



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

April 2026

Our Lady of Victory Council 7968

&

Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789

Monthly Highlights

Birthdays and Member Anniversaries

- 1 April First Wednesday Rosary & Holy Hour
- 7 April Bingo Team 1 Pictures
- 14 April Second Tuesday Food Van
- 24 April Presentation of HS Scholarship Checks
- 24 April George Liedel Funeral with Honor Guard
- 30 April Monthly Social at Eagle's Nest

Grand Knight – Marty Mears

Faithful Navigator – Steve Malutich

Dep Grand Knight – Dan Lesh

Faithful Captain – Dan Lesh

District #5 Deputy – Robert Gualtieri

Region #1 Administrator – Cesar Mascardo

Florida State Deputy – Michael P. Gizewski

Insurance Agent – Ivan Delabruere

Newsletter Editors: Herb Fosman, Marty Mears, Peg & Doug Shepherd

Visit our Website at <https://olvnw.com/kofc>

Assembly (4th Degree) Business Mtgs are held on the **1st Thursday of the month at 6:30PM.**

Council (1st-3rd Deg) Business Mtgs 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 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!

April has been another busy month, and May is shaping up that way too!

As this Newsletter goes to press, I am in Orlando for the 122nd Annual Meeting of Florida State Council (aka State Convention) along with our Deputy Grand Knight – Dan Lesh. Last year was my first convention and it was a great experience, and I met a lot of great Brother Knights. I hope to learn and see even more this time.



In April, we opened-up our nomination process for next year's council officers, and just last week (May 14th) we voted for our 2026-2027 Officers. I am going to tease you all by not sharing the elected officers' names, at least not in this Edition of the newsletter!

For April's Social, we did something different and that was to hold a no host social at the Eagle's Nest Pavilion at the Blackwater Golf Club. The turnout was pretty good, about 24 brother Knights and wives. The Eagle's Nest was having their Thursday Crawfish Boil and serving crawfish by the pound along with potatoes and corn, and it was delicious. Several of us sipped on some beers and played corn hole – my only regret is that we didn't take any pictures! I would like to encourage members to offer up social activities, even if there may only be a handful of members interested. We do a lot of hard work and I would like us to spend more bonding and keep the loneliness at bay. A recent example is that we have restarted Friday Poker Night – once a month, so keep the ideas coming.

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,

As promised in last month's letter, I wish you Happy Easter again, in retrospect! I think about Easter often, specifically our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension. How he suffered awful physical and mental trauma. The scourging. I can't and don't want to imagine the pain. Carrying that cross all that way. I have trouble carrying a 6-inch thick, 8 foot long pressure treated fence post from the pile to the hole I am going to put it in, and I don't have a crown of thorns on my head. And the pain involved in pounding those huge spikes into His hands and feet must have been excruciating. And the pain of then hanging by just His hands and feet and slowly suffocating is heart wrenching. And He endured all this for me as a worthy sacrifice to the Father so that my sins are forgiven, and I will have eternal life. I think about Easter when I pray the Holy Rosary, as I did with some of you on May 6th when we prayed the Glorious Mysteries. The tomb was empty and the Lord Jesus was taken up into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.



As usual, Sir Knights were involved in myriad activities in April. Thank you Tony Jette and Travis Robinson for attending the Biennial Fourth Degree Meeting of the Florida District. Also in April, our friend and fellow Sir Knight George Liedel passed away. Please continue to pray for the repose of his soul and for his family. Thank you to Travis Robinson for providing honor guard training. I was honored, and a bit intimidated, by serving as Honor Guard Commander in Travis' absence at George's funeral Mass and gravesite service. Thank you to Sir Knights Marty Mears, Tony Alcobia, Rick Connolly, Carlos Santos, Tim Hall, Dan Lesh, John Libby, Charlie Mogayzel, and Luke O'Toole for serving in the Honor Guard. And thank you to John Dick who dressed appropriately in case he was needed, and then the Honor Guard Commander, me, failed to use him!!

May God's Peace be with you and your families.

I am honored to be a Knight!

Vivat Jesus!

Stephen Malutich

Faithful Navigator

Insurance News

Brothers,

A consistent income brings financial stability and well-being to your family. If it were to vanish unexpectedly — whether because of death or disability — consider what might happen next:

Would your loved ones need to sell or downsize their home? Would your children need to change schools? Would it impact retirement savings?

Insurance from the Knights of Columbus can help replace that crucial income, protect savings and prevent major lifestyle disruptions. Depending on your stage of life, there are products designed to fit your needs.

If you're a young man, you may be working hard to pay rent or cover basic living expenses. As you age into your prime working years, there may be mouths to feed, a mortgage and a car payment. Then finally as you approach or enter retirement, you might be looking for supplemental income or to protect what you've built.

If you're supporting a family, term or permanent life insurance can help give you peace of mind that they will be financially protected if you or your wife should pass away. Even amid tragedy, it helps give the people you love stability and time to adjust without the added weight of financial hardship.

Term life insurance, which gives you coverage for a specified time period, can be a great option if you have a young family with temporary needs. It's an affordable choice that typically provides coverage for 10, 15 or 20 years.

Later, you could choose to convert your policy to whole life, which can provide coverage for your entire lifespan and accrue cash value. This can be helpful if you want a potential way to supplement retirement income or if you're interested in using insurance as part of your estate plan.

Not sure what coverage is right for you?

Please come see me after the meeting, and I would be glad to schedule a time to sit down and talk about your needs. I'm here to help you protect your family and the life you've built.

Thank You!

*Life insurance, annuities, long term care insurance and disability income insurance are offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510. For costs, terms, conditions and complete details regarding these products, please contact your agent directly or the KofC office at 1-800-380-9995. Products may vary by state. Insurance solutions are available to eligible KFC members in the US and Canada.



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Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Birthdays

These members are celebrating birthdays in May:

Sir Knights

4 May – Reginal ‘Reggie’ Brown

24 May – Travis Robinson

26 May – Dr Joseph Peter

27 May – Jacob Allen

29 May – William ‘Nathan’ Schrader

30 May – Anthony D’Antonio

31 May – Anthony Cozzie

Brother Knights

15 May – Mike Buckner

18 May – Barry Candage



Anniversaries

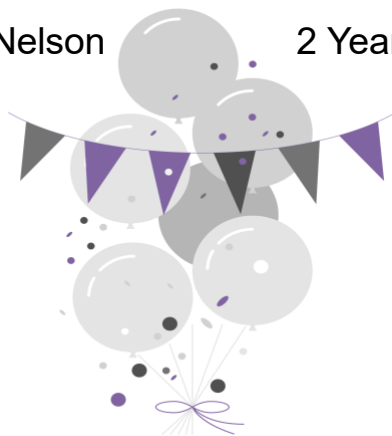
These members are celebrating their KofC anniversary in May:

4th Degree

52 Years – Michael Wright	17 Years – Joseph ‘ Joe’ Lakatos
22 Years – John Humphrey, Sr	17 Years – Travis Robinson, Jr
20 Years – Stanley Stuffbeam	17 Years – Carlos Santos
17 Years – Ricardo Arevalo	17 Years – Robert Webster
17 Years – Charles Black	17 Years – James ‘Jim’ Nelson
17 Years – Douglas Block	15 Years – Robert Groves
17 Years – Bayani Fajardo	

1st - 3rd Degree

44 Years – John Muller, Jr	19 Years – Matthew Prachar
42 Years – Arthur Saunders	18 Years – Willie Davis
41 Years – Dr W David Harris	17 Years – David Brown
32 Years – Wayne Harris	16 Years – Wilfrido Cisneros
31 Years – John Libby, Sr	14 Years – Jerry Gudinas
29 Years – John Kimble	13 Years – Jeffrey Hahr
27 Years – Lee Woledge, Jr	13 Years – John Sipos
25 Years – William Gartner, Jr	12 Years – Marc Zink
25 Years – Reginald Brown, Jr	4 Years – Jared Parker
25 Years – Eugene Calabro	3 Years – Norbert Bigirimana
22 Years – Rev Florencio Lagura	3 Years – Daniel Jimenez
22 Years – Dr Joseph Peter	2 Years – Germainye Hudson
19 Years – James ‘Jim’ Nelson	2 Years – Luke O’Toole



First Wednesday Rosary and Holy Hour

The first Wednesday Rosary was on the 1st of April at Our Lady of Victory. The Rosary began at 5:30 PM followed by Mass at 6PM and then Adoration and Confession. The Glorious Mysteries are read on Wednesdays. The turnout was very good, and as always, the Knights did a super job. Members and families should consider going to the monthly Rosary where you get to participate in the Rosary, the Mass, Adoration and Confession, WOW!

Picture 1 - Brother Tony read the first Glorious Mystery the Resurrection.



Picture 2 - Brother Tim read the second Glorious Mystery the Ascension.



Picture 3 - Brother Travis read the third Glorious Mystery the Descent of the Holy Spirit.



Picture 4 - Brother Steve read the fourth Glorious Mystery the Assumption.



Picture 5 - Brother Arnie read the fifth and last Glorious Mystery the Crowning of Mary.



Picture 6 - A very nice turnout. Peggy Shepard sitting next to her husband Brother Doug in the second row in the front was the Sacristan.

Picture 7 - The 6PM Mass began. Herb was the Lector.

Conducting the Mass was Father Roy, Deacon Dan and Acolyte Brother Luke.



Thanks, Arnie, for taking the pictures!

Bingo Team #1

On Tuesday 7 April The KofC has three bingo teams, and this is a writeup on Team # 1. We want to identify from each team our hard-working volunteers. Team two will be featured next month perhaps along with team three.

Picture 1 - The kitchen crew along with Brother Jim who helps out in the kitchen and works Dollar Bingo every Tuesday night from 4 to 7 PM.

Picture 2 - Brother Bob selling raffle tickets and Bob also works bingo selling raffle tickets every Tuesday night from 4 to 7 PM.

Picture 3 - Brother Bill works Regular Bingo every three weeks from 6:30 to 9:30 PM.

Picture 4 - Brother Dan works Dollar and Regular Bingo every three weeks selling bingo cards and controlling regular bingo play from 3 to 9:30 PM.

Picture 5 - Brother Frank calls Dollar Bingo every three weeks, calls bingo again the second half of regular bingo and works from 4 to 9:30 PM. As you can see, bingo players love Frank.

Picture 6 - Brothers Luke and Herb work Dollar Bingo every Tuesday night from 4 to 7 PM.

Picture 7 - Brothers Math and Frank. Math works Regular Bingo every three weeks from 6:30 to 9:30 PM.

Picture 8 - Brother Steve calls the first half of Regular Bingo every three weeks.



Catholic Charities Food Van

The second Tuesday operation has become a super operation. On Tuesday the 14th of March the "Catholic Charity Van" arrived at 11:00 AM at the OLV Parish Hall. After unloading the van, our Knights with some of their wives and parishioners began loading bags with food while a few Knights were obtaining required identification from the occupants of the cars in line. This is something that the Catholic Charity representative always did. It creates more work for the volunteers, but it makes the job much easier for the Catholic Charity representative who sits at a table to process and verify people requesting food. In the past the food bags were always handed out at 1 PM and now they are handed out starting at noon time. Those receiving bags of food are also very happy with the changes that have been made. We handed out bags to 36 families between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

Picture 1 - Knights setting up the table and sun protection cover for the Catholic Charity Rep.

Picture 2 - Unloading the van and transporting the food into the hall.



Picture 4 - The filling of the bags.



Picture 5 - Brother Kris getting ready to help load the cars with bags of food.



Picture 5 - Brother Bob requesting identification from the driver.



Picture 6 - Volunteers enjoying a free lunch paid for by four volunteers that work every Tuesday and Wednesday at the Care Center.



40 Cans for Lent

Two years ago, Brother Dan Lesh who has worked many volunteer hours every Tuesday and Wednesday at the OLV Catholic Care Center (CCC) started requesting 40 cans of food (one for each day of Lent) from the Knights and OLV parishioners for the CCC during Lent. It started off slowly until this year when we collected 3138 items of food. The first time that the CCC had the wonderful problem of trying to find the room for all the donations. A wonderful success story that has helped so many people in need in our community. Let's make next year's drive even more successful!

Free Money for Recruiting New Members!

This is an article for our new members. A few years ago, a motion was made to provide \$25 towards a member's dues who brought in a new member with a maximum of \$50 for bringing in two new members, so if you have brought in one or two new members this Fiscal Year 2025-2026 be sure to tell the Financial Secretary so you won't have to pay too much or no dues!

High School Scholarship Donation Presentation

On April 24th, our Grand Knight Marty Mears had the honor of delivering and presenting three checks for College Scholarships for graduating high school seniors in our three area schools. GK Mears presented a \$2000 check to Victoria Hayden - Principal of Crestview High, \$1000 to Michael Martello - Principal of Baker School, and \$1000 to Lee Martello - Principal of Laurel Hill School. Thanks to Brother Mike for helping coordinate this presentation at Crestview High.



George Liedel's Funeral

For those of you who could not make the Memorial Mass, it was wonderful. The participation of the Knights added beauty to the Mass. Following the Mass was the burial at Live Oak Memorial Park followed by a wonderful reception at the Parish Hall where a couple of George's kids talked about George along with Deacon Dan who also had some great things to say about George. At the end of the Funeral Mass, Herb talked about all the great things George had done as a member of the KofC, and below is below are his comments:

"I am here to tell you about a great guy George Liedel. George, holding the rank of LCDR, retired from the US Navy on 1 June, 1979 and joined the Knights of Columbus (KofC) here in Crestview in Dec 92 and became a 4th Degree Knight in Nov 93. George was born in 1933, and he was an amazing guy who did things as though he was 20 years old throughout his life. Since becoming a Knight, George has done amazing things. During Fiscal Year 2003-2004 George was my Deputy Grand Knight, and with his help the Crestview Council 7968 won the Florida State Council of the Year Award. Not bad considering at the time there were 300 councils in the state of Florida. George held almost every position in the KofC and in Fraternal Year 2004-2005 George was the Grand Knight. George worked his heart out helping those in need. He worked so hard that in Fraternal Year 2007-2008 George won the Crestview Council Knight of the Year Award and won the Council Knight of the Year Award again in Fraternal Year 2013-2014, and it was that Fraternal Year that George won the Florida State Knight of the Year Award. Once again, it is not bad considering there were then over 300 councils in the state of Florida. George was so famous that his winning the Florida State Knight of the Year Award ended up with his picture and story on the front page of the Crestview News Bulletin. George was an acolyte that participated in Mass almost seven days a week. Additionally, he was a lector, and the parish lector instructor who provided lector instruction for newly assigned lectors that needed it. He worked in these positions for many years until approximately 2018 when his age began catching up with him. For many years George represented the KofC at the monthly Chamber of Commerce meetings and kept them up to date on what the Knights were doing to support the community. Every Wednesday George came by the Parish Hall and picked up Bread and Pasties for a family in need, and he did that for many years. The council's main means of income is from bingo that is played every Tuesday night, and although the Council had four teams there was always one or more workers that did not show up, so George worked bingo every Tuesday night to ensure sufficient help and did that until he was about 86 years old. George's continued support of the KofC helped the council contribute over 35,000 plus dollars yearly to the church, the Care Center and numerous other organizations in need of help. George, for approximately 25 years, represented the KofC as Santa Claus, bringing joy to hundreds of kids in schools and seniors at churches, nursing homes, local hospitals, the local senior center, restaurants, and homes passing out candy canes, that he purchased and never

wanted payment for his service. Every year the Knights participated in the city's Christmas Parade, and George was on the KofC float annually representing the knights as St. Nick. He helped widows cut their grass. I don't think there is anything that George could not do. If I told you everything George had done, I would be standing here for another hour. George leaves for us what God would like to see in all of us. So let us all try to do what George did for God and his country, Amen!"

The KofC enrolled Goerge as a Perpetual Member to the Missionary Society of St. Columban's where he will always be remembered.

Picture 1 - The Great George Anthony Liedel a LCDR in the US Navy.



Picture 2 - The KofC's 25-year Santa Clause.

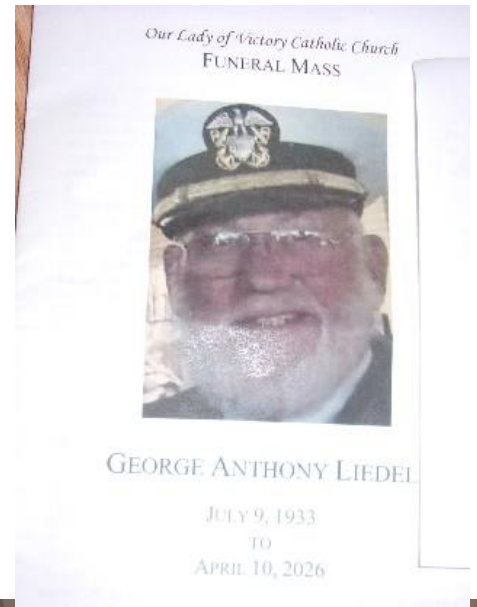
Pictures 3 & 4 - Brother Knights guarding George.



Picture 5 - Brother Steve, our Faithful Navigator, presenting Virginia a Beautiful Crucifixion.



Picture 6 - Brother Marty, our Grand Knight presenting Virginia a Beautiful Angel.



Picture 7 - Brother Knights that did a wonderful job participating in the Beautiful Memorial Mass.



Picture 8 - Brother Knights in proper formation during the burial.



Picture 9 - The Burial Prayer Site with Virginia and family along with George's family in the background.



Picture 10 - A very nice reception with plenty of excellent food.



Knight of the Month

Brother **Timothy 'Tim' Williams** was selected as Knight of the Month for **April 2026**. Tim joined our ragtag council in January of this year and wasted no time helping us out. He worked at our Pre-Lent Friday Fish Fry, then came early the next morning to help drain and clean the oil fryers - even bringing his daughters to help! And if that was enough, later that morning he volunteered with the Council Basketball Free Throw Challenge at the High School to help organize and score the 15 participants.

Brother Tim also volunteers his time and talent with the OLV Music program by playing the drums at Sunday Mass. He is also one of the more proactive and forward leaning Knights, as he completed his 4th Degree Exemplification on March 21st, and picked up his regalia in person at the end of April!

Most recently, he accepted the nomination to serve as the Warden for the Council 2026-2027 Officer Year, and he helped our Brother Knights in Niceville with their Luau Dinner Fundraiser at the 3rd Planet Brewery raising money for the Mejella House.

Brother Tim is an amazing Knight and is well deserving of being selected Knight of the Month for April 2026.

Grand Knight Marty Mears presents Tim Williams with a certificate and coin.

Tim was unable to receive the award at the meeting, but the Grand Knight was able to catch up with him after finishing up packing the trucks for the Biloxi VA Hospital.



Family of the Month

For the Month of **April**, a very worthy family was nominated and selected. **The Gonzalez-Zavala Family** serves as an outstanding inspiration to our Parish, Community, and Council by supporting and strengthening Catholic Family Life.

This family is led by Brenda Zavala, who is an active mother raising a young lady and a young gentleman. This loving mother has dedicated her time and cooking talents to ministering to the children in the Religious Education program and providing meals to the nearly 40 hungry youths.

The oldest daughter, Brendita, is active in the youth ministry, and like her mother, helps wherever she can with the religious education program. She is joined by her younger brother, Christopher, as they are in the Restored Order program and received their Sacrament of Confirmation on 19 May. Whether is Vacation Bible School, All Saints Day Celebration, or most recently the Easter Egg Hunt - this family is present, active, and supportive, making everyone's burden a lot easier.

This family has embraced OLV as their family ever since a devastating tragedy in 2017 when they lost a husband and father, Jose Gonzalez, during military action in Afghanistan. This family has persevered and flourished and we are honored to recognize them.

Grand Knight Marty Mears recognizes the Family of the Month for April 2026



Prayer of the Month

The Serenity Prayer

—Reinhold Niebuhr, 1892-1971

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change
the courage to change the things I can
and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time,
enjoying one moment at a time.
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace.

Taking, as he did, the sinful world as it is,
not as I would have it.

Trusting that he will make all things right
if I surrender to His will;

that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
and supremely happy with Him forever in the
next.

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