



Knight's News



Mother Seton Council 6724

March 2026

Nativity Catholic Church

Grand Knight's Message



As we are now two weeks into the Lenten season, let us prepare for Easter by remembering those less fortunate by practicing the three principles of the Knights of Columbus: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

There are many ways to support those in need, such as by making a donation of food or money to the local food bank. You might also consider helping a fellow Knight or neighbor with a pending task, or simply by calling someone you haven't seen or spoken with recently to check on their well-being. Let us use this time to rededicate our lives to the Lord through prayer, abstinence, and penance.

February 7th & 8th Nativity held a Ministry Fair and it was great to see so many Knights that were involved in other parish ministries. These Knights not only support the Council but they go above and beyond by supporting Nativity by being involved elsewhere.

The Council conducted a Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Contest on February 11th. Thank you to Ryan Craig, Nancy Bergman, Tony Hingle Richard Anello and Dale D'Alessandro for your help in making this a successful event.

February 21st the Miller Road cleanup was conducted and 2 of our newest Knights turned out to help. Thank you to Christian Alfano and Alfon Hofrichter for taking time to become involved and help our community.

Tootsie Roll Drives begin this month on March 7th & 14th. Each year Knights across the Nation conduct Tootsie Roll Drives to raise money for citizens with disabilities. Mother Seton Council donates the money we raise to Lopez Exceptional Center, a local facility in Seffner. They care for children with severe disabilities that preclude them from attending a regular school. The Council has been involved with them for over 30 years through various projects and donations from our Tootsie Roll Drives.

Nativity will hold a Lenten Penitential Service on Monday, 23 March at 7:00 pm. Knights are needed to help usher attendees to designated stations for confessions. There are usually 14 to 20 priests attending and we will need 12 to 16 Knights to help. If you are bilingual, we would really appreciate your help. We meet at 6:30 pm and be sure to wear your Council polo shirt if you have one.

Last but not least, remember that Daylight Savings begins on Saturday night, 7 March. Be sure to **turn your clocks ahead** one hour.

Tim Ashcraft

GK Tim Ashcraft
Mother Seton Council 6724



Mother Seton Council 6724 Officers 2025-2026

Chaplain – Fr. Mike Smith
Grand Knight – Tim Ashcraft
Deputy Grand Knight – Jay McCabe
Chancellor – Bob Hopkins
Financial Secretary – Mark Coté
Treasurer – Jonathan Lodrigues
Warden – Dale D'Alessandro
Recorder – Neil Waid
Advocate – Howard Baum
1 Year Trustee – Jay Sloan
2 Year Trustee – Joe Casaccia
3 Year Trustee – Dominic Valente
Lecturer – OPEN
Inside Guard – Tony Carew
Outside Guards – Javier Gonzalez –
Stan Goode

Programs Director

➤ Steve Martinez – (813)-703-0865

Membership Director

➤ Bob Hopkins - (813)-363-5935

Community

➤ Neil Waid - (813)-830-3817

Faith

➤ Ryan Craig - (813)-625-4556

Family

➤ John Sepessy – (813)-455-6809
➤ Steve Martinez – (813)-703-0865

Life

➤ Richard Spinelli - (813)-495-6446

Kairos

➤ Richard Spinelli - (813)-495-6446

Youth Leaders

➤ Tony Hingle - (813)-731-0398
➤ Bob Malloy - (813)-899-5187

Council Calendar



Mar. 02 – **Council Business Meeting**
Mar. 07 – Tootsie Roll Drive @ Kingsway
Mar. 14 – Council Exemplification
Mar. 14 – Tootsie Roll Drive @ Brandon
Mar. 18 – **Assembly Business Meeting**
Mar. 23 – Lenten Penitential Service
Mar. 25 – **Officers & Directors Meeting**
Mar. 28-29 – Food Truck

March 8th

Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



To View the Event Calendar on our website,
that includes more details, > Ctrl + Click <
on the link below:

[https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/events.asp?CNO=6724
&DATE=3/12/2026](https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/events.asp?CNO=6724&DATE=3/12/2026)



District Deputy Comments

Worthy Brothers and Family Members,

Worthy Brother's we have begun Lent and if you are still trying to make your Lenten journey a special and inspiring devotion to our Lord, you might consider following the recommendation of Pope Leo XIV on Lent. He offered the suggestion, "I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace."

In a time when sharp words are applauded and outrage is often encouraged—especially online—what a quiet but powerful witness it would be if we Christians were known for measured speech. "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up" (Ephesians 4:29). And again, "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6).

This is certainly no easy challenge however perhaps if before we speak ill of others we focus on the acronym **THINK**:

T = Is it True?

H = Is it Helpful?

I = Is it Inspiring?

N = Is it Necessary? and

K = Is it Kind?

Vivat Jesus

Howard Baum

District Deputy
District 47



The Insurance Corner



Make a list for your financial goals

I've found that I'm much more efficient with a list of chores if I write down all that I need to do. Then I go back through my list and rank order them for importance. Sometimes I get to choose the order; sometimes the order is chosen for me. In either event, the best part comes when I get to cross off the chore as being done. Maybe it's the visual of seeing one more item completed...it gives me a sense of accomplishment.

In keeping with that list theme, put me on the list; up at the top since it relates to your family's financial security. A virtual meeting over the computer is a way for us to meet safely and efficiently. We can discuss your needs, wants and desires. What's changed? Let's make sure nothing stands in the way of reaching your goals.

The Order has provided me with a new analysis program, designed to help you track where you are, where you want to go and how well you're progressing on your financial journey. Mine is an item you can cross off your list and really feel good about it.

To learn more, contact me today!

John Holtzhauser, Field
Agent

440-567-0824

john.holtzhauser@kofc.org



Knights in Action

4th Annual Jambalaya Dinner



Mother Seton Council held their 4th Annual Jambalaya Dinner on January 31st.



Grill masters Steve Martinez and Daniel Van Sciver are seen here working their magic.



The "Knights of the Kitchen" worked Friday night preparing food for Saturday's dinner. Pictured here are Angel Vazquez and Richard Anello preparing chicken.



Rafael Mir prepares trays of Jambalaya for the ovens.



Rick Zemke took on the task of cutting the onions. Seems he has a tolerance built up from years of cooking.



Ed Nino (center) and Neil Waid at the warmer, worked the serving counter dishing out meals.



Not being an idle person, Rafael Mir ruled the kitchen sink during cleanup doing the work of 2 Knights.



It was another well attended event with more meals purchased for takeout than for dining in. The Nativity Boy Scouts of troop 89 were a great help in taking orders and serving meals. Jr. Knights ran a desert table and raised over \$200 in donations for their group.

Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Competition



Paul Steed takes a shot while Tony Hingle looks on. Paul won the age 9 competition.

On February 11th Mother Seton Council held the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition. GK Tim Ashcraft, Tony Hingle, Ryan Craig, Richard Anello and Dale Delasandro ran a well-organized event.



Dale D'Alessandro watches as Paul sinks another perfect shot.



Not to be out done, Helena Castro de Carvalho went on to win her class. Tony Hingle is keeping score.

Photos by GK Tim Ashcraft.

Ministry Fair Membership Drive



Mother Seton Council participated in the Nativity Fair on February 7 & 8th. Membership Chair Richard Anello ran the Knights table.



Jr. Knights President Patrick Goode and Lucas Wilcoxon set up and manned the Jr. Knights table.



Richard Anello is seen talking with a prospect while new Sir Knight Gabriel Ocasio-Davila stops by to talk with William Sosa and Patrick Goode behind the Jr. Knight table.



Jonathan Lodrigues talks with John Burbridge at the Emmaus table.



Knights were found throughout the fair manning other ministry tables that they were involved with. Here Ed Brelsford talks with Joe LaPerna and Richard Spinelli at the KAIROS table.

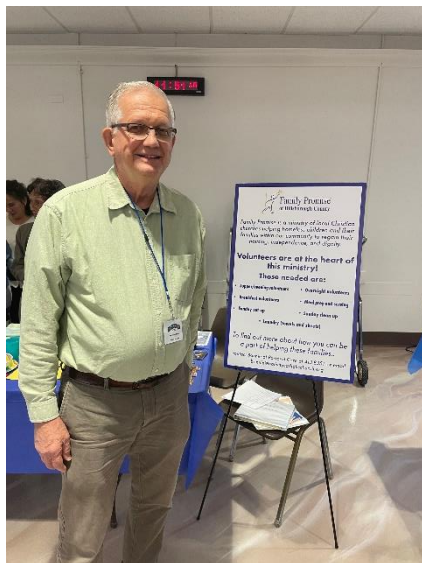


Youth Director and Knight Ryan Craig was manning the Nativity Life Force and Life Teen tables with Nancy Bergman.

Photos by Neil Waid



Ray Quinones discusses his Catholic Men's Fellowship group.



Marvin Hoffman was manning the Family Promise table, desperately looking for more volunteers.



Jim Lambert is seen here at the "That Man Is You" table with Wes Schaaf. Jim is the little guy.

New Statue at the Memorial for the Unborn



PGK Don Clark is shown here with GK Tim Ashcraft with the new statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe that he recently purchased and installed. Don is the original designer and builder of the Memorial for the Unborn located on the west side of the church. The original statue had been repainted several times and Don felt it was time for a new one.

Miller Road Cleanup



Ten Knights made short work of the Miller Road Cleanup on February 21st. Thank you to Sidney Tate, John Leconey, Richard Anello, Logan Lupa, Neil Waid, Tony Hingle, Bob Malloy and our new Knights Christian Alfons and Alfon Hofrichter (front center). Photo taken by Bob Hopkins.

Upcoming Events

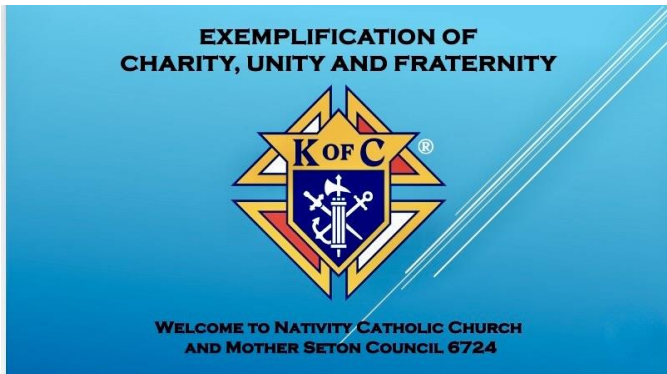
Tootsie Roll Drives 1 & 2

Tootsie Roll Drives begin in March with the first one being held on Saturday, 7 March. It will be at the Publix located at Kingsway Crossing located at Kingsway and Windhorst. There are 4 shifts: 9-11 am, 11-1 pm, 1-3 pm and 3-5 pm.



The second drive will be held on March 14th at Brandon Mall next to Burlington's. Watch for an upcoming Eblast or contact Neil Waid at neil.waid.50@gmail.com for more information or to sign up for a date and time. Money collected goes to the Lopez Exceptional Center in Seffner for students with disabilities.

Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.



Are you a First or Second Degree Knight who is interested in making your Third Degree. Now is the time to do it. The Council will be conducting a Degree Ceremony in April, in the Youth Center at the Nativity School Gym. Families are welcomed to attend and a light lunch is provided afterwards.

Volunteers are always needed to help with the setup and all council Knights are invited to attend and welcome our new Knights. For more information contact Chancellor Bob Hopkins at kofcbhopkins@icloud.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Lenten Penitential Service



Nativity will hold a penitential Service on March 23rd. Knights are needed to help facilitate the flow of attendees and to answer any questions they may have. There will be priest from local parishes and approximately 10 to 12 Knights are needed. Those fluent in Spanish are especially needed. Knights will meet at 6:30 in the church Narthex for information and assignments.

Nativity Food Truck

The Nativity Outreach food truck will be on campus the weekend of **March 28th & 29th**. Saturday, truck setup begins at 2:00 pm and collections are from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Sunday, the truck is manned for business at 6:00 am and collections are from 6:30 to 12:30.

Stop by, visit and help receive the generous donations of Nativity parishioners.

For more information contact Neil Waid at neil.waid.50@gmail.com or stop by the Social Hall any Thursday during Food Pantry.



Silver Rose Visits Nativity



The Silver Rose arrived at Nativity on Friday, February 27th. It was escorted by Knights on Bikes and was received by Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft. It was only at Nativity during the 8:00 am Mass and then continued on its journey through Florida.

The Silver Rose was originated by Knights of Columbus Squires in Monterrey, Mexico as a way to commemorate Juan Diego and honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. With the success of the program the Squires reached out to brother Squires in the United States and Canada to join them.

The original rose only lasted a year so it was replaced with a bronze rose that was later replaced by a silver rose. It was adopted as a Knights of Columbus Supreme Council program in the mid 1990's.

There are now 8 Silver Roses that travel from Canada, through all the states in America, Puerto Rico, Washington DC and on to Mexico. This tradition spreads devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and embodies international brotherhood.

Photo by GK Tim Ashcraft



Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin
Assembly 1850



Faithful Navigator Howard Baum of Assembly 1850 is pictured accepting the Star Assembly Award earned by PFN Luis Perez while he was serving as Faithful Navigator from 2024-2025. Presenting the award is Past Master Charles P. McLaughlin.

Assembly 1850 Dues

Assembly dues cover the year from 1 January to 31 December and notices have been sent out to all Assembly members.

Assembly dues are \$20 for the year and are not associated with Council Dues. Please make your check payable to **Assembly 1850**.

If you have not received your notice, please contact Faithful Comptroller Jonathan Lodrigues at jlodrigues@gmail.com.

You may mail your payment to:

Jonathan Lodrigues
3819 Ravenna Dr.
Valrico FL 33594.



IN MEMORIAM

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



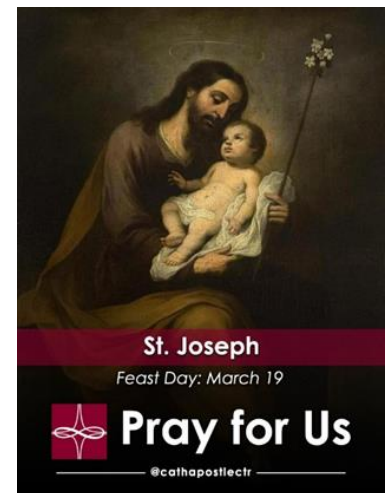
Please keep the following in your prayers:

Don Clark	Andrew Burns
Nancy & Tim Kasprzyk	Bill Queenan
Jim & Cheryl Schwonek	Chester Williams
George & Carolyn Thomas	Gene Watford
Katie & Tim Ashcraft	Dale D'Alessandro
Diana McCabe & family	Jay McCabe
Tom & Ellen Stanley	Richard Spinelli
Joe & Lois Casaccia	Andrew Balser
Luis Perez-Ortiz & family	Marvin Hoffman
Juan Pagan & family	Patrick Hill
Olga O'Keefe	Daniel Van Sciver
Michael Palmiotto	John Sepessy
Ronnie & Delores Martinez	Steve Martinez
Rick Zemke & family	John Fitzhenry
Wil & Janet Caraballo	Ray Nardi
Eddie Console & family	Edward Gorgacz
John & Chris Ward	Terry Valente
Tom & Judy Beriou	Paul Beriou
Gabriel Ocasio-Davila	Don Cseh
Jerry & Billie Jo Christina	Mathew Meyer
Tony & Antoinette Carew	

For Knights who have no one to pray for them.

Saint Joseph Patron Saint of fathers

St. Joseph is known in the Gospels as a humble carpenter, the husband of Mary, and father of Jesus. Joseph's paternal care of Jesus, loving protection of Mary, and his commitment to the education of



Jesus led to him being declared patron of the whole Church. Many popes have written about St. Joseph, including Pope Leo XIII in *Quamquam pluries* and Pope John Paul II in *Redemptoris custos*. Throughout Church history, many famous pieces of art have depicted scenes in the life of St. Joseph, from Jesus' birth and childhood, to St. Joseph's carpentry, to his death.

Prayer for the Sick

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us...Amen.

[Catholic Apostolate Center](#) "Feast Day Calendar" for March 2026.

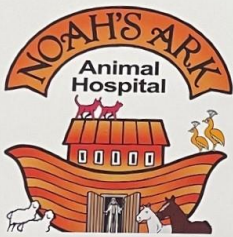
THANK YOU TO ALL THE SPONSORS OF OUR CHRISTMAS TREE SALE FUNDRAISER



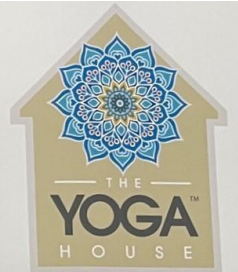
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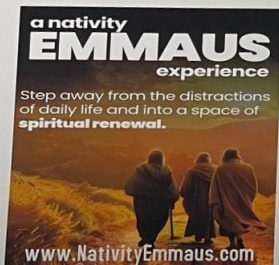
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