



Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826



Welcome to the St Thomas More Council October Newsletter

“There are many urgent challenges that demand our action. One opportunity looms especially large. Roe v. Wade is finally gone. We now have a chance to win the fight for life! This day has been a long time coming, and many of us didn’t think we’d live to see it. Abortion was never in the Constitution, and by ending Roe, the Court has empowered us to end one of the worst injustices in American history. Generations of Brother Knights, both past and present, prayed and worked to reach this day, and we rallied the pro-life movement. Our principled stand in the public square has made a difference. So has our tireless work to support mothers and children. Day after day, Knights and their families provide a helping hand and a caring heart. The end of Roe is a crucial milestone, but we cannot mistake it for the end of abortion. We can hope that it is the beginning of the end. As Knights, we must push forward with all the courage and compassion we can summon. As much as we have done, there is still so much more to do. There are those who will double down on a culture of death, so we must push forward with a message of life.” Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Grand Knight Report

So much has happened to us all with the arrival of Hurricane Ian. I am glad that all in our Council remained safe through the storm. While we all received a few bangs and nicks, we survived. More importantly, have been the many conversations I have had with those that checked on others in our Council, or provided assistance where needed. As you know, there is still much to do and many that will need our help. I will continue to communicate as those needs arrive. Thank you to those who have already volunteered when needed. Thank you all for your fraternity and unity with all in our Council

STM Council 7826 held our Council meeting on October 13th, and our guest speaker was our own STM Musical Director, Alex Dilan. Alex talked about his early musical influences and journey to where he is today. Alex’s dedication to music and his pride at being the Music Director was obvious. Alex talked about upcoming choir events, how he determines his musical selections for each week’s readings at the mass, and yes, unfortunately for us, his future plans to retire. While it is not anytime soon, it is hard to imagine a day when Alex is not our director.

STM Council also received the Double Star Council award for Fraternal Year 2021-2022. In addition, Past DGK Phil Arsenault received the Program Director pin, and DGK Ralph Neller, and Membership Chairman Joe Tiffany, received the Membership Award pin.

STM Council held an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on October 18th, with three new Candidates taking the degree.

STM Council held our October social at The Meadows downstairs room on October 22nd. With 66 of us in attendance, many in appropriate costume, there were many laughs and so much fun. We celebrated Octoberfest with great German food, and a great night of Fraternity and Unity. One of the highlights was Brother Charlie Ballschmieder in his lederhosen. I will let you all be the judge on whether that was appropriate. We had another great social held at a new venue. Dave and Sue Bracy did another fabulous job of setting up and hosting the event.

The Council returned to coffee and donuts on October 23rd. Thank you to all Brother Knights, their spouses, and significant others, who have been so generous with their energy, and their time, in support of the breakfasts and coffee & donuts.

We held an Open House on October 25th. Thank you for the 20 plus people who attended. We were able to gain several new candidates. Thanks to our Worthy Field Agent Brian DeBlauw, and his assistant Jomo, for a very informative evening and an inspiring program.

We held our all day Prayer Walk for Life on October 27th. Thank you to all who attended and to Brothers Neil Corrado and Brian Harkins for organizing the walk.

STM held our Membership Drive on the weekend of October 15-16 after mass. Thank you to those who assisted with our Council membership drive and we also received two prospects for our Council. Let's keep this going.

We completed our "Baby Bottle" drive on October 30th. To date we have received \$5000 in donations from the Council and our fabulous STM parishioners.

The Grand Knight and Officers all thank you for your support in making these events a success.































October Knight of the Month

There is so much that this Brother Knight does for our Council and St. Thomas More Parish. This Brother has been our constant photographer for all our council events. His photographs tell the story of our Council in pictures, and who doesn't love to see themselves in one of his pictures. As Sacristan for the parish, there is no event that he and his wife Lucy aren't responsible for being a success. There isn't anything he isn't willing to do to support our parish. He was also responsible for organizing our donation drive to support our Seminarian Alejandro. Our October Knight of the Month is Brother John Koitsch.



October Family of the Month

Our October Family of the Month is always willing to volunteer for all our Council events such as our Pancake Breakfasts, Coffee & Donuts, Parish Christmas Party and so many other activities. Our October Family of the Month is Ed & Fran Plankey.



Faith in Action

STM Council has purchased 80 lightweight jackets in support of Stillpoint Mission, as part of our Coats for Kids program. The distribution date will be on December 10th. More information will follow as the information is confirmed. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the distribution of the jackets

Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori Monthly Challenge

For the month of October, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori challenges you to make some specific effort to defend human life in your nation or your community – whether through charitable work, writing a letter, or praying outside an abortion facility. Second, he challenges you to participate in the Faith in Action Novena for Life Program.

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. Please start to consider how you can support the Capital Campaign as both a volunteer and a monetary donor. 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 these masses. 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. The fall/winter 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 beginning its preparation for this year's Cruise Raffle. The Council needs three members who will assist Brother Gary Ellis in conducting this year's raffle. Volunteers are needed to help distribute and collect tickets at the monthly meeting and to assist after masses when we do our after mass drives, usually during February and March. Brother Gary cannot do this by himself and doesn't require a huge time commitment if we have enough volunteers. This is a great opportunity for some of our new Brother Knights to get involved. Please see the Grand Knight to volunteer before he comes to you. Brother Gary will be glad to answer any questions you might have.

In order to reach more parishioners, the Council has made a decision to continue with Pancake Breakfasts during the winter season. The Council will hold Pancake Breakfasts in January, February, and March. We will not hold breakfasts in November, December, or April due to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. We will then resume Coffee & Donuts for the summer months of July, August, and September in 2023. This will help us to better reach our parishioners and to give us an ample volunteer force.

Please plan to volunteer as the calls go out for volunteers. We will need all hands on deck. Thank you for your support and hard work.

Special Olympics

There are many great opportunities coming up you can volunteer to assist and participate in. 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. 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.

This is where we need your support. Brothers Neil Corrado and Brian Harkins have done fabulous work in building our Right to Life program. Despite their efforts, we continue to have the same Brother Knights at our monthly prayer walks. Thank you to Neil, Brian & Maureen Harkins, Frank & Imelda Moeslein, Charlie & Jeannete Baldelli, Ted Kovacic, Ed Plankey, Greg Sokolik, Phil Arsenault, Ken Berberich, Johnnie Turner, Max Streibel, and others who supported our prayer walk, and for being part of our constant prayer warriors.







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.

STM Council 7826 held an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on October on Tuesday, October 18th. Our Council welcomed three new Brothers, Richard “Dick” Riley, Richard “Ollie” Griffith, and Scott Deahna. Please welcome and congratulate our new Brothers when you see them. Our Honoree for the Exemplification was our Worthy Financial Secretary, Larry Hall. Worthy Larry has represented the heart, soul, and conscience of our Council.

With the addition of three new members, we currently need 7 new members to reach our goal. Please support your council by recruiting someone you know who would find the experience, you share as a Brother Knight, with others. Our next Exemplification will be held on November 15th in the Spirit Center. Let’s close the deal on this year’s quota.

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 Chris Pariseau. The new parishioners are Christopher Brosky, John Harbulak, Christopher Nigro, Kenneth Peifer, Russell Pigot, Jim La Marca, and John Reardon.









Our Council has attempted to stay in touch with our Members via Facebook, Website, Emails, Telephone contact and “Good of the Order”.

- **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.*
- **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.

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 Council Meeting on November 10th at 7:00, in the Spirit Center.
- Preparation is beginning Knights of Columbus 11th Annual Veterans Day Mass at Sarasota National Cemetery on Friday, November 11th. There will be a need for volunteers for chair setup on Thursday, November 10th, and on November 11th for setup and parking assistance. An email request for volunteers has gone

out to the membership. If you haven't yet volunteered, please contact Grand Knight, Jim Meyd. greygoose1@frontier.com, 941-923-7517.

- Assembly 3089 will hold the November meeting on November 14th. STM will host this meeting in the Chelsea Center at 7:00pm. STM SK's please plan on attending this meeting and let's have a good showing from our Council.
- STM Council will hold an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on November 15th, 7:00pm, in the Spirit Center. Our Council will have 2-3 new members taking the degree. All our welcome to attend, and if you aren't a 3rd degree Knight, it is a great time to do so. Please contact Grand Knight Jim Meyd if you would like to take this degree.
- 40 Days for Life 365 will be **not** be held on November 24th due to Thanksgiving Day. Please look out your calendar and select an alternate date, or please say a rosary for the unborn during November. We will return to our normal 4th Thursday on December 22nd. Please plan to continue your efforts to save the lives of the unborn.
- We will be looking for Volunteers to assist at the Parish Christmas Party on December 4th. An email request will be forthcoming. This year, if you volunteer, you will not need a ticket as happened last year. Only those who have signed up to volunteer will be assigned to an activity. If you do not volunteer, or all positions are filled, you will need to have a ticket.
- Our Council is also working on a November and December date to start our Cruise Raffle sales after mass. More information will be available soon. Please plan to assist in this important fundraiser.

Thank you for your support in these futures events!

Upcoming Social News

STM Council will not hold a November Social. Our December Christmas Social will be held on Friday, December 30th, at Laurel Oaks Country Club. More details will be forthcoming as they become available.

Good of the Order

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
Stan Szafranski
Kay Maier (wife of John Maier)
Charlie Baldelli
John Spinale
George Risbano
Chris Berberich (son of Ken Berberich)
Judy Moore (wife of Joe Sommer)
Roy MacGillis
Deane MacGillis (wife of Roy)
Phil Arsenault

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, Donald DiRuzza, 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.



November Birthdays

Please join in recognizing the following Knights - celebrating birthdays in November.

- 5 – Fr. Lawton Lang
- 6 – John Malloy
- 9 – Jim Sherman
- 12 – John Shaw
- 13 – Stan Szafranski
- 18 – Robert Levanti
- 20 – Richard Stevens, Jr
- 21 – Lee Dusoe
- 29 – Jim Beck
- 29 – Ray Paleczny
- 30 – Henry Rauche, Jr

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.

See Field Agent newsletter on next page followed by the Council Nov. calendar.

Fraternal Benefits Advisor October 2022 Newsletter

Top 10 Facts to Know about Long-Term Care Planning November is National Long-Term Care Awareness Month, an event recognized by Congress and a number of States. To mark the occasion, here are 10 interesting facts shared by the American Association for Long-Term Care Insurance.

1. Americans are living longer, in large part due to advances in medical care and public health. Life expectancy in the US for those reaching 65 was 20 years on average in 2019.
2. By 2030, one in five residents in the US will be age 65 or older.
3. The number of people in need of long term support services (LTSS) in the United States is already at 14 million and expected to grow to 27 million by 2050.
4. Average out-of-pocket costs are \$140,000 for those individuals who utilize paid long term support services (LTSS). Roughly 17 percent will spend over \$100,000 on LTSS. Almost 9 percent will spend over \$250,000 on LTSS.
5. By 2040, the total prevalence of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in the US is expected to approximately double from 7.2 million to nearly 13 million, with 8.5 million women and 4.5 million men expected to develop dementia
6. For those requiring high levels of LTSS, individuals and families pay 55 percent of long-term care costs out of pocket.
7. Currently, the majority of older single-person households are female. Women comprised 74 percent of solo households age 80 and over.
8. Some 7.5 million Americans have some form of long-term care insurance. Two-thirds of all new individual long-term care insurance claims pay for care needed by women.
9. The long-term care insurance industry paid out \$11 billion in benefits to some 310,000 individuals with insurance protection in 2019. The number will increase each year as the current number of policyholders grow older and, as a result, are more likely to begin their claim.
10. 69.5 percent of new claims start after the policyholder reached age 80. If you live a long life, you are very likely to need long term care. You'll be very glad you have a policy to pay benefits.

Thank you and God bless,



November 2022

SC – Spirit Center
CC – Chelsea Center
C - Church



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 All Saints Day – Holy Day of Obligation	2 Officer Meeting 7:00 SC All Souls Day	3	4	5
3	7	8	9	10 Council Meeting 7:00 SC	11 Veteran's Day Mass	12
13	14 Assembly Meeting 7:00 CC@ STM	15 Exemplification 7:00 SC	16	17 Xmas Party Meeting 2:00 Garden Room	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 No Prayer Walk for November Happy Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30			