



Knight's News

Mother Seton Council 6724



September 2026

Nativity Catholic Church

Grand Knight's Message



This month we remember those who were lost during the attacks on the World Trade Center Towers, the Pentagon and Flight 93; their loved ones and the first responders who worked to recover and rebuild from the terrible destruction that occurred on September 11, 2001.

It has been 25 years since that fateful day but for those who lived through it, it is still fresh in their memories. Pray for the victims who lost their lives, the first responders who unselfishly gave up their lives and for all the family and friends who were so tragically affected by the loss of their loved ones.

Last month we had 5 men advance to the 3rd Degree. Four of these men became new members of Mother Seton Council 6724. I would like to challenge them and all of our knights to look through this newsletter and see if there is an event that they can support and volunteer at. There is more to just being able to say "I am a Knight". Become involved in some activity that interests you or you have a talent for that will contribute to your parish and community.

Knights working the August 29-30th food truck collected 4000 pounds of food donations from generous Nativity parishioners. This food goes

to the Nativity Outreach warehouse in Dover and helps support over 80 agencies that provide food for the needy.

On Wednesday, September 19th we will conduct a Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge. It will be held on the Novemberfest field and will only take 2 hours. In those 2 short hours we help develop cooperation and competition in young minds, demonstrate support of our parish and community and showcase the Knights of Columbus in action. Come out and help if you can. You never know what young mind you might impress or whose father you could invite to join the Knights.

40 Days for Life begins on September 23rd and runs to November 1st. Knights partner with Nativity Life Ministry to promote this important crusade and participate in events such as the Nativity sidewalk Life Chain or prayer groups at local abortion clinics. Watch for Council Eblasts for reminders and updates.

The Christmas Tree website is open for pre-sales. See the flyer at the back of the Newsletter for more information and to place your order.

Enjoy a safe and blessed Labor Day.

Tim Ashcraft

GK Tim Ashcraft
Mother Seton Council 6724



Mother Seton Council 6724 Officers 2026-2027

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

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

- Mike Peters – text (813)-767-9177

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



SEPTEMBER

Sept. 14 – **Council Business Meeting**

Sept. 16 – Soccer Challenge

Sept. 16 – **Assembly Business Meeting**

Sept. 19 – Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Sept. 26 – Install Flags for 40 Days for Life

Sept. 30 – **Officers & Directors Meeting**

Sept. 26-27 – Food Truck

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=9/12/2026>



Memento McGivney

We celebrated the sixth annual feast day (memorial) of Blessed Michael McGivney on August 13. The days before and after made for a festive time in New Haven, during which the McGivney novena was completed, the feast day observed with Mass and prayers



Photo by Jay McCabe

at the tomb in St. Mary's Church, and the annual McGivney Fest was held outside the church. Yet the celebration of the holy, humble parish priest has spread far beyond the city where he founded the Knights of Columbus. In the Philippines, the McGivney Office sponsored an exhibit on Father McGivney in the Manila cathedral and launched a nationwide pilgrimage with a first-class relic. In a similar fashion, a national relic pilgrimage is beginning in Puerto Rico, which is suffering through a severe summer drought. Next month, Our Lady of Czestochowa in Radom, Poland, is opening a parish McGivney shrine.

Devotion to our founder is truly worldwide!

At the 144th Supreme Council Convention, held in Denver August 4-7, with delegates from more than 70 jurisdictions across the globe, Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, the Order's supreme chaplain, said of Father McGivney:

"One of the main reasons he founded the Knights of Columbus was to strengthen the men of his parish in the faith of the Church, to ensure that the core of their existence was touched and transformed by the powerful presence of Christ."

He still watches over his Knights and all those who call upon him in faith.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Brian Caulfield
Vice Postulator
guild@kofc.org

The Witness of Blessed Michael McGivney

At this pivotal moment in our nation's life, we are blessed with a distinctly American witness in Blessed Michael McGivney, whose life embodies the virtues our time so desperately needs.

As a parish priest serving immigrant families, Father McGivney recognized the concrete wounds of his people — economic insecurity, social exclusion and cultural suspicion. His response was not ideological, but incarnational. He founded the Knights of Columbus, which fosters charity, unity, fraternity and a patriotic love that seeks the good of the nation without sacrificing fidelity to Christ.

Father McGivney understood that charity is not abstract sentiment, but love made visible through solidarity and sacrifice. He understood that fraternity flows from baptism, not from political alignment. He understood that authentic patriotism is not blind allegiance, but a commitment to help one's country live up to its highest ideals.

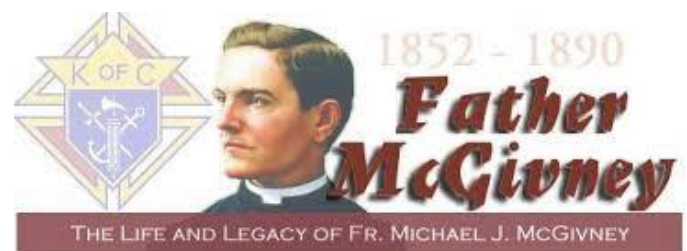
In Father McGivney, we see a lived Christological anthropology: a man who knew that to follow Christ is to serve the whole person — body and soul — and to build communities where dignity is protected and hope is sustained. His witness reminds us that love of country and love of neighbor are not rivals, but companions, when rooted in the Gospel.

Excerpt from **A Time for Witness**

By Supreme Chaplain

Archbishop William E. Lori

COLUMBIA Magazine, July 1, 2026



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



On September 11th each year, we observe Patriot Day to remember and honor the lives of the men and women who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and those who perished in the crash of Flight 93 near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

September 11 was designated as Patriot Day by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress on December 18, 2001. Annually, on this day, American flags are flown at half-staff and a moment of silence is observed at 8:46am (Eastern Daylight Time), the time of the first plane collision into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Although the attacks took place within the United States, the shock and grief experienced in response to the attacks was shared throughout the world.



District Deputy Comments

Worthy Brother Knights,

Worthy Brother Knights, as we are now well into the new Fraternal Year and our council programs are starting up again, in some cases with new program directors and council leaders, I ask you to get more involved if you can and help make this an even better year than the great year your council had last year. As I travel around the district, I am truly amazed and excited about the initiatives each council takes on and the dedication of the members who are assisting and leading these efforts. You are definitely building up the Church, which is the Bride of Christ. The fellowship you share as you work these various programs is priceless and the services you provide our parishes; our community and our families are invaluable and inspiring.

If you have had a hiatus from participating in your council activities due to health, work or family demands, please reach out to your council officers, attend a council meeting, review more closely your council newsletter to see where you might be able to plug back in and contribute to program initiatives, like the Tootsie Roll Dive for our Handicapped Citizens and Children. While some programs have many demands of labor and time, others can be accomplished with some effort that rewards you with fellowship. We are all social individuals who need companionship to thrive and grow.

With the approach of September 11, also known as Patriot Day we are reminded of the brutal acts of terrorism that struck our country 25 years ago on 11 September 2001 in which nearly 3,000 people were killed in New York City, at the Pentagon in Washington D.C., and near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. There are a number of memorial events in the Tampa Bay area like the **25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony**, the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly 0161 invites you, your families, and fellow Knights to join our community for a special 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on

Friday, September 11, 2026, at the World Trade Center Memorial at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa. Who: Knights of Columbus Assembly 0161, Region 4 Assemblies and Councils, Tampa-area veterans' organizations, first responders, civic organizations, and ROTC/JROTC units. Wear your council shirts to the event.

Please don't forget to ask Catholic men you meet if they have ever been invited to join the Knights of Columbus and share with them how the Knights have increased your faith and your opportunity to help others in need.

Vivat Jesus

Howard Baum

District Deputy
District 47



The Insurance Corner



Retirement Annuities

There are few financial matters we give more thought and attention to than our retirement. Everyone thinks about it. Everyone needs it.

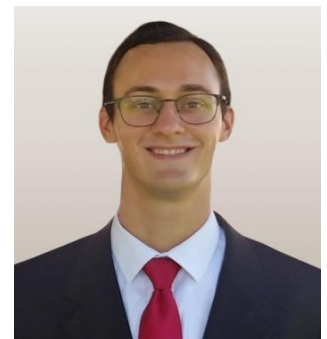
Retirement annuities help you ensure that you have enough money to live on in retirement.

But retirement income can be a difficult thing to calculate, especially with a changing landscape of federal and employee-provided benefits. With a properly structured retirement annuity from the Knights of Columbus, you can have retirement income that you cannot outlive, guaranteed.

Retirement annuities provide security and peace of mind that people of all ages and financial circumstances can benefit from.

To learn more, contact me today!

Francois Couprie,
Field Agent
847-668-2900
francoiscouprie@kofc.org



AWARDS AND CEREMONIES

Star Council Award



Mother Seton Council 6724 has received the Star Council award for 2025-2026. This is the 5th consecutive year earning the award.

The Star Council Award recognizes outstanding achievement in membership, insurance and programming. In order to achieve the Star Council Award, a council must earn the Father McGivney, Founder's, and Columbian Awards. Additionally, the council must submit both the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity and Service Program Personnel Report and must be compliant with applicable safe environment requirements.

Why is the Star Council Important?

Striving to earn the Star Council Award helps your council to:

Help more people in your parish and community through expanded charitable outreach.

Attract more members who can then benefit from the bonds of common Catholic brotherhood and grow in their faith.

Protect Catholic families' financial well-being.

Encourage participation in the sacramental life of the Church.

Take Care of the financial and administrative obligations of the council.

Congratulations
Grand Knight Timothy Ashcraft
and Mother Seton Council 6724

Family of the Month

August 2026



John and Chris Malinowski were selected as the August Family of the Month. They both work during weekdays at the Nativity Outreach warehouse and on Thursday they are at Nativity working at the food pantry, preparing donations and serving recipient food baskets. Chris is also an active member in the Nativity Women's Guild. Pictured with them are Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft and Programs Director Steve Martinez.

Council Trustees Recognized



Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft wanted to recognize the Council Trustees for the great job they did in not only completing the audit but completing it ahead of time. Dominic Valente on the left, Jay Stanley and Joe Casaccia on the right, started half way through the fraternal year and learned as they went. It was a lot to learn and a lot more questions but they persevered.

To help them in the new year ahead, they were presented with a pencil guaranteed for a year's use and a jumbo eraser for any mistakes they might find.

Photos by Neil Waid

Knights in Action

Exemplification of Charity, Unity & Fraternity

Five men of Nativity parish received their 3rd Degree Knighthood on August 15th. Starting in front, second from the left, are Joseph Cavarra, Noah Deffrennes, Nicholas Fortin, Elliott Parker and Barry Hamel.



They are flanked by the members of the Degree Team consisting of Mark Coté, Presiding Officer; Deacon Bob Harris, Chaplain; John Sepessy, Presenter on Charity; Bob Woodke, Presenter on Unity, Brandon Ray, Presenter on Fraternity and Neil Waid, Warden. They are also joined by District Deputy Howard Baum, Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft, Council Warden Dale D'Alessandro, Family Director Mike Peters and Robert Hierholzer. Congratulations Gentlemen.



Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft presents Joseph Cavarra His certificate of Knighthood in the Third Degree.



Elliott Parker and his wife Morgan are pictured with Richard Spinelli and Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft after receiving his Knighthood Certificate.



Nicholas Fortin is pictured here with his parents, Mark and Cassie and follows in the footsteps of his uncle, Jim Stanley, who is a Knight.



Noah Deffrennes is the third Jr. Knight to join the Knights after turning 18. Congratulations Noah.

Photos by Bob Hopkins



Deacon Bob Harris talked with the new Knights afterwards. He highlighted the fact that they became Knights on the feast of the Assumption of Mary who is the patroness of the Knights of Columbus. Deacon Bob is also a member of Mother Seton Council 6724.

Photo by Bob Hopkins

Miller Road Cleanup



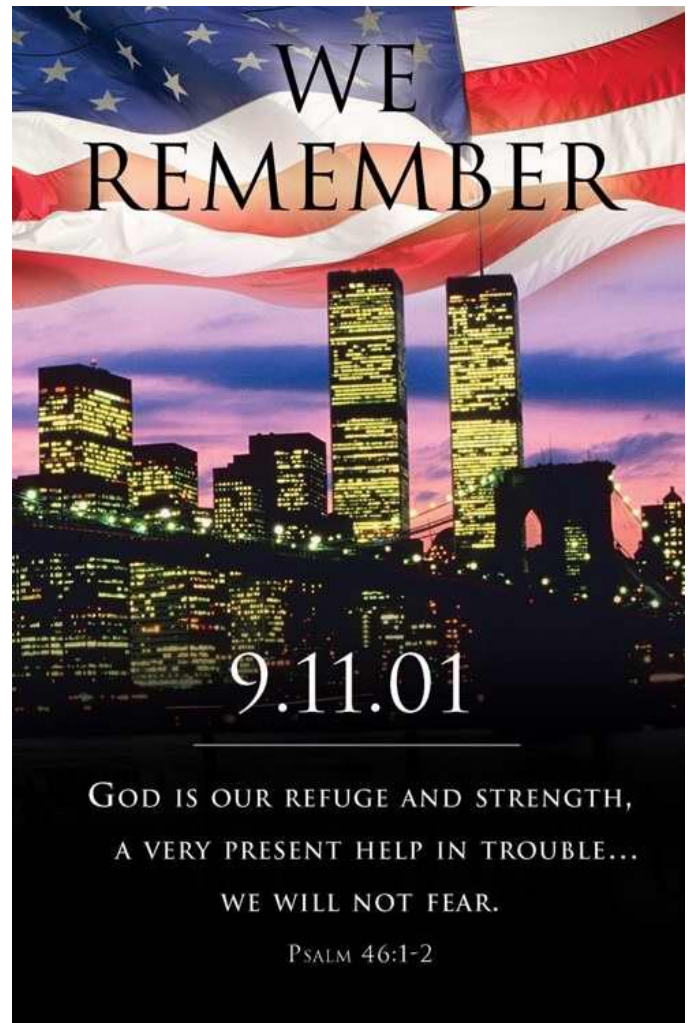
On August 8th, 10 Knights accomplished the South. Miller Road cleanup. Starting in the back are Daniel Van Sciver, GK Tim Ashcraft, Vinay Dsouza, Mark Coté, and Bob Malloy. In front are Alfons Hofrichter and Jim Ryan. Jim was the lucky winner of the "Where did my Dollar Go" contest. This was the second dollar bill found during road cleanups. Not available for the photo but who participated, were Bob Hopkins and Christian Alfons.

Photos by Neil Waid

Jr. Knights support Family Promise



Jr. Knights Alexander Pulido and Mathew Sosa learn how laundromat machines work from SK Bob Malloy. Alexander and Mathew volunteered their Saturday morning to help do a laundry run for Family Promise that was at Nativity. Thank you, Alexander and Mathew, for your help, helping those less fortunate than others.



Upcoming Events

40 Days for Life

September 23 – November 1



Installation of Flags for 40 Days for Life.

Knights will install pink and blue flags on Saturday, September 26th to promote 40 Days for Life. Each flag represents a baby boy or girl that has died due to abortion. Come out with the family and let them become involved as well.

Side Walk Life Chain – October 4



The Nativity Life Ministry will be sponsoring the annual Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026 from 2:30pm to 3:30 p.m.

Join fellow parishioners and brother Knights for an hour along Highway 60 on the sidewalk in front of Nativity Church as they pay for the end of abortion and display signs promoting the right to life.

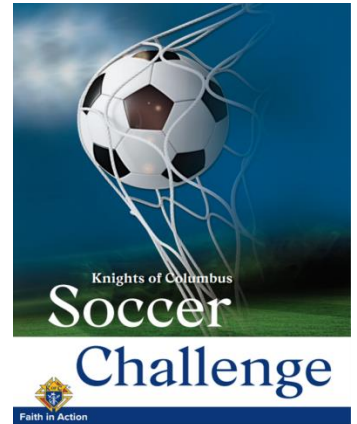
Photo by Neil Waid

Volunteer Opportunities

Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge

Mother Seton Council 6724 will hold its Soccer Challenge Wednesday, 16 September, on the Novemberfest field. Knights are needed to help setup the goals, check registration paperwork and record the scores of participating children.

Volunteers are requested to arrive at the field at 5:00 pm and competition is from 5:45 to 6:30 pm. Pens, score sheets, clip boards and water will be provided. Keep watch for a reminder Eblast. Contact Neil Waid for more information at neil.waid.50@gmail.com.



Nativity Food Truck

The Nativity Outreach food truck will be on campus the weekend of **September 26-27**. 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 pm.

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 morning to talk with Neil during Food Pantry.





Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin Assembly 1850

Nancy Kasprzyk Funeral

This week Knights at Nativity attended the funeral services for Nancy Kasprzyk. She was the wife of SK Tim Kasprzyk, PGK, and FDD, who passed away in May of this year. The family requested Honor Guard at both the viewing and funeral mass for their mother.

Faithful Navigator Howard Baum, Color Corps Commander Neil Waid and SK Mark Cote attended as honor Guard for the Viewing on 30 August. CCC Neil Waid and SK Mark Cote served as Honor Guard at the funeral mass on 31 August. Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft, SK Bob Hopkins and SK Ray Quiñones helped serve as pall bearers.

Assembly Changes

New changes are afoot In Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin Assembly 1850. Assembly Meeting times will be changing from 7:30 pm to 7:00 pm starting in October.

The September 16th Business Meeting will be at 7:30 due to a Council event that takes place from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The October Officers Planning Meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, a half hour earlier than normal. Discussion will be held on updating the By-Laws for Assembly 1850.

A new Assembly shirt has been selected. It is light gray in color with the 4th Degree emblem and Assembly name like the white polo shirt. The new shirt will also have the SK's name on the right breast, no pocket and the US flag on the right arm sleeve. Come to the September 19th Business meeting and check them out. Pre order sales will be taken at the meeting.

Two 9-11 Memorial Services are available to attend on September 11.

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the attacks on the twin towers of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Flight 93 that crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. There are 2 local Memorial Services taking place on Friday, September 11, 2026.

There will be a Ceremony held at 10:30 am, at the Veterans Memorial Park and Museum on Friday, September 11th. The park is located at 3602 N. US Hwy. 301, Tampa FL 33619.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/oBr5erhGGawGW7pQ8>

There will be interactive displays by active-duty military, fire and law enforcement members.

Assembly 0161 will host a special 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the World Trade Center Memorial at George M.

Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, beginning at 10:00 am. It is located at

[1 Steinbrenner Drive, Tampa, Florida](#), the west

side of Dale Mabry, just north of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' football stadium.



Control-click on the blue links for a map to the events.



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Nancy Kasprzyk & family	Don Clark
Chester Williams	Bill Queenan
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
Michael Palmiotto	John Sepessy
Ronnie & Delores Martinez	Steve Martinez
Rick Zemke & family	John Fitzhenry
Wil & Janet Caraballo	Ray Nardi
Eddie Console & family	Edward Gorgacz
Tom & Judy Beriou	Paul Beriou
Gabriel Ocasio-Davila	Olga O'Keefe
Jerry Christina & family	Mathew Meyer
Tony & Antoinette Carew	Patrick Goode
Juan Antonio Arteaga	Samantha Perez
George Busher	Joanne Bialas
Barbara Odin	Jorge Artiles
Ed Brelsford	

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.

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.



SK Ed Sleyzak
PGK, PFN, FDD, State Secretary

Nancy Kasprzyk

St. Vincent de Paul
Patron Saint of Charitable Societies

Saint Vincent de Paul is the patron saint of charities, volunteers, and hospitals. Vincent dedicated most of his priestly life to serving the poor. He founded the Confraternities of Charity, the Congregation of the Mission, and the Daughters of



Charity. While St. Vincent is mainly known for his charity work, he also strove to reform the educational training of seminarians in France. St. Vincent de Paul also established the model of modern-day seminaries. He died in France in 1660. "Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying." -St. Vincent de Paul

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



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

Mother Seton Council #6724

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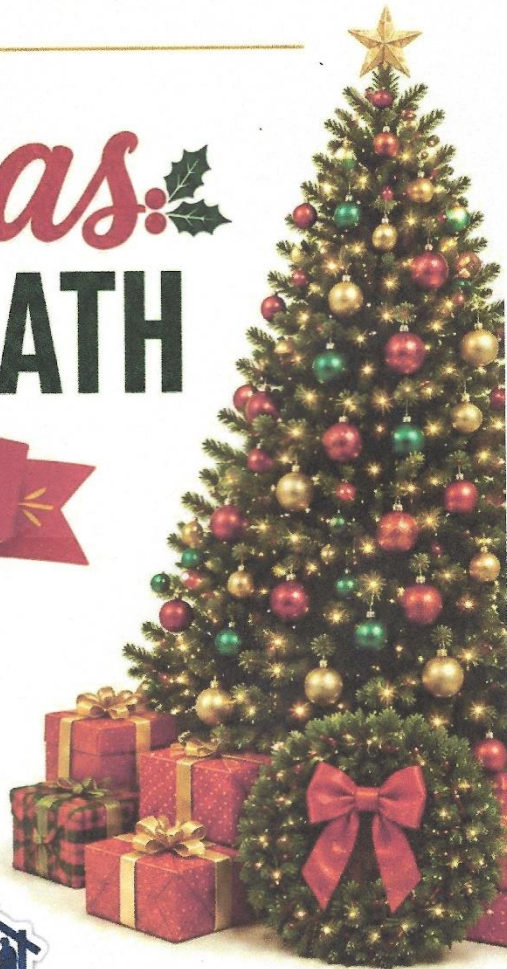


**Nativity's
Youth Ministry**

Christmas: TREE & WREATH

PRE-SALE

Pre-order your fresh-cut Fraser Fir Christmas tree or wreath by **November 22nd** at **NativityChristmasStore.com** and support Nativity's Youth Ministry Christmas Toy Drive for La Victoria's Nutrition Center and the Knights of Columbus Mother Seton Council's local charitable activities.



Plus, receive a complimentary "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnet with each tree purchase!



➡ TREE LOT INFORMATION ⬅



DATES: November 27th – Until Sold Out



LOCATION: Nativity Catholic Church
Novemberfest Field
705 E Brandon Blvd., Brandon, FL 33511



HOURS: Weekdays: 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Weekends: 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM
(Including Black Friday!)

PRE-ORDER TODAY!



VISIT US ONLINE:
NativityChristmasStore.com



*Thank you
for supporting*

OUR YOUTH. OUR COMMUNITY.

Keep Christ in Christmas!



THANK YOU TO ALL THE SPONSORS OF OUR 2025 CHRISTMAS TREE SALE FUNDRAISER

