



Carmel Knights

July 2026
Newsletter
Vol 3 No. 1

Our Lady of Mt Carmel * Knights of Columbus * Council 15821 * Osprey, FL



Table of Contents

In Memoriam

Tom Marko.....	Page 3
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Words of Wisdom

Rob Wucki-Grand Knight.....	Page 4
Fr Anthony Armstrong-Chaplins Corner.....	Page 5/6
Mark House-Lecturers Comment.....	Page 7
Catholic FAQ.....	Page 8

Events

Event Calendar.....	Page 9
Installation of Officers- July 23.....	Page 10
Knights Breakfast- July 26.....	Page 11
Guadelupe Mission- Aug 1-2 Bag Distribution.....	Page 12
Guadelupe Mission - Aug 8-9 Bag Collection	
Fr McGivney Feast Day- August 13.....	Page 13
OLMC Recruitment weekend- August 15-16.....	Page 14
Fraternal Communion Brunch August 30	Page 15
Our Lady of Lourdes Golf outing – September 25.....	Page 16

Birthdays & Celebrations

Knight / Family of the Month.....	Page 17
Member Birthdays.....	Page 18
Parish Appreciation Dinner.....	Page 19
Bishop Emilio/OLMC Feast Day.....	Page 20

Council Information

Financial Report.....	Page 21
Volunteers Needed/Where to buy?.....	Page 22
Assy 1818 News.....	Page 23
Ladies Auxiliary News.....	Page 24
Officers List & Resources.....	Page 25
Insurance.....	Page 26
Publishers Notes.....	Page 27

Faith in Action

Faith

Family

Life

Community

Tom spent his winters in our community and served faithfully as a Lector at OLMC. During his time with us, he was an active and dedicated member of our Council. He was one of our skilled grillers at the Lenten Fish Dinners, a reliable chef at our pancake breakfasts, and a willing helper at countless other events. His steady presence, good humor, and generous spirit made a real difference. He will be deeply missed by his brother Knights and all who served alongside him.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Tom Marko

Thomas C. Marko, age 83, passed away on June 19, 2026. He was born July 6, 1942 and grew up in East Syracuse, New York.

He survived by his wife of 45 years and love of his life, Rosemarie "Ree"; his beloved sons and daughters-in-law, Matthew and Carrie, Richard and Breianna and four grandchildren.

Tom graduated from LeMoyne College with a BBA degree, majoring in accounting. He graduated from the US Navy OCS in 1963 and spent the next 3 years serving on the USS Pocono, and in Vietnam, reaching the rank of Lieutenant.

Tom worked for Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, New York for 32 years and retired as Director of Finance, Commercial Division in 1999.

After retirement, Tom volunteered for many organizations, including spiritual care at Saint Joseph's Hospital. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus in Sarasota, Florida, where he lived for many years. A very spiritual person, he was involved in many church activities at Saint Mary's (Minoa), All Saints (Syracuse), and Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Sarasota).



A Dose of Rob



What a Team !!!

Over this last weekend we really saw what this council can do. Even with a last-minute visit from our new Bishop Emilio, we shined. So many Knights jumped right in and got it done. It really showed what a team of Brother Knights can do. It highlighted the very best OLMC has to offer as a parish, Friendship, Community, Family, Brotherhood & Faith. How many times do you get a chance to make a good first impression? Not often, and we helped OLMC shine.

How easy was it to host the Bishop with short notice on top of still completing our normal Carmel Feast celebration? It wasn't !!! Back-to-Back days !!! But you made it look easy !!! Your dedication to OLMC & our Knights of Columbus Council #15821 was so extraordinary to see !!!

A very special Thank You to the OLMC Ladies Aux, they are the best partner we could ask for. To say they complement us so well is an understatement.

Thank You , Thank You , Thank You !!!



Vivat Jesus !!!

Rob



Chaplin's Commentary

SK Fr Anthony Armstrong O.Carm

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." — Psalm 33:12

This Fourth of July, the United States of America turned 250 years old. A quarter of a millennium. It is a milestone that calls every American — and especially every Catholic man — not merely to celebrate, but to reflect. Because freedom, rightly understood, is not a political achievement. It is a spiritual one.

The Founders understood this, even imperfectly. When they wrote of rights that are "unalienable," they were reaching, however haltingly, toward a truth the Church has always proclaimed: that human dignity is not granted by government but by God. Every man is made in the image of God — and it is from that divine image that true liberty flows. Two hundred and fifty years later, the task of every Knight of Columbus is to remind a forgetful nation of that fact.

The four pillars that guide every Brother Knight — Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism — are not merely organizational values. They are the blueprint for what authentic American freedom, ordered toward God, actually looks like.

Charity calls the Knight to see his neighbor not as an outsider, but as a soul for whom Christ died. A free nation that forgets charity becomes a nation of isolated individuals. Charity is what breathes life into liberty, transforming it from license into love. Unity reminds the Knight that freedom is not won alone. None of us alone is as good as all of us together. The great experiment of American democracy only endures when its citizens are bound by something deeper than politics — bound, ultimately, by their shared dignity as children of God.

Fraternity is the heart of the Knights. The goal of the Knights was to involve Catholic men in an organization that would bring them together to serve others, providing them a way to remain active in their parishes, all the while connecting them more closely to their Catholic faith. A nation of brothers does not abandon its vulnerable. It protects them, as we are all called to do in our time and place.

Patriotism, the Fourth Degree virtue, is perhaps most alive on July 4th. This degree is intended to foster the spirit of patriotism in members and in the community at large, and to encourage active Catholic citizenship. True patriotism is not blind nationalism. It is the love of a man who wants the best for his country — and knows that the best thing for any country is to orient itself toward God, and toward God's values.

Chaplains Comments (cont.)

A Practical Invitation for This Anniversary

Although it is too late for July 4th this year (at the time of writing this reflection), I invite you, maybe before Thanksgiving, to gather your families for a simple act that embodies all four pillars at once: organize a neighborhood service project in the morning (Charity), share a meal together in the afternoon (Fraternity and Unity), and close the evening with a prayer or rosary for the nation (Patriotism).

A Grace for Independence Day

Heavenly Father, on this 250th anniversary of our nation's founding, we give You thanks for the gift of liberty — a gift that finds its fullness only in You. Strengthen our Charity, that we may serve the least among us. Deepen our Unity, that we may be one people under Your providence. Renew our Fraternity, so that no Brother Knight stands alone. And inflame our Patriotism, that we may be bold witnesses of faith in the public square, building a nation worthy of the freedom You have given.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, pray for us. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us. Amen.

A final question to reflect on:

What does it mean to you to be simultaneously a Catholic, a Knight, and an American— and are those three identities in harmony or in tension in how you live your daily life?





Lecturers Minute

SK Mark House PGK

The Cajun and the Snake

Boudreaux been fish'n down by de bayou all day an he done run outta night Motivation crawlers. He be bout reddy to leave when he seen a snake wit a big frog in his mout. He knowed dat dem big bass fish like frogs so he decided to steal dat froggie.

Dat snake, he be a moccasin so he had get bit. He snuk up grabbed him real snake din't lak dat wrapped hisself roun get hisself free. But good grip on his haid,

Well, Boudreaux got de frog and puts Boudreaux knows



cotton moufed water to be real careful or he'd behine de snake and quick roun de haid. Dat ole one bit. He squirmed and Boudreaux's arm try'n to Boudreaux, him, had a real yeh.

pried his mout open and it in his baitcan. Now dat he cain't let go dat

snake or his gonna bite him good, but he had a plan. He reach into de back pocket of his bib overhauls and pulls out a pint a moonshine likker.

He pour some draps into de snakes mout.

Well, dat snake's eyeballs roll back in his haid and his body go limp. Wit dat Boudreaux toss's dat snake into de bayou. den he goes back to fishin.

A while later Boudreaux dun feel sumpin tappin on his barefoot toe. He slowly look down and dare dat water mocassin was wit two frogs in his mout.

Catholic FAQ

Why are priests called "Father"?

Priests have been addressed as "Father" since ancient times. The term emphasizes spiritual generation and family relationships. When referring to a priest as "Father", we are referring to his function as spiritual leader and shepherd which he emphasizes in union with Jesus as priest.

To live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures, to be a member of each family, yet belonging to none, to share all sufferings, to penetrate all secrets, to heal all wounds, to go from men to God and offer him their prayers, to return from God to men, to bring pardon and hope, to have a heart of fire for charity, and a heart of bronze for chastity, to teach and to pardon, console, and bless always.....that is the life!

The priest's parish is his spiritual family, and like a natural father, he must guide, protect, nourish and raise it up according to the dictates of the faith.

It is this shepherding role that a priest is a Father.

July 2026

Last Update:3/10/2026

Assembly 1818

Faith Activities
Life Activities

Community Activities
Parish Activities

Family Activities
Council Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Knights of Columbus			1	2	3	4
				Rosary 6:30 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM	First Friday 8:00 AM Mass	INDEPENDENCE DAY Pass Out Bags Guadalupe Mission
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Pass Out Bags Guadalupe Mission			Assy 1818- Natl Cemetery	Update Membership Directory 7:00 PM		Collect Bags Guadalupe Mission
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Collect Bags Guadalupe Mission				Assembly Meeting 5:30 PM		Set Up OLMC Feast Day Celebration 8:30 AM Church Membership Drive After Each Mass
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
OLMC Feast Day Celebrate 12:00 PM Church Membership Drive After Each Mass				Officer Installation 7:00 PM	Set Up Pancake Breakfast 8:30 AM	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Pancake Breakfast 7:30 AM	Officer's Meeting 6:00 PM					

July-August Events

August 2026

Last Update:3/10/2026

Assembly 1818

Faith Activities
Life Activities

Community Activities
Parish Activities

Family Activities
Council Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Knights of Columbus					First Friday 8:00 AM Mass	Pass Out Bags Guadalupe Mission
				Rosary 6:30 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM		Collect Bags Guadalupe Mission
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pass Out Bags Guadalupe Mission						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Collect Bags Guadalupe Mission			Assy 1818- Natl Cemetery	Fr McGivney Feast Day 8AM Mass		Church Membership Drive After Each Mass
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Church Membership Drive After Each Mass					Set Up Pancake Breakfast 8:30 AM	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Pancake Breakfast 7:30 AM	Officer's Meeting 7:00 PM			Assembly Meeting 5:30 PM		
30	31					
Fraternal Communion						
Brunch River Club 12PM						



Please Join Us
July 23rd at 7:00^{pm}
Tillotson Hall
All Are Welcome



KNIGHTS BREAKFAST



7:30 AM JULY 26

TILLOTSON HALL

After each Mass



Menu

Breakfast Sandwiches:

Sausage-Egg-Cheese

Ham-Egg-Cheese

AND

Hashbrowns

Coffee

Orange Juice



\$7

**Kids
eat
free!**

July 2026



Food Collected	1955 lbs
Food Value	\$5865
Funds Collected	\$1570
Total Value	\$7435

Bags handed out -Aug 1/2

Bags collected -Aug 8/9



We could use your help !!!

Please contact SK Mike Ochoa

MOCHO_FK@yahoo.com or 941-928-4124

Thanks For Your Support

Food for Families
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Knights of Columbus
Council #15821

Bags Distributed July 4th & 5th After Mass
Food Collected June 11th & 12th Before Mass

Amokalee Food Drive
Help Donate to Those
in Hunger !!!

What We Need
Food Items Most In Need :

- Pinto Beans - Dry
- Canned Goods (meat, soup, veggies, fruit)
- Rice - Dry
- Cereal (store brand OK)
- Pasta (any kind)
- Maseca (flour tortilla mix)

Other Needed Food Items

- Saltines (or similar crackers)
- Peanut Butter, Jam, Jelly
- Cans of Juice (46 oz)
- Canned Tomatoes
- Jars of Baby Food
- Cooking Oil (48 oz)

Biggest Non-Food Item Need
Diapers (sizes 5 & 6)

Cash or Checks are also accepted,
Make Checks Payable to
"Guadalupe Social Services"

Thank you for your support !

Please Ensure ALL
Food Donations
Have Current
Dating !!!

Benefits Guadalupe Social Services



August 13, 2026
Feast Day of Venerable
Charles McGivney

Catholic and American

By permission of our Rt. Rev. Bishop and in accordance with an Act of the Legislature of the State of Connecticut, we have formed an organization under the name of the Knights of Columbus.

These first words of a letter written in April 1882 by Father McGivney to the Catholic pastors of Connecticut may not strike us as extraordinary. But if read in the context of his time — when there were competing views on how Catholics should live their faith in a hostile Protestant culture — the message is monumental.

In one sentence, we see the mind and mission of Father McGivney. The Catholic identity of the Order would be assured by permission of the bishop and the cooperation of pastors, and civic recognition would be provided by the legislature.

Unlike some Catholic fraternities of the day, this new organization would not seek to protect or project Old World identity. The Knights of Columbus would not be Irish (though most of the first members were) or Italian or German or French — it would be proudly American and devotedly Catholic.

Columbus was chosen as patron because he was a universally respected figure who opened up America to the world — a subtle way of saying that Catholics were here first.

As the U.S. continues this month to celebrate and contemplate its 250th anniversary, we may thank Father McGivney for the bold foresight and careful planning that brought forth the Knights of Columbus, which is now a force for good around the globe.

**Council Members are urged to attend Mass in honor of
Blessed Michael McGivney at 8AM Thursday August 13**

Charity * Unity * Fraternity * Patriotism



**Knights of
Columbus®**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Council #15821**

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A KNIGHT

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first.

Are you a practicing Catholic Man and over the age of 18? Are you new to the parish or a part-time resident and want to meet other men who share your values and interests? If you answered **YES** to these questions, we invite you to :

OLMC Recruitment Weekend

August 15th & 16th after ALL Masses



To learn more about the OLMC Knights of Columbus,

Please reach out to **John Canevari**

941-441-5242 or johncjac1@gmail.com

**Charity
Patriotism**

We meet the first Thursday of each
month in Tillotson Hall -7pm



**Unity
Fraternity**



Fraternal Communion Brunch BUFFET

August 30, Noon

COMPOSED SALADS AND FRESH FRUIT | EGGS BENEDICT
CHEESY POTATOES AND HASH BROWNS | SAUSAGE AND BACON
BISCUITS AND GRAVY | FRENCH TOAST | BREADS, PASTRIES AND DESSERTS
CHEESE BLINTZES | CHEF-ATTENDED OMELETTE AND WAFFLE TABLES

\$31

Prepay Lou or Althea Nagy

\$4 BLOODY MARYS & MIMOSAS



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Knights of Columbus
Our Lady of Lourdes Council 9924
1301 Center Road
Venice, Fl., 34292



Our Lady of Lourdes Knights of Columbus Council 9924 is sponsoring our Annual Circle of Life Charity Golf Outing. This year's event will be held at Plantation Golf & Country Club, Venice, Fl., on Friday, September 25, 2026.

The net proceeds of this event will support the **non-denominational** mission of Venice Area Pregnancy Care Center, Our Mothers House, and Pregnancy Solutions.

Primarily, these organizations deal with the counselling, testing, care, baby care products and housing of young women and their children, before and after birth. In many cases these agencies not only provide life-changing services to young women, but also allow them to complete their high school education, which is essential in these times.

Last year this event raised over **\$40,000** to support these three Charities.

The overall success of our charity event will come from **sponsors** and from **raffle ticket sales**. We are coming to you to ask for a sponsorship or for suitable prizes for our raffle. The Knights do good work, but we can't do it alone. We need your support!



Circle of Life
Golf Registration
Charity Golf Tournament K of C Charities



Venice Area Pregnancy
Care Center
65-0020968



Hosted by the Knights of Columbus - Our Lady of Lourdes

Date:
Friday, September
25, 2026

Course:
Plantation Golf & Country Club
500 Rockley Blvd., Venice, Florida 34293

Time:
Registration: 7:00 – 7:45 AM
Shotgun Start: 8:00 AM

Format:
Scramble:

Cost:
\$150 per player

Raffle:
Cash and prizes

Includes: Green fees, 2 mulligans, cart, range balls, lunch, prizes. **Lunch:** Immediately following at Plantation GCC

Entry Must Be Received By September 11, 2026

Teams: Put together your own foursome of Men's, Women's or Mixed couples — or enter individually.

**Payment by: Check or
Digital Payment using
the QR Code.**



**Registrations and Sponsorship
can be done online and paid by
card from this QR code**

Please make **checks payable to:** K of C Council 9924. And mail to **TonyGiardullo 10941 Bullrush Drive, Venice FL 34293**

(Please Print) **Name:** _____ **E-mail Address:** _____ **Fee:** _____ **Phone #** _____
1) **Captain:** _____
2) _____
3) _____
4) _____

**For questions, contact: Tony Giardullo — 303-810-8010 — tonygiardullo@msn.com
Dave Tura — 978-837-0692. — dtura@comcast.net**

Please Pair Me With:



Your council salutes you for being named Knight of the Month ...a recognized honor given to a brother whose contributions to his council have gone above and beyond



Bob Adderly
Knight of the Month



Harold Jackson
Knight of the Month

Thank You!

Happy Birthday!



July 27 Benjamin Rusco

28 Leon Alvarez

29 John Martin

29 Philip Polizzi Jr

Aug 01 John Begley

08 Francis Earl Hebert

18 Dennis Izzo

20 Mike Ochoa

21 Ed Regan

23 Sam Moorman





APPRECIATION DINNER



Bishop Emilio Visit / OLMC Feast Day Photos



50-50 Winner Prayer was answered!





Gerard Bernard
Financial Secretary

Financials

Council Status Report Jun 2026

	Revenue	Expense	Margin
50-50 Gen Mtgs	70.00		70.00
Dues	300.00		300.00
Knight's Breakfast	370.00		370.00
Mtg Refreshments		75.97	(75.97)
Per Capita		1,361.20	(1,361.20)
Taxes / Fees		23.89	(23.89)
Raffle Tickets	150.00		150.00
Other Donations		13,700.00	(13,700.00)
Insurance		200.00	(200.00)
Grand Total	890.00	15,361.06	(14,471.06)

Deacon Tom Status Report Jun 2026

	Revenue	Expense	Margin
Interest Income	58.20		58.20
Other Donations	10,807.00		10,807.00
Transfer	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Grand Total	11,865.20	1,000.00	10,865.20

Worthy Brothers:

Annual Dues for the Fiscal Year July 1st 2026 - June 30th, 2027 are due by July 30th.

Dues payments show your commitment to our Council's goals and allow us to share in the good works of the Order.

This year the Council approved raising the member dues to **\$50.00**.

You can pay by mailing a check for your Membership Dues made out to Knights of Columbus Council 15821 and send your check to Rob Wucki 14561 Cypress Wood Ct Nokomis, FL 34275, or, give the dues to the Grand Knight at the next meeting, or, drop off the dues at the council mailbox at church.

If you are unable to pay your dues for financial reasons, please contact me.

This is a blanket mailing and some of you have already paid your dues so please disregard the above if you have already paid!

Fraternally,

Gerard

Volunteers Needed



Funeral Mass Ushers	As Needed	Mike Weisenbach	703-966-0550
Immokalee Food Drive	Monthly	Mike Ochoa	941-928-4124
Immokalee Food Drivers	Monthly	Mike Monville	813-309-0558
Hurricane Support Team	As needed	Mike Monville	813-309-0558
K of C Membership Drive	Always	John Caneveri	941-441-5242
Knights Breakfast Team	Monthly	Bruce Crisman	941-232-8450
Knights Breakfast Setup	Monthly	Terry Leary	619-861-3634
Hall Setup for meetings	As needed	Joey DiBartolomeo	609-432-9700
Hall Setup for Funerals	As needed	Joey DiBartolomeo	608-432-9700
Newsletter Articles	Monthly	Tom McDermitt	248-345-2875

Your help would be Appreciated!

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Venice Print Center



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Knights of Columbus * Bishop McLaughlin * Assembly 1818



Council 15821 Members Elected as 1818 Officers



Faithful Navigator

SK Anthony Hopfinger PGK



1818 News



Faithful Captain

SK Darwin Reeck

Sir Knight Tony Hopfinger will serve as Assembly 1818's Faithful Navigator and Sir Knight Darwin Reeck will serve as the Assembly's Faithful Captain.

On Wednesday, July 8 we will participate in the "No Veteran Forgotten" ceremony at Sarasota National Cemetery. This event takes place every month in honor of the veterans who were interred in the previous month who had no family in attendance at the burial. This event is open to everyone so please join us at 8:45am at the funeral staging area.

- Thursday, July 16 is our monthly meeting, beginning at 5:30 with the Rosary, followed by a meal and the meeting.
- July 19 will be a Fraternal Communion at OLPH at 11:15 for Sir Knights and significant others.
- Anyone who is interested in becoming a 4th Degree Knight should see Joe Frech for details and help with the application process.



LADIES AUXILIARY

Happy 250th birthday America

Hoping everyone had a happy and healthy 4th of July. It is a wonderful thing to be able to celebrate our country's 250th birthday Happy July to all.

This month's meeting began at 5:30 instead of 6:00 as we celebrated the installation of new officers for the ladies auxiliary. The dinner was delicious and we enjoyed the socialization of the evening.

Congratulations to the new officers and a big thank you to the ladies who will serve another year at their positions for the Ladies Auxiliary.

Happy Birthday to the following ladies this month: Margo, Elaine, Roz, Tracy, Marilyn, Joyce, and Sandy. Wishing all these ladies a very happy and healthy day. Some pictures from our July meeting.



Join us for our next monthly meeting at 6:00 on August 3rd at Tilliotson Hall.

Council Officers

Grand Knight	Rob Wucki	c262-646-0855	rwucki@comcast.net
Chaplin	Fr Anthony Armstrong	w941-966-0807	aarmstrong@olmc-osprey.org
Deputy Grand Knight	Terry Leary	c619-851-3634	tleary35@gmail.com
Chancellor/Programs	Joe Frech	c703-505-3153	Frech.J.1959@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Gerard Bernard	c561-308-3918	gabernard2000@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Randy Brown	c319-830-6336	randybrown614@gmail.com
Advocate	Tom McDermitt	c248-345-2875	tommcdermitt@gmail.com
Recorder	John Calkins	c248-672-7085	jcalkins61@gmail.com
Inside Guard	Mike Sellner	c724-996-5802	mikesellner40@gmail.com
Outside Guard	Lou Nagy	c516-835-4273	lounagy51@gmail.com
Warden	Mike LaVecchia	c631-478-2831	mjlavecchia36@gmail.com
Lecturer	Mark House PGK	c970-444-5090	its2mwh@gmail.com
1 Yr Trustee	Ron Balaze PGK	c810-610-2801	balaze2231@comcast.net
2 Yr Trustee	A J Magliolo PGK	c727-642-4917	ajmagliolo@yahoo.com
3 Year Trustee	Chuck Donelson PGK	c561-353-8774	oachuck@gmail.com

Websites



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OLMC

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Double click "Visit" on green button to open website

Charity * Unity * Fraternity * Patriotism

Protect What Matters Most

Knights of Columbus offers a range of insurance products designed to help you protect your family financially and plan for the future.



What Can Insurance Do for You?

Our insurance products help you secure not just the life your family needs, but the life you *want* for them. Our products can provide:



Income replacement in case you pass away unexpectedly.



Mortgage protection by ensuring your spouse has income to pay off your home.



Funds to help cover the costs of long-term care if needed later in life.



Income support if you become disabled and cannot work.



Accelerated benefits if you're a qualified policyholder and are diagnosed with a chronic illness.



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26

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Publishers

**Very
Random**

Notes

As I step into the role of publisher for our Council's monthly newsletter, I want to express my sincere gratitude to Rob for his mentorship to a "newbie" publisher. Rob pioneered the newsletter format we use today, and through his creativity and commitment, our council earned Second Place among all Knights of Columbus council newsletters in the State of Florida—a remarkable achievement that speaks to the high standard he set

. Following someone who has raised the bar so high is both an honor and a challenge, and I hope, with the continued support and contributions of our council members, to maintain and build upon the quality and excellence that Rob established. Together, I am confident we can continue producing a newsletter that reflects the strength, unity, and charitable spirit of our council.

**Late Breaking!
Bishop Agüero visits OLMC!**

"Carmel Knights" ...say
it fast 5 times...what
does it sound like?
Should we change it?

**What needs
added/deleted?**

**Cover Story "Passing the
gavel to a new administration"**

**Many Brothers own businesses
Newsletter thinking of adding
Business listings like those shown
like this**

Salt IT Design
Owner: Brother Mike Kreher
Services: Website design & support
Phone: (618) 772-8145
Email: mike@saltitdesign.com
Website: www.saltitdesign.com

Your thoughts?

