

KNIGHTS IN ACTION

November 2025

Our Lady of Victory Council 7968



Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789

Monthly Highlights

Birthdays and Member Anniversaries

5 November First Wednesday Rosary & Holy Hour

6 November Citizenship Essay Contest

7-9 November Diocesan Youth Retreat

11 November Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony

12 November Second Tuesday Food Van (on Wednesday)

15 November Quarterly Highway Clean-up

20 November Senior Bingo

1-30 November Baby Bottle Drive

15-30 November Christmas Card Sales

Grand Knight – Marty Mears

Faithful Navigator – Steve Malutich

Dep Grand Knight – Dan Lesh

Faithful Captain - Dan Lesh

District Deputy – Robert Gualtieri

State Deputy - Michael P. Gizewski

Insurance Agent – Ivan Delabruere

Newsletter Editor: Doug Shepherd Newsletter Contributor: Herb Fosman

Visit our Website at https://olvnow.com/kofc

<u>Assembly (4th Degree) Business Mtgs</u> are held on the **1st Thursday** of the month at 7:00PM. <u>Council (1st-3rd Deg) Business Mtgs</u> are held on the **2nd Thursday** of the month at 6:30PM. Council Socials are typically held on the **4th Thursdays** of the month at 6:30PM.

Council Officer Planning Mtgs are hold on the Manday before the Assembly Mtg at 6:30

Council Officer Planning Mtgs are held on the **Monday before** the Assembly Mtg at 6:30PM.

All meetings are held at the Knight's Hall, 701 E. James Lee Blvd.

Grand Knight's Greetings

Greetings Brother Knights!

I am ready for a break! November was just as busy as October, and in fact, we left one of our events out of this newsletter – the OLV Renaissance Festival on 16 November. We just didn't have time to write up an article and organize pictures, but I want to express my gratitude to all our Knights who supported the Festival by helping with set-up and tear down; cooking sausages, hot dogs and French Fries; serving



food to the hungry participants; helping with the different booths and activities; and bringing your families and joy to this awesome event. I would like to relay to you all that the Picnic Committee and Father Roy were very appreciative and impressed with all the Knights help!

I want to wish you all a Happy Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! If able, please take some down time with your family or friends and get recharged for 2026. As you ponder your New Year's Resolutions, please consider volunteering to lead a project for our Knights. I will be sharing a 'Duty Roster' in the coming weeks with hopes that there are projects or events that you would be willing to lead or commit to supporting. There are a core group of people that work very hard to keep the lights on and our Council on track, please keep them in your prayers and give them an attaboy or a thank you the next time you see them.

As always, thanks again to those of you who regularly attend our events, support bingo, help in the kitchen, and work the bread ministry, food van & OLV care center – we

couldn't do it without you!

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

Martin Mears
Grand Knight



Faithful Navigator's Note

Brothers and Significant Others,

It's a bit early, but please accept Very Merry Christmas wishes from Sandy and me! Hey, I expect some of you have already hung lights and wreaths and might even have your tree up! I will be sure to wish all of you I see Merry Christmas as we get closer to the birthdate of our Lord and Savior, but waiting until the December newsletter is too late!





We had a busy, productive and fun November. As your Co-Director of our Faith Program, I am pleased to share we had 37 total attendees, including 11 Knights at our First Wednesday Rosary on November 5th. Sir Knights, led by Travis and Jeanine Robinson and Tony and Rosemary Jette, invested many hours supporting youth and youth ministry adult leaders from around our Diocese at the Annual Diocesan Youth Retreat at Tri-State Christian Camp by shopping for, preparing and serving four meals. Our Council and Assembly were well represented at the Crestview Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony at the Veterans Wall. Eleven Knights and three spouses walked in the parade, and fourteen Knights and three spouses attended the ceremony at the Veterans Wall. I was honored, as an old veteran, by the crowds of people, young to old, that lined the parade route cheering, saying thank you, and waving flags. The parade route was packed, despite the cold weather! Many Sir Knights also participated in the Quarterly Highway Clean Up. I am always amazed at how many bags of trash we pick up each quarter on our little section of US 90.

Finally, I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Thank you to Sir Knight Herb Fosman for inviting Sandy and I to join him and Sally Murphy at the Breeze Dining Hall on Eglin Air Force Base for the Thanksgiving meal. Brother Knight Tim Hall also joined. Food was delicious, and the company outstanding! And my dear wife didn't spend hours with meal prep, and I didn't spend hours cleaning up. Just dropped my tray on the conveyer system and done! I helped judge the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest this year. We have talented young artists! And I pledge to Keep Christ in Christmas this year as I celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

I am honored to be a Knight!

Vivat Jesus! Stephen Malutich

Faithful Navigator

Insurance News

Brothers.

A blessed Advent to you all.

As we anticipate the coming of Christ at Christmas, it's undoubtedly a busy time of year for so many of us. There are meals to prepare, gatherings to attend and gifts to buy, but we know these are labors of love. We love our families and want this holy time of year to be special for them.

These moments we share with our families are precious, and they should cause us to reflect on what it is we cherish in our lives and strive to protect. What would life look like if the unexpected were to happen?

I invite you this season to consider protecting what matters most through the gift of life insurance.

The right life insurance coverage can mean financial security for your family. It can mean the ability for them to have income to help minimize the impact of an untimely death on their level of financial comfort. It can shield against debt or remaining mortgage payments, so your family is protected if you or your spouse dies unexpectedly.

Depending on your policy, it could also be the seeds of a growing financial legacy — a foundation to give your loved ones so they can continue to build upon what you've worked for.

Simply put, life insurance is the gift of protection and stability for the most important people in our lives.

Let's schedule time to connect before the end of the year so we can explore affordable options together that can help make a big difference for your peace of mind in 2026 and for years to come.

Thank you!









Birthdays

These members are celebrating birthdays in December:

Sir Knights

8 December - Michael Quinlivan

12 December – Rev Richard Dawson

12 December – Charlie Mogayzel

13 December – James Acol

27 December – Jim Pazienza

28 December – Patrick Bauer

Brother Knights

2 December - Jerry Gudinas

6 December - John Gernhard

7 December – David Brown

13 December – Jacey Acol

22 December - Willie Davis

25 December - Paul Hernandez

27 December – Arnie Fonseca



Anniversaries

These members are celebrating their KofC anniversary in December:

1st - 3rd Degree

37 Years – John Humphrey, Sr

27 Years - Robert Elgin

26 Years – Richard Walcheck

20 Years - Anton Geiger

11 Years – Joe Farran

4 Years – Steve Malutich

4 Years – Edward Shackleford

3 Years – Joe Parenteau

2 Years - Bret Lynch

4th Degree

None



First Wednesday Rosary and Holy Hour

We had another great showing for the First Wednesday Rosary and Holy Hour on **November 5**th with 37 total attendees, including 11 Knights. Pictured below is Tim Hall and Steve Malutich leading decades of the rosary, and knights and parishioners praying the rosary together.







Citizenship Essay Contest

Brother Arnie Fonseca conducted the Annual KofC Essay Contest. The contest is available to 8th-12th Graders and requires each participant to write an essay of 500-750 words to address a different topic each year. This year's topic was: *Out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why?*

The essays were completed and submitted by November 2nd and judged by members of our 4th (Patriotic) Degree Assembly members on **November 6th**. The Council winners by grade are:

12th Grade: 1st Place Miguel Tadeo 2nd Place Sofie Florez (no picture included)



10th Grade. 1st Place Santino Ginez



1st Place Bernadette Humphrey



8th Grade.

1st Place Katherine Nurmi



11th Grade:



2nd Place

Thanks for the newsletter input, Arnie!

Diocesan Youth Retreat

The Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese Youth Retreat was held on November 7-9 at the Tri-State Christian Camp in DeFuniak Springs, FL located approximately 26 miles from Crestview. Since 2012, 13 years ago, the Diocese every year has asked Council 7968 to provide Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner the first day and breakfast the second day to over 110 youth and Diocese's youth helpers.

The first year Brother Tony Alcobia took responsibility for the event and did a super job, old man Herb is a witness to that. The following 12 years Brother Travis Robinson and his wife Jeanine have been running the event and always have done an amazing job, and Tony is there every year helping out. This annual Youth Retreat event takes hours to prepare, involves a lot of travel and is a very difficult annual event. And thank God the Council has always had sufficient helpers.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday prior to the working event, Brothers Travis and his wife Jeanine, and Tony and his wife Rosmary, purchased the food at Sam's, picked up condiments and salad at Penny's, brought 10 Pork Butts to Ivan our insurance agent for smoking and later dropped off cooking supplies at the camp. This is the same procedure these two couples have been doing over the years.

Sufficient helpers were there Saturday morning at 5:00 AM preparing and serving breakfast to 143 youth and diocese helpers between 8.00 to 9.00 AM. The preparation of lunch was next with service between 12:00 to 1:00 PM and dinner between 5:30 and 6:45 PM.

Father Roy held a Vigil Mass that started at 7:30 PM.

Sunday, November 9th: The crew was there at 5:00 AM to prepare and serve breakfast between 8:00 and 9:00 AM. After breakfast was cleanup and departure around 11:00 AM.

What a fantastic job our council does under the guidance of Brother Travis. We sure appreciate all the great things he does!

- Picture 1 Most of the Youth Retreat helpers.
- Picture 2 Taking a break before the start of breakfast.
- Picture 3 The serving of breakfast that started at 8:00AM.
- Picture 4 The feeding of the first group, the second group started at 8:30AM.
- Picture 5 Father Roy conducting a Vigil Mass.
- Picture 6 Father Roy with all the participants from OLV.
- Picture 7 A picture of all the youth participants.















Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony

Saturday 11 Nov, the knights and their wives participated in the Veterans parade that began at 9:00 AM on Main Street, Crestview. Following the parade the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) held a Veterans Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial in Crestview that began at 11:00 AM. An hour later, following the ceremony, the VFW served a free lunch at the VFW facility.

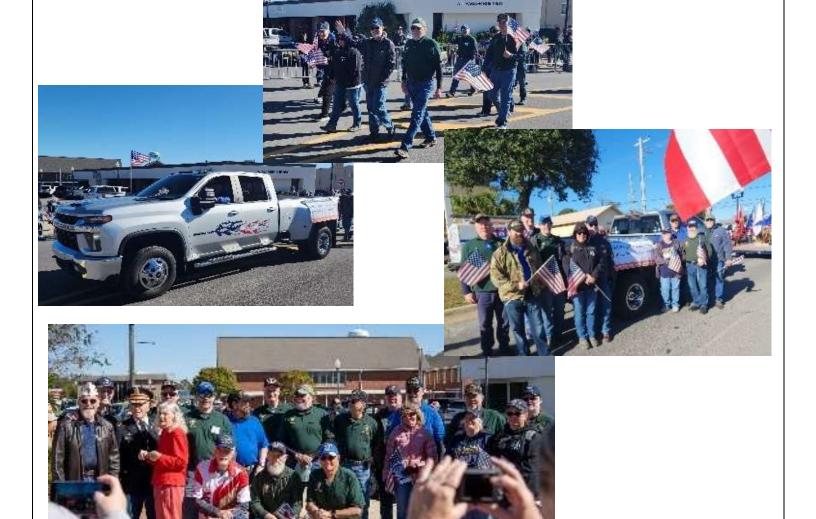
Pictures 1, 2, & 3 - Knight and wives participants. Travis was leading the way driving his truck.

Picture 4 - The Knights of Columbus Veterans Day Ceremony participation.

Picture 5 - Additional participants in the ceremony.

Picture 6 - The VFW representative Virgil Talbott running the ceremony. Sitting in the chair is Rodney Williams who opened and closed the ceremony with an opening and closing prayer. In the rear in a uniform is Evian Djonorh who played taps.

Picture 7 - The mayor, Ret Command Chief Master Sergeant JP Whitten the main speaker addressing the audience.









Catholic Charities Food Van

On Wednesday the 12th of November, we once again hosted Catholic Charities to provide bags of groceries to needy families.

Catholic Charities brought food and 75 turkeys to pass out on Wednesday, 12 Nov 25 due to Tuesday being Veterans Day. It was by far the greatest number of cars we have ever had. Our parking lot holds four (4) rows of 10 cars each for a total of 40 cars; however, the cars extended down Jeff Street to the end and around and down Pearl Street. Absolutely unbelievable. 75 families received groceries with a turkey, and one more only wanted groceries. Unfortunately, at least 20 cars were turned away when the food ran out. The occupants who did not receive groceries were told to return on Tuesday or Wednesday 18 & 19 Nov to receive a turkey and groceries from the Care Center. The Care Center purchased 42 additional turkeys and sides to create Thanksgiving meals, plus purchased and delivered a Publix turkey meal to a family whose mother was experiencing a high-risk pregnancy. On top of this, Catholic Charities gave us another 20 turkeys. All turkeys and groceries were distributed by Thanksgiving, resulting in many happy people being fed! On 12 Nov, all volunteers enjoyed a free lunch purchased by one of the Care Center workers, and on 18 Nov several volunteers returned to the Care Center to help assemble the extra Thanksgiving meals.

Sorry to say, Herb did not have his camera set properly and most of the pictures he took did not come out, while others were blurry. He states, "As I get older (currently 88), I get dumber, and struggle being the Contributing Editor to the monthly newsletter. I have been doing this job since 2001, and if someone would like to take my place it would be wonderful. Until then, I will do the best job I can, but with no guarantee that it will always be done right, AMEN. The job consists of taking pictures of each Knight event and writing an article on it and passing it on to Brother Doug Shepherd who then puts them in the monthly newsletter."

Quarterly Highway Clean-up

On Saturday **November 15**th, the Knights of Columbus worked on their quarterly Highway Cleanup. We had a super turnout, and all were needed. The roads were sure dirty. Many full bags of trash were picked up.

Picture 1 - Marty took this picture. We had 17 helpers with Travis and Jim Nelson working breakfast and Tony Jette identifying things that had to be done in the kitchen. The remaining 14 helpers cleaned our area on East and West Highway 90



Picture 2 - Herb, Nat, Karen and Jeanine working the East side of Highway 90. The remaining 10

worked the West side of Highway 90.

Picture 3 - The trash collected.

Picture 4 - Marty drove his pickup back and forth and picked up the bags of trash. He got out of his truck so Herb could take this picture.

Picture 5 - Travis and Jim preparing breakfast.

Picture 6 - Everyone enjoying a SUPER













Senior Bingo

WOW! Seniors love Senior Bingo. Every four months Rosemary and her crew of helpers do a marvelous job preparing, setting up and running free bingo with free prizes, free lunch, and a little accordion playing during lunch. At today's scheduled Senior Bingo we really had a full house with 70 seniors. We had to squeeze several attendees into the hall to include a half dozen seniors from the Crestview Rehab Center. Rosemary had wonderful free prizes and raffle prizes to include a lot of Christmas items. The luncheon: ham, potatoes, green beans, desserts and drinks were enjoyed by all, a real super meal. As always Brother Travis does a super job calling bingo and keeping the bingo players in suspense as to how many times he will call the same game. Sometimes it might be three times or perhaps 7 or 8 times; one never knows. We had sufficient help, which is very much appreciated. Not included in the pictures are Brothers Jim Nelson and Joe Lakatos who were helping in the kitchen.

Picture 1 - Brothers Bill and John processing the people in and later calling raffle and prize-winning numbers.

Picture 2 - The bingo prizes.

Pictures 3 & 4 - A super crowd. We had to add the two front tables in picture 4 to allow those 4 seated seniors in to enjoy the festivities.

Picture 5 - Travis in the corner calling bingo.

Picture 6 - Jeanine & Rosemary preparing food.

Picture 7 - Getting ready to feed the crowd.

Picture 8 - Chow time.

Picture 9 - Herb being asked to play a special song.

Picture 10 - Senior Bingo has ended and Brothers Tommie and Mike are cleaning the tables.

















Baby Bottle Drive

It has been four years since Brother Dan Lesh began the annual Baby Bottle Drive. This year the drive brought in donations of \$6450.00; surpassing last year's donations of \$5560.00. The donations came from OLV parishioners and the KofC Tuesday night bingo players. The donations will be going to pregnancy centers located in Crestview, DeFuniak Springs and the Majella House for battered mothers in Pensacola. All worthy causes!



Christmas Card Sale

On 15-16 November, Christmas cards were sold before and after Mass on the piazza outside of Our Lady Victory Church. Also, on 22-23 and 29-30 November, before and after each Mass, cards were sold in the Narthex. A total profit of \$672.02 was earned that went into the Knights of Columbus (KofC) Charity Fund.

- Picture 1 Dennis, Mike, Arnie, Rob and Marty selling Christmas cards on Sunday 16 Nov.
- Picture 2 A lot of interested parishioners.
- Picture 3 Marty, Mike and Dan selling Christmas cards at the 9am Mass on 30 November.
- Picture 4 Marty, Rob and Dan selling Christmas cards at the 11am Mass on 30 November.



In Memoriam

We lost another hard-working Knight, Brother Frank E. Martin, who two years ago became a member of the Knights Bread and Pastry Ministry by volunteering to take the place of

deceased member Brother John R. Meholopoulas. Frank has been picking up bread and pastries from Publix every Monday morning at 7AM and shared it with the Methodist Church in Crestview and to the Crestview Area Shelter House for the Homeless. His dedication was very much appreciated by the church and the shelter home. On Tuesday, Nov 4th Herb picked up bread and pastries and had five full carts only to find out that Frank did not pick up bread on Monday. Worried about Frank, Herb wanted to call him to see if Frank was OK, but he heard from our insurance agent, Brother Ivan, that Frank had passed away. Frank was 76 years old. Frank has a daughter named Stephanie who lives in New York City and a brother named Herb who lives in Pennsylvania. According to Stephanie, Frank had a major heart attack and passed away on November 1st, 2025.



Frank loved to travel, and he traveled to Europe as often as he could throughout his life. His favorite places were Hungary and Scotland. Frank retired from the US Air Force around 2006. Frank was in intelligence and spent a tour in Vietnam and worked in Desert Storm. After retiring from the Air Force Reserves, he was an investigator for the Easton, PA police department for 10 years, then for the Crestview public defender's office and retired totally around 2015.

The Knights of Columbus enrolled Frank as a Perpetual Member to the Missionary Society of St. Columban's and the Membership Certificate was sent to his daughter Stephanie.

- Each year 2,000 Masses are offered for Associate Members including 100 special Masses at Easter, All Souls and Christmas.
- Each week special prayers are offered in all Columban houses and mission centers. Each
 Day the sacrifices and prayers of Columban missionaries are made throughout the
 world.

Brother Frank, thank you for your dedication to the Knights of Columbus. As a deceased Knight member, you will always be remembered by the Knights in prayer.

Knight of the Month

Brother **John Dick** was selected as Knight of the Month for **November**. John is a regular and active member of a bingo team and a Trustee to the Don Braun Columbian Home. John routinely uses his electrician and handyman to skills to keep our Knights Hall up and running. Just recently he has been instrumental in helping with new flooring preparation.

During November (and the previous months), John has been a great help with many of our events such as the OLV Renaissance Festival, quarterly Highway Clean-up, Council Soccer Challenge, and Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony. We can always count on John to consistently cover our 11:00am Mass activities such as baby bottle handout and collection, Christmas Card sales, and the recent membership drive.

John serves as a shining example of what Knight in the Knights of Columbus can do to serve his God, his family, his church, and his community!

Grand Knight Marty Mears presents Brother John Dick with a certificate and coin.



Family of the Month

For the Month of <u>November</u>, a very worthy family was nominated and selected. The **Doug and Peggy Shepherd Family** serve as an astounding inspiration to our Parish, Community, and
Council by supporting and strengthening Catholic Family Life.

Doug and Peggy have been longtime parishioners of OLV – over 26 years! They have been married for 37 years and have 2 adult children and 1 grandson. This couple teams up each week to perform Sacristan duties and to take communion to Catholics at Crestview Manor, Aspire at Shoal Creek rehab, and the homebound. Additionally, they often volunteer as lectors and Eucharistic Ministers.

Doug is a fellow Knight and the editor of our monthly Knights in Action newsletter and is a supporter and huge help to his wife who is the Director of the OLV Catholic Care Center and lead for the Angel Tree program here at OLV. Peggy volunteers 40-60 hours each month helping hundreds of families with groceries and utility assistance, diligently maintains the Care Center's client database, and is the church liaison with Catholic Charities for the 2nd Tuesday Caring Coach food handouts each month. And to top that off, she sings in the choir and is an auxiliary member of the Legion of Mary.

Grand Knight Marty Mears recognizes the Family of the Month for November 2025

Doug and Peggy Shepherd.



Prayer of the Month

In Preparation for the Consecration to the Holy Family on 28 December

O Lord Jesus,
you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth.
There you grew in age, wisdom and grace
as you prepared to fulfill your mission
as our Redeemer.

We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary,
you are the Mother of our Savior.
At Nazareth you cared for Jesus
and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home.
We entrust our family to you.

O Saint Joseph,
you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary,
and gave us a model of fatherhood
while showing us the dignity of work.

We entrust our family to you.

Holy Family,
we consecrate ourselves and our family to you.
May we be completely united
in a love that is lasting, faithful
and open to the gift of new life.
Help us to grow in virtue,
to forgive one another from our hearts,
and to live in peace all our days.
Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer,
diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need.
May our home, O Holy Family,
truly become a domestic church
where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Building the Domestic Church



KofC.org/DomesticChurch

Prayer composed by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, Supreme Chaplain.

If you would like to submit a prayer to be shared in the newsletter, please email <u>mr.doug@outlook.com</u>