



*Completing Our First Century of Service 1924 - 2025*

## *A message from the Grand Knight*



Worthy Brothers,

We are starting a new year, 2025. We get to wipe away 2024 and start fresh. Starting January 1, our mistakes and shortcomings are behind us. Now if you are like me by January 3rd, you are no different than the year before. The resolutions you made on January 1 have already been broken. Our dreams of being a better person start to fade. We give up and revert to the person we were the year before. 90 percent of us fail on our new year's resolutions. Why even bother making them? The tradition of making new year's resolutions go back 4000 years. People would make their resolutions to the Gods. Because of this, resolutions have become more of a Christian tradition. There is a lot of history in new year's resolution. You would think that having 4000 years of practice that we would do a better job of making and keeping our resolutions. We should be pros at this by now. Instead, we are big failures. The only area that men have failed more at than making and sticking to new year's resolutions is understanding women and how they think. That is a mystery that will never be solved. If you do decide this new year to make resolutions here are a few tips.

Try making S.M.A.R.T. resolutions. S.M.A.R.T. goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound. For example, I want to improve my health is not a smart goal. A better goal would be I want to reduce my cigar smoking to one cigar a day by June 1<sup>st</sup>. This goal is more specific. It is very difficult to stop a bad habit cold turkey.

Focus on behavior or habits rather than outcome. For example, I am going to lose weight is an outcome goal. Instead, you may say I will only eat a half gallon of ice cream 3 times a week instead of everyday until September. This focuses on a behavior instead of an outcome. Also, you may want to map out specific milestones and reward yourself for meeting them. For example, you may say to yourself if I don't eat any sweets during the week on Saturday after dinner, I will reward myself with eating a whole chocolate cake. This can give you motivation to lay off the sweets for six days.

I hope this helps you with your new year's resolutions. As you can see, I have a tough road ahead. I am going to buckle down and try to at least make my resolutions to January 7<sup>th</sup> this year. Happy New Year to all of you!

Vivant Jesus,

Mark Sagen msagen1@msn.com

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.



***One of our primary programs as a council is to support pro life efforts in our community. Our Council will be participating in the Annual Polk County March For Life event to be held on Saturday, January 18th 2025. Begins at Lakeland City Hall and walk will be around Lake Mirror.***

***The event registration begins at 9:00 am***

***Welcome Prayer begins at 9:30 am***

***Closing Remarks are at 10:30 am***

***Walk begins at 10:45 am from Lakeland City Hall, continues around Lake Mirror.***

***Our Council will be providing lunch and drinks (water and soda) to all the participants of the event at St. Joseph's Parish Hall/Pavilion upon the conclusion of the walk.***

***We encourage every member of the Council (spouses and children are invited to participate as well) to participate in this event; if you are physically not able to walk the event, you can come help out at the parish hall/pavilion by helping to prepare the lunch with me.***

***We really need at least 25 total Council participants for this event, please come out and show your support of LIFE We are trying to get a rough head count prior to the event, if you plan to attend, please email me at [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) by January 13th 2024. If you have questions, also please email me or call me at 863-899-6005.***



***Brother Knights of Council 2505; please block off your calendar to assist the Council in our annual undertaking of Tootsie Roll Drive; all proceeds this year will benefit our donations to the statewide Special Olympics Program and also to ROAR a local housing program for developmentally handicapped adults in Lakeland.***

***The dates for the Tootsie Roll drive are: Feb 22 and 23 and Mar 8 and 9.***

***Times that we volunteers are each Saturday from 10:00 am till 4:00 pm (you will only work a 2 hour segment) and the Sunday dates will be from Noon till 4:00 pm; again, you will only work a 2 hour segment.***

***We will advise by email which Publix stores we will be collecting at in early to mid January 2025. Any questions, please contact our Tootsie Roll/Life Director Bob Renna at: 863-646-0129 or 863-397-8801. Get your reservation time in quickly to Bob Renna.***

## ***A Note From our Financial Secretary***

***Worthy Brothers of Council 2505:***

***Are you a current Officer or Council Program Director or if you are thinking of becoming an Officer or Program Director for the 2025-26 Fraternal Year; if so, you are invited to attend the next Combined District 32 and District 31 Mid-year District Meeting - 09:00 to 12:00, January 11, 2025. The meeting will take place in Room 2 at St Joseph Catholic Church Family Life Center, 532 Avenue M NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881. This joint District Meeting is for the benefit of Council Officers and Directors, to include all Council members considering filling the role of a Council officer and/or director. These District and/or Combined District Trainings are well thought out and presented. You will learn the latest expectations from the Supreme and State organizations as well as hear about other success stories at other Council's within Polk County.***

***Our Council will be carpooling to the meeting and if you are interested in attending, or have any general questions, please contact me before January 4th 2025 by email or phone that I can answer them.***



# ***A modest financial contribution from our Council yields a huge compliment from our parish Youth Faith Formation***

***December 20, 2024***

***Dear Knights of Columbus,***

***I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous contribution to our Youth Faith Formation Christmas celebration. Your support made it possible for the children and their families to partake in decorating cookies, make Christmas ornaments and create lasting memories and joy during this special time of year.***

***Your kindness and dedication to our community are deeply appreciated, and we are grateful for your continued partnership in fostering a sense of fellowship and celebration among our families. Attached is a collage of the Youth Formation Christmas Party for your bulletin.***

***Wishing you a blessed Christmas season and a joyful New Year!***

***Blessings,***

***Mrs. Agatha Zedonek  
Religious Education Coordinator***



***Meghan Hyden and Bill Thompson  
get into the spirit of the season***



***Thank you!***



# ***A great message to use to start your new year and our Council's 2nd century.***

## **What is a Knight?**

*by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly*

A Knight lives by faith and leads by creative courage. Faith and courage compel us to be men of **charity**.

We feed hungry families, give coats to kids, protect the vulnerable from catastrophe and defend the unborn. We're servants of Christ who see his face in those we serve.

Faith and courage inspire us to be men of **unity**.

Our fidelity to Christ is the source of our unity, and we seek him in his Church and the sacraments he's given us.

We strengthen and protect the family — the domestic church — helping men build strong marriages and raise faithful children, while providing them the opportunity to align their financial decisions with their Catholic faith. We strive to inspire men to embrace their vocation to heroic generosity and self-sacrifice.

Finally, faith and courage bind us together in **fraternity**.

At a time when men are increasingly isolated, we offer solidarity. At a time when men are searching, we offer meaning and mission. Fraternity amplifies all we do. It broadens our charity and deepens our unity.

So, what does it mean to be a Knight? It means a life of faith in action, a life of boldness in brotherhood, a life of integrity. It means bringing every aspect of life in line with our principles.

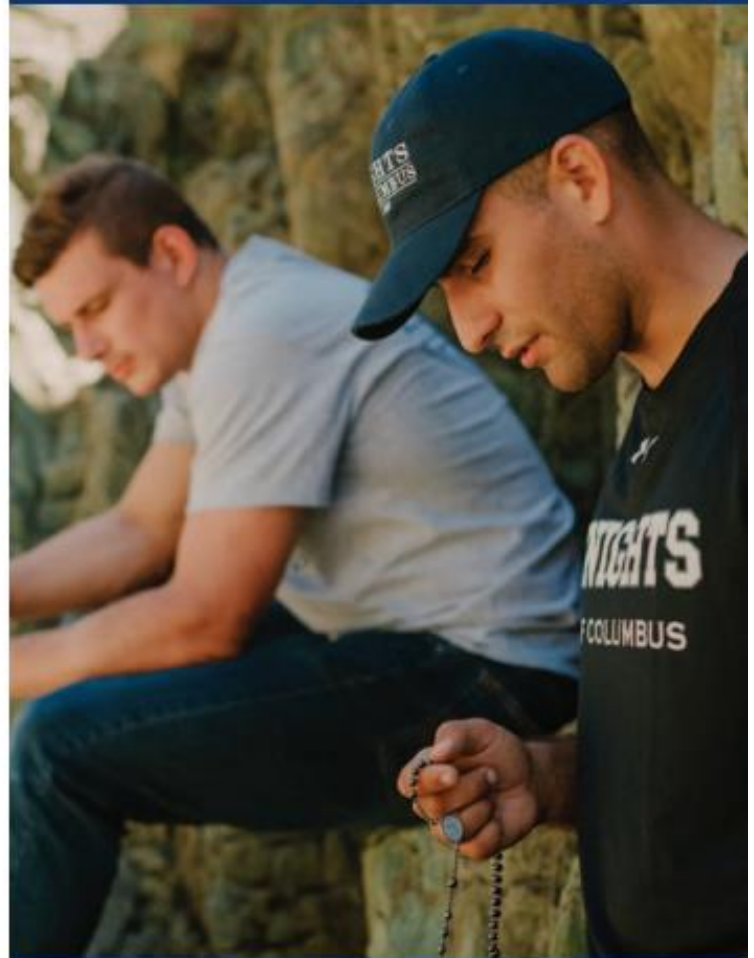
Catholic men are looking for nothing less. In the Knights of Columbus, they will find it.

1 Columbus Plaza | New Haven, CT 06510-3326  
[www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

10099 9/24



# **Knights of Columbus®**



# **24 Hours Can Change Your Life**

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***An invitation to the Knights from our partner in saving lives***



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🍷 Charcuterie Board

✂️ Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

🗣️ Tours of Our Beautiful New Facility

**RSVP:** [www.ofwsupport.com/grandopening](http://www.ofwsupport.com/grandopening)

## **RECORD YEAR FOR 40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

- A total of **25,252 lives** saved from abortion at a 40 Days for Life vigil--that we know of
- **267 abortion workers** who experienced conversion and left their jobs in the abortion industry;
- **159 abortion facilities** closed forever after a 40 Days for Life campaign;
- An all-time record **59 year-round 40 Days for Life 365 vigils** in the United States in 2024.

The best is yet to come as Planned Parenthood loses the White House...and possibly its taxpayer funding!

To continue to support 40Days goto [40daysforlife.com/donate](http://40daysforlife.com/donate)

# *Considering the Patriotic Degree?*



**Knights of Columbus**

.....  
**FOURTH  
DEGREE  
EXEMPLIFICATION**

**EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE FOURTH DEGREE**

**January 25th at Gulf Breeze FL**

St. Sylvester Church

6464 Gulf Breeze Parkway

Gulf Breeze, FL 33563

*If you are interested in attending this Exemplification or have questions, please contact Charlie Stokes 863-899 6005 or [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) ASAP.*



# Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

## A reminder from our Financial Secretary

My Brothers of Council 2505, The Council is required to submit to Supreme Council by 01/31/25 the "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity."

I have received about 8 of the Survey Forms thus far out of 132 members; my thanks to those who have submitted them to me. For those that have not, please complete and send the below form to me via email at [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) or you can snail mail it to me at 1611 Huntington Street, Lakeland, Fla 33801. Please submit the form to me by January 6th 2025. The forms are available on line at [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms). **Form 1728a** Contact me if you have any questions.

## Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

### 20\_\_\_\_ Individual Member Worksheet

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES/FAITHFUL COMPTROLLERS/BURSARS

**Note:** Knights should separate reported assembly activities from their reported council activities.

Located on the lower portion of this page are individual Member Worksheets to assist you in determining the number of hours of volunteer service expended by members during 20\_\_\_\_.

To help prepare our Fraternal Survey for the Supreme Council office, please complete the information requested below and return it at our next meeting. This information will assist us in determining the total number of hours of community service volunteered by our members.

#### COUNCIL HOURS

##### Faith Activities (where applicable) Hours of Service

- a. Refund Support Vocations Program
- b. Church Facilities
- c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries
- d. Religious/Vocations Education
- e. Prayer & Study Programs
- f. Sacramental Gifts
- g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities

##### Family Activities (where applicable)

- a. Food for Families
- b. Family Formation Programs
- c. Keep Christ in Christmas
- d. Family Week
- e. Family Prayer Night
- f. Miscellaneous Family Programs

##### Community Activities (where applicable)

- a. Coats For Kids
- b. Global Wheelchair Mission
- c. Habitat for Humanity
- d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief
- e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities
- f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care
- g. Hospitals/Health Organizations
- h. Columbian Squires
- i. Scouting/Youth Groups
- j. Athletics
- k. Youth Welfare/Service
- l. Scholarships/Education
- m. Veteran Military/VAVS
- n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities

##### Life Activities (where applicable)

- a. Special Olympics
- b. Marches for Life
- c. Ultrasound Initiative
- d. Pregnancy Support
- e. Christian Refugee Relief
- f. Memorials to Unborn Children
- g. Miscellaneous Life Activities

##### Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable)

- Visits to the Sick
- Visits to the Bereaved
- Number of Blood Donations
- Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families

TOTAL

#### ASSEMBLY HOURS

##### Faith Activities (where applicable) Hours of Service

- a. Refund Support Vocations Program
- b. Church Facilities
- c. Catholic Schools/Seminaries
- d. Religious/Vocations Education
- e. Prayer & Study Programs
- f. Sacramental Gifts
- g. Miscellaneous Faith Activities

##### Family Activities (where applicable)

- a. Food for Families
- b. Family Formation Programs
- c. Keep Christ in Christmas
- d. Family Week
- e. Family Prayer Night
- f. Miscellaneous Family Programs

##### Community Activities (where applicable)

- a. Coats For Kids
- b. Global Wheelchair Mission
- c. Habitat for Humanity
- d. Disaster Preparedness/Relief
- e. Physically Disabled/Intellectual Disabilities
- f. Elderly/Widow(er) Care
- g. Hospitals/Health Organizations
- h. Columbian Squires
- i. Scouting/Youth Groups
- j. Athletics
- k. Youth Welfare/Service
- l. Scholarships/Education
- m. Veteran Military/VAVS
- n. Miscellaneous Community/Youth Activities

##### Life Activities (where applicable)

- a. Special Olympics
- b. Marches for Life
- c. Ultrasound Initiative
- d. Pregnancy Support
- e. Christian Refugee Relief
- f. Memorials to Unborn Children
- g. Miscellaneous Life Activities

##### Other Fraternal Commitments (where applicable)

- Visits to the Sick
- Visits to the Bereaved
- Number of Blood Donations
- Hours of Fraternal Service to Sick/Disabled Member and their Families

TOTAL





# Important Dates

Member Birthdays		
Name	Birthday	Age
Mr Joseph L Afilani III	01-04-1987	37
Mr William Breier	01-10-1986	38
Mr Juan Guillermo Casasnovas	01-10-1975	49
Mr Joseph R Muti	01-14-1999	25
Mr Javier Sanchez	01-14-2003	21
Mr Brian Anthony Krolak	01-16-1976	48
Mr Steve Patton	01-22-1962	62
Mr John Quirk III	01-22-1971	53
Dr Joe Mari J. Maja	01-24-1972	52
Mr Sean E Rodby	01-24-1988	36
Mr James A Bivens	01-25-1937	87
Mr Joseph Niekro Jr	01-28-1998	26
Member Wedding Anniversaries		
Name	Wife's Name	Date
Mr Jeffrey S Hynes	Stephanie Lynn Hynes	01-04-1997
Mr Doug B Cooper	Judy Cooper	01-07-1978
Mr James E Manning	Donna Manning	01-07-1961
Mr Travis Cole Maydish	Danica Maydish	01-13-2024
Mr James E Schmidt	Helen Schmidt	01-28-1967
Mr Timothy F Riordan	Susan Riordan	01-31-1976
Wife Birthdays		
Member's Name	Wife's Name	Birthday
Mr Philip J Maitino	Ginny Maitino	01-15
Mr Clyde Joseph Gengler	Ina Gengler	01-25
Mr John D Duncan Sr	Barbara Duncan	01-29
Mr John W Williamson	Jennifer Williamson	01-29

<b><i>January Calendar</i></b>			
<b><i>January 2nd</i></b>	<b><i>Thursday</i></b>	<b><i>Officers' Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>6:30 PM</i></b>
<b><i>January 3rd</i></b>	<b><i>Friday</i></b>	<b><i>First Friday Holy Hour/Evening Prayer</i></b>	<b><i>6:00 PM</i></b>
<b><i>January 9th</i></b>	<b><i>Thursday</i></b>	<b><i>Council Business Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>6:00 PM</i></b>
<b><i>January 11th</i></b>	<b><i>Saturday</i></b>	<b><i>District Meeting Winterhaven</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 AM - Noon</i></b>
<b><i>January 14th</i></b>	<b><i>Tuesday</i></b>	<b><i>Exemplification of New Knights  Rm 102 MacDonald Bldg</i></b>	<b><i>7:00 PM (6:45 PM for participants)</i></b>
<b><i>January 16th</i></b>	<b><i>Thursday</i></b>	<b><i>Options for Women Facility Grand Opening</i></b>	<b><i>4:00 – 7:00 PM</i></b>
<b><i>January 18th</i></b>	<b><i>Saturday</i></b>	<b><i>March For Life City Hall  Parish Hall</i></b>	<b><i>8:30 AM – Noon  After march</i></b>
<b><i>January 21st</i></b>	<b><i>Tuesday</i></b>	<b><i>4th Degree Meeting Resurrection</i></b>	<b><i>6:00 PM</i></b>
<b><i>January Volunteers Needed</i></b>			
<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Day</i></b>	<b><i>Event</i></b>	<b><i>Contact</i></b>
<b><i>January 18th</i></b>	<b><i>Saturday</i></b>	<b><i>March For Life Post March Parish Hall Meal</i></b>	<b><i>Mark Sagan 815.791.8352 Charlie Stokes 863.899.6005</i></b>

## ***In Brief***

### **Time Capsule Project Update**

**We've received notes from only 4 brother Knights and the team has begun to call all Knights to ask them whether they have any memorabilia to include in the capsule and whether they intend to send a message.**

**Please give some thought to sharing your legacy with our future Brother Knights. Send an eMail ([Dougstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:Dougstjoe@gmail.com)) or drop off a Christmas Card with your message to Doug Cooper at the Parish office.**

**HARD DEADLINE IS JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>!**

#### **Keep Christ in Christmas – update**

Our Council had a very successful sale of Keep Christ in Christmas materials over the first three weeks of Advent.

***Overall sales were \$910.72 yielding a profit of \$724.12 for this year.***

Many thanks to those Knights and Columbiettes who participated in the event.







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## A Message from Andrew Burke

Brothers,

As Knights, we emphasize the importance of keeping Christ in Christmas. In fact, keeping Christ at the center of everything we do is a year-round mission.

Now, I ask you – as we close out 2024 and as you spend additional time with your family, consider how any changes from the past year might affect your life insurance portfolio. Even joyous occasions like buying a new house or sending a kid to college this fall can impact your insurance needs. Are you certain your current coverage is adequate and up to date? What would your family's financial situation be this time next year if the unimaginable happened to you or your spouse?

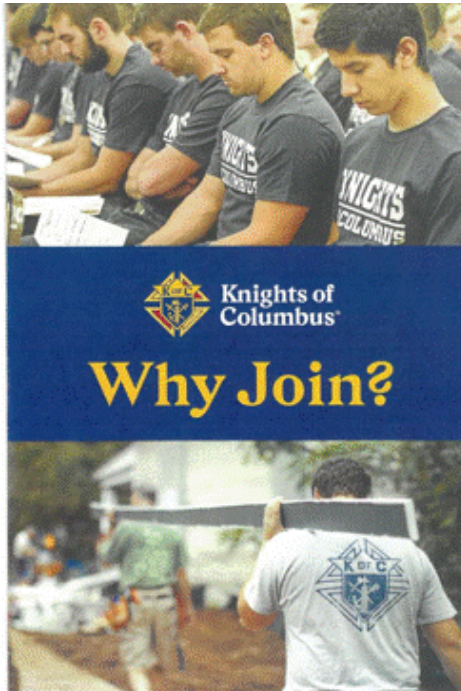
If your answers to these questions are not certain, I encourage you to set up time to meet with me. Let's work together to create a plan that would not only help protect your family but give you the peace of mind and security you all deserve.

May you each have a holy and peaceful Christmas season with your loved ones. Let's continue to focus on Jesus through the end of this year. If there is any way I can offer help, please reach out to me.

Thank you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Andrew Burke

***Keep in mind, we're all recruiters of Catholic men.***



We have plenty of hand out materials describing our principles as Knights as well as materials describing our Faith in Action programs. Please reach out to me, Doug Cooper, our Financial Secretary, Charlie Stokes, or our Grand Knight, Mark Sagen for materials, referrals, or coaching. in your recruiting efforts.

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

***Contact Doug Cooper [Dougstjoe@gmail.com](mailto: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*