



Knights of Columbus St. Ignatius of Antioch

NEWSLETTER

January 2026 - Issue 43

COUNCIL 7621

DISTRICT DEPUTY
David Creamer

GRAND KNIGHT
Phil Hoyle

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT
Dan Kilbride

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Jack Peeke

CHANCELLOR
Don Tobey

TREASURER
Alan DeFrain

ADVOCATE
John Donnell

WARDEN
Bob Wright

INSIDE GUARD
John Gregor

OUTSIDE GUARD
Mitch Incorvaia

TRUSTEES
Paul Carey
Steve Thomas
Tom McKone

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Gary Cloutier

LECTURER
Mike Moraca

CHAPLAIN
Fr. Sojan



Toys for Tots - December 20, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 1

New Year's Day

JANUARY 11

*KC Pancake
Breakfast*

JANUARY 12

*KC 4th Degree
Meeting*

JANUARY 15

*KC 3rd Degree
Meeting*

JANUARY 19

MLK Day

KC MLK Mass

JANUARY 31

*Men's Health
Screening*

*KC 4th Degree
Exemplification*

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
— John 1:5*

BAPTISM MINISTRY 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

The Baptism Ministry has supported 31 baptisms during 2025 and provided 38 custom baptism shells, including shells for members of the Spanish-speaking community. In August, the KC Supreme Council recognized Council 7621 for innovation in its Baptism Program, which was presented via a national webinar. As a result, four councils in multiple states have adopted this model, extending the program's impact beyond our parish. The ministry also continues to expand its community outreach, including producing custom baptism shells for other Christian denominations in Tarpon Springs. Special thanks to **SK Steve Thomas** for leading and coordinating the Baptism Program, and sincere thanks to all the volunteers who give their time in service to our parish and community.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEND A HAND AT TOYS FOR TOTS

The U.S. Marine Corps annual Toys for Tots campaign for Pinellas County, FL was a success. According to event officials, the annual toy drive netted approximately 30,000 toys and about 800 bicycles for distribution to children who otherwise might not have received a gift from Santa this Christmas. It is estimated that about 9,000 families were served, with next year's goal of 10,000 well in sight. This was the first year that Knights of Columbus Council 7621, Tarpon Springs, FL, took part in the distribution of these toys. **Brother Knight Devin Akins** spearheaded this effort by recruiting 21 volunteers to either wrap gifts or escort the wrapped gifts to waiting vehicles. This was done in shifts over a two-day span. All those who took part remarked on how well run the event was and how nice it was to see the children's faces as bags of presents were loaded into their parents' vehicles. Maybe next year we can get even more Knights to participate in this most worthy program.

Pictured on the first page (L to R): Vince Huth, K of C; Laura Akins, volunteer; Dorothy Moraca, volunteer; Mike Moraca, K of C; and Devin Akins, K of C.

(Article submitted by SK Steve Thomas)

COUNCIL 7621: A YEAR OF FAITH IN ACTION

Thank you to all of our Knights and volunteers for your dedication, time, and generosity throughout 2025. Your service and commitment made each of these moments possible and continue to strengthen our parish and community.



Habitat for Humanity



Veteran's Day Collection



Altar Server Appreciation Dinner



CPR Class



First Friday



Respect for Life Service



Baptismal Program



Mini Grant Program



Installation of Officers



4th Degree Exemplification



Toys for Tots



13th Annual **MEN'S ONLY MORNING**

Saturday, January 31st, 2026

8:00am - 11:30am

St. Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church Hall

826 E. Orange St., Tarpon Springs, FL

You'll have the opportunity to:

- ✓ Discover new ways to improve your health
- ✓ Get free health screenings
- ✓ Participate in health discussions with experts
- ✓ Complimentary continental breakfast and light lunch provided

REGISTER NOW



727-939-6404



AdventHealthNorthPinellas.com/HealthyHappenings

Registration Required, Space is limited



Give a gift of spiritual strengthening to the men in your life!

Finding Hope and Healing in a Broken World

**16th Annual
Tampa Bay Men's Conference**

Featuring Fr. Dan Reehil, Dr. Dillon Caswell
and Bishop Gregory Parkes

Saturday, February 14, 2026

Higgins Hall at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Tampa

\$60 per person with a special 2 for 1 Father/Son combo ticket
Tickets include lunch and free parking

This Christmas give a gift that brings your men closer to Christ.



For tickets or more information visit: SuncoastCatholicMinistries.com



Baptismal Program

*Interested in helping?
You don't have to be a Knight;
couples are welcome!*

Contact: Steve Thomas (508-320-6423)

JOIN
★ THE ★
4TH DEGREE
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Become a Sir Knight!

Contact: Don Tobey (727-815-8912)

Get involved with
DONUT MINISTRY!

Contact: Devin Akins (603-680-0274)

BAPTISMAL PROGRAM

Congratulations and welcome to those newly baptized in December!



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH – *Sebastian Pelczar*

Officiant: Fr. Daniel

Baptism Team: Don Tobey & Dawn Ellis



DISTRICT DEPUTY NOTE - SIR DAVID CREAMER

Brother Knights,

Happy New Year!

With the Christmas season almost past us, we must be prepared to continue the good work we have been accomplishing. It was pointed out to me recently to add this thought to my evening prayers "Lord, did I make You smile today?". If we are doing all that we can as Knights to fulfill that which we try to achieve, we can probably proudly answer yes.

Charity is our main precept and what we do best in helping out those who we can make a difference for. The Knights live by the notion that "Involved Men Stay Knights". As we become better men and try to make those around us better, our example of staying involved is important in showing what it takes to help others as Jesus would and would want us to do. Remembering the important lessons that we learned during the Christmas season and Advent should be maintained in order to grow as better Catholics and men. Looking onward towards Lent, let us keep focused and be the best that we can be.

May God bless us for all that we do.

Vivat Jesus!

**David Creamer
District Deputy 37**



St. Ignatius of Antioch Council 7621
Tarpon Springs, Florida

GRAND KNIGHT'S NOTE - SIR PHIL HOYLE

Brother Knights,

As we begin a new year, we do so still filled with the joy of Christmas — celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Christmas season reminds us that Christ entered the world humbly, bringing light, hope, and peace to all. As Knights, we are called to carry that light forward into the year ahead through our faith, our service, and our fraternity.

A New Year Rooted in Gratitude

January is a natural time for reflection and thanksgiving. I am deeply grateful for the year we have already shared together — for your dedication, generosity, and commitment to our parish and Council. Because of your efforts, we continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others while growing together as Catholic men.

Thank You for Outstanding Service

I would like to extend special thanks to **Brother Devin Akins** for leading a successful Toys for Tots drive. Your leadership and dedication helped bring joy to many children and families during the Christmas season. Thanks to all those who volunteered!!

Thank you as well to **Brother Tony St. George** for once again leading a very successful Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. This important program continues to remind our parish community — especially our youth — of the true meaning of Christmas, and your continued leadership is greatly appreciated.

Continued Prayers for Those in Need

Please continue to keep in prayer the **Good of the Order**, especially our brothers and family members who are ill, struggling, or facing difficult circumstances. Our prayers strengthen our brotherhood and remind us that no one walks alone.

May the light of Christ guide us throughout this new year — in our families, our parish, and our community. Thank you, Brother Knights, for your faith, your service, and your fraternity. It is an honor to serve as your Grand Knight, and I look forward to all that God has in store for our Council in the year ahead.

Vivat Jesus!

Phil Hoyle
Grand Knight

Grow our Council, Support our Parish, Grow as Catholic Men in Charity, Unity, Fraternity

Next meeting is Monday, January 12th – Plan to attend!



Fr. Edward J. Farrell
Assembly #1774

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
4843 Mile Stretch Dr, Holiday, FL 34690

Do **YOU** want to be a Sir Knight?

- 1) **Eligibility:** Be a Third Degree member in good standing
- 2) **Application:** Obtain an application from your local Assembly or Council.
- 3) **Sponsorship:** Secure a sponsorship from a **Sir Knight** in good standing.
- 4) **Exemplification:** Participate in the Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony. This inspiring event will formally welcome you into the ranks of the **Sir Knights**.

It's Local>Here in Tampa
Jan. 31, 2026

Deadline to turn in
paperwork

& Fee is: **Fri. Jan. 9th**

CONTACT: Don Tobey
Faithful Navigator

727-815-8912
(Call or Text)



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.

CHARITY★UNITY★FRATERNITY★PATRIOTISM

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.

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>

Jan. 31, 2026

St. Mark the Evangelist Church
9724 Cross Creek Blvd
Tampa, FL 33647
Registration at 9:00 AM
Exemplification at 11:00 AM
Banquet at 2:00 PM
Mass at 4:00 PM

***All applications for membership for the Fourth Degree and banquet reservations must be received by January 17