



Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

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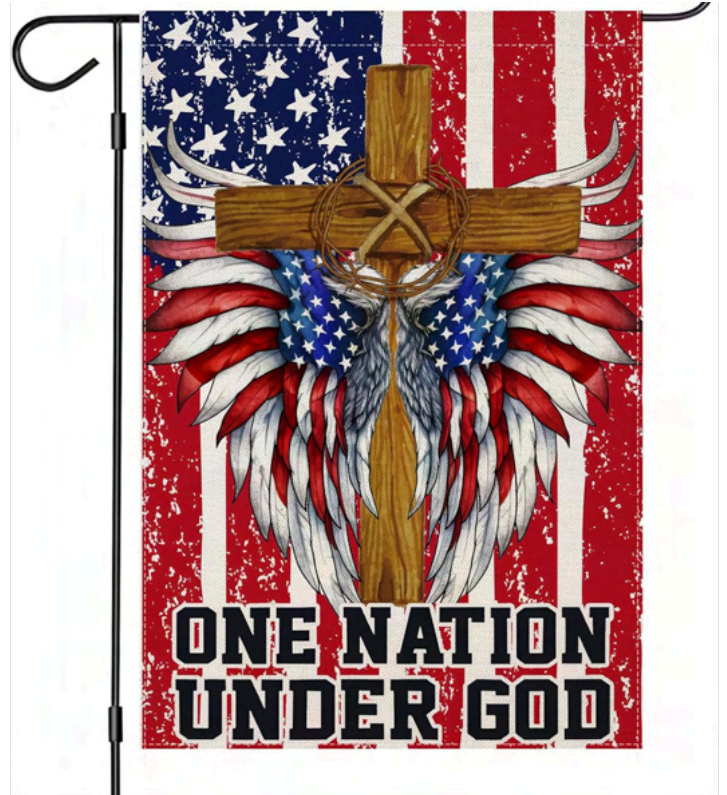
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“WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL, THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED, BY THEIR CREATOR, WITH CERTAIN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, THAT AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.”

Thomas Jefferson

Grand Knights Report

JULY CELEBRATES OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM-

Since its inception in 1882 as a fraternal brotherhood, the Knights of Columbus have been closely connected to the growth of democracy and freedom in our country. If you take a glimpse at our history, you'll see that in many cases the K of C have taken the lead in standing up for freedom. Here are just a few examples . . .

During WWI, the Knights established soldiers' welfare centers in the U.S. and abroad to provide rest and recreational facilities and social services to Allied servicemen of all faiths under the motto, "Everybody Welcome, Everything Free". Everybody meant everybody. Whatever your race or creed, you were welcome at K of C facilities. In fact, the Order was praised by contemporary African Americans of World War I, because "unlike the other social welfare organizations operating in the war, it never drew the color line." As a result of the Order's wartime work, which earned high praise from Pope Benedict XV, nearly 400,000 men joined the Knights between 1917 and 1923.

By the time of the Pearl Harbor attack and the United States entry into World War II in 1941, a K of C welfare program for servicemen had been well established, built and modeled on the Knights' World War I work.

At the Supreme Convention in 1944, the Order established a \$1 million trust fund for the children of members who died or became disabled during the conflict of World War II.

Following the end of the war in 1945, the Order turned its attention to the growing threats of communism and fascism. To combat these dangers, the Knights launched in 1946 the Crusade for the Preservation and Promotion of American Ideals, which published books and pamphlets to educate the public on "the perils of communism".

In 1947, after WWII, several hundred radio stations broadcast K of C sponsored programs with the titles "Safeguards of America" and "Foundations of Our American Ideals." Shortly thereafter in 1951, the Knights of Columbus initiated a campaign for the public adoption of the phrase "under God" in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance. Two years later in 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a law that officially added the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

In response to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, on Sept. 12 the Knights established its \$1 million Heroes Fund. Checks for \$3,000 were presented to the families of all full-time professional law enforcement, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who lost their lives at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Forty-five Knights were killed on 9/11.

Shortly after the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882, three principles united its members: Charity, Unity and Fraternity. At that time people feared that members of the Catholic faith owed their entire allegiance to the Church and could not be trusted as citizens of their country. Patriotism was added to the Order's principles in 1900, based on the idea that Knights are loyal to both God and country.

Grand Knights Report

FOURTH DEGREE: HIGHEST DEGREE OF THE ORDER



The Fourth Degree is the highest degree of the order. It is an extension of the third degree. Members of this degree are dedicated to foster and promote the spirit of patriotism and to encourage active Catholic Citizenship throughout the Order.

But there is more . . . these “Sir Knights” are men who have chosen to embrace the Order’s fourth principle of patriotism, the men who lead the efforts to reach out to veterans and active military and to embody the fact that one can be a faithful Catholic and also be a faithful citizen.

The Patriotic Degree reminds us of our duty to God and country!



FAREWELL FATHER GORDON -

Effective July 1st, Father Gordon will become the new Pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul the Apostles Parish in Bradenton. Father Gordon played a major role in our Council’s success over the past 5 years. As a 3rd Degree Knight he supported our activities both in the parish and in the community. He attended most all of our social events and was always available to guide me and many of our brother Knights during difficult times or health emergencies.

Most importantly, as our Pastor, it was always about his love of God and his love of people. I have seen him grow as a priest and as a Pastor. As a priest he has served many people, not just at STM but in several of the local parishes. As the Grand Knight, I often meet people who have been blessed by his ministry. His unwavering commitment to our parish has been an inspiration to me, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have served our parish alongside him.

Father Gordon, we are proud to call you our Pastor and a Brother Knight. We wish you every success as you continue God’s work in Bradenton.

All God’s Blessings,
Ralph Neller, GK

Grand Knights Report

KNIGHT'S MASS -

On June 12th we had our monthly "Knight's Mass" at the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel with Father Daniel as the celebrant. The rosary was prayed before the Mass starting at 7:30 a.m. with Adoration following the Mass in the Chapel.

The rosary and the Mass were dedicated to the Good of the Order with a special intention for Brother John Malloy. Please join your Brother Knights and their wives for the special Mass.

Beginning in July, the Knight's Mass will be on the 1st Wednesday of each month, July 3rd, at 8:00 a.m.



One Nation Under God

WEBSITE UPDATE -

Our website has a new "Prayer/Visit Request Page". Simply go to our website (<https://kofc7826.org>) and select the "News" menu option from the main menu bar at the top of the web page. Scroll down towards the bottom of the page to where the Pray/Visit request is located. Below is an image of what you will see on the webpage:

Prayer/Visit Request

To send a request to the Good of the Order Committee complete these steps:

- Fill-in your name, email address and phone number.
- Select the check boxes that correspond to your request.
- Complete the "Message" field with any details of your request, i.e., home address, hospital name and room number, recommended time for a visit, etc.
- Select the "Send" button.

First Name	Last Name
Email	Phone Number

☐ Prayers ☐ Home Visit ☐ Hospital Visit
☐ Communion ☐ Call/Email ☐ Take Off List

Message

Faith In Action

COFFEE & DONUTS EVENT -

On Sunday, June 9th, our Council hosted another Coffee & Donuts after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses in the Spirit Center. Although June is considered “out of season” we served approximately 130 parishioners coffee, juice, and donuts.

Everyone enjoyed the time spent in conversation and fellowship. Even Deacon Pat was seen enjoying his conversation with Janusz. Special thanks to Co-Chairs Corey Devito and Dan Flynn, their wives, and all the volunteers! Great job!!!



Faith In Action

OUR LADY OF CHARITY ASSEMBLY 3089 CELEBRATION DINNER -

The 4th Degree Assembly held its annual "Celebration Dinner" on Saturday, June 22nd, at the Laurel Oak CC.

As you can see our STM Council was well represented..



Although the Celebration Dinner was to celebrate those "Sir Knights" who served as former Faithful Navigators in the Assembly, the focal point was a contribution by the Assembly of Our Lady of Charity 3089 to "Operation Warrior Resolution". A group dedicated to provide help and assistance to those veterans suffering from PTSD.

Shown in the picture below is the Faithful Navigator, Dr. Steven Wyer and the Faithful Scribe, Worthy Charlie Culkin (both of STM Council) presenting the check to the representatives of OWR in the amount of \$6,000.



Our Lady of Charity Assembly 3089-

The next Assembly meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 15th at 7:00 p.m. at Incarnation Parish.

If you're interested in becoming a 4th Degree "Sir Knight" please contact Dr. Steve Wyer, Charlie Culkin, Joe Tiffany or the GK for more details.

Faith In Action

KNIGHT / FAMILY OF THE MONTH

KNIGHT OF MONTH -

This month Jim Alexander is our STM Council “Knight of the Month. Brother Jim works closely with the Habitat for Humanity team in building houses for people in need so they may build better lives for their families.



FAMILY OF MONTH -

Our “Family of the Month” is Dan and Kim Flynn. Brother Dan and his wife, Kim, have helped to lead our Coffee and Donuts events this past year together with Corey and Jean Devito.



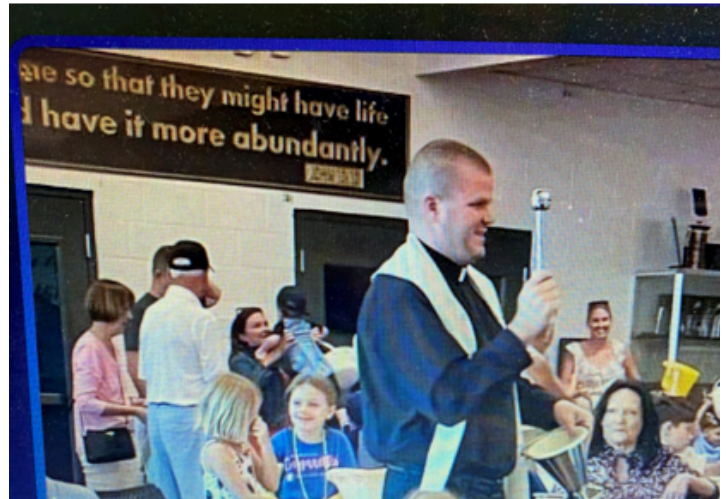
Parish News



FOOD PANTRY -

The Food Pantry is looking for volunteers over the summer months. The Food Pantry is in need of loaders over the summer months. It is a fairly simple task of assisting the client in putting their selected food in their car and taking down signage at the end of the shift. The pantry is open every Wednesday from 3:00-6:00 p.m. The loader shift is typically 2:45-6:00 p.m.

If you can volunteer to help or have any questions, please contact PGK Jim Meyd at (941)923-7517.



WELCOME FATHER NICK-

Father Nicholas Thompson has been appointed Administrator of St. Thomas More Parish, effective July 1, 2024. Fr. Thompson was ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Marquette, Michigan on June 3, 2011. Father has served in the Diocese of Venice as Parochial Vicar of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Naples.

In his assignments, Fr. Thompson has shown that he is a man of prayer and deep pastoral solicitude for the faithful. Bishop DeWane has expressed a great confidence in him to entrust our pastoral care to this hard working and dedicated priest.

Father Nick is a 3rd Degree Knight of Columbus and we look forward to welcoming him to STM Parish and to our Council.



Committee Corner

RIGHT TO LIFE MINISTRY -



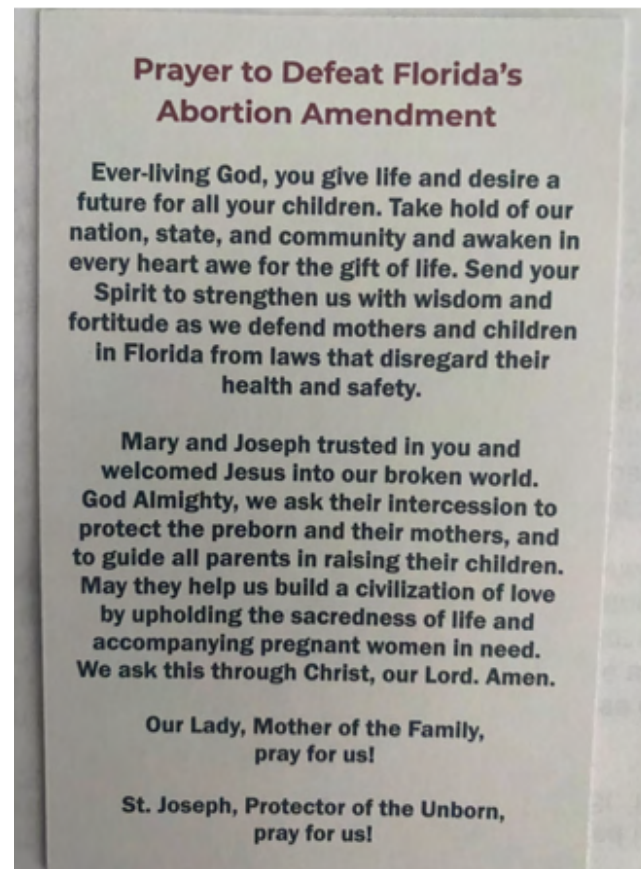
STM Council held our prayer walk on Thursday, June 27th beginning at 9:00 a.m. We met with our fellow 40 Day's for Life prayer warriors from Acadia and we prayed with them and did the Jericho walk. We peacefully prayed around Planned Parenthood for all the pregnant mother's considering an abortion.

Those present were: Ted Kovacic, Frank and Imelda Moeslein. Sally Reed from St. Thomas More and a parishioner from Our Lady of Angels. Unfortunately, several of the regular attendees were not able to participate with us at this time.

Our major concern is Amendment 4 in the November 5th election. We need the word to get out to all Knights of Columbus Councils and their associated churches to vote NO on Amendment 4.

It is very important that all the Churches in the Diocese of Venice inform their parishioners from the pulpit on the importance of voting NO on this Amendment.

Please view these websites and sign up for information about what you can do - <https://www.tooextremeforfl.com/>. There is an online community (FLCAN - Florida Catholic Advocacy Network) established by the Bishops to connect, educate and mobilize Catholics across Florida's seven dioceses. The website is www.flaccb.org where you can sign up to receive alerts by email and/or text to stay informed and take action on Amendment 4.



For Life,

Brian Harkins and Neal Corrado

Committee Corner



**Knights of
Columbus®**
ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE -

For the 8th consecutive year our Council has awarded scholarships to Cardinal Mooney High School students whose parents or grandparents are parishioners at St. Thomas More. Congratulations to the recipients pictured below at the ceremony on June 11th.



From left to right is Father Daniel Scanlan; Wyatt Liott awarded a Council 7826 sponsored Scholarship; Genevieve White awarded the Hank Peppard Family Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by Hank Peppard); Ava White awarded the Lance Corporal Patrick Ryan Adle Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by Jim Meyd); Danielle Kruk awarded the Richard A. Schwehr Memorial Scholarship (sponsored by Sybilla Schwehr); and Grand Knight Ralph Neller. Not pictured is Hadley Paben also awarded a Council 7826 sponsored Scholarship. The Knights are proud to support these deserving students as they pursue their Catholic education



Scholarship sponsors are key to the success of this program and in the following photo you will see the students along with sponsors Jim Meyd, Hank Peppard and Kathy Schwehr (representing Sybilla Schwehr and family) for their respective scholarships totaling \$6,000. This year the Council 7826 scholarship for \$2,000 was split between two recipients and presented by PGK Johnnie Turner and DGK Charlie Culkin.



A HUGE thank you to the Scholarship Committee members including Jack Rodman, Max Striebel, Chris Pariseau, Greg Sokolik, Jim Meyd, and Johnnie Turner.

Thank you also to Fr. Daniel and WGK Ralph Neller for making the award presentations; to John Koitsch for serving as photographer; and to John Cesare for helping with the reception.

Steve McElroy,
Scholarship Committee Chairman

Committee Corner

SPECIAL OLYMPICS -

Special Olympics of southwest Florida has requested assistance with local Special Olympics events. Below you will find more opportunities to volunteer.

Opportunity Name:

2024 West Coast Region Stand-Up Paddle Championship-Sarasota



DESCRIPTION:

Special Olympics Florida is excited to host the West Coast Region Stand-Up Paddle Championship at Nathan Benderson Park in Sarasota on Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20, 2024!

We are looking for Volunteers to assist with the following duties:

- Assist with checking in Athletes for competition.
- Serve as Results Runners and Timers
- Prepare and Present Awards to Athletes
- Assist with meal check-in and distribution

Volunteers are also needed as Board Handlers during competition. Volunteers in this position will assist with getting boards into position for the athletes. These volunteers should be comfortable lifting in excess of 30lbs. If you are interested in this position, please contact us at deborahjackson@sofl.org

No knowledge of the sport is required and all training will be provided on-site. All volunteers will receive a T-Shirt and volunteers that work a shift over four hours are also provided lunch. A record of community service hours can also be provided upon request.

Volunteers under 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Thank you for your support of Special Olympics Florida! Should you have any questions please reach out to deborahjackson@sofl.org

Join us in helping athletes achieve their dreams, volunteer today!

Fraternally,

John Cesare, Chairman Special Olympics Committee

Council Good of the Order

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

Charley Baldelli
 Shirley Berardinelli
 Ted Bogusz
 Dave & Sue Bracy
 Erin McAlonie Brady (daughter of John McAlonie)
 Pat Cesare
 Ed Cox
 Susan DeBlauw (wife of Brian)
 Jean DeVito
 Gary Ellis
 Madeleine Garvey (wife of Gary)
 Pat Guadagno
 Jan Jakubiuk
 John Koitsch
 Don Leonard
 Roy MacGillis
 John & Kay Maier
 John Malloy
 Jon McAlonie
 Ron McCluskey
 Jim Meyd
 Thomas Nate
 Kevin Noccioli (brother of Jeff Noccioli)
 Margie Noll
 Hank Peppard
 Christopher Peppard (son of Hank Peppard)
 Ed Plankey
 Tom Reed
 Nancy Risbano (wife of George Risbano)
 Eugene Sobeki (C. Ballschmeider's sister-in-law)
 John & Craig Spinale (John's son)
 Joe Tiffany
 Johnnie Turner
 Donna Woodford (wife of David Woodford)
 Dr. Steve Wyer



ALEC BERARDINELLI FUNERAL

"Alec's widow, Shirley, stopped me in the Narthax and said to please let the Knights know how much it meant to her to have the Color Corps and large contingent of Knights there. It does mean something to the family when we participate in the funeral and is part of being a Knight to be there for others."

Steve McElroy

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Brothers James Alexander and Dan Martin for their kind assistance with this Newsletter!

Council Birthdays

JULY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



July 1 - Roy MacGillis
 July 11 - Donald Leonard
 July 14 - Mitchell Mauer
 July 16 - Richard Marcella
 July 17 - Dr. Steven Wyer
 July 18 - Thomas Kennedy, Jr.
 July 22 - Julio Melendez
 July 23 - Al Ferrigno
 July 23 - Joseph Mizii
 July 27 - Richard Riley
 July 27 - Mark Lawrie
 July 29 - Kevin Deady

K of C #7826 OFFICERS

Fr. Daniel Scanlan - Chaplain
frdaniel@stthomsmoresrq.org

Ralph Neller - Grand Knight
rneller65@outlook.com

Scott Deahna - Deputy GK
scott34465@yahoo.com

Steve McElroy - Financial Sec.
mcelroyfs@verizon.net

Ken Berberich - Treasurer
berberichken@yahoo.com

Kevin Deady - Chancellor
kevingdeady@gmail.com

Dan Bulinski - Recorder
danb6002@comcast.net

Dave Bracy - Warden
dsbracy@comcast.net
 Dr. Steven Wyer - Advocate
steven.m.wyer@gmail.com
 Derek Noll - Lecturer
derekjnoll@msn.com
 Ernest (Joe) Dean -3yr Trustee
ejdean99@icloud.com
 Corey Devito - 2yr Trustee
cmdevito@kaighnco.com
 John Spinale - 1 yr Trustee
jtspin912@gmail.com
 Charlie Ballschmieder - Inside Guard
cjball01@verizon.net
 Hank Peppard - Outside Guard
hakp7916@gmail.com

Council Upcoming Events

Thank you for your support of these future events!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Officers' Meeting is scheduled for July 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Spirit Center.
- Our monthly "Knight's Mass" will be on Wednesday, July 3rd at the 8:00 a.m. Mass.
- The July Council Membership Meeting is scheduled for July 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Spirit Center.
- Our Lady of Charity Assembly Meeting (4th Degree) will be held on Monday, July 15th, at Incarnation beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Our July Exemplification Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the Spirit Center.
- On July 20th a Corporate Communion Mass is scheduled at the 4:00 p.m. Mass with the new Officer Installation to follow the Mass in the Spirit Center. The July Social will follow at 6:00 p.m. at the Meadows CC.
- The monthly Right to Life Prayer Walk will be on Thursday, July 25th between 9:00 - 1:00 p.m. in front of Planned Parenthood.



Insurance Advisor

NEWS FROM OUR FRATERNAL FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Brothers, summer is a time of transition for many people. You may know someone who recently graduated high school or college and is now heading into the workforce. Or you may know a couple who is getting married this summer.

These are all joyous occasions that we can celebrate. At the same time, certain stress can come with any life transition.

For a graduate, entering the workforce can take some adjustment. And marrying is certainly one of the biggest life adjustments people can experience. Before long, they may be welcoming children or looking to finance a house. Any transition in your life is a good time to think about your financial situation and your loved ones who depend on you.

Though life insurance may be the last thing on a young adult's mind, it may be the perfect life stage to start preparing financially for the future.

On that note, for my brother Knights on the younger side, I have two pieces of good news. And I encourage all my brothers here to consider how this may apply to yourself or your adult children, grandchildren, and other family members.

First, the younger you are, the more affordable permanent life insurance can be, and the simpler the underwriting process is. At a younger age, you're less likely to have health or medical problems that could make coverage more expensive.

The second piece of good news is that you have options. Maybe you're not yet sure you want permanent life insurance. In this case, you might choose a term insurance policy, which is an affordable option for temporary needs.

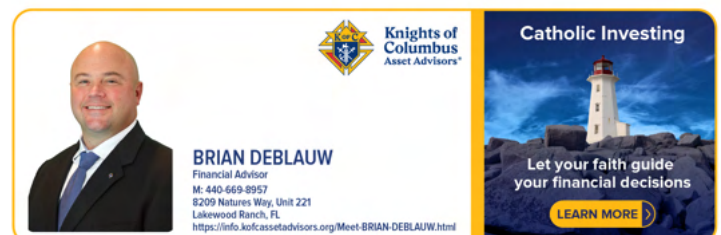
If you should decide later that you'd prefer permanent coverage, you may have the option to convert your term insurance.

In today's day and age when so many of us may feel pressure to spend above our means, I have been heartened to talk to young people who are quite financially literate and eager to set up a responsible financial strategy for their future. Many of them grew up seeing economic problems in the world, and they want to make sure they build a strong financial foundation for themselves.

This summer, no matter where you are in your journey through life -- whether you're undergoing a life transition, or you simply feel that now is the time to think about your financial future -- I encourage you to make an appointment with me. I will be happy to discuss your options with you.

Vivat Jesus!
God Bless!

Brian DeBlauw



Calendar - JULY, 2024



Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

SC – Spirit Center

CC – Chelsea Center

C - Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	1 ²⁸	2	3 Knight's Mass 8:00 am Officers' Mtg. 7:00 pm SC	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Council Mtg 7:00 pm SC	12	13
14	15 Assembly Mtg. 7:00 pm Incarnation	16	17	18	19	20 Corporate Comm 4:00 pm Mass Officer Installation 6:00 pm Meadows CC
21	22	23	24	25 9-1:00 pm Prayer Walk Planned Parenthood	26	27
28	29	30	31			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7