



A message from the Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

During the season between Thanksgiving and Christmas most people reflect on the many things that they are thankful for. We are all blessed in one way or another. Trying to do a little research on what people are thankful for, I came across many articles. As you can imagine every person has a different list of things they are thankful or grateful for. In fact, your list will probably change during your lifetime. As I read different articles of what to be thankful for, I realized what a wonderful life I have. Getting in the "Holiday Spirit" starts with counting your blessings. Here are a few things that I read that people are thankful for. Some may be on your list and some you may have not thought of before.

Besides the obvious of family and friends, pets, a roof over your head, an opportunity to learn something new every day, a good laugh, you are alive, the people in your life, the hard times, fun with friends, memories, toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, dishwashers, hugs, indoor toilets, air conditioning, music that brings back wonderful memories, forgiveness, great meals, fresh sheets, a funny joke, naps, waking up again every day, home, second chances, and chocolate. This is just a small list of things to be thankful for. I never thought to be thankful for toilet paper before, but I guess I am.

Not to bore anyone but here are a few things that I am thankful for: That God and Jesus have been with me every day of my life, that they have listened to my prayers, for the opportunities to serve my church, to be blessed with being The Grand Knight of our council, to be blessed with knowing so many men who have the same beliefs as myself in supporting each other and our church, for the great group of men who are Officer's or Program Directors in our council, and for our fantastic District Deputy who leads us and keeps us on track.

Take a few minutes, in a quiet place and reflect on the things that you are thankful for in your life. It is a great mental exercise that can be very uplifting especially during the Holiday Season. When fighting the crowds, trying to find the perfect gifts, stop for a moment and count your blessings. Everyone please have a Happy Holiday Season and a Merry Christmas. If you are traveling be safe and may God watch over 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.

The Christmas Season brings additional opportunities to worship



St. Joseph Advent/Christmas Schedule

Advent Reconciliation Service/Servicio de Reconciliación de Adviento

Monday, December 16 7:00pm Bilingual/bilingüe

The Nativity of the Lord Vigil/La Natividad del Señor Vigilia

Tuesday, December 24 4:00pm, 7:00pm (español), and Midnight

The Nativity of the Lord/La Natividad del Señor

Wednesday, December 25 9:00am and 11:00am

The Holy Mother of God Vigil/La Santa Madre de Dios Vigilia

Tuesday, December 31 4:00pm and 7:00pm (español)

The Holy Mother of God/La Santa Madre de Dios

Wednesday, January 1 10:00am

Additionally, Evening Prayer will be held at 3:30 PM before all Saturday Masses during Advent

Congratulations Council 2505

A Note from our Past State Deputy



Dear Brothers of Council 2505:

First of all, congratulations on achieving the Supreme Council Star Council Award - I hope you do realize that this is the highest Council Level Award for excellence in all areas of being spiritual, charitable, and growth. Kudo's all around the table.

I would like to share with you some fun facts.

The year is 1981. Do you remember where you were and what you were doing in 1981? In 1981 the RSVP began with the goal of supporting-materially and spiritually-men and women discerning a religious vocation.

This is a program in which 2505 has embraced since its inception. If a Council or Assembly financially supports in the amount of \$500, then the Supreme Council will donate back to that Council or Assembly an additional \$100.

My brothers, I am over the top to inform you that this program has now exceeded the 100 MILLION Dollar amount. What is truly pleasing to me is that 80% of this 100 MILLION dollars came from the Councils and assemblies aka - the Grass Roots!

Another milestone this current fraternal year is the Coats for Kids Program.

This program started in 2009. Do you remember where you were and what you were doing in 2009?

This year we were pleased to announce that we have placed the One Million Coat!

What is even more exciting is that this program really has picked up steam as 550,000 in just the last three years.

The goal this year is 265,000 coats donated and we are well on our way!

Coats for Kids will be the official Community Service Program for Vacation Bible School in Summer of 2025.

On behalf of our Worthy Supreme Knight, Florida State Deputy and myself as a proud member of St. Joseph Council 2505 - Thank You for all you continue to do.

Fraternally,

Dave Tebo

Dave Tebo, PSD
Territorial Growth Director
Southeast Territory U.S.
Fraternal Mission

Special Certificate of Merit Awards Given to the Oktoberfest Team

GK Mark Sagan recognized the leadership of the Oktoberfest Team for their outstanding efforts in planning, organizing and delivering the first Oktoberfest event at St. Joseph's.

Each of the recipients logged long hours in setting up the event, which included buying and erecting beer tent, seeking out sponsors, cooking meals, serving meals, supporting other St. Joseph ministries, conducting gift basket raffles, and an additional untold number of actions and tasks in creating a successful Knight's event for the parish.

Pictured below is the presentation of the awards at our November 14th Business Meeting.



Certificate of Merit Recipients
(from left to right)

**Travis Maydish
SK Steve Jones
Brian Krolak
SK Ken Dauphinais**



Special Olympics Flag Football Support

Knights, wives, and children came out to participate in this Fall's Special Olympics at ESPN Disney. Team members from St. Joseph Council 2505 took part in scoring and marking the progress of games from 8 AM to past noon. Each group of 3 Knights were assigned to their own field on which no fewer than 3 matches were played by the Special Olympian teams.

Always rewarding to give our time and efforts to participate, we anticipate more Knights and their family members will join in the Spring event. Contact SK Steve Jones for info.



Council 2505 Welcomes Five Men into Knighthood

Exemplification Ceremony

Leader: SK GK Mark Sagan
Invocation: Fr. Francois Charles
Faith: Scott Phillips
Fraternity: SK Bob Renna
Unity: SK KerDauphinais
Welcome: SK DD Billy Antley
Closing Prayer: Fr. Francois Charles



Row 1 Scott Phillips, SK Doug Cooper
Row 2 Drew Farmerie, Deacon Jason Bulman, Fr. Francois Charles, Justin Moldow, Jim Schmidt, Steve Patton, SK GK Mark Sagan
Row 3 Tim Tailor, SK Steve Jones, JJ Nielson, Bob Renna, Vince Miozzi, Manny Velazquez, Brian Krolak, SK KerDauphinais, SK Charlie Stokes, SK DD Billy Antley

New Knights: Steve Patton, Justin Moldow, Manny Velazquez, Deacon Jason Bulman, Drew Farmerie,



GK Mark Sagan congratulates all our new Brothers while presenting them with their Certificates



Member Birthdays

Name	Birthday	Age
Mr John W Williamson	12-01-1968	56
Mr Timothy F Riordan	12-02-1954	70
Mr Timothy S Brigman	12-06-1996	28
Mr Edward S Kubik Jr	12-08-1959	65
Mr Jeffrey G Trottier	12-09-1942	82
Mr Jesse J Outlaw	12-22-1997	27
Mr Robert D Laforest	12-26-1941	83
Mr Charles L Battle	12-27-1938	86
Mr Travis Cole Maydish	12-27-1997	27
Mr Larry D Holmes	12-28-1944	80

Member Wedding Anniversaries

Name	Wife's Name	Date
Deacon Jason Bulman	Rachel Bulman	12-20-2008
Mr Charles L Battle	Linda (Myra) Battle	12-24-1958
Mr William E Phalen	Virginia M. Phalen	12-29-1956
Manuel Velazquez	Bethany Velazquez	12-29-2018
Mr Juan Guillermo Casasnovas	Maria Isabel Martino	12-31-2004

Wife Birthdays

Member's Name	Wife's Name	Birthday
Mr James E Schmidt	Helen Schmidt	12-12
Mr William J Thompson	Jasmine Thompson	12-18
Mr Gregory L Thomas	Kathleen Elizabeth Thomas	12-19
Mr David Pagán	Ruth Pagán	12-20
Mr Brian Anthony Krolak	Vickie Krolak	12-21
Mr Steven W Lannon	Peggy Lannon	12-22
Deacon Raymond J Sakowski	Marianne Sakowski	12-29
Mr James E Manning	Donna Manning	12-31

December Calendar

Advent Weekends	Saturday and Sunday	Keep Christ in Christmas Sales	After Mass
December 5th	Thursday	Officers' Meeting	Cancelled
December 5th	Thursday	Columbiettes Christmas Parade Fundraiser	During and after Parade
December 12th	Thursday	Business Meeting Rosary at 6:00 PM	6:30 PM
December 15th	Sunday	Breakfast with Santa	8:00 AM – Noon
December 15th	Sunday	Council Christmas Party	4:00 PM
December 16th	Monday	4th Degree Meeting	6:00 PM

December Volunteers Needed

Date	Day	Event	Contact
Advent Weekends	Saturday and Sunday	Keep Christ in Christmas	Jay Bice 330.307.2321
December 5th	Thursday	Christmas Parade Support	Mark Sagan 815.791.8352
December 15th	Sunday	Breakfast with Santa Council Christmas Party	Mark Sagan 815.791.8352

Time Capsule Project Update

We've begun to collect messages and items to include in the time capsule. We have rosters, meeting minutes, newsletters, memorabilia such as Knights' publications, apparel, etc.

Have you started to write your message to the Knights of 2074?

Deadline is January 16th 2025. Send your thoughts and messages to Doug Cooper

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

Our Financial Secretary, Charlie Stokes, reminds us that our annual activity reports will be due to him by January 6th, 2025. You can forward the completed form to him by eMail cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com or via US Mail at 1611 Huntington Street, Lakeland, Fla 33801. Fourth Degree Knights can also submit the Assembly Activity forms to Charlie by Jan 31, 2025. The forms are available on line at kofc.org/forms. **Form 1728a** Contact Charlie 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/VAWS	
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/VAWS	
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	



In Brief



You may have noticed a new icon on the first page to the left of our 3rd Degree logo and the St. Joseph logo. This is an image of the recognition Council 2505 received, The Star Council Award, given to those Councils who have made their goals in Membership Growth, Faith Filled Family Programs, Insurance Growth, Compliance in Training and Background Checks, and Maintaining a Current Assessment by Supreme.

The Star Council Award recognizes outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and programming.

Special recognition to many of our brother Knights who made the extra effort and commitment toward earning this distinction.

For more detail google “KofC Star Council Award Requirements.”

Keep Christ in Christmas

There are multiple opportunities to volunteer a couple of hours to support our Christmas time fundraiser “Keep Christ In Christmas.”

We are simplifying things this year, selling only magnets and yard signs.

Join your brothers in the Narthex after each weekend Mass to assist in setting up and manning the table.

The sale extends throughout Advent or until we run out of supplies



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




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Why Join?



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.



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Field Agent

863-456-8965

andrew.burke@kofc.org



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*"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***

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.