



The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



Knights of
Columbus

Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
Grand Knight
GrandKnight7109@gmail.com

Issue 5, May 2024

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, May 09 @ **7:00 pm**
in the Parish Center

View the Newsletter online at:
www.safetyharborkofc.org

Visit the State Website at:
www.floridakofc.org

Visit the Supreme Website at:
www.kofc.org

Worthy Brother Knights & Ladies!

We had a relatively quiet and normal month in April without any major events taking place. As our Fraternal Year begins to wind down and draw to a close, our upcoming May events will once again be fairly quiet. Here's what's coming up:

MAY UPCOMING EVENTS

- Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Council Retreat – Saturday, May 4th, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Parish Center - **Postponed**
- Rosary – Thursday, May 9th, at **6:15 PM** in the St. John Bosco Center
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, May 9th, **7:00 PM** in the Parish Center
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, May 9th, **7:00 PM** in the Gathering Room
- Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, May 16th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen
- Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, May 18th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Council Coffee, Donuts & More – Sunday, May 19th, 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Parish Center
- Memorial Day Mass & Flag Retirement Ceremony - Monday, May 27th, Church and Courtyard

- Corporate Communion Breakfast and Mass – Sunday, June 2nd, 7:30 AM Parish Center 9:00 AM Mass

COFFEE, DONUTS & MORE

We had our monthly Coffee, Donuts & More on Sunday, April 14th, after all morning Masses in the Saint John Bosco Center and we did well. As I have mentioned previously, we as a Council will never make a lot of money doing these but I'm seeing that we are building a nice following when we do have these. I would once again like to thank and recognize all of our Brother Knights and Sisters who volunteered their time and made this event a great success for our Council.

Jack Strehle	Joe D'Amelio	Betty D'Amelio
Kay Strehle	Tom Wozniak	Jean Wozniak
Matt Sunski	John Gohman	Tom Krivchenia
Tom Harkins	Gene Jajuga	Frank McEwen

If I have missed listing anyone that may have helped, I sincerely apologize.

PARISH PATRIOTIC DINNER DANCE

We have already had our first Parish Patriotic Dinner Dance Committee Meeting and we are well underway with our plans for making this another awesome event where we open this up to our wonderful Parish Community and is hosted by our Knights of Columbus Council and Ladies

Auxiliary. At this point, I ask that you please mark your calendars for Friday, June 14th, from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM to be held in our Parish Center. If anyone is interested in volunteering to assist on this committee, please let me know.

GARY SINISE FOUNDATION CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

As always, hosted by your Knights of Columbus Espiritu Santo Assembly has also had our first Committee Meeting and a lot going on behind the scenes. We will be having our Eighth Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Ardea Country Club, formally known as East Lake Woodlands Country Club, located in the East Lake Woodlands community of Oldsmar. Mark your calendars as the date for our golf tournament will be Sunday, October 20th, with check in beginning at 7:30 AM followed by a shotgun start beginning at 9:00 AM.

Once again, if anyone is interested in volunteering to assist on this committee, all are welcome and please let me know. This continues to be our single largest fund-raising event of the year!

KofC FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION

The KofC Florida State Convention will be in Orlando, Florida from Friday, May 24th through Sunday, May 26th.

Representing our Barney Gonyea Council 7109 and elected by Council procedure as delegates to the State Convention will be:

Gene Jajuga, Grand Knight and Tom Krivchenia, Deputy Grand Knight.

Finally, Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful Mothers, Godmothers, Grandmothers, Mothers-in-law, Stepmothers, Adopted Mothers, Sainly Mothers and of course the most beautiful and wonderful example of mothers, Our Blessed Mother!

BLESSINGS FOR AN AWESOME MONTH!!!

Gene

Vivat Jesus!

Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
 Grand Knight – Council 7109
 727.403.3261
grandknight7109@gmail.com
www.safetyharborkofc.org



WGK Gene Jajuga recognizes SK Dr John Gohman with March 2024 Knight of the Month



WGK Gene Jajuga presents Christian Kuczej with his Third-Degree Knight Certificate



SK Edward Amador
Membership Director
Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109 Holy Moments

May 2024 Newsletter Update: Embracing New Beginnings

Dear Brother Knights,

A New Chapter: Identifying and Nurturing New Candidates

As we move into a new phase of our journey, it is time for us to identify and nurture new candidates who may be interested in joining our noble Order. This process is not just about recruiting members; it's about inviting men to experience the fulfillment and purpose that come from being a Knight of Columbus. We must approach this task with the same spirit of service and dedication that we bring to all our endeavors, always mindful of creating Holy Moments in the process.

Celebrating New Members: Welcome Alfred Fares and Michael J O'Neill

I am delighted to announce that we have welcomed two new brothers, Alfred Fares and Michael J O'Neill, who joined us in the April ceremony. Their decision to join us is a testament to the welcoming and inclusive nature of our council, and we are thrilled to have them with us.

Welcoming New E-Enrollment Members: Joseph Favia and Michael Gutknecht

In addition to our ceremony joiners, we also welcome Joseph Favia and Michael Gutknecht, who joined our brotherhood through the e-enrollment process. Their decision to join us is a testament to the convenience and accessibility of our membership process, and we are excited to have them as part of our council.

Exceeding Expectations: Achieving 127% of Goal

I am proud to announce that we have achieved 127% of our membership goal, welcoming a total of 19 new members against a target of 15. This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and support of each and every one of you.

Acknowledging Dedication: Kudos to Bill Galant, JJ Coyne, Tom Stanko, Thomas Harkins, and the Leadership Team

I want to extend a special thank you to Bill Galant, JJ Coyne, Tom Stanko, Thomas Harkins, and the leadership team, including Gene Jajuga, Tom Krivchenia, Frank McEwen, and Wally Vazquez, for their dedication and support in our membership activities. Their efforts have been instrumental in our success, and we are truly grateful for their contributions.

Looking Forward: A New Fraternal Year Ahead

As we look forward to the new fraternal year, let us continue to build on this momentum. Let us remain committed to our mission of charity, unity, and fraternity, always mindful of creating Holy Moments in all that we do. Together, we can continue to make a difference in our community and in the lives of those around us.

Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment to the Knights of Columbus. Together, we can achieve great things.
Vivat Jesus!

Edward J. Amador
Membership Director



SK Ed Amador with Radio Host and Catholic Evangelist
Gus Lloyd of XM Radio Catholic Channel

Unity - Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2024: ~~June 18~~ **Cancelled**

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2024: ~~June 20~~ **Cancelled**

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	339
Insurance Membership	137
Honorary Life Members	68
Honorary Members	08
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	19/15
Fraternal Benefits Nights	02/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	134
Honorary Life Members	16
Honorary Members	01
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	01/06



Council Officers 2023-2024

Grand Knight	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
Chaplain	Fr Michael W. Cooper, SJ	727.644.5544
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
Chancellor	Mark Feldman	727.366.5959
Recorder	Bill Krajieski	727.784.2817
Financial Secretary	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Lecturer	Paul Harvey, PFN	727.286.7171
Advocate	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Warden	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper	727.736.6837
Outside Guard	Jim Lankford	813.455.2292
Guard Alternate	Brian Annis	727.204.7490
Trustee Three Year	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Trustee Two Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN	727.331.7278
Trustee One Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Regional Administrator	John Papa, PGK, PFN	727.482.3734
District Deputy	Alan Gauzens, PGK	727.483.8250
District Warden	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Fraternal Benefits Advisor	John Ruckart	813.855.5111
Special Assistant to the Council	Vincent Cristiano	
Special Assistant to the Council	Gary Murphy	

Happy Birthday Brothers. Many Happy Returns!

Donald Bishop, Robert Bonvicino, Sean Casey, Kenneth Chmara, Terrell Clampitt, Frank Colucci, Vincent Cristiano, Gerald Custin, Francisco Diaz Estrella, Mark Feldman, Jim Gencur, Ben Ghozali, Mark Gurley, Robert Gwinner, Robert Justiana, Thomas Kelly, Mark Koch, Raymond Kraker, Stephen Leger, Kevin McMullen, Brian O'Connor, Adam Ogburn, Salvatore Piscitello, Richard Resler, Walter Rybowiak, Christoph Schutze, Kenneth Seguin, Robert Shepherd

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Kennedie McFadden, Bob Justiana, Jewel Allen (d), Ed Mandichak (d), David deWolfe (d), Joseph Raponi (d), Mac Sinise (d), Stanley Gdula (d), J. Nick Martin (d), Linda Cooper (d), Edward Mandichak (d), Katherine Krajieski, Frank Pensebene, Mary Clare Rose (d), Bob Ehrman, Joseph Genalo, Felipe Hernandez (d), Max Kostioukovski, Angela DiMattei, Tony McClure (d), Maria Palazzo (d), Joyce Ayrall, Burke Taylor, Mike Taylor, Bill Kasak, Karen Loparo, Marijon Reed, Katherine Lima, Nelson Amador, Carlos Usera, Richard Roberto, Harry Hill (d), Fr Rich's Mother, John Hamm, James Bonvicino, Frances Hamacher (d)

Please pray for all our sick and deceased Brothers, Ladies, and family members. Please report illnesses and deaths to Sir Knight Paul Harvey, Lecturer, at 727. 286.7171 or pharvey10@verizon.net

Support Our Vocations Fund



Austin Smith



Benjamin Harris



John Paul Grabowski

Thank you for your continued support of the Vocations Fund. As most of you know we are making annual donations to three seminarians. All three of our seminarians are located at St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, Louisiana. Austin Smith, junior year who is from Nativity parish in Brandon. Benjamin Harris, junior year from St. Anthony the Abbot, Brooksville. John Paul Grabowski, in his sophomore year, is from Catholic Student Center, USF – Tampa.

Please get your name on the list by giving \$5.00, \$10.00 or whatever you can in support of this worthy endeavor! We need to continue to support these young men and vocations, but it will take everyone's help. Thank You!

Mark Barrett, Donald and Linda Motika Borbath, James Burris, John and Sharon Cathcart, John and Betsy Clarke, JJ Coyne, William Cullen, Joseph and Betty D'Amelio, Douglas and Carol De Wolfe, Frank and Angela Di Mattei, Jonathan Di Mattei, Francisco and Mildred Diaz Estrella, Robert and Zoe Dufour, Philip and Jane Farney, Robert Faw, Thomas Fitzpatrick, John and Peggy Gohman, Thomas and Anne Harkins, Thomas and Jean Hart, Timothy and Ann Hartle, Paul and Rose Marie Harvey, James and Angy Hayes, David and Donna Heezen.,Kevin and Gidget Hernandez, Joseph and Sandra Hoherl, Steven and Anne Marie Ippolito, Eugene and Karen Jajuga, Shawn and Pattie Jajuga, Gregory and Kim Juedes, Timothy Kielich, William and Katherine Krajewski, Frank and Deborah Laffey, Milton Levine, Santo and Karen Loparo, Patrick Mackin, Francis and Carol Mahoney, Frank and Juliann Marsalek, Frank and Cindy McEwen, Charles McEwen, Kevin McMullen, Stuart Miller, John Morgan, Thomas and Carolyn O'Rourke, Donald Palacheck, John and Susanne Papa, Paul and Virginia Pappas, George and Tracy Paradise, Thomas Penders, Daniel Peterson, Robert and Vickie Pickard, Richard Roberto, James and Drema Servoss Rooney, Daniel and Paula Saracki, William and Mary Scott, Jason Seguin, Morgan Sheafer, Bryan and Krista Snyder, Thomas and TP Stanko, Matthew and Julie Sunski, Steven Verba, Eugene and Rita Wolanin, Mario Zaccaria, Patrick and Joan Alix, Edward and Violet Amador, Victor and Susanne Berggren, Jonathan and Marianne Boyce, Herman and Mary Jo Brames, Kevin Cordaro, Robert and Patricia Ehrman, Frederick and Christi Elflein, Zach Faraone, Charles and Raquel Friesema, Michael and Lisa Furman, Ward and Kathleen Griffin, Mark and Patricia Gurley, Kenton and Sue Heuertz, Jarret Honahan, George and Claire Inderwies, Brian and Christine Kearns, Matthew Killeen, Tom and Margaret Krivchenia, James and Karen Kurzdorfer, Stephen and Ellen Leger, John Lenehan, Stanley Lipiarz, Clifford and Michelle Merz, James and Phyllis Montali, Adel Nammour, William Nies, James and Patricia Nolf, Gerald and Holly Pappa, Donald and Alexis Reed, Juan and Rosemary Romero, Kurt Salac, Jim and Nancy Shirer, James and Karin Smith, Gregory and Carolina Sohn, Chuck and Elizabeth Sullivan, Roy and Linda Motika Vanderveer, Walberto and Ramona Vazquez, Brian and Carolyn Annis, Dennis and Joyce Ayril, Vincent Baldwin, Fred and Caroline Bennett, Thomas Bergevin, Patrick and Beatrice Boland, Tim and Stacey Bruggeman, Patrick Carroll, Joseph and Ellen Cortese, Gerald Custin, Austin Davis, Peter Demzak, Terry and Shirley Drake, Mark and Elaine Feldman, Gerald and Lorraine Grubba, Joseph Guazzerotti, Lawrence and Nancy Harkins, James and Janetze Hart, David and Paula Harvey, Irving Hernandez, James Jessup, Christopher Jones, Mark and Maryann Kapinos, William and Elizabeth Kasak, Richard and Cecilia Kemball-Cook, Dan and Donna Kistel, James and Patricia Kleinsorge, Thomas and Kathy Kukulski, James and Maria Lankford, Brian and Christina Lapointe, Brian Lawandus, Mark Lewalski, Viktor Lewalski, Christian Lyon, Edward Martinenko, Christopher Mazzone, Michael McCarthy, Darryl Miller, Kenneth (Ken) Miller, David Neal, Chris Nesci, Todd and Margaret Owers, Edmund and Diane Pagnott, Robert Papariella, Frank Pensabene, Miguel Perez, Mark and Christine Peterman, James and Suzanne Preston, Christopher and Carol Purcell, Richard and Rosalie Resler, Edward and Sandra Riley, Brian Riley, Jeffrey and Roxann Rogers, Kenneth Ruckart, John and Kathleen Ruckart, Kenneth and Gabriella Seguin, Massimo Simeoni, James and Darlene Stanley, Lawrence and Corinne Rose Steinhardt, Jugdesh and Sucheta Sujanani, Keith and Griselda Taylor, Robert and Ann Marie Bonvicino, Jacob and Mary Burnett, Joseph Celic, Jerome Dewberry, Timothy and Marcy Dolan, Eric and Bernadette Flores, Jared Kirsten, Michael Lyons, Javier and Xiomara Ortega, Christopher and Teresanne Russell, Mario Russica, Hugh and Katie Siegel, Thomas Smith, Francis Cayer, Frank and Patricia Piro, Robert Shafer, Margaret Watson, Derek Jones, Robert and M.A. Justiana, John J Liu, John T Liu, Peter & Susan Salesses

Total Collected to Date: \$2,141.27



Father Michael W. Cooper, SJ
Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Brother Knights and Ladies,

The Pew Research Center, a non-political research organization, reported a growing number of conservative American Catholics are critical of Pope Francis. They point to Francis' criticisms of capitalism, advocacy for climate change, overtures to the LGBTQ community, and moves to permit civilly remarried Catholics in some cases to receive the Eucharist without an annulment. Some thoughts...

Francis is not against capitalism *per se* but a capitalism that puts money over people. We see this right here in Tampa-St. Pete where rents are being raised excessively, so individuals and families have to move elsewhere and often cannot find "affordable housing." To make a few extra bucks individuals in lower income brackets are forced to move or may even end up homeless.

Social sciences have documented that LGBTQ individuals do not choose their sexual orientation. They discover their sexual orientation. It is the way God made them. Any number of our fellow Knights have brothers and sisters, sons or daughters, and friends who are gay. They can tell you that basically they are good Catholics like us. Yes, there are places in the Bible that condemn homosexuality - mainly in the Hebrew Scriptures and New Testament - where the cultural-historical context of the times considered all gays and lesbians perverts. Today we know that is not true. Pope Francis does not want to push LGBTQ people out of their rightful place in the Community of Faith as sons and daughters of the living God.

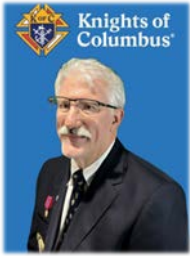
Pope Francis has written two important encyclicals of carrying for creation. When many of us were growing up, the earth was the earth. Now we realize the Earth belongs to God who shares it with us and asks us to be stewards for our homeland for ourselves, our children, our future - or we will not have one!

Through no fault of their own a number of good Catholic marriages end up in divorce - perhaps a bad choice of a partner for any number of reasons or maybe the spouse was unfaithful or abusive. A Catholic may not have known how to get an annulment and finds themselves outcasts in the practice of their faith. Should Communion - so vital to our faith - be used as reward-punishment instead of the blessing and nurture of our friendship with Jesus and with the Community? As a pastor, Pope Francis wants our Church to be as welcoming and hospitable as possible and not push people away. I am totally supportive of marriage for life, but in the real world of human beings it does not always work that way. How many Catholics do you know who no longer practice because of divorce? Even among our brother Knights, there are more second marriages than you think.

Yes, these are changes but done for pastoral, compassionate, and informed reasons that were not known or taken into consideration when many of us were growing up. I welcome your thoughts and questions and disagreements.

Service Program Directors 2023-2024

Program Director	Tom Krivchenia, PFN	727.366.5422
Membership Director	Edward Amador	305.606.8632
Faith Director	Wally Vazquez	727.542.5376
Community Director	Jim Lankford	727.698.3489
Family Director	Tom Wozniak, PGK, PFN, FDD	727.214.8377
Public Relations Director		
Life Director	David Behrle, PGK, PFN	727.723.1169
Vocations	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Retention Coordinator	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687



Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk7109@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight's Report

Worthy Brother Knights,

On May 12, we will have the joyous opportunity to celebrate mothers who have showered children and family members with unconditional love and selfless giving. We pause from our busy lives for this special holiday to say thank you to our loved ones. We give flowers, beautiful cards and take our special someone to brunch or dinner. Many of us will remember with fondness and sadness our mothers who are with God in Heaven. We miss them and we offer silent, thankful prayers.

As we wind down this fraternal year, we have a few events left in May. We have Coffee & Donuts on May 19th and the Corporate Communion Breakfast and Mass on June 2nd. Our last dinner dance will be Friday, June 14th and the installation of new officers in July. Thank you to all the people who helped at our last month's Coffee & Donuts. We will be looking for a new Family Director and a Culture of Life Director for next year. If you are interested, please contact me.

Faith In Action



FAITH

COMMUNITY

FAMILY

LIFE

From the Faith Director's Desk

We will be having our monthly Rosary on Thursday May 9th at 6:15pm in the JBC. We have decided to put the retreat on hold until later in the year. We are planning our Corporate Communion Breakfast and Mass June 2nd at the 9:00 AM Mass with breakfast before in the PC 7:30 AM - 8:45 AM.

From the Community Director's Desk

Brothers, as we begin to wind down our fraternal year, we have another opportunity to reach out to our greater community through our quarterly road clean-up project. It will be next Saturday, May 4th. We will begin at 8:00 AM,

as the weather is getting warmer, we will beat the heat some. I will bring coffee and donuts so hope to see you there.

I thank you all for the support of our community calendar this fraternal year. We have begun planning for next year and expect it to be even more successful than years past in this area.

From the Family Director's Desk

For our families with school age children, the month of May brings a closing of the school year. Now the planning of summer vacations of fun activities will begin. The children can hardly wait for the final school bell to ring. As a Knight of Columbus, guide your family through the lazy or busy days of summer with all the excitement and joy of the child you once were. Each day with your family is precious. Make long lasting memories this summer with your family. For us whose children have long ago left our nest, enjoy the fellowship and friendship of your brother Knights of Council 7109. As we honor our Blessed Virgin Mary this month of May, consider praying the Rosary with your family. We wish you and your family all the best.

From the Life Director's Desk

The Kimberly Home is having their Annual Walk for Life on Saturday May 4th from 10am to 3pm. The location is Crest Lake Park, 201 S. Glenwood Pavilion 201B, Clearwater FL. This is a great way to show your support for the unborn children and single mothers. If you are interested in participating in or donating to the cause, please visit www.kimberlyhome.org where you can register or donate.

We have been collecting money for The Kimberly Home this year and we have reached more than half of our goal of \$500. I will be bringing the baby bottles to both the Ladies Auxiliary and the Council meetings for anyone who would like to help us reach our goal.

Saint for the Month of May

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial – May 20, 2024

“Behold, your Mother.” In entrusting his Mother Mary to the beloved disciple from the cross, our Lord is concerned for much more than her practical living arrangements: He

establishes a relationship between his holy Mother and all who are united to him, that is, the church. We, too, behold our Mother, for she is the Mother of all who live the new life of grace. We turn to her especially when we experience the cross, knowing she is “standing by.” Today’s memorial teaches us that “growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the mystery of the cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic banquet, and to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God” (Robert Cardinal Sarah). A beautiful way to honor our Mother is to pray the rosary frequently.



May Liturgical Calendar

May 1 St. Joseph the Worker
 May 2 Saint Athanasius (Memorial)
 May 3 Saint Philip and James (Feast)
 May 9 The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)
 May 10 St. John of Avila, St. Damien de Veuster
 May 12 The Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity)
 May 13 Our Lady of Fatima
 May 14 Saint Matthias (Feast)
 May 15 St. Isidore
 May 18 St. John I
 May 19 Pentecost Sunday (Solemnity)
 May 20 The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church (Memorial)
 May 21 St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions
 May 22 St. Rita of Cascia
 May 25 St. Bede the Venerable, St. Gregory VII, St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Bl. Virgin Mary
 May 26 The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)
 May 27 St. Augustine of Canterbury
 May 29 St. Paul VI
 May 31 The Visitation of the blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)

Vivat Jesus

Tom Krivchenia, PFN
 Deputy Grand Knight 7109
Dgk7109@gmail.com

Proposed Council Officer Slate Fraternal Year 2024-2025

Grand Knight	Tom Krivchenia, PFN
Chaplain*	Fr Michael Cooper, SJ
Deputy Grand Knight	Mark Feldman
Chancellor	Edward Amador
Recorder	Bill Krajieski
Financial Secretary*	Tom Harkins
Treasurer	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
Lecturer*	Paul Harvey, PFN
Advocate	Richard Resler
Warden	Jim Lankford
Inside Guard	Paul Cooper
Outside Guard	Mark Peterman, PFN
Guard Alternate	Brian Annis
Trustee Three Year	Gene Jajuga, PGK, PFN, FFA
Trustee Two Year	JJ Coyne, PGK
Trustee One Year	Ken Seguin, PGK, PFN
Special Asst to Council*	Vincent Cristiano
Special Asst to Council*	Gary Murphy

* *appointed position*





John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

**Invest with Integrity:
Pursue Growth Without Compromising
Returns or Your Faith**

May 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM EDT

Presented by Thom Duffy, Vice President,
Head of Investment Advisory Services, Knights
of Columbus Asset Advisors

Join us to learn more about investment
solutions that align with your Catholic values.

Register Here: <https://tinyurl.com/KofCMay22>



I look forward to seeing you all online on May 22nd!

Vivat Jesus!
John D. Ruckart, FICF
813.855.5111



Happy Mother's Day to all of you and the wonderful women in your lives! Once again, the Ladies Auxiliary will be taking donations for Mother's hearts for the remembrance trees that will be in the Narthex for Mother's Day weekend and remainder of May. This has been one of our best charitable causes in years past. Everyone enjoys looking at the named hearts of loved ones. Suggested \$5.00 donation per name of those to be honored. Table set up in front of the parish center May 4 & 5.

Also, we can't forget our important men in our lives, Father's Day June 16th! Therefore, the Ladies will be taking donations at the table set up in front of the parish center the weekends of June 1 & 2, and 8 & 9.

Our last meeting will be held May 9th, until September. We ladies will be voting on disbursement of charitable donations to ministries in great need. Let's have a great turnout at the meeting this month. God Bless you and all that you do for our Knights.



Wally Vazquez
Faithful Navigator
travelwally@msn.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

Our Assembly Social Dinner was held on 25 April 2024, at Beef O' Grady's Restaurant on Tampa Road. The social was well attended, and a good time was had by all. The Faithful Navigator opened the Social with a prayer and summarized future events as follows:

During our next Assembly Meeting 23 May 2024, we will have the election of the 2024 - 2025 Fraternal Year. The candidates are:

Faithful Navigator	Dr John Gohman
Faithful Friar	Fr Michael W. Cooper, S.J.
Faithful Captain	JJ Coyne, PGK
Faithful Admiral	Wally Vazquez, PFN
Faithful Pilot	Ed Amador
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler
Trustee Three Year	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN
Trustee Two Year	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN
Trustee One Year	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
Color Corps CDR	Tom Wozniak, PGK, PFN, FDD
Veterans Liaison	Bill Gallant

On a personal note, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the Assembly Officers who helped make our Assembly meetings and events successful. THANK YOU ALL!

The Installation of Assembly Officers will be in late June or early July, **to be scheduled**. I plan on asking the District Master to perform the Installation at that time. If he is not available, then a substitute, to be named, will perform the installation.

The Stand Down for Homeless Veterans was a huge success. Our Assembly contributed \$1,000.00 for one hundred \$10.00 McDonalds food cards. This was matched by a donation from the Ladies Auxiliary of \$1,000

for a myriad of toiletries and sundries. Our Veteran's Liaison, Bill Gallant, collected an additional \$300 through collections at his place of business. The Director of

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans sent a heartfelt thank you note (below).

Our next meeting will be on May 23, 2024. The first order of business will be the election of the next Fraternal Year's Assembly Officers. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. The meeting will be held at the John Bosco Center at 7:00 pm.

"Lord Jesus, I surrender to you, please take care of everything."

Subject: 2024 Stand Down for Homeless Veterans

Hello All

I just wanted to give a huge Thank you to all of you for making the Stand Down event a success! We served 430 veterans that day, and my team has already re-engaged with many of those same veterans this week, working to enter them in VA transitional programs and off the streets.

Additionally, the Pinellas County Court Staff waived just over \$149,000 in court fines. Overall, there is a lot to celebrate.

Your generosity, donations, service, and more were appreciated by many! We look forward to collaborating next year.

Thank you,

Blossom Kapper

Dir, Healthcare for Homeless Veterans



Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
727.723.1169



Vote NO to #4: this is the mantra going forward, for all people of goodwill, through the General Election Day on Nov 5, 2024. Why? Because the FL Supreme Court, on a 4-3 decision, has allowed onto the ballot this amendment to our state constitution that would enshrine abortion up to birth.

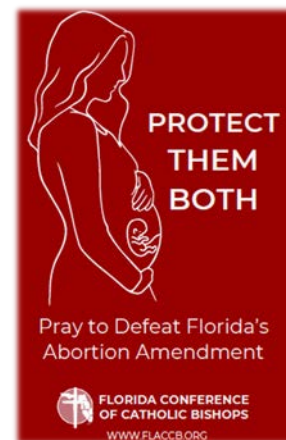
The FL Conference of Catholic Bishops oppose this extreme abortion amendment that legalizes full-term abortion with no protections for the preborn child. This proposed amendment would prohibit all restrictions on abortion before viability and create a broad exception that any healthcare provider could exploit to allow abortion up to birth.

Even the terms 'viability' and 'healthcare provider' are nebulous and not defined, allowing for more ambiguity and confusion. The amendment would effectively overturn our common-sense laws that have regulated abortion for years, including eliminating parental consent for minors, eliminating informed consent requirements for pregnant women, eliminating the requirement to have medical doctors perform abortions, eliminating basic and health and safety requirements for abortion clinics, and eliminating restrictions on public funding of abortions. Read that last sentence over and over again and think about each one of those safeguards that will be eliminated. These risks demonstrate the extreme nature of the amendment. That's why we say: Vote NO to #4!

The FL bishops urge all Floridians of goodwill to stand against the legalization of late-term abortion, to oppose the abortion amendment, and to Vote NO to #4. In doing so, we will protect the weakest, most innocent and defenseless of human life, and the countless women throughout the state from the harms of abortion. Human life is sacred. Over 84,000 vulnerable and voiceless children were aborted in Florida in 2023.

You are encouraged to learn more at www.flaccb.org. Please pray for Life, and volunteer to help defeat Amendment #4.

Let's also take a moment to pray and say: Happy Mother's Day! to all those who are Moms, and Grandmas, and those among us who grieve a miscarriage, a stillborn, or an abortion. All children are a gift from God, and we are all made in His image. Thank you, O God, for all life!



Prayer to Defeat Florida's Abortion Amendment

Ever-living God, you give life and desire a future for all your children. Take hold of our nation, state, and community and awaken in every heart awe for the gift of life. Send your Spirit to strengthen us with wisdom and fortitude as we defend mothers and children in Florida from laws that disregard their health and safety.

Mary and Joseph trusted in you and welcomed Jesus into our broken world. God Almighty, we ask their intercession to protect the preborn and their mothers, and to guide all parents in raising their children. May they help us build a civilization of love by upholding the sacredness of life and accompanying pregnant women in need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Mother of the Family,
pray for us!

St. Joseph, Protector of the Unborn,
pray for us!

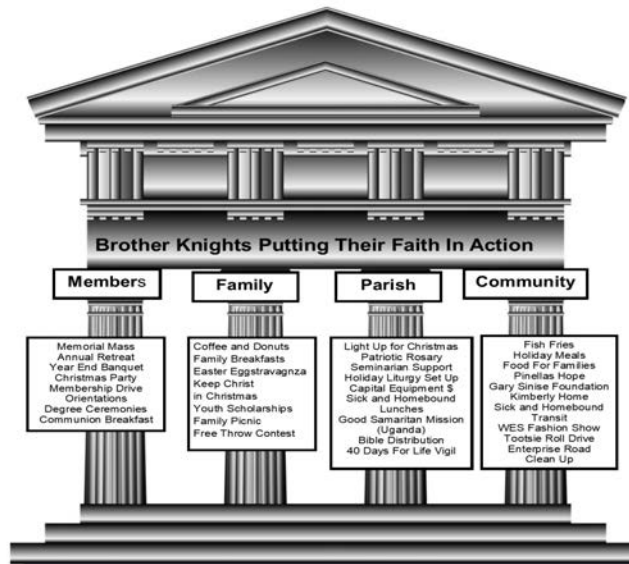


Jerry Custin
PGK, PFN
jcustin@gmail.com



Harmonize Work and Family Life

What a great concept for our Council, our families, our Church, our communities, and our planet. Simply harmonize things. But harmony also requires work and productivity, so it requires planning, effort and, often, some level of sacrifice. Makes you think of how much time we commit to our brotherhood and church in addition to our work and families. As we can tell in this Psalm, David had to work pretty hard at it. It's hard not to think about the status of God's people, Israel, at this point in history and all our options when we face great adversity. Then we remember. The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom should I fear? Though war be waged against me, even then do I trust. Wait for the Lord, take courage, be stouthearted wait for the Lord.



Psalm 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? When evildoers come at me to devour my flesh, these my enemies and foes themselves stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart does not fear; Though war be waged against me, even then do I trust. One thing I ask of the LORD; this I seek: To dwell in the LORD's house all the days of my life, To gaze on the LORD's beauty, to visit his temple. For God will hide me in his shelter in time of trouble, He will conceal me in the cover of his tent; and set me high upon a rock. Even now my head is held high above my enemies on every side! I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and chant praise to the LORD. Hear my voice, LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me. "Come," says my heart, "seek his face"; your face, LORD, do I seek! Do not hide your face from me; do not repel your servant in anger. You are my salvation; do not cast me off; do not forsake me, God my savior! Even if my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in. LORD, show me your way; lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not abandon me to the desire of my foes; malicious and lying witnesses have risen against me. I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD, take courage; be stouthearted, wait for the LORD!

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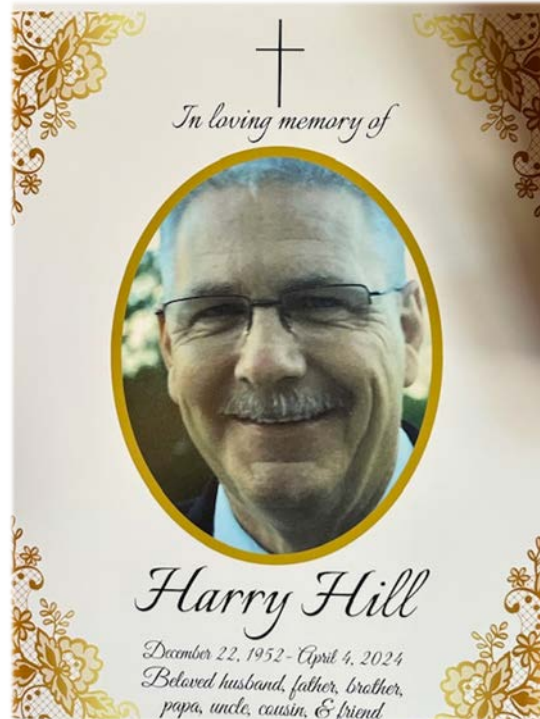
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In Memoriam

Harry James Hill

December 22, 1952 – April 04, 2024

~ Blessed Husband, Father, Brother, Papa, Uncle, Cousin & Friend ~



Harry served in the US Air Force where he worked on the C130 airframe during the Vietnam War Era. After his service he worked in retail management in his early years. He retired after nearly 30 years of service as a juvenile justice probation officer supervisor for the state of Florida in Hernando County. He was a natural leader who worked his way up to management in any job he held, in any industry.

Harry loved to fish, especially deep-sea fishing with his family. He loved doing 5K races and did the Turkey Trot every year on Thanksgiving. He loved riding his bike, golfing, kayaking, and camping with his grandkids. He loved do-it-yourself projects and if you asked him to help with one, he'd be right over!

Harry loved being an Emmaus brother. He participated in fundraising events and raising money for various charities throughout his career. He was a Third Degree Knight of Columbus.

Harry was someone you always wanted to be around. His daughters said they had the best times on family vacations. He always took the grandkids for ice cream.

A special memory is that Harry and Anna celebrated 50 years of marriage this summer at an amazing surprise gathering that all their family flew in from out of state. It was magical!

Letter to the Editor

Standdown!

On April 6 JJ Coyne, Bill Gallant and Jerry Custin set up a table loaded with various items we thought would be useful to our homeless veteran's community attending an annual Standdown organized and hosted by the Bay Pines Regional Veterans Hospital. This included \$2,300 worth of laundry pods, hand sanitizer sunscreen, new t-shirts and underwear, socks, toothbrushes and toothpaste and, to clean it all up, toilet paper. Turns out that more than 430 veterans attended the event along with fifty or more organizations providing a variety of services. To say our work was appreciated is an understatement as we exhausted our stock within a couple hours and had numerous excellent conversation snippets with the vets using our services.

One in particular stood out. The vet asked, "What is the Knights of Columbus?" We explained that we are a group of Catholic men formed around the four core principles which led us to the Standdown: Unity, Charity, Fraternity and Patriotism. By serving vets we fulfilled all four of those principles. We asked if he was Catholic. He said that he was raised Baptist but was recently released from thirteen years in prison about a year ago and was working to get his life together including the spiritual component. He shared that he appreciated not only our "stuff" but the fact we were sharing our mission with him and the vets. A nice moment.

I'll close with a poem that was written and recited wonderfully by a local veteran, John Whitehead Sr. This was done at the event opening and perfectly captures the intent of the day. It's called Start Over.

Start Over

When you have trusted God and walked His way,
When you have felt His hand lead you day by day,
But now your steps take you another way
Then, Start Over

When you have made up your mind and now it has gone
away,

When you have tried your best, but there is no other
way,

When you have failed yourself and don't know why
Then Start Over

When you have told your friends what you plan to do,
When you have trusted them, but they didn't come
through,

And now your all alone and it's up to you
Then Start Over

When you have failed your kids and they've grown up
and gone,

When you have done your best, but it turns out wrong,
And now your grandchildren come alone
Then Start Over

When you think you have finished and want to quit,
When you have bottomed out in life's deepest pits
When you have tried and tried to get out of it
Then Start Over

When the years have been long and successes few
When December comes and you're feeling blue,
God gives a January, just for you to start over.

Starting over means a victory is won,
Starting over means a race has been run,
Starting over means God's will has been done,
So, don't just sit there, Start Over.



From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

The Great Restoration

By his death and resurrection, in the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord seeks to heal and re-create us, body and soul

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

As an antique car enthusiast, I subscribe to a magazine that features photos of cars from bygone eras. I enjoy seeing cars that were new when I was young ('50s-'70s), but to my eye, nothing quite compares to a Packard from the 1930s. That combination of towering engine grille and graceful pontoon fenders is a thing of real beauty. Their interiors were well-appointed and spacious, the engine and transmission quiet and smooth. And some of these cars look like they just rolled off the showroom floor.

But not all of them. Many old cars languish in fields and barns. Others fare better; they've been acquired by new owners willing to go through the arduous process of restoring them. That process contradicts the adage that beauty is only skin deep. To restore an old car, one typically has to rebuild the engine and transmission, as well as repair the frame, suspension, and electrical system. The most thorough restorations involve taking the car's body off the frame and rebuilding it from the ground up.

All this might be more than you wanted to know about restoring antique cars, but it's actually leading somewhere. We just celebrated Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, the heart of the liturgical year. For 50 days, the Church extends the celebration of this great and wondrous mystery: The rising of Christ opens the way for the thorough restoration of our humanity.

Indeed, that is why Christ came into the world - to restore our wounded human dignity, damaged by sin and spiritual neglect, to undo the effects of original sin, to make us shine with the glory he shares eternally with his Father in the Holy Spirit. Divine restoration neglects no part of us. The Lord is out to re-create us, body and soul.

A really thorough restoration is always from the inside out. After all, what good is it to restore the body of an antique car if the engine won't start or the transmission's gears are slipping? What kind of restoration contents itself with a shabby interior? Just so, the Lord seeks to restore us in the deepest truth of our existence - in the depth of our being, from the inside out. The Gospel says that Jesus knew human nature well (Jn 2:25), and small wonder: It was through him we were made, and it was our nature that he assumed (Jn 1:3,14). So, like an expert restorer, Jesus knows the repairs that need to be made, not merely in how we appear to others, but in how we really are, in the core of our being. The Lord, in the power of the Spirit, is out to cleanse our consciences from sin, to purify and enlarge our hearts, to empower us to advance in holiness.

That is why, when the risen Lord appeared to the Apostles in the upper room, he gave them power to forgive sins, a power that reaches us in the sacrament of reconciliation. That is also why, on the Second Sunday of Easter, we celebrate the Divine Mercy by which God forgives and restores us, his handiwork. He makes us shine outwardly with the beauty of inward truth, integrity and love.

God's restorative work extends throughout our lives and indeed beyond this earthly life. Just as an old car is most thoroughly restored when its body is removed from its frame, this is what happens when we die. Our body and soul are separated until the resurrection of the dead. Purgatory provides further restoration of the soul before it beholds the glory of God. At the end of time, body and soul will be reunited, but the result will be far more than a resuscitated corpse. No, we shall be made new. As St. John says, "Beloved, we are God's children now. What we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 Jn 3:2).



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Pray For Those Who Persecute You

State Deputy Richard Hughes

With Easter season, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and our renewed hope for sharing eternal life with God in Heaven. It is amazing enough that God's Love is so great that he created us in his image and likeness, and that he took on our humanity, suffering humiliation and death on the Cross for our redemption from sin. But through the Resurrection, he has also shown us that "death does not have the final word", and that we are called to share in the divine life, body and soul, to be with Him in all eternity. Just contemplating this reality should overwhelm us with awe and humility.

This view of human life is a fundamental part of our Catholic beliefs and underlies the Order's service to the most vulnerable in our society— people with special needs, those that lack the basic necessities of life, women needing assistance to care for young children. But the right to human life itself, particularly for the unborn, is especially important. As the Florida Bishops have put it, ". . . the respect for human dignity and the fundamental value of human life is of grave importance to both our Church and our state."

A proposed amendment to the Florida Constitution, which will appear on the ballot on November 5, 2024, will effectively permit abortion in Florida in nearly all circumstances. Our Bishops have already issued an eloquent statement in opposition to this amendment, and I certainly cannot improve upon that statement. But the question is—what should we as Knights do?

First, pray. If you already pray, pray more! Our Bishops have already composed a prayer for this specific issue, and I encourage all Councils to make use of this prayer.

Second, support our Bishops and, by extension, all our parishes and our clergy as they work to educate and communicate the position of the Church here in Florida on this proposed amendment and on abortion. Let's work with them and remember that the laity, in particular, are called to the mission of evangelization in the secular world that we inhabit.

Third, encourage all Knights—and all Catholics—to register to vote, and to vote "No" to this proposed amendment in November.

As we go about this mission, we are bound to encounter those who support this amendment and oppose our position—and perhaps oppose the Church more broadly. We must remember that they too are created in the image and likeness of God, and that God calls them to divine life. And so even those that oppose us with every fiber of their being deserve to be treated with dignity, charity, and patience. The best guide to this is the words of Jesus Himself:

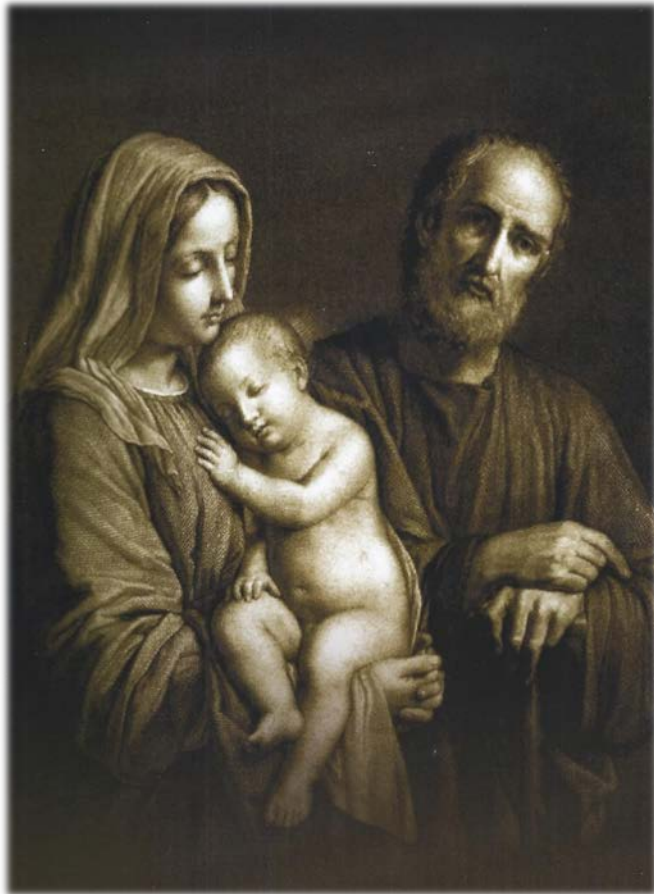
"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy'. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:43-45)

One final admonition: in supporting an issue of such grave importance, it is tempting to bring partisan politics into the fray. Councils and members must remember the strict prohibition of engaging in partisan politics as Knights. As individuals, members are free to exercise their rights and participate in partisan political speech and activity. But when doing so, do not wear the emblem of the Order in any way (such as Council polo shirts or even lapel pins), and do not represent yourself as a Knight.

Veni Sancte Spiritus.

Assembly Officers 2023-2024

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Veterans Liaison	Bill Gallant	727.251.6300



A Family Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family. Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more fully this vocation to love.

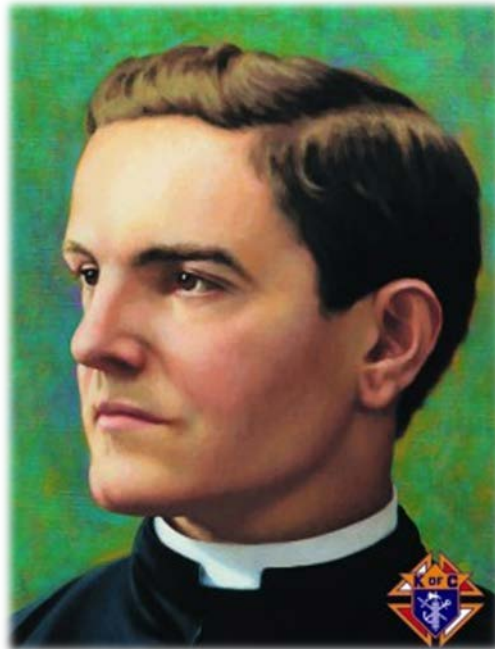
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

Let your love be evident in the peace that reigns in our home and in the faith, we profess and live. May our family always be a place of generosity, understanding, forgiveness and joy.

Kindly give us the wisdom and courage to be witnesses to your eternal design for the family; and grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to holiness as a family.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen.



*Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney
Founder of the Knights of Columbus*

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael 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 Blessed Michael 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.

What's Happening?



Council Calendar of Events...

May 2024

- 05/09 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 05/09 | Thu 7:00p Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 05/16 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 05/18 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home WorkDay
- 05/19 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 05/27 | Mon 8:30a Memorial Day Mass & Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 06/02 | Sun 7:30a Corporate Communion Breakfast & Mass (9:00a)



Assembly Calendar of Events...

May 2024

- 05/06 | Mon 6:30p Golf Tournament Committee Meeting
- 05/17 | Fri 12:00n ESCS Graduation Procession
- 05/23 | Thu 7:00p Assembly Membership Meeting

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Prayer for our Nation

God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to
Your loving care.

You are the rock on which this nation was founded.

You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and
the pursuit of happiness.

Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.

Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities
that accompany human freedom.

Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing
Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land,
grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death."

Lead us into a new millennium of life.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

