting a room at the Hotel.

Mid-May- Individual registrations must be completed

If you have any questions or concerns about the registration process, please email [conventionregistration@floridakofc.org](mailto:conventionregistration@floridakofc.org)



# Fourth Degree to Host New Exemplification



**K**nights have the opportunity to experience the new Fourth Degree Exemplification in the Bradenton and Palm Beach areas in the upcoming months. Florida's award-winning Fourth Degree Team will host the new ceremony on April 26 at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, 12905 State Road 70 East, Lakewood Ranch; and June 14 at the Cathedral of St. Ignatius Loyola in Palm Beach Gardens.

The dynamic ceremony was unveiled on Feb. 22 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The Washington's Birthday Exemplification celebrated the 125th anniversary of KofC's Patriotic Degree.

A major change is opening the Exemplification to include spouses, families and guests. Current Sir Knights are also welcome to attend to experience the updated ceremony.

The Lakewood Ranch schedule opens with registration at 9:30 a.m., followed by the Exemplification at 11 a.m.; cocktail hour 20 minutes after the degree is completed; banquet at 2 p.m. and Exemplification Mass at 3:30 p.m. All applications for membership for the Fourth Degree and banquet reservations must be received by April 19th for this exemplification.

The Palm Beach Gardens event has a similar

schedule, except that the Mass is at 4:30 p.m. Registration ends on June 14.

The initiation fee for lay candidates, deacons and seminarians for either ceremony is \$90 (including one banquet ticket, lapel pin and processing fees) and \$50 for priests and members of a religious order. Additional banquet tickets are \$50. Candidates should register through their council Financial Secretary, who then sends a council check to the assembly's Faithful Comptroller. Banquet tickets should be purchased along with the registration. The Faithful Comptroller will then send one assembly check to Florida District Master Rob Urrutia.

The official dress for the Fourth Degree Exemplification is a dark suit, long dark necktie, plain white shirt, and black shoes. Religious may wear their clerical garb and members of the armed forces or full-time police, and firefighting officers may wear their respective dress uniforms. Members shall wear official dress plus social baldric, lapel pin and, current jewel of office. Family members (including children) should be in "Sunday best."

Don't wait until the last minute and let's celebrate and have a good time.

**HELP MAKE A CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
POSSIBLE FOR MORE LOCAL KIDS**

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FUNDRAISERS

*Eastern Deanery parishes are working together to raise funds  
for Volusia County Catholic Schools through two fundraisers:*



## 2023 Ford Bronco Sport

\* Like New \* 6 Year/100,000 mile Ford Warranty  
\* Sun roof \* Tow Package \* Lots of Extras

## BRONCO CAR RAFFLE

**TICKETS: \$100 Donation**

Only 700 Available

- Must be 18 years old to Participate
- Don't Need to be Present to Win
- Contest Rules on OLOH Website



Special thanks to **mullinax** 

**CAR RAFFLE DRAWING WILL BE HELD**

# Friday, February 28

**Our Lady of Hope Parish Center | 6 – 9:30 PM**

# CASINO NIGHT

**Dress to Impress — Roaring 20's**

**\$50 Casino Night Ticket includes**

\$200 "Casino Money" | Hors d'oeuvres | Drinks  
Professional Gaming Tables | Roaring 20s Photo Booth

**THREE WAYS TO GET CAR RAFFLE & CASINO NIGHT TICKETS:**  
Scan the QR Codes | VISIT [Ladyofhope.org](http://Ladyofhope.org) | Buy In Person Sundays After Masses

**BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!**

For info, contact SK Ernie Jackson, Council 8086, [50CHEVYPICKUP@GMAIL.COM](mailto:50CHEVYPICKUP@GMAIL.COM)





**!!!71st ANNUAL FLORIDA STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT!!!**



**PRESENTED BY**

**Knights of Columbus Saint Cloud Council 6624**

**Singles and Doubles: Saturday, April 26, 2025**

**Team (4-Person): Sunday, April 27, 2025**

**Proceeds to benefit: Special Olympics Florida State Bowling Competition**

**USBC Sanctioned - Handicap 90% of 230. Open to all KofC members & pledges, female family and significant others. For new bowlers (males) enter at 145 average; new (females) enter at 130 average.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Bowler to roll a 300 wins \$100!!!**

**Bowling at:**

***AMF Kissimmee Lanes***

***4140 W Vine St, Kissimmee, FL 34741***

***(407) 846-8844 - Website: [www.amf.com](http://www.amf.com)***

Lodging: All within 5 miles of the bowling center. Make your reservations early.

Days Inn by Wyndham Kissimmee West

4125 W Vine St, Kissimmee, FL 34741 - (407) 705-2034

1/2 mile from Kissimmee Lanes

Free coffee & breakfast item

Hampton Inn Kissimmee North

351 Centerview Blvd, Kissimmee, FL 34744 - (407) 997-7700

5 miles from Kissimmee Lanes

Free hot breakfast

For additional information, please feel free to contact

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Additional information can be found on the State website ([www.floridakofc.org](http://www.floridakofc.org)) or on our Facebook page (Kofc Florida State Bowling)

# INVOCATION

Knights of Columbus Florida State Council Newsletter

## How To Write an Article

**Newsworthy • Broad Appeal • Concise • Complete • Factual • Accurate**

**Answers the Questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why & How**

**INVOCATION reports on local council activities throughout the entire State of Florida**

- Article size: **300 words** ideal (half page) to 500-600 words max (full page)
- Articles submitted as an attachment in Word format - not in the body of an email
  - PDF submissions are for ads or promotions - not articles
- Pictures need to be sent separately as an attachment and the original pictures **Please do not format them in any way, we will do it**-- not embedded in a Word document
- **Articles need to be brief, highly relevant and actionable**
- **At a minimum, Who, What, When and Where needs to be in the first paragraph,**
- Articles need to be brief, to-the-point and **of interest** to the entire State Council
  - What is the event/activity about?
  - Whom did it benefit?
  - What was the result?
  - Who are the key players/Knights?
- **Similar story** submissions will be consolidated/batched into one article by the Editors
- Authors must submit on time per the Editor production calendar- **Deadline 1<sup>st</sup> of each month**
  - Late submittals will be placed farther down the newsletter or not published.
- Proof your article carefully for spelling and grammar before sending (**use spellcheck**)
- Document filename should reflect the office/title, i.e. State Deputy article
- Every Region needs to participate – one page of the Invocation will be dedicated to each Region respectively
  - If a region does not submit content their page will be eliminated from that issue
- Cover story submissions need to be submitted ahead of the deadline due to special photo editing
  - Cover story photos – in portrait style at least 1mb in size - not formatted or resized
  - filename "Cover Story"

Send all information:

Region 1: Robert C. Guillery [rag130@outlook.com](mailto:rag130@outlook.com)

Region 2: [Invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:Invocation@floridakofc.org)

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Region 6: Armando Minutoli [alminutoli146@gmail.com](mailto:alminutoli146@gmail.com)

For general information or questions email: [invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:invocation@floridakofc.org)





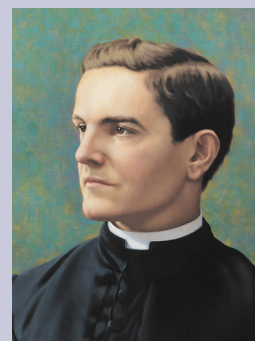
**Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney**

**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





## Florida State Council Officers

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## INVOCATION

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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 Twitter and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



## Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

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.



**DISCOVER**  
— THE —  
*Catholic*  
**DIFFERENCE**