



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SAINT THOMAS MORE COUNCIL 7121  
5205 A1A SOUTH  
SAINT AUGUSTINE, FL 32080-8006  
**JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER**



## CELEBRATE OUR COUNCIL'S NAMESAKE FEAST DAY ON JUNE 22



Council 7121 is named after St. Thomas More, Renaissance man, poet, scholar and lawyer. More was a devout Roman Catholic and studied monastic communalism, briefly considering joining either the Carthusian or Franciscan orders. Besides speaking fluent Latin and Greek, he studied French, history, and mathematics, and also learned to play the flute and the viol. As a legal scholar, he fought any form of heresy, especially the incursion of Protestantism into England. His legal abilities elevated him to Lord Chancellor of England, second in power only to King Henry VII.

His story was made famous in the "Man for All Seasons", in which he opposed the king on the matter of royal divorce, refusing to swear the Oath of Supremacy which declared the king the head of the Church in England. He resigned the Chancellorship and was imprisoned in the Tower of London, beheaded for refusal to bend his religious beliefs to the king's political needs. "I die the king's good servant," he told the executioner, "but God's first."

St. Thomas More was beatified by Pope Leo XIII in 1886 and canonized in 1935 by Pope Pius XI. Pope John Paul II in 2000 declared him the patron saint of statesmen and politicians, adopted children; difficult marriages, large families, widowers, civil servants, court clerks and lawyers.

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[THE POPE'S PRAYER MESSAGE for June 2024:](#) For migrants fleeing their homes.

We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

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Watch the [www.kofc7121.org/calendar](http://www.kofc7121.org/calendar) for additions and corrections to events that might not have been announced in time for publication of this newsletter.

Please email your news and articles for the next newsletter to [kofc7121@gmail.com](mailto:kofc7121@gmail.com)

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See the **GOOD OF THE ORDER** web page for the list of Brothers, family members and friends in need of prayers, including the repose of the soul of Brother George Zajewski. Prayers are also requested for others sick or in distress. Names are added to this list as announcements are received. Please click this link (or bookmark it).

Your birthday comes along  
with bright and sunny days,  
June is such a special month  
in oh so many ways.  
Here's a birthday wish  
for happy days to come,  
and may your year be filled  
with laughter, joy and fun.

### JUNE BIRTHDAY LIST

**Happy Birthday** to all the Brothers with birthdays in the month of June. Celebrate the summer solstice at 4:51 PM EDT on June 20, then check the list on the right for other days to celebrate as we wish all the birthday boys a great big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

BROTHER	BIRTHDAY	AGE
Herb Zieglmeier	06-01	87
Justin Bianca	06-02	42
Bob Kalinoski	06-03	77
Bob Briscoe	06-08	64
Tom Blackstone	06-11	68
Richard Bucher	06-12	65
Dean Cox	06-14	60
Anthony Piselli	06-18	62
Lenley Rafuse	06-21	62
Michael M Bauer	06-24	72
Thomas Alexander	06-30	72

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The [kofc7121.org](http://kofc7121.org) council website allows use of shared file and document storage on the Google Drive. Files can be viewed by anyone who has the file link.

Click here to view the [Final Minutes of the April 25 2024 meeting](#)

Click here to view the [Draft Minutes of the May 23 2024 meeting](#)

Please review the draft minutes of the previous meeting for expedited corrections / approval at the next business meeting. By using these electronic media files, we are able to simplify business meetings and eliminate a lot of uninformed discussions.

**BUSINESS MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**COUNCIL 7121 BUSINESS MEETING**  
**4th Thursday**  
**St. Anthony Hall**  
**(Community Center)**  
**JUNE 27**  
**Recitation of the Rosary 6:30 PM - Business Meeting starts at 7:00 PM**



## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FRATERNAL YEAR 2024-2025**

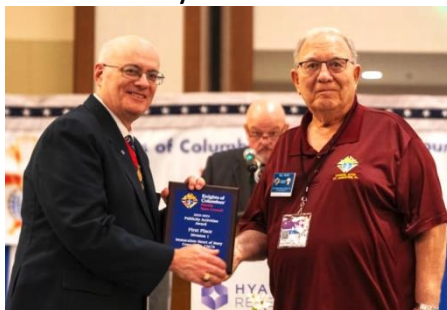
The annual election of officers was held at the May 23 business meeting. Elected by acclamation were: Grand Knight–Bill Remy; DGK–Ken Scher; Chancellor–Bill Coleman; Recorder–Frank Merenda; Treasurer–Tim Buckley; Advocate–Chuck Nitsch; Warden–Dennis Tucker; Inside Guard–Jim McIlhenney; Outside Guard–Steve Barthelmes; Trustees–Tom Alexander (1st year), Dave Morrison (2nd year), Tom Kelly (3rd year). Rick Cosby has agreed to reappointment as Financial Secretary, and the Jack Jones has been appointed as Lecturer.

## **2024 FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION**



Council 7121 was represented at the 2024 Florida State Council Convention in Orlando on May 24-26 by GK Bill Remy (left), Chancellor Bill Coleman, and District Warden Brian Foy.

Below - State Deputy Richard Hughes presents the Division 2 Third Place Award for Faith Activities to our Worthy GK.



The 3<sup>rd</sup>-place plaque (right) will assume its place of honor on the "Council 7121 Wall" in the Community Center.





## THE COUNCIL ETERNAL

### IN MEMORIAM

Our Brother  
**George J. Zajewski †**  
Age 86, Was Called To His  
Eternal Reward In Heaven  
May 12, 2024

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him, Oh Lord  
And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him

Our Prayers and Heartfelt Sympathy  
To His Family



SUNDAY | JUNE 9 | IN CELEBRATION HALL

BLUEBERRY PANCAKES - EGGS - SAUSAGE  
HOME FRIES - JUICE - COFFEE

\$7/PERSON – BEST DEAL IN TOWN!  
Children 8 & under EAT FREE!

## WELCOME TO NEW BROTHER ANDY SHOTWELL



GK Bill Remy (left) poses in front of the council awards wall in the Community Center on May 23 with our newest member - Andy Shotwell.

Andy is a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sir Knight, joins us by way of Council 611. He is a Marine Corps veteran and currently serves as Senior Vice-Commandant of the Marine Corps League Oldest City Detachment #383.

Welcome to St. Thomas More Council  
7121 Andy!!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SINKS TO NEW DEPTHS



**We can use your help transforming the Formation Center to an undersea world!**

Can you lend or donate: scuba gear (tanks, masks, fins), fish nets, clear fishing line, crab traps, buoys, inner tubes, large anchors, canvas drop clothes, boxes of all shapes and sizes, a boat, pool noodles.

Please bring what you can lend or donate to the Parish Office Monday—Friday from 9am to 4pm.

Thanks so much!!

**BROTHER KNIGHTS:** We are AGAIN helping with the closing ceremony **VBS lunch** on Friday, June 21, BUT it will be INDOOR COOKING ONLY – nothing outside!.

Cooking begins at 10 am in the kitchen, need two people to help flip burgers and prep salads. Also need 2-3 other people around 12:30 to help clean up.

## COUNCIL DONATES \$1K TO ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS



At the April 25 business meeting the council voted to donate startup funds to the St. Johns County Ancient Order of Hibernians, which chartered both a mens and ladies division at St. Anastasia in 2023. Left, AOH President Ed Rice receives a \$500 check for the mens group from GK Bill Remy, followed by presentation of another \$500 check (right) to Dorothyann Connallon, president of the LAOH ladies group.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians of America is an Irish and Irish-American organization that traces its roots back to the organization of the Defenders in Ireland in 1565 to protect Roman Catholic priests and the Church against English persecution.

The St. Johns County AOH division now has grown to 18 men and 20 ladies, who showed up in force (right) to march in the 2024 St. Patrick's Day parade, kicking off the St. Augustine Celtic Music and Heritage Festival. The groups meet at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Formation Center.

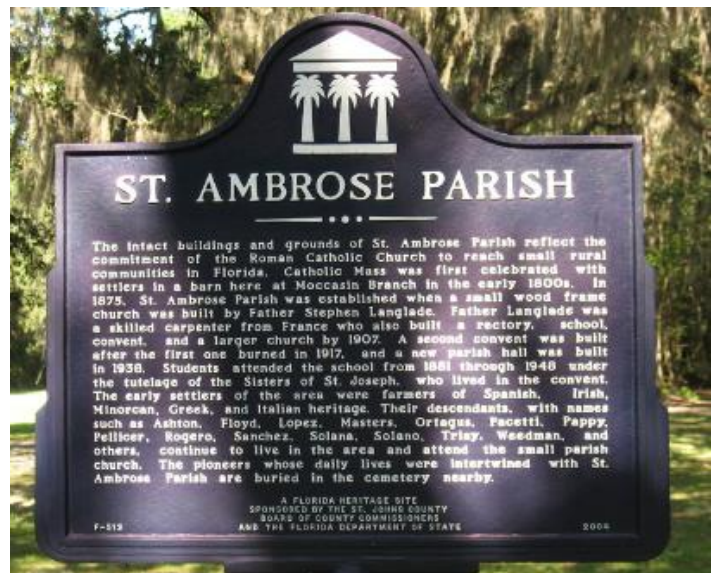


## COUNCIL 7121 ASSISTS NEW COUNCIL 18358 WITH STARTUP FUNDS



GK Bill Remy (center) presents a check for \$500 to GK David Zachary of newly-chartered Council 18358 at their regular business meeting on May 21 at St. Ambrose Church in Elkton. St. Ambrose Parish was established when a small wood frame church was built in 1875 by Father Stephen Langlade, a skilled carpenter from France who also built a rectory, school, convent, and a larger church by 1907. The council is named in honor of Father Langlade.

A second convent was built after the first one burned in 1917, and a new parish hall was built in 1938. Students attended the school from 1881 through 1948 under the tutelage of the Sisters of St. Joseph, who lived in the convent. The early settlers of the area were farmers of Spanish, Irish, Minorcan, Greek, and Italian heritage. Their descendants, with names such as Ashton, Floyd, Lopez, Masters, Ortagus, Pacetti, Pappy, Pellicer, Rogero, Sanchez, Solana, Solano, Triay, Weedman, and others, continue to live in the area and attend the small parish church. The pioneers whose daily lives were intertwined with St. Ambrose Parish are buried in the cemetery nearby.





## FATHER SEAMUS SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



A total of \$6,750 in scholarships has been awarded to ten students from six parish families. In its 15th year, the Fr. Seamus Scholarship Fund has awarded \$71,250 to students of Cathedral Parish School and St. Joseph Academy.

Changes to the scholarship program are being considered to be compatible with rules and regulations of the State of Florida Step Up For Students.

### 2024-2025 Father Seamus O'Flynn Scholarship Recipients

School	Student(s)	Parents
Cathedral Parish School	Dylan Dubrow	Derek & Allison Dubrow
Cathedral Parish School	Luis & Victoria Hemelt	Ryan & Laura Hemelt
Cathedral Parish School	Lucas & Summer Hesson	James & Jennifer Hesson
Cathedral Parish School	Natalie, Darcy, & Mary Claire Schoonover	Brian & Liz Schoonover
St. Joseph Academy	Adrian & Angelina Hemelt	Ryan & Laura Hemelt
St. Joseph Academy	Luciana Morin	Helen Morin
St. Joseph Academy	Cody Ott	Bryan & Melody Ott

To see the history of the Fr. Seamus scholarship program, visit the [kofc7121.org/fr-seamus-scholarship](https://kofc7121.org/fr-seamus-scholarship) webpage.

## THIS NOVEMBER, VOTE AS IF YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT

Read the statement from the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops [flaccb.org/abortion-amendment](https://flaccb.org/abortion-amendment)

**No. 4 Constitutional Amendment, Article 1, New Section**  
**Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion**  
No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.  
☐ Yes ☒ No  **VOTE "NO!"**

## GOVERNMENT INACTION IN HAITI – KNIGHTS IN ACTION

You probably did not hear any media reports of a daring midnight helicopter rescue on March 11, 2024 of American columnist and author Mitch Albom ("Finding Chika", "Tuesdays With Morrie", "The Little Liar"), his wife and eight volunteers from the Have Faith Haiti Orphanage in Port-au-Prince, which the Alboms have supported for over 10 years. Albom was unable to flee the unrest or get help until reaching out to Florida congressman Cory Mills. Mills, who served in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division from 1999 to 2004, personally mounted an overland rescue of a family of four from Afghanistan during the chaotic American withdrawal in 2021. Mills turned for help to Anthony Marinello, owner of Tropic Air Charters in Fort Lauderdale. Marinello, a former Army First Sergeant and New Jersey State Police helicopter pilot, enlisted his friend with a similar service and pilot background, Benny Matos of Jupiter. Both Marinello and Matos are Brother Knights in Council 4955 in Pompano Beach. Matos is also a Field Agent for the Knights and was ordained a Permanent Deacon in 2023. Where there's a need, there's a Knight. Hear the whole story in the YouTube video interview [Mitch Albom Describes Haiti Rescue](#)



## MORE THAN A FOOD DRIVE COMPLETES VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR



Food collection in the drive-thru lane was manned on Saturday afternoon by (below left) Brothers Jim Burns, John Decknick, Chuck Nitsch and Dennis Tucker. The crack-o-dawn crew on Sunday morning consisted of the Schoonovers, with Herb Zieglmeir in the background. Helping at other times and other Masses were Jim Burns (triple), Herb Zieglmeier (twice), Nicky Demato, Wayne Cramer, Pat Petrick and Steve Barthelmes

The May More Than A Food Drive completes our Food For Families program for the fraternal year. Total collections over the 5 drives amounted to **11,000 lb** of food and **\$29,260** in cash and gift card donations to St. Francis House, Catholic Charities of St. Augustine, and St. Anastasia Community Outreach. Thank you to all the Brothers who helped in any way collecting, sorting and delivering food drive items, and especially to all those who regularly contribute so generously with "More Than Food".

## NIGHT OF DANCING FINISHES STRONG SEASON

Celebration Hall was decked out in red, white & blue Memorial Day colors on Saturday night, May 18, as Tim Rippey provided the music, songs and dance tunes for almost three hours to a hopping crowd of 175 guests., highlighted with Tim's rendition of "God Bless the USA".



Council 7121 provides the cash bar service to this public social event, with (below left) Brian Foy, Kevin Dooner, Chuck Nitsch, Mary Dooner and Steve Barthelmes handling the late shift refreshments after Tim Buckey, Mark Clark and Nelson and Delores Jambard handled the first shift. The dance is also a major fundraiser for Special Olympics, contributing \$1130 from the last four dances. Brian Foy (bottom right) receives the envelope with \$198 from the tip jar and 50/50. This was **the last dance of the year** for Tim Rippey. The June 22 dance has been cancelled. See you next fall!!





## THE PARISH CORNER

*"You pray for the hungry.  
Then you feed them.  
That's how prayer works."*

— Pope Francis

### St. Martin de Porres Community Outreach Room

The Outreach room is open **Mon. —Fri. 8:30am—10:00am** or **30 minutes after weekend Masses** to receive donations of non-perishable food items, gently used clothing & shoes, new packs of adult sized socks & undergarments, yoga mats, travel size soap & shampoo and feminine items. We ask that you please keep in mind the limited space inside the outreach room. The weight of the bag you're leaving is a consideration as some of our distribution angels" have physical limitations. To help this ministry, contact Sister Anne Halpin before or after Mass in the Outreach Room.



## The Ancient Order of HIBERNIANS

Irish • Catholic • American

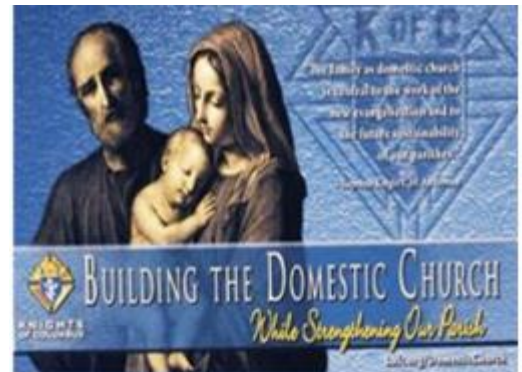
The Ancient Order of Hibernians is America's oldest Irish Catholic Fraternal Organization founded concurrently in the coal-mining region of Pennsylvania and New York City in May, 1836. The Order can trace its roots back to a series of similar societies that existed in Ireland for more than 300 years. Today the AOH exists in America, Canada, Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland. While the organizations share a common thread, however, the American AOH is a separate and much larger organization.

We invite all Catholics of Irish birth or descent to seek admittance to the FINEST Irish Catholic Organization in the world — all we would ask is for you to live our motto of: "Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity".

The St. Anastasia Chapter meets on the third Tuesday of each month. For more information:

Women – contact Maureen [mleahyrice@gmail.com](mailto:mleahyrice@gmail.com)

Men – contact Ed [edaohrice11362@gmail.com](mailto:edaohrice11362@gmail.com)



Have you seen the display with printed materials in the narthex near the Gift Shop?

The Knights of Columbus 'Building the Domestic Church' kiosk offers a collection of pamphlets focused on the issues and needs of living a faith-based life in ways that involve, strengthen and grow our parish family. The pamphlets in the kiosk are **FREE**. The series of short pamphlets, provided by the Knights of Columbus Catholic Information Service includes:

*Lord, Teach Us To Pray; The Family In the Modern World; A Scriptural Rosary for the Family; Saint Benedict for Busy Parents; God's Plan for Love & Marriage; The Family Fully Alive; The Gift of Fatherhood.*

There is much good and necessary work to be done in this world, and that's what Knights do every day! Parish fellowship and community assistance are just a few of the ways the Knights live out their mission:

**"In service to One. In service to all."**

When the time is right,  
joining online is easy.

Just visit [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus)

For more information about the St. Thomas the More Council #7121 contact Bill Remy at [whremy@hotmail.com](mailto:whremy@hotmail.com)



Respect Life Ministry is preparing for the celebration of Fatherhood. We cherish the gift of life that we receive from our fathers and pray for all fathers to whom God has entrusted the family in a very special way. Our Ministry will be selling Father's Day cards and Father's Day Prayer cards for all deceased Fathers as it is a fitting time to ask for God's special blessing on all fathers.

We appreciate your participation in our annual fundraiser. Stop by our tables in the Narthex, North and South entrances to pick up your— Father's Day card or Father's Day Prayer card before and after Masses on this weekend and June 8 & 9

The Respect Life Ministry wishes all fathers a Happy and Blessed Father's Day!!



**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK**  
June 22–29

