



St. Thomas More Council 7826

July 2022 Newsletter



Welcome to the St Thomas More Council July Newsletter

Grand Knight Report

Once again our Council had a very busy month since the last newsletter. On July 9th, STM Council attended the funeral for our departed Brother, Larry Faeth. The Grand Knight would like to share his appreciation to everyone who came to support Joyce Faeth and family at this difficult time. In addition, we also held our

scheduled Corporate Communion, Officer Installation, and July Social. Once again, the Grand Knight wishes to thank all those who managed to attend every event that day. It was a long and sometimes difficult day, but your support was overwhelming. Thank you to our District Deputy Dr. Steve Wyer, and District Warden Charlie Culkin, and their wives for attending each one of these events. Our Council thanks you for your support. Thank you to our Social Director Sue Bracy. Sue was the driving force behind many of the day's events. Thank you to Brother Ted Kovacic and Karla for sponsoring us at Meadows Country Club for our Council Social. As previously stated, here are your Officers for the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year. Please give them your support.

- **Grand Knight – Jim Meyd**
- **Financial Secretary – Larry Hall**
- **Chaplain – Fr. Lawton Lang**
- **Deputy Grand Knight – Ralph Neller**
- **Chancellor - Chris Pariseau**
- **Recorder – Dan Bulinski**
- **Treasurer – Greg Sokolik**
- **Lecturer – Derek Noll**
- **Advocate – Joe Tiffany**
- **Warden – Dave Bracy**
- **Inside Guard – Charlie Ballschmeider**
- **Outside Guard – Hank Peppard**
- **Trustee for One Year – Jack Rodman**
- **Trustee for Two Years – Ken Berberich**
- **Trustee for Three Years – Al Ferrigno**

At our July Council meeting, we also voted on the resolution to accept our 2022-2023 Faith in Action Service Program Plan and Budget.

Our Council Speaker Series had the pleasure of having WW II veteran, Chuck Palmeri tell his story of freeing the prisoners of Dachau Concentration Camp. There are few left to tell the stories of the "Greatest Generation". We were fortunate enough to have two members of that generation with us that evening, Chuck Palmeri and our own Brother Bill Huber. Chuck Palmeri and Liz Courson were eloquent in recalling this moment in history. Thank you to our Lecturer Derek Noll on such great work bringing this speaker to our Council.

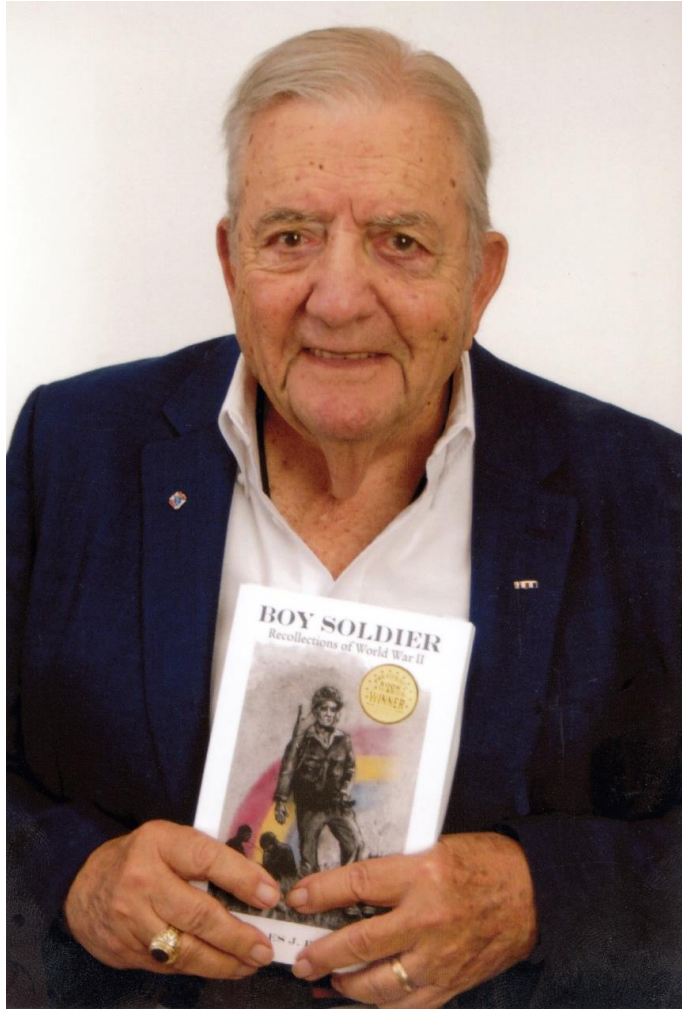
STM Council restarted the parish pancake breakfasts on Sunday, July 17th. It has been a long time coming and it was gratefully received by the parish. Fr. Gordon & Fr. Lawton were there to show their support. PGK Ken Berberich, who is also the Parish Finance Committee Chairman, invited many of the parish ministries to introduce themselves to the parish and talk about the great work they do in support of the parish and the community. Thank you to Financial Secretary Larry Hall, Outside Guard Hank Peppard, and Social Director Sue Bracy for planning and organizing this event. Thank you to all the Brothers that volunteered in setting up, food preparation, serving, and cleanup. Special thanks to the many spouses who pitched in to help. They are Joan Crowley, Trish Berberich, Sue Bracy, Denise Caledonia, Pat Cesare, Margot Ellis, Joyce Faeth, Kim Flynn, Deanne MacGillis, Nancy Rodman, Carol Szafranski, Karla Kovacic, Nancy Hall, and Madalyn Tiffany. Hopefully I didn't miss anyone. John Koitsch, as always, thank you for all the great pictures you provide for us.

Thank you for your support and all you do.











Knight of the Year

Our Knight of the Year was no surprise to all of us that take notice of all his hard work and dedication to the Council. This Brother takes on the hardest of jobs during our Council and parish events. Just look in the kitchen and he will be helping with food prep, serving food, or just providing pure old fashioned elbow grease in cleaning up pots, pans, and accessories, and he does it all with a smile. He is a constant prayer warrior at Planned Parenthood, Tootsie Roll Volunteer, helping with cruise raffle sales and recruiting drives. Ted Kovacic is our Knight of the Year and a great example to all Brother Knights. Congratulations and well done!





Family of the Year

Once again, our Family of the Year is no surprise to us all. This family is dedicated to all Council, Parish, and Community activities. They single handedly oversee our very successful Cruise Raffle. They do all the planning and they are at every mass, every weekend we sell tickets. They work Spring Training Baseball together. They are Hospitality and Eucharistic Ministers. They work together on the Bereavement Committee assisting with funeral planning. They volunteer at the STM Food Pantry. They contribute time and effort to Bethesda and Resurrection House. They are members of the Knights of Columbus and the Women's Club. They still find time to be loving parents and grandparents. I am sure I have probably left out a few things. Our Family of the Year is Brother Gary and Margot Ellis.



July Knight of the Month

Brother Jamie Holahan is our July Knight of the Month. Jamie is a constant as an Alter Server. Jamie volunteered in a big way for this year's successful Inaugural Council Golf Outing. Jamie played a big role in assisting with our Coats for Kids distribution. Jamie continues to be an active member of our Council who continues to contribute in any way he can. Congratulations to Jamie Holahan on being the July Knight of the Month. Jamie was unavailable for the July meeting and will receive his certificate at our August meeting.

July Family of the Month

For all their hard work in volunteering and financial recording of our 2022 Inaugural Golf Outing, and their planning, organization, and hard work on our parish Christmas Party and the return of our parish Pancake Breakfast, the Council congratulates our Financial Secretary Larry Hall, and his spouse Nancy, for being named our July Family of the Month. Brother Larry provides our Council with sound financial guidance, and spends many hours in the background, providing support for much of the reporting to Supreme. Nancy's support of all Larry's time and effort doesn't go unappreciated. Congratulations on being named our Family of the Month for July.



Faith in Action

At our beginning year meeting with Fr. Gordon, Grand Knight Jim Meyd presented Fr. Gordon with our council donation of \$1500 to the parish CFA Campaign. Our Council also discussed the planned Council financial support of the upcoming Capital Improvement Campaign. On July 17th, our Council restarted the Pancake Breakfasts for the parish. The Council will hold two more Pancake Breakfasts this summer on August 14th and September 18th. Thank you to Brothers Larry Hall, Hank Peppard, Jack Rodman, and Sue Bracy for their planning and scheduling of volunteers. Thank you to the many volunteers, and especially to the spouses and significant others, who continually support all we do. Our Council continues to need volunteers for these events. Please contact Grand Knight Jim Meyd if you would like to volunteer. This is a great opportunity for our 21 newest Knights to become involved in the Council. In addition, PGK & Parish Finance Committee Chairman Ken Berberich arranged for key persons from our STM Parish Ministries to introduce themselves and talk about their important ministries.





















Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori Monthly Challenge

For the month of July, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori challenges you to pray every day as an individual or as a family, asking the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney, to live in a more prayerful home, perhaps using his prayer for his canonization.

Parish News

We are all aware of how fortunate we are to belong to such a vibrant parish. Father Gordon, Father Lawton, and the staff at St. Thomas More work very hard to create an environment of inclusion and support to our parishioners and our local community. We know that like us, our parish facilities are not getting any younger, and the cost to function and maintain our facilities continues to rise. There will be a capital campaign coming soon to address the roof and HVAC issues. Please be mindful of this as you look for ways to support our parish financially through your weekly contributions, and through your continued volunteer efforts. As a Council will have begun the process of looking at how we can assist the parish with this huge task.

If you are not attending daily mass, please consider attending at least one daily mass each week. It is a great way to start your day with prayer and you will find it becomes a great way to come closer to God.

St. Thomas More is also in need of Hospitality & Eucharistic Ministers. There is a need for Hospitality Ministers for Sunday 12:00 mass. If you are a current Minister, please consider changing to assist in covering this mass. This is a great way to volunteer your time to assist our parish and increase the visibility of all we do as a Council. You are already attending mass, and this really adds to the spirit of the day. Please call the Parish Office if you are interested in volunteering. Summer schedule changes always present new opportunities to volunteer. Thank you to those who have responded to this call.

Committee Corner

We have needs on many of our committees. To our new members, this is a great way to become involved in our Council activities. Please see Deputy Grand Knight Ralph Neller and Chancellor Chris Pariseau to learn the opportunities we have available. Our Council is currently looking for leaders and volunteers for our Coffee & Donut program. Our Council is also looking for a chairman of the Christmas Party committee. If you are interested please contact DGK Ralph Neller or Chancellor Chris Pariseau.

Financial Secretary Larry Hall, after many years of chairing and organizing our Coffee & Donuts program, has asked to step back from this at this time due to the pressing demands of the Financial Secretary. Thank you to Brother Larry & his wife Nancy for all the time and effort they spent making this a success.

The Grand Knight is pleased to announce that new members, Brothers Corey Devito and Dan Flynn, have both accepted to be Co-Chairs of this committee. Thank you to you both, as new Knights, to step up and become greater involved in the work of our Council. This is a great example to set for others.



Special Olympics

There are many great opportunities coming up when you can volunteer to assist and participate in the fun. This is a great volunteer opportunity. Brother John Cesare has done a fantastic job as Chairman of this committee through his leadership and communications of its activities. There is an opportunity to volunteer at the **2022 State Stand Up Paddle Championships** at Nathan Benderson Park on August 19 & 20th. You can register at amysimon@sofl.org. If you are interested in becoming involved in Special Olympics please reach out to Brother John Cesare for details how you can become a volunteer.

Right to life

40 Days for Life 365 - The Knights of Columbus has begun a campaign to pray – 365 days a year – at Planned Parenthood facilities. Our Council has been requested to participate at the Sarasota Planned Parenthood facility on the 4th Thursday of every month – from 9AM to 1PM. We are asking our Members to consider a one hour shift and to **sign-up by contacting our Right to Life Co-Chairs**, either Brian Harkins bjharkins1@gmail.com or telephone # 908-451-7454 or Neil Corrado at fdny0261@gmail.com or telephone # 941-993-1520. Please consider praying outside of the Planned Parenthood facility. Thanks to our Brothers for participating on our day to pray. We have a large Council and we could use your support. With all that has happened these last two years, our rights are constantly under attack. Remember this: **Without the Right to Life, the rest doesn't matter.** Come help us protect and pray for the unborn. We continue to hear stories from mothers whose babies we have saved by our presence and our prayers for the unborn. Slowly, but, surely, we are winning this battle for preserving the lives of the innocents.

The recent ruling by the Supreme Court returns the authority on abortion back to the states. It is important for us to understand that this ruling **does not** prohibit abortions, but allows each state to decide on its own. We have taken the first step, but there are many more to go. We need to continue our prayer walks and our support of those pregnancy centers we support. Now, more than ever, we need to continue the work we are doing as a Council. Please continue to **safely and peacefully** support the work we are already doing.

Golf Committee

Thank you to our Golf Committee for their successful outing. They are already in the planning stage for next year. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact PGK Ken Berberich.

Membership

Our New Member Goal this fraternal year is **ten (10) New Members**. Let me first state this. **We will make Star Council again this year!!** New Members must be a practicing Catholic, 18+ years of age. We need your help to reach out to K of C “prospects”. You will be assisted by our Membership Development Committee. Please provide the name of an individual that may/has an interest in K of C and our St Thomas More Council. Please contact Chancellor Chris Pariseau, at his email pariseau314@outlook.com. or his telephone # 443-994-7397. Membership growth is essential to the success of the Knights of Columbus. With the addition of each new member, the Order can better serve the Church, local communities and particularly those in need. But it isn’t just the Order that benefits from a new member. Each new Knight benefits also. Since its beginnings, the organization has promoted the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. Knights contribute to the welfare of their parishes and communities, and seek to help the needy through financial and volunteer support. In addition to the fellowship and faith development that Knights enjoy through their affiliation, the Knights offer a top-rated and competitively priced insurance program for the security of member families.

Recently, the parish has been blessed with several new members. We are trying to reach out to the new parishioners to introduce them to the good works our council does for the parish and there community. Perhaps one of them has become a new neighbor. Please review the list of names, and if you are aware of how to contact them, please pass this information to Chancellor Ralph Neller. The new parishioners are Joseph Duda, William Guernier, Joseph Parisi, and Jorge Oquendo.

We will continue to hold in-person Exemplifications. They are intended for 1st and 2nd degree members **to achieve the new, Charity - Unity - Fraternity degree (3rd degree)** as well as candidates/new members to participate in the (3rd degree) ceremony. If you are interested in participating, please contact Chancellor Chris Pariseau at his email pariseau314@outlook.com, or his telephone #443-994-7397.

We are asking all 3rd Degree Knights to consider accomplishing your 4th (Patriotic) degree – and join the Our Lady of Charity Council 3089. This is a separate degree ceremony and must be scheduled with FL State/ District. If you are interested in obtaining your 4th degree, please contact GK Jim Meyd greygoose1@frontier.com, or his telephone 941-923-7517.



Congratulations!

**Council 7826 has earned the
2021-2022 Star Council Award!**

Worthy Brother Meyd,

Congratulations!

Council 7826 has earned the 2021-2022 Star Council Award, recognizing excellence in program activity, membership growth (210% of quota), insurance promotion, fraternal reporting, and Safe Environment compliance.

During this challenging year, your council adapted and continued to stand in the breach, serving your brothers, families, parishes, and communities. The Supreme Council is pleased to recognize these achievements and acknowledge the hard work of you and your brother knights.

Your council's award plaque will be shipped to your District Deputy for presentation. Production and delivery of awards is currently estimated at 10-12 weeks. Additionally, to help celebrate this accomplishment and promote your council, attached please find a **bulletin announcement** and **press release** for your use. These are great tools that will highlight your good works in the community.

There is still much to be done and we need your council to lead the way. Keep the momentum going and start planning now for another successful fraternal year! The new 2022-2023 Star Council requirements, which can be found at [KofC.Org/Star](https://www.kofc.org/star), will help guide your council to excellence in the year to come.

Thank you and *Vivat Jesus!*

Fraternally,

John Moulder

Director of Ceremonials and Council Experience
Knights of Columbus
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510

Our Council has attempted to stay in touch with our Members:

- **Facebook – “KofC Council 7826”** – Please contact Brother Jim Clark if you need assistance to sign up on our Facebook account or to post information - contact Jim Clark at his email address jclark1@gmail.com
- **Website** - St Thomas More Council 7826 website is available to all members. The **website address is www.kofc7826.org**. *Please use this website and pass it along to your friends, relatives and associates that may have an interest in the Knights of Columbus and our St Thomas More Council.*

Donation Request – K of C Assembly 3089 – Our Lady of Charity Assembly

The 4th (Patriotic) Degree is requesting donations for Veterans at Bay Pines. Items consist of books, tee-shirts, toiletry items, socks etc. A donation box is available at each Council meeting. You can also make a cash or check donation (payable to KofC Assembly 3089). Please notate on your check that you are a Member, STM Council 7826. Thank you for your consideration to this donation request. Please see Brother Steve McElroy to find out how you can help.

Upcoming Events

- We will hold our next Officer's Meeting on Wednesday August 3rd, and our Council Meeting on August 11th at 7:00, in the Spirit Center.
- We have been asked to hold a Farewell Coffee and Donuts Party on August 7th, in the Spirit Center, after the 8:00 and 10:00 AM masses for our seminarian Alejandro Giraldo-Roldan. I will need a few volunteers on Saturday morning, August 6th, to help with set-up and then on Sunday for the clean-up. Sue Bracy is handling the servers. For interested volunteers for the Coffee & Donuts Farewell please contact me by email or home phone, 941-923-7517.
- We have a District Organization meeting on Saturday, August 13th, at Incarnation.
- We will hold our 2nd Pancake Breakfast of the year on August 14th after the 8:00 & 10:00 masses. We still need volunteers to make this a success. Please contact GK Jim Meyd, greygoose1@frontier.com, if you have not already signed up and are interested in volunteering. New members this is a great opportunity to get involved in the Council.
- August 15th is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be just one mass that day at 8:00am. While not a Holy Day of Obligation, it a celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please consider coming to this mass.
- On August 16th, we have a planned Exemplification at 7:00 in the Spirit Center. We have several possible candidates taking their degree that night. The GK will update as we get closer to the date. Please plan to continue our efforts to save the lives of the unborn.
- Assembly 3089 will hold the August meeting on August 8th, here at STM in the Chelsea Center at 7:00pm. All STM SK's please plan on attending this meeting and let's have a good showing from our Council.
- August 13th will be the 2nd celebration of our founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney's feast day. Take a moment to say a prayer for his canonization.

- 40 Days for Life 365 will be held on August 25th, from 9: 00 – 1:00, at Planned Parenthood. Please plan to continue our efforts to save the lives of the unborn.
- There will be no August social. We are currently in the planning stage of our September social.

Good of the Order



The Grand Knight thanks all who attended Brother Larry Faeth's funeral and reception. The Council had a large presence and it showed the respect and love we have for Larry and Joyce. Please continue to keep Joyce Faeth in your thoughts and prayers.

Please include the following individuals in need of our prayers:

Fr. Jim Simko
 John Maier
 John McAlonie
 Erin McAlonie Brady (daughter of John McAlonie)
 Alec Berardinelli
 Janek Jakubiuk
 Craig Spinale (John's son)
 Rose Marcella (wife of Richard Marcella)
 Audrey Barry (wife of Peter)
 Kim Wojtyna (daughter of Carol & John Wojtyna)
 Shirley Berardinelli (wife of Alec Berardinelli)
 Dave Bracy
 Sheree Levanti (wife of Ken Levanti)
 John Spinale
 Donna Woodford (wife of David Woodford)
 John Baldelli (son of Charles Baldelli)
 Christopher Peppard (son of Hank Peppard)
 Tom Nate
 Nancy Risbano (wife of George Risbano)
 Ted Bogusz
 Dan Borgmeyer
 Ruth Walsh
 Ron McCluskey

Fr. Gordon Zanetti
Lucy Koitsch
Ray Paleczny
Larry Hall
Stan Szafranski
Carol Szafranski
Kay Maier (wife of John)
Charlie Baldelli
John Spinale
Joe Tiffany

For our departed Brothers Dominic Caledonia, Cecilio Fernandez, Jr, Joseph (Bob) Kempton, Larry Faeth, Elizabeth Meyd, mother of Jim Meyd, Gail Assaff, wife of Jean Paul Assaff, and the "Unborn"- let us keep them in our prayers.

If you know of any Brother Knight in need, let us know, and we will make sure that he is contacted. If you have any questions or needs, please contact me at my email address greygoose1@frontier.com - Jim Meyd, Grand Knight, or I may be reached at 941-923-7517.



August Birthdays

Please join in recognizing the following Knights celebrating birthdays in August.

August 4 – Charles Baldelli
8 – Michael Mazur
9 – John Maier
18 – Robert Ballard
18 – Josef Bogner
19 – Joseph Sommer, Jr
23 – Dale Scully
25 – James McNamara
27 – Jean-Paul Assaff
29 – James Clark III
29 – Kim Klee
31 – Philip Maresco
31 – John Volpe

NEWS FROM OUR FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR – If you have a Knights of Columbus Insurance question, or need information, please contact the Lawandus Insurance Agency – **Field Agent – Brian DeBlauw**. He may be reached at his cell # 440-669-8957 or email brian.deblauw@kofc.org.

Monthly Update

“Heraclitus, I believe, says that all things pass and nothing stays, and comparing existing things to the flow of a river, he says you could not step twice into the same river.” – Plato

These statements couldn't more impact at any other time. Our world moves faster now that it ever has. A phone is more powerful than computers a few years ago and cars are starting to drive themselves. Scary!

The Knights of Columbus are no different. We made a historical change 2 years ago when we opened the exemplification ceremonies to the families. This was a huge change for the Knights and so many people were upset at the change, and many also welcomed it, but we have all progressed through this together. This is what is so special about our order, the pillars of unity and fraternity. We made it through this change together. The vast majority of us have made it through these COVID times together and we pray together for the ones that have gone before us.

You may or may not realize this, but the insurance side of the business has changed and grown in many ways as well. We now offer investment strategies through the Knights of Columbus Asset advisors that allow us to provide growth strategies while we still offer all of the safety and guarantee strategies offer through the Knights of Columbus insurance company. Additionally, we can now offer strategies for even more charitable giving strategies and wealth transfer strategies that were not available before. We will continue to change and adapt to the market and to the world around us and continue to offer more products, services and solutions to you, our brothers and your families.

This is your insurance company and your investment company created by a priest 140 years ago and all based in the one thing we have in common, our faith. How special is that?

God bless you my brothers.

Your fraternal benefits advisor,
Brian DeBlauw

August 2022



SC-Spirit Center
CC-Chelsea Center
C- Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Officer's Meeting 7:00 SC	4	5	6 C&D Set-up 9:30 - SC
7 Coffee&Donuts Farewell for Seminarian after 8&10 am Masses - SC	8 Assembly Meeting 7:00 STM CC	9	10	11 Council Meeting 7:00 - SC	12	13 Pancake Breakfast Setup 9:30 CC District Meeting Incarnation 8:00
14 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 & 10:00 Mass CC	15 Feast of the Assumption 8:00 Mass C Council Audit Due	16 Exemplification 7:00 SC	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Prayer Walk PP 9:00-1:00	26	27
28	29	30	31			