



Knights of Columbus

Council 2505

St. Joseph's Church

Lakeland, FL

April, 2025

Continuing Our Second Century of Service 2025

A message from the Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

I knew a man who was extremely smart. He was a teacher for over 40 years, but he could have been anything he wanted to be. He could fix anything. In the summer months, when school was out, he worked as a mechanic. His family lived in a house that he built. After dinner every night, he would work on the family cars keeping them running. Schoolteachers didn't make a lot of money and in his time, families were bigger than most families today, and the moms didn't work. This man had the patience of a saint. After working his whole life and sacrificing for his family, right after retiring he ended up raising two of his young grandchildren who were abandoned by their mother and father. I have only told you a very little bit about this man's life. The one thing I haven't told you was this man was my father.

My father passed away on March 21, 2010. I think of him every day, but this time of year is always hardest. I was with him every day the last month of his life. After his 70th birthday changes started happening to my father. In a couple of years my father went from being a brilliant man to someone who could not write his name, could not talk, could not walk and was totally dependent on my mom for everything. During those years we took him to many doctors to find out what was wrong, but every doctor was baffled. His last stay in the hospital, his main nurse was a student of his many years before. This was not unusual in my father's life to meet many former students in their adult life. The doctors at the hospital told my mother he would need to be put on a feeding tube to live. She refused and we took him home to die. This poor man basically starved to death which I had to watch over the following weeks.

If you have read this so far, I thank you for letting me share a very short version of my father's life. The reason for this story is this, I would give anything to be able to tell my father how much I loved him and how much he meant to me. I tell him now in my heart and in my prayers and I hope he can hear me. If you are fortunate enough to still have your father, tell him how you feel. If you are a father and have sons or daughters let them know how you feel about them. Let them know how much they mean to you. Give them the greatest memories of you that they can cherish long after you leave this world.

Was my dad proud of me? I don't know because he never told me. Did my father know how much I loved him? I don't know because I never told him. The biggest misconception I had in my life was that a strong man never shared his feelings or said I love you. This is one of the biggest falsehoods that I have ever known. Tomorrow isn't promised to anyone. Remember when becoming a Knight in the ceremony were the words *Tempus Fugit*, *Memento Mori* which means Time Flies, Remember Death. Don't make the same mistakes I made in life and don't wait till tomorrow because tomorrow might be too late.

Happy Easter to all my Brothers and your Families,

Mark Sagen

Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer



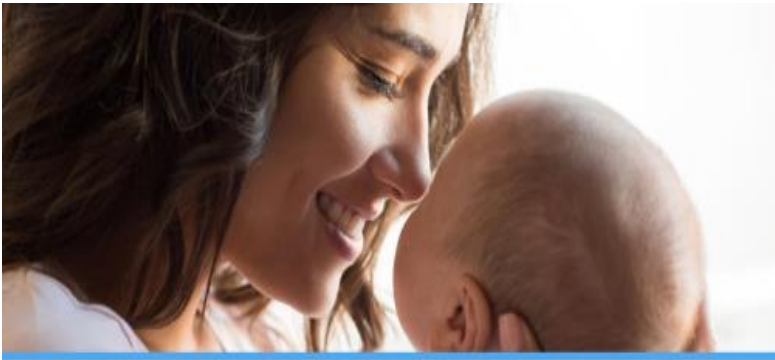
God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, You called Your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow Your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling His commandment of charity and building up His Body, which is the Church. Let the inspiration of Your servant prompt us to greater confidence in Your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that You glorify Your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of Your holy will.

Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*), through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The vigil continues in April at the Options for Women PHC on S. Florida Avenue. Contact Maryanne Stevens to contribute your time and interest.

HELP SAVE LIVES IN LAKELAND!

**Here's how to take part in 40 Days for
Life in our community**



Vigil location: Outside Lakeland Women's Health Center at 4444 S. Florida Avenue

Vigil hours: 7 am to 7 pm daily

Local contact: Maryanne Stevens
Lakeland40daysforlife@gmail.com

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Lakeland40daysforlife@gmail.com

March 5 - April 13
40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

40daysforlife.com/lakeland

The Liturgy Schedule for Lent 2025

All Knights are encouraged to attend any service as a part of your Lenten preparation for the Glory of the Resurrection.

Lenten Schedule 2025

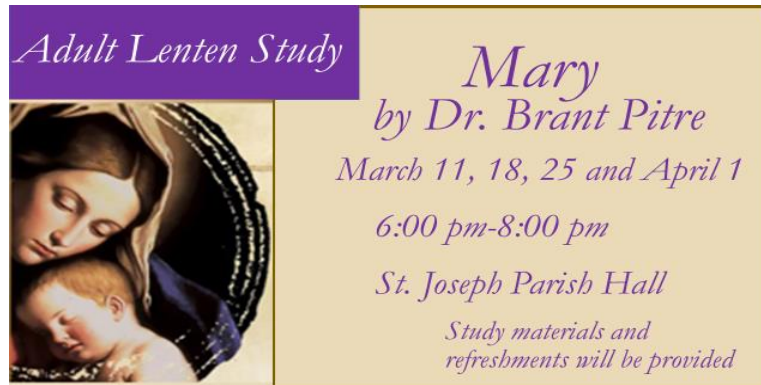
- Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 5:30 PM***
- Holy Hour/Vespers
First Fridays at 6:00 PM***
- Lenten Reconciliation April 7 7PM***

Holy Week Schedule 2025

<i>Holy Thursday Mass</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Bilingual</i>
<i>Exposition after Mass</i>		
<i>Good Friday Services</i>	<i>3:00 PM</i>	<i>English</i>
	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Spanish</i>
<i>Holy Saturday Vigil Mass</i>	<i>8:00 PM</i>	<i>Bilingual</i>
<i>Easter Masses</i>	<i>9:00 AM</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Resurrection of the Lord</i>	<i>11:00 AM</i>	<i>English</i>
	<i>1:00 PM</i>	<i>Spanish</i>

Lenten study continues – one last session on April 1

The Tuesday evening Lenten Study classes have been very successful and attended by up to three dozen participants at each of the last three sessions. There has been a lot of interaction, testimonials, praise for the program and learning as well as entertainment and refreshments. This Lent the studies have centered on the Virgin Mary with videos from Doctor Brant Pitre from the Augustine Institute, streamed from the website FORMED. The Knights of Columbus Council #2505 sponsor it, and this year are collaborating with the Saint Joseph Parish Religious Education Department (Ms. Agatha Zedonek, Director). The final presentation is Tuesday April 1, 2025 from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm in the Saint Joseph Parish Hall. It is open to all adults.



Our Charity Programs Are on Track

Our Council has recovered from the deep Covid downturn and is showing a steady growth in contributions to charities. This year's charity outlay will be the highest in 5 years.

KofC Council 2505 Charity						
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	5 Years
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	TOTAL
FAITH - CHURCH:	\$23,750	\$9,650	\$1,130	\$9,940	\$15,589	\$ 60,059
Change		(\$14,100)	(\$8,520)	\$8,810	\$5,649	
FAMILY - EDUCATION:	\$1,500	\$8,500	\$4,225	\$4,251	\$10,769	\$ 29,245
Change		\$7,000	(\$4,275)	\$26	\$6,518	
COMMUNITY:	\$9,510	\$12,631	\$5,110	\$6,020	\$6,000	\$ 39,271
Change		\$3,121	(\$7,521)	\$910	(\$20)	
LIFE:	\$4,000	\$7,524	\$5,222	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$ 27,246
Change		\$3,524	(\$2,302)	(\$1,222)	\$2,500	
TOTAL ANNUAL	\$38,760	\$38,305	\$15,687	\$24,211	\$38,858	\$155,821
Change		(\$455)	(\$22,618)	\$8,524	\$14,647	
% Change		-1%	-59%	54%	60%	



Tootsie Roll Update

The amount the Council took in so far at Publix stores was just under \$2,800.

The number Knights that participated was around 45.

There will be a Tootsie roll drive after each Mass, the Sunday after Easter.

If you haven't participated yet, consider giving some of your time to collect after one of the Masses. Join your brothers in lending a hand – couldn't be easier!

Any questions, please contact our Tootsie Roll/Life Director Bob Renna at: 863-646-0129 or 863-397-8801.

Family of the Month



The March Family of the Month was Mike and Helen McFarland.. They were honored and awarded their Certificate at a recent K of C Fish Fry in the Parish Hall on March 28th. Mike has been an active officer in planning and in numerous Council activities and his wife Helen is an active member of Women's Emmaus and Mothers' Prayers. Pictured with Mike and Helen are SK Jay Bice, Family Director, Mike's grandson Jack and SK GK Mark Sagan

Knights Provide New Vestments and Manpower

Two of our newest Knight Brothers have begun an ongoing career in serving at Holy Mass, this time at 4PM Saturday Vigil Mass. Led by our Grand Knight Mark Sagan, who began the Knights' commitment to serving at Mass over a year ago, Clay Tucker and Akol Arop have set a high standard in their dedication to our Faith and to our promises of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Don't be surprised to see other brother Knights taking up this call for service in the sanctuary. Most recently, brother Vincent Miozzi has begun to don the casock and surplus along with Justin Moldow (whose son Leo Joseph is often seen joining the recessional procession at Mass). Interested in serving at Mass? Contact Deacon Jason Bulman or Chancellor Doug Cooper for next steps.



Father Luis and Deacon Leo are flanked by Clay and Akol after one of the first Masses in which the celebrants used the newly acquired vestments purchased by Council 2505 for the parish.



In addition to serving as ushers, AV presenters and at the altar, there is opportunity to volunteer for many different projects or programs including the ones we plan for as our "standard" programs such as the Lenten Fish Fry, or Tootsie Roll Drive or Lectio programs.

Take a small chance: inquire how you can participate in Knights activities.

For more information on Activity Programs contact:

Jay Bice for Faith and Family 330.307.2321 | Steve Jones for Community 863.529.9031

Bob Renna for Life 863.646.0129 | Gary Page Activity Director 580.242.1095

Important Dates

Member Birthdays

Name	Birthday	Age
Mr Billy W Antley	04-02-1957	68
Mr John D Duncan Sr	04-03-1949	76
Mr Benjamin A Vano	04-06-1995	30
Mr Robert C Hoffman	04-15-1951	74
Mr David M Hurban	04-15-1959	66
Mr George H Watson Jr	04-20-1954	71
Mr Robert J Renna	04-22-1944	81
Mr Rick B Stevens	04-23-1947	78
Mr Jonathan T Tebo-Hardin	04-23-1989	36
Mr John A Spano	04-24-1931	94

Wife Birthdays

Member's Name	Wife's Name	Birthday
Mr John H Graham	Leticia Graham	04-20
Dr Joe Mari J. Maja	Miraflor (Mimi) Maja	04-28

Member Wedding Anniversaries

Member's Name	Date	Wife's Name
Mr Gerald F Karels	04-03-1959	Marianne Karels
Mr Steven W Lannon	04-05-1986	Peggy Lannon
Mr Gregory L Thomas	04-08-1989	Kathleen Elizabeth Thomas
Mr Gary L Cavender	04-14-1973	Tana Cavender
Mr Philip J Maitino	04-30-1977	Ginny Maitino

April Calendar			
April 1st	Tuesday	Lectio Mary study	6:00 PM
April 4th	Friday	Stations of the Cross Holy Hour / Vespers Fish Fry	5:30 PM 6:00 PM 3:30PM – 7:30PM
April 7th	Monday	Officers' Meeting	6:30 PM
April 14th	Monday	Council Business Meeting	6:00 PM
April 17th	Holy Thursday	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Exposition afterwards	7:00 PM Bilingual
April 18th	Good Friday	Passion of the Lord Service	3:00 PM English 7:00 PM Spanish
April 19th	Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter	8:00 PM Bilingual
April 20th	Easter Sunday	Easter Masses Resurrection of the Lord	9:00 AM English 11:00 AM English 1:00 PM Spanish
April 21st	Monday	4th Degree Meeting Resurrection	6:00 PM
April 26th - 27th	Saturday Sunday	Tootsie Roll Drive	After Mass at church
April Volunteers Needed			
Date	Day	Event	Contact
April 26th- 27th	Saturday Sunday	Tootsie Roll Drive	Bob Renna 863-646-0129

Two New Knights Exemplified – One a 3rd Generation

On March 27th Council 2505 held an Exemplification Service for 4 new Knights, 2 from St Joseph and 2 from Resurrection. Council 2505's Knights, Matt Shanley and Jack Thompson present a significant diversity in background and life experience.

Matt is an Air Force veteran and a contract airline pilot, married to an Emmaus Lady, Mary, recently relocated to Lakeland and newly acquainted to our Council and Knights.

Jack, a high school senior, is a single man who has been volunteering in service for more than two years at Knights' functions including fish fries, Oktoberfests, and at numerous other events with his brother Kevin, a 1st year Knight, and his father Brother Knight Bill Thompson, a Council Trustee and Knight for more than four years. Additionally and remarkably, Jack was invested into Knighthood by his grandfather (also Jack Thompson), a Knight of 20 plus years, currently with Council 10169 at Resurrection Parish.

Jack will be attending UCF in the Fall.



We all wish both men well in their Knighthoods.

With the installation of Matt and Jack, Council 2505 completes its recruitment goal for a Double Star Council for this year as we have doubled our annual recruiting target. Contratulations to all our Brothers for your hard work and committment!

Remember, we are all recruiters of Catholic men.

In Brief

Tip of the hat



- Thanks to Brother Richard Miller for providing up to the minute information of our fish frys. Also special thanks for organizing the reporting for our Council's charitable activities.
- Thanks to Brothers Larry Holmes, Jeff Trottier and our Columbiette sister Cindy Tidwell for their unparalleled dedication, efficiency and accuracy in processing fish fry payments every week.



- Always leading by example, GK Mark Sagan and Parish Faith Director Agatha Zedonek serve refreshments in the parish hall after Masses on St Joseph's Day.



Remembering SK Bob Hoffman

thoughts on his passing from some of his fellow Knights and friends

Bob was a devoted Knight; participating in many activities over the last 24 years: supporting Council activities such as bingo, tootsie roll drives, parking of cars during spring training games and doing maintenance on the Knight's Building when we owned our old building on Lakeland Hills Blvd and attending monthly Council meetings.



Bob was Exemplified as a member of our Council on August 1st 2000 and took his 4th Degree Exemplification on November 24th 2001.

Bob was also very active in the 4th Degree Assembly; for several years our old Assembly (154) Father Mendoza participated in the Lakeland Christmas Parade; Bob volunteered to tow the Assembly's Ship "Santa Maria" with his pickup truck, he would take off of work to help clean the ship before the parade and if needed made the necessary repairs to the ship before the voyage of the parade route in downtown Lakeland. Bob was also very active in the Color Corp of our local 4th Degree Assembly by dressing in his regalia and attending 1st Holy Communions for the children of St. Joseph's parish and attending funerals of brother Knights from our Council as well as other Councils in Lakeland.

Bob was a great friend to many people here in Lakeland, he had a huge heart and was always offering up his time and skills as a carpenter, tile man, painter to anyone that needed a helping hand.

I worked with Bob on all of those projects/ministries. He certainly freely and generously gave of his time and considerable talent. He also pulled our float for the Catholic War Veterans a couple of years and after his foot surgery when he couldn't pull it, he loaned me his trailer so that I could do it.

He was loved by many. My guess is that he already has a couple of projects going in heaven.

I have worked with Bob Hoffman over the past 13 years in our Council. One word describes Bob...a "worker." He was always available to help anyone and especially our Council members.

Bob worked at bingo for many years...always willing to serve. I also worked with Bob at many fish fries...he would do anything needed.

And, I saw Bob serving in the Honor Corp at many funerals. He always stood out with his towering 6'4" frame!

Bob's service will be greatly missed. But, now he can receive his just reward in heaven with his Savior, Jesus!!

I regret not having known Bob for as long as his many friends. I do remember fondly his greeting my wife and me at the church door for 4PM Mass every week with a smile and a welcoming handshake.

Once I became a Knight, he sat with me and guided me, explaining to me many of the important aspects of our brotherhood. He was, is, and still will be a valued friend and Brother Knight.

Rest in peace, Bob!



The service for Bob will be held at St. Joseph's Church, 210 W. Lemon Street, Lakeland, Fla 33805 on Friday, April 4th 2025. Viewing will be from 9:30 am to 10:30 am and his funeral mass will begin at 10:30 am.

If you wish to send a condolence note to Bob's wife (Terry Hoffman), you can mail it to her at 723 E. Bella Vista Street, Lakeland, Florida 33805-3014.

Please attend Bob's service if at all possible.

*Have something to share, an idea for an article or
are you leading an event?*

*Contact Doug Cooper Dougstjoe@gmail.com to have your
contribution included in next month's newsletter.*

*"Be anxious about nothing, but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." **Phillipians 4:6-7***