

# KNIGHT VISION



Star Council 2024-2025

Council 13527 Newsletter

April 2026

## Grand Knight's Report

Years ago, when I joined the Knights of Columbus, I'll admit the mission statement of the Knights really resonated with me. An organization that empowers Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community and country. Serving others--that says a lot!

Serving others tells us that we are created not just for ourselves, but for one another. From scripture, Matthew 20:26 states: "Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant." Catholic teaching further deepens this call. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that charity is the "soul of the holiness to which all are called." Service is the very shape of discipleship. When we serve, we imitate Christ, who "came not to be served but to serve" (Matthew 20:28).

Serving others aligns us with our deepest purpose. Pope Francis often emphasized that joy is found in giving, especially to those on the margins. Service expands the heart, breaks the illusion of self-sufficiency, and draws us into communion with God and our neighbors. It transforms ordinary moments—listening patiently, offering help, showing kindness—into encounters with grace.

I'm proud to say our council personifies service to others. The local charities we support such as the Niceville Catholic Outreach providing emergency assistance to local residents, the Twin Cities Pavilion providing senior care to low-income residents, a Bed-4-Me providing beds to children, and the Sunland Center supporting persons with developmental disabilities are just a part of what we do.

I'm proud to be a Knight! Vivat Jesus



Peter Blaise

Grand Knight	Peter Blaise	Advocate	Dan Rooney	Trustee (3 Year)	Steve Wolfrom
Chaplain	Fr. Bob Johnson	Lecturer	Ken Rodriguez	Faith Director	Dcn Tom Dwyer
Deputy GK	Mic Wehmeyer	Warden	Jim Thennes	Vocation Dir.	Mark Haddorff
Chancellor	John Rafferty	Inside Guard	Greg Muntzner	Community Director	Kevin Knebl
Recorder	Ralph McDonald	Outside Guard	Eric Wehmeyer	Family Director	Ryan Wehmeyer
Financial Secretary	Lenny Smales	Trustee (1 Year)	Jim Yurack	Life Director	Dave Halupowski
Treasurer	John Wohleber	Trustee (2 Year)	Stuart Lewis	Public Relations	Joe Purka

# CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

*Deacon Tom Dwyer*

In the Easter season we recall Jesus' 40 days from His Resurrection to His Ascension, together with the 10 days to Pentecost Sunday. Note the 40 days in Lent, from Ash Wednesday until Holy Saturday, excluding the six Sundays. Recall Jesus' retreat into the desert for 40 days after His baptism by John, before His public ministry. This matches 40 days Moses spent on the mountain before receiving the 10 Commandments from God.

The number 40 is repeated almost 150 times in the Bible, symbolically connected to the fulfillment of God's will, both positive and negative. Scholars suggest there are six categories of "40 something" events: Judgement & Renewal; Testing & Preparation; Spiritual Training; Judgement Deadlines; Generational Periods; Transitions.

Judgement & Renewal might include the 40 days and nights that rain fell for Noah. Testing & Renewal might be Israel's wandering in the desert for 40 years. Spiritual Training includes the two examples cited above for Jesus and Moses. A Judgement Deadline would be the 40 days God gave Nineveh to repent. Generational examples would include King David and Solomon's 40 year reign over Israel. We are in a "Transition" time now.

I suggest we all could use the six categories mentioned above to ponder our own faith life and experience. When I did, it made me recall the late 1980s, when I made a conscious decision to take my faith in God seriously. Each step along the way of faith touched renewal, training, deadlines and transitions, and not just in preparation for the permanent diaconate!

Blessings to all!



## Upcoming Events

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| <b>Apr 23</b>    | <b>Exec Meeting 7 p.m.</b>   |
| <b>Apr 25</b>    | <b>Holy Family Catholic Academy Gala, 6 p.m.</b>                                 |
| <b>May 7</b>     | <b>Council Meeting, at COR 7 p.m. (Dinner &amp; Social at 6:15 p.m. )</b>        |
| <b>May 9</b>     | <b>LUAU at 3rd Planet, 3:00-9:00 p.m.</b>  |
| <b>May 10</b>    | <b>Mothers' Day</b>  |
| <b>May 16</b>    | <b>Armed Forces Day</b>  |
| <b>May 21</b>    | <b>Assembly 3236 Meeting at HNJ , 7 p.m. (Dinner &amp; Social at 6:15 p.m. )</b> |
| <b>May 22-24</b> | <b>Florida State Council Convention, Orlando FL</b>                              |
| <b>May 25</b>    | <b>Memorial Day</b>  |
| <b>Apr 28</b>    | <b>Exec Board Meeting, 7 p.m.</b>  |

## March Knight of the Month

Dave Doherty

Our Knight of the Month was the lead coordinator for the our St. Patrick's Day celebration at 3rd Planet this year. As the first time manager of this event, Dave coordinated with Council 13257 and Council 7667, as well as with 3rd Planet management, KofC Sponsor coordinators, KofC volunteer cooks, servers, set up and tear down teams, advertisers, and a host of other wonderful volunteers and support from our KofC brothers. This was the first time that he was involved with the St. Patrick's Day event and he did a fantastic job



in his role. All in all, between the two councils, more than \$8000 was raised with a net profit of more than \$4400, which will greatly help the Order in all the work they do for the community. For this and all else that he has done, we honor David Doherty as the March 2026 Knight of the Month.

## The Supreme Knight's Comments on Political Discourse

In recent days, many Catholics and other people of goodwill have been deeply disappointed by the disparaging comments directed at Pope Leo XIV by the President of the United States. The Successor of Saint Peter is not a politician — he is the Vicar of Christ, entrusted with proclaiming the Gospel and shepherding souls.

The Knights of Columbus has always stood in solidarity with the Holy Father, recognizing in him a spiritual father who calls the world not to division, but to unity, not to conflict, but to peace. In this moment, we reaffirm that commitment with clarity and conviction.



At the same time, we recognize that faithful Catholics can and do engage vigorously in the public square, and that nations have a right and duty to safeguard the security of their own people — always in accordance with the demands of justice and the pursuit of peace. The Church does not ask Catholics to withdraw from civic life, but to engage with and elevate it — bringing to our civic dialogue the light of truth, respect for the dignity of every human person, and a steadfast concern for the common good.

Pope Leo XIV has consistently called for peace, dialogue, and restraint in a world marked by war and suffering. The Holy Father's words are not political talking points — they are reflections of the Gospel itself. Whether one agrees or disagrees with particular policy judgments, the Holy Father's prophetic voice deserves to be heard with respect and engaged seriously.

As Knights, we are called to be men of unity, as followers of Christ and patriotic citizens. I encourage all Knights of Columbus to pray for the Holy Father, to pray for civic leaders, and to pray for peace and those working to achieve it. **And let us recommit ourselves to charity in our public discourse. May we be known not for echoing the divisions of our time, but for healing them. In a moment of tension, the path forward is not louder conflict, but deeper fidelity — to truth, to charity, and to the Gospel.**

## March Family of the Month

## John & Debbie Marino

John and Debbie Marino were selected as Family of the Month for March. John became a Knight in August 2000 and served as the Grand Knight for his council at St. Vincent de Paul parish in Dallas, GA before purchasing a home in Niceville in 2007. He is also a member of Assembly 3236 and serves as an Usher at the 5:30 p.m. Saturday Mass.



John was responsible for our purchase of the large electric grille and the stainless-steel transport cart that we now use for our pancake breakfasts. He had the 220-volt service line installed to the St. Joseph Pavilion to enable our Council to use the griddle in the Pavilion for cooking and also added the long 220-volt whip (extension cord) to move the griddle as needed, and configured it so it could also be used in the new kitchen in the Faith Formation Building.

When our Council obtained a bay boat from an older member, John pulled the trailered boat to his shop in Fort Walton Beach where several council members spent hours cleaning and repairing the boat to prepare it for sale which netted the council \$7,800. In conjunction with the Mid Bay Rotary, our council performed a facelift of the entrance to the Twin Cities Pavilion in Niceville. John, through his company, took care of the resurfacing the concrete walkway entrance and sitting area for the residents.

John recently served as the Co-Chair for the council's Fish Fry making most of the purchases of food and supplies and managed the crew working five different fryers preparing the fried fish and french fries.

Debbie is a member of the Pastoral Council, serves on the Hospitality sub-committee and provides reports on the Arts & Environment and the Easter Basket Drive. She hand-chopped 12 cups of fresh basil (grown by John and Debbie specifically for this event) as well as 16 cups of onions that were used in the tomato basil soup. She was also in charge of the kitchen helpers that put the soup recipe together on the day of the event.

John and Debbie own and operate Advanced Concrete Supply, Inc. in Fort Walton Beach that provides decorative and specialty concrete floor coatings for commercial, industrial and residential applications.

## Christ Our Redeemer's Altar Servers of the Year



Adrian Sharpe (left) and Amos Coley (right), were selected by the Council 13527 as our nominations to the Florida State Council for Altar Server of the Year. Grand Knight Peter Blaise presented each with a certificate honoring their selection. Amos was selected in the age 7-12 year old category and Adrian in the 13-18 year old category. The Florida State Council's selections will be awarded at the State Convention to be held in Orlando in May



# Council's first Fish Fry nets \$1200 for the Parish's building fund.



Soaking breading and then waiting for available fryers.



Serving line moved along smartly with plenty of help.



Couldn't have done it without the help of these, and a host of other ladies and volunteers.