



Grand Knight's Report

Americans were recently shocked by the senseless killing of Charlie Kirk, a controversial and politically conservative activist. Expressing controversial opinions shouldn't be a problem, especially when freedom of speech is a right enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, many state constitutions, and state and federal laws. In a perfect world, we'd simply agree with those whose thoughts we accepted and tolerate the opinions of those with whom we disagreed. Unfortunately, we don't live in a perfect world. Sometimes it seems we're only a news cycle away from more reports of violence against politicians, churches, clergy, public figures, and more. Are we powerless to do anything about it?



As Catholic men and Knights, we are not powerless! We can address violence by upholding the values of respect for life and nonviolence intrinsic to our faith, like:

- Ensuring that we respect the dignity of every person and avoid actions that harm or exploit others.
- Promoting peace and justice in our communities, workplaces, and homes.
- Engaging in action to address the root causes of violence, such as poverty, inequality, and social injustice.
- Encouraging a culture of peace by supporting initiatives that promote understanding and reconciliation.
- Participating in efforts to combat violence through education, awareness, and community service.

Many Knights are already living these values. Scout leaders, religious education teachers, voting site volunteers, hospital volunteers, physicians, nurses, and countless others are leading by example. Let's honor them for fighting the good fight!

Vivat Jesus!

Peter Blaise

Grand Knight	Peter Blaise	Advocate	Dan Rooney	Trustee (3 Year)	Steve Wolfrom
Chaplain	Fr. Bob Johnson	Lecturer	Ken Rodriguez	Faith Director	Dcn Tom Dwyer
Deputy GK	Mic Wehmeyer	Warden	Jim Thennes	Vocation Dir.	Mark Haddorff
Chancellor	John Rafferty	Inside Guard	Greg Muntzner	Community Director	Kevin Knebl
Recorder	Ralph McDonald	Outside Guard	Eric Wehmeyer	Family Director	Ryan Wehmeyer
Financial Secretary	Lenny Smales	Trustee (1 Year)	Jim Yurack	Life Director	Dave Halupowski
Treasurer	John Wohleber	Trustee (2 Year)	Stuart Lewis	Public Relations	Joe Purka

July Knight of the Month

Jim Thennes

This Knight is seemingly always quite busy doing projects throughout our Parish and Council. He serves as an usher and takes Communion to those who cannot make it to Mass. He has recently helped serve the parish in its landscaping projects around the former parish hall and Faith Formation building.

He rallies the council together to accomplish various activities for the parish and for the Order, always with a smile. This knight has also helped prepare the parish for the visit of Bishop Wack. One cannot forget this knight's favorite quote, "Jesus, I trust in You!" as this knight truly is an example of how faith can lead a man to great accomplishments. For these things and many more, we thank Brother Jim Thennes as our August 2025 Knight of the Month.



Upcoming Events

Sept 25	Executive Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Seton Hall
Oct 2	Council Meeting at COR (Seton Hall) 7 p.m. (Dinner and Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Oct 4	Sunland Picnic in Marianna (Depart Cor & HNJ at 8:30 a.m.)
Oct 13	Columbus Day
Oct 16	Assembly 3236 Meeting at Christ Our Redeemer , 7 p.m. (Dinner & Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Oct 17	Bingo at HNJ (COR Team)
Nov 1	Pasta Dinner at HNJ (COR Team)
Nov 4	Election Day
Nov 6	Council Meeting at COR (Seton Hall) 7 p.m. (Dinner and Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Nov 11	VETERAN'S DAY
Nov 14	Bingo at HNJ (COR Team)
Nov 20	Assembly 3236 Meeting at HNJ, 7 p.m. (Dinner & Social at 6:15 p.m.)
Nov 27	THANKSGIVING
Dec 7	Council Christmas Party at COR (details forthcoming)

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Deacon Tom Dwyer

This month, I finish listing the remaining three of eleven American saints. Already mentioned were: Elizabeth Ann Seton (Jan. 4); John Neumann (Jan. 5); Marianne Cope (Jan. 23); Katharine Drexel (Mar. 3); Damien de Veuster (May 1); Junípero Serra (July 1); Kateri Tekakwitha (July 14); Théodore Guérin (Oct. 3).

St. Isaac Jogues (1607-1646) A Jesuit priest from France, Jogues was a missionary to the Indians. Tortured and imprisoned by the Mohawks in his first mission, he survived and baptized some Native Americans before returning to France. He returned, even knowing he might not survive a second time. Killed in Auriesville, New York, he was named a saint in 1930. His feast day is Oct. 19th.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917) A missionary from Italy, Cabrini founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She left Italy to establish an orphanage in New York City. She travelled extensively throughout the U.S. and to Nicaragua, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, and Grenada to found orphanages, hospitals, convents, and schools. She made 24 transatlantic crossings, even booking passage on the Titanic, but switching to an earlier booking after hearing about problems with one of the order's hospitals in Chicago. Naturalized as a U.S. citizen, she was canonized a saint in 1946. Her feast day is Nov. 13th.

St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, 1769-1852 Born in France, she joined the Visitation nuns at 19 before being forced to leave France during the French Revolution. Traveling to the Louisiana Territory, she was a missionary to Native Americans. She started the first free school for girls west of the Mississippi River and the first Catholic school for Native Americans. She was named a saint in 1988. Her feast day is Nov. 18th.



Hope That Evangelizes



The true purpose of being a Knight goes beyond service and fraternity, writes Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori in his column for the September 2025 issue of *Columbia*. To be a Knight is to be rooted in hope, he continues. "Hope is why we join the Knights and live as Knights. ... Lifting our hearts to the Lord fills us with light, enables us to see ourselves as God sees us, and enables us to begin living on earth the heavenly life we aspire to."

August Family of the Month

Tom & Karen Sanders

August's Family of the Month is Tom and Karen Sanders. Tom is active in the Mid Bay Rotary as their speaker program director, as well as a mentor at Bluewater Elementary school. He also runs an LLC offering Economic Analysis. For the Knights, Tom supports Habitat for Humanity and, along with Karen, has taken the lead on our annual council Christmas parties.



Tom also assisted Karen, a Master Gardener, with many of the landscaping projects for the new Faith Formation Building and the former parish hall. Karen is active with the Master Gardeners of Okaloosa County. She is also a board member of the organization Children in Crisis and is active in the Council of Catholic Women.

Tom and Karen enjoy their time with their 3 daughters and three grandchildren. For all their wonderful work, we are pleased to announce Brother Tom and Karen Sanders as our August 2025 Family of the Month.



Florida State Council Memorial & Healing Cards Program

The Florida State Council is proud to reintroduce our **Memorial and Healing Cards Program**—a meaningful way to offer spiritual support to those in need, while also supporting vocations.

We offer two types of cards: **Memorial Cards** for honoring the memory of someone who has passed away and **Healing Cards** for comfort to someone who is ill or recovering.

Each card features an image of our founder, **Blessed Michael McGivney**, and includes a message that the recipient will be remembered at Mass by our **State Chaplain** and prayed for by seminarians at **St. John Vianney** and **St. Vincent de Paul** seminaries.

How It Works:

The sender fills out a **donation card** identifying: the type of card, recipient's name, sender's name, address, phone and council number and whether additional cards are requested.

Mail the donation card and your donation (checks made out to *Florida K of C Charities, Inc.*) using the provided return envelope. **Be sure to write Vocations on the memo line of the check.** If your **council number is included**, your council will receive credit for the donation. Mail the Mass Card to the Recipient (Healing) Family (Memorial).

This program reflects the core of our mission—charity, unity, and fraternity. A card featuring Blessed McGivney, accompanied by Mass and seminarians' prayers, is a powerful expression of support and faith.

Request Cards or Learn More:

Contact **George Elliott**, Memorial and Healing Cards Chairman

✉ Email: grejr13@gmail.com

☎ Phone: (908) 487-8622

Florida K of C Charities, Inc. is our official 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.