



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SAINT THOMAS MORE COUNCIL 7121

5205 A1A SOUTH

SAINT AUGUSTINE, FL 32080-8006



## DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



The 2025 liturgical season of Advent (from “advenire” in Latin, “to come to”) began on Sunday, November 30. Preparation is the key word for Advent. In the same way that a family eagerly prepares for a baby, so in Advent should we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. We should keep Advent as a season of waiting and longing, to prepare a peaceful place in our hearts where our Savior may come to dwell. We honor Christ’s mother Mary during this time of preparation on the feasts of **Immaculate Conception** (December 8), , **Our Lady of Loreto** (December 10), and **Our Lady of Guadalupe** (December 12).

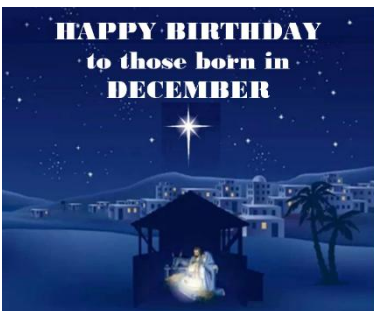
Other main feasts of Advent include **St. Francis Xavier** (December 3), **St. Nicholas** (December 6), **St. Juan Diego** (December 9), **St. Damasus I** (December 11), **Our Lady of Guadalupe** (December 12), **St. Lucy** (December 13), and **St. John of Kanty** (December 23). *OurCatholicCulture.org*

[THE POPE’S PRAYER MESSAGE for NOVEMBER 2025:](#) **For Christians in areas of conflict.** Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

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)

See the **GOOD OF THE ORDER** for family members and friends in need of prayers, especially Pat Petrick (who would welcome an occasional phone call at 904-687-9439 when he is not in an Emergency Room) and Ed Rice and Maureen Leahy-Rice. Also Josephine Scher, Sherri Behrends, Jim McIlhenney, the Buckley family, Brian Kaman, Nelson Jambard, Latane Donelin and Brittini Tucker. Bob and Marilyn O’Connell are the new additions to the prayer list. Prayers are also requested for family members and friends sick or in distress. Names are added to this list as announcements are received.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO BROTHERS BORN IN DECEMBER



Santa made his list and checked it twice, but even with the naughty and nice still found only 7 names on the December birthday list. The magic of Christmas never ends when the greatest gift is your family and friends.

BROTHER	BIRTHDAY	AGE
Sean M Fox	12-02	59
James L Welu Jr	12-05	53
Michael Piesco	12-14	73
Chuck Nitsch	12-16	78
Tony Sopranzi	12-18	62
Steve Barthelmes	12-20	69
Luis Brown	12-23	54

After celebrating Thanksgiving and Black Friday, did you ever wonder why the day after Small Business Saturday has not been given some catchy commercial name? Perhaps some respect for Sunday, a day of rest? Start again with Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday, Weeping Wednesday, then your mailbox is stuffed with end-of-year fundraising pleas and gift catalogs. Be glad at least someone writes to you. Pick your favorite celebration, find one of the Brothers on this list, and wish them a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Yule be glad you did!!

## COUNCIL BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 more efficiently conduct informed discussions.

Click here to view the [Final Minutes of the October 23, 2025 meeting](#)

Click here to view the [Draft Minutes of the November 20, 2025 meeting](#)

### **BUSINESS MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER**



**3rd THURSDAY  
St. Anthony Hall  
(Community Center)  
DECEMBER 18**

**Recitation of the Rosary 6:30 PM; Business Meeting 7:00 PM**

## **2025 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 7121 CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Dinner reservations are now being taken for the 2025 Council 7121 "Twelve Knights of Christmas" Dinner on Saturday, December 13. Christmas Party details are available at:

[kofc7121.org/christmasparty](http://kofc7121.org/christmasparty)

Reservations are being accepted **ONLY** through [kofc7121.org/rsvp](http://kofc7121.org/rsvp).

**The dinner is free, but you must RSVP!**

This is a private event, open to Brother Knights, family members and invited guests. Invite your friends!

To help at the party or to make party basket donations, contact DGK Dave Morrison ([daveamorrison@outlook.com](mailto:daveamorrison@outlook.com) / 815-382-2213), Brian Foy ([bfoy11@yahoo.com](mailto:bfoy11@yahoo.com) / 304-871-0888) or Dave Look ([dave32080@gmail.com](mailto:dave32080@gmail.com) / 407-748-0994).



**WINNER! WINNER! CHRISTMAS DINNER!**  
**COUNCIL 7121**  
**"TWELVE KNIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 2025"**  
**SATURDAY DECEMBER 13 ST. JUDE CELEBRATION HALL**  
Doors open 5 PM, Dinner 6 PM, Raffle 7 PM  
**POT LUCK CHRISTMAS DINNER**  
**FREE. NO TICKETS.**  
**NO TABLE RESERVATIONS. OPEN SEATING.**  
Just show up and bring enough of your favorite holiday food to share with your friends and family. The council is providing the main course (meats).  
The dinner is **FREE** but you **MUST RSVP!**  
[www.kofc7121.org/christmasparty](http://www.kofc7121.org/christmasparty)  
Celebrate the Christmas Season with some of your "old" friends!

## **ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY NEEDS YOUR INPUT!**

**CLICK HERE FOR THE 2025  
ANNUAL SURVEY OF  
FRATERNAL ACTIVITY**

**LAST CHANCE!  
ENDS DEC 31**

**BROTHERS** – Have you done or donated something in calendar year 2025 in the areas of FAITH, FAMILY, COMMUNITY, LIFE and/or FRATERNAL service NOT INCLUDED in any other regular council activity?

Take credit for it and help our Worthy Financial Secretary document these service hours in our quest for another Star Council Award! Click the box at right to make a record of what good you did in 2025!



## MORE THAN A FOOD DRIVE SETS DONATION RECORDS!

The November More Than A Food Drive **SET RECORDS** for both the **MOST FOOD COLLECTED (3750 lb)** and the **HIGHEST MONETARY DONATIONS (\$8650) EVER!!**. That is really great news, showing the Christian spirit of generosity at St. Anastasia. Thank you to the dozen Brothers who handed out bags, collected bags, and then came back on Monday morning to load and deliver the two extra truckloads and the Homeless Ministry non-food donations.



The bad news is that **THE FOOD CRISIS IS STILL HERE**. Families are still struggling to put food on the table. 9,700 people in St Johns County saw their SNAP benefits suspended or reduced. One out of seven children in this country now face food insecurity.

A **TEMPORARY FOOD DRIVE** will remain in place outside the St. Martin De Porres Room during this "crisis". Please take an empty Publix bag, fill it with things you would need and want if your cupboard were empty. Bring it back and drop it off in the St. Martin de Porres room. This food drive effort is completely separate and independent from the ongoing Outreach Ministry holiday donation programs: the Giving Tree, Catholic Charities, SAYS, Migrant Workers Ministry, St. Johns County Homeless Youth, and Giving Tuesday. Please support these annual giving programs first, then help others still hungry. Thank you and may God bless you in advance for your continued generosity.



## MARRIAGE MINISTRY NIGHTS OF LIGHTS TROLLEY EVENT -2025



Light up your holiday calendar with a Festive Christmas Nights of Lights Trolley ride!

Join your friends for a Christmas cocktail or two, appetizer, fellowship and **FREE PARKING DOWNTOWN**. Then meander down St. George Street to our reserved Old Town Trolley for a spectacularly festive date night sponsored by your St. Anastasia Marriage Ministry.

Make your reservation soon, as we expect this event to sell out!

**Scan the QR code** or [CLICK HERE](#) to purchase tickets.

**WHEN:** 6:00 PM Thursday December 11

**WHERE:** Cathedral Parish School parking lot, 295 St. George Street

**WHAT:** Kick-off drinks and appetizers, a festive walk down St. George Street, and a private Nights of Lights Trolley ride for \$25 per person. Anyone not able or not wanting to walk to the trolley from CPS can park at the Visitor Center and meet us there at 7:00 PM.





## KNIGHTS PRESENT BIBLES TO CONFIRMANDI CLASS

PGK Bill Remy (left) and GK Brian Foy (right) presented a bible to each member of the St. Anastasia 2025 Confirmation class at the Sponsor and Candidate luncheon held Sunday, Nov 2 in the St. Enda of Aran Formation Center.

Candidate workshops and orientation sessions are held monthly. Bishop Erik Pohlmeier will confirm the youth of St. Anastasia on Saturday, April 18 during the 4:00 PM Mass.



## KNIGHTS ASSIST AT PARISH YOUTH GROUP THANKSGIVING DINNER

Council 7121 stepped up again to support the annual parish Youth Group Thanksgiving dinner in Celebration Hall on Sunday, Nov. 8. Over 200 parishioners were served the traditional turkey and ham dinner with all the fixin's, prepared by chef Steve Barthelmes in another 12 hr workday. Assisting Steve on the kitchen serving line were Nick Demato, Bill Remy and Dolores Jambard



## KNIGHTS ASSIST AT "JINGLE BALL GALA"

Celebration Hall was filled with Christmas Trees and the spirit of Christmas as St. Francis House / Port in the Storm presented the "Jingle Ball Gala" on Nov. 15, highlight of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Festival of Trees". Council 7121 was happy to assist this fundraiser by providing bartending service. At right, the early shift of Steve Barthelmes, Dave Morrison and Bob Meier kicked things off by tapping a keg of holiday heffeweisen. Dave and Bob were joined later by (below) Bob and Maureen Covell as 100 guests filled celebration hall for music and dancing, hot chocolate and s'mores over a firepit on the back patio.



# KNIGHTS SUPPORT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AS BUILDS CONTINUE

 **St. Anastasia Catholic Church** continues our partnership with Habitat For Humanity to help our community! Will you join us?

**December 12 - 7:45 am**

All you need are close toe'd shoes, work gloves and a servants heart

Registration is necessary to enter the job site. Registration closes 24 hrs before the build.

To register visit:  
<https://tinyurl.com/Oct10Build>  
or scan the QR Code and use the code: **SACC**



For help registering or for more information, contact  
Brian in the parish office at 904-471-5364 X103 or  
[admin@saccfl.org](mailto:admin@saccfl.org)

The parish sponsors a **build team** that goes to various Habitat sites on the second Friday of each month. **Interested volunteers** must first register with Habitat at <https://habitatstjohns.org/volunteer/>. With the acquisition of a 32-acre tract in West St. Augustine, Habitat is preparing to build 20 affordable homes this year.

See [kofc7121.org/HabitatForHumanity](https://kofc7121.org/HabitatForHumanity) for further details and upcoming build events.

Council 7121 has made a \$1000 donation to Habitat For Humanity St. Johns County for each of the last four years.

## NEXT EVENING of DANCE: SATURDAY DECEMBER 20

 **SATURDAY DECEMBER 20**  
A NIGHT OF DANCING WITH TIM RIPPEY  
**St. Anastasia Catholic Church**  
CELEBRATION HALL  
Located at 5205 A1A South,  
3mi North of the 206 Bridge

Cash Bar provided by  
**Knights of Columbus**  
(Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks)

Reservations include:  
8-10 tops or open seating

DOORS: 5:30  
DANCING BEGINS: 7:00

**\$15 AT THE DOOR**  
CASH OR CHECK ONLY  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



TEXT RSVP: 386-931-0074  
EMAIL RSVP: [BKELLEY1024@AOL.COM](mailto:BKELLEY1024@AOL.COM)

Please call Dave Morrison at 815-382-2213 or email him at [daveamorrison@outlook.com](mailto:daveamorrison@outlook.com) if you can help for an hour or two anytime between 5 to 10 pm, then take a break and listen and dance to some really good music.



Upcoming dance dates are Saturday Dec 20 and Friday Feb 13 (early Valentine's Day!)

Providing refreshments to this thirsty crowd is a very effective fundraiser for Council 7121. All tips and 50/50 proceeds are designated for Special Olympics of Florida.



**SGT. TERRI MASHKOW**  
**Indian River Sherrif's Office**  
**END OF WATCH**  
**NOVEMBER 21, 2025**



**SPC. SARAH BECKSTROM**  
**West Virginia National Guard**  
**END OF WATCH**  
**NOVEMBER 28, 2025**



## THE PARISH CORNER

### Mission Tradition Raffle A Raffle for St. Anastasia's Tomorrow

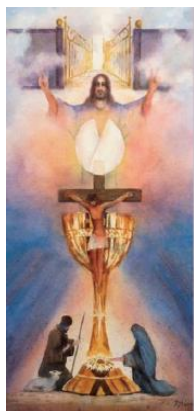


Support our parish and join in the excitement!  
St. Anastasia is hosting a Raffle Fundraiser to help  
fund the future needs of our parish. \$10,000 in prizes!!!

**\$10,000 in prizes! | Tickets: \$100 each**

**Prizes:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$7000**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$2000**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$1000**

Drawing Date: March 27, 2026, 6:00p.m.  
Where: St. Jude Celebration Hall at the Lenten Fish Fry  
Tickets are available after all weekend Masses **THIS WEEKEND!**  
Only 300 tickets will be sold!  
Proceeds directly benefit St. Anastasia Catholic Church.



### Special Holy Hour of Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for the relief of Suffering every Monday at 1:30 pm in the Adoration Chapel.

Come pray the Holy Rosary and the  
Noven Prayer to the Sacred Heart  
for the Relief of Suffering for all who  
are sick or suffering in our families,  
in our parish and in the world.  
Prayers followed by silent  
adoration.

### St. Martin De Porres Community Outreach Room

Located off the church narthex, the room is open

**Mon – Fri 8:30-10:00 and 30 min after weekend Masses**

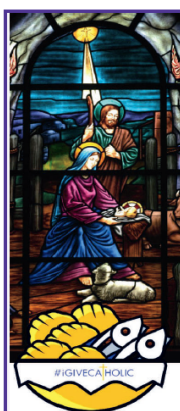
Donations of non-perishable food, gently used clothing and shoes are gratefully accepted.  
We ask that you keep in mind the limited space inside the Outreach Room and the weight  
of the bag or box you are leaving. Some of our distribution “angels” have physical  
limitations. To be part of this wonderful ministry, please contact Deacon Steve at:  
[stephenkassebaum@comcast.net](mailto:stephenkassebaum@comcast.net)

## Christmas Giving Tree Adoptions!

Gift Collection will conclude Dec 6/7.

Gift cards are **GREATLY** needed for the  
Senior Citizens living below the poverty -live  
in St. Augustine as well as the 800 (known)  
Homeless Youth enrolled in St. Johns  
County Schools. Envelopes can be picked  
up and returned to the Gift Card table  
located in the front Narthex of the church  
**ANYTIME** during the week and weekends  
until December 7th.

Gift cards for senior citizens from Winn -  
Dixie, Publix or Target will be gratefully  
accepted. Gift cards for the homeless youth  
of St. Johns County should only be from Wal  
-Mart. Questions? Contact Brian in the  
parish office 904 -471 -5364 X103



### ✱ A Season of Hope ✱ Advanced Giving has begun! ✱

Advent reminds us that Christ is our Hope. Our radiant Light. The stained-  
glass windows of our church have long proclaimed that truth in color and  
brilliance. By supporting #iGiveCatholic, you can help us restore these  
windows so they can continue to shine Christ's light for all who enter our  
church. Thank you for helping keep that light bright.

- ☺ Your gift brings new hope to our sacred stories told  
through our stained-glass windows
- ☺ Your gift conserves the light in this contemplative space
- ☺ Your gift sustains our church

Give online: [www.igivecatholic.org/organization/saintanastasia](http://www.igivecatholic.org/organization/saintanastasia)  
Give in person: using #iGiveCatholic envelopes that can be found in  
the church or the parish office  
Giving Day: Tuesday, December 2, 2025  
Goal: \$25,000.00

Early Giving has already begun! Give Today!



### Annual Luminaries Youth Group Fundraiser!

Honor your loved ones this Christmas with a luminary! A  
candle will be lit with the name of your loved one and placed  
outside the church for the Christmas Eve Masses.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Living/Deceased

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Living/Deceased

Please fill out the form and turn it into the Youth Office by December 18th.  
Suggested donation \$5.00. Donations are gratefully accepted on behalf of the  
Youth Ministry. Questions? please contact Molly youth@saccl.org



### WINE & CHEESE

**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 6**

In St. Anthony Hall  
(Community Center)  
after the 4:00pm Mass