



# Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826



Welcome to the St Thomas More Council June Newsletter



## **Grand Knight's Report**

As Lou Gehrig once said, "Today I am the luckiest man on the face of the earth." Let me tell you why. Had I not moved to Sarasota in 2015, I would not have found St. Thomas More Parish. If I had not found St. Thomas More Parish, I would not have found STM Knights of Columbus Council 7826. If I had not found STM Council 7826, I would have missed knowing one of the finest and most dedicated group of men, known collectively as STM Council 7826. Individually, each of you has shown your constant commitment to your faith and parish, to protecting all life, from the cradle to the tomb, and making our community and the world around us a better place. Through all our activities and fundraising, we have not just touched hundreds, but thousands of lives, many who we will never see, and some who are not yet born to this earth. You have proven that the "power of one", united together, is stronger than the power of many that work alone.

Over the last two years, we have recruited 34 new members, earning Double Star Council and Star Council. Our Council reestablished our in-person Exemplification degree team. STM council has raised over \$126,000 through our fundraising. I was reminded today, by our Worthy Advocate, that it represents over \$1,200 a week, every week, for two years. STM Council over the last two years accounted for over 30,000 volunteer hours. What an amazing feat this has been! We raised over \$26,000 for Oak Park School and St Mary Academy; we have raised and donated over \$13,000 to STM Parish CFA and Capital Campaign. We have raised and donated over \$16,000 to pregnancy centers as part of our Right to Life program; almost \$3,000 to Coats for Kids; 3100 lbs of food and \$1000 to the parish food pantry; \$3,500 in Seminarian support; and along with that our donors have given over \$15,000 in scholarship monies to students who attend Cardinal Mooney High School. In addition we have supported many parish ministries, youth group, First Communicant Bibles, veterans, altar servers, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, Catholic Charities, St. Paul's Parish in Arcadia, Cervicos in the Dominican Republic, and the Global Wheelchair program. In addition, STM Council has donated or sponsored many additional popup donations and events throughout this time, including replacing the Blessed Virgin Mary statue that it is being retired. In addition to hosting the STM Parish Christmas Party, STM Council hosted and organized the sale of tickets, room setup, ushers, and CD sales in support of the Christmas concert given by our fabulous choir. The proceeds were used to assist in defraying the cost of hurricane damage sustained by the parish.



The Grand Knight wishes to express his sincere gratitude to Our Pastor, Fr. Gordon Zanetti, and our Parochial Vicar and Council Chaplain, Fr. Lawton Lang, for providing us a home for us to accomplish our work. I recently discovered not only how rare it is for councils to have a chaplain, but in our case, a Chaplain who gave us outstanding support and counsel. We were also blessed with the gift of our seminarian, Alejandro. Alejandro quickly became a member and supporter of our Council, while endearing us with his vocation and personality, and quickly became a member of our family.

The Grand Knight wishes to thank the parish office staff. Sacristans John & Lucy Koitsch, who assisted with so many of our parish events. Where would we have been without all the great pictures John provided us that memorialized so many of our events? Musical Director Alex Dilan, Director of Religious Education Robbie Anderson, Business Manager Rick Morgan, and Administrative Assistants Brigid Martin & Joan Nock. My special thanks to Administrative Assistant Mary Maxwell, who patiently and diligently allowed us so many announcements in the parish bulletin, and her assistance in working with all our scheduled events, which was no easy task. Maintenance Supervisor Ramon Alvero who constantly worked with us in setting up rooms for meetings and cleanup after. He miraculously was able to give us a little air conditioning from time to time when it seemed like an impossible task.

The Grand Knight wishes to express his respect and gratitude to District Deputy Dr. Steve Wyer and Deputy Warden Charlie Culkin for their leadership, guidance, and support to STM Council, and to the Grand Knight personally, for always being there and offering their experience and knowledge, and allowing me to keep the boat between the two shores.

One of the reasons STM Council has been so successful, has been as the leadership has changed, the past officers have been so generous in sharing their knowledge and experience with the next generations of leadership. I would like to express my respect and appreciation to PGK's Ken Berberich, Johnnie Turner, and Dan Bulinski. Their encouragement, support and willingness to share, and to always be there when needed, meant more to me than I could ever express. Whenever I had a question or needed to know how something was done, they freely gave their time to answer and explain. They were truly my "North Star".

To Steve & Carol McElroy, who took on the task of every Council communication, every monthly newsletter, leading the scholarship committee, and overseeing the scheduling of our Tootsie Roll campaign. Thank you for making me look so much better than I was. You are the best!

Lastly, but most importantly, my love and gratitude to my wife Beth for her constant love and support during these two years. She never wavered when I was off to another meeting or event, or spent endless hours on the computer taking care of Council business.

To STM Council, we thank you for supporting and trusting Beth and I to lead this Council for two years. We couldn't have asked for anything more than you gave. Thank you for one of the greatest experiences in our lives.

***Thank you for all you do!***

***Editor's Note - and thank you to Jim and Beth Meyd for all that you do! Steve***



## **Faith in Action**

Thank you to the Food Bank volunteers and their spouses for your in-person participation and your monetary support. As you may know, the supply chain remains a challenge and food supplies are in still in short supply. Given today's economy, we have 75-100 families in need every week. Please continue to support the pantry with both food and monetary donations. The pantry continues to purchase additional basic items each week to supplement what we receive from All Faiths Food Bank. The weekly bulletin lists the items we critically need. Your donations are greatly appreciated by the pantry and those families we serve. If you are interested in assisting on delivery day or one of the various positions available during opening, please contact Grand Knight Jim Meyd.

As you know, when Deacon Alejandro's father passed away, he was unable to attend his funeral. STM Parish held a memorial service on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who attended and gave their support.

As a Council, we have strongly supported our parish and our commitment to vocations. The journey to becoming a priest is long, and not without its personal challenges and commitment. Deacon Alejandro is a great example of that. One key element needed to reach their destination is a strong support system. With Alejandro's family being so far away, you have graciously welcomed Alejandro to our family with your support. In an email blast, I have communicated to you the various needs of a young priest as he takes his first steps. As you did when we assisted him in going home to visit with his parents when they were ill, I am asking you to consider once more a gift of support and congratulations on his Ordination. His Ordination will be on July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral, and he will celebrate his first mass here at STM on July 16<sup>th</sup>. STM Parish & Ministries will hold a reception for him after the mass. If you would like to assist in this part of his journey, please consider showing your support for Alejandro as part of our STM family. Please consider a gift to Alejandro Giraldo-Roldan and deliver to John or Lucy Koitsch or mail to Grand Knight Jim Meyd, 4068 Green Tree Ave, Sarasota, FL, 34233. You can bring your gift that day, or you can deliver it to John & Lucy Koitsch or me in advance. Thank you for your consideration and support.

With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God,  
the Diocese of Venice in Florida  
joyfully invites you to attend the Ordination of  
*Rev. Mr. Alejandro Giraldo Roldán*  
To the Priesthood of Jesus Christ through the  
Imposition of Hands and the Invocation of the Holy Spirit  
by His Excellency  
*The Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane*  
Bishop of Venice in Florida

on Saturday, July 15, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.  
at Epiphany Cathedral  
310 Sarasota Street  
Venice, Fl 34285

A reception follows in the Cathedral Parish Hall

*Rev. Fr. Alejandro Giraldo Roldán*

**First Mass**

Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.  
at St. Thomas More Catholic Church  
2506 Gulf Gate Drive  
Sarasota, Fl 34231

A reception follows in the Chelsea Center

### **June Knight of the Month**

This Brother Knight has been a great example of getting involved early as a member of the Council. He has been a constant volunteer at all our events and is learning to understand the various roles of being an officer. While he was not able to attend the meeting, he will receive his certificate at the next Council meeting. Our June Knight of the Month is Brother Kevin Deady.

### **June Family of the Month**

Our June Family of the Month has been an integral part of STM Parish for quite some time. They assist in parish ministries as Altar Server and Eucharistic Ministers. They are a constant at our events and socials, and their smiles and personalities are contagious. While not able to attend this meeting, they will be recognized at the next Council Meeting. Our Family of the Month for June is Alan and Leslie Dressel.

***Congratulations to all of our  
Knights of the Month and Families of the Month  
for the fraternal year July 2022 thru June 2023***

<b>Month</b>	<b>Knight of the Month</b>	<b>Family of the Month</b>
Jul 22	Jamie Holahan	Larry & Nancy Hall
Aug 22	Al Ferrigno	Roy & Deanne MacGillis
Sep 22	Corey DeVito	Daniel & Kim Flynn
Oct 22	John Koitsch	Ed & Fran Plankey
Nov 22	John Cesare	Gary & Kellie Sorley
Dec 22	Fr. Lawton Lang	Jack & Nancy Rodman
Jan 23	Phil Arsenault	Corey & Jean and Joseph De Vito
Feb 23	Denny Armstrong	Steve & Carol McElroy
Mar 23	Tom Nate	Mike Mazur & Nancy Brand
Apr 23	Charlie Culkin	Steven & Teresa Wyer
May 23	Neil Corrado	Dave & Sue Bracy
Jun 23	Kevin Deady	Alan & Leslie Dressel



## 2022-2023 Knight of the Year

Two years ago, the Council was in need of a Deputy Grand Knight. This Brother Knight stood up and took that challenge and his work and effort aided the Council in achieving **Double Star Council**. He worked tirelessly as Deputy Grand Knight and led a successful Tootsie Roll Campaign. This year he has overseen the volunteer hours and Council shirts and name badges. In addition, through one of his contacts, he secured a \$5,000 donation to the operations fund of this Council. His energy and enthusiasm is second to none. I cannot say enough how much it meant for him to come to the aid of the Council and assist in its success. This Brother Knight is truly worthy of being the 2022-2023 Knight of the Year. Congratulations to Brother Phil Arsenault, this year's Knight of the Year.



## 2022-2023 Family of the Year

Two years ago it was no secret what the challenges were for this Council coming out of COVID and its restrictions and lockdowns. We were just returning to in-person meetings, and the challenge to get everyone back to meetings, and restarting our fundraising events, was an absolute must for the future of our Council, not to mention restarting our always successful social program. STM Council was fortunate to have a secret weapon. This family put all their heart, soul, energy, and passion into rebuilding the social program. Not only was it successful, but it was the catalyst for all we were able to accomplish as a council for these two years. Their focus on picking the right time and places brought this Council back together, and made it as energetic and vibrant as it had been in the past. Every month of socials not only kept setting record attendance, but it built the strong bond of unity and fraternity that STM Council was always known for. This truly became the “secret sauce” for the success of this Council. The Council’s personality of unity and fraternity became stronger. As a Council we reconnected and the energy generated from these connections was overwhelming. Everyone was eager to not only meet old friends, but to make new friends with our newest members. All you had to do was listen to the energy in the room to understand what this meant to everyone in our Council. No Grand Knight ever had it better than having this family as an important part of this Council. With great respect and appreciation for all they have done, it is my honor to name Dave & Sue Bracy as our 2022-2023 Family of the Year.



*Photo above from earlier this year and June photo on next page.*

















## **2023-2024 STM Council 7826 Scholarship Presentation**

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, STM Council 7826 held its 2023 Scholarship Award Presentation. Thank you to Committee Chairman Steve McElroy, and the committee members, Brothers Johnnie Turner, Jack Rodman, Max Streibel, Greg Sokolik, Hank Peppard, and Jim Meyd for their time and effort in making this year's program a success. Thank you to Sacristan, and Brother John Koitsch, for memorializing the presentation by taking photos of this event.

Chairman Steve McElroy opened the ceremony, and Pastor, Fr. Gordon Zannetti provided the Invocation. After the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, Brother Steve provided a history of the Knights of Columbus and our Council Scholarship Program. Cardinal Mooney's Director of Development, Amy Gorman provided her opening remarks and thank you for our Council's continued support.

This year's awardees and presenters were:

### **The Richard A. Schwehr Memorial Scholarship**

**Presenter: Ann Johnson, daughter of Richard & Sybilla Schwehr**

**Awardee: Tessa Wiegand**

### **The Lance Corporal Patrick Ryan Adle Memorial Scholarship**

**Presenter: GK Jim Meyd**

**Awardee: Sarah White**

### **The Hank Peppard Family Memorial Scholarship**

**Presenter: Charlie Ballschmieder for Hank Peppard**

**Awardee: Cora Thayer**

### **The Knights of Columbus Council 7826 Scholarship**

**Presenter: PGK Johnnie Turner**

**Awardee: Wyatt Liott**

### **The Knights of Columbus Council 7826 Scholarship**

**Presenter: DGK Ralph Neller**

**Awardee: Hadley Paben**



Concluding the program GK Jim Meyd provided closing remarks and group photos were taken and refreshments were served. Thank you to Brothers Charlie Ballschmieder and Jack Rodman, for serving refreshments, and the group of Brother Knights who came to support the program.







**Richard A. Schwehr**  
**Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
**Recipient Tessa Wiegand and Presenter Ann Johnson**

Richard Schwehr was born on August 8, 1927, the son of an original homesteader in North Dakota. His elementary education was in a one room school house. He graduated from Assumption Abbey High School in Richardton, North Dakota. After 4 years in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne, he was honorably discharged as a Sargeant First Class. He married, moved to Cleveland, Ohio and earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Fenn College which later became Cleveland State University.

After more than 31 years of working for Catepillar and travelling around the world, Dick retired and he and his wife Sybilla moved to Florida. They were active members of St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota. Dick was a member of the Knights of Columbus where he became a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knight and a member of the Color Corps. Dick firmly believed in the importance of education for everyone. Upon his passing in September of 2016, his family donated the funds to the Knights of Columbus to start this scholarship program which the Knights have named in Dick's honor.

This scholarship is being sponsored by Richard's wife, Sybilla Shepherd, with support from other family members.





**Lance Corporal Patrick Ryan Adle  
Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Recipient Sarah White and Presenter Jim Meyd**

Lance Corporal Adle, United States Marine Corps gave his life in the service of his Country. Patrick was a 2001 graduate of Fallston High School in Bel Air, Maryland, where he played both varsity football and lacrosse. He played on the 1999 and 2000 football teams that won the county championships and the 2001 lacrosse team was the state champion. Patrick's smile and positive attitude won him a place in the hearts of friends, family, coaches and teachers; but he also had a burning desire to serve his country. He joined a Marine Reserve unit and attended Harford Community College after graduation from Fallston High. His unit was called up for active duty in 2002.

Patrick was on his second tour of duty in Iraq in June 2004, when the Humvee he was riding in struck a land mine as they were escorting an ambulance with wounded Marines near Bagdad. Two other Marines in the vehicle perished as well. Patrick was awarded the Purple Heart as a result of his ultimate sacrifice for his country and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

This scholarship is being sponsored by Patrick's stepfather, James Meyd of St. Thomas More Council 7826 of the Knights of Columbus.





**The Hank Peppard Family  
Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Recipient Cora Thayer and Presenter Charlie Ballschmieder**

Hank Peppard is a fourth-degree member of the St. Thomas More Council 7826 of the Knights of Columbus. One of the founding members of the council, he has served as an officer and one of its most active members since its origin in 2011. In 2017 Hank was named Knight of the Year by the council.

Hank established this scholarship fund to honor his family members who have left this earth to be with God. In 1983 his beloved son, Hank Peppard, Jr. died at age 13 when he was struck by a car while riding his bicycle home from school.

In 2003 Hank lost his Father, Henry Peppard, Sr. at age 94. Hank's Mother, Louise, who moved to Florida to live with Hank for 8 years, passed on in 2013 at age 98.

Another tragedy struck Hank's family when he lost his niece and nephew in a house fire. Bill Peppard Jr. was 8 years old and his sister, Jackie, was 9 at the time. Their father, Hank's brother Bill was a Grand Knight in his Knights of Columbus council in Oceanside Long Island. He succumbed to a heart attack in 2008 while volunteering with the Knights of Columbus calling Bingo numbers at his parish in Long Island.

In March 2021, another member of the Peppard Family was lost. Bill Peppard's daughter, Debbie S. Metzler passed away at age 63 from cancer.



### **Knights of Columbus Council 7826 Scholarship Fund**

#### **(Above) Recipient Wyatt Liott and Presenter PGK Johnnie Turner**

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic men's organization in the world. The first and foremost principle of the organization is Charity. Council 7826 was re-established in July 2011 and today membership is in excess of 200 men and supporting Catholic education is one of its prominent charitable activities. As a result, the Council is proud to provide this scholarship to the children or grandchildren of members of St. Thomas More Parish.

#### **(Below) Recipient Hadley Paben by father Scott Paben and Presenter DGK Ralph Neller**





**CONGRATULATIONS!**



## **Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori Monthly Challenge**

This month, I challenge you to show compassion and Christian charity for others by serving the poor, the sick, the lonely or those in need in a direct and tangible way. Second, I challenge you to aid in the Faith in Action Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity or Helping Hands program.

## **Parish News**

If you are able, please consider attending at least one daily mass each week. It is a great way to start your day with prayer and the Eucharist. You will find it results in a more meaningful day as you become 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. Please call the Parish Office if you are interested in volunteering. Thank you to those who have responded to this call.

The Parish office is very often asked to send a Eucharistic minister to a parishioner's home, or to a nursing or assisted living home. Unfortunately, we are very short-handed in meeting this important need. If you are currently a Eucharistic Minister, or have been one in the past, consider being part of this wonderful and rewarding ministry. If you are not a Eucharistic Minister and would like to receive training in this ministry, we can help. We hope to offer monthly Communion Services to nearby nursing and assisted living homes, sometime in the near future. Please contact the Parish Office: Brigid - [brigid@stthomasmoresrq.org](mailto:brigid@stthomasmoresrq.org) or Mary - [marym@stthomasmoresrq.org](mailto:marym@stthomasmoresrq.org).

## **STM Capital Campaign**

(This section will be a new and ongoing part of our Council newsletter. I will use this section to keep you aware of progress as it becomes available.)

Work is about to begin to fix ceiling, wall and floor damage created by the last hurricane, along with repainting the interior space across three buildings. Work will begin Monday, June 12 starting in the main church building then moving to the Spirit Center and followed by the Chelsea Center. Due to the

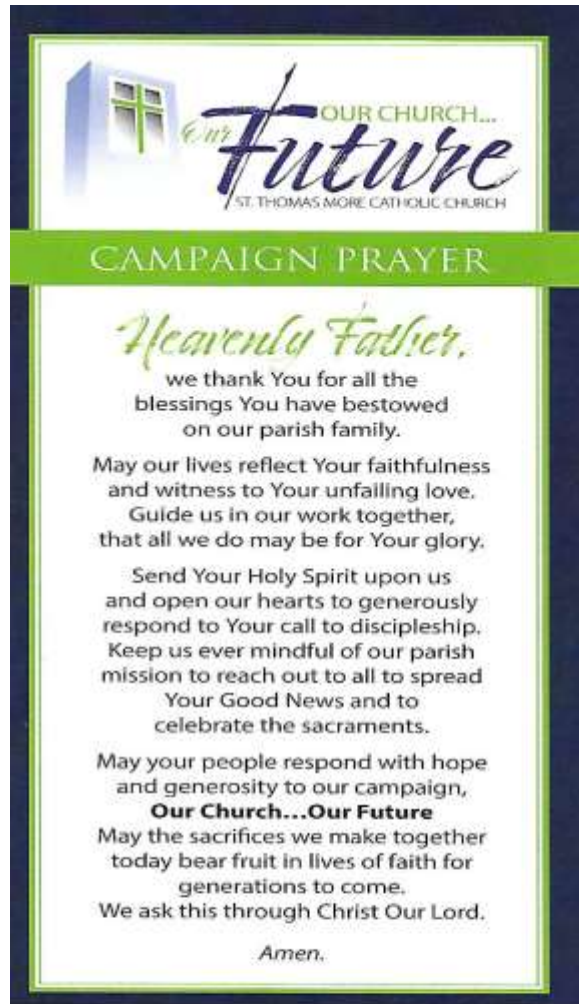


extensive nature of the repairs and improvements, access to the building being worked upon will be restricted. This has resulted in the following plans for use of the campus buildings:

- June 12 - (approximately) June 26: The main church building will be closed. Saturday, Sunday Mass and daily Mass will be held in the Chelsea Center. We will not have the opportunity to have funerals, memorials, baptisms or weddings during this time.
- Daily Mass will resume in the Chapel sometime during the week of June 26-30. The exact date will be established once we have an idea how work is progressing.
- It is anticipated Weekend Mass will resume in the church beginning on Saturday, July 1 at the 4:00 pm Mass.
- Work will begin in the Spirit Center on the anticipated date of Wednesday, June 28 and last for approximately 2 weeks. Those expecting to use the building during that time should contact Mary Maxwell to explore alternatives.
- Work will finally move to the Chelsea Center, approximately July 17 and last for two weeks, completing on approximately August 5. Those expecting to use the building during that time should contact Mary Maxwell to explore alternatives. Please note that the above dates (particularly the later dates) are fluid; once work begins we will have a better idea of building closures and required usage shifts.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility throughout this process as we all await the conclusion of these exciting improvements to our Church Campus.

And remember, if you have yet to support the campaign, please know that it's never too late to participate. We encourage our new families to learn more about this exciting project by checking out the Capital Campaign page on our Parish website. We also encourage our established families who might not have been able to contribute to it in the past to reconsider a gift to the Campaign; your participation will make a difference.



### Committee Corner

We have the need on many of our committees for new members. 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 about the opportunities we have available.

### Special Olympics

There are many great opportunities coming up where you can volunteer to assist and participate. 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 on how you can become a volunteer.

**Special Olympics**  
Florida



## **West Coast Volunteer Opportunities**

*Manatee and Sarasota County*

### **Area 7 Bowling Competition**

Saturday, August 5 | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

*Bowlero*

*4208 Cortez Road W*

*Bradenton, FL 34210*

**Register:** <https://cerv.is/0197x2501>

### **Area 7 Swimming Competition**

Saturday, August 26 | 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

*Shelby Aquatic Center*

*8501 Potter Park Drive*

*Sarasota, FL 34238*

**Register:** <https://cerv.is/0197x2482>

## **More Opportunities Coming Soon!**

For more information on in-person volunteer opportunities or group volunteer opportunities, please reach out to

Debbie Jackson

[deborahjackson@sofl.org](mailto:deborahjackson@sofl.org) (352) 910-4147



Special Olympics Florida - West Coast

27200 Riverview Center Blvd., Suite 107 Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Tel 352-910-4147

[www.specialolympicsflorida.org](http://www.specialolympicsflorida.org)



## Right to life

More and more families are suffering economic hardships and consequently more pregnant women are in need of the life-saving services and support provided by My Choice and Community Pregnancy Centers. As Knights we are dedicated to the sanctity of life. The **“40 Days for Life 365”** campaign provides each of us the opportunity to participate 365 days a year. Our Council has been requested to participate at the Sarasota Planned Parenthood facility on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 at [bjharkins1@gmail.com](mailto:bjharkins1@gmail.com) or telephone # 908-451-7454 or Neil Corrado at [fdny0261@gmail.com](mailto: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.

While amazing things happen every year in the blessed work of helping women and saving babies, the *Dobbs* decision from the Supreme Court and the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* has resulted in the need to help more pregnant women considering abortions. Florida recently passed a 6 week ban. It will take effect only if the state’s current 15-week ban is upheld in an ongoing legal challenge that is before the state Supreme Court. The 15 week ban is currently in place in Florida, but abortions have actually increased this past year as our state has become an abortion destination. Most abortions occur prior to 15 weeks and our border states have tighter restrictions which means more women are coming to Florida for an abortion. For this reason, there is now a greater need to continue our prayer walks and our support of those pregnancy centers we now support. Please continue to **safely and peacefully** support the work we are already doing. **Please remember that in accordance with K of C guidelines you cannot handout materials or confront someone entering Planned Parenthood unless you are approached by the person first for information. You are allowed to greet them and pray for them, but do not go beyond that unless they reach out to you.**

A special “thanks” to Brothers Neil Corrado and Brian Harkins and their outstanding work in building our Right to Life program. We encourage you to join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month in front of Planned Parenthood. 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.

## Membership

Our New Member Goal this fraternal year was **ten (10) New Members. We have made our Membership goal for this year!!** We currently have **(13)** new members. Congratulations to the Council and thank you to our Chancellor Chris Parizeau, and our Advocate Joe Tiffany.

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](mailto: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 their 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 Edward Becker, Jack Bonacci, Michael Brake, Richard David, Pete DeMichele, Mike Failne, Edward Flock, Eric Greenhill, Mark Morse, Christopher Muller, Timothy Tunney, John Tynan, and Stephen Weiss.

**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](mailto:jclark1@gmail.com)

- **Website** - St Thomas More Council 7826 website is available to all members. The **website address is [www.kofc7826.org](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree members **to achieve the new, Charity - Unity - Fraternity degree (3<sup>rd</sup> degree)** as well as candidates/new members to participate in the (3<sup>rd</sup> degree) ceremony. If you are interested in participating, please contact Chancellor Chris Pariseau at his email [pariseau314@outlook.com](mailto:pariseau314@outlook.com), or his telephone #443-994-7397.
- **We are asking all 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knights to consider accomplishing your 4<sup>th</sup> (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 4<sup>th</sup> degree, please contact GK Jim Meyd [greygoose1@frontier.com](mailto:greygoose1@frontier.com), or his telephone 941-923-7517.

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

The 4<sup>th</sup> (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 cash or check donations (payable to KofC Assembly 3089) used to purchase needed items. Please notate on your check that you are a Member, STM Council 7826. Thank you for your continuing support. Please see Brother Steve McElroy to find out how you can help.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- STM Council Corporate Communion at the 4:00 mass with the July Social to follow at The Meadows CC on July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Lady of Charity Assembly 3089 meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Incarnation Parish.
- STM Council Membership Meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00, in the Spirit Center. Please be aware of any possible changes due to the interior painting of the parish buildings!
- Deacon Alejandro's Ordination on July 15th at Epiphany Cathedral at 11:00.
- Fr. Alejandro Giraldo-Roldan's first mass at STM Parish at the 12:00 mass, reception to follow.

***Thank you for your support in these futures events!***



## July Social

On Saturday, July 8th, Council 7826 will conduct a Corporate Communion at the 4:00 PM followed by the monthly Social Event at the Meadows Country Club. *(Note: The annual Officer Installation Ceremony will be scheduled and conducted on a different date).*

The social event cocktail period will open at 5:30 followed by dinner at 6:15 PM. This will be a fun evening for our Council as we embark on the journey of the Fraternal Year starting in July. We will be introducing the new 2023-24 Officer team at the dinner.

There is no need to RSVP for the Corporate Communion; however, **reservations are required for the Social Event to include pre-payment with entree choice.** The cost for the Social Event is \$42.00 (gratuity included) per person with cash bar.

Your reservation is **due by 7/1** to Financial Secretary Larry Hall with check payable to KofC St. Thomas More Council 7826 at mailing address: Larry Hall, 4097 Cascina Way, Sarasota, FL 34238. Remember to include from the options below the entree choice for each person in your reservation: Prime Rib, Grouper, or Duck

## Good of the Order

Please include the following individuals in need of our prayers:



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)  
Kim Wojtyna (daughter of Carol & John Wojtyna)  
Shirley Berardinelli (wife of Alec Berardinelli)  
Sheree Levanti (wife of Ken Levanti)  
Lee Dusoe  
Donna Woodford (wife of David Woodford)  
John Baldelli (son of Charles Baldelli)  
Christopher Peppard (son of Hank Peppard)  
Nancy Risbano (wife of George Risbano)  
Ted Bogusz  
Dan Borgmeyer  
Ruth Walsh  
Ron McCluskey  
Fr. Gordon Zanetti  
Kay Maier (wife of John Maier)  
John Spinale  
Judy Moore (wife of Joe Sommer)  
Gary Ellis  
Pasquale Guadagno  
Jeanne Leonard (wife of Don Leonard)  
Carter Lindauer (grandson of John Maier)  
Jack Shaw  
Dr. Steve Wyer  
John Regan

For our departed Brothers, George Risbano, Christopher Berberich (son of Ken Berberich), Robert Lang (brother of Fr. Lawton Lang), 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](mailto:greygoose1@frontier.com) - Jim Meyd, Grand Knight, or I may be reached at 941-923-7517.



## July Birthdays

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

July 1 - Roy MacGillis  
July 11 - Don Leonard  
July 14 - Alec Berardinelli  
July 14 - Mitchell Mauer  
July 15 - Jamie Holahan  
July 16 - Rich Marcella  
July 17 - Steve Wyer  
July 18 - Thomas Kennedy  
July 22 - Julio Melendez  
July 23 - Al Ferrigno  
July 23 - Joseph Mizii  
July 27 - Dick Riley  
July 27 - Mark Lawrie  
July 29 - Kevin Deady

## NEWS FROM OUR FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR

*When June rolls around a couple of things come to my mind: grilling and graduations. Now these two things don't seem to have much in common. In fact, some may say they have nothing at all in common. It simply illustrates how amusingly my mind works.*

*But let me expound a bit on both. Outdoor grilling comes on full force this time of year. Yes, in the warmer climates, there are those that grill all year round. Even in the colder climates, some make a point of outdoor grilling in the coldest of weather. But for most, June starts that season when the grill is often fired up and all the succulent goodness of charbroiled food is readied for the table. Now let me relate that to graduations: I've been to many graduation parties and there always seems to be that one person who is the designated grill master. Flipping*



*hamburgers, turning hot dogs, kielbasa, and sausage, and tenderizing vegetables over an open flame for the celebrants.*

*How's that for a segue? From grilling to graduations! The end of the school year means graduations. Some, from the lowest educational levels...all the way to the highest. At whatever level you may fall, or your child may fall, I offer hearty congratulations! Graduating may mean moving up one more grade level or for some who are at the end of the educational journey, it might mean a step into a new career. Or maybe advancing in an already established career. Graduating has as a natural consequence, a moving on, taking the next step. Carefully preparing for a career, taking stock of talents and newfound knowledge, thinking of the impact your career may have on your family and the greater community; the graduate is ready!*

*I think of the work I do with my members and their families in the same way: getting you to graduate at the top of your class; well-prepared, knowledgeable, setting a course with impact for your family. Sitting down with me for a consultation starts the preparation. We can take stock of where you are and any recent changes in your situation with our state-of-the-art financial needs analysis program. The result is to help make sure you and your family are prepared: Prepared for the expected and the unexpected. The expected might be a comfortable retirement with adequate income to do the things you've always wanted to do. Being prepared for the unexpected is important, too: an untimely loss, an extended care event, a disability. Understanding the impact of having a strategy now is the first step in preparation. - I'll be calling soon to set up a time to get together and make sure you're set to graduate at the top of your class!*

*Vivat Jesus*

*Yours in Christ,*



# July, 2023

SC – Spirit Center  
CC – Chelsea Center  
C - Church



## Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 RSVP due for July social event
2	3	4	5 Officer's Meeting 7:00 SC	6	7	8 Corporate Communion 4:00 Mass C  July Social The Meadows CC
9	10 Assembly Meeting 7:00  Incarnation	11	12 Knight's Mass & Rosary 8:00 C	13 Council Meeting 7:00 CC	14	15 Alejandro's Ordination 11:00 Epiphany Cathedral
16 Alejandro's First Mass 12:00 C  Reception CC	17	18 Exemplifica tion 7:00 SC	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Prayer Walk 9-1 Planned Parenthood	28	29
30	31					