



*Continuing Our Second Century of Service 2025*

**Knights of Columbus**

**Council 2505**

**St. Joseph's Church**

**Lakeland, FL**

**June, 2025**

## *A message from the Grand Knight*



Worthy Brothers,

This is my last message for the newsletter. When thinking about what to write a million ideas came to mind. First of all, I can't tell you how grateful I am to have been able to serve as your Grand Knight over the past two years. The men of this Council are truly special men. Every time the call went out for help the men of this Council stepped up. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and am honored to call you my brothers. To all the new members who have joined over the past two years, know that you have joined a Knights Council that are doers and leaders for the other Councils in Lakeland. All this will be talked about more at our End of the Year Social on June 21st. If you haven't signed up to attend with your family please do so. Just email me.

I did want to include some remarks about the Florida State Convention that I just got back from. This is my second year going and I would encourage anyone who hasn't gone to one to consider going. I have been inspired each time I have gone. Sure, there is a lot of business to go over but if you listen and watch our state leaders talk you know how dedicated they are to the Knights of Columbus and how similar they are to each of us.

There was an officer that spoke about when he joined the Knights he didn't do anything for his first ten years as a Knight. His message was don't give up on a Knight who is not active right now. Of course, I always think of our Council Member Dave Tebo. All the positions he has held with the Knights of Columbus is amazing to me. He went from just being a member of our Council all the way up to working at the Supreme level. I am excited to see if someone else from our Council can achieve the same success.

The programs that the Knights support at the State level is also something that all of us should be proud about. I am blown away by the support that our Council members have given to the Seminarians. Last year along with your dues you were asked if you could make a donation of \$10, to go to supporting a couple of Seminarians. Your response was overwhelming. We as a Council were able to double our contribution towards Seminarians. This is a great example of how many men can make a small contribution and end up making a big impact. By the way, our Council received an award for this at the Convention.

There is so much more to say about this Council, but I have to condense it to fit the newsletter. Again, I encourage you to attend the End of the Year Social. It is Saturday June 21st. It starts at 5:00 pm in the parish hall. This will be catered by Terrie Lobb (they catered our 100th Anniversary Dinner). Please bring your families. There is no better example for your child then by seeing their father stand up to be recognized. Dress code is - be comfortable. There may be time for dancing also (unless I talk to long).

Vivant Jesus,

Mark Sagen

msagen1@msn.com

### **Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer**



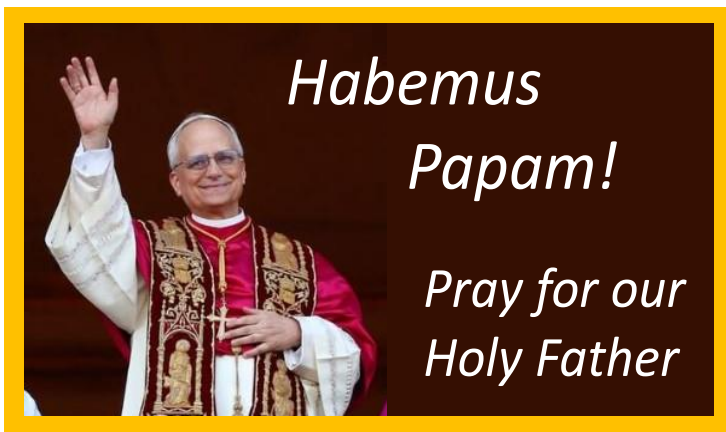
God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, You called Your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow Your Son, 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.

### ***A note from Our Supreme Knight on the election of Pope Leo XIV***

The Knights of Columbus joins Catholics everywhere in celebrating the election of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, the successor of St. Peter and spiritual leader of the Catholic Church.

On behalf of our 2.1 million members around the world, I pledge our loyalty to Pope Leo XIV as well as our prayers today and every day of his pontificate. The Knights of Columbus will always stand in solidarity with Pope Leo XIV as we support the Church's mission of evangelization through our works of charity and faith formation.



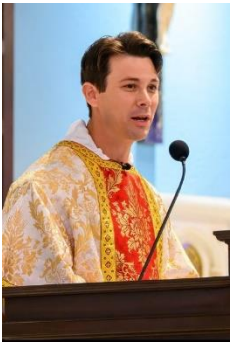
Pope Leo XIV, the first American Pope, assumes the Petrine ministry with a strong familiarity with the Knights of Columbus. I know firsthand of his sincere appreciation for the Knights of Columbus and our service to the Church around the world.

Our Order began during the pontificate of Pope Leo XIII [February 1878 - July 1903] and in the years ahead we will proudly stand

with Pope Leo XIV as we seek together to build up the Kingdom of God.

Since our founding in 1882 by Blessed Michael McGivney, fidelity to the Holy Father has been a defining characteristic of the Knights of Columbus. As it was with his predecessors, the pastoral priorities of Pope Leo XIV will guide and inform everything we do.

## ***Congratulations to our ordained brother Knights***



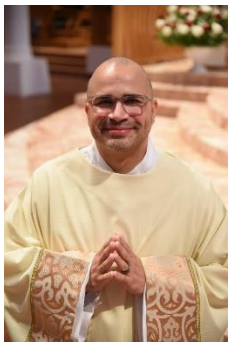
Deacon Jason Bullman will celebrate his third anniversary of ordination to the **Permanent Diaconate** [see note below] on Wednesday June 11th and has already become a beloved minister in our parish by many of our fellow parishioners.

A native of Lakeland, Deacon Jason has been **married for almost 16** years to his wife Rachel and has 7 children, 6 on earth and 1 in heaven. He is a practicing Physician Assistant, writer, and national speaker. He holds a Master's Degree in Theology and a Master's Degree in Medicine.

In addition to his many parish responsibilities, he appears with his family in the series **Meet the Bulmans** on the Word on Fire Institute YouTube channel, and he and his wife wrote and recorded a novena for married couples that is featured on the #1 Catholic meditation, prayer, and sleep app, Hallow. His first book is available now: **Praying with the Psalms 3-Minute Devotions for Advent**

**and Christmas 2025** and is available on Amazon or at AveMariaPress.com.

He has agreed to serve as Council 2505's liaison to the community of seminarians in which role he will actively support the seminarians on behalf of our Council in ensuring their needs are met by us.



**Sunday, June 8, 2025**, marks the **first anniversary of our brother Knight Deacon Josué Díaz's ordination**, and our Parish community joins in joyful thanksgiving for his faithful service.

Originally from **Aibonito, Puerto Rico**, Deacon Josué has called **Florida home for the past 19 years**. He has been **happily married for 22 years** to his high school sweetheart, **Jackie Díaz-Rivera**, and together they have been blessed with two sons: **Diego (19)** and **Gabriel (16)**.

Throughout his first year as a deacon, Josué has shown a true and humble vocation to God. His **unwavering commitment to serving our parish family**, his **compassionate presence**, and his **deep love for the Church** have touched the hearts of many. His witness continues to inspire us all to walk more closely with Christ.



Father François Charles, our Parochial Vicar, is celebrating his **12th year of priesthood on June 27<sup>th</sup>**. Father Charles came to the US from Haiti in August 2022 and was initially assigned by Bishop Noonan to Our Lady of Grace parish in Palm Bay, FL and shortly thereafter came to us in his current role as Parochial Vicar.

Father supports the Haitian community with Mass and sacraments in Lakeland and Winter Haven's St. Joseph parish and is often part of traditional **Haitian liturgies and community events**.

Before coming to the US, Fr. Charles was pastor of the **Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena** in the municipality of Arnaud Haiti.

Father has led prayer in various Knights' celebrations including numerous Exemplification ceremonies.

We are deeply grateful for **their time, ministries, and the gift of their vocations**, and we thank God for calling them to serve among us. As a community, we **celebrate these important milestones** and lift up our prayers that the Lord continues to bless them with many more years of joyful and faithful service to Christ, the Church and to the Knights.

**Congratulations, Fr. Charles and Deacons Josué and Jason**

*May your journeys in ministry continue to be filled with **grace, strength, and the peace of Christ**.*

**For more information regarding the Permanent Diaconate search:**

**<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/permanent-diaconate>**

# ***A MESSAGE FROM OUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY***

My Worthy Brothers of Council 2505: it is that time of the Fraternal Year once again. I will be sending out Membership Dues Notices on approximately June 15th 2025 (Father's Day via e-mail and also snail mail).

As we did last year, we are also asking each member of the Council (including Honorary, Honorary Life and Regular Dues Paying Members) to also voluntarily donate an extra \$10.00 which will go towards the Council supporting the RSVP, our providing seminarians financial assistance for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. The Council will not keep any of the monies donated for the RSVP program.

As a reminder membership dues are \$40.00  
RSVP Voluntary Donation is \$10.00

The easiest way to pay your dues and RSVP donation is:

1. Check (Make payable to KOFC Council 2505.)  
If you are paying by check, we won't be cashing/depositing the checks into the Council bank account till July 1st 2025; just in case you are "on a tight budget."
2. Money Order made payable to KOFC Council 2505. (You can buy them free at any AMSCOT location; you will need to use cash to get the money order.)
3. Cash you can bring it to me in person at my residence or at the Council office at the St. Joseph's Pastoral Office or at the July 14th business meeting which will be at 6:30 pm in classroom #102 of the McDonald Building.
4. Debit Card and or Credit Card You can only pay at the July 14th 2025 Business Meeting (We will have our IPAD's available at that meeting.)
5. Other Means You need to contact me by phone (no text messages please); Charlie Stokes 863-899-6005 or by email at [cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com) before June 15th (the other options which will be limited).

If you are going to mail your membership dues and/or RSVP funds; please mail them to me at the below address:

Charlie Stokes  
1611 Huntington Street  
Lakeland, FL 33801

Should you have any questions, regarding your membership dues and or the RSVP donation, please call me on my cell phone at 863-899-6005; again no text messages please.

Charlie Stokes  
Financial Secretary

# Annual Elections Completed

The annual election of Officers for our Council was held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Knights in attendance at our May business meeting elected the following men to office.

Role	2025-2026
Grand Knight	Scott Phillips
Deputy Grand Knight	Ken Dauphinais
Chancellor	Doug Cooper
Recorder	Brian Krolak
Treasurer	Richard Miller
Advocate	Vincent Miozzi
Warden	Travis Maydish
Inside Guard	Mike Mc Farland
Outside Guard	Bobby Brigman
Trustee	Bill Thompson
Trustee	Mark Sagen
Trustee	Robert Renna

***Please congratulate our new and returning officers and support their work on our behalf by getting involved and volunteering some hours.***

***The remaining positions will be appointed by the new Grand Knight for the 2025-26 Fraternal Year: Chaplain, Lecturer, Faith Director, Family Director, Community Director, Life Director and Membership Director. Charlie Stokes will continue as Financial Secretary for this third year.***

***There are many opportunities to serve in any of the program areas.*** All of the Directors would welcome your assistance in developing and presenting the many programs produced by our Council throughout the year.

***Take the first step.*** Reach out to the current Directors (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) to see where you can join in for the 2025 – 2026 year.



# Special Olympics

Knights of Council 2505 helped kick off the summer by participating in the 2025 [Special Olympics Florida](#) State Summer Games at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. 2,300 athletes from across the state competed in sports like basketball, soccer, track & field and cycling . Our own brothers and their spouses helped in the track and field events in which athletes raced in various distances from 100 meter to 800 meters.

We had a good showing of our Council and will ask for more volunteers for the Autumn games later this year.



## Council 2505 Continues Support for ROAR



Brothers GK SK Mark Sagan and SK Bob Renna presented a donation of \$2,500 to ROAR, a special needs community providing supervised living facilities for its residents.


Council 2505 continues to support ROAR over the past few years and makes annual provision in our budget to continue this worthy endeavor.

# Important Dates

Member Birthdays		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>	<i>Age</i>
Mr Jose M Veloso	06-06-1966	59
Mr Dale R Burzynski	06-07-1962	63
Mr Frank A Kotomski	06-14-1939	86
Mr Wayne R Hanneken	06-19-1952	73
Mr James E Manning	06-21-1941	84
Mr Berisimo A Scheffer Jr	06-22-1962	63
Mr Justin Moldow	06-26-1994	31
Mr Mark T Sagen	06-29-1960	65
Wife Birthdays		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>
Mr Richard Anthony Kelly	Betty Kelly	06-04
Mr Patrick D Koegler	Carol Koegler	06-05
Mr Dakota William Trull	Karlie Trull	06-06
Mr Ian M Caauwe	Shannon Caauwe	06-10
Mr Thomas E Massarella	Emily Massarella	06-12
Mr Timothy S Brigman	Gillian Brigman	06-24
Mr Ray G Meche	Jency Meche	06-29
Member Wedding Anniversaries		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>
Mr Eric Thomas	06-05-2004	Adriana Thomas
Mr Thomas E Massarella	06-07-1997	Emily Massarella
Mr Rick B Stevens	06-12-1970	Maryanne E. Stevens
Mr William J Thompson	06-13-1988	Jasmine Thompson
Mr Thomas A Waller	06-14-1980	Eleanor Waller
Mr Gregory J Mc Cabe	06-19-1993	Deborah McCabe
Mr Sean E Rodby	06-19-2015	Mara Vania Rodby
Dr Joe Mari J. Maja	06-20-1996	Miraflor (Mimi) Maja
Mr David K Tebo	06-20-1981	Tina Marie Tebo
Mr Brian P Stevens	06-23-2006	Tiana Talia Stevens
Mr Bobby J Brigman	06-24-1995	Susi Brigman
Mr Michael Paul McFarland	06-25-1982	Helen McFarland

<b>June Calendar</b>			
<b>June 2nd</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Officers' Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
<b>June 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saturday Sunday</b>	<b>Recruiting Event in the Narthex</b>	<b>After all Masses</b>
<b>June 12th</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Installation of Officers In the Church</b>	<b>7:00 PM 6:30 PM for Officers</b>
<b>June 16th</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Council Business Meeting  4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting Resurrection (4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights attend 4<sup>th</sup> degree meeting then join up with 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree at St. Joe's afterwards.)</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
<b>June 17th</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>St. Vincent de Paul Cares move in celebration</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
<b>June 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>End of Year Celebration Parish Hall</b>	<b>5:00 PM After 4:00 PM Mass</b>

## ***An Invitation to Celebrate a New Era for Vetrans***



### **MOVE-IN CELEBRATION**


*Celebrating all those given a hand up from homelessness*


**TUESDAY, JUNE 17TH**  
5:00 PM

Food will be provided in addition to giveaways for those recently housed by SVdP CARES

Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
210 W Lemon St.  
Lakeland, Florida 33815

**RSVP BY JUNE 6TH**  
brandi@svdp.care or (727) 294-8362  
\*Transportation is available for those that need it\*



**Worthy Council 2505 Brothers:** *This current fraternal year our Council once again made a significant donation to St. Vincent de Paul Cares (Veterans Program) to combat veterans homelessness.*

*We have been invited to attend a "Move In Celebration" hosted by St. Vincent de Paul Cares on Tuesday, June 17th @ 5:00 pm. The event will take place at St. Joseph's parish hall 210 W. Lemon Street, Lakeland, Fla. 33815.*

*If you wish to attend, you need to RSVP not later than June 6th 2025; to RSVP please contact Ms Brandi Torres at brandi@svdp.care or 727-294-8362*



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# Families of the Month

*The Knights recognized two Families of the Month*



**April 2025 - Kevin and Venus Mulligan Sr. Family**

**May 2025 - Niomi and Jacob Masters Family**



**Although he had only been assigned to St. Joseph in Lakeland for a brief term of 18 months, our brother Knight leaves a lasting positive effect on many in the Knights and in the Parish. Always present at parish events and always greeting everyone by their name and with a genuine smile, we will miss him.**

***Please remember him in your prayers.***

***Vaya con Dios, Padre.***

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***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***