

# INVOCATION

NOVEMBER 2025



**Jacksonville Knights Restore  
Historic Seton Hall**



# A Restoration Project For God



**F**ather Maher Council 648 in Jacksonville prepared to undertake the greatest work of service in its 123-year-old history back in March, 2018.

The original parish church building on the campus of St. Matthew's Catholic Church had fallen into a state of extreme disrepair. The building, subsequently renamed Seton Hall, required structural stabilization, a new roof, new exterior siding, replacement of windows, and complete interior restoration. There was even consideration of removing the building from the campus property. However, Seton Hall was historical and worth saving.

The building was originally constructed at Camp Blanding, Florida in the early 1940s as a military chapel for US Army soldiers undergoing combat training during the second world war. Many men prayed in this chapel prior to their deployment to the European and Pacific theaters. They prayed that they might return home to their loved ones.

In 1949, this chapel building was acquired by the Diocese of St. Augustine and moved overland to the new campus property of St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Jacksonville. It functioned as the original parish church until the completion of

the new parish sanctuary in 1955. From that time onward, the building was used for many purposes, but primarily for storage and as a classroom for the St. Matthew's Catholic School. Unfortunately, over time, this historical building gradually fell into a state of significant deterioration, both externally and internally. Resources of the parish

were focused on higher priority projects to include a capital campaign to build a new parish hall and make improvements to the existing school. As a result, Seton Hall suffered from a lack of attention and resources.

In 2018, Father Maher Council 648, the second oldest Knights of Columbus Council in the State of Florida, was meeting in a small room in the newly improved school building. The council was in desperate need of a much larger, dedicated meeting space. After much deliberation and prayers, the decision was made to approach our parish priest, Father Jose Kulathinal, and offered our time, talent, and treasure to restore Seton Hall as a meeting space for our council functions. We were convinced that Seton Hall, a great historical building, was worth saving. We knew that without our intervention, this original parish church building was most likely going to be torn down. After a period of nervous waiting, we were elated

to hear that Father Jose accepted our offer as a work of service to church and faith.

So, in the Spring of 2018, we began the task of restoring this great building, not fully realizing the enormity of the task before us. Over a period of the next fifteen months, we would donate thousands of hours of labor and much treasure to the completion of this project. Despite fatigue, frustration, and delays along the way, we never lost faith that we could accomplish what we set out to do. Our faith in God, gave us the strength to persevere.

The first task at hand was the removal of the large asbestos lined pipe at the apex of the ceiling. This involved removal of the drop-down ceiling so that scaffolding could be erected to reach the area. Our Advocate became involved to make sure we followed Florida law regarding the proper removal and disposal of asbestos material. This project involved the wetting of the material while wearing protective masks, wrapping of cut sections in heavy plastic sleeves, and removal to a dump site with arrangements for burial in a special area for hazardous materials.

Next was the complete demolition of the interior space to include the choir loft. While wearing protective masks, we removed all drywall to uncover the wooden framing. In doing so, we exposed the beautiful oak paneling lining the walls, and after removal of the drop-down ceiling, we exposed the gorgeous oak ceiling and skillfully crafted oak beams supporting the roof structure. After erecting scaffolding to the ceiling, we were then able to restore the oak ceiling and beams by applying stain and oil restoration as necessary. The oak paneling pieces were individually removed, numbered, planed, sanded, re-stained, brushed with polyurethane, and carefully reinstalled with new trim.

Funds were disbursed to hire multiple subcontractors to handle roofing, windows, exterior siding, plumbing, electrical, drywall, HVAC, and carpeting. Framing carpenters were hired to construct a new stairwell to the choir loft area. Brother knights installed light fixtures and ceiling fans and painted the entire interior space. An artist was hired to paint a huge Knights of

Columbus emblem on the renovated wall space.

Separate and dedicated office spaces were constructed for both the Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator. The renovated choir loft area was given over to use by the Fourth Degree and an artist rendition of the Fourth Degree emblem was applied to the wall space. Also, the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Augustine were hired to construct a new stained-glass window to replace the older, damaged one above the front entrance.

The project was completed in the late Spring of 2019. Final steps included improving the front landscaping, installing two new flag poles and exterior lighting, and placing a freshly painted statue of the Virgin Mary in the rock garden area.

As brother knights of Father Maher Council 648, Knights of Columbus, we are proud to have completed this restoration project for God and church. Strengthened by faith, much can be accomplished in this world. This project stands as evidence of that truth. *Vive fidem tuam* (live your faith).





# A Job Well Done!

**A**t the conclusion of the first quarter of our fraternal year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the work we've done and to offer a heartfelt message to my Brother Knights across our councils.

To each of you: job well done. Truly. It fills me with pride and gratitude to witness your steadfast dedication to the mission of the Knights of Columbus and the direction of the Florida State Council. You have carried yourselves with dignity, acted with integrity, and served with a deep sense of purpose. Through your commitment, you have brought honor to our Order, and I want you to know how much that means not just to me, but to the countless individuals and families whose lives you've touched.

Every time you step forward whether it's for a council event, a charitable act, a parish support activity, or simply in brotherhood you embody the spirit of Father Michael McGivney. Your actions speak volumes. They echo our foundational principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. And while it is easy to get caught up in numbers, events, and reports, let us never lose sight of the deeper impact we are called to make lifting those in need, strengthening our parishes, and being spiritual leaders in a world that desperately needs hope.

I must say, you make my role as State Deputy not only easier, but more joyful. To walk alongside men of such character and conviction is a blessing. You are building up our Church, our communities, and our brotherhood in quiet but powerful ways. Your tireless efforts often unseen and unrecognized are the backbone of what makes our Order thrive. And I thank you for every minute you've given, every sacrifice you've made, and every prayer you've offered.

Now, as the month of October draws to a close, we stand on the threshold of new opportunities. Let us not grow weary in doing good, for the harvest is coming. Let us recommit ourselves to the work

that lies ahead not because it is easy, but because it is right. Let us be the hands and feet of Christ in our parishes, neighborhoods, and beyond.

There is much to look forward to. November and December are months rich in both spiritual depth and charitable opportunity. As we prepare for the seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent, let us continue

to be spiritually grounded, charitably active, and lovingly present. Let us take time to reflect on our blessings while also renewing our commitment to serve those who may feel forgotten or alone during the holidays.

Let us lead not only with action, but with heart. The world will always need good men—men of faith, courage, and compassion. And I know with certainty that within the ranks of our the Knight of Columbus, those men are rising each day to meet the call.

To all my Brother Knights: thank you. Keep moving forward with the same spirit of unity and faith that has brought us this far. The road ahead is filled with promise, and together, we will continue to do great and holy work in His name.

Vivat Jesus!



*State Deputy  
Michael P. Gizewski*





# Time Flies - Remember To Live!

*By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

“You know neither the day nor the hour.”  
(Mt 25:13)

**T**empus Fugit; Memento Mori. Time flies, remember death. This is a message delivered to every Knight of Columbus. We heard it when we came into the Order. It's a reminder of our mortality and to live faithfully. Tragic deaths leaving families in need were one of the realities faced by our founder Blessed Michael J. McGivney in his pastoral ministry, prompting him to help keep that Latin phrase in the consciousness of our first members. Each of us must come to terms with our own mortality.

November is the month in which we celebrate All Souls Day and remember and pray for our beloved dead. Many Knights Councils will follow the laudable custom of having a Mass celebrated for their deceased Knights. Some Councils have memorials or plaques dedicated to our deceased members. It's good to remember and pray for them.

Another way we can pay homage to our predecessors who helped build a sure foundation for our Order is to honor them with our lives and work. We might say: Tempus Fugit; Memento Vivere. Time Flies; Remember to Live. In this way we would not only have a healthy sense of the limited time we have on earth but make the

most of it. Following the example and life of Jesus is a sure way to live life to the full.

We know that Jesus had great compassion for the dying and their families. He even restored life to the dead. From a little girl to his own friend Lazarus, and a young man whom we are told was the only son of a widow. This

description clues us into the fact that the young man's mother would have been in dire straits in a culture where women were so tied to the support of a husband or, if he passed, to a son. Part of our call as Knights is to be champions for widows and orphans in ways akin to Jesus and our founder.

In the spirit of Blessed Michael McGivney, may we not only remember the deceased but reach out to their survivors and care for their family members in need. It is fitting to carry on the legacy of our deceased brothers by engaging in the service and charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. This is how we “remember to live” as Catholic gentlemen. May God grant eternal rest and peace to our beloved dead, and may we live and serve in a way that honors them.

Vivat Jesus!



*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).

# Knights of Charity Keep Us Centered

Since becoming the State Advocate, I have had occasion to deal with some member Knights who have acted, not only in immoral ways, but criminal as well. It can be demoralizing.

However, with this article, I hope to share two stories of amazing charity and love for our brother Knights and their families that have brought me back to center.

Norman Sutter is a member of Our Lady of the Sea Council 7272 in Gulf Breeze, the Panhandle. The youngest of his 12 grown children has Autism. After years of caring for Aly they found a home for her in the ADP Group home operated by East Coast Habilitation Options (ECHO) in Palm Coast.

Norman contacted the Grand Knight of Mother Seton Council 17480, Palm Coast, Ralph Esposito, to see if someone could take Aly to Mass. Knights Bob Daly and Jeff Hadley stepped forward and have taken Aly to Mass on many Sundays. As Norman reports: "The difference has uplifted her spirits tremendously! What a blessing these men have bestowed upon our daughter. A week ago, Jeff Hadley volunteered at a Special Olympics softball game, and Aly was there! Jeff made her day by being involved. He also arranged for Aly to receive an early birthday blessing from Fr. Jose with a Holy water sprinkling. You have truly

fulfilled the Fraternal and Charity charges of our Exemplification!"

Another Knight in the Panhandle, a member of St Peters Council 8910, Cris Brooks, was on military deployment overseas. His daughter had a severe injury and had to be taken to Chicago for treatment. His wife, Nora, became stuck in Chicago with limited funds and no

one to turn to except the Knights, specifically Cris Dosev of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Council 11125. Along with Cris Dosev, all four councils of District 4, St. Marys Council 4444, Council 7272, Mario Alberghini Council 13277 and 8910, stepped up, collected and donated funds for Nora to stay in Chicago, allowing their daughter to receive the medical treatment that she so desperately needed. Council 13277 also held a fundraising drive at St. Sylvester Church for the Brooks family, with the help of Region 1 Chaplain, Fr. John Kelly and DD4 Neal Carter.

Yes, indeed, we have men who exemplify the principles of our beloved Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.



State Advocate  
Kris Elliott



**Lake Placid Council's Tootsie Rolls support Miracle League**

Brothers Knights from Pope John Paul I Council 7245 in Lake Placid recently presented funds raised from their Citizens with Disabilities Tootsie Roll drive to members of the Miracle League.

The Miracle League enables children with disabilities to enjoy the game of baseball in a unique setting.

The brothers also served free Sno Cones!



# Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

*By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori*

“You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” (Gospel for Nov. 16, Lk 21:17-19)

**J**esus promised his faithful disciples many things — that he will always be with us, that we will receive if we ask, and that he would give us rest. He also promised that we would be hated and that we would be persecuted for the sake of his name. We must persevere and remain faithful despite the hardships we suffer for our faith. May we always put into action St. Paul’s admonition: “Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer” (Rom 12:12).

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

This month, I challenge you to learn more about the lives of the saints by selecting one or more martyrs to read about and then reflecting on how you can imitate his or her perseverance and hope.

## **Questions for Reflection:**

Have you ever struggled with hope when life has brought challenges? Have you ever experienced bigotry, rejection, hostility or hatred on account of your Catholic faith? What are some concrete ways you can seek to grow in perseverance to face life’s difficulties?

# A Night At The Races

**K**nights of Columbus St. Cloud/Kissimmee Council 6624 hosted the annual 'Night at the Races,' a fundraiser for the local chapter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, on Saturday evening, October 11.

Because of the Christopher Columbus holiday; his Italian heritage, and because he is the namesake of our Order, they honored Christopher Columbus during the event.

First, the Color Corps of the Father Holmes Assembly 1951 presented the Colors with both the USA and Italian flags to kick off the event. Later, Gerry Yeung, the Color Corps Commander, read a Knights of Columbus resolution highlighting why Christopher Columbus is still important today for both our Order and our Faith.

It was a fun evening of music, good Italian food,



and friendship. As part of the 'Night at the Races', guests were invited to place bets on their horses using monopoly money with all the proceeds going to local charities. The horse sponsored by

Council 6624 won the final race, and Grand Knight Robert Consolo donated the \$500 prize back to the Sons and Daughters of Italy for their charities.

# Safe Haven Baby Box Blessing



The journey to installing a Safe Haven Baby Box in Flagler County was inspired by the story of the mother that surrendered her newborn little girl to a Safe Haven Baby Box at a fire station in Ocala, Florida. Not only did the birth mother open up untold opportunities for her infant daughter, but unknowingly answered the prayers of the firefighter that responded to the alert that an infant had been surrendered. The firefighter and his wife were unable to have children and were seeking to adopt. They were later able to adopt little Zoe and become a family.

PGK Bryant Perszyk and now, current Grand Knight, kick-started the project at a Notre Dame Council 10514 officer's meeting. He outlined the goal of the project and the dollars needed to fully fund the effort. The officer's and council members quickly approved the initiative.

Coordination between 'Safe Haven Baby Boxes', Flagler County and Palm Coast City Government officials was critical to the success of the project. Palm Coast Council Member and

Brother Knight Charles Gambaro provided the council with a liaison to keep things moving along. Palm Coast Fire Station #25 Fire Chief Kyle Berryhill and Chief Pat Juliano were instrumental in assisting with the installation planning at their fire station. The requirements of the baby box installation as well as the need to ensure the anonymity of the of the person surrendering a child necessitated construction modification at the fire station.

The Palm Coast City Council had to formally approve the project. No government funds were used in this endeavor. All Knights of Columbus councils in District #17 contributed financially to the project. In addition, the Palm Coast Kiwanis Club, elementary students from the Palm Coast Kiwanis Kids, and parishioners from Santa Maria del Mar Church donated a total of over \$41,000 to complete the project. The Culver Construction Company installed the device.

Monica Kelsey, Founder of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, gave a presentation during the dedication ceremony. She spoke in a gentle rain as it fell



outside of the fire station. The crowd of almost 100 people listened as she gave witness to her personal journey. Her own mother was encouraged to have a back-alley abortion. At the last moment, she decided against an abortion. She was hidden away for the remainder of the pregnancy. Unable to take care of her newborn daughter, her mother surrendered Monica to a small hospital in Ohio.

The Safe Haven Baby Box website states: “After spending years in the military and working as an emergency responder, Monica Kelsey took a trip to Cape Town, South Africa, where she was exposed to her first “baby box.” The experience, coupled with her own history as an abandoned infant, ignited a profound and new sense of purpose for her. Determined to make a difference, Monica founded Safe Haven Baby Boxes, transforming her personal journey into a mission to save lives and support mothers in crisis.”

Pastor and Council 10514 Chaplain, Fr. Manny Lopez, formally blessed the Palm Coast Baby Box. He also thanked all of those in attendance for giving public witness in standing for life. He praised the Knights of Columbus for their pro-life support and specifically in helping make the baby box project a reality.

The Palm Coast Baby Box is the 10th in the state of Florida and the 383rd in the United States. Baby boxes are currently in 23 states with the goal to reach all 50 states. Although the state of



Florida has laws on the books to allow a baby to be surrendered to any police station, fire station, or hospital, the Safe Haven Baby Box allows the surrender to be anonymous. The baby box is designed so that the opening on the outside is unlocked until it is utilized. Once an infant is placed in the basinet in the box the infant is safely in a climate-controlled environment. The outside access panel is locked and an alarm sounds which alerts first responders.

For more information on Safe Haven Baby Boxes, go to: <https://www.shbb.org>

## Are You A Member?

**T**he Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney.

The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics.

Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Blessed Michael J. McGivney's



cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild.

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July - August, and is sent free to Guild members.

To join the Guild, register online at: <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/> +

# Florida District Welcomes 85 Sir Knights



**C**elebrating the 125th anniversary of the Fourth Degree, the Florida District team welcome 85 new Sir Knights in the final Exemplification of the 2025 calendar year on November 1 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Wildwood.

FSD Rob Urrutia, Master of the Florida District of the De Soto Province, presided over the ceremony in the role of Master. He was joined on the Degree Team by District Friar Father Chris Hoffmann, Expositor of the Faith; Former Master John O'Toole, Historian; and Past State Deputy Donald Kahrer, Expositor of the Constitution.

Father Kenny Aquino, Pastor of host St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, was the degree honoree.

"I would like to pass along the sentiments of

Supreme Master Michael McCusker about how impressed he is with the Florida District, and the commitment to the Fourth Degree within Florida," said Daniel Barton, Vice Supreme Master of the DeSoto Province. "As a district, Florida sets an example for every district to follow. The team did an excellent job with the presentation of the revised Exemplification, and by the time and effort they put into it, they clearly showed lessons of this Degree of Patriotism."

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification will take place on Saturday, Jan. 31, at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Tampa. Full information is available under the Fourth Degree tab on [Floridakofc.org](http://Floridakofc.org).



*On Saturday, October 18th, 2025 a celebration was held in Gainesville to mark the 20th Anniversary of **Pope John Paul II Council 13900** at the University of Florida, established October 14th, 2005. In attendance were several members, past and present, with their families and significant others. The occasion was celebrated with a delicious potluck dinner, and a birthday cake cut by their current Grand Knight, Brother Xavier Epplin. At the close of the evening, a 20th Anniversary Certificate was presented to the Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight by Matt Salomons, Supreme College Council Coordinator and A.J. McCaffery, State College Council Chairman.*



# Supporting Charitable Programs

Over the past two months, Florida Knights of Columbus Charities has introduced—and in some cases reintroduced—important charitable programs to the more than 50,000 members of the Florida State Council.

Our mission is simple yet profound: to engage every Florida Knight in supporting our charitable programs and advancing the vision of our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney.

As one of the largest Catholic organizations in the state, we ask all our brother Knights to unite and make Florida Charities one of their top priorities in charitable giving.

Through our annual mailings, we are asking each member to prayerfully consider a \$15 donation to support our three core charitable initiatives:

**Special Olympics & Disabilities** (September mailing): Supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and creating an inclusive, encouraging environment.

**Vocations** (December mailing): Assisting in the formation of seminarians, where the cost to ordain one priest can exceed \$70,000.

**Helping Life** (January mailing): Protecting the unborn through our Ultrasound Program and supporting mothers and families who choose life.

With more than 50,000 members, even modest contributions make a tremendous impact.

We recognize Your Impact that family, work, and health can limit active participation, but every Knight can still make a difference through charitable giving.

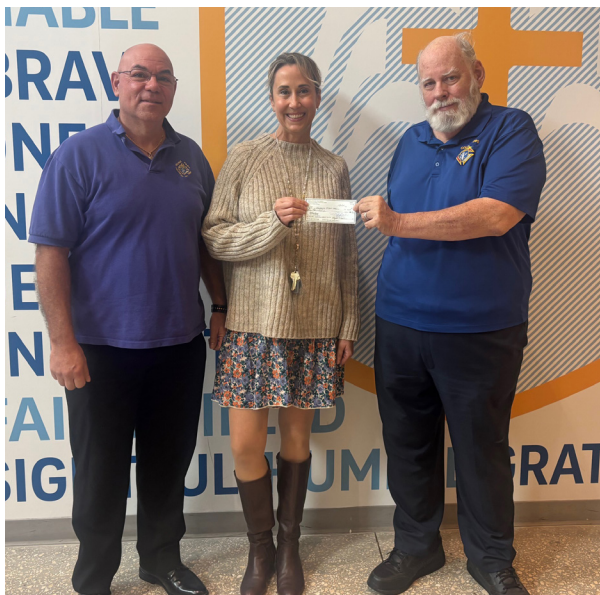
By contributing \$15—or whatever you are able, you help transform lives and support your council in reaching its charitable goals.

You can also extend your impact by becoming a monthly donor with a gift of just \$10 to support all Florida Knights Charitable programs.

For more information Online Giving - Florida K of C Charities, Inc - Florida

<https://www.floridakofccharities.org/>

Or use our QR code to donate to General Charities or select the charities of your choice, that along with our Core Programs – Disaster Relief, Food for Families, Habitat for Humanity. This is our chance—to act with unity, to live our principle of charity, and to make a real difference,



**Council 7399 of Saint Catherine of Siena parish in Orange Park** held a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on August 16 to benefit local charities.

Chaired by Financial Secretary Dave Counts, several Knights and their spouses cooked and served spaghetti, spaghetti sauce and garlic bread and salad serving several hundred diners both in the new parish hall, Lademia Hall, and as to-go meals. Lauded for the fine tasting food, many parishioners asked when the next dinner would be.

Meal sales came close to four thousand dollars, so the council rounded the amount up and wrote a check for that amount to donate to Guardian Catholic School in Jacksonville. The check was delivered to the school on Oct 29 by Sir Knight Randy Coates and Deputy Grand Knight Dan Costello to Principal Melissa Iliski and her staff. Guardian Catholic School is a combined school consolidating Saint Pius Catholic School and Holy Rosary Catholic School. The school is K through 8. Principal Iliski and the staff were very appreciative of the donation and plan use the money to continue to fund many of the programs at the school including a free lunch program.

# Council Holds Wheel Chair Drive



**B**rother Knights from Our Lady of the Rosary Council 8104 in Land O'Lakes recently held their annual wheelchair drive.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of parishioners and the dedicated efforts of Wheelchair Chairman Mason Stevenson, the council raised enough funds to provide 25 wheelchairs to individuals in need around the world. These life-changing gifts offer mobility, dignity, and hope to those who would otherwise go without.

Council members collected donations outside all Masses the weekend of October 25–26, engaging parishioners in conversation about the mission and the impact each wheelchair can have on a person's life. The campaign flourished through the warm encouragement of the parish community and with special support from Council Chaplain Fr. Raju Chebattina, whose pastoral leadership and prayers inspired generosity throughout the weekend. Grand Knight Matthew Youngster expressed gratitude for the parish's response,

“Our parish once again showed its commitment to stewardship, compassion, and Christian charity,” Youngster said. “Providing 25 wheelchairs means 25 families will experience newfound independence. We are blessed to serve such a generous and faith-filled community.”

Council 8104 extends heartfelt thanks to all who contributed their time, prayers, and financial support. Through this mission, the community of Our Lady of the Rosary has allowed the Knights to continue to uphold the first principle of the Order: Charity.





# Standing For Life



**T**he Knights of Council 6032 proudly participated in the annual Life Chain, a peaceful and prayerful public witness in defense of the sanctity of life, on Oct.

5. Led by Council Life Director Steve Lee and Gabriela Zveskova, Respect Life Coordinator of St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, members of the council joined parishioners along University Drive in Miramar, Florida, forming a united front for life.

Participants stood side by side, holding signs and praying silently, offering a powerful testimony to the dignity of every human life. The response from the community was heartening—many passing vehicles honked in support, affirming the message of hope and compassion that the Life Chain represents.

As they stood in unity, the words of Scripture echoed in their hearts:

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” — II Chronicles 7:14

This event reflects the council’s ongoing commitment to building a culture of life through visible action and spiritual solidarity. But the

mission doesn’t end with one afternoon of prayer—it begins there. Every person is called to be a witness for life, whether through advocacy, education, or compassionate service.

We invite you to stay connected and get involved. Visit St. Bartholomew’s Respect Life Ministry [Facebook page](#) to learn more about upcoming events and how you can help protect the most vulnerable among us.





# College Councils Attend National Conference



College Knights representing more than 70 councils across North America gathered for leadership training, fraternal development and prayer at the 60th College Councils Conference, Sept. 26-28, in New Haven, Connecticut. This year's theme, "Ambassadors for Christ," encouraged college Knights to share the hope of the Gospel with their peers.

In his keynote address at the awards dinner on Sept. 26, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly pointed to a growing crisis of isolation among young men — and the need for authentic, virtue-based friendship as its remedy. "A true friend cares about the well-being of the other person," he explained. "That means a true friend desires only what is best for you — he desires that you become the man that God has created you to be. These are the friends who spur you on to acts of greatness."

From Florida, we had representation from Council 13900 at the University of Florida with their Grand Knight, Xavier Epplin, and Adrian Bahri, who received their Star Council Award for the 2024-25 Fraternal Year from the Supreme Knight. Also in attendance was our State College

Council Chairman, A.J. McCaffery.

It was an excellent and faith-filled weekend, with a lot of networking and idea sharing. All those present participated in a Eucharistic Procession and Adoration, followed by a vigil mass at St. Mary's Church, the birthplace of our order, followed by a banquet and tour of the Blessed McGivney Pilgrimage Center.

Overall, it was a very rewarding experience, inspiring a lot of new ideas for the continue growth of Order throughout the many campuses throughout North America.





**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | EPIPHANY COUNCIL 12569**

**SEVENTH ANNUAL TRUCK, JEEP &**

# **CAR SHOW**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 | 10 AM - 2 PM**

**\$15 ENTRY FEE | REGISTRATION 9 - 11 AM**



**All Entries Judged by Appearance:**

**Exterior** - Body condition, panel fit, trim and detailing

**Interior** - Seats, carpets, headliners, door panels

**Paint** - Finish, matches throughout and door jams

**Cleanliness** - exterior, interior, and engine compartment



**Door Prizes  
50/50,  
BBQ & Breakfast**



**Trophies & Music  
Free General  
Admission**

CAR SHOW BENEFITS EPIPHANY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES & OPERATIONS

**EPIPHANY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
201 LAFAYETTE ST. | PORT ORANGE  
[WWW.EPIPHANYKOFC.ORG/CAR-SHOW](http://WWW.EPIPHANYKOFC.ORG/CAR-SHOW)**

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO  
GO DIRECTLY TO WEBSITE/  
REGISTRATION:





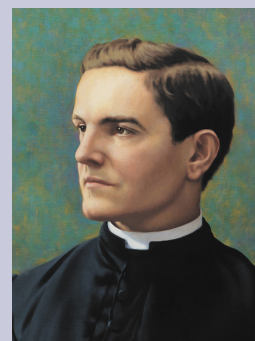
**Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney**

**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.**

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## 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.



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