



*Knights of Columbus*

*Council 2505*

*St. Joseph's Church*

*Lakeland, FL*

*June 2024*

## *A message from the Grand Knight*



Worthy Brother Knights,

As I write this, the 120<sup>th</sup> State Convention has just ended. I would briefly like to share my thoughts on it with you. For me the first day was a little bit of a disappointment. Our State Deputy did an excellent job with his opening speech. In the afternoon there were four workshops; Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund, State and Supreme Website, Safe Environment, and COR. You were only able to attend two of the workshops. To end the day was a Florida State Council Reception. Day two seemed much better with more than twice as many Knights attending. Presentation on Amendment 4 coming this November. Special Olympics and the Wheelchair Mission gave very good presentations. After that were Council Awards. There were over 80 Councils there. To my surprise our Council received a plaque for coming in Third Place in the category of Citizens With Disabilities. I was very proud of our Council for achieving this award. Great Job Guys! All in all it was a good time and informative. One thing I would like to say is that our Council should be very proud of Dave Tebo. To think at one time he was just a member of our Council, held many of the Council positions, moved to many positions in our District, and filled many positions at the State Level including State Deputy. He now is with The Supreme Council. A tremendous achievement from one of our own members.

With the Fiscal year coming to an end (June 30<sup>th</sup>) I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Council activities this year. Without your involvement we could do nothing. I also want to thank all the Council Officers, thank you for your time at many meetings during the year steering our Council to success. I hope all of you will give a big "Thank You" to Charlie Stokes next time you see him for taking care of the mountain of paperwork that needed to be sent to Supreme and The State Council on the many things that this Council accomplished this year. Without his efforts on sending in timely reports, keeping a close eye on membership dues, and getting our member counts correct on paper, we should be up for a few awards this year. I certainly couldn't have done all the work that Charlie did for our Council.

We all should be proud of our Council's charity this year. Donations from our Council were given to many worthy organizations including our Church, Priests, Faith Formation, our Food Pantry, Options for Women, Special Olympics, ROAR, Santa Fe High School, Lakeland Police, Talbot House and Viste to name a few. These donations were made from our Legacy Fund which honors all our Council Knights from the last 100 years. We couldn't have done this without you and not without the men that went before us.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving your dues notice in the mail. There is a slight change this year. You will be asked to make a \$10 donation to RSVP (Refund Support Vocations Program). This program sends money and support through communication with men in the vocation program. This donation is voluntary. If you can make this donation understand that your donation will go directly to a young man trying to become a priest. If you would also like to be involved in the communication part of this program please let us know. Part of this program is to send cards, letters, or make phone calls from our Council to keep encouraging these men to continue in their studies. As a Catholic and as a Knight the shortage of Priests should be very concerning to all of us. Also, please return your dues in a timely manner. It saves us time, Money, and headaches.

Vivant Jesus, Mark Sagen



### 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.

### Save the Date

Our Council is working on having a special Mass commemorating the life of Fr. McGivney on August 12<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>, his birthdate and date of death, respectively. More info to follow.

### *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 for the **last 4th Degree Exemplifications scheduled in 2024 here in Florida.**

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

If you desire to do the August 25<sup>th</sup> exemplification, Charlie will need to get a Form 4 (application form) from you before the end of June.

## ***St. Joseph Mass presenters needed –***

*St. Joseph Parish will be losing one of the weekly Mass presenters soon. This leaves the parish still short one individual to present the prayers, words of the hymns, and the announcements to the worshipers for all English Language Masses.*

*The Knights of Council 2505 have a long history in serving at Mass: our Grand Knight does every Saturday as a Mass server and various Knights do as Ministers of Hospitality every weekend. Additionally, one of the Masses is livestreamed every Sunday to present the Liturgy to our parishioners not able to attend in person. This is an important part of our Knight's work in supporting Faith and the Family in serving our shut in brothers and sisters.*

*Many thanks to Brother Ken Dauphinais, who has stepped in for one of the open positions presenting at the 9:00 AM Mass each weekend. This leaves us one presenter short with no substitutes should we need a fill in for vacation or other occurrences.*

*We are asking Knights who want to participate in the Mass by presenting the Mass slides to please contact Doug Cooper at [Dougstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:Dougstjoe@gmail.com) or 954.589.9446 or at our business meeting to learn more about the opportunity. Wives and secondary school children are also welcome to join this ministry.*

*Hands on training will be given at your convenience during the week.*

## ***Family of the Month for May***



*Council 2505 has chosen Debbie and Ken Zimmerman as our Family of the Month for May.*

*Both Debbie and Ken are active members of St. Joseph Parish, serving at Mass as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and in numerous other parish activities.*

*Additionally, Ken is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knight in Council 2505.*

***Congratulations!***

# ***Knights coming together to defeat abortion in Florida***

*Our Grand Knight and our Council have taken up the challenge to defeat the November initiative amending the state constitution which would thereafter permit unrestricted, pernicious termination of pregnancies. The amendment will permanently change the behaviors and moral compass of many Floridians and will lead the way for other states to pursue their own attacks on the unborn.*

*We will need extraordinary efforts and commitments from all Council members to attend and participate in meetings and activities over the next 5 months. We have begun working with our Pastor, parish ministries, prayer and social groups. In the coming weeks and months preceding the vote, Council 2505 will focus its work in all officer, business and Program Director meetings.*

## **VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 4**

Titled "Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion," Amendment 4 would enshrine **UNREGULATED ABORTION** in our state constitution, making Florida one of the **MOST PRO-ABORTION** states in the nation. The amendment language is **MISLEADING**, and its proposed outcomes are **DANGEROUS**.



Learn more and join in our prayers to defeat this amendment and defend mothers and children in Florida:  
**WWW.FLACCB.ORG**



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**There is a need for all Brother Knights to step up as never before.**

*According to The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops:*

*"An extremely grave amendment has been placed on the November 2024 ballot that seeks to erase pro-life protections by inserting language into the Florida Constitution prohibiting regulation of abortion. The amendment would allow late-term abortions, including when the baby is capable of feeling pain, and would eliminate laws requiring parental consent and safety protocols for women.*

*"We urge all Floridians of goodwill to stand against the legalization of late-term abortion and oppose the abortion amendment. In doing so, we will not only protect the weakest, most innocent, and defenseless of human life among us but also countless women throughout the state from the harms of abortion"*

*For more information     <https://www.flaccb.org/abortion-amendment>*



## An Update from Our Financial Secretary

My Worthy Brothers:

The end of the 2023-24 Fraternal Year is fast approaching. Membership dues notices will be snail mailed out and also emailed out to all brothers of the Council around 15 June 2024. Please pay your dues promptly.

Acceptable forms of payment of dues are: cash, personal checks, money orders. If you prefer a different means of payment for your membership dues, please contact me via email at [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) immediately so that I can reach out to you for a possible different payment method. There are over 125 members in our council; it is your responsibility to reach out to me if you cannot pay with: cash, personal checks or money order.

Once I receive your membership dues, I will mail your new membership card (for 2024-25 fraternal year) to you in the mail.

Please read your "Dues Notice" carefully. We have not changed the amount of membership dues for our Council in about 10 years. The Council did approve earlier this fraternal year to ask each member of the Council which includes regular members, Honorary Members and Honorary Life Members and Exempt Members to make a \$10.00 donation this upcoming fraternal year; this \$10.00 will go towards the RSVP which supports seminarians. The RSVP is one of the programs in Faith that our Council will be supporting in the 2024-25 Fraternal Year.

Should you have any questions, contact me by email at [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) or by cell phone at 863-899-6005.

Charlie Stokes

# Council 2505 enters its second decade of ROAR support

The results of successful Tootsie Roll Campaign lead to a significant \$2,300 donation to ROAR (Redefining Our Abilities and Relationships, formerly "Noah's Ark"). For eleven years the Knights of Columbus have applied our energies and charity toward providing funds for this "*residential community for adults with unique capabilities.*"

The annual event started with a facility tour provided by Christina Hall, ROAR's Director of Events & Programs, continuing with games with the residents, a full-on barbeque, and music and dancing closing out the day.

Throughout the event, the Knights were humbled by the appreciation and thanks given by the residence and ROAR Leadership, including its President and CEO Caune Bamberg.



- From top left
1. Tour of facility
  2. ROAR leadership
  3. Check presentation
  4. Wives and Columbiettes join in service
  5. Knights of all tenures sharing good times



Residents and Knights together



Our cooks deserve credit for a job well done.



Residents share their thanks and Appreciation.

## *Lifesaver award recognizes a special Knight's service*



*In a recent awards ceremony conducted in Haines City, our brother Knight, Sergeant Bobby Brigman, was presented with two lifesaving awards by County Sheriff Grady Judd.*

*In one case, Bobby and his team were attempting an arrest when the suspect attempted to take his own life by cutting his own throat. The team's quick actions kept the suspect alive until EMS arrived. The suspect made a full recovery in part as a result of Bobby and his team's efforts.*

*In the second case, Bobby came upon an individual whom he diagnosed as suffering from a narcotic overdose. He administered a Narcan dose and stayed with the individual until EMS arrived*

*The citation read in part 'in the face of an emergency, your exemplary response showcased an unwavering commitment to public safety and professional excellence ... you are hereby awarded a lifesaving medal.'*

*All of his brother Knights of Council 2505 would like to congratulate and thank him for his 26 years of service to our Community!*



## June Important Dates

June 4th	Tuesday	Program Directors Meeting	6:00 PM
June 6th	Thursday	Officers Meeting	6:30 PM
June 13th	Thursday	Knights' Business Meeting (Rosary at 6:00 PM) (Meeting at 6:30 PM)	6:00 PM
June 15th	Saturday	Flag Day Dedication St. Joseph Parking Lot	After 4:00 PM Mass
June 17th	Monday	4th Degree Assembly Meeting	7:00 PM St Anthony
June 23rd	Sunday	Installation of 2024 - 2025 Officers	1:00 PM St. Joseph Church
June 27th	Thursday	Social Meeting	6:00 PM
June 28th	Friday	Columbiette's Sock Hop Parish Hall	5:30 - 8:30 PM



June 8th, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

## ORDINATION to the Permanent Diaconate



*All are welcomed to witness the ordination of  
18 men, including Mr. Josue Diaz, to the  
permanent Diaconate at Mary Queen of the  
Universe, Orlando.*



## Dates to Remember

	Member Birthdays	
<b>June</b>		
Name	Birthday	Age
Mr Jose M Veloso	06-06-1966	58
Mr Dale R Burzynski	06-07-1962	62
Mr Peter C Croes	06-09-1947	77
Mr Frank A Kotomski	06-14-1939	85
Mr Wayne R Hanneken	06-19-1952	72
Mr James E Manning	06-21-1941	83
Mr Mark T Sagen	06-29-1960	64
	Wife Birthdays	
Member's Name	Wife's Name	Birthday
Mr Stanley A Saisa	Yoany Saisa	06-02
Mr Richard Anthony Kelly	Betty Kelly	06-04
Mr Patrick D Koegler	Carol Koegler	06-05
Mr Dakota William Trull	Karlle Trull	06-06
Mr Thomas E Massarella	Emily Massarella	06-12
Mr Gary J Page	Deborah Page	06-21
Mr Ray G Meche	Jency Meche	06-29
	Member Wedding Anniversaries	
Name	Date	Wife's Name
Mr Eric Thomas	06-05-2004	Adriana Thomas
Mr Thomas E Massarella	06-07-1997	Emily Massarella
Mr Peter C Croes	06-11-1972	Jeanie Croes
Mr Rick B Stevens	06-12-1970	Maryanne E. Stevens
William J Thompson	06-13-1988	Jasmine Thompson
Mr Thomas A Waller	06-14-1980	Eleanor Waller
Mr Gregory J Mc Cabe	06-19-1993	Deborah McCabe
Mr Sean E Rodby	06-19-2015	Mara Vania Rodby
Dr Joe Mari J. Maja	06-20-1996	Miraflor (Mimi) Maja
Mr David K Tebo	06-20-1981	Tina Marie Tebo

## *May Social Describes Modern Hospice in Lakeland*

May's Social, sponsored by the Knights of Council 2505, featured a spaghetti dinner for our Knights and guests. Our featured speaker was Pat Gruber, the Volunteer Coordinator for Cornerstone Hospice in Lakeland, FL. She also serves as Volunteer Manager over some of Cornerstone and Good Shepherd facilities.

Pat is very knowledgeable of how Hospice and Palliative care works. For the past couple of years, both Cornerstone and Good Shepherd have been working to come together under the Chapters Health Services.

Pat's talk at our Social was very informative on the ways that Hospice care works. New facets of care have been added to what they do. Now the family doesn't have to wait for their family doctor to say they should be under hospice services; families can call and have their loved checked out by Hospice doctors and nurses to see if the criteria is met. Also the family is eligible for grief counseling for a year at no cost after the death of a loved one. Children are eligible to attend Camp Braveheart to help them at no cost. Now they also help with pets left behind to rehome them.

Pat confirmed the modern approach that hospice care is not just dying, but dying with dignity.



SK John Duncan introduces the evening's speaker Pat Gruber



A few of our guests enjoy the meal



For more information search  
<https://cornerstonehospice.org/>

*Have something to share, an idea for an article or  
Are you leading an event?*

*Contact Doug Cooper [Dougstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:Dougstjoe@gmail.com) to  
have your contribution included in next month's  
newsletter.*



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### **Andrew Burke**

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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***