



The Shield

Grand Knight's Message



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

Issue 4, April 2024

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, April 11 @ **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 without a doubt the busiest month, in March, of our Fraternal Year with a great many activities including the **FOUR** Fryday Fish Fry's during the Lenten Season. With our upcoming April events that I have listed below, we can take it down a bit and catch our collective breaths this month. Here's what's going on:

APRIL UPCOMING EVENTS

- Council Officer's Meeting – Thursday, April 4th, at 7:00 PM in the Gathering Room
- Rosary – Thursday, April 11th, at **6:15 PM** in the St. John Bosco Center **NOTE NEW TIME**
- Council Business Meeting – Thursday, April 11th, **7:00 PM** in the Parish Center **NOTE NEW TIME**
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting – Thursday, April 11th, **7:00 PM** in the Gathering Room **NOTE NEW TIME**
- Council Coffee, Donuts & More – Sunday, April 14th, 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the St. John Bosco Center
- Program Directors Meeting – Tuesday, April 16th, in the Gathering Room
- Informational Open House & Fraternal Benefits Night – Tuesday, April 16th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Pinellas Hope – Lunch Meal Prep and Delivery – Thursday, April 16th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PC Kitchen

- Unified Degree Exemplification – Thursday, April 18th, 7:30 PM in the Parish Center
- Kimberly Home Work Day – Saturday, April 20th, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Assembly Social – Beef O'Brady's Thursday, April 25th, 6:00 PM

LENTEN SEASON - FISH FRY FRIDAYS

My momma always said "Life is like a box of chocolates you never know what you're going to get." This is one of the very popular lines from the movie **Forest Gump** (1994) which I'm sure that most of us have used from time to time. As you remember, this movie starred Tom Hanks as Forest Gump and our Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Brother Gary Sinise, as Lieutenant Dan.

The reason that I started out with this popular saying is that we basically had the same volunteers in place doing the same work in 2023, as we did this year in 2024, but the results were completely different. While our Lenten Fish Fry Season in 2023 was successful for our Council, we started out with the first one being solid to steadily declining the next five Fridays.

This year we again started off with solid results then went up to the mid 450 dinners served range and held there the next five weeks! I'm sure the price that we featured this year at "All you can eat for \$12" was a major contributing factor in this success coming down from \$15 in 2023. We realized some very significant

cost reductions for the cod and the cooking oil that we use just to name a couple that enabled us to reduce the amount that we charged per dinner. Let's hope these costs hold for the future!

I am so very proud of our Council and our Ladies Auxiliary and extremely grateful for all the hard work that everyone did to make this Lenten Fish Fry Season the **BEST EVER!** Our Council set records for total dinners served, total revenue and total profit in one year! If you are interested in knowing what the actual numbers are I will be happy to share them with you but, you will have to attend our next Council Business Meeting on Thursday, April 11th.

I would like to shout out a great big **THANK YOU** and recognize all of our Brother Knights and Ladies who volunteered their time and made these six Fish Fry events an amazing success for our Council. Thank you and God Bless all of you!!!

Tom Harkins	Anne Harkins	Robin LaChance
John Clarke	Betsy Clarke	Tom Fitzpatrick
Santo Loparo	Joe D'Amelio	Betty D'Amelio
Phil Farney	Peter Demzak	Tom Krivchenia
Mario Zaccaria	Karen Jajuga	Margaret Krivchenia
Rob Pickard	Gene Jajuga	Kevin McCullagh
Matt Sunski	Frank DiMattei	Angela DiMattei
Bill Krajieski	John Gohman	Peggy Gohman
Paul Harvey	Jacob Burnett	Irving Hernandez
Richie Resler	Ann LeClerc	Richard LeClerc
Roe Resler	Jean Wozniak	Edward Amador
Brian Kearns	Tom Wozniak	George Inderwies
Chris Kearns	Jim Montali	Phyllis Montali
Jerry Custin	Terry Drake	Sue Englemann
Ken Seguin	Shirley Drake	Mike Englemann
JT Honahan	Pat Nocerino	Rebecca Manetta
Bill Gallant	Bob Bonvicino	Frank McEwen
Mike Furman	Paul Cooper	Fr Michael Cooper
JJ Coyne	Doug deWolfe	John Ruckart
JK Sujarani	Adel Nammour	Kathleen Ruckart

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

Student Volunteer Servers

Mark Murack	Leia Williams	Tyler Harden
Ethan Reed	Zachary Reed	Ryan Burriesci
Ava Butler	Grifyn Hagan	
Gabriella Suarez-Vargas		
Domenica Reed – Certified Parent Supervisor		

ST VINCENT DE PAUL EASTER MEAL BASKET DELIVERY

Every year St. Vincent de Paul puts approximately 50 Easter Food Baskets together and our K of C Council is asked for our assistance in making deliveries to our neighbors that are in need. Thank you to the teams of volunteers that made these much-needed deliveries on Saturday, March 23rd.

John & Betsy Clarke Adel & Delpha Nammour
 Rob & Vickie Pickard Edward & Violet Amador
 Chris & Pat Nocerino
 John Malone Mark Feldman Tom Fitzpatrick

Once again, if I have missed listing anyone that may have helped make these deliveries, I sincerely apologize.

KofC FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION

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

Representing 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.

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





SK Edward Amador
 Membership Director
 Edamador00@gmail.com

Council 7109 Holy Moments

****A Milestone Achieved:
 15 New Members Welcomed****

Dear Brother Knights,

I am thrilled to continue to share the exciting news that we have successfully reached our membership goal by welcoming 15 new members into our Council.

****Recognizing Dedication: Thank You to
 Tom Stanko, Bill Galant, and JJ Coyne****

I want to extend a special thank you to Tom Stanko, Bill Galant, and JJ Coyne for their efforts in helping us reach this goal. Their hard work and dedication have been instrumental in our success, and we are truly grateful for their contributions. I also want to thank our Grand Knight Gene Jajuga for his support and leadership throughout this process. Without his guidance, we would not have been able to achieve this milestone.

****Creating Holy Moments:
 Reflecting on Our Work****

As we celebrate this milestone, let us reflect on the concept of Holy Moments as described by Matthew Kelly. Holy Moments are those instances where we can make a difference in someone's life, no matter how small the gesture. In the work we do with the Knights of Columbus, every act of charity, every moment of fraternity, and every expression of unity is a Holy Moment. Whether it's helping a family in need, supporting a community event, or offering a kind word to a brother in distress, we have the opportunity to create these Holy Moments every day.

****Welcoming New Members:**

Each new member we welcome into our council represents a new opportunity to create these Holy perspectives, and passions that will enrich our council and help us better serve our community. Together, we can amplify our efforts and create even more meaningful Holy Moments for those around us. As we

look ahead to the new fraternal year, let us continue to build on this momentum. Let us remain active and engaged in our council's activities, as we strive to make a difference in our community.

Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment to the Knights of Columbus. Together, we can achieve great things and continue to create Holy Moments in the world.

Vivat Jesus!



SK Edward J. Amador
 Membership Director



WGK Gene Jajuga presents new Brother Joseph Favia with his 3rd Degree Certificate

Unity - Strength in Numbers

Informational Open House Schedule

2024: April 16 | June 18

Unified Degree Ceremony Schedule

2024: April 18 | June 20

Look for more information from our Grand Knight



Council Membership Report

Total Membership	334
Insurance Membership	135
Honorary Life Members	65
Honorary Members	07
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	15/15
Fraternal Benefits Nights	01/02

Assembly Membership Report

Total Membership	133
Honorary Life Members	16
Honorary Members	01
2023-2024 Membership Growth vs Goal	03/06



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!

Denis Bethke, Jonathan Boyce, Kurt Clasen, Joseph D'Amelio, Douglas deWolfe, Peter Demzak, Dominic Friscia, David Harvey, Patrick Harwood, Kevin Hernandez, George Inderwies, Daniel Jordan, John Kane, Michael Landi, John Lenehan, Frank Marsalek, John Martin, John Mills, Patrick Nocerino, Todd Owers, Nick Petrarca, Mario Russica, Hugh Siegel, Massimo Simeoni, Matthew Sunski, Jack Tipton, Ronald Vance, Thomas Ziegler

Prayers for the Sick

Don & Marie Bishop, Tim & Barbara Rush, Ken Seguin, Maggie Cappabianca, Ward Griffin, Elizabeth Inderwies, Kennedie McFadden, Bob Justiana, Dorothy Alogozzina (d), Jewel Allen (d), Ed Mandichak (d), David deWolfe (d), Joseph Raponi (d), Mac Sinise (d), Deborah Laffy, Stanley Gdula (d), J. Nick Martin (d), Kenneth Bryan Martinez, Linda Cooper (d), Morgan Pettersen, Edward Mandichak (d), Kenneth DePasquale, Katherine Krajieski, Frank Pensibene, Mary Clare Rose (d), Bob Ehrman, Joseph Genalo, Felipe Hernandez (d), Max Kostioukovski, Angela DiMattei, Tony McClure (d), Maria Palazzo (d), Joyce Ayril, Burke Taylor, Mike Taylor, Bill Kasak, Karen Loparo

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 Krajieski, 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 Elfein, 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

HAPPY EASTER ALELEUIA

We had two wonderful Masses in Philippe Park with a lot of Knights joining Ken Seguin, Paula Moynihan, Tom Fitzpatrick, among many Knights and Ladies helping in hospitality and being Eucharistic Ministers. Past Grand Knight John and his wife Sharon joined. Once again John Ruckhardt was there at 5am to set up a near perfect sound system covering the wide spread of faithful in the park for Mass.

As part of my homily I talked about Cyrus Labib, now a Jesuit seminarian in his early 40's. He has accomplished a lot of things - *Phi Beta Kappa* at Columbia followed by a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford, where he converted to Catholicism - in part due to his connection with the Jesuit Residence Campion Hall. Back to the States he enrolled at Yale Law School and was editor of the Yale Law Review. Back in Washington State, he practiced law and was elected to public office and eventually became the Lieutenant Governor, second in command of the State of Washington. During this time Cyrus also felt a growing call to become a priest in the Society of Jesus. He felt called by the Holy Spirit to discern whether he wanted to be "successful" in his various legal and political career or to follow his heart's desire and enter the Jesuits.

What I forgot to tell you was that Cyrus had eye cancer that left him permanently blind since the eighth grade!

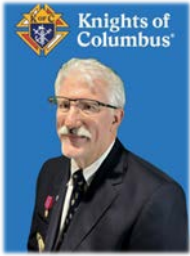
I call Cyrus' blindness a real "death" to so many possibilities. Yet he appears to be very happy. I use this example of a fuller sense of Redemption. The Paschal Mystery affirms that out of the death and dying in everyday life, e.g. breakups of a relationship, loss of a job, disappointments big and small, et cetera, God opens up New Life, New Hopes, New Beginnings in amazing and unexpected ways. Another way to say that is that one door gets slammed in my face and is not going to open again, God, God will open up a New Door in amazing and unexpected ways. Or as my Jesuit friend Paul Macke says, "sometimes the deviation becomes the main road."

These Paschal Mystery Moments are not "magic." They demand our trust and cooperation and our not giving up or letting uncontrolled anger get in the way. Thus, we remain a people of Hope and possibility. Likewise, we are called to be those witnesses and ministers of that Hope and Possibility and, like Jesus, never to give up Hope on anyone, including God and myself.

Michael Cooper, SJ
Chaplain
727.644.5544

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 Brothers Knights!

Happy Easter, everyone. I hope you had an uplifting and spiritual Lenten season where you were able to connect and deepen your faith. Easter is a time to reflect on what Jesus went through for us. His cruel passion, his unthinkable agony as he was nailed to the cross and suffered for our sins. All of this he endured so that one day we could be with him in Paradise. We can never thank our loving Savior enough.

A big thank you to everyone who worked or helped in some way with the fish fry this year. This year we had record numbers of guests and in revenue. A great big thank you to Santo and John for working together to tweak the recipe for the fish; it was very successful. Thank you, Ed, for an outstanding job on meeting and exceeding our quota for new membership. I really appreciate the effort and hard work you put in to accomplish our goal.

Faith In Action



From the Community Director's Desk

Brothers, we have had a great year in our community outreach program. Sometime close to the beginning of May, we will again be doing our road cleanup project of Enterprise Road. This is a worthwhile project and visible to our neighbors. I invite you to join us. It usually takes less than an hour, and it really makes a difference.

From the Family Director's Desk

To help families live out the joy of Christ, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a prayer through which families will come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family. In this prayer, we ask for the aid or intercession of the perfect son Jesus Christ, Mary the perfect

mother, and Joseph who is a model for every father. During this Easter season, take a few minutes to pray this prayer often with your spouse and/or family.

O Lord Jesus, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you grew in age, wisdom, and grace as you prepared to fulfill your mission as our Redeemer. We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary, you are the Mother of our savior. At Nazareth you cared for Jesus and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home. We entrust our family to you.

O St. Joseph, you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary and gave us a model of fatherhood while showing us the dignity of work. We entrust our family to you.

Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful, and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need. May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

From the Life Director's Desk

We are having our monthly Rosary on Thursday April 11th at 6:15pm in the JBC. Please bring someone with you as this is open to everyone in the parish. We are planning our retreat in May. We have Fr. Rich and other guest speakers attending. More information to come soon.

Saint Catherine of Siena – April 29, 2024

One of the Church's great mystics, Catherine Benincasa had her first visions of Jesus when she was six years old. At seven, she vowed to give her whole life to God, and at sixteen she joined the "Mantellate," a local group of Dominican tertiaries, a gathering of pious women composed primarily of widows, informally devoted to Dominican spirituality. In later years, these pious groups would be formalized into the Third Order of Dominicans. A remarkable ascetic, Catherine was

sustained almost exclusively by the Eucharist, and both interceded for and admonished many hardened sinners who subsequently converted. She later received what she would call a “mystical marriage” with Jesus, which further fed her zeal, culminating in a successful exhortation of Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome from Avignon, and then carried out many missions entrusted to her by the pope, something quite rare for a woman in the Middle Ages. She engaged in papal and Italian politics through extensive letter-writing and advocacy. A constant advocate of the mercy of Jesus, she died April 29, 1380 exhausted by her rigorous fasting at the age of thirty-three. She was canonized in 1461 by Pope Pius II. She is revered as a Doctor of the Church due to her prolific theological authorship, and her strong influence in the history of the papacy. In 1999, Pope Saint John Paul II proclaimed her a Patron Saint of Europe.

April Liturgical Calendar

- Apr 7 Divine Mercy Sunday
- Apr 8 The Annunciation of the Lord (Solemnity)
- Apr 11 Saint Stanislaus (Memorial)
- Apr 13 St. Martin I
- Apr 23 St. George, St. Adalbert
- Apr 24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
- Apr 25 Saint Mark (Feast)
- Apr 29 Saint Catherine of Siena
- Apr 30 St. Pius V

Vivat Jesus,
 Tom Krivchenia
 Deputy Grand Knight 7109
 DGK7109@gmail.com



WGK Gene Jajuga recognizes Jean & Tom Wozniak as February Family of the Month



WGK Gene Jajuga presents SK Ed Amador with the Shining Armor Award for his recruiting efforts





John Ruckart
Field Agent
John.Ruckart@kofc.org



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Fraternal Benefits Advisor Report

We spend six weeks each year during Lent fasting, praying and almsgiving. We hope to unite our fasting and praying with Jesus' 40 days of fasting and praying in the desert, to focus on preparing both our inner and outer selves to celebrate the great Easter feast. We give alms to identify with that great sacrifice of God giving His only begotten Son. With Easter on March 31 this year, I hope this finds that you had a very blessed celebration of this central Christian feast! Easter certainly brings thoughts of newness and renewal. We hope our fasting, praying and almsgiving renews our closeness to God.

As Spring settles in, I observe the many rituals of the season. I think of newness and renewal. Outside beds are prepared for new planting. I see the new blossoms on trees and flowers reaching full bloom, lengthening of daylight, and a rush of sounds and sights not seen for many months. Schoolchildren begin to count down the days to summer vacation. Parents do the same counting down...perhaps without the joy of the children!

Spring seems to elicit looking forward.

As I look forward this Spring, I am renewed in my mission to meet with my members. I want to keep you apprised of any changes you might want to consider in your insurance program. I hope you will keep me apprised of any changes in your circumstances. Adjustments can be made to make sure that you are on the path to reach your goals.

The Order offers a diverse array of products and services to help you do that. Together we can complete or update your financial needs analysis. This can show where you stand and helps discover any gaps in protection you might have. Our products: life insurance, retirement annuities, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance, are our core products to help protect you and your family.

I'll call on you soon to see if it makes sense to arrange for a meeting.

Vivat Jesus!

John D Ruckart, FICF
813.855.5111

Book an appt with me here:
johnruckart.10to8.com

Learn about our investments:
<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/meet-john-ruckart>

Pictures from our Easter Sunrise Mass in Philippe Park follow. Our Council Chaplain, Fr Michael Cooper, presided over the Mass, our Benefits Advisor, John Ruckart, provided technical support, and several Brother Knights and Ladies served in various ministries.





Wally Vazquez
 Faithful Navigator
 travelwally@msn.com

Faithful Navigator's Log

The Beef O' Grady restaurant was reserved for 6:00pm on April 25, 2024, Dinner with the ladies. Same place we had our Assembly Dinner. A blast will be sent out to determine how many Knights and their wives will attend.

The District Master conducted the Biennial District Meeting of all FNs and/or alternates for March 23, 2024. In attendance from our Assembly was the Faithful Captain John Gohman. The main topics discussed were a) Process for selection of candidates for the position of District Master; b) Color Corps review of documentation, as follows:

- Each of the applicants for the District Master Position was presented and each gave a short bio of his background and qualifications. No voting was conducted.
- It was announced that there is an ongoing review of the Color Corps documentation to make needed changes and introduce new means of executing their processes.

The Fish Fries have ended with another very successful year. Thanks to all the Knights which participated in preparing meals, preparing the kitchen and the eating areas, the collection of monies and the manning the Membership Desk. Congratulations all!!

Our next meeting will be on 23rd of May at which we will vote for our new Assembly Officers. Please come and provide your vote.

The Candidates Slate follows:

Faithful Navigator	John Gohman
Faithful Friar	Fr Michael Cooper, SJ
Faithful Captain	JJ Coyne, PGK
Faithful Admiral	Wally Vazquez, PFN
Faithful Pilot	Edward Amador
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN
Inside Sentinel	Vince Cristiano
Outside Sentinel	Richie Resler

Trustee Year Three
 Trustee Year Two
 Trustee Year One
 Veterans Liaison

Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN
 Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN
 Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA
 Bill Gallant



Blessed Easter season as we celebrate 50 days of deep reflections of our risen Lord and what he does for us every day. We were blessed with celebrating the Lenten season with providing delicious meals and desserts to all who attended the Fish Fry's. Thank-you to all Ladies who helped in so many ways to make this year such a success. Our auxiliary had donations of a little more than \$1800 over the six Fridays for the scrumptious desserts!

Our next charitable events will be the memorial trees for Mother's Day and Father's Day. We will have paper hearts to honor those women we love for Mother's Day. We will be having a donation table set up the weekend of April 27/28 and May 4/5. A sign-up sheet will be at our next Auxiliary meeting Thursday, April 11. Please consider helping by signing up to man the table before or after masses sometime during those two weekends. Thank you, Katie Gonsch and Ann Harper with helping with your organizational and artistic skills. We couldn't do this without your support. May God's Easter blessings continue with you and your family throughout this season.



Dave Behrle
PGK, PFN
727.723.1169



Jesus Christ is Risen today! He is Risen Indeed! Happy Easter! Alleluia! Alleluia!! May the promise and hope of Eternal Life with God strengthen you and your family and friends to grow in faith and share the Good News.

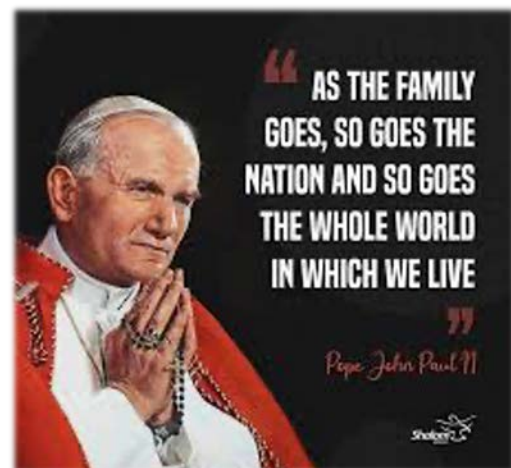
As this is written, we await various Supreme Court rulings. Here in Florida, the FL Supreme Court is to rule, maybe this last week of March, on the pro-abortion amendment to our state constitution, whether it will be on the ballot in November. Nationally, the US Supreme Court is reviewing the FDA's rules on dispensing the abortion pill mifepristone. Most commentaries on this national case believe the Court will support the FDA authority. However, the CEO of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians & Gynecologists, Dr. Christina Francis, states in a Wall Street Journal article (3-26-24) that "under the FDA's relaxed protocols, women are at a greater risk of a deadly ectopic pregnancy." My hope is that the government and medical profession change course to gather the health statistics on the abortion pill and abortion in general to present the dangers to all women, across all races and ethnicities. And may that lead, eventually, to better protection of the unborn.

In other news, courtesy of the National Catholic Register:

- Within one year, 35% of all US archbishops will be at least 75, the age when a bishop is required to submit his resignation to the Pope. Pope Francis can accept or defer action. These 12 bishops, who are nearing retirement include five Cardinals: Sean O'Malley, Boston (turns 80 this June), Wilton Gregory, Washington DC (turns 77 in December), Blaise Cupich, Chicago (75 – March 2023), Daniel Dinardo, Galveston-Houston (turns 75 this May), and Timothy Dolan, New York (turns 75 in February). Cardinals have voting privileges to select a new pope, up till the age of 80. That was established by St Pope Paul VI in 1970. Also, a 2/3 super majority is required to select a new pope.

- Poland's new government is considering legalizing abortion, under any conditions up to 12 weeks, and allowing the morning-after pill to be sold over the counter to minors age 15 and older.
- Catholic schools in America, overall, are still closing their doors: 44 in 2023, 71 in 2022, and 209 in 2021. And the percentage of Catholics in Catholic schools is dropping too: now 78%, it was 87% some 20 years ago, and 97% in 1970.

Please continue to pray for Life, for our families, our Church, Country and the World.



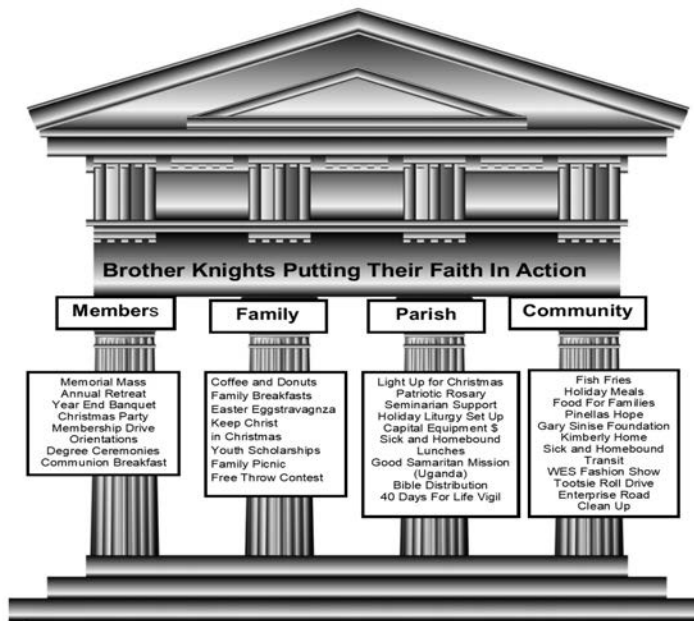


Jerry Custin
 PGK, PFN
 jcustin@gmail.com



Marriage and Family Life

Psalm 16 is somewhat similar to Psalm 23...the Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want...but in this case we are active, we take refuge in Lord as our only Lord and only good. How important is this in our marriage and family lives when we face some blips or difficulties? Is it all to easy to multiply our own issues and “court other gods” by shifting the blame? Of course, that’s often the quick nut always dangerous path. We are called to recognize that the Lord is our portion and cup and the Lord has made our destiny secure. With Him at our right hand we will never be shaken despite the hurdles that sometimes weigh us down. Our call as Christians, spouses and parents is simple...Love one another as I have loved you.



Psalm 16

Keep me safe, O God; in you I take refuge. say to the LORD, you are my Lord, you are my only good. As for the holy ones who are in the land, they are noble, in whom is all my delight. *They multiply their sorrows who court other gods. Blood libations to them I will not pour out, nor will I take their names upon my lips. LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you have made my destiny secure. *Pleasant places were measured out for me; fair to me indeed is my inheritance. I bless the LORD who counsels me; even at night my heart exhorts me. I keep the LORD always before me; with him at my right hand, I shall never be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad, my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure, For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, nor let your devout one see the pit. You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

Coats For Kids - Thank You!



Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.
MENDING LIVES, HEALING HEARTS.

Knights of Columbus,

*We wish to thank you for
your kind donation of winter
coats for our children.*

*Your generosity is very much
appreciated; especially since we
have had some very chilly days.
Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch
Safety Harbor*

Letter to the Editor

Spiritual State of the Union

Happy Easter! He is Risen!!! It's time to rejoice and take stock.

The readings from the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday or "rejoice" reminded us of our failures and the need for salvation.

Our Catholic Church is organized on four pillars. It is One, a church founded by Jesus Christ and initially led by St. Peter. It is Holy based on the Scriptures and life of Christ. It is Catholic or universal. Finally, it is apostolic or assigned the mission of exposing and converting others to the truth.

Similarly, our brotherhood as Knights is also based on the pillars of unity, charity, fraternity, and patriotism. So, we're geared to support and live the pillars of our Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, as well as those of our country as our Creator was recognized as the author of our rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Yet, despite those blessings, we can go astray as the Israelites seemed prone to doing despite their blessings as witnessed in Chronicles. "In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and

his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

You read that and think of how that applies to our culture today. We see the infidelities, abominations and mocking of the messengers of God in many ways. We are also warned of the results.

In the Gospel for Laetare Sunday, Jesus continued this theme when He said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. **And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

Quite a verdict to say the least! We live in trying times. We are called to follow the light as apostles, brothers in Christ, and patriots. We have our work cut out for us. **OUR** State of the Union is strong!

From the Desk of Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly...

The Gift and Task of Unity

Knights are called to pray and work for the unity that Christ wills for the Church and our families

At a time when our culture and politics are more divided than ever, so too is there polarization within the Church. The Second Vatican Council declared that the Church is “a sign and instrument” of communion with God and of unity for the whole human race. But this truth is often hard to see. We should ask ourselves, as Catholics and as Knights, what are we doing about it? Are our attitudes and actions sowing unity or division?

Unity, together with charity, is one of the Order’s first principles. At our founding, Blessed Michael McGivney stated that the purpose of the Knights is to “unite the men of our faith” in order to “gain strength and to be charitable.” In our exemplification ceremony, a new Knight hears the Lesson on Unity, which affirms, “To increase unity in our Church and our families is one of the great missions of the Knights of Columbus.”

It is Christ himself who bestows on the Church the gift of unity. Just before his passion, our Lord prayed for us: “that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me” (Jn 17:21).

Through our baptism, each of us has a responsibility to pray for and foster the unity that Christ wills for the Church. The simple truth is that when we are harsh or habitual in our criticisms of the Church and its leaders, we are damaging the body of Christ.

Scripture reminds us of the power of our speech. The tongue can be “a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brethren, this ought not to be so” (Jas 3:8-10).

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (2477), meanwhile, warns against rash judgment, detraction and calumny, offenses against truth that cause a cascade of even greater division. On a personal level, our cynicism can lead us into a spiritual desert that extinguishes the joy and hope we are meant to radiate as Christians. Tragically, it may even give others, including our children, a reason to abandon the faith entirely.

All of this does not mean we should turn a blind eye to real problems, but it does mean practicing charity and showing respect, especially in disagreement. We also need to recognize the limits of our personal responsibility. Rather than focusing on things we cannot change, let’s take responsibility for the things we can. And our primary aim should not be to criticize but to “build one another up” (1 Thes 5:11).

We should ask ourselves: Can we do more to help our parish and our pastor? Can we turn off the noise from social media and news outlets and turn toward the voice of Christ in silent prayer? Can we offer a rosary for the health of our marriage and our family or devote an hour to Eucharistic adoration for the strength of our priests, our bishops, and the pope? Prayer from the heart, far more than criticism, has real power to change things.

Christ shed his blood for his bride, the Church. We, as imitators of Christ, are called to love the Church and work for her good in thought, word, and deed. Christ himself reminds us, “Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters” (Mt 12:30).

Finally, consider that St. Joseph was the silent witness of the Gospel, yet his actions spoke eloquently of his fidelity to and unsurpassed love for Christ and the Blessed Mother. St. Joseph, guardian of the Redeemer and patron of the universal Church, pray for us!

Vivat Jesus!



From the Florida State Council Chamber...

Your Lenten Journey State Deputy Richard Hughes

Brothers All, the last third of the Fraternal Year is a busy time for all of us. In the midst of our personal Lenten journeys, Councils are stepping up their services to their parishes, ramping up recruiting efforts, and trying to finish off administrative requirements for the Fraternal Year.

As I review reports from District Deputies, it simply amazes me how much Councils contribute to the well-being of their parishes and communities in Florida. I sincerely believe that our pastors work would be much more difficult without the help of the Knights of Columbus. Supporting our priests - and vocations to the priesthood - is a hallmark of the Order, and I thank each of you for what you are doing to assist our priests and vocations.

This is also a time of preparation for our State Convention May 24-26, 2024. The State Convention is a great time of fraternity, networking, and celebration of our collective accomplishments in this Fraternal Year. The State Officers, Directors, and Chairmen are working hard to make your experience as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible. You can help by making sure that administrative issues are completed well in advance:

- By the end of March, Councils should have conducted their Election of Delegates to the State Convention, and Financial Secretaries should have entered the results on the State website.
- Individual registration must be completed online by mid-May
- Hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible, but no later than May 1.

Convention attendees that experience the most problems are the ones that have not properly registered for the Convention or Convention events before arriving. This is especially true for Ladies events - I cannot tell you how many times members have forgotten to register their wives for the Saturday Ladies luncheon or the Saturday evening banquet and are disappointed when there is no availability for those events when they arrive. So, please be sure your registration is complete before you arrive!

One of the great parts of the Convention is the Saturday morning awards session, where we recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the Councils in Florida. To do that, however, Councils need to help us by filling out the State Awards forms available online. We must have these forms by early April, so that we have time to evaluate the submissions and order the appropriate awards. You can't get recognized if you don't participate, so please—get those State Awards forms in!

I am also very happy to announce that Father Alberto Hernández, Rector and President of the St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, has agreed to be our guest speaker at the Saturday evening banquet!

I pray that your Lenten journey continues to be spiritually rewarding for you, and I wish each of you a joyous and Blessed Easter!

Important Dates for the State Convention

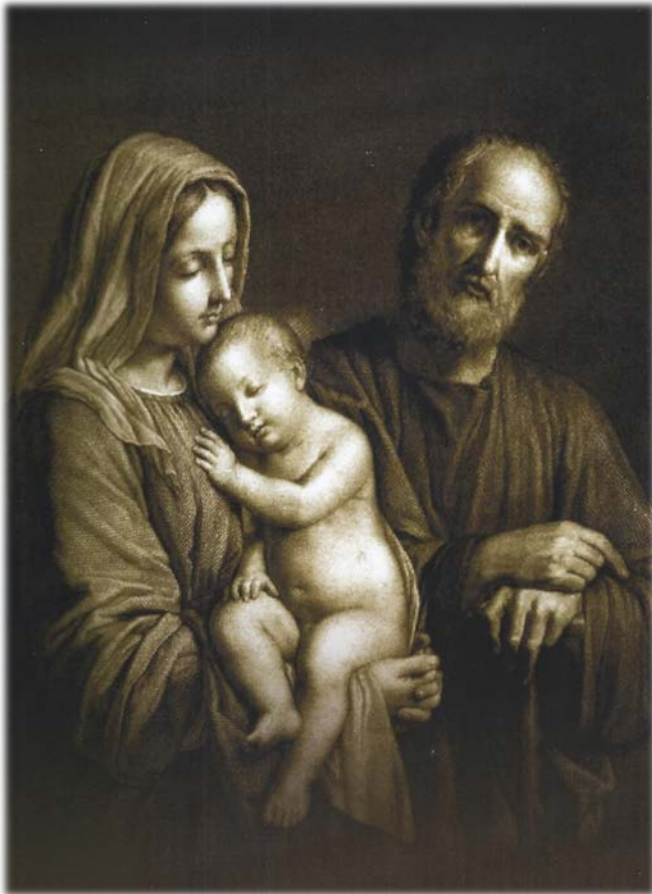
March 31st: Certification of Election of Delegates finalized.

April 14th: Resolutions Submission Deadline

May 1st: Registration for Convention and Hotel Reservations Deadline

Assembly Officers 2023-2024

Faithful Navigator	Wally Vazquez	727.542.5376
Faithful Friar	Deacon Greg Nash	813.267.1535
Faithful Captain	John Gohman	813.810.3735
Faithful Admiral	Frank McEwen, PGK, PFN	727.239.2687
Faithful Pilot	JJ Coyne, PGK	901.832.7332
Faithful Scribe	David Heezen	727.792.4471
Faithful Comptroller	Tom Harkins	727.772.0607
Faithful Purser	Jerry Custin, PGK, PFN	727.244.6464
Inside Sentinel	Vincent Cristiano	727.725.5647
Outside Sentinel	Richard Resler	727.472.1651
Sentinel-At-Large	George Inderwies	727.647.1601
Trustee Three Year	Frank DiMattei, PGK, PFN	727.871.6506
Trustee Two Year	Gene Jajuga, PFN, FFA	727.403.3261
Trustee One Year	Mark Peterman, PFN	727.403.5993
Color Corps Commander	Tom Wozniak, PGK, PFN, FDD	727.214.8377
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.

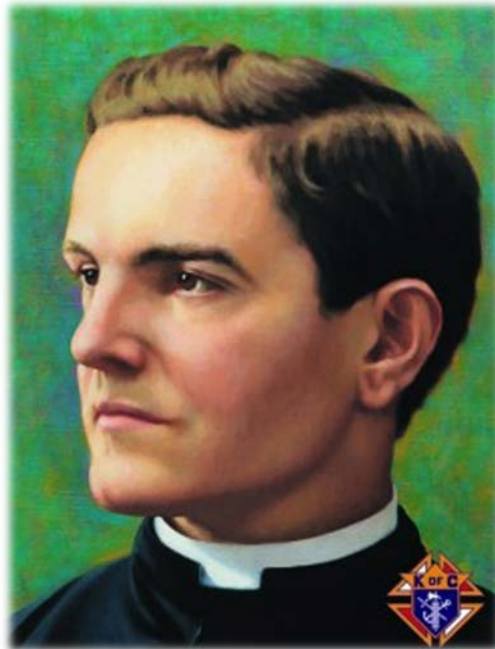
In our daily life and work,
May we reflect the self-giving love which you,
O Father, eternally show with your Son
and the Holy Spirit.

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...

April 2024

- 04/11 | Thu 6:15p Rosary
- 04/11 | Thu 7:00p Council Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 04/14 | Sun 8:00a Coffee & Donuts
- 04/16 | Tue 7:30p KofC Informational Open House
- 04/18 | Thu 8:00a Pinellas Hope Meal Prep & Delivery
- 04/18 | Thu 7:30p Unified Degree Exemplification
- 04/20 | Sat 8:00a Kimberly Home WorkDay



Assembly Calendar of Events...

April 2024

- 04/07 | Sun 1:00p Devine Mercy Sunday Honor Guard
- 04/25 | Thu 6:00p Assembly Social (Beef O'Bradys Oldsmar)

~ Thanks to Our Sponsors ~



Bill Gallant
Mobil Gas & AUTOMOTIVE
All Makes & Models

1003 Florida Avenue • Palm Harbor, FL 34683
 727-787-5588 • www.BillsMobil.com




John Ruckart
 Advisor
 Lawandus Agency
 M: 813-855-5111
 203 Shore D E, Oldsmar, FL 34677
john.ruckart@kofc.org
<https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/Meet-John-Ruckart.html>

Bill's Automotive Repairs, Tires and Mobil gas
All Makes & Models



Bill Gallant
 32505 US 19 • Palm Harbor, FL
www.BillsMobil.com **727-787-8472**
 Twice Awarded Business of the Year



Kevin Jajuga
 Owner
 P.O. Box 1016
 Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
 Phone: 727-475-7204
northpinellas@asppoolco.com

ASPNorthPinellas.com

Veterans Crisis Line



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

• Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to **838255** • •
© 11/11 VHA



Sean Swauger, PA
 Market President

sswauger@bhhsflpg.net
 O: 727.331.8264 | C: 727.415.6220
 301 Woodlands Parkway, Ste. 1
 Oldsmar, FL 34677
forever-agents.com
© A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC.



FREE ROSARY REPAIR

Is your rosary in need of repair? Broken beads, connecting wires, chains? Need a new center piece or crucifix?

I have most parts needed and the tools to repair and spruce up your rosary.

FREE to any Knight, family members, friends and neighbors

Contact Tom Wozniak | 727.214.8377 | tjwozniak@verizon.net

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.

