

# INVOCATION

JULY 2023



**A Tribute To Heroes**



# Assembly Hosts Heroes Parade



**S**an Damiano Assembly 3192 of Bradenton marched in the Memorial Day Tribute to Heroes Parade on Main Street in Lakewood Ranch, which raised more than \$8,000 which was donated to worthy causes.

Six members of the Color Corps led the group, followed by 14 Knights from the Assembly and Council,

The parade was a huge success, with thousands of spectators in attendance cheering, clapping, and waving flags. Our Knights marched in formation and waved flags while passing out KofC Tootsie Rolls.

Lakewood Ranch Community Activities were able to raise more than \$8,000, that was donated to VFW Post 12055 and Del Webb AVMS. They were also able to contribute to: The Denis V. Cooper Foundation's "Wishes for Heroes"; LWR Wind Ensemble; LWRHS Band Boosters; Hernando DeSoto Historical Society; and Sammy's Run.



# The Vision of Blessed Michael McGivney

*By State Deputy Richard Hughes*

**B**rothers All, As we begin the new Fraternal Year, I want to thank you for your confidence in electing me as your State Deputy. As I told the Delegates at the 2023 State Convention, I want to see every Council in the Florida Jurisdiction be successful in carrying out the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney and meeting the goals that the Supreme Council has set for all of us—in faith formation, service programs, charitable fundraising, insurance promotion, and membership growth.

I want to thank our Immediate Past State Deputy, Rob Urrutia, for his leadership these past two years. He has done a great job in leading us back from the difficulties of the pandemic, and Florida stands once more among the top Jurisdictions in the Order.

In this year of the parish phase of the National Eucharistic Revival, the Bishops of the United States re relying especially on the Knights of Columbus to assist, and sometimes lead, the revival in their parishes. This is a great opportunity not only to deepen our own faith in the Eucharist, but to revive and strengthen that faith in our fellow Catholics. We should all participate more often in Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hours at our parishes and pledge our support to our pastors in other Eucharistic Revival activities. The Eucharist is the center of our faith and the basis for the Principles of the Order. If not us, then who?

I recently visited Incarnation Catholic Church in Orlando, which is a part of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St Peter. They suffered a fire in late June which wreaked heavy damage on the church, including the near total destruction of the sanctuary. Yet, despite the fire, a luna containing a Consecrated Host, which had been in the tabernacle, survived. Although the luna was definitely singed, the Consecrated Host was untouched! I will leave it to the Church to decide whether or not a miracle occurred, but these events certainly should be a testament to our Eucharistic faith!

The Order has a new initiative in faith formation called the Cor program. This is not a service program, but a method to explicitly incorporate faith formation for Knights of Columbus members, and all Catholic men in our parishes under the guidance of our pastors and Chaplains.

Deacon Paul Koppie, Past State Deputy, is our new State Director for Evangelization and Faith Formation, and he will be assisting Councils in exploring how to make Cor work for Councils. Much more information will be available soon from Supreme, but for now, I ask all Councils to look at the information sheet and guidebook on the State website under Faith Formation (<https://www.floridakofc.org/COR-Meetings>) and begin to work with your pastors to see how this initiative can be implemented. In the near future, Supreme will be coming out with resources to support the Cor program—including a new Men’s Bible Study, and small group study guide series called Cor Ecclesia, and new video series similar to “Into the Breach”.

As always, our goals for the Fraternal Year include insurance promotion and membership growth. I ask you to work with your Field Agents now to get your Fraternal Benefits Nights on the Council and parish calendars. The protection of our families was the prime motivation for Blessed Michael McGivney in establishing the Order. And with the expansion of financial opportunities beyond in insurance, the Order is in a position to assist in financial security for every Catholic man and his family.

As for membership growth—we must all understand that organizations that do not grow



*State Deputy  
Richard Hughes*



eventually die out. In Blessed McGivney’s day, there were literally hundreds of fraternal societies from which men could choose to belong. The Knights of Columbus is one of the few left standing. We should all be proud of what the Order stands for and what it has accomplished over the years. If we believe in the Knights of Columbus as an organization, we have a moral obligation to offer every Catholic man the opportunity to become a Knight. The membership goals that each Council has are relatively modest, but it does take an effort by all members to reach out to their family, acquaintances, and fellow parishioners to offer the gift of membership. Please take these membership goals seriously, and plan your open

houses and church drives now—the future of our Order depends on it!

My intention is to try to get to all areas within the State of Florida by the end of September, so that I can personally meet as much of the local leadership as I can, and to talk about the direction the Florida State Council will take in the next two years. The State Membership Director, Danny McIntyre, is arranging the tour stops, so please contact him if your Council wishes to host a meeting for your area. I hope to see you during our Spirit of Unity tour!

Vivat Jesus!

## Explanation of the Florida State Council Pin 2023-2025



**Monstrance with a Representation of the Eucharist:** The Eucharist is the foundation of the Principles of the Order, especially the Principle of Fraternity. The Monstrance symbolizes the ongoing National Eucharistic Revival.

**The Immaculate Heart and Chaste Heart:** The two Hearts represent Mary and Joseph, both of whom have special places within the Knights of Columbus. Together with Jesus in the representation of the Eucharist, these symbolize the Holy Family as the model to which all Knights and their families should aspire.

**The Motto:** Veni Sancte Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit). Inspired by the flames on the Immaculate Heart and Chaste Heart, this motto challenges us to let the Holy Spirit into our lives to empower us in our mission as Knights of Columbus.



# Enriched By Knights

*By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

**A**s I continue for another term as State Chaplain, I take this opportunity to share how the Knights of Columbus have been important to me at pivotal times in my life. I am grateful to our Worthy Immediate Past State Deputy Rob Urrutia and his lovely wife Lucille for the opportunity to serve alongside them at so many events. I am honored that the new Worthy State Deputy Rick Hughes has asked me to remain in this role and look forward to assisting Rick and his lovely wife Melodee over the next two years.

I first became a Knight of Columbus as a seminarian. Like many of my brother seminarians, I enjoyed the support of the Knights through my years in seminary. I can tell you what a blessing it was to receive some funds to take care of necessary expenses. Having transitioned from a career in radio broadcasting to full-time student status once again, the assistance was a godsend. As Knights we stand up for the protection of life from conception to natural death, and it was the Knights who facilitated my first participation in the March for Life in Washington, D.C., chartering a bus for the seminarians to board in the wee hours of the morning and depart on later that same day after standing up for the unborn who have no voice. It was a marathon day that affirmed for me the wisdom of the Church's teaching and strengthened my personal commitment to life.

In my first parish assignment as a parish priest at Ss. Peter and Paul the Apostles in Bradenton, FL, I was encouraged by faithful Knights to continue my journey through the second and third degrees conducted in Sarasota, FL before being transferred to the brand-new St. Agnes Parish in Naples, FL where I now serve as pastor. When I arrived in Naples in 2007, the first one to welcome me to the new rectory with keys in hand was the late Sir Knight Walter Howell, well known to many

of you, who recently passed away. Reliable and dedicated servant that he is, Walter awaited furniture deliveries and helped the priests get settled in their new home. Whether it was rejecting damaged furniture that did not meet with his approval or securing a foothold for the Knights in a fledgling parish, no one could do it quite like Walter. Early on he confirmed my support for the Knights of Columbus and secured my commitment to be the Charter Chaplain of our new St. Agnes Council 14202. It was my honor and privilege to do so. Today we have a large council, and the Knights are my right-hand men in running many of the events of the parish. More recently, the Columbiettes have been serving alongside the Knights in service to the parish and community.

The support of the council to attend State Conventions introduced me to the larger work of the Knights in Florida and led to my appointment as Diocesan Chaplain in 2015. Attendance at the Supreme Convention in Orlando in 2014 was a window into the international scope and extent to which the Knights of Columbus serve our Lord in the world. Soon, Florida will host another Supreme Convention. I was always struck by the respect and kindness shown to priests at these events. There is a genuine love for our Church and its clergy that I found very affirming. While attending conventions, familiar faces have become dear friends. As the spouses of some have gotten ill or passed away, it has been a privilege to minister to and pray for them. And, on those few occasions when disagreements arise among our



*State Chaplain  
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*



brothers, I hope my presence as chaplain reminds them of who we are all serving in a way that brings reconciliation and healing.

I pray that the next two years will be a graced time of growth in Faith and the success of our Order. Having attained the Circle of Honor as

a testament to the work of everyone in the last year, may we persevere in humble service, and remain faithful to our Lord and committed to the principles of our Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Vivat Jesus!

## A Slice of Synodality

*By Former State Chaplain Reverend Salvatore Pignato*

**A**s an observer, I had the opportunity to Attend the USCCB Plenary Session held in Champions gate, Florida from June 15th, and 16th, 2023. It was an informative experience to see how the bishops engaged in fruitful dialogue and collaboration on various topics related to the Church.

The main speaker for this Plenary Session was Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Nuncio to the United States. The Archbishop set the stage for this Plenary Session focusing on the Churches theme of Synodality by explaining how Synodality can help us to evangelize more effectively and to engage with others in a spirit of dialogue and communion. He cited Pope Francis, who stressed that the synodal way requires us to walk in the three-fold style of Jesus. This three-fold style of ministry consists of three interrelated steps. First, it requires encountering the Lord in prayer and engaging with others in dialogue, listening attentively to their questions and concerns. Second, it involves truly hearing the people and their queries, acknowledging their perspectives and realities with empathy and respect. Third, it revolves around discerning necessary changes and embracing a more abundant life as individuals and as a Church community, following the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

It was insightful and inspiring experience to see how the bishops engaged in fruitful dialogue and collaboration on various topics related to the evangelization and pastoral care of the

Church and its people. The bishops discussed various that embodied the spirit of synodality during the Plenary Sessions showing the bishop's commitment to cultivating a rich spiritual atmosphere and a Christ-like presence in the world. I was impressed by the spirit of communion and mission that animated the bishops.

The essence of synodality of synodality was evident throughout the bishops' deliberations. This two-day Plenary Session I attended was an informative experience that showed the potential of synodality as a way of being Church. Synodality is the buzzword in the Church today and we should not be afraid of that word. Used and I saw the bishops use it, it is a path of dialogue, discussion and progress for the Church. We should let this word, synodality, play out in the discussions of the Bishops and the people of God. I witnessed how the bishops practiced encounter, listening, and discernment, leading to a great sense of communion and mission. For me as an observer, it taught me a greater understanding of synodality working in real time.



*Former State Chaplain  
Rev. Salvatore Pignato*



# Council Supports Laps for Life



**S**t. Thomas à Becket Council 16236 and the faithful of Incarnation parish and St. John Fisher community of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter were again strong supporters of the 10th Annual Central Florida Laps for Life, held March 4 at Bishop Moore Catholic High School in Orlando.

The event was once again a joyous testament to the efforts of brother Knights and faithful across the region working together in charity, unity, and fraternity – raising over \$92,000 to help pregnancy resource centers help mothers choose life. While Central Florida Laps for Life historically supported the Knights Ultrasound Initiative, through which the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council matches 100-percent of funds raised for ultrasound machines, this year's Laps for Life allowed fund-raisers the option to also support Supreme's Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) initiative. Through ASAP, Supreme will match \$100 for every \$500 donated to a qualifying pregnancy center or maternity home, up to \$400 matched per center per council per year.

Council 16236 and its parish communities supported both Supreme initiatives at this year's Laps for Life, raising over \$10,000 for Ultrasound

and more than \$11,000 for ASAP. With funds raised for ASAP, Council 16236 delivered \$2,000 checks to five pregnancy centers:

- Choices Women's Clinic (Downtown Orlando and Oviedo/UCF)
- JMJ Pregnancy Center (Downtown Orlando and Kissimmee)
- LifeChoice Pregnancy Center (Winter Haven)
- Life Choices Medical Clinic (Altamonte Springs)
- The Pregnancy Centers (Sanford and Winter Park)

Through the donations, these centers are also eligible for the maximum \$400 matched per year by Supreme.

Council 16236 is currently working to identify an eligible pregnancy center to receive remaining ASAP funds. With both Ultrasound and ASAP continuing in the new fraternal year, brother Knights of Council 16236 look forward to continued support of mothers and babies at next year's Central Florida Laps for Life, which will be held on March 2, 2024, at Bishop Moore High School.



# Renovation Blessed By Bishop



**O**ur Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Deltona was recently blessed by Orlando Diocese Bishop John Noonan on Sunday, June 25. Also officiating were Pastor Father Chris Hoffmann and Parochial Vicar Father Frank Cerio.

The 12,722-foot interior of the church was extensively remodeled, giving the nave and narthex a fresh and updated look. Renovations also included painting the interior, including a new wood-look ceiling, upgraded LED lighting, a new confessional, a new lay ministry room, an air conditioning system overall and a renovated choir area.

Fourteen members of the Fourth Degree Color Corps led the procession, hosted by Bishop John Neumann Assembly 1930 with Faithful Navigator Alfred Ducharme and Color Corps Commander Mike Lowry. Participants included Florida District Master John O'Toole; Vice Marshals Bruce Winner and Ken Jeffres; Commanders Robert Higgins and Harry Whitford; and District Deputies Dr. Patrick Coggins and Michael Coleman.



# Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

*By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori*

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves.” (Gospel for July 9, Mt 11:28-29)

**R**est often seems to be in short supply in our busy modern world, for our culture finds it hard to slow down and be still. We can and should spend time in leisure to refresh our bodies and spirits, but we need to go even deeper and take time to find true rest. Let’s always keep in mind St. Augustine’s words: “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

## **Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month, I challenge you to turn to our Lord to find rest by spending at least one hour each week in eucharistic adoration. Second, I challenge you to support the Faith in Action Holy Hour program.

### **Questions for Reflection:**

Do you turn to Christ to find rest amid your labor and burdens? Do you observe Sunday as a day of worship and rest? Do you regularly spend time in prayer, seeking that interior peace that Christ has promised us?

## Council Supports Steps to Recovery

**T**he Knights of Columbus **Fr. Gerard Powers Assembly 2882** recently donated supplies of toiletries, clothing and personal items to Steps to Recovery to improve the lives of disabled and disadvantaged Veterans in our community. Ms. Marilyn Matyus, Founder, CEO of Steps to Recovery, gratefully accepted the donation stating, “Our mission is to improve the lives of the poor, disabled and stigmatized in our community, especially those who are Veterans and this support from the Knights of Columbus will greatly assist us in fulfilling this mission” Anthony Nalli, Faithful Navigator of the Assembly, stated, “As 4th degree members of the Knights of Columbus, we are called to patriotic service and to financially support veteran-focused organizations such as Steps to Recovery. And we are honored to be able to assist them, today and in the future.” The donation was made possible by a successful Support our Veterans Drive conducted by the



Assembly over the course of the past year. Steps to Recovery is a non-profit organization that provides transitional housing for homeless Veterans that suffer from substance abuse and mental health issues. Further information about the services offered by Steps to Recovery may be obtained by contacting Ms. Marilyn Matyus at [Marilyn.matyus@steps-npr.org](mailto:Marilyn.matyus@steps-npr.org) or 727-848-8100.



# Council Receives Special Olympics Donation



**O**ur Lady Queen of Peace Knights of Columbus Council 11680 recently received a \$600.00 donation towards its Special Olympics-Pasco fund drive from the Nature Coast Parrot Head Club.

The Parrot Head Club is a community-based organization focused on helping make the world around us a better and happier place. “This is the second year in a row that the Nature Coast Parrot Head Club has supported the Knights’ Special Olympics-Pasco fund raising initiative” stated Santo Merillo, President of NCPHC, “and we are excited to be a part of this worthwhile effort.”

Steve Early, Chair of the Knights Special Olympics program, added, “This donation will make it possible for us to continue to financially support the various programs offered by Special Olympics in Pasco County.”

In addition, the Knights of Columbus annually conduct a Tootsie Roll Drive every spring to secure on-going funds for Special Olympics-Pasco.

Further information about the Nature Coast Parrot Head Club can be found at [www.naturecoastphc.com](http://www.naturecoastphc.com).

The **St. Bernadette Assembly 3242** hosted its annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Historic St. Nicholas Cemetery in Jacksonville, along with the St. Nicholas Area Preservation (SNAP).

Flags were placed at the graves of the Veterans interred in this cemetery, including Veterans dating pre-Civil War to WWII.

The Ceremony included Fr. Jason Trull from Assumption Church doing the invocation, followed by Boy Scout Troop 106 and Bishop Kenny High School NROTC doing a flag retirement ceremony and raising a new flag donated by Congressman John Rutherford over the cemetery, flag.



The Ceremony was covered by the San Marco Resident News for its June issue. Nearly 100 people attended the event, including approximately 20 Sir Knights.



# Knights Assist With School Restoration



Work began at 9am, Gary and Dennis on the power washers, Anthony on the rug cleaner and plexiglass for the bulletin board, Tim on bug removal, Jim G. assembling desks, and Mike L. building the front counters.

We had help from 3 Knights from St Malachy and the Church Youth Group. Alfonso and

Reginaldo came later and assembled the covering for the playground from scratch and removed the rusty water fountain.

In all, it was a great effort. The Pastor came by to thank us. Ms K. and Mike L. lead the effort and provided refreshments.





# A Historical Commission

*A HISTORICAL COMMISSION — THAT INCLUDES CLERGY AND LAY POSTULATORS FROM THE PANHANDLE TO TAMPA BAY — HAS EMBRACED THE CAUSE OF CANONIZATION FOR THE FOUR MARTYRS OF THE LA FLORIDA MISSION.*

*By Armando Minutoli, PR Coordinator/Editor - Florida State Council, Knights of Columbus, Palm Beach County, FL.*

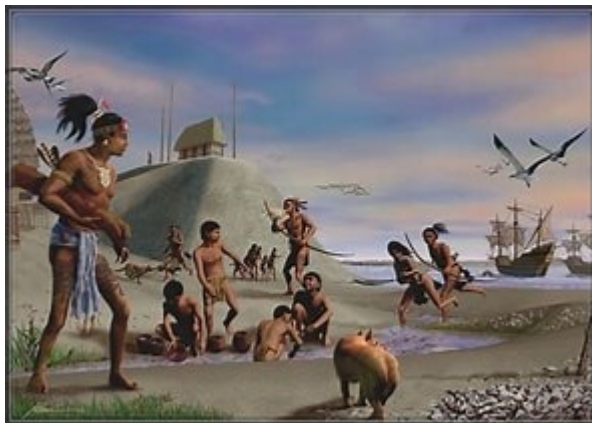
The Spanish settled in Florida in 1513, dubbing it “La Florida.” Ponce de León claimed the peninsular of Florida for Spain during the first official European expedition to North America. In the later 1500’s, there were additional claims by a cadre of other explorers. Adventurers like Pánfilo Narváez and Hernando de Soto who landed near Tampa Bay and ventured north searching for gold.

The first exclusive missionary expedition in La Florida in 1549, started by Father Luis de Cáncer and three other Catholic missionaries martyred on June 20, 1549, along with Fr. Diego de Tolosa, O.P., Br. Fuentes, O.P., Jesuit Father Pedro Martínez. And their companions, tribal members of the Apalachee and Timucua tribes lost their lives because of their devout faith. The missionaries had no idea that they would face extreme hostility by the Indigenous Tocobaga’s. Natives who had suffered for years under the atrocities of self-seekers who ignored the 1537 Papal Bull, which totally condemned slavery.

The brutal martyrdom of those souls who would become known as the Four Florida “La Florida” Martyrs – sacrificed by enraged maltreated natives. However, the martyrdom deaths did not deter Dominican and Jesuit missionary communities to continue their ministry of evangelization for the decades that followed in the Spanish missions of La Florida



The Kingdom of Spain supported missions selecting those of strong Christian faith to venture there. The Native People themselves built their mission churches established missions throughout La Florida with a goal of evangelization: to bring the sacrament of Baptism and to catechize the Native Americans to Christianity.



Consequently creating a bond that would in theory serve to prevent its colonization by other rival countries like England and France also seeking Florida’s natural resources.

Spain never exercised long-term control over more than the northern part of what is now the State of Florida from present-day St. Augustine to the area around Tallahassee, southeastern Georgia, and coastal settlements, such as Pensacola, Florida. Eventually, England settled and established a Slave trade. They



employed Creek and Yamassee to enslave other tribes. The massacre of natives continued well into the 1700's.

The history of the Catholic faith in Florida has always included accounts of clergy and religious planting the seeds of faith on the shores and fields of the Sunshine State. But the Church's history is not complete in the words of Father Len Plazewski, Pastor of Christ the King Parish in Tampa was quoted as saying: "I think we have a very strong case. But the Church's history would be remiss in not honoring the courageous examples of Indigenous peoples who embraced the faith and died for it." That is one of the reasons a historical commission — that includes clergy and lay postulants from the Panhandle to Tampa Bay — who embrace the cause of canonization for the Martyrs of La Florida Mission.

The official name of their cause being: **SERVANTS OF GOD ANTONIO INIJA AND 58 COMPANIONS**. The cause revolves around Catholics who were Indigenous and missionaries from outside America martyred in the name of God. Father Plazewski explained that such a cause is based on history rather than personal interviews because the timeline of the cause ranges from 1549 to 1712.

Relying on the work of historians. The historical team has done research on Spanish documents that are in Spain, Mexico and Cuba who has been involved with the cause for eight years. They continued their mandate to show proper historical evidence of the circumstances of how (the fifty-

nine martyrs) died and who were their killers and the motivations for their deaths. Uncovering that they did not just die because they had because of a robbery or enslaved, but rather killed because of an issue of their faith.

The distinction of this cause is the fact that led the martyrs and their indigenous catholic companions. While names amongst the companions may be familiar — such as Father Luis de Cáncer, the first Dominican martyred in the United States, and Jesuit Father Pedro Martínez — Their companions were members of the Apalachee and Timucua tribes. Their leader, Antonio Inija, was a native Apalachee martyred in the aftermath of a 1704 English and Creek attack on the Ayubale mission, which included 8,000 Christian natives.

The progress of this cause has evolved over the years. Retired Bishop Rene H. Gracida of Corpus Christi, Texas, who was the founding bishop of the Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese, took the first steps to open the cause in the 1980s. Then, in 2015, the cause was officially opened and celebrated during a Mass held in Leon County, near to the site of the martyrdoms in the early 1700s.

On February 21, 2022, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints received and responded to Pensacola-Tallahassee Bishop William Wack's request for nihil obstat (imprimatur) regarding the Beatification of the Servants of God Antonio Inija and 58 Companions. Now, Father Plazewski said, the historical documentation should be ready for Rome in 2023.

Father Plazewski has asked, "if anyone has a devotion or a prayer answered that they attribute



to the intercession of the Florida Martyrs and added to the final report to Rome. Now is the time to offer it.”

To lend your support to Martyrs of La Florida Missions, you can contact them at:

The Martyrs of la Florida Missions Beatification, and the Future Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Martyrs,

PO Box 12062, Tallahassee FL 32317 - <https://www.martyrsoflafloridamissions.org/resources-1>

2. Martyrs of La Florida – Wikipedia - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs\\_of\\_La\\_Florida](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs_of_La_Florida)

3. Chesterton Academy of The Florida Martyrs - <https://chestertonpensacola.org/blog/who-are-florida-martyrs>

4. Word on Fire - <https://www.wordonfire.org/articles/the-martyrs-of-florida/>

**Bibliographical Resources and References:**

1. Martyrs of La Florida Missions, secretary@MartyrsOfLaFloridaMissions.org or mailed to, P.O. Box 12062, Tallahassee, FL 32317. Also, “Martyrs of La Florida” and the canonization cause can locate at <https://www.martyrsoflafloridamissions.org/martyrs>.

## Box of Joy Program

**P**ut your faith into action this fall by blessing children in developing countries with a Box of Joy!

This simple and hands-on service project from Cross Catholic Outreach enables Florida councils and their families to engage their parish community or school to pack small gifts for children who may have never received a Christmas gift! Cross Catholic Outreach adds a rosary and The Story of Jesus to every Box of Joy to help evangelize our Catholic faith. Be part of the Box of Joy ministry of mercy. Sign up today to receive your free supplies: <http://www.boxofjoy.org/signup>



# Fourth Degree Exemplification

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification of the Florida District of the DeSoto Province will be on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at Assumption Catholic Church, 2403 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville.

**The schedule of events is as follows:**

- 9:30 a.m. – Registration Opens
- 10 a.m. – Mass
- 11 a.m. – Registration Continues
- Noon – Exemplification of the Fourth Degree
- 12:15 p.m. – Ladies Luncheon
- 3 p.m. -- Banquet

In order to ensure that all programs are correct, we ask that a completed Form #4 and all funds be received no later than AUGUST 16, 2023

Make checks payable to: John J. O’Toole, Master, and *mail to* 9686 S.W. 92 Place Road, Ocala FL 34481

For additional information, please contact District Master John O’Toole 954-801-4914 email: JOHNJO2L@AOL.COM

**Click here for the forms:**

- [Candidate registration Form](#)
- [Dress Code form](#)
- [Form 4](#)

**Information For Candidate**

- Candidate fee to participate is \$70
- Candidate Priest: \$45
- Fee includes:
  - Social Baldric
  - Fourth Degree Membership Pin
- Sir Knight for Banquet: \$45
- Ladies Luncheon: \$15
- Ladies Banquet: \$45

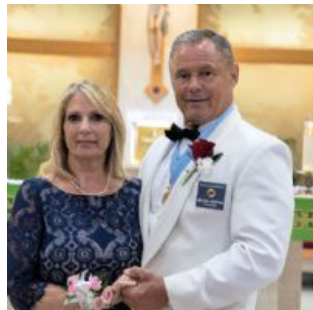
Remember: Please send completed forms, with checks payable to John O’Toole, Master, to the above address by AUGUST 16



## Meet Your New State Officers



*State Deputy  
Richard Hughes*



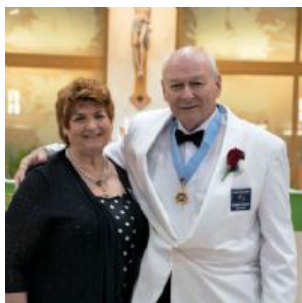
*State Secretary  
Mike Gizweski*



*State Treasurer  
Joseph Cocou*



*State Warden  
Edward Sleyzak*



*State Advocate  
Robert Rasch*



*State Chaplain  
Most Rev Robert Kantor*





**Cruise in support of the Florida K of C Charities, Inc. Vocations Fund  
and in celebration of State Chaplain and St. Agnes Pastor Fr. Bob  
Kantor's 25th Anniversary of Ordination**



**Father Bob Kantor, State Chaplain of the Florida State Council and  
Pastor of St. Agnes Catholic Church in Naples, Florida, and the  
Knights of Columbus' Florida K of C Charities, Inc. invite you to enjoy  
this cruise in support of Florida K of C Charities, Inc. Vocations Fund.**

**Join us aboard the Celebrity Beyond from Monday, November 13,  
2023, to Wednesday, November 22, 2023, departing from and returning  
to Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

**For more information on the Cruise [www.floridakofc.org](http://www.floridakofc.org), services,  
online forms and scroll down to Charities.**

**You can also reach out:**

**H&E Smart Travels, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL\* Evelio J Sardiña,  
FDD, PGK, PFN [smarttravelcruising@gmail.com](mailto:smarttravelcruising@gmail.com) 941-400-0320**

# Supreme Convention

**F**rom August 1-3, 2023, the Florida State Council will have the honor of hosting the 141st Supreme Convention in Orlando at the Marriott Orlando World Center. In order for us to successfully host the Supreme Convention, we will need a large number of volunteers, particularly from the Orlando area, from Saturday, July 29 through Friday, August 4. The areas for which we will need help are:

- Welcoming Committee
- Transportation Committee
- Hospitality Registration Committee
- Tour Committee
- Color Corps for Masses and Adoration Chapel

We ask that you prayerfully consider helping in this most important endeavor. We suggest that you volunteer in Council or Assembly groups and carpool to the hotel for your shifts, and that you consider volunteering for multiple consecutive shifts.

Please go to <https://www.floridakofc.org/Volunteers> to find out more information and to see the sign-up lists. We are using Signup Genius to schedule volunteers.

Fraternally, Richard P. Hughes, State Deputy,  
Robert S. Urrutia, Past State Deputy



## THANK YOU KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR SHINING A LIGHT ON OUR MISSION FOR OVER 50 YEARS!

We appreciate your outstanding volunteer service and fundraising efforts in support of Special Olympics Florida and our proud to honor and celebrate our long-standing partnership.

Special thanks to **State Deputy Rob Urrutia** for his years of service as Knight's Chairperson for Special Olympics Florida. We are forever grateful to you for being one of our greatest fans!

**Special  
Olympics  
Florida**





# INVOCATION

## Knights of Columbus Florida State Council Newsletter How To Write an Article

**Newsworthy • Broad Appeal • Concise • Complete • Factual • Accurate**  
**Answers the Questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why & How**

**INVOCATION reports on local council activities throughout the entire State of Florida**

- Article size: **300 words** ideal (half page) to 500-600 words max (full page)
- Articles submitted as an attachment in Word format - not in the body of an email
  - PDF submissions are for ads or promotions - not articles
- Pictures need to be sent separately as an attachment and the original pictures **Please do not format them in any way, we will do it**-- not embedded in a Word document
- **Articles need to be brief, highly relevant and actionable**
- **At a minimum, Who, What, When and Where needs to be in the first paragraph,**
- Articles need to be brief, to-the-point and **of interest** to the entire State Council
  - What is the event/activity about?
  - Whom did it benefit?
  - What was the result?
  - Who are the key players/Knights?
- **Similar story** submissions will be consolidated/batched into one article by the Editors
- Authors must submit on time per the Editor production calendar- **Deadline 1<sup>st</sup> of each month**
  - Late submittals will be placed farther down the newsletter or not published.
- Proof your article carefully for spelling and grammar before sending (**use spellcheck**)
- Document filename should reflect the office/title, i.e. State Deputy article
- Every Region needs to participate – one page of the Invocation will be dedicated to each Region respectively
  - If a region does not submit content their page will be eliminated from that issue
- Cover story submissions need to be submitted ahead of the deadline due to special photo editing
  - Cover story photos – in portrait style at least 1mb in size - not formatted or resized
  - filename “Cover Story”

Send all information:

Region 1: Robert C. Guillery [rag130@outlook.com](mailto:rag130@outlook.com)

Region 2: [invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:invocation@floridakofc.org)

Region 3: John O'Malley [jomalley1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jomalley1@cfl.rr.com)

Region 4: [invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:invocation@floridakofc.org)

Region 5: [invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:invocation@floridakofc.org)

Region 6: Armando Minutoli [alminutoli146@gmail.com](mailto:alminutoli146@gmail.com)

For general information or questions email: [invocation@floridakofc.org](mailto:invocation@floridakofc.org)



## Support Florida K of C Charities Inc.

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Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you can now have .05% of your purchases donated to Florida K of C Charities! All you need to do is use the link for Amazon Smiles. To activate this on your Amazon account just click on this link [AmazonSmile](https://smile.amazon.com) that's all you have to do!

**D**id you know that the State of Florida Council has a YouTube Channel? Well, we do! This is a place where we can put in videos of all the great things that we do as Knights in the State of Florida.

During the State Convention we took video interviews of some of the Dignitaries that honored us with their presence. You can

see the videos by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Please be sure to subscribe to the channel so you will be notified when new videos are added. If you have any videos that you would like to add that shows your Council doing good works please email Jim Clark, Broadcast Media Relations and Production Director at [jclark1@gmail.com](mailto:jclark1@gmail.com).



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL  
MISSION STATEMENT

Evangelize and proclaim our faith, protect families, and perform works of charity.

Through our witness and deeds attract Catholic men to our Order.

Build the Domestic Church through service, support our parishes, clergy, and communities.

Incorporate principled fiscal responsibility for charitable giving.

## The Florida State Logo



## Florida State Council Officers

### STATE DEPUTY

**Richard Hughes**  
*rhughes14084@gmail.com*

### STATE CHAPLAIN

**Most Rev. Robert Kantor**  
*frbob@stagnesnaples.org*

### STATE SECRETARY

**Michael Gizewski**  
*mpgizewski@gmail.com*

### STATE TREASURER

**Joseph W. Coicou**  
*jcoicoukofc@gmail.com*

### STATE ADVOCATE

**Robert Rasch**  
*robertwrascalaw@gmail.com*

### STATE WARDEN

**Edward Sleyzak**  
*esleyzak@outlook.com*

### IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY

**Robert Urrutia**  
*Robert.A.Urrutia84@gmail.com*

### STATE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

**Marc Anderson**  
*marcstx19@gmail.com*

### STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

**Danny McIntyre**  
*danmci@aol.com*

### STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Kris Elliot**  
*kris.elliott@1980.usna.com*

### STATE CHARITIES DIRECTOR

**Richard E. Dahn Jr.**  
*rdahn32@gmail.com*

### STATE MARKETING DIRECTOR

**Weldon "2E" Watkins**  
*kofctuewowiii@gmail.com*

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

**John O'Malley**  
*jomalley1@cfl.com*

# INVOCATION

**Publisher- Ed Sleyzak** *esleyzak@outlook.com (Position open)*

**Scott Huetteman** - Technical & Layout Editor *Scott@engage360.us*

**Harry Rother** Photographer Website: [www.kofcfoto.website](http://www.kofcfoto.website)

## Regional PR Coordinators

Region 1 Bob Gualtieri *rag130@outlook.com*

Region 2 (Open)

Region 3 John O'Malley *jomalley1@cfl.rr.com*

Region 4 (Open)

Region 5 (Open)

Region 6 Armando Minutoli *alminutoli46@gmail.com*

Region 7 (Open)

Region 8 (Open)

## Florida State Council Social Media

Your State Council is now on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube. We need all Brother Knights to participate and Let Your Light Shine.

- Go to Facebook and "LIKE" the page
- Go to Twitter and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



## Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.  
ESTABLISHED 1971 • Volume 24 • Number 1 • www.kofc.org

Check out the current issue of **Knightline**, a monthly resource for local KofC leaders. It is designed to help council officers plan events and activities, meet quarterly goals for the fraternal year and learn about Orderwide news. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the issue.

## COLUMBIA

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the online version of **COLUMBIA** Magazine, a publication for the Knights of Columbus.



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