



Knights of Columbus

Council 2505

St. Joseph's Church

Lakeland, FL

January 2024

A message from the Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

The question is always asked sometime after you have joined the Knights of Columbus, "why did you become a Knight"? Every Knight has a different answer. My reason had nothing to do with the organization. I didn't know anything about the Knights of Columbus or what they did. A better question to ask a Knight is, "why do you continue to stay in the Knights of Columbus?" In today's society organizations like the Knights of Columbus are dying. I believe today more people are thinking what can I do to help myself instead of what can I do to help others. "What can I do for myself today"? "My day is so full I don't have any time for anyone but me." We have filled our lives with so much unimportant stuff we only have a little time for me. It is not easy being a "true" Knight. Many men in our council and probably most other councils say they are Knights of Columbus. Yet the only thing they do to prove they are a Knight is to write a check for their dues every year.

Why would you subscribe to a magazine if you never read it when it comes in your mailbox?

I am sorry and don't want to be so negative. I try and write a Grand Knights message every month for our council newsletter that I know not even a third of the members will probably read. It can become frustrating. Then I think of the new members who have joined or transferred to our council over the last couple of years and I get invigorated again. These men are proving that there is a future for the Knights of Columbus.

In 1924 when the St. Joseph Council was formed, men had to make sacrifices to start and keep the council going. The history is very fascinating about our council. It wasn't until 1925 that car ownership became possible for many Americans. How did Knights attend meetings? Before our council was started men were going to Tampa to attend meetings. Most cars in the 1920's were open air cars. Closed cars didn't start to be made until the 1930s. What kind of roads did they have back then? How many gas stations were around in those days? It wasn't easy for Knights back then to attend a meeting, but somehow they did and started our council. The depression, two World Wars, many wars since those, many different presidents, many different popes, pastors and priests, Covid, and these are just a few of the difficult times that our council has had to go through. I am sure it wasn't easy being a Knight over the last 100 years.

It isn't any easier today. There are a million things pulling men in a hundred different directions. Work, family, the house, kids in all different activities, your wife's priorities which certainly don't have anything to do with the Knights of Columbus, and even your health and age. It is not easy being an involved Knight these days or at any time in the history of the Knights of Columbus. I am sure guys were not beating down Fr. McGivney's door to start an organization. The thing is it has never been easy to be a Knight, even today. Maybe that is what makes it rewarding. I know the challenges men face today which is why I am indebted to the men who show up for events, meetings, socials, fish fries, or any number of things the Knights have going on. If you haven't been involved in a while you are most certainly invited back to a meeting, or event or something you feel is up your alley. You don't have to be at everything the Knights do. If you feel you won't know anyone that will change in about one minute. Men will be coming up to you saying hi and welcoming you in. The hardest part of being a Knight is taking that first step out of your door and to a Knights event or activity.

I wish all the Knights in Council #2505 a blessed, happy, healthy 2024.

Mark Sagen
msagen1@msn.com



Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, You called Your priest, Father 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 Father 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*), through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Considering a 4th Degree?



Hello Brother Knights of Council 2505: This message is for those of you whom have not yet attained your 4th Degree. Please see below the schedule of 4th Degree Exemplifications scheduled in 2024 here in Florida.

March 9th, 2024 (Saturday) St. Frances X Cabrini Catholic Church in Parrish, Fla. (Parrish is about 50-55 miles s/w of Lakeland; it is about a 1 hour drive from Lakeland).

May 11th, 2024 (Saturday) Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Naples, Fla. Naples is about a 2 1/2 to 3 hour drive from Lakeland. It is just south of Ft. Myers.

June 15th 2024 (Saturday) Church of the Little Flower in Coral Gables, Fla; Coral Gables is near Miami.

August 25th 2024 (Saturday) San Juan del Rio Catholic Church in St. John, Fla (St. John is just south of Jacksonville, ~~Fl~~ and is about 190 miles from Lakeland (about a 3-4 hour drive).

The Exemplification is now open for wives and family members to attend the exemplification ceremony. The degree on March 9th 2024 in Parrish Fla is the closest exemplification in 2024 to Lakeland (only about a 1 hour drive)

If you are interested in progressing and making your 4th Degree in our Order, ***or learning more about the 4th Degree***, please contact Charlie Stokes by phone at 863-899-6005 to discuss.

If you desire to do the March 9th exemplification, Charlie will need to get a Form 4 (application form) from you by **January 15th**.

January Call for Volunteers

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship program has been bringing boys and girls 9 – 14 together for wholesome athletic competition for half a century.



To join our Jan 13th event

Contact Steve Jones

Stevedolphin750@gmail.com

863-529-9031



Keep Christ in Christmas 2023

A SELL OUT!

The Knights of Columbus St. Joseph Council 2505 brought in a successful program, resulting in selling out of all lawn signs and Christmas Cards.



Special thanks to Bob Renna and all the Knights assisting each week.

(Tootsie Roles are next!)



Memorial Mass for Deceased Knights and Columbiettes



The Columbiettes organized and sponsored a special memorial Mass for our deceased sisters and brothers in December. An honor guard of Council 2505 4th Degree Knights attended during the Mass. GK Mark Sagan and Mary Jones presented Mass offerings to our brother Fr. Luis Salazar who celebrated the Mass.

A Note from Community Director Steve Jones

My Brother Knights,

Happy New Year. And already January is a full month for us. We start with our Basketball Challenge which takes place on **Saturday, January 13th** .

I will need your help.

There is a district officer meeting at the same time which will take away several of my regular helpers.

The work is easy as we just have to score, retrieve balls and serve some hotdogs. So, please stop by the **church pavilion at 9am**. It will be fun and you will be home before noon.

Also, if you have kids or grandkids ages 9 to 14, bring them along. They will have fun and may leave with a trophy.

I wish for each of you a most successful new year. Knock some of those bucket list items off. You only live once. Blessings to all.

Steve Jones

Community Director 863-529-9031 Stevedolphin750@gmail.com

Serving our Parish



Adding to the beauty of the recent church renovations, Council 2505's donation to support the parish's 125th Anniversary improvements to St. Joseph's sanctuary arrived and were assembled by Br. Father Zack Gray.



Br. John Quirk III and his son John assembled the Council's newest addition to our parish liturgical support, the "Building of the Domestic Church" kiosk. The kiosk contains various works of Faith and Catholic teaching, soon to be placed in the narthex of the church.

2nd Request from the Financial Secretary

My Brother Knights of Council 2505: It is that time of year where we need to report to Supreme the hours that members of the council have contributed to the various programs that the Knights Support. Please see the Individual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form and fill it out and either email your completed copy to Charlie Stokes @ cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com or snail mail him a hard copy to 1611 Huntington Street, Lakeland, FL 33801.

You need only to complete the "Council" side of the Form. Should you have any questions, please call Charlie at 863-899-6005. Charlie needs your completed form not later than January 22nd, 2024.

Charlie Stokes
Financial Secretary

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

2023 Individual Member Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES/FAITHFUL COMPTROLLERS/BURSARS

Note: Knights should separate reported assembly activities from their reported council activities.

Located on the lower portion of this page are individual Member Worksheets to assist you in determining the number of hours of volunteer service expended by members during 20_____.

To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return it at our next meeting. This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members.

COUNCIL HOURS

| Faith Activities (where applicable) | Hours of Service |
|---|------------------|
| a. Refund Support Vocations Program | |
| b. Church Facilities | |
| c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries | |
| d. Religious/Vocations Education | |
| e. Prayer & Study Programs | |
| f. Sacramental Gifts | |
| g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities | |
| Family Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Food for Families | |
| b. Family Formation Programs | |
| c. Keep Christ in Christmas | |
| d. Family Week | |
| e. Family Prayer Night | |
| f. Miscellaneous Family Programs | |
| Community Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Coats For Kids | |
| b. Global Wheelchair Mission | |
| c. Habitat for Humanity | |
| d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief | |
| e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities | |
| f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care | |
| g. Hospitals/Health Organizations | |
| h. Columbian Squires | |
| i. Scouting/Youth Groups | |
| j. Athletics | |
| k. Youth Welfare/Service | |
| l. Scholarships/Education | |
| m. Veteran Military/VAWS | |
| n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities | |
| Life Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Special Olympics | |
| b. Marches for Life | |
| c. Ultrasound Initiative | |
| d. Pregnancy Support | |
| e. Christian Refugee Relief | |
| f. Memorials to Unborn Children | |
| g. Miscellaneous Life Activities | |
| Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable) | |
| Visits to the Sick | |
| Visits to the Bereaved | |
| Number of Blood Donations | |
| Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families | |
| TOTAL | 0 |

ASSEMBLY HOURS

| Faith Activities (where applicable) | Hours of Service |
|---|------------------|
| a. Refund Support Vocations Program | |
| b. Church Facilities | |
| c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries | |
| d. Religious/Vocations Education | |
| e. Prayer & Study Programs | |
| f. Sacramental Gifts | |
| g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities | |
| Family Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Food for Families | |
| b. Family Formation Programs | |
| c. Keep Christ in Christmas | |
| d. Family Week | |
| e. Family Prayer Night | |
| f. Miscellaneous Family Programs | |
| Community Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Coats For Kids | |
| b. Global Wheelchair Mission | |
| c. Habitat for Humanity | |
| d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief | |
| e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities | |
| f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care | |
| g. Hospitals/Health Organizations | |
| h. Columbian Squires | |
| i. Scouting/Youth Groups | |
| j. Athletics | |
| k. Youth Welfare/Service | |
| l. Scholarships/Education | |
| m. Veteran Military/VAWS | |
| n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities | |
| Life Activities (where applicable) | |
| a. Special Olympics | |
| b. Marches for Life | |
| c. Ultrasound Initiative | |
| d. Pregnancy Support | |
| e. Christian Refugee Relief | |
| f. Memorials to Unborn Children | |
| g. Miscellaneous Life Activities | |
| Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable) | |
| Visits to the Sick | |
| Visits to the Bereaved | |
| Number of Blood Donations | |
| Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families | |
| TOTAL | 0 |



January Important Dates

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|--|---------|
| January 4th | Thursday | Council 2505 Officers Meeting | 6:30 PM |
| January 11th | Thursday | Knights' Business Meeting (Rosary at 6:00 PM) (Meeting at 6:30 PM) | 6:30 PM |
| January 13th | Saturday | Council Basketball Free Throw Challenge | 9:30 AM |
| January 13th | Saturday | District 31 Officers Meeting Winterhaven | 9:30 AM |
| January 15th | Monday | 4th Degree Business Meeting Rm 102 McDonald Bldg | 7:00 PM |
| January 20th | Saturday | Walk For Life | TBD |
| January 21st | Sunday | Council 2505 100th Anniversary Dinner | 4:00 PM |
| January 27th | Saturday | 4th Degree Honoring Heroes Dinner Campisi Center - Resurrection | 6:30 PM |

Council 2505's Christmas Party

Add together 4 turkeys, 2 hams, 2 tenderloins, 3 large pans of stuffing, green beans, corn, scores of deserts and a huge turnout of Knights and their wives and you have a picture of Council's 2505's Christmas Dinner this year. GK Mark Sagan began cooking at 8:00 AM for our 5:00 PM service. Various Knights chipped in during the day to help prepare and present the dinner to our families and friends. An ugly sweater contest was also part of the festivities and featured almost half of those attending. It wouldn't be Christmas without a cookie exchange and a terrific impromptu Christmas Carol concert presented by Knights and Columbiettes alike.

Some photos are appended here with the bulk of the photos presented on the Knights' Facebook page. [Knights of Columbus - St. Joseph's Council 2505 | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/koc2505)
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/koc2505>



| January Member Birthdays | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----|
| | | |
| Name | Birthday | Age |
| Mr Joseph L Afilani III | 01-04-1987 | 36 |
| | | |
| Mr William Breier | 01-10-1986 | 37 |
| | | |
| Mr Juan Guillermo Casasnovas | 01-10-1975 | 48 |
| | | |
| Rev. Zackary B Gray | 01-11-1992 | 31 |
| | | |
| Mr Brian Anthony Krolak | 01-16-1976 | 47 |
| | | |
| Rev. Luis G Salazar | 01-17-1964 | 59 |
| | | |
| Mr John Quirk III | 01-22-1971 | 52 |
| | | |
| Dr Joe Mari J. Maja | 01-24-1972 | 51 |
| | | |
| Mr Sean E Rodby | 01-24-1988 | 35 |
| | | |
| Mr James A Bivens | 01-25-1937 | 86 |

| January Member Wedding Anniversaries | | |
|---|------------|----------------------|
| | | |
| Name | Date | Wife's Name |
| Mr Jeffrey S Hynes | 01-04-1997 | Stephanie Lynn Hynes |
| | | |
| Mr Doug B Cooper | 01-07-1978 | Judy Cooper |
| | | |
| Mr James E Manning | 01-07-1961 | Donna Manning |
| | | |
| Mr James E Schmidt | 01-28-1967 | Helen Schmidt |
| | | |
| Mr Timothy F Riordan | 01-31-1976 | Susan Riordan |

January Wife Birthdays


| Member's Name | Wife's Name | Birthday |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Mr Lawrence R Tapley | Geraldine A. Tapley | 01-09 |
| Mr Philip J Maitino | Ginny Maitino | 01-15 |
| Mr Clyde Joseph Gengler | Ina Gengler | 01-25 |
| Mr John D Duncan Sr | Barbara Duncan | 01-29 |
| Mr John W Williamson | Jennifer Williamson | 01-29 |

*Brothers – please take a few moments
to remember our Brother Knights*

*Deacon Ray Sakowski
Eric Thomas
Bob Hoffman*

*And their families in your
Prayers for the Sick.*






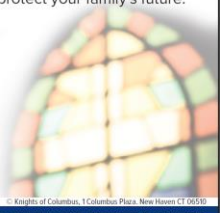
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"Be anxious about nothing, but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." **Phillipians 4:6-7**

