



Knights of  
Columbus®



# KNIGHTLY NEWS

OUR LADY OF HOPE COUNCIL 8086



## Grand Knight's Report

As we approach elections, I want to remind everyone that the Knights of Columbus is not a political organization. We do not campaign—we serve when called. Members may express a willingness to serve, but active campaigning, soliciting votes, or organizing support is not appropriate. More importantly, **there is zero tolerance for negative or divisive talk about any brother Knight. Speaking against another member to influence an election violates the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.** Any conduct that creates division or harms the council may be addressed under the Charter, Constitution, and Laws, including Section 162. Let's conduct ourselves as brothers and ensure this election reflects the dignity of our Order.

### Election Date: June 9, 2026

In accordance with the laws and guidelines of the Knights of Columbus, the following slate of officers is presented for consideration and election by the members of Council #8086:

- Grand Knight: David Mays
- Deputy Grand Knight: Vito Benedetto
- Chancellor: Vacant
- Recorder: Walt Kaehl
- Treasurer: Jock Roch
- Advocate: Peter Ensel
- Warden: Dave Carson
- Inside Guard: Zach Liana
- Outside Guard: Tom Mies
- Trustee (3-Year Term): Roger Packard
- Trustee (2-Year Term): Andy Duzik
- Trustee (1-Year Term): Tim Mel

### Notes to Members

*Nominations may also be made from the floor in accordance with council procedures. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote and hold office. Members are encouraged to attend and participate in this important election.*

God Bless,

Vito

Interim Grand Knight

## May EVENTS

- 3 May Church Picnic 12pm
- 7-10 May Rockville Concert Speedway
- 10 May Breakfast
- 12 May Exemplification 5:30pm
- 12 May Rosary 615pm
- 12 May Council Meeting 7pm
- 16 May Loaves and Fishes 10am
- 21 May KoB Vocation Ride
- 22 May GDP food drop
- 22-24 May KofC FI State Convention
- 23 May FI State Conference Dinner
- 26 May Cor Sacred Heart 630pm
- 30 May Fr. Lopez Graduation Recruiting 10am

## UPCOMING

- 9 June Rosary 515pm
- 9 June Elections Council 8086 meeting
- 14 June Breakfast
- 26 June GDP food drop 9am
- 27 June 4th Degree Exemplification

## Change of Leadership — Council 8086

Brothers,



It is with a heavy heart that I announce I will not run for Grand Knight.

Due to the recent and significant decline in my mother-in-law's health, I must dedicate my full attention to supporting my wife, Debbie, during this difficult time. Debbie has stood faithfully by my side for over 20+ years as an Army wife—enduring deployments, long separations, and the many demands of military life while caring for our family without hesitation. **Now, it is both my responsibility and my sincere desire to be fully present for her as she supports her family through this challenge.**

Our faith reminds us that leadership is rooted in service. As Christ taught, *“Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant”* (Matthew 20:26). At this moment, I am called to live that truth first within my own family. In stepping aside, I do so in humility, trusting in God's plan and striving to lead where he is calling me most right now.

**Serving as your Grand Knight has been one of the greatest honors of my life.**

I am deeply grateful for the trust you placed in me and for the opportunity to serve alongside such dedicated and faithful brothers. Together, we have accomplished meaningful work that has strengthened our council and our community.

As we approach our council elections on June 9, I am confident that Council 8086 will **rally to choose a strong and committed leadership team**—one that will continue to build upon our momentum and carry forward the new vision and mission of the Knights of Columbus.

As Scripture reminds us, *“Each of us should use whatever gift we have received to serve others”* (1 Peter 4:10). I know this council will continue to do exactly that.

***Thank you for your understanding, your support, and your continued leadership in service to our Order.***

God Bless,

*Ernie Jackson*

SK Ernie Jackson, Ed.D.



Dear Brother Knights,

The month of May has long been cherished by the Church as the month of Mary. In spring-time, as creation comes alive around us, we turn with renewed love to the Mother of God, whose “yes” to the Lord opened the door to our salvation. When Mary said, “Let it be done unto me according to your word,” the world was changed forever. Her words were not passive resignation, but active trust. She placed her whole life at the service of God’s will.

For us as Knights of Columbus, Mary’s example is especially powerful. We are called to unity, fraternity, charity, and patriotism; not merely as ideals printed on a page, but as a way of life rooted in faith. Mary teaches us that true strength begins in humility. True service begins in listening. True patriotism begins with love of God, love of family, love of neighbor, and a willingness to build up the common good.

In a time when division so easily enters our homes, communities, and nation, Mary points us back to unity in Christ. She gathered with the Apostles in prayer. She stood faithfully at the foot of the Cross. She accompanied the early Church with a mother’s heart. Her life reminds us that fraternity is not simply friendship, but a shared commitment to walk together in faith, to carry one another’s burdens, and to serve those in need.

As Knights, we honor Mary not only with our prayers, but with our actions. Each act of charity, each defense of life, each work for the good of our parish and country, becomes a way of echoing her fiat: “Let it be done.” Like Mary, we are called to do the will of the One she followed so perfectly, her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

May this month of May renew in us a Marian spirit: humble, courageous, faithful, and united. May Our Lady guide our council, strengthen our families, and help us serve Church and country with generous hearts.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Matt



 2025-2026 COUNCIL OFFICERS

<i>Deputy Grand Knight</i>	Vito Benedetto	<a href="mailto:vbenedetto65@aol.com">vbenedetto65@aol.com</a>
<i>Chancellor (Interim)</i>	Jake Mays	<a href="mailto:Jakemays007@gmail.com">Jakemays007@gmail.com</a>
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Wes Wengren	<a href="mailto:wwengren429@gmail.com">wwengren429@gmail.com</a>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jacques Roch	<a href="mailto:jacdaytona@hotmail.com">jacdaytona@hotmail.com</a>
<i>Warden</i>	Jim Baskin	<a href="mailto:jnmbaskin@gmail.com">jnmbaskin@gmail.com</a>
<i>Recorder</i>	Walt Kaehl	<a href="mailto:walter.kaehl@gmail.com">walter.kaehl@gmail.com</a>
<i>Advocate</i>	Jarrod Eich	<a href="mailto:jarrodjeich@gmail.com">jarrodjeich@gmail.com</a>
<i>Lecturer</i>	Mike Godbout	<a href="mailto:godboutmg@gmail.com">godboutmg@gmail.com</a>
<i>Inside Guard</i>	Bob Thomas	<a href="mailto:budstvservice@yahoo.com">budstvservice@yahoo.com</a>
<i>Outside Guard</i>	Tom Mies	<a href="mailto:tomgmies@gmail.com">tomgmies@gmail.com</a>
<i>Outside Guard</i>	Zak Laina	<a href="mailto:zlia9453@gmail.com">zlia9453@gmail.com</a>
<i>Second Year Trustee</i>	Roger Packard	<a href="mailto:rpackard3@yahoo.com">rpackard3@yahoo.com</a>
<i>First Year Trustee</i>	Bill Piper	<a href="mailto:williampiper44@gmail.com">williampiper44@gmail.com</a>
<i>Third Year Trustee</i>	Andy Duzyk	<a href="mailto:Aduzyk@aol.com">Aduzyk@aol.com</a>
<i>Chaplain</i>	Father Matt Mello	<a href="mailto:frmatt@ladyofhope.org">frmatt@ladyofhope.org</a>
<i>District #20 Deputy</i>	John O’Malley	<a href="mailto:jomalley1@cfl.rr.com">jomalley1@cfl.rr.com</a>
<i>Field Agent</i>	James Booritch	<a href="mailto:james.booritch@kofc.org">james.booritch@kofc.org</a>



## DISTRICT DEPUTY'S REPORT



SK JOHN O'MALLEY

Greetings from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and State Deputy Mike Gizewski.

Congratulations to Council 8086 for an outstanding year. Early in the fourth quarter, 8086 has recruited 107 new Knights, by far the best in the state. That's seven star, 713-percent!

With our huge year in membership – and our continuing to lead the way in our many charitable programs – Council 8086 will have a major presence at this year's Florida Council State Convention, set for May 22-23 at Rosen Timber Creek in Orlando.

We've come a long way with our work in Charity. Now, let's continue to work on our Unity and Fraternity.

Casino Night on Friday, April 10, at OLOH was a sellout and a major success, raising more than \$70,000 to benefit Catholic Schools of the Volusia County Eastern Deanery.

Our next Cor meeting will be on Tuesday, May 26 at Sacred Heart at 6:30 p.m. Our main topic will be the 10th chapter in the life of our Founder, Blessed Father Michael McGivney. Everyone is invited to join us for an hour of prayer, reflection and fellowship. Now we're looking for some guidance. For the past two years, we've taken the summer off. Should we continue to meet during the summer months? Also, a big thanks to Sam Willett for an outstanding job putting together our host presentations.

***Keep up the great work!***

**SK John O'Malley,**  
District Deputy 20



## Faith in Action COR DISTRICT 20 FLORIDA

***May 26 — 6:30 PM at Sacred Heart***

**OPEN TO ALL MEN IN OUR PARISH.** They do not need to be a Knight.

*Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity.*



Contact SK John O'Malley at 386-631-6889 or [jomalley1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jomalley1@cfl.rr.com) for more information.

***Are you disabled?*** If so, please register with **Wes Wengren,**  
**[wwengren429@gmail.com](mailto:wwengren429@gmail.com).**

**To view the FL State Council info, click below:** <https://www.floridakofc.org/>



## KNIGHT OF THE MONTH: Mike Dequire

Mike is the kind of brother Knight every council hopes for—reliable, present, and always ready to step up. If something is happening, you can count on Mike being there. He has become a steady force within our council, consistently showing up and contributing wherever help is needed.

Mike is especially known for his dedication to our **cooking activities**, where he truly shines. Whether it's preparing meals, working the grill, organizing the kitchen, or making sure everything runs smoothly behind the scenes, Mike brings both energy and pride to the work. He enjoys being in the kitchen—and it shows.

Beyond cooking, Mike is always there when the Knights are called to serve. His contributions span a wide range of council activities, including: Supporting parish and community events, Assisting with fundraisers and special events, Helping with set-up and breakdown operations Participating in charitable outreach efforts, Volunteering at council-hosted gatherings and functions, Being present and engaged at meetings and council initiatives.

No matter the task—big or small—Mike shows up with a positive attitude and a willingness to serve. His commitment reflects the true spirit of what it means to be a Knight of Columbus.

Council #8086 is proud to honor Mike DeGuire for his dedication, dependability, and continued service to our mission.

**Congratulations, Mike—and thank you for all you do!**



## FAMILY OF THE MONTH: Adam and Laura Schmidt

Adam and Laura exemplifies quiet leadership, faith and service.

Adam former Chancellor, **he consistently goes above and beyond in support of the council.** Adam is currently leading Father Matt's important of the efforts on the council's **AI initiative, bringing innovation and forward-thinking solutions that are already benefiting our operations and communication.** As a Knight on Bikes, he is active in outreach and fellowship. He is our resident tech expert. He is always ready to step in and help—often behind the scenes, without recognition, simply for the sake of assisting a brother Knight.



Laura Schmidt is equally dedicated in her service to the Church and community. She is deeply involved with the **Council of Catholic Women (CCW) and plays an active role in the student CCD program,** helping to shape and guide the next generation in faith. Her commitment extends to numerous parish activities, where her presence and contributions are both meaningful and impactful.

Together, **Adam and Laura are actively engaged in our council's major initiatives,** including Casino Night, and are rooted in a strong and visible faith life. Their combined efforts reflect a deep commitment to service, family, and the mission of the Knights of Columbus.

Council #8086 is honored to recognize the Schmidt family for their dedication, humility, and **unwavering support of both the council and our parish community.**



The Knights of Columbus **Bright Futures Program** is a mission-driven initiative focused on strengthening Catholic education by providing critical financial support to local schools. Rooted in faith, service, and community impact, the program ensures that students have access to quality education, resources, and opportunities that shape both academic success and spiritual growth.

At Our **Lady of Hope Parish, Council 8086** has taken a leadership role in advancing this initiative across the Eastern Deanery of Volusia County. Through two signature fundraising events—a lively **Casino Night** and a highly anticipated **Car Raffle**—the council brings together parishioners, community members, and supporters for a shared purpose. These events not only foster fellowship and excitement but also generate essential funding to support scholarships, enhance school programs, and invest in educational infrastructure.

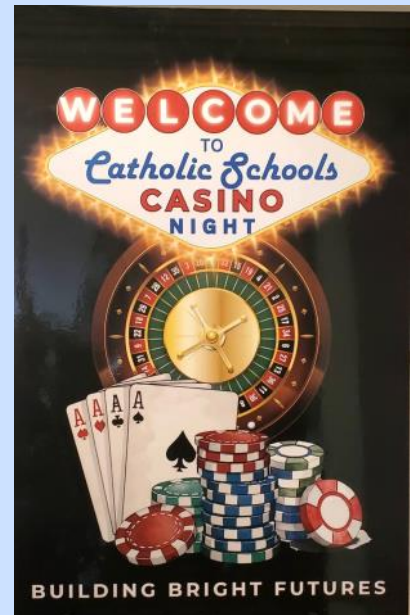
With a commitment that 100% of proceeds benefit Catholic schools, **Council 8086's efforts reflect the true spirit of charity and unity.** The Bright Futures Program continues to make a lasting impact, ensuring that Catholic education remains strong, accessible, and vibrant for generations to come,

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words, so here are several thousand words about our great Casino Night. We thank everyone that had a part in this adventure!



# Faith in Action

# Bright Futures



# Faith in Action

# Bright Futures





## Narrative About Car Raffle & Casino Night

### A Higher Purpose

The **Bright Futures** program calls Knights to directly support the students and schools in their communities. In a time when many young people face increasing obstacles to educational success, the program empowers councils to step in with meaningful, practical assistance—ensuring that Catholic and community-based education remains strong and accessible.

### Overview

Through Bright Futures, councils take an active role in identifying and addressing the needs of local students, families, and schools. Councils are encouraged to engage directly with: School administrators, Teachers, Parents and Parishioners to determine where help is most needed and how Knights can make the greatest impact.

**Typical initiatives include: Fundraising for tuition assistance or school needs; Supplying books, uniforms, and educational materials;** Organizing school beautification and improvement projects; Supporting youth programs that strengthen academic success.

The program is flexible by design, allowing each council to tailor efforts to the unique needs of its local community.

### Mission in Action

***Bright Futures reflects the Knights' commitment to: Charity through direct support of students and families; Community by strengthening local schools; Faith by reinforcing Catholic education and values.***

**Rather than a one-size-fits-all program, it is a mission-driven framework**—giving councils the freedom to innovate while staying focused on helping young people succeed.

### Why It Matters

**Education shapes the future of both the Church and society.** By investing in students today, councils: Remove barriers to learning; Strengthen families; Build the next generation of Catholic leaders.

In short, **Bright Futures is about creating opportunity where it's needed most—and ensuring no child is left behind due to lack of resources.**

**Straight Talk: What we are doing with your Eastern Deanery Bright Futures initiative**—Casino Night/Car Raffle/Endowment—that's actually **exactly what Supreme envisioned, just at a much higher level of execution.**

*We didn't just "run the program"...we scaled it.*





Yes, the TV camera and crews from Supreme were there!





### Council 8086 Proudly Supports the ASAP Program

The Knights of Columbus *ASAP Program (Aid and Support After Pregnancy)* is a **powerful initiative as part of the Ultrasound and “LIFE” KofC structure dedicated to assisting mothers, children, and families in need.** By supporting pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes, the program provides essential items such as diapers, formula, clothing, and emotional support—ensuring that no family faces difficult circumstances alone.

**Council 8086 fully supports this mission and has made the ASAP Program a key part of its charitable efforts.** Through donations, volunteer service, and community outreach, the council actively works to strengthen local organizations that provide life-affirming care. Their commitment reflects a deep belief that charity is best expressed through direct action and meaningful support.

This work is deeply rooted in Catholic teaching and Sacred Scripture. As written in **Psalm 127:3, “Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him.”** In addition, **Matthew 25:40** reminds us, **“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”** These passages call the faithful to protect and care for the most vulnerable, especially the unborn and newborn.

By promoting awareness and encouraging involvement, Council 8086 helps extend the reach of the ASAP Program within the community. **Their efforts embody the core principles of charity and unity, demonstrating how local leadership can make a lasting difference.**

Council 8086 proudly stands behind the ASAP Program—supporting families, strengthening communities, and living out its mission of service. Council 8086’s support of this Catholic initiative is vital because it transforms faith into action through both financial contributions and hands-on service for mothers, babies, and families in need. **By investing resources into the ASAP Program, the council strengthens life-affirming organizations and powerfully lives out the mission of the Knights of Columbus.**



If you are interested in helping our ASAP initiative please contact Vito Benedetto at [Vbenedetto65@aol.com](mailto:Vbenedetto65@aol.com)

Check out this great KofC Video about ASAP.  
[Click link below](#)

<https://www.kofc.org/what-we-do/programs/life/aid-support-after-pregnancy/>

Pictured left to right: Program Director Tim Mell, Life Director Vito Benedetto, Chancellor Jake Mays, and Grand Knight Ernie Jackson during a visit to Resources for Women in Daytona for the opening of their expansion, which supports the ASAP initiative.



Resources for Women is deeply grateful for the partnership we share with the Knights of Columbus Council 8086. Your council plays a vital role in the success of our mission, **helping us serve women and families facing unplanned pregnancies with compassion, practical support, and hope.** Together, we are affirming the dignity of every life and working to promote a culture of life where the choice of abortion is unnecessary.

**Because of your generous support, all of our services remain completely free of charge, with no income requirements.** This ensures that any woman—no matter her circumstances—can receive the care and support she needs during a critical time in her life.

Your financial contributions are making a meaningful impact in both our medical and educational services. With your help, we have expanded our clinic to include STI testing, allowing us to better address the immediate health needs of our patients. **Your investment in our Education Center has also strengthened programs like our Bloom Parenting Program, which provides pregnancy and parenting education, life-skills training, material assistance, and consistent, caring support for moms and families.**

In 2025, we celebrated a record year—**121 babies were saved from abortion.** This milestone represents lives changed and families strengthened, and it would not have been possible without your faithful support. The **Knights of Columbus played a critical role in making this impact, standing in the gap for women who bravely chose life.**

Women who choose life often face significant financial and emotional challenges. They need a community that not only encourages them spiritually but also walks alongside them in tangible ways. **Through your generosity, we are able to provide mentorship, discipleship opportunities, and post-abortion recovery care—**offering long-term, holistic support that transforms lives. **You are not only meeting immediate needs; you are impacting generations.**

Looking ahead, we are preparing to launch a **fatherhood initiative** to intentionally engage and equip fathers, further strengthening the families we serve. As part of our five-year vision, we are also working to expand our medical services to include first-trimester care in response to the growing maternity care gap in Volusia County, where long OB waitlists continue to be a challenge. We plan to add well-woman visits for **uninsured women** and grow our team with additional medical and support staff, including a practitioner, sonographer, and counselor.

The **Knights of Columbus are an essential part of this mission. Your prayers, financial support, and commitment to life are directly contributing to the success and growth of Resources for Women.** We invite you to continue partnering with us—whether through financial giving, volunteering your time, or lifting our clients up in prayer.

If you feel called to support this mission or get involved, please contact Resources for Women at [in-fo@freepregtestdaytona.com](mailto:in-fo@freepregtestdaytona.com). Together, we can continue to bring hope, help, and life-affirming care to those who need it most.

*Client Story: Rachel came to us overwhelmed and unsure after learning she was pregnant, facing the reality of raising two children without support. Through compassionate care, practical resources, and the opportunity to see her baby on ultrasound, Rachel—and the baby's father—experienced a change of heart. What began as uncertainty became a decision to choose life and move forward together.*



Our Ultrasound took this pic for the Client Story



# Faith in Action: Ride for Vocations



Knights of  
Columbus®  
Florida  
State Council



## 5th Annual Knights on Bikes Ride for Vocations May 21, 2026

### WHO ARE WE AND WHY WE RIDE FOR VOCATIONS:

Founded by a parish priest, Blessed Michael McGivney in 1882, the Knights of Columbus (KofC) have always been a strong defender of the priesthood and religious life and a generous supporter of seminarians and religious in formation. As the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world, the KofC seeks to assist the Church with financial and moral assistance for this purpose. As Knights get more involved in vocation efforts, we find new meaning in our own vocations as Catholic laymen and members of the Knights of Columbus.

### COME RIDE WITH US:

Please join the Knights on Bikes (KonB) from across the state of Florida as we convene to ride for vocations to the 122nd Annual Knights of Columbus Meeting of the Florida State Council in Orlando Florida.

### LUNCH, LIBATIONS, CIGARS, AND FRATERNITY:

The ride for vocations concludes with lunch hosted by Brother Knights from KofC Council # 6624 at KofC Council Hall located at 2000 Neptune Road, Kissimmee, FL 34744.

### WANT TO PARTICIPATE, MEET THE KNIGHTS ON BIKES AT:

To Be Announced: Contact SK Dave Vaden at [Dave@DaveVaden.com](mailto:Dave@DaveVaden.com) or SK Mike Godbout at [Godboutmg@gmail.com](mailto:Godboutmg@gmail.com)



## \$30 single riders + \$10 for passengers

Donations Payable as follows.....



By check, pay to: Knights of Columbus Council # 14390 with check mailed to Zach Mangones, Treasurer, KofC Florida at 14900 SW 30 Street, Unit 278352, Miramar, FL 33027 By PayPal @ KonBFL (or scan QR code). Please include completed form with payment. Please email the form to [KonBFLTreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:KonBFLTreasurer@gmail.com) if paying electronically.

Rider \_\_\_\_\_ Passenger \_\_\_\_\_

Don't ride? Please still support this very important cause! Please contact Pete Battle, Vice President, KonB Florida at [KonBFLVicePresident@gmail.com](mailto:KonBFLVicePresident@gmail.com) or 239 601-6061 should you have any questions.



Mission: To Evangelize to fellow riders in support of the Catholic Church in alignment with the Knights of Columbus while promoting the Principles of the Order – Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

# Faith in Action: Knights on Bikes



## Knights on Bikes Ride to Evangelize Faith and Promote Service

With **engines rumbling and faith leading the way**, the Knights on Bikes (KoB) are bringing a unique and powerful form of evangelization to the community—spreading the message of faith, brotherhood, and service on two and three wheels.

**The Knights on Bikes, a growing outreach effort within the Knights of Columbus**, combines a passion for riding with a commitment to living and sharing the Catholic faith. Whether on motorcycles or trikes, these Knights take to the road not just for fellowship, but for a mission: to be visible witnesses of faith in action and to promote the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus.

From parish events and charity rides to community gatherings and public outreach opportunities, KoB members are consistently present—engaging with the public, supporting local causes, and inviting men to learn more about the Knights of Columbus. **Their presence is often a conversation starter, opening the door to discussions about faith, service, and brotherhood.**

The impact goes far beyond the ride itself. Knights on Bikes regularly support charitable initiatives, assist with parish activities, such as the Silver Rose, and contribute to major council programs such as food distributions and Vocation events. **Their visibility helps shine a spotlight on the broader mission of the Knights of Columbus** and encourages greater community involvement.

“The Knights on Bikes are a great example of meeting people where they are,” one council leader shared. **“They take something they love—riding—and turn it into a tool for evangelization and service (Mike Godbout).”**

The effort has gained strong support at the state level. The State Deputy and state officers have expressed their encouragement and backing of the Knights on Bikes initiative, **recognizing its effectiveness in outreach, recruitment, and public visibility for the Order.**

Locally, the KoB continue to grow in both membership and impact. Riders proudly display their affiliation, representing the values of charity, unity, and fraternity everywhere they go. Their commitment demonstrates that **evangelization doesn’t always happen from a pulpit—it can happen on the open road.**

Contact SK Dave Vaden at [Dave@DaveVaden.com](mailto:Dave@DaveVaden.com) or SK Mike Godbout at [Godboutmg@gmail.com](mailto:Godboutmg@gmail.com)

KoB members with FI State Deputy



Mike & Adam being cheezie



Pictures of KoB at the 2026 Convocation in Palm Beach Fl.



## Grocery Distribution Program: Heartbeat of Charity

**Did you know Grocery Distribution Program GDP is now the most popular Charity that Council 8086 does?**

**PORT ORANGE, FL** — The Grocery Distribution Program (GDP) led by Knights of Columbus Council 8086 at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church has quickly become the council's most popular and impactful charitable initiative, bringing together parishioners and community volunteers to serve hundreds of families in need each month.

In partnership with the Orlando Diocese, the program provides essential food supplies to between 286 and 350 families monthly. During a recent distribution, last GDP 21 volunteers and 36 Knights in Blue Shirts served 298 families in just 62 minutes—an achievement that highlights both the growing demand in the community and the efficiency of the operation.

What sets the GDP apart is the broad level of participation it attracts. The effort includes not only Knights of Columbus members, but also **parishioners, Air Force ROTC cadets, college teams, and other community volunteers**. Participants work side by side in a highly organized system, ensuring that families receive assistance quickly and respectfully.

**“There is no standing around,” Knight Zack Laina noted. “Everyone works, and you can immediately see the impact of the people we serve with a blessing.”**

New Knights often cite the program as one of the most rewarding experiences in their involvement with the organization. Many describe the fast-paced environment and the visible gratitude of families receiving what volunteers refer to as “blessings” as powerful reminders of the mission of service.

Beyond providing food, the program strengthens community bonds and reinforces the Knights of Columbus commitment to charity. **By engaging both new and longtime members, the GDP fosters unity while addressing a critical need within the local area.**



Council 8086 leaders continue to encourage participation from both members and the broader community. **Volunteers are welcome at all distribution events**, and participants are encouraged to bring family members and friends to take part in the effort.

As the program continues to grow, the **Grocery Distribution Program stands as a clear example of faith in action**—delivering not only food, but also hope and compassion to those who need it most.

# May BIRTHDAYS

3 Warren Detrich

3 Joe Mosca

3 Pat Santisi

5 Jesse Dawson

6 Jorge Osorio

6 Joe Keenan

7 Brian Coseo

7 Peter Mitchell

7 Ed Stopyra

8 Rich Donnelly

9 Cory Mello

10 Joe Jimenez

11 Jerry Kennedy

11 Ray Zall

13 Lewis artman

14 Jacob Cameron

15 Juan Fuster

16 Stan Hetrick

16 Jason Nin

17 Mike Alberson

17 Ron Marzonie

18 John OConnor

18 Rich Peterkin

19 John Felice

23 Ethan Boone

23 Egon Ganter

24 Gavin Daly

25 Pete Ensel

25 Fred Hampton

26 Chase Norris

31 Lou Greci

31 Fran Rodriguez



## Knights' Intentions

Please pray for our Brothers and their Families who are sick or in need:

Kim Allen, Dave Arundel, Jim Booton, Audrey Borowski, Jim Gallo, Dr. Bob Gangi, Bill Gardi, Doug Graves, Harry Holt, Lorraine Kaehl-Yahner, Marilyn Kliment, Mike Mann, Stephen & Judy Martino, Mike O'Malley, Dcn Mike Pettit, Doreen Taylor, Issy White, and Brian Hyde, Marti Librizzi, DouJohn Thomas, Ed LeMay, Joe Wheeler, Jim Albano, Al Citro, John Coseo and Bill Piper, Maureen Wojohowski.



To qualify for the Shining Armor Award, during their first fraternal year, brother Knights must:

- Be involved in at least three Council service programs.
- Attend at least three Council meetings.
- Meet with their Council's insurance representative.
- *Recruit at least one new member.*

When you complete all tasks report your success to the Council Chancellor Jake Mays to process.

## JOIN TODAY



**Knights of  
Columbus®**



HELP US TO HELP OTHERS, A FEW HOURS A YEAR CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE. Council 8086, Our Lady of Hope Church. CLICK THE QR CODE or CONTACT JAKE MAYS AT: [JAKEMAYS007@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JAKEMAYS007@GMAIL.COM)

# Faith in Action Life Happens



## The Life Happens Award

Honors a Knight who has overcome a life adversity through faith in God, support from neighbors, and the strength of brother Knights. It recognizes perseverance, courage, and faithful service through life's challenges.

Send GK, DGK or Chanselor your nominations.



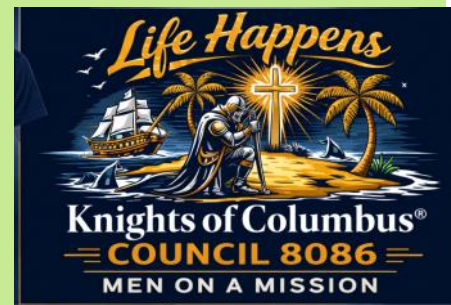
## SPECIAL AWARDS – LIFE HAPPENS

Zack Laina  
Mike Mann <sup>S</sup>  
Steve Martino  
Roger Packard  
Jac Roch  
Chris Camacho  
Dennis Flesch  
Tim Mell

Jim Baskin  
Hank Nolin  
John Hoag  
Lou Grecci  
Mike Klement  
Tony Manzillo  
Mark Provenzano  
Rob Brock

## SPECIAL AWARDS – LIFE HAPPENS

Tom Antelic  
James Arundel  
Dave Carson  
Pete Ensel  
Bob Gangi  
Steve Komondoreas  
Aldo Marino  
John Nelson  
Richie Smatt  
Sam Tedesco  
Ray Zall





I've been asked several times, "How many of the 100-plus new members will be around next year?" My concern is this: how many of our newer members are we unintentionally turning away by the tone and conduct at our membership meetings? We must always strive to promote an atmosphere of Catholic brotherhood. At times, however, a few disagreements and unnecessary friction have taken center stage. That does not reflect who we are called to be.

Knights of Columbus Supreme has encouraged keeping membership meetings to approximately one hour. Detailed reports—particularly financial and administrative matters—are best handled at officer meetings or, when necessary, special meetings. It is important to clarify that our financial matters have been discussed thoroughly at officer meetings then properly presented and approved at general council meetings in accordance with our procedures. Suggesting otherwise can create unnecessary concern and erode trust among the membership, which we must actively avoid.

Grand Knight Ernie Jackson has done an outstanding job moving meetings to the main room of the parish center and keeping the agenda efficient using Power Point slides. This has helped improve attendance and keep meetings focused. As with any change, there have been trade-offs, but overall, the council has benefited.

Due to pressing family circumstances, Ernie has made the difficult decision to not continue as Grand Knight to support his wife, Debbie, during a serious decline in her mother's health. Our prayers are with Ernie and his family. We remain hopeful that, should circumstances improve, he may choose to return in the future.

In the meantime, Vito Benedetto will manage the council as Grand Knight. Chancellor Jake Mays and I are committed to supporting Vito in his new role, and I am confident he will lead effectively, even while balancing a full-time professional workload.

I ask each member of this council to step up and offer the same level of support. Unfortunately, there has been too much disagreement and bitterness among a few brothers who are all striving toward the same mission. This is frustrating for all and can be discouraging to both long-time and new members alike.

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**How can we move forward?**

**First**, continue to ensure clarity and accountability in all council activities. Planning and communication at the officer level, followed by proper presentation and approval at general meetings, remains essential—and is already being done effectively.

**Second**, I will suggest the proper Code of Conduct at the May officer meeting. Some brothers have expressed discomfort with recent interactions. Any confrontation will result in immediate action. After consultation with the Advocate and Grand Knight, the matter will be elevated to the State level if necessary.

**Third**, there has been discussion that “we’re only in it for the awards.” In truth, awards recognize service. They reflect the good work of our council and inspire pride and continued effort. More importantly, the real beneficiaries are those we serve—children with disabilities, individuals in need of mobility assistance, and participants in programs like Special Olympics. They are the true winners.

**Fourth**, respect the chain of command. Concerns should be addressed at the appropriate level—beginning within the council. Going directly to higher levels without following proper channels creates confusion and weakens the council. Most issues can and should be resolved locally.

**Hopefully**, there will be no “next time,” and we can continue to work through challenges as brothers. But if issues do arise, we now have a clearer path forward to address them constructively.

### What is article 162

In the Knights of Columbus Charter, Constitution & Laws (2024), **Section 162** defines misconduct and nonfeasance—outlining behaviors that can subject a member or officer to discipline. These include willful disobedience or disrespect toward leadership, making false or harmful statements about members, and engaging in conduct that brings scandal or disrepute to the Order. It also covers actions that disrupt council harmony or create division, as well as improper use of authority or acting outside established roles.

Its purpose is to protect the integrity, unity, and mission of the council, ensuring that all members uphold the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity

# Last Meeting

# Awards & Recognition



Special Awards for Casino Night & Car Raffle

# Last Meeting

# Awards & Recognition



KOM



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Merit for Recruiting Video