

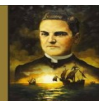
Knights of Columbus

Council #12196 & Bishop Greco Assembly #2160



“Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart is the extraordinary remedy for the extraordinary needs of our time.” -Pope Pius XI, 1928

“Vivat Jesus”





Knights' Messenger

2757 Alderman Rd., Palm Harbor, Fl 34684-1239
Charity - Unity - Fraternity - Patriotism



Volume 15 Number 06 Saint Luke's Council #12196 June 2026

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2025- 2026

Pastor	Rev. Timothy Sherwood
Chaplain	OPEN
Assoc. Ch.	OPEN
Grand Knight	Efrain Valles
Dep. G. K.	Mike Breton
Chancellor	Steve Putnam
Recorder	Jim Jurco
Fin. Sec.	Joe Cilento
Treasurer	Bill Gargiulo
Advocate	Khanh Mai
Warden	John Abernethy
I/G	Freddy Restrepo
O/G	Jim Kurzdorfer

Trustees

1 Yr.	OPEN
2 Yr.	Dennis Deperto
3Yr.	Bob Azbell

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Program Dir.	Bill Gargiulo
Vocations	Andrew Carpenter
Community	OPEN
Culture of Life	Steve Taylor
Membership	OPEN
Youth	OPEN

Bishop Greco Assembly

Faithful Navigator Mike Breton

Newsletter

kofccouncil12196@gmail.com

Supreme Council K of C

www.kofc.org

Grand Knight's Message



June Newsletter Message

Dear Brother Knights,

As we enter the month of June, the final month of our fraternal year and a month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are reminded of our call to serve with charity, faith, and fraternity. Let us finish this year strong, united in our commitment to our parish and to one another.

I want to offer a heartfelt thank you to all the Brother Knights and families who volunteered during these past months. Your support made possible the farewell celebrations for Fr. Camilo and Sister Vigy, the work in the parish tent, the moving and setup of the new parish hall chairs, and many other parish activities and ministries. Every act of service, large or small, reflects the true spirit of the Knights of Columbus.

I also had the privilege of attending the Fourth Degree Exemplification with Fellow Knight John Scumaci and participating in the 122nd annual Florida State Convention with Bill Gargiulo. These experiences strengthened my appreciation for our Order and inspired me to continue serving our Council faithfully.

As summer begins, please continue sharing our mission and inviting more men of the parish to join our brotherhood.

Vivat Jesus!

Efrain Valles GK





COUNCIL No. 12196
MEETS 1st Tuesday of Month

Officers meet 3rd. Tuesday of Month

Prayer for First-Responders

Dear Lord, we pray for our first-responders and essential workers.
Please protect them and keep them safe, bless them and draw
them near to your heart. In Jesus name, Amen

Things to Do In: June 2026

June 2nd: Knights Business Mtg. 6:30PM Pizza and Social - 7PM meeting following Social

June 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th: Eucharistic Adoration after 8am Mass

June 7th: Coffee & Donuts after the 8am and 10am Masses

June 8th: 7 pm Virtual FBE (see flyer inside)

June 16th: Knights Officers Mtg. 7pm Parish Hall

June 27th: 4th degree Exemplification Davie, Florida

Future Events:

July 4th: 10:30 til 2 PM Fourth of July BBQ

August 18t thru 24th: Pilgrim Icon returns to Saint Luke



KNIGHTS NEWS CORNER

ST. LUKE COUNCIL #12196

Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 2nd - 7pm til 8pm

knights will be meeting June, Come and See, Meet, Pray, Plan, Help our Parish, and share fellowship in our social. Guests welcomed!



JOIN THE ST LUKE COUNCIL

12196

**KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS**

CHARITY • UNITY • FRATERNITY •
PATRIOTISM

- ✓ SUPPORT PARISH EVENTS
 - ✓ MEANINGFUL SERVICE
 - ✓ FAITH & FELLOWSHIP
 - ✓ MEN WHO LEAD WITH PURPOSE
- ALL CATHOLIC MEN 18+ WELCOME



Coffee and Donuts

Sunday, June 7th - after 8am and 10am

Volunteers Needed

Happy 4th of July - BBQ.

Saturday, July 4th, starting 10:30 am

Celebrating 250 years of independence. Bring family & friends for a day of joy and community. Setup and Cook with the Knights of Columbus

Volunteers needed



**Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon Returns
to St Luke - Save the Date.
August 18th - 24th**

**Volunteers Needed for these
Events Reach out to
Efrain Valles 727-506-0934
email: gk@kofc12196.org**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION [HTTP://KOFc12196.ORG](http://kofc12196.org)

SICK and DISTRESSED

Please keep in your prayers our Brother Knights & Ladies. Pray for the repose of the souls of all brother Knights, those who are having medical problems and for those who have lost a loved one.

Also, remember the men and women of our armed forces, first responders, fire and police!

Publication Deadline

Before the 1st of Every Month



St Luke Catholic Church Palm Harbor Mass:

Click for: [Bulletin & Mass Times](#)

Chaplain's Message



Dear Brother Knights,

It was great meeting you all at the last meeting of the Knights of Columbus, which also happens to be my last. Now as I write this message, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude and affection, knowing that this will be my final note for the Newsletter as your Chaplain. Over the past few years, it has been a true blessing to serve the Knights of Columbus here at St. Luke. I especially cherished the opportunity to share a message with you each month—moments that kept me connected with you in faith and gave me the chance to reflect and encourage.

I am deeply grateful for the dedication and commitment you have shown in your service to the Church and our parish community. Your works of charity, unity, and fraternity, which I have often spoken about, are not only admirable but also a powerful witness to our faith in action. You have made a real difference in the lives of many, often quietly and humbly, and that is something truly praiseworthy.

Over the past five years, I have also been blessed to serve under three pastors: Fr. Paul Kochu (March 2021 to June 2024), Fr. Richard Rosin (July 2024 to November 2024), and Fr. Tim Sherwood (July 2025 to the present), each of whom has contributed in a unique way to my growth as a priest. I am sincerely grateful for their guidance, support, and example. From each of them, I have learned valuable lessons in pastoral care, leadership, and dedication to God's people. Their encouragement and trust have helped shape my ministry, and I carry those experiences with me as I begin my new assignment.

As I now move on to my new assignment as Pastor of Most Holy Name of Jesus in Gulfport—where there is also a presence of the Knights—I carry with me fond memories of our time together. I warmly invite you to visit me whenever you are able; it would be a joy to welcome you there and continue our bond of fraternity.

With joyful hearts, we also welcome our new associate, Fr. Anthony Kakaire, who will join our parish community on July 1. I wish him God's abundant blessings as he begins his ministry here.

As we enter the summer season, with its opportunities for rest, renewal, and time with family, I pray that each of you may be refreshed in body and spirit. This month, let us also deepen our devotion, especially through the spirit of gratitude and love that marks our Christian life.

Finally, I ask for your prayers as I take up my new responsibilities. Be assured of my continued prayers for each one of you and your families. Though my role as your Chaplain comes to an end, the spiritual bond we share in Christ remains.

May God bless you all!

Fr. Camilo Simoes SAC
Chaplain





Dear Father Camilo,

Thank you for your faithful service and pastoral care to our parish. We will truly miss your presence, your inspiring homilies, and the kindness you showed to everyone.

Congratulations on your new assignment as pastor — the community there is blessed to have you.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry abundantly.

With gratitude and prayers,

Knights of Columbus Council #12196



St Luke Council #12196

Bishop Greco Assembly #2160 Announcements

Fourth Degree



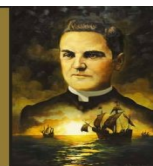
The Fourth Degree is the Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus, and it comprises of 17% of the membership of the Order. The distinctive uniform of Sir Knights make them the most visible arm of the Order to the public.

Purpose

As Fourth Degree Knights, our purpose is to:

- Promote and strengthen the patriotic spirit of the civic community,
- Educate its members and others, both in the teachings of Holy Mother Church, and the history of the USA,
- Promote by example the highest type of citizenship so necessary for the preservation and perpetuation of the Republic form of government and its democratic institutions,
- Oppose dissemination and spread of doctrine dangerous and contrary to our form of government, and to the Divine law of faith and morality; and,
- Support by word and deed, the duly constituted authorities of local, state, and national government, and to recognize excellence in public life.
- The Fourth Degree, both collectively and individually, supports those religious, civic, and charitable causes which are designed to implement one or more of these five objectives.

“Vivat Jesus”



Knights of Columbus
F O U R T H
D E G R E E
Patriotic degree of the Order.



Knights of Columbus®

District Deputy Report

Brother Knights,

With the State Convention behind us now and the election of next year's officers coming up, we must continue to focus on maintaining the level of activity that has gotten us to this point. We must continue to try to get new members so that our charitable works may go on. We must stay visible in our parishes so that our influence can still be felt. We as a group and as individuals have done wondrous acts that must go on as a part of God's work being performed by us for others. Please maintain the momentum that we have started.

As was mentioned to some at the convention, I am stepping down as District Deputy to be able to deal with personal situations better. It has been an honor to serve you and with you in bettering our councils. I feel that you are going in the right direction and great things will still be accomplished. I hopefully will be able to come back in a couple years to help out again. Meanwhile Daniel Sanstrom will be moving down from District 38 to assist you in the future. His contact is dsanstrom@hotmail.com. Continued success in the future.

May God continue to bless us all.

Vivat Jesus!

David Creamer

District Deputy 37



Congratulations

Efrain & John

Welcome to the 4th degree



Knights of Columbus

**FOURTH
DEGREE**

Patriotic degree of the Order.



Knights of Columbus® Florida State Council

122nd Convention, Orlando, Florida May 22nd - 24th, 2026



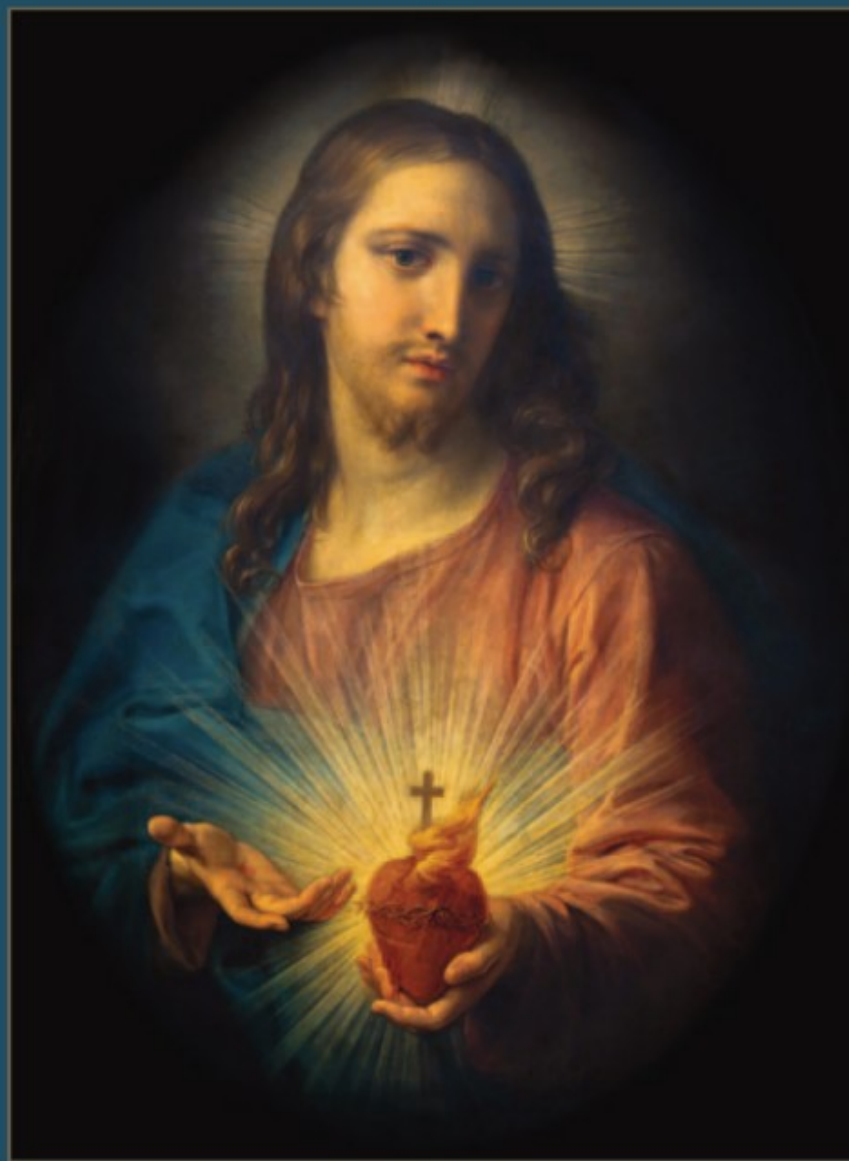
Faith In Action!

Knights St Luke 12196 donated and lend extra hands to setup and test an air-conditioned tent where outdoor events can be held during renovation.

Knights also helped unload the new chairs that will be used in the parish hall.

Join us in volunteering time to Our Parish.



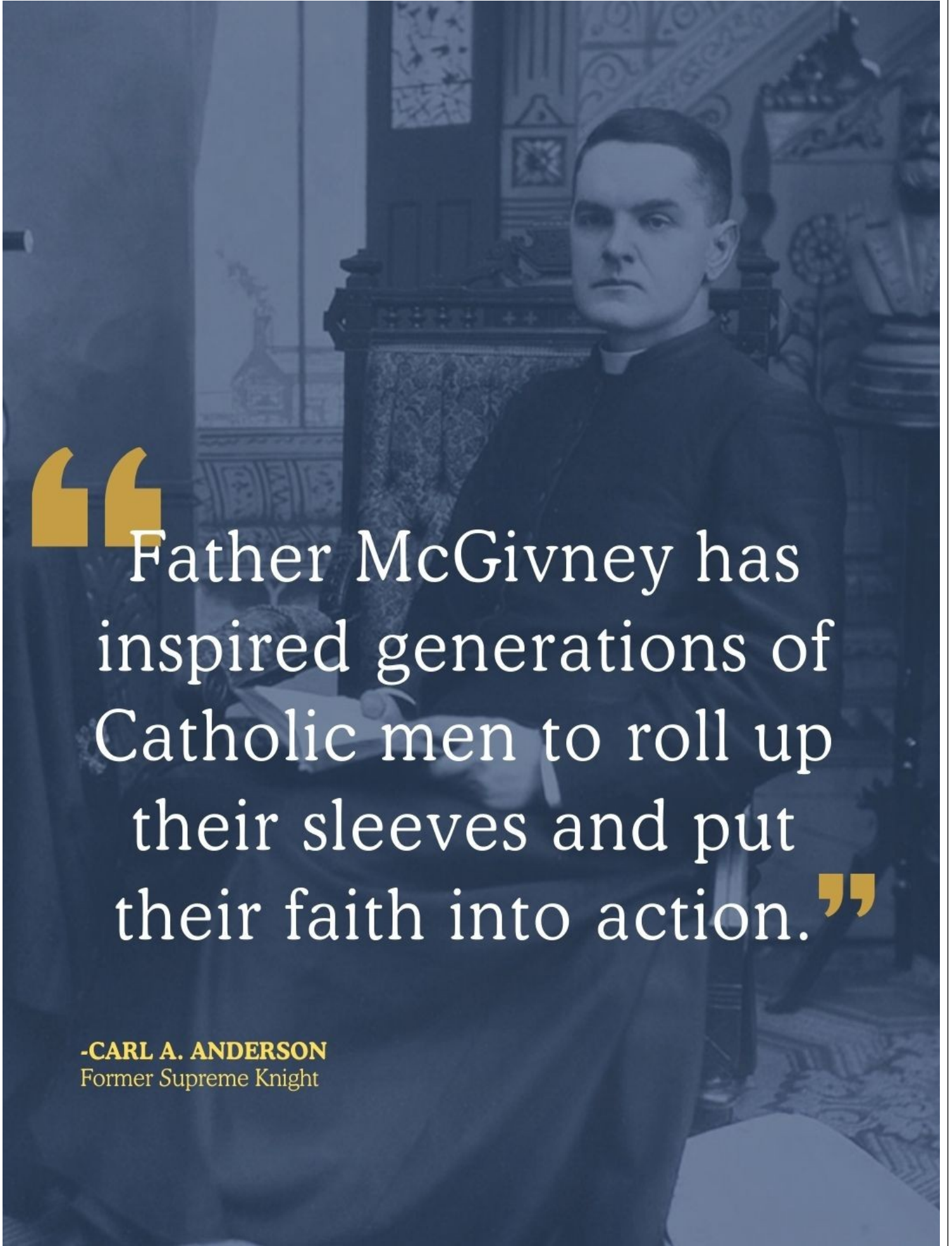


Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon Returns to St Lukes

St Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church

August 18th – 24th





“ Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action. ”

-CARL A. ANDERSON
Former Supreme Knight



Knights of Columbus

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

REACH YOUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL

The Fourth Degree is a group of outstanding Knights, dedicated to promoting patriotism enlightened by their Catholic faith. These Knights, distinguished by exemplary deeds for God, for country, and the Order, are united by the Fourth Degree to support religious, civic, and charitable causes.

Fourth Degree members belong to local units called assemblies. Each assembly is involved in a wide range of public patriotic activities.

Each assembly maintains a Fourth Degree Color Corps and Honor Guard. Uniformed members wearing the Official Uniform, and swords participate in special civic and religious ceremonies. For this reason, the Fourth Degree is often called the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Fourth Degree, one must:

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Be a member in good standing with your Council.
3. Be a practical Catholic.

CHARITY★UNITY★FRATERNITY★PATRIOTISM

For Further Information Contact:

Robert Urrutia PSD, Master
Florida Jurisdiction
407-486-7883

Robert.S.Urrutia84@gmail.com

<https://www.floridakofc.org/Fourth-degree-Forms>

**June
27,
2026**

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

1301 SW 136th Ave
Davie, FL 33325

Registration at 9:30 AM
Exemplification at 11:00 AM
Vigil Mass 1:00 PM
Banquet 2:00 PM

***All applications for membership for the Fourth Degree and banquet reservations must be received by June 18



COLLECTION DRIVE

Help Others In Need!

Donations for Pinellas Hope

- Men's Clothing and Toiletries
- Shampoo, Deodorant, Shaving Cream and Razors
- Perfume, Soap



Donations for Feast Food Pantry

- Non-Perishable, Cans of Food
- Canned Goods: Beans, Vegetables, Meats
- Dry Staples: Rice, Pasta, Oats



We Will Collect These In Our Meetings All Year Round
See The Knights with the black plastic totes!



Coffee & Donuts



share Christ &
fellowship
with other
Parishioners

Sunday, June 7th

(and every 1st Sunday of the month)

In the Parish Hall

Sponsored by the

Knights of Columbus Saint Luke Council #12196



FIELD AGENTS



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

John Ruckart

Field Agent

john.ruckart@kofc.org

813-855-5111 - Oldsmar, Florida

[Lawandus Agency](#)

John Ruckart

Councils: 08095, 00667, 03580, 05092, 05635, 07109, 08612, 09916, 10950, 11138, 11211, 11295, **12196**, 14456, 15798

[Book an Appointment](#) | [Catholic Investments](#)



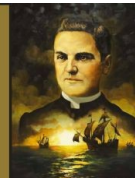
John and his wife Kathleen were married on Valentine's Day in 1997 and are blessed with 4 wonderful children, Matthew, Haley, Johnny and Allison. They are also proud grandparents to 3 awesome grandkids, Clay, Bentley and Annabelle.

John lives in Oldsmar in the same house he was raised in since the age of 4. Along with having proudly served, and recently retired, as an officer in the US Army Signal Corps after 29 years, he also volunteered in the BSA as Cub Scout leader and Scoutmaster for over 13 years. John also currently serves as the Chair of the Oldsmar Veteran's Advisory Board.

John has many favorite pastimes but spending quality time with the family is always top of his list. His family enjoys going to Disney, family get-togethers, visiting their son in Savannah, boating, cruising and traveling to fun and different places. John's hobbies include computers, 3-D printing, drone flying, and playing with the latest tech gadgets.

John is driven by his deep Catholic beliefs and by the love and support of his family. John has been a Knight since 1992 and is dedicated to the mission of the Knights of Columbus and feels honored to serve in this wonderful organization. In following his desire to help others, he is grateful to have the opportunity to serve his brother knights and their families, helping them achieve the financial security they strive for.

"Vivat Jesus"



Field Agent Message

Brothers,

Father's Day is June 21. When you think of the qualities of a good father, what comes to mind?

You might picture someone who leads by example, works hard, makes sacrifices, and loves unconditionally.

I think one of the most important ways a father shows his love is when he protects his family in this world that can be so uncertain.

For example, we can't always control what influence the world might have on our family's lives. That's why a father knows it's crucial to guard his family spiritually, leading by example in faith.

Similarly, we can't always predict how life circumstances might impact our ability to provide for our families financially. Will our employment remain secure? Will we experience a long-term disability? And, as much as we don't like to think about it, will the Lord call us home at a time we don't expect?

There are many unknowns, but there are things you can do to protect your family and build security. For example, you can guard your loved ones through life insurance, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance.

Before I close, I'd like to share a story about our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney.

When he was 20 years old and in seminary, his father, Patrick, passed away. This left young Michael uncertain whether he would need to leave seminary and work in a factory to support his siblings and widowed mother. Thankfully, his bishop intervened and provided financial support to allow him to continue his studies for the priesthood.

As a result of this experience, Father McGivney knew firsthand how the death of a loved one could bring about uncertainty for the family.

In founding the Knights of Columbus, he started an Order that allows Catholic men like you to be the protectors their families need — even during life's hardest moments.

I invite you to meet with me to review your current coverage or to partner in finding you the coverage to match your family's needs. I would also be glad to share some of the other services offered by our affiliates, including Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors and Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund.

Vivat Jesus!

John D Ruckart, FICF, 813-855-5111

Book an appt with me here: <https://bookRuckart.flkofc.com/>

Learn about our investments: <https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>

Learn about our investments: <https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>



John Ruckart
Financial Advisor
Lawendus Agency
M: 813-855-5111
203 Shore D E, Oldsmar, FL 34677
john.ruckart@kofc.org
<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/Meet-John-Ruckart.html>

Knights of Columbus
Asset Advisors*

Catholic Investing

Let your faith guide your financial decisions

[LEARN MORE](#)

VIRTUAL FBE

How Your Field Agent Can Help Your Family

Please join us on **Monday, June 8th, 2026 at 7 PM Eastern Time** where Regional Agency Executive Consultant and General Agent Sonny Sangemino will discuss the many ways your Knights of Columbus Field Agent or IAR can assist you and your family.

Sonny has been working for the Order for 28 years and is General Agent to a successful agency in Ontario, Canada and oversees our Canadian Agencies.

Sonny has been training and public speaking for years and is able to communicate complex scenarios in an entertaining and engaging manner.

This presentation applies to both Canadian and American members.

Join us for this educational and entertaining topic by registering below by scanning the QR code:



SONNY SANGEMINO

CHS, CPCA, FIC

Regional Agency Executive Consultant
General Agent



Monday, June 8th, 2026 - 7 PM EST



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Sangemino Agency

In Memorandum

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Mike Giacalone 08/18/20

Brian McParland 5/10/21

Ken Listle 8/18/21

Eugene Wittman 11/20/21

Richard Sweeney 8/27/21

“Ted” Kostanski 11/07/21

Thomas Riggio 05/02/22

Charles Viaud 04/22/22

Rich Barbaro 01/31/23

Armand Iannone 7/29/23

Walter Schwacke 09/02/23

Deacon Joe Reid 09/16/23

Nunzio Quagliana 03/14/24

Robert Kurtz, 08/01/24

Fr. Matteo Rizzo 03/20/25

Fr. Richard Rosin 12/01/24

William “Bill” Kelly 04/03/25

Henry J. Schum 09/27/25

Victor Huff 01/19/26

Terry Biondi 8/19/21

Mary Cabano 11/22/21

Molly Garofolo 02/22/21

Myra Grayem 11/18/21

Nancy Giacalone 01/30/22

Nancy Lay 07/02/22

Peggy Caufield 10/5/22

Carol Murray 09/10/23

Muriel Crane 12/2/23

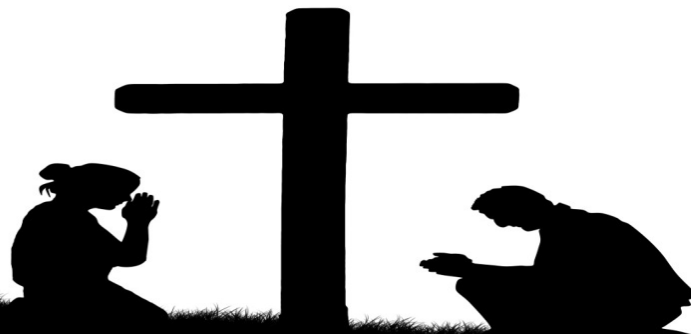
Lucille Matejka 12/10/23

Teresa Schum 02/13/24

Marilyn Breton 02/15/24

Barbara Chicano 03/04/25

Kathryn Batassa 12/24/25

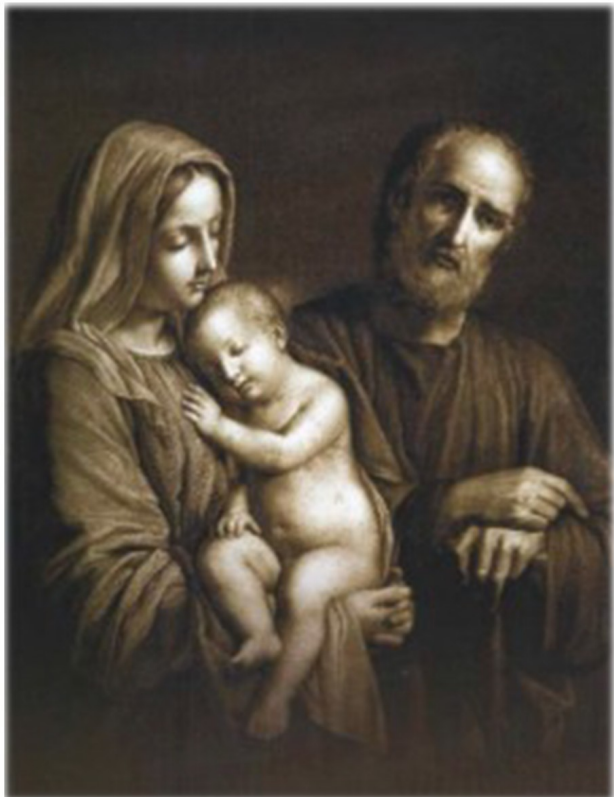


As we enter heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us, and thanking us. We will ask who they are, and they will say ‘a poor soul you prayed for in purgatory.’
Ven. Fulton Sheen



God, Our Father, protector of the poor, and defender of the widow and orphan, you called Your priest, blessed Michael 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 continue his work of caring for the needy and the out-cast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of Your Holy Will. Through his inter-session, grant the favor I now present (here make your request) through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Please report all favors received:
The Michael McGivney Guild
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, Ct 06510-3326 USA
www.fathermcgivney.org
Painting by: Chas Fagan Knight of Columbus



A Family Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family. Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more fully this vocation to love.

In our daily life and work, may we reflect the self-giving love which You, Our Father, eternally show with Your Son and the Holy Spirit.

May our family always be a place of generosity, understanding, forgiveness, and joy. Kindly, give us the wisdom and courage to be witnesses to Your eternal design for the family; and grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to holiness as a family.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen

Exorcist Diary #396: A Bulwark Against Satan's Attack on Families...The Knights of Columbus [Msgr. Stephen Rossetti](#) 8 min read

[Msgr. Rossetti and Gina praying at McGivney's Tomb]



In New Haven, CT at St. Mary's Church, Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney is buried. Some SMC team members were blessed to pray at his tomb. SMC strongly supports his devotion and the organization that he founded: The Knights of Columbus. Fr. McGivney founded the Knights for several reasons including helping families with deceased members and providing spiritual support to Catholic men and their families as an alternative to Freemasonry.

The Catholic Church, even in recent years, has reiterated that "active membership in Freemasonry by a member of the faithful is forbidden because of the irreconcilability between Catholic doctrine and Freemasonry." SMC has experienced, time and again, the spiritual damage caused by such membership. Because of its widespread effects in the USA, we take all

of our clients through a spiritual "scrubbing" of any evils related to Freemasonry and all other occult spirits. We often witness the real liberating effects of such prayers.

The Knights of Columbus is perhaps even more important today than when he founded it in 1882. Knights provide a solid Catholic spirituality for men and their families. Moreover, this international organization reaches around the world, including throughout North America, Europe and Asia, including a center in the Ukraine, in its multi-million dollar charitable works. Membership is booming. Last year it admitted 100k new members and this year the number is expected to be even higher!



As Sr. Lucia of Fatima wrote: "A decisive battle between the kingdom of Christ and Satan will be over marriage and the family." We see it today! The Knights are a solid force to promote healthy and holy families. I am a member.



America 250: Prayer, Charity and the Sacred Heart of Jesus

American Knights look forward to our nation's 250th birthday, thanking God for his blessings and marking this anniversary with renewed prayer and acts of charity toward our neighbors.

This summer, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and are urging all parishes to commit to 250 hours of Eucharistic adoration and 250 works of mercy. We also call on all Knights and their families to dedicate themselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and participate in adoration of Jesus and service to others.

Join us in making America's 250th anniversary a year of devotion, prayer and charity!

[Plan an Event](#)




Ladies Auxiliary

JUNE 2026



END OF YEAR DONATIONS

- St. Luke's towards a new Ambo - \$5,500
 - St. Luke's St Vincent DePaul Ministry - \$500.00
 - Pinellas Hope - \$500.00
 - FEAST Food Pantry - \$500.00
 - Kimberly Home - \$250.00
 - Suncoast Hospice - \$250.00
 - St. Luke's preschool - \$250.00
- 



MEMBER SERVICE AWARDS

5 Years: Christine Bailiff, Catherine Burns, Christine Byars, Kathy Fodor, Betty Moys, Geraldine Nau, Pamela Noll, Agnes Shockley, Mary Anne Wilmer, Kathleen Wyman, Mary Yebba, Eileen Zilvetti

10 Years: Lorraine Kelly


15 Years: Christine Rossell

20 Years: Nancy Chicollo



THANK YOU!

Thanks to all for your generosity, service, and dedication in making our 2025-26 year extra special. Enjoy your summer!



- Jean, Alice, Karen, Christine & Carol





June 2026

June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Saints Feast Days In June (Click)	1	2 KofC Business Meeting	3	4	5 Eucharistic Adoration after 8AM Mass 8:30 AM -9:00 AM	6
7 Coffee & Donuts after 8am & 10am Masses 	8 FBE Virtual Meeting 7PM online All Knights (see flyer above)	9	10	11	12 Eucharistic Adoration after 8AM Mass 8:30 AM -9:00 AM	13
14	15	16 K of C Officers Mtg. 7PM Parish Hall	17	18	19 Eucharistic Adoration after 8AM Mass 8:30 AM -9:00 AM	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Eucharistic Adoration after 8AM Mass 8:30 AM -9:00 AM	27 4 th Degree Exemplification Davie, Florida (see flyer above)
28	29	30				

****Overview for the Month**

The world is resplendent with Spring's increased light and new growth. It is Mary's month in the Easter season, and all of nature rejoices with the Queen of heaven at the Resurrection of the Son she was worthy to bear. During the remainder of Easter time, let us endeavor through the prayers of the Holy Liturgy and the Holy Rosary to deepen our gratitude for the mystery of our Baptismal rebirth in Christ.

"The month of May, with its profusion of blooms was adopted by the Church in the eighteenth century as a celebration of the flowering of Mary's maidenly spirituality...With its origins in Isaiah's prophecy of the Virgin birth of the Messiah under the figure of the Blossoming Rod or Root of Jesse, the flower symbolism of Mary was extended by the Church Fathers, and in the liturgy, by applying to her the flower figures of the Sapiential Books- Canticles, Wisdom, Proverbs and Sirach.