

# INVOCATION

JUNE 2025



**SK David Cruz Makes  
a Positive Impact**

# Knight Honored for Making an Impact

**S**ir Knight David Cruz, Knights of Columbus disaster preparedness coordinator for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, was recently recognized for his contributions to his community by the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Honorable Gus M. Bilirakis made the presentation to Cruz at a meeting of the House of Representatives.

“It is clear that David Cruz has made a profoundly positive impact on our community through his volunteerism with the Knights of Columbus, and I am grateful for his service,” Rep. Bilirakis said. “May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.”

The commendation pointed out that when Hurricane Beryl hit Texas in July 2024, Operation Barbecue Relief sent Cruz to Texas, where he organized 21 Knights in six days to prepare, cook and serve 7,500 meals a day, for a total of 35,000 meals in one week.

Then, when Hurricane Milton struck Florida in October, he was assigned to accompany and work with a medical crew from Ohio, where they provided medical assistance to more than 400 patients in need. He also worked with Fresh Start for Pasco to feed shut-ins in East Pasco for Thanksgiving. The volunteer work was spotlighted by a film crew sent by KofC Supreme to document their efforts.

Cruz has worked to bring together many of the spiritual groups and civic organizations within the community to help hurricane victims. Thanks to these efforts, Our Lady Queen of Peace served 12,000 families during the six weeks following the hurricanes of 2024. He also continues to work with Fresh Start for Pasco, Endeavors and Pinellas Emergency Operations. Most recently, his volunteerism brought him to help muck out homes after the water finally receded.

“My belief is that we as Knights can be a force multiplier for the other spiritual groups that have well planned service to the people like the Salvation



Army, the American Red Cross and other groups that all have facilities to cook for tens of thousands of people and other services,” Cruz said. “The best thing to help people is to have neighbors helping neighbors. They feel more comfortable working with people that they know.”

Cruz has been doing disaster work since 1973, working with Red Cross Disaster Services after Hurricane Gloria hit New York. He then moved to New Hampshire, where he was put in charge of disaster relief programs for the New Hampshire Red Cross, where he dealt with the flooding and disaster action team. He eventually became deputy director of emergency management for the Granite State.

Cruz moved to Florida in 2009, where he continued to volunteer with fire services, and also worked as a pit lane fire fighter for NASCAR events. He was named KofC disaster preparedness coordinator for the Diocese of St. Petersburg prior to Hurricane Idalia causing major destruction in August 2023, affecting 65,000 homes that were hit directly between Pinellas County and Pascoe County.

Most recently, Cruz worked with St. Rita Catholic Church in Dade City, where 200 homes affected by the storms were not touched until two months ago.

Now, he's patiently preparing in case the volunteers need to spring into action this fall.

"Usually by the time we get to "I" storms in alphabetical order, we may be dealing with some issues that we have to work with," Cruz said.



## Council Hosts Sacred Heart Holy Hour

**S**an Marcelino Champagnat Council 10055 of Miami hosted a Sacred Heart Holy Hour at St. Brendan Catholic Church in May.

The hour was held in both English and Spanish and was held between the 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm masses to account for the two languages. The ceremony fit justly in the hour allotted and the many participants were thankful to the Knights for preparing and presenting this Holy Hour.

El mes pasado, el consejo 10055 celebró la Hora Santa del Sagrado Corazón en la Iglesia Católica de San Brendan. La Hora se celebró en inglés y español, entre las misas de 4:00 y 6:00 pm, para que se pudieran celebrar en ambos idiomas. La ceremonia se ajustó perfectamente al horario asignado y los numerosos participantes agradecieron a los Caballeros por preparar y presentar esta Hora Santa.



# It Has Been My Honor

*By State Deputy Richard Hughes*

**A**s we get ready to close Fraternal Year 2024-2025, I want to thank all Council, District, and Regional leaders for their pursuit of excellence in the Principles of the Order and growing our Order here in the Florida Jurisdiction.

As I have said many times, the primary goals that Supreme sets for Star Council—breadth and depth of service programs, education in the fraternal benefits available to members, providing a safe environment for our youth and vulnerable adults, and growing our membership—are all directly related to the mission of the Knights of Columbus as outlined in the Charter. The vast majority of Councils in Florida have taken on these goals with determination and enthusiasm.

While we have achieved the collective membership growth goals that Supreme set for Florida for this Fraternal Year, I still hope to see at least 200 Councils in Florida achieve Star Council. It is not too late!

Never forget why Blessed Michael McGivney founded our Order. Supporting our parishes and

communities through service programs and charitable works, providing opportunities to financially protect our families, and ensuring every Catholic man has the chance to join our order—these are the ways in which we fulfill his vision and carry out our mission. I hope and pray that each member, and each Council, will continue to carry out that vision and mission.

It has been my honor to serve as your State Deputy these past two years. Please give our newly-elected State Deputy the same support you have given me.



*State Deputy  
Richard Hughes*



### ***Council Supports Veterans***

*Father Downey Council 4934 recently held its first Stars Program, raising more than \$2,200 to benefit veterans in New Smyrna Beach and Edgewater.*

*The Council thanks Pastor Father John Tizio for the opportunity to hand out stars clipped from retired American flags following weekend Masses at Sacred Heart and St. Gerard's.*

# A Spiritual Transition

By State Deputy Elect Mike Gizewski

**A**s the sun begins to set on the 2024–2025 fraternal year, and we prepare to rise together into a new year of faith, fraternity, and service beginning July 1, I write to you with deep gratitude, renewed purpose, and a heart full of hope. It is an extraordinary privilege and a profound honor to greet you for the first time as your newly elected State Deputy of Florida.

This transition marks more than a change in dates—it is a spiritual moment, a sacred passing of the torch, and an opportunity for each of us to recommit ourselves to the mission of the



Knights of Columbus. Our Order *Mike Gizewski* was not founded to rest on comfort or tradition alone. We were founded in a time of hardship and uncertainty, and it is in those very moments that we find our strength. This same spirit of resolve, brotherhood, and divine calling lives on today—in every council, every parish, and every act of service carried out by you, my brother Knights.

I had the sacred privilege of being installed in the office of State Deputy in the very birthplace of our Order—St. Mary’s Church in New Haven, Connecticut. As I stood within the hallowed walls of that humble but historic sanctuary, I felt more than honored I felt connected to something eternal. It was there, in 1882, that Blessed Michael McGivney gathered a small group of Catholic men, not to begin an organization, but to ignite a movement of faith and fraternity that would span generations and continents. That moment—humble in appearance but divine in purpose—forever changed the lives of Catholic men, their families, and the Church itself. To receive the

responsibility of state leadership in that very place was not merely a formality for me; it was a moment of deep spiritual significance. I knelt where our founder knelt. I prayed where he prayed. And I accepted this calling with full awareness of the trust it carries, and the mission it demands.

As we reflect on the year coming to a close, we must first offer thanks—to God, to our priests, to our families, and to every brother Knight who labored in faith and humility to serve others. I have seen and heard of your good works across our beloved state. You fed the hungry, clothed the poor, supported pregnant women and their unborn children, gave comfort to the grieving, welcomed new members, and brought hope to those who had almost forgotten it. You led rosary rallies, served your pastors, mentored the next generation, stood for life, and served your communities with joy and courage. This is who we are. This is what it means to be a Knight.

Our principles—charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism—are not just ideals to admire; they are

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marching orders. And this new fraternal year gives us a new chance to live them more fully than ever before. We are not called to do what is easy or popular. We are called to do what is right. We are called to go where Christ goes—into the margins, into the broken places, into the aching hearts of our communities. And we are called to bring the light of the Gospel, the strength of our fraternity, and the power of our Catholic witness.

We do not serve for recognition. We serve because we are sons of the Church, disciples of Christ, and men devoted to our Blessed Mother. Every act of charity we offer, every prayer we lift, every hand we extend to our neighbor is part of something bigger—something eternal. The Knights of Columbus is not simply an organization. It is a brotherhood guided by the Holy Spirit and rooted in the heart of the Church.

As we enter the 2025–2026 fraternal year, I invite you to renew your purpose. Invite that man in the pew beside you to join our brotherhood. Look for the need in your parish and be the one who responds. Speak boldly of your faith and live

it with joy. Find ways to strengthen your council, support your chaplains, and become even more present to your community. We are not building our legacy—we are continuing the legacy of Blessed Michael McGivney, who reminds us of those ordinary men, when united in faith, can do extraordinary things.

My brothers, my offices and my district deputies I am humbled to serve you. I ask for your prayers as we begin this journey together. I also offer you mine. May we always place our trust in Jesus Christ, draw strength from the Holy Eucharist, and seek the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of our Order. Let us walk into this new fraternal year not with hesitation, but with holy boldness. Let us be men of action and prayer, men of faith and service. Let us be Knights.

Thank you for all you have done and all you will do. May God bless you and your families, and may He bless the Knights of Columbus in Florida.



# Solemnities that Define Us

*By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” - Jn 20:21 (Pentecost)

**W**ith the conclusion of the Easter Season, June brought the celebration Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus breathed the Spirit on the apostles in the upper room, and an even more dramatic scene is portrayed in the Acts of the Apostles as a strong driving wind and tongues of fire filled Jesus’ followers with the Holy Spirit. Each generation is called and sent in the same Spirit. As Knights of Columbus, the Spirit comes alive in us through our works. Today these take place locally in our parishes, and half a world away in Ukraine, where relief efforts continue to bring hope.

Pentecost is followed this month by solemnities dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity and the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). With the help of the Knights, many parishes have renewed Corpus Christi processions on parish grounds or in neighborhoods. By reverently displaying Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to the world, we reveal to others what we believe and strengthen our own love and appreciation for this great gift as Eucharistic people.

The Church celebrates the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 27th. The latest edition of the Knights of Columbus Icon Program brings us an image of the Sacred Heart. If you were at

the State Convention, you had an opportunity to see it. I had the pleasure of hosting the Icon in my parish and presiding for a Sacred Heart Holy Hour program produced by the Knights of Columbus in conjunction with the Icon Program. Adoration, plus the powerful image of the Sacred Heart, and the beautiful prayers and hymns offered were a blessing to our Knights and parishioners who attended. Hopefully you can experience the same in your councils and parishes during this Jubilee Year of Hope.



*State Chaplain  
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

As the fraternal year draws to a close, and one State Deputy turns over the reins to another, there will surely be new challenges and goals in addition to wrap-up duties and office obligations to fulfill. In the end, whether we have been successful or not will depend on the men we have become. What defines us? If we keep a sense of the mission Christ has given us as his followers, abiding in his peace to do great works, united like the triune God, strengthened by the Eucharist, then we will be Knights in the spirit of Blessed Michael McGivney. Vivat Jesus!

**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 [jlark1@gmail.com](mailto:jlark1@gmail.com).

# What Is Our Destiny As Human Beings?

*By Former State Chaplain Reverend Salvatore Pignato*

Everything that has been created by God has a destiny or purpose. If we go to the book of Genesis, we see God created all things and gave each creation a purpose. When He had finished, He saw something missing and said, "Let us make man in our own image." He created humanity and gave that humanity a specific purpose. That purpose was to give Glory to God and to be with Him.

Unfortunately, Adam and Eve sinned against God in the Garden of Eden, and they were expelled from the Garden and lost perfection for themselves and for their posterity. To save humanity, God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, the Messiah, to live among us and to die for us. In the death of Jesus, humanity was given another chance at eternal life, for in that Passion and Death, all was forgiven by God.

As Jesus lived among us, He taught us how to change and make ourselves worthy of eternal life. For He alone is the only one who could teach us. By His life, He taught those around Him how to become Saints. The Eastern Church celebrated on June 15th the Feast of All Saints. In the Eastern Church, our whole life is dedicated to becoming divine. It is the quest for divinization for all humanity. To put it simply, 'To become God-like.' To understand how to do this we have to understand the basis of our existence. We literally live in two worlds. We have one foot in the world God created and the other foot in a world we are looking forward to living in. In the Book of Revelation, this world is called the 'new world'.

One foot is in the world we live in today and is called by the Church, 'the Church Militant'. By our baptism, we work in the vineyard of the Lord Jesus Christ helping to perfect this world by our lives and restoring to it, day by day, the perfection it had when God created it. This is the world God gave us after the Fall of Adam and Eve and that we now toil in for our salvation. We are working

to perfect ourselves and eradicate sin from our lives. The other foot, through our good works, is moving toward what the Church calls, 'the Church Triumphant'. This is where we live with the Saints. The Church Militant then, is called to ultimately live with the 'Church Triumphant'...the Saints. Our destiny is to become divine, to become God-like and enter eternal life where the Saints repose, the 'New Heaven' as, again, the Book of Revelation calls it.

Although the destiny of humanity has had a few hiccups, Jesus has made the road straight for us. Jesus is true God and true man. His Way is the way to divinization. Baptism and the vows of baptism are the markers to Sainthood. The Ten Commandments are the signposts to being perfected each day. The command of Jesus to love God and neighbor as self are the criteria for Sainthood and living the Beatitudes are a part of the 'Golden Rule' that we live by and that in the end finally perfects our search for our own personal Sainthood and echoed by Jesus when He says to us, "Blessed are you, come into the Kingdom of Heaven...". At last, Sainthood is ours!!



*Former State Chaplain  
Rev. Salvatore Pignato*



# Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

*By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori*

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.” (Gospel for June 8, Jn 14:15-16)

**L**ast month, we reflected on how Jesus probed Peter three times with the question “Do you love me?” Here we have an answer to what it means to truly love Jesus — by keeping his commandments, as expressed in Scripture and in the teachings of the Church. The monthly challenge for March underscored how our faith bears fruit in what we do. Let us remember that to keep the commandments for love of Christ is to allow the Holy Spirit to bear good fruits in our lives.

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

This month, I challenge you to use the Catholic Information Service® resource A Guide to Confession, which is organized around the Ten Commandments, to examine your conscience and then go to confession.

## **Questions for Reflection:**

What is your response to Jesus’ question, “Do you love me?” Do you show your love for Christ in how you live? In what ways do you need to become more attentive to the commandments and the teachings of the Church?



## ***New Port Richie surprises priest with donation to Missionary Society***

*Members of St. Thomas Aquinas Council #11497 of New Port Richie and their spouses came together at their final meeting of the fraternal year to surprise their beloved brother Knight, Father George Varkey, MST, with a \$500 donation to the Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle.*

*Father George has been a faithful friend and spiritual guide to the parish community for over a decade as associate pastor at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in New Port Richey. The donation was a small token of gratitude for his years of service, compassion, and unwavering commitment to the parish, the Knights of Columbus, and his order, based in India.*

# Knight Donates Funds for Ultrasound



**T**om and Millie Wenzel recently made a \$7,000 donation to Church of the Epiphany Council No.12569’s Right to Life Baby Bottle Campaign towards the purchase of an ultrasound machine.

Wenzel, 92, joined the Knights of Columbus Green Bay (Wisconsin) Council in 1959. He and Millie have been married for 67 years. They moved to Port Orange 25 years ago, and became members of the Epiphany parish, with Tom transferring to Council 12569.

“The Holy Spirit instructed us to donate,” Tom said. “We are very passionate about Right to Life, and we feel very strongly that the ultrasound enables the mother to see the baby growing. The picture of the baby moving inside her body helps her to make that important decision to give birth instead of aborting. The mother sees this tiny little human being and realizes it is her baby.

“If we save even one life, our donation has been worth it,” Tom added. “The Lord has been very good to us and we feel we should give something back.”

Tom, 92, was given 10 years to life after undergoing by-pass surgery in 1985. Forty years later, he is still going strong. He is a former executive at Miller Brewing Company, and remains an avid golfer. He follows all sports, especially his hometown Packers. He and Millie have traveled the world and visited Medjugorje twice, sharing many experiences and memories in their lifetime.

He and Millie have four children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Council 12569 thanks the Wenzels for their generous donation, and it proud to have Tom as a Brother Knight.



# Council Reaches Service Milestone



**B**ack in January 2017, a group of dedicated men from the St. Cosmas and Damien Knights of Columbus No. 13341 of Lakewood Ranch began a humble tradition—showing up, month after month, to help build homes and hope with Manatee Habitat for Humanities.

Now, 100 consecutive months later, their commitment has blossomed into a legacy of service, faith, and community impact that continues to inspire everyone around them.

Fittingly, the Knights completed their 100th month of service the day before Good Friday—during Holy Week, a time of deep spiritual reflection and renewal. For a group so grounded in faith and charity, the timing could not have been more meaningful.

“Looking back, it’s hard to believe we’ve reached 100 months,” shared Chancellor Mike Mahan. “Our council stays very active throughout the year, so this is truly an unprecedented accomplishment we can all be proud of.”

While their hands have helped build dozens of homes, their hearts have helped build lasting relationships. Some of Mahan’s most cherished memories are those spent working side by side with future homeowners.

“One of my greatest joys has been seeing the excitement in their eyes as we work together to fulfill their dreams. It’s incredibly rewarding to know I’m doing my part to help someone achieve their dream of affordable housing.”

In the early days, the Knights would lend their skills to one home at a time—a single rehab or a house on an empty lot. Today, they’re contributing to entire Habitat neighborhoods.

“The expansion really stands out. Habitat has grown so much. Now, we’re building small communities. We’ve also grown with the work—learning new skills and ‘tricks of the trade’ to help with many aspects of home construction.”

Even when the pandemic paused construction, the Knights never wavered. Instead, they found new ways to support the mission behind the

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scenes—organizing materials, prepping for future builds, and making sure everything was ready to go when restrictions lifted. “We still wanted to help however we could. Making a difference in someone’s life—that’s what motivates us.”

For Mahan, volunteering through the Knights of Columbus is a natural extension of his faith. “Charity is a core mission of the Knights,” he said. “I can’t think of a more honorable and worthy cause than Habitat. It’s a chance to grow in faith and serve those in need in a truly meaningful way.”

After 100 months, the Knights’ message is clear: everyone has something to give.

“For someone who is on the fence about getting involved I would say you need to try it just once,”

Mahan encouraged. “There’s no obligation—just do what you can, when you can. What may not seem like much to you could mean everything to someone else.”

As the council celebrates this 100-month milestone, they are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of the Knights of Columbus. That they reached this moment during Holy Week is a powerful reminder that faith in action can transform lives—and build something lasting for generations to come.



*Father Gerard Powers Assembly 2882 of New Port Richey placed individual American flags on each Veteran’s grave at the West Elfers Cemetery for the 15th straight year prior to Memorial Day.*

*The Annual Memorial Weekend tradition, at a cemetery containing Veteran graves back to the Civil War, began in 2011 when the Assembly installed a full size flag pole.*

*Faithful Navigator, Anthony Nalli explained: “In addition to Assembly members, we also had grandchildren help with the flags. This not only honors our Veterans but also helps us to educate future patriotic citizens.”*

*Additional information on Knights of Columbus Assembly 2882 can be obtained by contacting William Shustowski, 5340 High Street, New Port Richey, Florida 34652.*

# An Evening of First Aid Training



In response to a request to keep both the Council and Holy Redeemer Parish safe, Lt. Geoff Miller, the EMS Lieutenant from the Kissimmee Fire Department, provided an evening of hands-on training of CPR, AED, and Stop the Bleeding training for Brother Knights and their families of St. Cloud/Kissimmee Council 6624 on Wednesday, June 18. The training was very timely as many of the Council 6624 Brother Knights also serve as ushers and lectors for many of the weekend Masses at Holy Redeemer Parish.

Brother George Jackow, a member of Council 6624 and head of the Safety Committee for Holy Redeemer Parish, remarked that there has been a number of updates since the parish training provided by the Orlando Diocese, and he learns something new every time he takes the training. With the blessing of the pastor, Council 6624 and the Safety Committee will sponsor both first aid and fire suppression training to the parishioners of Holy Redeemer parish courtesy of the Kissimmee Fire Department.

Council 6624 has enjoyed a close relationship with the local law enforcement and first responders of Osceola Council, including the Kissimmee Fire Department, for many years and this has

blossomed over time. Indeed, Lt. Miller was one of the recipients of the Heroes Casino Night, a Council program, which provides donations to help first responder Heroes and their families during their time of need, when his own house burned down while he was away teaching a CPR class.



# Knight Creates Marian Devotion Website

**N**otre Dame Council 10514 of Flagler Beach member Peter Sesso made a presentation to council membership on a new Marian Devotion website that he created with assistance from other professionals.

The website, [www.MaryLives.com](http://www.MaryLives.com), is supported by Santa Maria del Mar Parish of Flagler Beach, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church of Palm Coast and St. Mary's Abbey of Morristown, N.J.

The purpose of the Mary Lives Ministry is to help young people develop spiritual growth by learning the power of daily recitation of the Holy Rosary and how this practice will help build a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Brother Sesso stated that there are number of powerful videos focused on the Blessed Mother that are embedded in the website. There is also a webpage dedicated to various Marian apparitions with accompanying videos. There is even a link to the 1943 movie, "The Song of Bernadette". The movie tells the story of the apparitions of the Blessed Mother to Saint Bernadette Soubirous in 1858. Those apparitions took place in Lourdes, France. Website visitors can also click on a live video feed from Lourdes and join pilgrims as they pray the rosary at the Grotto.

Clicking on the 'Pray the Rosary' link brings the user to a 'Pray the Rosary with Us' via Zoom at 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month with chat afterward. There is also a 'How to Pray the Rosary' section geared towards children (adults can also use it!). The page lists all of the prayers of the rosary and gives a detailed explanation of the Joyous, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous Mysteries.

The website also has a 'Get Help' webpage. The page has numerous resources listed with contact information for those individuals that are facing difficult life situations. The resources include both local and national organizations that are available 24 hours a day to offer compassionate counseling to those in need. Phone numbers and



website addresses are included for each of the organizations.

Brother Sesso encouraged everyone to visit the website and explore the wealth of information on the Blessed Mother. Mary, Queen of the Knights, Pray for Us!



# State Convention Special Olympics Summary

The Florida State Knights of Columbus Convention in Jacksonville was a successful weekend on many fronts, particularly the Knights' support of Special Olympics.

During the Saturday morning session, State Deputy Rick Hughes summarized the Knights involvement during the past year which included councils from around the State donating more than \$100,000, and how we continue to volunteer at local events and sports from Pensacola to Miami. The State Deputy also presented a Special Olympics Coin to the councils that met their Special Olympics goal for the Fraternal Year. Hopefully, next year there will be even more presented.

State Deputy Rick then welcomed Denise

Breneman, Special Olympics Civic Director, to the stage for a few remarks. Denise thanked the more than 800 Knights and family members in the convention hall for the continued and long-lasting support of the Knights of Columbus. Immediate Past State Deputy Robert Urrutia was presented with the Special Olympics Outstanding Service Award. Brother Robert has been an incredible supporter for over a decade. Finally, State Deputy Rick Hughes, presented Denise with a check for \$30,000 from the Knights of Columbus.

It was also a successful convention as I continued to meet new Brother Knights from around the state telling me about their councils' support of Special Olympics, how they are impacting the athletes, and sharing plans for continued support. Please stay tuned!



# The 121st Florida State Council Convention



The 121st Florida State Council Convention took place at the Hyatt Regency Riverside in Jacksonville, Florida. Over 800 attendees, including Brother Knights from Florida and the Bahamas, participated in this 2-day event. Elections were held for Officers and Delegates for the upcoming

fraternal year and the Supreme Convention in Washington, D.C., in August.

The convention concluded with a formal banquet on Saturday night, where awards were presented for Knight of the Year, Family of the Year, and Chaplain of the Year. Visit [www.floridakofc.org](http://www.floridakofc.org) for photos of the event.



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## 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 A. Gualtieri [ag130@outlook.com](mailto:ag130@outlook.com)

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

Region 3: John O'Malley [jomalley1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jomalley1@cfl.rr.com)

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



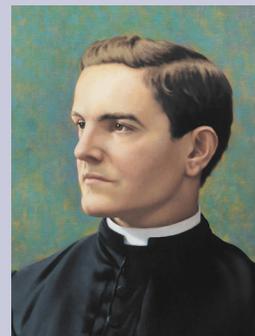
**Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney**

**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

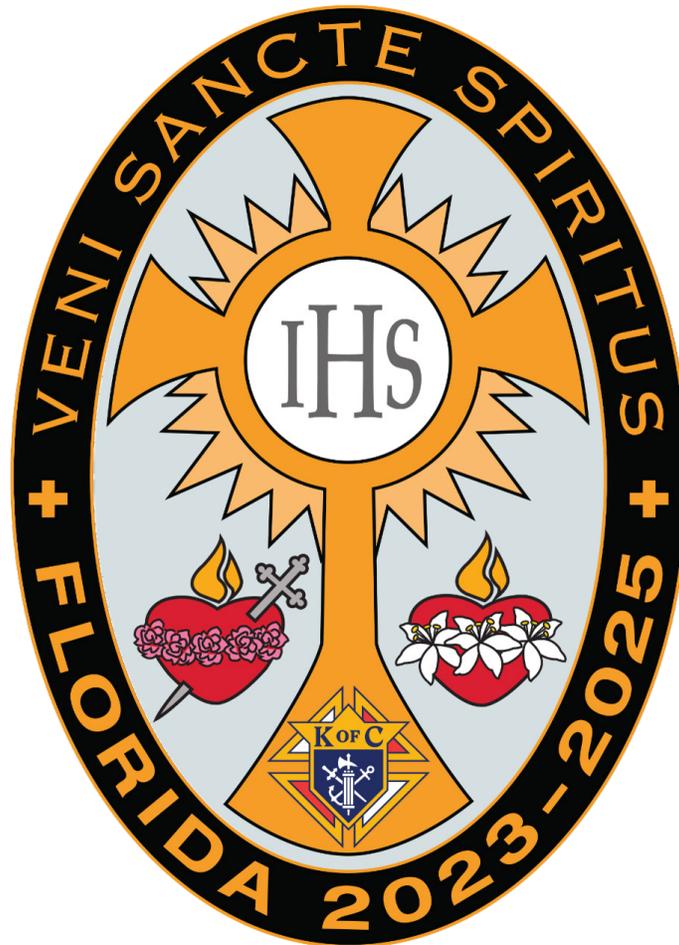
Evangelize and proclaim our faith, protect families, and perform works of charity.

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



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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.  
ESTABLISHED 1971 • Volume 24 Number 1 • www.kofc.org

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**  
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*Catholic*  
**DIFFERENCE**