THE PATRIOT'S CALL

BISHOP CHARLES McLAUGHLIN ASSEMBLY 1818

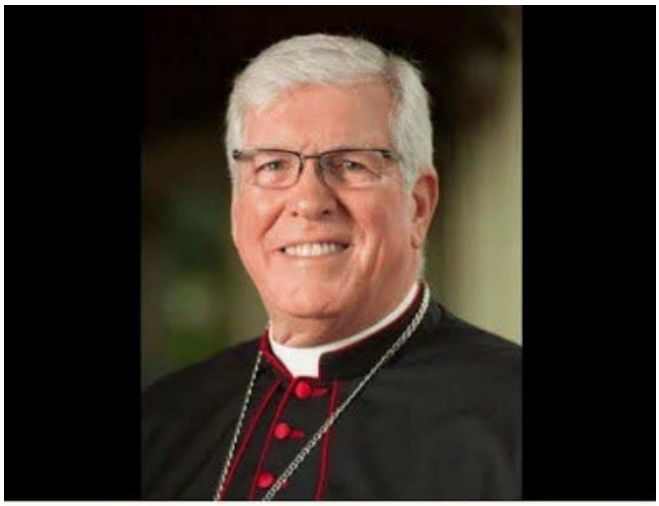
UNITED IN FAITH AND FREEDOM

SPECIAL EDITION – OCTOBER 2026

The Passing of a Shepherd

Bishop Frank J. Dewane

A Remembrance for the Sir Knights of Bishop Charles McLaughlin Assembly 1818



In Prayerful Remembrance

The Diocese of Venice and our fraternal family of the Fourth Degree mourn the loss of our devoted shepherd and cherished friend. **Bishop Emeritus Frank Joseph Dewane**, who faithfully guided the Diocese of Venice from 2007 until his retirement in May 2026, entered into eternal rest on October 7, 2026, in Sarasota, Florida.

A Shepherd Called to Serve

Bishop Dewane's life was a testament to unwavering faith, steadfast service, and profound dedication to the people entrusted to his care. Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1950, he carried into his priesthood the humility of his farm upbringing, the discipline of hard work, and a heart shaped by family and faith. His ministry spanned continents from diplomatic service at the United Nations to years of work within the Vatican before God called him to shepherd the Church in Southwest Florida.

As the second Bishop of the Diocese of Venice, he embraced his mission with courage, clarity, and compassion. He championed justice and peace, defended human dignity, strengthened Catholic education, and guided the diocese through seasons of growth and challenge. His leadership touched countless lives, including those of our own Sir Knights.

A Friend to the Knights of Columbus

To the Fourth Degree, Bishop Dewane was more than a diocesan leader. He was a steadfast supporter of our patriotic mission and a brother who valued our witness of faith in the public square. He welcomed our Color Corps at diocesan liturgies, encouraged our charitable works, and often reminded us that Knights must be **"men of prayer, men of service, and men of courage."**

His respect for the Order was genuine, and his gratitude for our presence was always heartfelt. We were privileged to stand with him at countless masses, ceremonies, and civic events. One last time we stood together in prayerful remembrance.

In Faith and Fraternity

As we honor Bishop Dewane's life and legacy, let us unite in prayer for the repose of his soul and for the comfort of all who mourn his passing. May Christ the Good Shepherd welcome him home with the words he lived to hear: **"Well done, good and faithful servant."**

Vivat Jesus.



Honoring Our Bishop: A Grateful Tribute to Our Color Corps and Sir Knights

Over the course of two solemn days, the Sir Knights of Bishop Charles McLaughlin Assembly 1818 stood in unwavering fraternity as we accompanied Bishop Emeritus, The Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane**,** through each moment of his final journey. Our Color Corps led with dignity and precision standing guard during the viewing in Venice, processing with the clergy and the casket at Morning Prayer and the Funeral Mass in Fort Myers and finally taking their place of honor at the Rite of Committal and Burial at Epiphany Cathedral.

We were blessed with the strong and heartfelt support of Sir Knights from Assemblies and Councils across Port Charlotte, Bradenton, Sarasota, Lakewood Ranch, and Parish**,** who joined us shoulder-to-shoulder in full regalia and in prayer. Together, our combined Color Corps formed a unified wall of respect escorting, guarding, and guiding the clergy and faithful through each liturgical step. Many additional Sir Knights attended in support, offering their presence as a testament to the love and gratitude our Order holds for Bishop Dewane.

To all who participated, whether standing guard, processing or praying from the pews, we extend our thanks and appreciation**.** Your dedication, reverence, and brotherly unity reflected the very best of our Assembly and the Knights of Columbus.

What follows is a series of photographs capturing these moments of honor, unity, and devotion as we laid our Bishop to rest. May they stand as a tribute to his service and to the legacy of a shepherd who guided our diocese with faith and strength.






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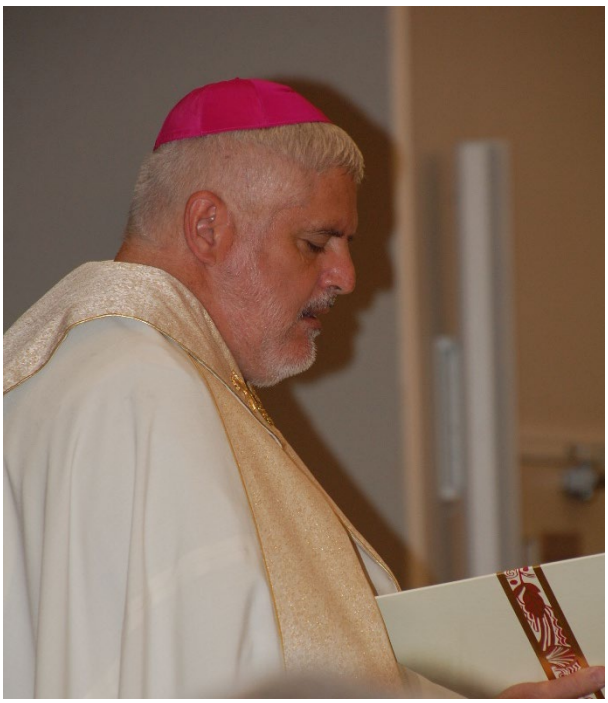



WELCOME TO OUR HOME OF WORSHIP




















MOST REVEREND
JOHN J. NEVINS
FIRST BISHOP
OF THE DIOCESE
OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

