



Knight's News



Mother Seton Council 6724

April 2025

Nativity Catholic Church

Grand Knight's Message



"Tempus Fugit" (time flies), how true the words. We are now a quarter of the way through the new year and well into Lent, preparing for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Be sure to make some quiet time to spend with our Lord and give him thanks for all his blessings. Sign up for a time slot in the upcoming 40 Hours of Devotion starting Thursday, April 3rd to Saturday, April 5th.

March 1st & 2nd, the Knights manned a table at the Nativity Ministry Fair and were extremely successful, contacting over 12 potential new Knights. Thank you to Richard Anello, Rafael Mir and Marvin Hoffman for your dedication and hard work. We will be holding an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity in May, which is looking to be one of our largest ones yet.

March 9th, we hosted the Knights of Columbus Traveling Silver Rose. Thank you to Richard Spinelli, all the Knights and Logan Lupa from the Sentinels, now known as Jr. Knights, who participated.

The best news though was our Tootsie Roll Drive for this year. The last 2 drives were held on March 8th & 22nd. On the 22nd Richard Anello, Mark Coté, Jim Schwonek, Ed Brelsford, Dale D'Alessandro, John Fitzhenry, David Kadiri and Barry Hamel collected a total of \$1124.69. The total collections for 2025 came to over \$2900 which will be greatly appreciated at Lopez

Exceptional Center. Watch for an April date when we will present the check to Lopez and make plans to come out and visit the center.

April begins with the Parish Lenten Penitential Service being held on Monday, April 7th. Ten to 12 Knights are needed to help usher attendees at the various stations where up to 15 priests will conduct the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our Council Business Meeting, normally held on that Monday, has been moved to Tuesday the 8th and will be held in the Youth Center at the gym. We were unable to hold a basketball free throw contest last month but are looking to set up one sometime in April. Watch for an email with further updates.

April 26th Family Promise will be sponsoring a family here at Nativity. If you are interested in helping, please contact Marvin Hoffman for more information. See **Volunteer Opportunities** listed elsewhere in this newsletter as well.

Last of all I want to wish everyone a very Blessed and Happy Easter.

He has Risen! He has Risen Indeed!

Tim Ashcraft

GK Tim Ashcraft
Mother Seton Council 6724



Mother Seton Council 6724 Officers 2024-2025

Chaplain – Fr. Don Amodeo
Grand Knight – Tim Ashcraft
Deputy Grand Knight – Jay McCabe
Chancellor – Dale D’Alessandro
Financial Secretary- John Fitzhenry
Treasurer – Jonathan Lodrigues
Warden – Bill O’Keefe
Recorder – Neil Waid
Advocate – Howard Baum III
1 Year Trustee – Tim Kasprzyk
2 Year Trustee – Mark Coté
3 Year Trustee – Karlos del Aguila
Lecturer – Ed Brelsford
Inside Guard – Tony Carew
Outside Guard – Javier Gonzalez

Programs Director

- DGK Jay McCabe - (813)-546-0679 (text only)

Membership Director

- Bob Hopkins - (813)-363-5935

Faith

- John Fitzhenry - (813)-598-3457

Family

- John Sepessy - (863)-455-6809

Community

- Neil Waid - (813)-830-3817

Life

- Richard Spinelli - (813)-495-6446

Kairos

- Richard Spinelli - (813)-495-6446

Publicity

- Joe Angelo - (347)-224-0690

Council Calendar



Apr. 3-5 - 40 Hours of Devotion
Apr. 7 – Penitential Service
Apr. 8 – **Council Business Meeting**
Apr. 13 – Blood Drive
Apr. 13-19 – Holy Week
Apr. 20 – **Easter**
Apr. 26 – Family Promise
Apr. 26-27 – Food Truck
Apr. 30 – **Officers & Directors Meeting**

Blood Drive

Sunday, 13 April

8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Church parking lot



To View details on the **Event Calendar** on our website, > **Ctrl + Click** < on the link below:

<https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/events.asp?CNO=6724&DATE=4/12/2025>



District Deputy Comments

Dear Brother Knights

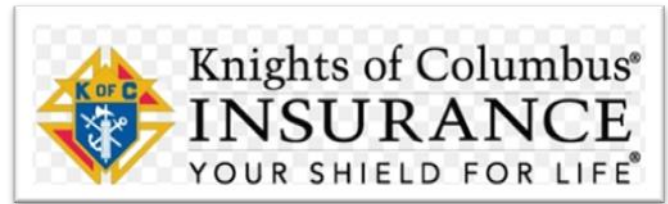
It is great to see your programs/events going very well. I see your Council has gotten 12 new members so far this fraternal year, and I expect additional new members are in the works. With a goal of 14 new members, you are very close to meeting your goal which is great to see. You are clearly doing what it takes for membership. The Star Tracker report shows your Council has had attendance at 3 Fraternal Benefits Events with a total of 18 participants so your goal has been met which is required for Star Council. Nicely done. March 29th is the 143rd anniversary of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus started with a handful of men in New Haven, Connecticut, with the simple goal of keeping men and their families close to the Church amid anti-Catholic bigotry, and to provide a death benefit for widows and orphans when a wage earner passed away. Today, more than 2 million members throughout the world are still fulfilling the mission set out by Blessed Michael McGivney, who continues to care for his Knights. As we approach Founder's Day (March 29), let's think about Father Michael McGivney's unique qualities of character. Of all the priests of his day, why was he the one to found the Knights of Columbus? He was a man of both prayer and action, as practical as he was spiritual. A priest who knew him wrote that he possessed an "indomitable will" as well as a tender concern for others. Mix these factors together, and you get a man on a mission, a priest who saw a need among his people, prayed deeply for God's guidance, thought and planned out a solution, and moved forward with confidence to accomplish the goal. I hope you and your family members are doing well during this Lenten season, and that you actively participate at masses and other events during the upcoming Holy Week. Keep up all the good works you are doing as members of the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus

Bill Ingham
DD 47



Insurance Corner



Extended Care Planning

Many people believe that their children will take care of them if they experience an extended care event someday.

- Who do you envision providing care for you in 30-40 years?
- Is your family prepared to take on the role of caregiver?
- How will you pay for an extended care event?

An extended care plan can help your family be there when they can, not when they must.

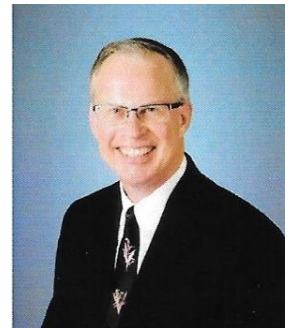
**To learn more,
contact me today!**

John Holtzhauser,

Field Agent

440-567-0824

john.holtzhauser@kofc.org



Awards & Recognitions

Knight of the Month



Rafael Mir receives his February Knight of the Month certificate from GK Tim Ashcraft. Rafael has been involved in many events, some even before he completed his Exemplification in January. In February he worked multiple positions during the Jambalaya Dinner. Then, during the Ministry Fair, he contacted multiple new Council member prospects.

Knights in Action

Ministry Fair

The Knights manned a table at the Ministry Fair that was held on March 1st and 2nd. They worked alongside our youth group, the Jr. Knights, who had their own table as well.



Pictured are Rick Anello, Rafael Mir and Marvin Hoffman who spread the word about membership opportunities in the Knights of Columbus. There were over a dozen prospects contacted.

Photo by John Fitzhenry

Miller Road Cleanup



Eight Knights spent an hour picking up roadside debris along South Miller Road on Saturday, March 15th. Thank You to Richard Anello, Tony Hingle, Neil Waid, Mark Coté, Rafael Mir and John Fitzhenry pictured above. Also taking part were GK Tim Ashcraft, who had to leave early and photographer, Ray Quiñones.

Tootsie Roll Drives 3 & 4



Jim Schwonek, Mark Coté & Richard Anello working the March 22nd Tootsie Roll Drive.

The last two Tootsie Roll Drives for 2025 were held on March 8th and 22nd, with Knights collecting \$1659.90 in donations. This year the Council has raised a total of \$2964 for Lopez Exceptional Center.

Community Director Neil Waid thanked all who helped make this another successful year and invited all Knights to visit Lopez Exceptional Center in Seffner, when the check is presented.

Silver Rose Arrival



On Sunday, March 9th, Knights on Bikes delivered a traveling Silver Rose to Nativity Catholic Church as part of the Knights of Columbus Silver Rose program. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe.

It was escorted to the Sanctuary by 5 members of Knights on Bikes, 6 members of Mother Seton Council 6724 and a member of the Jr. Knights. PGK Richard Spinelli read a brief history of the Silver Rose and it was then displayed during the 10:30 Mass and the 12:30 Spanish Mass.



Bishop Parkes Invites Catholics to the Holy Door of the Confessional This Lent

“We are all sinners, yet we all have hope.”

March 5th was Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent, a six-week period of penance and spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christ’s resurrection at Easter. Bishop Parkes shared a Lenten message and invitation to all Catholics below:

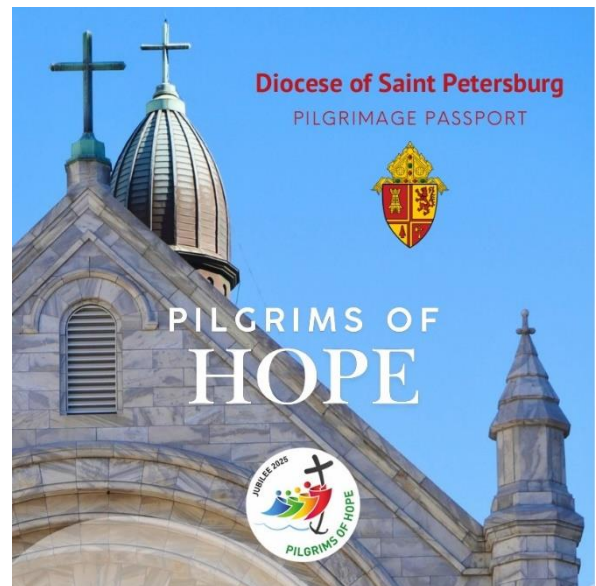
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Lent, I invite you to seek and receive God’s forgiveness. The ashes we receive on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday remind us that we are all sinners and yet we all have hope. Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Reconciliation so that nothing would keep us from God’s love. No sin is greater than God’s love and mercy.

During this Jubilee Year, the Holy Door is the door of the confessional. This is where you will encounter God’s love and mercy in a profound way.

Jesus is calling out to you as a beloved son and daughter, and He is waiting to meet you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is where you find healing and restoration – and where you can focus on what is truly life-giving. May you have a blessed Lenten Season!

Gulf Coast Catholic at <https://gulfcoastcatholic.org/>



Fish Fry Social

Knights gathered at the Men's Club fish fry on Friday, March 28, to enjoy a fraternal meal prior to attending the Stations of the Cross in the Church. Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft is seen here talking to Mark and Diane Coté, seated, and new Knight Stan Goode, his son Patrick, (a new Jr. Knight) and wife Melissa.



It didn't take long for the tables to fill up with Knights, family and friends. Council Chaplain, Fr. Don Amodeo stopped by and visited with those in attendance as well.



On the left are Rhea and Jim Lambert, Fr. Don, Stan Goode, Ray Quiñones, Melissa Goode, and Dalila Quiñones.



To the right we see Bridget and Daniel Van Sciver, Reah and Jim Lambert in the background, Daniel and Bridget's daughter Cortney is holding her daughter Kensley.



Upcoming Events



On Monday night, 7 April, Nativity will hold a Lenten Penitential Service. There will be 10-15 priests in attendance from local parishes. It will require approximately 8-12 Knights to provide parishioners with directions to the various confessional stations or to answer questions. Knights fluent in Spanish are especially needed. Volunteers will meet in the church narthex at 6:30 pm to receive directions and location assignments. Attire will be your Council polo shirt and name badge with dress pants.

Volunteer Opportunities

Food Pantry Schedule

Thursday, April 3
Thursday, April 10
NO PANTRY – HOLY WEEK
Thursday, April 24
FOOD TRUCK – APRIL 26 - APRIL 27

The Food Pantry is held every Thursday and is now serving over 400 households every 2 weeks. On average, over 5000 pounds of donations are given out each week. Volunteers are needed for jobs such as sorting donations, loading shopping carts or loading cars. The work hours are any time from 6 am to 1 pm. For more information contact Neil Waid at neil.waid.50@gmail.com or stop by any Thursday and see him at the Food Pantry.

Food Truck Collection

The Nativity Outreach truck will be on campus April 26 & 27.

Saturday, the truck setup begins at 2:00 pm and collections are from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

Sunday, the truck is opened up at 6:00 am and collections are from 6:30 to 12:30. Stop by, visit and help unload some cars.



Nativity will be hosting families the week of April 26 thru May 3rd. These are homeless families with children and the program provides them a place to stay, food and ways to become self sufficient and financially stable.

Family Promise at Nativity is in need of volunteers to help set up and takedown, dinner Hosts and overnight hosts. To learn more about what Family Promise is, how you can help and what goes on in a typical day contact Marvin Hoffman at 813-317-5282 or email nativityfamilypromise@gmail.com for more information.

FOURTH DEGREE



Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin Assembly 1850

Officers for Fraternal Year 2025-2026

Assembly 1850 conducted their election of officers for the new Fraternal Year, at their last Business Meeting on 19 March. The following Sir Knights were elected to officer positions as indicated.

Faithful Friar	-	Open
Faithful Navigator	-	Howard Baum
Faithful Captain	-	Edward Nino
Faithful Pilot	-	Jay McCabe
Faithful Comptroller	-	Jonathan Lodrigues
Faithful Scribe	-	Neil Waid
Faithful Purser	-	Larry Langowski
Inner Sentinel	-	Bob Hopkins
Outer Sentinel	-	Bob Malloy
Faithful Admiral	-	Greg Richard
1 Year Trustee	-	Jim Piotrowski
2 Year Trustee	-	Tim Ashcraft
3 Year Trustee	-	Rick Armstrong

Congratulations to the newly elected officers and a hearty Thank You to Michael Goscinski, who will be moving later this year. Michael served as the Faithful Comptroller for many years and we wish him well in his retirement.



Become a Sir Knight.



Are you a 3rd Degree Knight and interested in completing your 4th Degree?

The Florida Fourth Degree will be holding a Patriotic Degree on April 26, 2025 in Lakewood Ranch, Florida.

Cost is \$90 and this includes a dinner that is held afterwards. Lakewood Ranch is located near Sarasota about an hour's drive south on I-75.

Now is the time to start your paperwork and be ready to attend. Registration paperwork and payment must be received by the Master by April 19th, so time is of the essence. Contact PFN Neil Waid at neil.waid.50@gmail.com for more information.

Planning meeting for the VA BBQ

Each year Assembly 1850 holds a BBQ cookout for the veterans at James A. Haley Veterans Hospital. Last year they held it for the men and women in the Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) ward. This year we have received word that the Haley House is now open for special events.

Faithful Navigator Luis Perez has announced that there will be a special planning meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 16th. They will be discussing and coordinating plans for this year's cookout.

Please watch for a confirming email with the time and location of this important meeting.



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pope Francis

- Sam & Joan Miller
- Tim & Nancy Kasprzyk
- Jim & Cheryl Schwonek
- George & Carolyn Thomas
- Tim & Katie Ashcraft
- John & Diana McCabe
- Tom & Ellen Stanley
- Ed Brelsford
- Lew Palumbo & family
- Luis Perez-Ortiz & family
- Juan Pagan & family
- Bill & Olga O'Keefe
- Michael Palmiotto
- Rick Zemke & family
- Wil & Janet Caraballo
- Edward Gorgacz

- Richard Hardesty
- Chester Williams
- Bill Queenan
- Don Clark
- Karen Webb
- Dale D'Alessandro
- Jay McCabe
- Richard Spinelli
- Rafael Mir
- Andrew Balsler
- Marvin Hoffman
- Gordon Hewitt
- Tom & Judy Beriou
- John Sepessy
- Frank Anderson
- John Fitzhenry
- Patrick Hill

Prayer for the Sick

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us...Amen.

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



IN MEMORIAM

- SK Jerry Westbrook**
- SK Joseph Brocato**
- SK Rick Silver**

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 27, 2025

Pope John Paul II officially established the Feast of Divine Mercy, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, while celebrating the



canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska in 2000. St. Faustina Kowalska's diary reveals great insight into God's mercy and provides us with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Divine Mercy Novena, both of which have become popular prayers today. St. Faustina also created the image of Divine Mercy, with many churches highlighting the image for celebration. Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday of Easter, closing the Easter Octave.

[Catholic Apostolate Center](#) "Feast Day Calendar" for April 2025.

40 HOURS OF DEVOTION



FROM 5:30 PM, APRIL 3 UNTIL 8:00 AM, APRIL 5.



**A NATIVITY TRADITION RETURNS!
FRIDAY FISH FRY DURING LENT RETURNS**

MARCH 7 - APRIL 11

4:30-7 PM | SOCIAL HALL

THANK YOU TO OUR 8TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
EAGLE PACKAGE SPONSORS.



ST JOSEPHS
AUTOMOTIVE

501 WILBUR ST. BRANDON FL 33511
TEL: 813-681-9263

NATIVITY OUTREACH

Food



Bank

BRANDON, FL

(813) 707-1523