



Continuing Our Second Century of Service 2025

Knights of Columbus

Council 2505

St. Joseph's Church

Lakeland, FL

November, 2025

A message from the Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

It's great to see the weather finally turning milder. I would say colder, but that might be an exaggeration. I'm sure I'm not alone in looking forward to some cooler days. Winters in Lakeland are perfect for me. Chilly days, but none of the bitter cold our northern neighbors deal with. It seems like I spend the whole summer dreaming of winter.

The changing weather also reminds me that another holiday season is upon us. I always find this to be a busy time. Places to be, people to see, gifts to buy. Although I've been through it all so many times, I feel like each year the holidays take me by surprise. I always plan to be ready, and I always find myself trying to catch up.

This is when I have to remind myself of what is truly important. As a Knight what matters most is faith and family, service and fellowship. What this means is spending time with friends and loved ones, doing what we can to help those that need help, and having gratitude for all of the blessings in our life.

I wish for all of you a safe and happy holiday season. I hope to see you at upcoming Council events, as well as our monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month.

Vivat Jesus

Scott Phillips

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.

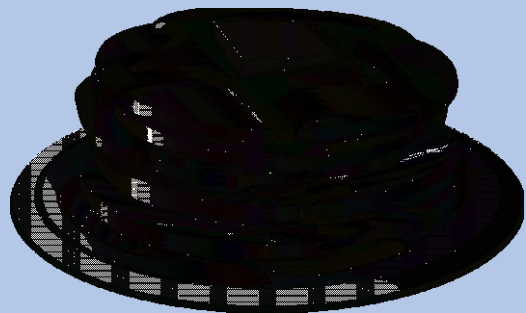
Volunteers Needed

Pancake Breakfast

November 2nd in the Parish Hall after 9am and 11am Masses



Presented by:
Knights of
Columbus®
Council #2505



We continue our new year with a renewed set of events which will need all Brother Knights to consider participating in, in a small or large way. The next event is the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday November 2nd. No skills required; show up after 9:00, between Masses, or after the 11:00 and the team will get you going.

This is a very convenient event for new Knights to get to know your Brothers and for long term Knights to get to know our new Brothers!

Finding Lasting Peace

By Akol Arop

In today's secular world, finding true peace can feel like an impossible job. Real peace comes from a relationship with Christ; it's established in faith. This peace is a journey that involves understanding spiritual highs and lows, also known as desolation and consolation, through the teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Now what is desolation and consolation? In St. Ignatius' Discernment of Spirits book, he defines desolation as feeling low, far away from God, or spiritually empty. Consolation, on the other hand, is the uplifting feeling of being close to God, bringing joy and spiritual clarity. This restores the soul and renews our connection with God.

Throughout this year, I've had a journey of my own, seeking peace in Christ, mostly in discerning my vocation. This process requires a heart at peace, which is only possible by trusting in God's will and plan. Now peace in Christ doesn't always mean everything is perfect but, rather, it's the deep understanding that God is with you through it all. In the discernment of the spirit, there are 14 rules that St. Ignatius helps guide one's spiritual life. Rule number 5 says: "In times of desolation never make a change." This means when you're feeling lost or confused, avoid making big changes. Stick to what you decided when you felt sure and connected to God. Even when your peace is shaken or disrupted, it's hard to keep the decision that you've made because influences from either family or close friends can affect it.

This can be hard because often those we love most family and friends can unintentionally disrupt that peace we have. Their well-meaning advice or expectations might conflict with our sense of internal peace. It's important to consider their opinions but eventually prioritize God's call above all trusting in His divine wisdom for your journey.

I keep a medal tag with me every day which is a memory for my younger brother, and on the tag there's a quote that I finally acknowledged recently for the first time. The quote says "Trust in the Lord Jesus, let this be your goal; you'll have peace in your heart, when He's in control." This is a moment when we can trust God to help, so we can reclaim that peace, especially in times when we feel spiritually desolate.

We have to remember that in our search for peace, we aren't alone. We have the saints to intercede for us, which also means we have access to our Blessed Mother. Mary plays an important role in leading us to her Son. Through the Rosary, Mary intercedes for us offering comfort and strength, with each Hail Mary we can pause and reflect on the mysteries of Christ's Life. Bringing our hearts into deeper communion with His peace. During the Rosary, Mary is gently walking us to her Son, while she is teaching us to completely surrender and trust.

Real peace isn't just the absence of worries but the presence of Christ within us. By first recognizing the presence of desolation and consolation and following the Ignatian spiritual guide, we find peace is not a one-time thing but an endless practice of placing your trust in God's hands and letting His love guide you. As you seek peace, remember to trust in the Lord deeply. Allow His grace to fill your heart so you can find true peace knowing He is in control.

All Souls Day



Join Fr. Zack November 2nd
at Lakeland Memorial Gardens
Cemetery to pray the Holy Rosary
(bilingual) in remembrance of our
departed loved ones and all the
souls in Purgatory.

*Starting at 4:30 pm
2125 Bartow Rd, Lakeland, FL*

Century Pins Available



Special thanks for PGK SK Bob Renna for acquiring large lapel pins memorializing our Council's 100th year of service to St. Joseph Parish and the Lakeland Community.

Pins are being distributed to member Knights at our business meeting and at all of our events, including the last business meeting, the recently past Ministry Fair, and the Open House.

Getting a pin for yourself is free – come to our next business meeting or volunteer to serve at our next Pancake Breakfast, Nov. 2nd 9 – 12.

Knights Continue to Protect the Unborn – Joining in is Easy



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

Vigils outside of Lakeland Women's Health Center

4444 S Florida Ave, 7AM to 8PM Wed – Fri

Contact Don Schluender: 863.797.7696

Lakeland40daysforlife@yahoo.com

Important Dates

Member Birthdays		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>	<i>Age</i>
Mr Jeffrey S Hynes	11-01-1962	63
Mr Vincent J Miozzi	11-07-1996	29
Rev Timothy P Labo	11-09-1958	67
Mr John H Graham	11-10-1950	75
Dr Sergio B Seoane	11-10-1959	66
Mr Akol A Arop	11-11-2000	25
Mr Patrick D Koegler	11-11-1932	93
Mr Gary J Page	11-11-1953	72
Mr Marshall Parker	11-11-1963	62
Mr Daniel F Pilka	11-13-1959	66
Mr Drew C Farmerie	11-14-1998	27
Rev Frank G Buck	11-16-1943	82
Mr Michael J Monahan	11-17-1986	39
Mr Harry Oldham III	11-18-1946	79
Mr Kenneth E Stadelman	11-21-1952	73
Mr William E Phalen	11-22-1933	92
Member Wedding Anniversaries		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>
Mr John H Graham	11-04-1978	Leticia Graham
Mr John D Duncan Sr	11-22-1969	Barbara Duncan
Mr Kenneth E Stadelman	11-24-1972	Susan Stadelman
Mr Magnus C Nwachukwu	11-29-1986	Maryjane A. Nwachukwu
Wife Birthdays		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>
Mr Frank A Kotomski	Theresa Kotomski	11-06
Mr Charles L Battle	Linda (Myra) Battle	11-15
Dea Jason Bulman	Rachel Bulman	11-15
Mr Michael J Kennedy	Dianne Kennedy	11-22

A Knight's Service Comes in Many Forms

Recognizing the potential effect of the government shutdown has across our country and in particular the effect it may have on the government's ability to provide food for those in need, Fr. Zach asked parishioners to consider contributing to the Food Pantry to help head off the real possibility of shortfalls.

What Father is asking of us is to practice two of the Corporal Works of Mercy: ***To feed the hungry and To give drink to the thirsty.*** Perhaps we have not thought about the Spiritual and Corporal Works since childhood or conversion studies but they are still fully effective and affective in our lives, if we take the time to practice them. Additionally, as we have seen in the All Souls panel above, Father has given us the opportunity to practice a Spiritual Work: ***To pray for the living and the dead.***

Mercy is said to be a virtue influencing one's will to have compassion for, and, if possible, to alleviate another's misfortune. It is the teaching of St. Thomas Aquinas that although mercy is as it were the spontaneous **product of charity**, yet it is to be reckoned a special virtue adequately distinguishable from this latter.¹

Here's a brief refresher –

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- *To feed the hungry;*
- *To give drink to the thirsty;*
- *To clothe the naked;*
- *To house the homeless;*
- *To visit the sick;*
- *To ransom the captive;*
- *To bury the dead.*

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- *To instruct the ignorant ;*
- *To counsel the doubtful ;*
- *To admonish sinners ;*
- *To bear wrongs patiently;*
- *To forgive offences willingly;*
- *To comfort the afflicted;*
- *To pray for the living and the dead.*

And so, Brothers, as we enter into the season of Advent later this month, please revisit the Works of Mercy and your own Knighthood promise of Service through Charity. Consider a giving a personal, special contribution to the St. Joseph Food Pantry and joining Father in a Spiritual Work in Praying for the Dead on All Souls Day.

[Any donations can be sent to St. Joseph Food Pantry directly; there is a QR Code to them in the bulletin. Otherwise Niomi in the Parish Office can receive and forward payment to them.]

¹Adapted from *Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy* <https://www.catholic.org>

In case you missed it

Council 2505 Brothers were recognized for our work at Santa Fe in the State Council's *Invocation* newsletter recently. Congratulations to all.

INVOCATION

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Gospel for Aug. 31, Lk 14:11)

One lesson of this parable in Luke's Gospel is that when you exalt yourself, there's nowhere to go but down. In the life of a disciple of Christ, we are called to develop the virtue of humility. We are called to self-giving service to others, not self-serving advancement of ourselves. Let us strive not to seek worldly honors in an egotistical spirit, but rather to live as servants to others so that God may exalt us to eternal life.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, in which we celebrate the feast of Blessed Michael McGivney on Aug. 13, I challenge you to pray each day the Litany of Blessed Michael McGivney or the prayer for his canonization — and take time to reflect on his humility in serving the people of God.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you sometimes struggle with the sin of pride? How can you be at once humble of heart and yet bold in living and proclaiming your faith? What living examples of humble service have you found in your own life?



When presented by a request from Santa Fe High School (the Diocese of Orlando's westernmost secondary school) for assistance in preparing its grounds for a new set of Stations of the Cross plaques, the Brother Knights of St. Joseph Council 2505 of Lakeland immediately began planning to assist. The Knights responded to a request made by Santa Fe's Rev. Deacon George Ferrufi by organizing a work party assigned to remove a long line of mature palm hedges and to prepare a

worshiper path for students, parents and faculty. The project was completed in one morning, giving the school ample time to prepare for the new Stations to be erected.

Shown in the photo are (left to right) Rev George Ferrufi, Ken Dauphinais, Jack Jones, Tim Toller, Mike McFarland, Bill Thompson, Travis Mordish, Scott Phillips, Mark Sagen, Bobby Brignan, and Jim Schmidt. Not pictured are Butch Scheffer and Doug Cooper.

January Exemplification



Knights of Columbus

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

REACH YOUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL

The Fourth Degree is a group of outstanding Knights, dedicated to promoting patriotism enlightened by their Catholic faith. These Knights, distinguished by exemplary deeds for God, for country, and the Order, are united by the Fourth Degree to support religious, civic, and charitable causes.

Fourth Degree members belong to local units called assemblies. Each assembly is involved in a wide range of public patriotic activities.

Each assembly maintains a Fourth Degree Color Corps and Honor Guard. Uniformed members wearing the Official Uniform, and swords participate in special civic and religious ceremonies. For this reason, the Fourth Degree is often called the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the Fourth Degree, one must:

1. Be over 18 years of age.
2. Be a member in good standing with your Council.
3. Be a practical Catholic.

CHARITY★UNITY★FRATERNITY★PATRIOTISM

Contact Charlie Stokes

Cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com

For more info

Jan.
31,
2026

St. Mark the Evangelist Church
9724 Cross Creek Blvd
Tampa, FL 33647

Registration at 9:00 AM
Exemplification at 11:00 AM
Banquet at 2:00 PM
Mass at 4:00 PM

***All applications for membership for the Fourth Degree and banquet reservations must be received by January 17

Busy Month(s) Ahead for Council 2505

November Calendar			
Nov 2nd	Sunday	Rosary for All Souls Lakeland Memorial Gardens	4:30 PM
Nov 2nd	Sunday	Pancake Breakfast	9:00 AM - Noon
Nov 3rd	Monday	Officers' Meeting	6:30 PM
Nov 7th	Friday	Holy Hour – Vespers First Friday Liturgy	6:00 PM
Nov 8th - 9th	Saturday Sunday	Star Card Distribution Volunteers needed Call Bob Renna 863.646.0129	Before and After Mass
Nov 10th	Monday	Council Business Meeting	6:00 PM
Nov 13th	Thursday	Exemplification for 3rd Degree	6:45 PM
Nov 15th	Saturday	Special Olympics	All Day
Nov 17th	Monday	4th Degree Meeting @ St. Joseph	6:00 PM
Nov 18th	Tuesday	Sacred Heart Icon arrives for display in St. Joseph's parish for 1 week.	
Nov 24th	Tuesday	Sacred Heart Icon is transferred to the next Council/District for viewing.	
Nov 29th – 30th	Saturday Sunday	Advent Begins Keep Christ in Christmas Sale Volunteers needed Call Bill Thompson 863.899.3019	Before and After Mass

A New Study Series Announced

Come Holy Spirit, Come!!

by Rick Stevens

The Knights of Columbus will be presenting a parish wide 14 Part series commencing in January 2026 entitled “The Wild Goose”, (Celtic phrase for the Holy Spirit). Details will be announced.

In the first episode of the series, Father Dave Pivonka, standing in front of the roaring Niagara Falls, observes that there may come a day that the waters no longer flow over the falls. Yet, there will never be a day that the Holy Spirit does not pour forth His love into each of our hearts.

“How much gratitude can we have in our hearts for the Holy Spirit that loves us beyond measure, no matter what we have done in our lives and no matter what we have failed to do?”

It is a profound thought to know that the Holy Spirit has helped in shaping our lives in good times and in bad, in times of health, in times of suffering, and in times when life does not make sense or in times of darkness. The Holy Spirit has been our light, past, present, and future.

Each of us have stories and remembrances to tell and share with our fellow Catholics at St Joseph in order to further appreciate the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Each part of the 14 series are beautifully crafted and centered on the Holy Spirit by Fr. Dave and opens the door to small group sharing.

Please pray for a renewal in our Church as we invite the Holy Spirit deeper into our hearts.

Come Holy Spirit, Come!!

For additional series regarding our Catholic faith and teachings - <https://wildgoose.tv>



An Invitation from our Council's Financial Representative



Andrew Burke – Knights of Col...



14m · 🌐

Do you have a retirement strategy? Join Knights of Columbus for a free financial webinar to learn smart steps you can take now to prepare for retirement. Learn about different income sources and smart strategies to help make your money last in retirement.

Register to reserve your spot.

November 5, 2025; 7 PM ET

<https://bit.ly/436KSaC>

November 12, 2025; 7 pm PT

<https://bit.ly/3WpUhGx>

Sign Up Today - Free Webinar!



**Learn How to Help Make Your
Money Last in Retirement**

*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***