

INVOCATION

June 2026



**Jimmy Hundly
Knight of the Year**

Jimmy Hundly - Knight of the Year

Jimmy Hundly of **San Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866** was recognized as Florida State Council Knight of the Year at the recent State Convention.

Hundly has served as State Life Director, District Deputy, Past Grand Knight (3x), Past Faithful Navigator, Council Membership Director and Community Director, and Membership Director. His depth of knowledge, combined with a hands-on approach, sets him apart as a leader who consistently delivers results.

As District Deputy, he has worked tirelessly to bring every council in his district up to speed and moving toward Star Council. For him, achieving Star Council is not an aspiration but the baseline expectation. That standard carries directly into our own council, where his active involvement is constant. He attends not only our meetings, but those of other councils as well, ensuring accountability, and support across the board.

This year, he took full responsibility for recruitment efforts within his council. Under his leadership, the council has reached 280% of its membership quota (to date). Even more impressive is the quality of these new members. Many of whom are younger men who joined after being personally inspired by his example and are all contributing to the council.

Hundly is present at virtually every event and meeting. His guidance, energy, and reliability have become essential to our success. He leads by example in every sense and sets a standard that others strive to follow. What makes his service even more remarkable is that he has accomplished all of this while battling bone cancer over the past year. His dedication, resilience, and commitment to the mission embody the very best of what this award represents.

He also serves as a lead Religious Education instructor, where he mentors and guides the youth of his parish with dedication and care. His commitment to faith formation is matched by his active participation in parish life as an



Extraordinary Minister, lector, sacristan, and a consistent presence in hospitality.

Often described as the “glue guy” of his council and parish, his impact extends far beyond any single ministry. He is a trusted and reliable support mechanism not only to our council members but also to the entire parish and our parish priest. His willingness to serve, often without recognition, has made him the priest’s go-to person for a wide range of needs.

His contributions also include significant hands-on leadership alongside his son. He led the refurbishment of the rectory last year and this year, he has continued that work by organizing and completing repairs and improvements to key parish spaces, including the parish hall and kitchen. His faith, humility, and tireless service are unparalleled.

He is deeply involved in several community organizations, including the Special Olympics. He regularly attends events and works closely with organizers, helping ensure our council stays actively engaged and supportive.

As a retired Navy Chief Petty Officer, he also maintains strong ties with veteran organizations and serves as the coordinator and lead planner for our annual Veterans Dinner, an event that brings

together and honors veterans from across the community. Beyond that, he consistently gives his time to those in need. He helps serve meals to the homeless and plays a key role in organizing monthly food distributions that support more than 200 local families. His ongoing commitment reflects a genuine dedication to service and to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

He is widely known and deeply respected throughout the local community, far beyond our parish and council. Even while facing the challenges of bone cancer, he has maintained a full

and active schedule, stepping up time and again to take on additional responsibilities this year without hesitation. He is the definition of a role model, never seeks recognition and consistently deflects praise, preferring to simply “get back to it.”

You will usually find him in a Knights polo shirt, a quiet but visible sign of his commitment, making it clear that the Knights of Columbus are present and ready to serve. He does not wait to be asked to help. He actively looks for opportunities to serve others.

Ladies Assemble Memorial & Healing Cards

During the recent convention of the Florida State Council, several ladies in attendance came forward to put together packets of our Memorial and Healing Cards. The magnitude of their help cannot be overstated.

At the convention, we received from our printer 2,500 Memorial Cards and 2,500 Healing Cards along with 5,000 envelopes for those cards, plus 5,000 intention/donation cards and another 5,000 envelopes for those cards. The goal was to have these Memorial and Healing Cards ready for convention attendees to take home with them.

The Knights offer the Memorial Cards to honor the memory of someone who has passed away and the Healing Cards to comfort someone who is ill or recovering. The intentions of both kinds of cards are prayed for at our seminars, and the donations support our seminarians. The cards feature the image of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney.

The ladies spent a significant number of hours assembling these cards into sets and handing them out to convention attendees. By handing out the cards at the convention, hundreds of dollars in postage was saved. Words cannot sufficiently



express our gratitude to these ladies for their time and efforts. All of the 5,000 cards was given out by the end of the convention.

For more information about our Memorial and Healing Cards Program or to request cards, please contact George Elliott, Memorial and Healing Cards Program Chairman, (908) 487-8622, email grejr13@gmail.com.

The Countdown Is On

As we approach the conclusion of the 2025–2026 fraternal year, the countdown has officially begun. June 30, 2026, is rapidly approaching, and while the calendar may be winding down, our mission is not. In fact, these final weeks present one of the greatest opportunities we have had all year.

Too often, organizations view the end of a year as the finish line. In the Knights of Columbus, it should be viewed as a launching point. There is still important work to be done, lives to be touched, and men to be invited into our Order. The year is not over until June 30, and every day between now and then matters.

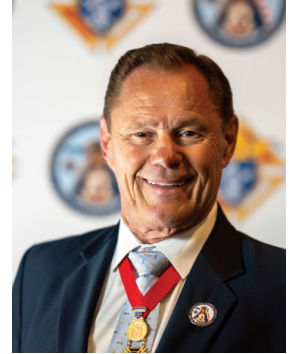
One of the greatest opportunities before us is membership growth. Every new E-member who joins during the month of June can be transferred into a local council in July, giving that council a strong start toward Star Council for the upcoming fraternal year. Imagine beginning July with new members already engaged and ready to serve. That momentum can make all the difference in helping councils achieve their goals and continue their growth.

This is why I am encouraging every District Deputy and every Grand Knight to stay focused and finish strong. We have worked too hard throughout this year to slow down now. We have conducted meaningful programs, supported our parishes, served our communities, raised funds for charitable causes, defended life, strengthened families, and brought men closer to Christ. The foundation has been laid. Now is the time to build upon it.

Let us continue pursuing the Father McGivney, Founders', and Columbian Awards. Let us continue striving for Star Council. Let us continue working toward earning the prestigious double star council and triple star council. Most importantly, let us keep the train on the tracks and moving forward.

For the first time in twelve years, Florida has an opportunity to bring Pinnacle back to our

jurisdiction. That is not a small accomplishment. Pinnacle recognition represents the very best of what a jurisdiction can achieve in membership growth, insurance growth, charitable outreach, and overall excellence. Bringing Pinnacle back to Florida would be a testament to the dedication, faith, and hard work of every brother throughout our state.



*State Deputy
Michael P. Gizewski*

The good news is that this goal is within our reach. It does not require extraordinary measures. It requires commitment, determination, and a willingness to continue doing what successful councils have always done—invite Catholic men to join us in our mission.

Membership drives do not have to be complicated. Sometimes the most effective invitation is the simplest one. Set up a table after Mass. Speak with a parishioner. Share your experience as a Knight. Invite a friend, a neighbor, a fellow ministry member, or a family member. Ask someone to join.

Of course, always work closely with your pastor and obtain the necessary permission from your parish. When Pastors see Knights actively serving their parish and supporting its mission, they often become our strongest allies in membership growth.

Every new member represents more than a number on a report. Every new member is a Catholic man seeking a deeper relationship with Christ, a stronger connection to his parish, and an opportunity to serve others. Through the Knights of Columbus, we provide that pathway. We help men grow in faith, build lasting friendships, support their families, and become leaders in their communities.

That is why membership growth is not simply about statistics. It is about evangelization. It is

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about building the Church. It is about bringing souls closer to Jesus Christ.

As I reflect on this fraternal year, I am filled with gratitude for all that has been accomplished across the Florida State Council. I have witnessed extraordinary examples of faith in action. I have seen councils step forward when communities were in need. I have watched brothers volunteer countless hours serving their parishes and charitable organizations. I have seen families strengthened through our programs and lives changed through our works of mercy.

For all of this, I simply want to say thank you. Thank you for your hard work.

Thank you for your sacrifices. Thank you for your dedication.

Thank you for your willingness to answer the call to serve.

Thank you for being visible examples of Catholic faith and leadership in your communities.

Most importantly, thank you for helping bring souls to Christ.

The strength of Florida is not found in any one individual. It is found in thousands of dedicated Knights and their families who choose every day to live out the principles of Charity, Unity,

and Fraternity. It is found in Grand Knights who lead with humility, District Deputies who mentor and encourage, chaplains who provide spiritual guidance, and members who quietly serve without seeking recognition.

Together, we are making Florida a better place to live. We are strengthening our parishes, supporting our priests, serving those in need, defending the dignity of every human life, and building a stronger future for the Church.

As we enter the final days of this fraternal year, I ask each of you to remain focused, remain energized, and remain committed to the mission. There is still work to be done. There are still men waiting to be invited. There are still goals to be achieved.

Let us finish strong. Let us continue moving forward.

Let us continue building upon the tremendous success of this year.

And let us work together to make history by bringing Pinnacle recognition back to the Florida State Council.

May God continue to bless you, your families, your councils, and the great State of Florida.

FLORIDA K OF C CHARITIES

WE ARE KNIGHTS OF CHARITY AS CHARITY IS AT THE HEART OF OUR FAITH AND OUR WORK.

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Give \$10 a month to Florida K of C Charities - Living Faith in Action, Charity in Service.

The Sacred Heart Triumphs

By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” - Matthew 11:28 (Gospel for the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus)

Powerful gatherings of Knights can't help but strengthen one's faith. The State Convention drew many of us to Orlando Memorial Day weekend. Led by Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami, the Knights on Bikes rolled in Thursday, converged at the Knights' hall in Kissimmee and continued to the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. They did so with a great spirit and a sense of fraternity, one of the great hallmarks of the Order.

The Convention itself gave us the opportunity to be inspired by the Supreme Knight in his video address, and our own State Deputy affirmed us for a job well done this year and set a course for growth and exciting initiatives for the next fraternal year. I had the chance to confer with Diocesan Chaplains and other priests, the largest number of clergy attending in recent years, strengthening our commitment to be good shepherds for the flock of Knights entrusted to us. Many well-deserved awards were distributed after diligent work this fraternal year. As many as we can formally recognize, there are countless others doing good for God and our Order.

Earlier this month I had the chance to travel to New Haven, Connecticut, the Supreme Headquarters of our Order. With other State Chaplains, we were updated on the impressive strides being made to enhance the spirituality of our own members and all men through initiatives like Cor and a new retreat program. It was encouraging



to see how our members are serving others with the heart of Christ. We had a pilgrimage to the parishes where our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney ministered. I learned that he had great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, something deeply meaningful in this month in which I celebrate the Solemnity of the Most



*State Chaplain
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*

Sacred heart of Jesus with the people of my parish using the Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Holy Hour in the presence of our Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon, and in this time when the Bishops of our nation consecrated the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as part of our country's 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

While visiting the places where our founder ministered, the heart of Fr. McGivney touched my heart. Our Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop William Lori, celebrated Mass with the State Chaplains, State Deputies and Supreme Officers, uniting us in the Eucharist as we celebrated a votive Mass for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. These experiences have inspired me to serve you as State Chaplain. Together, may we be comforted by the words of Jesus: “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” May we never tire of the mission we take up with and for Jesus, a call to Open Wide the Doors for Christ! Vivat Jesus!

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

“[W]hoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” (Gospel for June 28, Mt 10:38)

Our fallen human condition involves a measure of suffering and trials. Our commitment as disciples of Jesus, Scripture tells us, necessarily means taking up our own crosses willingly. God will grant us the strength to endure all trials if we remain faithful, and our suffering can prove redemptive if we accept it and unite it to the passion of Christ. This doesn't mean we can't take steps to alleviate our suffering, but we are called to courageously bear our crosses, even when faced with persecution, and to thereby participate in the saving work of Christ.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each day with the intention of uniting your daily sufferings with Christ's passion and in solidarity with all persecuted Christians around the world.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you carry your cross willingly, or do you feel it is forced upon you? Where do you turn when you need help with the weight of your cross? To prayer and the sacraments? To your family, friends and brother Knights?

Assembly Plants Flags on Vets Graves

Our Lady of Hope Assembly 2794 of Port Orange had a busy Memorial Day weekend. On Saturday, a dozen Sir Knights visited the Sea Pines Cemetery in Edgewater, placing 300 U.S. flags on the graves of veterans.

On Monday, seven Color Corps members led the wreath laying ceremony in the annual VFW Memorial Day service in the Veterans Circle at the Port Orange City Center.

An added highlight was a flyover led by Boston Butters, a retired Top Gun pilot and trainer who is the Assembly's new Veteran's Committee chairman.

“It always makes me feel good to see and watch the good fellowship and comradery when group of Sir Knights get together to do something



worthwhile,” said Faithful Navigator Andy Duzyk. “This is what we do in the Assembly. We focus on patriotic programs such as these. It is very worthwhile, and very rewarding.”

The Veterans Family Communion Group

Knights of Columbus Bishop **Thomas J. Grady Council #5618** officially instituted its Knights and Veterans Family Community Group in 2024 – an initiative that has been in the planning stages since 2004.

Sir Knight Jim Coppens served as a dedicated advocate for veterans from 2004 through 2016, contacting members of Congress and organizing veterans' groups to help keep the Lake Baldwin Veterans Facility open and restore clinics that had been relocated. By 2016, many of those clinics had successfully reopened.

In 2017, he began planning what would become the Knights and Veterans Family Community Group, continuing his advocacy work by establishing a veterans-focused effort at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church. Over time, he noticed that veteran participation in the parish's Memorial Day celebrations had steadily declined. Wanting to renew and strengthen the presence of veterans within the parish community, Coppens sought ways to bring veterans and their families together through faith, fellowship, patriotism, and prayer.

The vision behind the organization was not simply to create another parish activity, but to establish a spiritual and patriotic ministry where veterans, active-duty military personnel, Knights of Columbus members, patriots, and their families could unite in shared faith and community. The group was designed to honor those who served our nation while strengthening Catholic family life and encouraging greater participation in the life of the Church.

In 2018, Coppens submitted a proposal to establish a Veterans Ministry at the parish. However, the proposal was not approved by then-pastor



Father Charlie Mitchell, who expressed concern that the parish did not have sufficient resources to support the potential needs of homeless veterans. Instead, Father Mitchell suggested beginning with a veterans' prayer group and offered to have the group recognized on the parish website.

Following that discussion, Coppens founded the Veterans Family Communion Group, which organized group Communion events five times each year, generally around Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Patriot Day (9/11), and Veterans Day. The group's first event took place on June 16, 2019.

From the beginning, the purpose of these patriotic Communion events was to provide veterans and their families with opportunities to worship together, receive Holy Communion together, and remain spiritually connected to both their Catholic faith and one another. The organization also sought to preserve the visible presence of veterans within parish life and remind younger generations of the sacrifices made in service to God and country.

In the beginning, attendance was modest and somewhat sporadic, largely because there was no established list of veterans' families within the parish. Through word of mouth, bulletin



announcements, and growing parish interest, participation steadily increased. Knights of Columbus **Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council #5618** and **Monsignor Thompson Assembly** encouraged Jim to rejoin the Knights of Columbus and incorporate the Communion events into Knights activities.

The organization’s mission closely reflects the principles of the Knights of Columbus — Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Through patriotic Communion events and family participation, the group promotes Catholic values, honors military service, strengthens bonds between generations, and encourages men and their families to remain active in both Church and community life.

To emphasize the important role of spouses and families, the organization adopted the name

“Veterans Family Communion Group” and continued hosting events throughout 2024. Later that year, Knights of Columbus Bishop Thomas J. Grady Council #5618 formally incorporated the ministry into its religious activities under the name “Knights and Veterans Family Communion Group,” adding the events to the council’s official Religious Events Schedule.

As of mid-2026, the Knights and Veterans Family Communion Group continued to host regular patriotic Communion events five times each year at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church. The initiative has also expanded into Fourth Degree activities through #1667 Monsignor Thompson Assembly and **#2883 St. Patrick Assembly**.

Today, the group continues working to spread its mission throughout Florida so that similar Knights and Veterans Family Communion Groups can be established in other Third and Fourth Degree councils and assemblies. Its ongoing purpose is to ensure that veterans and patriotic Catholic families are welcomed, honored, spiritually supported, and actively involved within the life of the Church — while strengthening faith, family, patriotism, and fraternity for future generations.

For more information about starting a Knights and Veterans Family Communion Group, please contact Jim Coppens at 407-261-0914, coppensjh@gmail.com



Knights of Columbus® Programs



FAITH

Our goal is to strengthen men and their families in the Catholic faith. Formation in our faith goes beyond mere facts or religious practice to an authentic connection with a loving God and his son Jesus Christ. Programs in this category are designed to...

[Learn more](#)



FAMILY

Father McGivney sought to strengthen the familial bond of father to mother and children to parents. His vision for family life was not only financial and material aid but also spiritual strength. The majority of our time is easily spent in secular circles unless...

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COMMUNITY

Knights are called to serve others. Our first principle is Charity – at home with our families and in our communities. When Knights of Columbus members come together as one through their council and parish, they accomplish great things.

[Learn more](#)



LIFE

"Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition" (St. John Paul II, 1995). The urgency of the threat to a culture of life in our world cannot be misunderstood. The Knights of Columbus vigorously defends...

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Council Hosts Wheelchair Weekend



Father Downey Council No. 4934 of Sacred Heart Church in New Smyrna Beach recently held its first Wheelchair Weekend in support of the American Wheelchair Mission. The Council's initial goal was to raise \$1,500. With the assistance of many of Knights, along with the extreme generosity of the parishioners of Sacred Heart and St. Gerard's Mission, the Council was able to raise well over \$7,000, nearly five times its goal. The effort was led by Brother Knight Mark Swanson.

In Chapter 2 of his New Testament letter, St. James implores the faithful to put their faith into action through works. It is such a blessing to see that message put into action and deeds and generosity in our Parishes. Council 4934 would like to thank Pastor Father John Tizio, Chaplain Father Aldren Nunez, Father Charlie Donovan and the many parishioners who supported Wheelchair Weekend.

The Beatles tribute band Liverpool Live opened the Church of the Epiphany Council 12569's Baby Bottle Drive campaign on Saturday May 9.

The Port Orange council served dinner to 150 Beatles fans who enjoyed the evening reminiscing the music of their summers past.

The council's Baby Bottle Drive began on Mother's Day weekend and runs through Father's Day Weekend. Proceeds go towards purchase of an Ultra Sound Machine, support of the Pregnancy Crisis Center and the Epiphany Food Bank.



Very happy with the event's reception, Grand Knight Charles Anthony said they hope to book a return concert in January.

Council Hosts Pro Life Evening



St. Thomas Aquinas Council No. 11497 of New Port Richey hosted a Pro Life Evening attended by Council members and parishioners on Thursday, May 21.

Following the opening rosary for a Pro Life intention led by Council Advocate and Lecturer Brother Kevin Welsh, participants, including District Deputy Dan Sanstrom, gathered in the parish hall for light refreshments and an informative presentation by Brother Chris Markford, Executive Director of LifeChoices Family Medical in Lutz.

Markford, a third-degree Knight, shared the inspiring story of LifeChoices, explaining that it began as a pregnancy resource center and has since evolved into a primary care provider practicing holistic medicine. The organization provides medical care for entire families, including prenatal and pediatric services, fully in conformity with Catholic teachings.

Following the presentation, Grand Knight Manny Pontoriero and Brother Dr. Denis Dorsey presented Markford with a check for \$1,635 on behalf of the Council, representing donations collected from its members. Council members also contributed donations of diapers and baby formula to aid in the ministry's ongoing work. To help maximize the impact of these financial contributions, the Council will apply for the

Supreme Council's ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) matching grant.

The evening concluded with Grand Knight Pontoriero presenting the Council's annual Jack Timmins Pro Life Warrior Award. While previous honorees Brothers Jack Timmins and Bob Gozo were unable to attend, past recipient Brother Tony Fontana was present for the event. This year's award was presented to Brother Henry Perri via a moving, live FaceTime call, as he is currently in a rehabilitation facility due to medical issues. Brother Perri was recognized for his outstanding leadership as chairman of the Council's Pro Life Gala last year, which raised funds for the West Pasco Pregnancy Center, including money to purchase a portable ultrasound machine with the help of Supreme's Ultrasound Initiative.

Moving forward, the Council remains dedicated to cultivating a culture of life by continuing its strong support of local pregnancy resource centers and healthcare ministries that uphold the dignity of every human life.



Palm Coast Pastor Wins McGivney Award

Father Jose Panthaplamthottiyil, CMI, Pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Palm Coast, was announced as the winner of the 2025-26 Blessed Michael McGivney Award as the State's Pastor of the Year at the 122nd State Convention.

On May 31, Father Jose Panthaplamthottiyil, CMI, was officially presented with the award at the noon Mass. The presentation was made by Grand Knight Joseph Paul and District Deputy Greg Gully before a standing, enthusiastic congregation.

This highly selective honor, awarded to only one priest across the entire state of Florida, represents one of the three highest accolades announced at this year's Convention.

The award recognizes Fr. Jose's exceptional service as a transformative leader and the spiritual heart of the Palm Coast Catholic community since 2019. As a teacher of the faith, Fr. Jose consistently utilizes his homilies and personal counsel to guide parishioners toward the Word of God, encouraging a parish life deeply rooted in daily prayer and scripture.

Beyond individual guidance, his ministry is fundamentally defined by his role as an apostle of Christian family life. Fr. Jose views the parish not merely as a collection of individuals, but as a unified collective of families. By fostering an environment where children, parents, and grandparents pray and grow together, he has successfully strengthened the domestic church. This spirit of connection extends directly into his work as a builder of Catholic fraternity, where he actively oversees more than 30 distinct parish ministries, ensuring each remains aligned with the core values of brotherhood, charity, and service.

The primary beneficiaries of Fr. Jose's leadership are the parishioners and local community members of Palm Coast. An exemplar of charity, Fr. Jose ensures no parishioner walks alone during times of hardship. He has established and sustained essential food programs and direct support systems to aid those in need, standing as



a devoted parish priest and a true role model who welcomes all with kindness.

The ultimate result of this strong partnership between the pastor and the Order is a thriving, robust local fraternity. After accepting the award, Fr. Jose expressed his gratitude to the Knights of Columbus, reflecting on how he worked closely with local Catholic men to establish Council 17480 six years ago. Through shared dedication, that initial effort has resulted in massive growth, with the council currently numbering 290 active members.

In a powerful closing gesture of support and devotion, Fr. Jose humbly accepted the plaque and used the moment to issue an immediate call to action, urging all men of the parish who have not yet done so to join the Knights of Columbus.

For the State Council, this achievement serves as a premier example of how deep collaboration between a parish priest and local Knights can revitalize a community. All councils across the state are encouraged to look to Palm Coast as a blueprint for success, leveraging strong pastoral relationships to drive local membership growth and expand charitable impact.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage



The 2026 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage officially started Sunday, May 24, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche at the Mission Nombre de Dios in St. Augustine. Worshippers participated in Mass, prayer, music, and a public procession through the heart of the city.

KofC Fourth Degree Assembly 166 was the host Assembly for this National Honor. There were Sir Knights from four different assemblies from Jacksonville, Gainesville, and a District Warden from Georgia.

It was a tremendous honor to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime event, especially as our Nation approaches its 250th birthday.

Bishop Erik Pohlmeier celebrated Mass with the assistance of several priests and deacons. After Mass, the Color Corps led Bishop Pohlmeier with the Eucharist under the canopy. They processed to the Rustic Altar, then after the Benediction, the Color Corps led the procession to the Chapel of

Our Lady of La Leche.

At 5 p.m., approximately 2,000 Eucharistic pilgrims departed and processed to the Cathedral for silent prayer. The Cathedral remained open overnight until 6 a.m. The Color Corps from four different Assemblies led the procession, with Assembly 166 Interim Color Corps Commander William McGowan leading the way.



A Sanctuary of Peace

St. Peter the Apostle Council 15779 of Trinity's Pasco Hope Garden Project began with a simple question: How can we, as disciples of Christ, become more involved in serving our community?

During a visit to St. Peter the Apostle, representatives from Catholic Charities shared opportunities for the council's Caritas Ministry to expand its outreach efforts. Inspired by Father Gary Dowsey's call for parishioners to go beyond the walls of the church and become active disciples in the community, members of Caritas began exploring ways to put faith into action.

That journey led to a visit to Pasco Hope, where Director Danielle Husband introduced the Knights to the ministry's mission and the residents it serves. Pasco Hope is a vital program under Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, providing essential housing and meals to the community's most vulnerable, focusing heavily on the elderly.

While touring the property, one area stood out. It was an underutilized and neglected space with little purpose or beauty. Together, the idea emerged to transform that area into a place that would provide residents with a sense of dignity, peace, and welcome. What started as a conversation quickly became a vision shared by many.

Through the generosity of parishioners, community supporters, and a Rice Bowl Grant from the Diocese, the resources needed to bring the project to life were secured. Responding to this call to serve "the least of these," volunteers from various ministries from St. Peter the Apostle Parish, including Caritas Outreach, Women's



Council, and the Knights of Columbus, stepped up to manage the project from start to finish and generously gave their time and talents.

There were several weekends of demanding site preparation that included fence and building demolition, object removal, installing a new irrigation system, precise landscaping, and laying fresh sod. Thanks to the collective use of these volunteers' unique talents and resources, the Pasco Hope Peace Garden stands complete as a living testament to what God can build when we offer our hands to His work and the garden is a visible expression of Christ's teaching to love and serve our neighbors. It is more than a beautification project; it is an act of compassion, hospitality, and respect for those facing difficult circumstances.

This project inspired the St. Peter the Apostle Council 15779 to start its "Feed Pasco Hope" program. We discovered the residents have regular meals throughout the week, but no one was servicing them on the weekends. Knights are now going one Saturday a month to cook and serve the members of the community and have started fundraising to establish funds for this much needed program. Their hope is that by stepping up, it will inspire other Councils or ministries in the area to do the same.

Florida Knights Offer Specialty License Plates

The Florida State Council has initiated a project, working with the Florida State Legislature, to authorize Knights of Columbus Specialty License Plates for automotive vehicles registered in the State of Florida.

The purpose for this initiative is twofold: to promote the visibility of our Order, and to derive income for State Council Charities.

State Legislature Representation has been engaged to present the KofC Specialty Plate Authorization Bill for approval during the March, 2027 Legislative Session.

Once legislation has been approved, our Membership will have 24 months to purchase 3,000 vouchers for the plate, at regular Auto Registration Centers – for final approval. The vouchers will cost the same as regular/standard registration plates, plus \$25. The \$25 (less specialty production costs) will be sequestered for KofC Charities for disbursement to KofC selected Charities. This will approximate \$100K with the purchase of 5,000 plates. (Note that Florida Membership exceeds 57,000.)

Once 3,000 vouchers have been purchased, the FLHSMV (Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles) will authorize Auto Registration Centers to convert vouchers into



purchases for KofC Specialty Plates. They will so advise the State Council, who will in turn advise the Membership. (Applicants must provide Proof of KofC Membership, Auto Registration, and Driver’s License with the Application Form to qualify for the plates.)

A Sign-up table was set up at the State Convention to document interest (not commitment) in obtaining the KofC Specialty Plate. A rendition of the Plate Design (compliant with stringent FLHSMV requirements) was posted at the table.

If you are interested in purchasing a KofC plate in Florida, click the link below and fill out the form. No money is required at this as we are only collecting signatures.

[Yes, I want the license plate](#)

Did 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 the 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 jlark1@gmail.com.

Port Orange Earns Century Award



Council 8086 Knights of Columbus has once again demonstrated its strength, dedication, and commitment to the mission of the Order by earning the prestigious Century Award for membership growth. This achievement recognizes councils and jurisdictions that surpass their annual membership goals by recruiting at least 100 new members, continuing to expand the brotherhood of Catholic men dedicated to faith, family, and service.

As of the Convention deadline (April 17), Council 8086 had recruited 107 new Knights, leading Division 4 for large councils. With a quota of 15 new members, that adds up to 713-percent, good for 7-Star Council. The Council, led by Grand Knight Dr. Ernie Jackson, continued to recruit. As of June 1, they installed 114 new members (760 percent), only six away from 8-Star.

Receiving the Century Award reflects the hard work of councils throughout Florida that actively recruit new members while strengthening parish involvement and charitable outreach.

Through programs supporting families, youth, seminarians, veterans, people with disabilities, and those in need, the Council 8086 Knights of Columbus continues to make a lasting impact across the state.

Florida's success in membership growth is a direct result of brother Knights who serve as visible examples of Catholic leadership in their communities. Many of our members continue to invite men to become part of the Order, 8086 continues to build a stronger parish, stronger families, and stronger communities rooted in the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

This accomplishment is more than an award — it is a testament to the dedication and enthusiasm of Council 8086 Knights who continue answering the call to be “Men on a Mission.”

Through faith-filled leadership and personal invitation, the Florida State Council has recognized Council 8086 as helping to ensure the future growth and strength of the Knights of Columbus for generations to come.

Council Of The Year

By Rich Passarella, Grand Knight, Council 14573

Receiving the Division 3 Council of the Year for my Council at the 2025-2026 Florida State Convention was so fulfilling and so unexpected.

I heard my Council number announced; I looked up at the big screen, saw our Council name, and said to the couple next to me, “That’s my Council!” I was surprised, yet so honored as Grand Knight to receive it on behalf of my brother Knights and Ladies Auxiliary members, is an acknowledgment that the results of our Council’s Faith In Action programs merit the highest recognition in the State of Florida.

Our commitment has always been to thoughtfully plan and implement Knights of Columbus Faith in Action activities and programs that truly benefit our beloved Ascension Catholic Community and our Council. While reaching the Council of the Year wasn't part of our plan, I want to share some areas that I believe have truly helped us lay a strong foundation for our Faith in Action initiatives in our parish, resulting in wonderful outcomes. These areas include dedicated parochial leadership and involvement, an active Ladies Auxiliary, effective council communications with the help of technology, careful monthly activity and budget planning, and friendly collaboration with the school to support our youth programs.

Our Council is truly grateful to have such dedicated members who enthusiastically participate in activities that enrich our Ascension community. Drawing from the wisdom and experience of our Past Grand Knights, I cherish the collaboration with our Trustees, Advocate, and Deputy Grand Knight in planning and implementing our Faith in Action programs. It all starts with strong support from a passionate pastor who understands and values the positive impact of Knights of Columbus Faith in Action programs on our parish family.

We are especially fortunate that our Pastor and



Chaplain, Father John Bosco Maison, is a proud 4th Degree Knight. Every quarter, we have a “short and spicy round table” meeting with the pastor to review upcoming church and school activities, use a helpful three-month look-ahead calendar, and discuss activities that require his assistance or approval.

We feel blessed to have six out of our seven deacons as Knights—five of whom are 4th Degree Knights—who actively serve as Chaplain, Lecturer, guest speakers, and participants in our Faith programs such as Novenas, Holy Hour, Pilgrim Icon Prayer Service, and Silver Rose. Their involvement not only aids our officers and committees in planning meaningful Faith activities but also fosters a vibrant connection with the parish liturgy and music teams, inspiring confidence and unity within our parish community. We are also greatly appreciative of the unwavering support provided by our Parish office staff, who assist us significantly with resource scheduling and the preparation of articles for the weekly bulletin and the monthly Ascension Magazine, both of which serve the parish community.

At the start of the new fraternal year, we earnestly came together for activity and budget planning meetings with our dedicated officers

and trustees. We reviewed last year's plans and thoughtfully envisioned the upcoming year's activities to craft a fresh annual activity plan and budget. We also updated the plan to include the KOC Council Monthly Planner, which includes precise KofC activity dates, making our planning even more organized. During our first Council meeting of the year, we enthusiastically presented the plan and budget, inviting feedback and approval from everyone.

Our family and community youth activities thrive through close collaboration with the parish

school. We've built a warm relationship with the principal and dedicated school staff. At the start of the school year, we share a list of school-involved Council activities—such as soccer and basketball challenges during PE and poster and essay contests—with suggested dates, and we happily update the schedule based on the school's input. These heartfelt programs with the school give children and families a chance to see Knights in action and, hopefully, inspire young people to dream of becoming a Knight—and encourage dads to join in as well.

Family of the Year

The Boullion Family of SK Michael, wife Sherry and daughter Veronica has been recognized as Florida State Council Family of the Year.

SK Mike Boullion has been Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Trustee and currently Communication Director for Notre Dame Council 10514 of Flagler Beach. He also serves on many committees such as scholarship, budget. He produces the monthly newsletter, takes pictures at most of their events and has written at least five articles published in the Invocation this year. He was also an insurance agent and worked at Supreme headquarters in the insurance department.

SK Boullionb has also coached two other councils and assemblies on how to publish a newsletter.

His family is very active in Right to Life and is instrumental in acquiring ultrasound machines his council has donated. His family is also big supporters of the Alpha women's center. The whole family participates in all council functions. Their grandson Alexander Boulliu also joined the council and is an inside guard.

Before he retired, he worked for Supreme in the insurance department and still gives tips to his



council's agent.

The Boullions are a model Catholic family. He is a member of the parish finance council and is also a member of the pastor's steering committee, an Extortionary Minister, his daughter is a lector at mass and grandson is a cart driver to bring people to mass that cannot walk from the parking lot.

They are always willing to lend a hand to anyone that needs help. His wife is one of the leaders of the church's lady's fun ministry and is integral in leading the organization. Both are very involved in fund raising and supporting the Alpha's Woman's Center, is very involved in providing Ultrasound machines throughout the area. Our council has provided 10 machines across the state.

Florida State Council Awards

FAITH ACTIVITIES AWARDS

DIVISION 1

1 st place	Blessed Sacrament Council 17162	Grand Knight Tom Marrah
2 nd place	Suwannee River Valley Council 9720	Grand Knight Robert Johnstone
3 rd place	Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249	Grand Knight Rocco Totino

DIVISION 2

1 st place	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Grand Knight Frank Fenno
2 nd place	Padre Felix Varela Council 7420	Grand Knight Rudy P Mendez
3 rd place	St Patricio Council 13654	Grand Knight Gustavo Navarro

DIVISION 3

1 st place	Our Lady of Hope Council 8068	Grand Knight Ernest Jackson
2 nd place	St. Thomas More Council 7826	Grand Knight Scott Deahna
3 rd place	Saints Cosmas and Damian Council 13341	Grand Knight Gordon Shellhaas

FAMILY AWARDS

Division 1

1 st place	St. John XXIII Council 14390	Grand Knight Jimmy Fernandez
2 nd place	Our Lady of the Snows Council 15366	Grand Knight Joe Newman
3 rd place	St. Mary Council 11878	Grand Knight Francis Werner

Division 2

1 st place	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Grand Knight Frank Fenno
2 nd place	Padre Felix Varela Council 7420	Grand Knight Rudy P Mendez
3 rd place	St. Patricio Council 13654	Grand Knight Gustavo Navarro

Division 3

1 st Place	Our Lady of Victory Council 7968	Grand Knight Marty Mears
2 nd place	Monsignor Martin B. Powers Council 14573	Grand Knight Rich Passarella
3 rd place	Santa Maria Del Mar Council 10514	Grand Knight Bryant

Perszyk

LIFE ACTIVITIES AWARDS

Division 1

1 st place	St John XXIII Council 14390	Grand Knight Jimmy Fernandez
2 nd place	North Jacksonville Council 5407	Grand Knight Wayne J. Dietel
3 rd place	St. Mary's of Korona Council 11961	Grand Knight Darren Molony

Division 2

1 st place	St Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Grand Knight Frank Fenno
2 nd place	St. Joseph the workman Council 17689	Grand Knight Stephen Boudreaux
3 rd place	Incarnation Council 15332	Grand Knight Bryan Hoskinson

Division 3

1 st place	Noter Dame Council 10514	Grand Knight Bryant Perszyk
2 nd place	Saints Cosmas and Damian Council 13341	Grand Knight Gordon Shellhaas
3 rd place	Monsignor Martin B. Power Council 14573	Grand Knight Richard Passarella

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AWARDS

Division 1

1 st place	Fr. Cornelious A. Dougherty Council 10517	Grand Knight Kevin Wagner
2 nd place	Our Lady of the Snows Council 15366	Grand Knight Joe Newman
3 rd place	North Jacksonville Council 7407	Grand Knight Wayne J. Dietel

Division 2

1 st place	St. Lorenzo Ruez Council 14866	Grand Knight Frank Fenno
2 nd place	St. Patricio Council 13654	Grand Knight Gustavo Navarro
3 rd place	Our Lady Queen of Peace Council 11680	Grand Knight Timothy Couzins

Division 3

1 st place	Our Lady of Hope Council 8086	Grand Knight Ernest Jackson
2 nd place	Saint James Council 12402	Grand Knight Philip Perfito
3 rd place	Our Lady of Victory Council 7968	Grand Knight Martin Mears

VOCATIONS SUPPORT

Division 1

1 st place	St. Mary's of Korona Council 11961	Grand Knight Darren Molony
2 nd place	St Petersburg Council 2105	Grand Knight Sean P. Denny

Division 2

1 st place	Incarnation Council 15322	Grand Knight Bryan Hoskinson
2 nd place	Resurrection Council 10169	Grand Knight Derek Stross
3 rd place	St Scholastica Council 14485	Grand Knight Stephen Scarallo

Division 3

1 st place	Saints Cosmas and Damian Council 13341	Grand Knight Gorgon K. Shellhaas
2 nd place	Howard J. Lesch Council 7667	Grand Knight Paul Maryeski
3 rd place	St. Thomas More- Sarasota Council 7826	Grand Knight Scott Deahna

Publicity Activities Awards

Division 1

1 st place	St. Mary's of Korona Council 11961	Grand Knight Darren Molony
2 nd place	St. Mary Council 11878	Grand Knight Francis Werner

Division 2

1 st Place	San Patricio Council 13654	Grand Knight Gustavo T. Navarro
2 nd place	Resurrection Council 10169	Grand Knight Derek Stross
3 rd place	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Grand Knight Frank Fenno

Division 3

1 st place	Barnney Gonyea Council 7109	Grand Knight Tom Krivchenia
2 nd place	John A. Hill Council 4955	Grand Knight Christopher Long
3 rd place	Monsignor Martin B. Power Council 14573	Grand Knight Rich Passarella

ALTAR SERVER OF THE YEAR AWARD (7-12)

Finnian Hinman	Epiphany Council 12569	Diocese of Orlando
Lucas Ghislandi	Our Lady of Lords Council 11241	Diocese of Palm Beach
Chai Poindexter	Our Lady of Victory Council 7968	Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee
Seth Martinez	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Diocese of St. Augustine
Joseph Czyszczon	Pios XII Council 5131	Diocese of St. Petersburg
Lucas Gehrold	Our lady of light Council 10498	Diocese of Venice

ALTAR SERVER OF THE YEAR AWARD (13-18)

Dimitri Antonio Kambourelis	Ft Lauderdale Council 3080	Diocese of Miami
Teresa Zamora	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council 10169	Diocese of Orlando
David Burgos	Our Lady of Lourds Council 11241	Diocese of Palm Beach
Ethan Rose-Miranda	Mario "Chick" Alberghini Council 13277	Diocese of Pensacola- Tallahassee
Alex Santos	St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866	Diocese St. Augustine
Matthew Mathai	St. Stephen Council 14084	Diocese of St Petersburg
Karol Jozef Ligenza	St Joseph Council 5604	Diocese of Venice

PROGRAM AWARDS

Faith

1 st place	St. Vincent de Paul Council 9618	Grand Knight Stephen Ruder
2 nd place	Our Lady of Hope Council 8086	Grand Knight Ernie Jackson
3 rd place	John F. Kennedy Memorial Council 5635	Grand Knight Fernando Garcia

Life

1 st place	Noter Dame Council 10514	Grand Knight Bryant Perszyk
2 nd place	St. Thomas More Council 7826	Grand Knight Scott Deahna
3 rd place	Monsignor Martin B. Power Council 14573	Grand Knight Richard Passarella

Community

1 st place	Christ Our Redeemer Council 13527	Grand Knight Peter Blaise
2 nd place	Fr. Cornilious C. Dougherty Council 10572	Grand Knight Kevin Wagner
3 rd Place	Monsignor Martin B. Powers Council 14573	Grand Knight Richard Passarella

Council of the year

Division 1

St. Mary's of Korona Council 11961

Grand Knight Darren Molony

Division 2

St. Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866

Grand Knight Frank Fenno

Division 3

Monsignor Martin B. Powers Council 14573

Grand Knight Richard Passarella

Knight of the Year

Jimmy Hundley

**San Lorenzo Ruiz Council 14866 Grand Knight Frank Fenno
Knights of Columbus - Florida State Council**

Family of the Year

Michael Boullion

**Noter Dame Council 10514 Grand Knight Bryant Perszyk
Knights of Columbus - Florida State Council**

State Blessed Michael McGivney Award

Father Jose Panthaplamthottiytl

**Mother Seaton Council 17480 Grand Knight Joseph W. Paul
Knights of Columbus - Florida State Council**

Program of the Year

2025-2026

**State Silver Rose Pilgrimage
Chairman Todd Alber**

A Declaration of Dependence

By John Marrella, KofC Supreme Secretary

A Declaration of Dependence: America relies on Divine Providence

Highlights from the Keynote Address at the Florida State Council's 122nd Convention

We gather here on this Memorial Day weekend in the year of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Since Patriotism is one of the four principles of the Order, I would like to speak to you this weekend about why that anniversary should have a special meaning for us as Catholic Christians and as members of the Knights of Columbus family. If you know anything about the Declaration of Independence, you probably know this line in the second paragraph:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator by certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men.”

Less well known, but just as important, is the very end of the Declaration, in which the 56 men who signed it affirmed as follows:

“We, therefore, The Representatives of the united States of America, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world, solemnly declare that these United Colonies are Free and Independent states. And for support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

These two passages reveal quite a lot about the founding founders of our country. They believed that one, God exists; our rights come from God and not from the government; governments and men will be held accountable to God, who is the supreme judge of the world; and that this new nation would succeed by their own efforts – yes, their lives, fortunes and sacred honor – but only



with a firm reliance on divine providence. Each one of these beliefs was essential to their patriotism.

Patriotism, that duty of loyalty owed to one’s country, is a Christian virtue derived from the Fourth Commandment, to honor your father and your mother – the country being an extension of the family. In his beautiful reflection on the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Cardinal Raymond Burke observed that Patriotism is rooted in gratitude. First, to God, for giving us the land that has nourished us and the heritage of faith and virtue that we’ve received. And gratitude also to the men and women whose sacrifices preserve the goods we now enjoy. He said that our homeland is not an accident of geography; no, God has placed each of us in a particular family and in a particular nation so as to for us for the mission we’ve been entrusted with. Rightly ordered Patriotism, then, can be understood as fidelity to divine providence. He said, by cherishing the homeland entrusted to us, we render thanks to Him who is Lord of all nations.

The correspondence between Patriotism and

religion is especially strong here in the United States. The idea, or as Jefferson wrote in the Declaration, the self-evident truth that our rights come from God, and not from the government, was at the time – and still is today – an extraordinary statement. It was, in fact, unprecedented for a government to be established on that idea.

Echoing this theme, it was our Brother Knight John F. Kennedy who declared in his Inaugural Address that the same revolutionary beliefs for which forebears fought are still at issue around the globe. The belief that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state, but from the hand of God.

On July 4, 1941, Independence Day 80 years ago, Msgr. Fulton Sheen – later known as Bishop Sheen and now soon to be Blessed Fulton Sheen – published a book about the American founding, which he titled, “A Declaration of Dependence.” Reflecting on the chaos and turmoil in the world at the onset of World War II, he noted that the Declaration of Independence is a declaration of dependence. Like the founding fathers who signed the Declaration of Independence, Bishop Sheen recognized our absolute reliance on divine providence, writing, “We are independent of dictators, because we are dependent on God. He is to be the center of our lives. His ways ought to permeate every aspect and area of our lives. Our every interaction should be filled with the love of our savior.”

The Declaration of Independence, Bishop Sheen stated, affirms that liberty is an inalienable right because it is a gift of the creator. It makes us independent of tyrannies and dictators by making a declaration of dependence on God.”

Bishop Sheen wrote that there are never any rights without duties, and he warned of the consequences if we ignore those duties – especially the duty to honor God.

In the Kingdom of God, sacrifice is the coin of the realm, which is why we have a Crucifix in every Catholic church and chapel. For Catholic Christians and Knights of Columbus, sacrifice is how we express authentic patriotism.

Although we love our country, our patriotism extends beyond the United States to another

homeland. For, as Catholics, we understand Providence has placed us here in America at this moment in time, and we are pilgrims on our way to our true homeland – which is heaven.

It would be a mistake to think of the KofC as just a bunch of nice guys who go to church and do good deeds. It is more than that. Through the Principle of Charity, it’s a giant saint-making machine, which helps its members and their families conform themselves to Christ, and by doing so, preparing themselves for spending an eternity with him.

St. John Paul II often spoke about a “charity that evangelizes.” He meant not only that charitable works are a witness to those who receive the charity; he also meant that charity transforms the hearts of those who serve. In other words, we become our true selves – the people that God meant us to be – by living lives of service and sacrifice.

This was certainly Father McGivney’s vision for the Knights of Columbus. We wanted to create an organization that would be a living witness to Jesus Christ. He wanted all of us – Knights, wives and family members – to live out our Catholic faith as members of the Knights of Columbus – proclaiming not only that there is a God, but he knows each of us by name and he loves us individually, and we joyfully submit to his will and his plan for us, and we trust his providence to see us through any danger and difficulty.

Holiness is not just for canonized saints. As Catholics, and as men and women of the Knights of Columbus family, we’re also called to live lives of holiness. Lives of fearless service and sacrifice. If we make a daily affirmative declaration of dependence on God, not only will we fulfill the mission of the Knights of Columbus, but we will have done our part to reclaim this country, and make it truly One Nation Under God. God willing, we will all meet again in our true homeland.

Thank you all, and may God bless each of you. God bless the Bahamas, and God bless America!

★ WORLD WAR I ★

★ WORLD WAR II ★

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

PATRIOTIC
FOURTH DEGREE

250 FOR ★ **250**

CELEBRATING THE USA

250TH ANNIVERSARY
OF INDEPENDENCE

★ KOREAN WAR ★

★ VIETNAM WAR ★

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

★ ★ ON SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026 ★ ★

AT ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH
1301 SW 136TH AVENUE, DAVIE, FL 33325

★ GULF WAR ★

★ GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR ★

REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:30 AM



CEREMONY AT 11:00 AM

EVERYONE WELCOME
CANDIDATES \$90.00 / PRIESTS \$50.00
(INCLUDES LAPEL PIN, BANQUET, AND PROCESSING FEES)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THIS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PATRIOTIC FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION IS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY.

HONOR OUR PAST. SERVE OUR COUNTRY. STRENGTHEN OUR ORDER. BUILD THE FUTURE.
★ IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL. ★



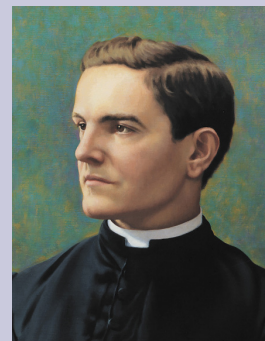
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael J. 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 your venerable servant Blessed Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will.

Through His intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).



Is Your Personal Information Accurate?

Every member of the Knights of Columbus in the Florida jurisdiction is listed on the Florida KofC website. Financial Secretaries update council lists on the Supreme and State websites at least quarterly. To ensure your information is correct, please review the brief YouTube video link below to confirm that your personal information and your preferred contact information is correct.

The 5-minute video describes how to log on or gain initial access, and reviews how to correct or confirm your personal information.

Please note that if you are a State, Assembly or Council officer, chairman or director, you must remain subscribed to the State Council's email list. Failure to do so will result in you missing important communications concerning your position and may result in your forfeiture of that position.

Follow the instructions on the video <https://youtu.be/IVS3XkgiUs> and while you are on the site, check out the other good news and information is available to you with just a click or two.

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



Explanation of the Florida State Council Pin 2025-2027

“**OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST**” is a powerful and fitting exhortation for the Knights of Columbus in this Jubilee Year. As men of faith, the Knights are called to welcome Christ into every aspect of their lives—into their homes, their parishes, and their communities. By echoing the words of St. John Paul II, we are reminded to live boldly and faithfully, opening our hearts to Christ’s truth, mercy, and love. Worn as a pin, it becomes a visible sign of commitment to evangelization, service, and the defense of life; encouraging all to embrace and share the Gospel in this special year of grace.

“**JESUS IN MARY’S WOMB**” is a profound symbol of the sacredness of life from its very inception. His presence as a child, unborn, reflects the divine value of every human life. The Knights of Columbus draws strength and inspiration from this mystery, standing firmly for the right to life from conception to natural death. As Mary carried the Savior of the world in her womb, so too must society recognize and protect the dignity of every human being at all stages of life.

We are a fraternity of men who love our God, love our Family, and love our country. We protect the children, we salute our veterans, and we pray to our patron Blessed Michael McGivney. We do all unashamed and with pride because we understand that which is not against us is with us. For we are the Knights of Columbus protectors of the widows and orphans, and we wear it proudly so **OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST and he shall enter.**

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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 X (Twitter) and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.
ESTABLISHED 1977 • Volume 24 • Number 1 • www.kofc.org News for Knights of Columbus Leaders • 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3026, USA

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.

