



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SAINT THOMAS MORE COUNCIL 7121

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SAINT AUGUSTINE, FL 32080-8006



JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to July, the month dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was officially instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood. To understand the meaning of the Precious Blood we must get some comprehension of the gravity of sin, of the awfulness of offending God, because it required the Blood of the Son of God to forgive that sin. We are living in an age in which sin has become fashionable. {Excerpted from The Precious Blood of Christ, Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.}

Other ecclesiastical celebrations in July include Fr. Junipero Serra (Jul 1), St. Thomas the Apostle (Jul 3), Maria Goretti (Jul 6), Kateri Tekawitha (USA, Jul 14), St. Bonaventure (Jul 15), Mary Magdalene (Jul 22), Martha, Mary and Lazarus (Jul 29) and Ignatius of Loyola (Jul 31).

All Brothers and family members are invited to join in the Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the Relief of Suffering, recited in the church chapel during Eucharistic Adoration each Monday at 1:30 PM. This novena was recited every day by Padre Pio for all those who asked for prayers.

THE POPE'S PRAYER MESSAGE for JULY 2026:

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



Watch the www.kofc7121.org/calendar for additions and corrections to events that might not have been announced in time for publication of this newsletter. Please email your news and articles for the next newsletter to kofc7121@gmail.com

See the **GOOD OF THE ORDER** web page for the list of Brothers, family members and friends in need of prayers, especially the Morin Family, Rose McCaul, Josephine Scher, Latane Donelin, Jackie O'Sullivan, Nelson Jambard, Ed Rice, Brittini Tucker, Dani Buckley, Jim McIlhenney, Pat Petrick, Bill & Sue Coleman, Bob Covell, Susan Batovsky, SK Allen McCaffery II and repose of the soul of SK Ron Cabrera. Names are added to this list as announcements are received.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE BROTHERS BORN IN JULY



Happy Birthday to the dozen Brothers who celebrate being another year older and better looking in July. As the nation celebrates its 250th birthday, observe that the average age in this list is nearly 1/3 as old as the nation.

In addition to Independence Day, we also celebrate Canada Day (Jul 1), Bastille Day (Jul 14), Shark Week (Jul 26-Aug 1) and the Full Buck Moon at 10:36 AM EDT on Jul 29. July is Disability Pride Month, focusing on the rights of people with disabilities, and the ADA Act anniversary observed on Jul 26. Join our Birthday Brothers' celebration this month as we wish them all a great big HAPPY BIRTHDAY and HAVE A BLAST!!

BROTHER	BIRTHDAY	AGE
Mike Waldron	07-01	71
Albert Berardocco	07-03	66
Steve Vighetti	07-03	57
Kevin Kernan	07-04	73
Tom Mina	07-06	78
Jim Mcilhenney	07-09	84
Bill Coleman	07-15	86
Mark Friend	07-18	56
Ed Schneider	07-19	89
Bill Landis	07-20	87
Brandon Lucas	07-28	36
Nelson Jambard	07-31	85

COUNCIL BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council 7121 website kofc7121.org allows use of shared file and document storage on our Google Drive. Files can be viewed by anyone who has the file link.

Click here to view the [Final Minutes of the May 28, 2026 meeting.](#)

Click here to view the [Draft Minutes of the June 25, 2026 meeting!](#)

Please review the draft minutes of the previous meeting for expedited corrections / approval at the next business meeting. By using these electronic media files, we are able to simplify business meetings and more efficiently conduct informed discussions.

BUSINESS MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER



**3rd THURSDAY
St. Anthony Hall
(Community Center)
JULY 15**

Recitation of the Rosary 7:00 PM; Business Meeting 7:30 PM

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2026-2027 FRATERNAL YEAR



SATURDAY JULY 18

CELEBRATION HALL

Doors open at 4:30 PM for setup

Ceremony starts at 5:30 PM

Food and refreshments afterwards

All Brothers are urged to attend to show your support for your officers. Formal dress-suit & tie-for officers. Wives are especially invited. Officers: If your wife will be present, please confirm with incoming GK Dave Morrison so that roses can be ordered.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BROTHERS & A SIR KNIGHT

Mike Coffaro (right) wandered into the Strategic Planning Meeting in the St. Joseph Room on Tuesday, June 24, a total stranger looking for the weekly Grief Share Meeting that meets on Tuesday. The Knights had been given special permission to use this room that evening, but all other meetings in the Formation Center were cancelled to accommodate the week-long VBS. Mike was never got the message. Informing us that he had been a Knight in a prior life, he joined us for pizza and actively participated in the meeting, sharing some of his experiences and needs. FS Rick Cozby validated his membership, and Mike has joined Council 7121 **WELCOME MIKE!**



Gregory Loya is now a member of our council, thanks to a little recruiting effort by soon-to-be-DGK/SK Bob Meier. Greg joined the KofC in 2011 and received his 3rd degree in 2015. Bob convinced him to transfer to our council from Council 611. We do not have his picture yet, but will post it as soon as we get one. **WELCOME GREG!** His sponsor, Bob Meier, advanced to the honors of the Fourth Degree in an historic 250th "Patriotic Exemplification" at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church in Davie, FL, June 27. **WELCOME SIR KNIGHT BOB!**

COUNCIL DONATES TO S.E.A. COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER



To support a worthy cause of the parish Outreach Ministry (and make good use of some of the funds from a very successful fish fry season), the council voted to make a \$1000 donation to the Spuds-Elkton-Armstrong (SEA) Community Help Resource Center. Shown at left is PGK Tom Kelly presenting the check to Head Sacristan Bobbi Arenth, who delivers items dropped off in the St. Martin De Porres room to the SEA Community Center on Armstrong Road in Elkton, shown in the picture below.

SEA is a self-help organization that has supported migrant farm workers and residents for over 28 years in the rural farming areas of southwestern St. Johns County along SR 207, north of SR 206. Recovering from a fire in 2025 that destroyed their storage building, food and refrigeration, their website seachrc.org shows the aftermath of the fire and how they continue to struggle.



They are rebuilding now, holding [a GoFundMe campaign](#) to replace the wooden buildings with a 50x60 metal building. They have acquired land, cleared it, and applied for building permits. They continue to hold community events, serve weekly meals, provide school supplies and distribute food and clothing, working together to make the Spuds, Elkton and Armstrong communities stronger and more resilient. By vote of the council, SEA has been added to the budget as a designated annual Faith In Action donation recipient.

PASSING THE TORCH

GK Brian hands the gavel and the Triple Crown Award for our FY2025-2026 Helping Life, Vocations and Special Olympics programs to incoming GK Dave Morrison



FLAGPOLE DISPLAY BOX GETS REPLACED

Just in time for the nation's 250th anniversary, a fitting replacement for the display box with the name of the current honoree at the base of the flagpole was constructed by Brothers Art Runk and Bill Craig:

BEFORE:



AFTER:



HEADLINES SHOW CRISIS CONDITIONS AT FOOD PANTRIES



MORE THAN A FOOD DRIVE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
RECORD BREAKING NUMBERS
The Knights of Columbus conduct 5 food drives per year at St. Anastasia, and donations this year set records -

12,650 lb OF FOOD
\$34,387 IN CASH AND GIFT CARDS
AND A TON OF NON-FOOD HOMELESS MINISTRY ITEMS

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!!
St. John's Ecumenical Ministry, Catholic Charities and St. Francis House appreciate any and all help as they struggle to meet increased demands with diminished resources.

Donations to the St. Anastasia Homeless Ministry provided \$11,400 in direct support to our neighbors in need.

The Food Drives will begin again in the Fall, but the need to address the families in need doesn't go away over the Summer. Please **continue** to drop off non-perishable food, gently used or new clothing, shoes, socks and household supplies in the **St. Martin de Porres Room**, or go to morethanafooddrive.org to make an online donation.

We'll be sure they get to the places in need.

It was a good year in the More Than A Food Drive department. Unfortunately, things in the food pantries themselves have gone from bad to much worse. Demand is soaring while available resources are disappearing in the name of government efficiency and reducing fraud. Check out these headline links:

[Florida Food Banks See Surge as Costs Drive Demand Higher](#)

[Northeast Florida Homeless Rises 14% From 2025 to 2026](#)

[3.5 Million Lose SNAP Benefits](#)

[USDA Report Reveals 47.9 Million Americans Facing Hunger](#)

[St Johns County Approves \\$200K to Stock Food Banks](#)

[New Report Warns of Rising Food Insecurity Nationwide](#)

The problem is not a lack of food. It is the compounded adverse effects of inflation, higher credit card and mortgage rates, rising taxes, higher costs for food, rent, electricity, gasoline, medical care, and a dysfunctional political system that cares more about power, saber-rattling and political theater than it does about the welfare of its homeless, hungry, ill, disabled and poorest citizens. Shame on them all. The next time you vote, remember the names of those who turned their backs on the needy time after time, did nothing for them.



Donations of food, gently used or new clothing, household supplies are always welcome to be dropped off in the St. Martin de Porres Room (left). **Cash donations** to any food pantry or the Homeless Ministry (through Sr. Anne Halpin, center right) go even further to provide assistance to those in need locally. Doing something positive when opportunities arise benefits both the giver and the receiver. Proverbs 22:9 says, "Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor."



FR PRAVEENS 40th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Over one hundred parishioners gathered in Celebration Hall on the evening of June 27 to honor Father Praveen Pasala on his 40th birthday and 10th anniversary of his ordination.

The obligatory Publix sheet cake (left) went fast, after the guests feasted on hors d'oeuvres and snack trays from Purple Olive.

Below left: Fr. Praveen (standing in the back center) addressed the crowd and thanked them for being his family, and sang a traditional song from India. Fr. Tim (standing towards the left) announced that Fr. Praveen has been preappointed for another three years at St. Anastasia. Below right, the KC bartending crew served wine, soda and water to all the guests.



SAINT ANASTASIA FASTING BROTHERS

"Behind every priest is a demon fighting for his downfall. If we have a tongue to criticize them, we need to have double to pray for them". St. Teresa of Avila

Each of our priests should have at least one Fasting Brother making a sacrifice for him every day except Sunday.

Your fast can be food related (e.g., no food until 3:00 PM, a Lenten Friday type fast, or something else, or fasting from other activities such as your phone, computer or television.

You are accountable only to yourself and God. No one will ask what fast you will do and no one will check on your faithfulness.

We have 12 Fasting Brothers active at present. There is no limit to the number of men who can participate. **We are seeking more men in order to completely fill the list.**

Though the focus is on our parish priests, Brothers will find that the sacrifices they make will benefit their own spirituality as well.

If interested, please contact our coordinator, Tim Buckley. You will not be pressured to participate; you will be given information. It is best to reach Tim by email at buckleyball@hotmail.com or by text to 301-237-7772. May God continue to bless you on your way to heaven.

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S PRAYER GROUP FORMS

As reported by GK Brian Foy at the June 25 business meeting, a new Men's prayer group "Brothers In Prayer" had their first meeting on Friday, June 19 at St. Anastasia in the Community Center. The group, currently numbering about a dozen men, plans to start meeting every Friday morning from 7-8am. It is open to all men of the parish. Prayer meetings will be held every Friday morning beginning July 3. Bring your own coffee and a desire to pray in a group. For more information, contact Brian at 304-871-0888 or bfoy11@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS ASSIST AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



The grand finale of Vacation Bible School week June 22-26 at St. Anastasia included a small group of Brother Knights who prepared lunch for well over 200 people. With this year's theme "Rainforest Falls", Celebration Hall was dripping with green and brown foilage. Below left, the Rainforest Chorale, led by Music Director David Mach, serenades the crowd with a well-rehearsed song just before lunch. The serving line (center) had to have enough branches and vines removed to set out the serving warmers and food stations. Below right, the kitchen crew of Kevin Dooner, Mike Coffalo, Steve Bartelmes and Dave Look pose for a photo-op after a morning of chopping, cutting, sauteeing, baking and frying.



THE PARISH CORNER



St. Martin De Porres Community Outreach Room

Located off the church narthex- **open Mon-Fri 8:30am - 10:30am and 30 min after all weekend Masses**

Donations of non-perishable food items, gently used clothing and shoes are gratefully accepted at this time.

We ask that you please keep in mind the limited space in the Outreach Room and the shape and weight of the packages you are dropping off. Some of our distribution angels have physical limitations.

To be part of this wonderful ministry, please contact Deacon Steve at stephenkassenbaum@comcast.net

YOU ARE INVITED TO A
SPECIAL
Holy Hour
FOR THE
Relief of Suffering

Special Holy Hour for the Relief of Suffering

Mondays at 1:30pm in the Adoration Chapel

Save THE Date!
FUNDRAISING DINNER DANCE
A Night of Fellowship, Food & Fun!



DATE

Saturday, October 17, 2026



TIME

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM



PLACE

Formation Center, Celebration Hall.

ENJOY AN EVENING OF:



3-Course Italian Dinner prepared by Chef Steve



Cash Bar with Beer, Wine & Sodas



Music by Ivan with Dancing



50/50



Silent Auction Items

\$50
per person
(ADULT)

A chance for fellowship and fun!

2026 Farmworker Family Backpack Drive July 18 & 19

- 1 NEW Backpack
- 1 Three-ring Binder
- 1 Pkg. loose leaf 3-hole paper
- 1 Ruler
- 1 Pkg. ball point pens
- 1 Pkg. #2 pencils
- 1 Individual small Pencil sharpener
- 1 Large spiral notebook
- 1 Small English dictionary
- 3 Three prong folder
- 1 Glue stick
- 1 Student scissors
- 1 Eraser

Questions? Contact Suzy: smgrimesabellsouth.net



St. Carlo Acutis Live Stream Ministry Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to help livestream the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass for parishioners who are homebound, ill, traveling, or otherwise unable to attend in person. If you have some basic social media or technology experience, this may be the ministry for you! As our team grows, we hope to expand coverage to Holy Days of Obligation, concerts, parish missions, and other parish events.

Help us bring the Mass to all members of our parish family. Contact Bob Meier at mediaesacfl.org if you'd like to serve the parish in this vital role of evangelization!