



Knight's News



Mother Seton Council 6724

May 2025

Nativity Catholic Church

Grand Knight's Message



May is a month of remembrance. On Mother's Day, the 11th, we remember our mothers. It was through their Love and Nurturing that we became the men we are today. On 26 May, Memorial Day, we remember all the veterans who sacrificed their lives in order that we might live a life of freedom and safety.

Last month we lost 2 brother Knights with-in a few weeks' time. Sir Knights Rick Silver and Bob Yelton passed away and both will be dearly missed. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

April 9th, we presented Lopez Exceptional Student Center a check for \$2971 dollars. This was money collected during our Tootsie Roll Drives this year. There were 8 Knights who attended and received a tour of the center. On April 7th, 12 Knights assisted at the Lenten Penitential Service held at Nativity. There were 18 priests in attendance and Knights assisted by directing attendees to the various stations and answering any questions. On Easter Sunday, Knights Howard Baum and Bob Hopkins coordinated a crew of parking lot assistants who maintained an orderly flow of the many cars that arrived during 8 masses from 6:30 am to 12:30 pm. Thank you to all who made these events successful and safe.

We will be selecting the Slate of Officers for the 2025-2026 Fraternal Year at our May Business

Meeting. If you are a 3rd Degree Knight and would like to fill an Officer position in the Council, please let me or a trustee know and we will place your name on the Slate of Officers to be voted on. This is an excellent way to learn more about how the Council runs and to help make it a successful Council.

May 17th we will be holding our second Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity of 2025. There are currently 10 candidates scheduled to complete their 3rd Degree. We will once again exceed our membership goal for the Fraternal Year and provide the positive growth needed to help the Council grow. Thank you to Membership Director Bob Hopkins and Chairman Richard Anello for your great work.

May 18th, Knights will be working in the kitchen assisting with a breakfast to celebrate Fr. Mike's 25th Anniversary of priesthood. Breakfast will be served after all morning masses, so stop by with the family to congratulate Fr. Mike and enjoy a great breakfast.

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



May 5 – **Council Business Meeting**

May 11 – Mother's Day

May 17 – Council Exemplification

May 18 – Fr. Mike's Anniversary Breakfast

May 21 – Holy Hour

May 21 – **Assembly Business Meeting**

May 26 – Memorial Day

May 28 – **Officers & Directors Meeting**

May 31-1 Jun. – Food Truck



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

[https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/events.asp?CNO=6724
&DATE=5/12/2025](https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/events.asp?CNO=6724&DATE=5/12/2025)

District Deputy Comments

Dear Brother Knights

It is always great to see your programs/events going very well. I see your Council currently has 12 of the fraternal year goal of 14 new members. It is great to see you so close to meeting your goal required for Star Council. Frequently it is the Membership Director, Grand Knight and other Council Leaders getting Candidates to join the Knights of Columbus, but all KC members should be watching for opportunities to talk with Catholic Men about the opportunity to join the Knights of Columbus. The Star Tracker report shows your Council has had attendance at 4 Fraternal Benefits Events with a total of 26 participants so your goal has been met for this Award which is a requirement for Star Council. Nicely done.

Your Council certainly has good leadership year after year and I know you will have another good leadership team this coming year. If you are not an officer during this coming year, give some thought to being a program director or assisting a program director or taking a leadership role in an event during the year. Also keep in mind of possibly becoming an officer next year as new officers are always needed as current officers step down. At this year's State convention May 23-25 in Jacksonville, a new State Warden will be elected by the convention delegates of which your council has 2 delegates. This is an important election as the Knight elected to the Warden position will in all likelihood be the State Deputy in 6 years.

With the passing of Pope Francis, I expect there will be quite a bit of media coverage with information regarding the history of the Catholic Faith as well as the church today and what we might be seeing in the future.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Catholic Faith and its history.

I expect there will be extensive coverage on the Catholic TV station EWTN, Spirit FM 90.5, the Catholic Channel 129 on Sirius XM Radio.

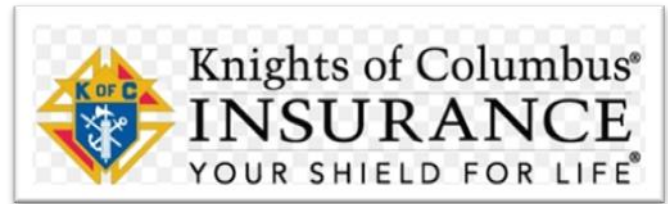
I hope you and your family members had a very nice Easter. Keep up all the good works you are doing as members of the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus

Bill Ingham
DD 47



Insurance Corner



Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors invites you to two webinars this May with presentations by guest speaker Knights of Columbus Chief Distribution Officer and Senior Vice President of Field Management Joseph Monestere. These webinars are part of our new Family Finance series, *Foundations*, designed to help investors make informed decisions. These events qualify as a fraternal benefit event.

Please join us to learn more about investing and invite others who may benefit from learning the foundations of investing. Click on the dates below to register.

RSVP May 7, 2025, 8 PM ET Ten Tips for Managing Market Volatility: How to approach market fluctuations in times of uncertainty

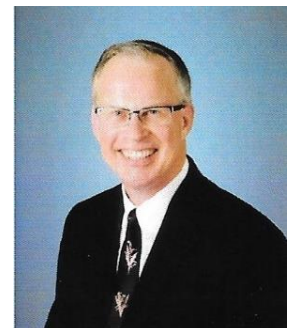
RSVP May 28, 2025, 8 PM ET Investing for Beginners: Planning for Success Learn how systematic investing can help you work toward a long-term goal of building wealth over time.

John Holtzhauser,

Field Agent

440-567-0824

john.holtzhauser@kofc.org



Knights in Action

Lopez Exceptional Student Center Donation

On April 8, 2025, 8 Knights from Mother Seton Council 6724 presented the Lopez Exceptional Student Center with a check for \$2,971.74. The money was raised this year by the Council's Tootsie Roll Drives that were conducted at area Publix food stores.



Pictured are Dale D'Alessandro, Richard Anello, Tony Hingle, Neil Waid, Bob Hopkins, Principal Sara Schwanzl, Social Worker Tammy Alleyn, Heidi Meyer, Howard Baum and Grand Knight Tim Ashcraft.

Photo by Ray Quiñones.



Knights were treated with a tour of the facility, inside and out, and learned of its daily operation and programs.

Photos by Neil Waid



Everywhere there were signs and posters that referred to the students and staff that make this school a blessing to the community. During the drives, Knights would meet parents or people that had students enrolled, or knew about the center.



Sara was especially proud to show off a new classroom where students are taught how to accomplish everyday tasks that normal people take for granted. Things such as setting a table, washing dishes, getting food to eat.



Nativity Penitential Service

Twelve Knights assisted with the parish Penitential Service held on 7 April. There were 18 priests in attendance and Knights assisted in directing attendees to the various stations located throughout the church and social hall.



Channels of God's Grace



In a joyful celebration, Bishop Gregory Parkes along with 1,000 collective priests, deacons, seminarians, and parishioners from around the diocese, packed the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle on April 15, 2025, for the Chrism Mass. During the Mass, Bishop Parkes consecrated Sacred Chrism, a mixture of oil and balsam, that will be used for anointing during thousands of Baptisms and Confirmations throughout the coming year in all 80 parishes and missions of our diocese. He also blessed the Oil of Catechumens that is reserved for adults preparing to be baptized and the Oil of the Sick that is reserved for those who are seriously ill. After Mass, representatives from each parish and mission received small vessels of these Holy Oils to bring back for use in the sacraments.

The Chrism Mass also offers an opportunity to publicly celebrate our jubilarian priests. As per our diocesan tradition, all 26 jubilarian priests were recognized by name as well, noting their milestone anniversaries of 25, 40, 50, 60, or 65 years of priestly service.

Excerpts from "Channels of God's Grace" by Brittany DeHaan. **GULF COAST CATHOLIC**, Apr 16, 2025



Mother Seton Council Knights were among the many Nativity Parishioners that attended the 2025 HOPE Nehemiah Action that was held on April 8th, in Tampa.

HOPE is a multi-issue, community organization consisting of multicultural and interfaith member congregations within Hillsborough County. They identify serious community problems and present them to County leaders who then promise to take action on them. Among Knights who attended were Marvin Hoffman, Howard Baum, Richard Spinelli, and Richard Barrett.



Father Mike Smith, Pastor at Nativity Catholic Church and a 4th Degree Knight, was one of the jubilarian priest. He is celebrating 25 years as a priest this year. Congratulations Fr. Mike and thank you for all you do, here at Nativity.

Upcoming Events

Exemplification 05.17.2025

An Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity will be conducted on Saturday, May 17th. Candidate family and friends are able to attend the ceremony as well and a light reception is held afterwards for all.

If you are a 1st or 2nd Degree Knight and would like to receive your 3rd Degree, please contact Membership Director Bob Hopkins at kofcbhopkins@icloud.com for more information.

Council Knights are encouraged to attend and welcome the new Knights to Mother Seton Council 6724.

Anniversary Breakfast for Fr. Mike



Knights will be in the Social Hall kitchen on Sunday, 18 May, cooking breakfast to help celebrate Fr. Mike's 25th Anniversary as a priest. Breakfast will be served after the morning masses, so stop by and congratulate Fr. Mike. Ryan Craig will be the Chef de Jour, running the Knight's Kitchen. Watch for more information in an upcoming eblast.



Volunteer Opportunities

Food Pantry and Food Truck Collection

Thursday, May 1
Thursday, May 8
Thursday, May 15
Thursday, May 22
NO PANTRY – MAY 29, ACENSION THURSDAY
FOOD TRUCK, May 31 & June 1

The Food Pantry is held every Thursday and serves over 180 households each week. On average, over 5000 pounds of donations are given out each week. Volunteers are needed between the hours of 6 to 1 pm for jobs such as sorting donations, loading shopping carts or loading cars. Stop by any Thursday to see how the system works and if there is a job for you. The warehouse is also in need of volunteers to help sort and organize food received from outside agencies. For more information contact Neil Waid at neil.waid.50@gmail.com or stop by Thursday and see him at the Food Pantry.

The Nativity Outreach truck will be on campus May 31 & Jun.1. Saturday, the truck setup begins at 2:00 pm and collections are from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Sunday, the truck is manned for business at 6:00 am and collections are from 6:30 to 12:30. Stop by, visit and help receive the generous donations of Nativity parishioners.



FOURTH DEGREE



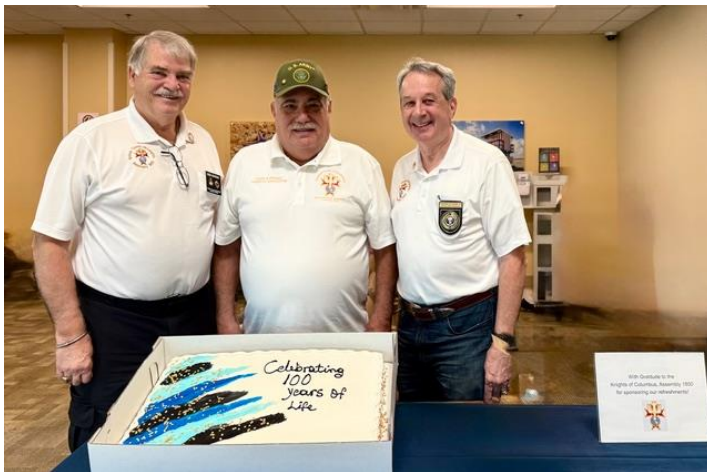
Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin
Assembly 1850

Harold Bloser, Navy Vet and Centenarian, celebrated his birthday at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in March. On the right is Gerardo Navarro, Chief of CDCE, introducing and welcoming Harold and his wife Marvene.

Celebrating 100 years



A birthday cake was provided by Bishop Charles B. McLaughlin Assembly 1850 for the occasion. Pictured on the left are, VAVS representative Bob Hopkins, Faithful Navigator Luis Perez and SK Howard Baum.



Seen here in a group photo are Marvene and Harold Bloser seated in front. Behind them are VA Rep. Holly Wilson, Bob Hopkins, Nadja Goodarzi, FN Luis Perez and Howard Baum.



Photos by Bob Hopkins



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.

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
- Lew Palumbo & family
- Luis Perez-Ortiz & family
- Juan Pagan & family
- Bill & Olga O’Keefe
- Michael Palmiotto
- Rick Zemke & family
- Wil & Janet Caraballo
- Edward Gorgacz
- Eddie Console & family
- Steve Martinez
- Ray Nardi
- Bob Hopkins

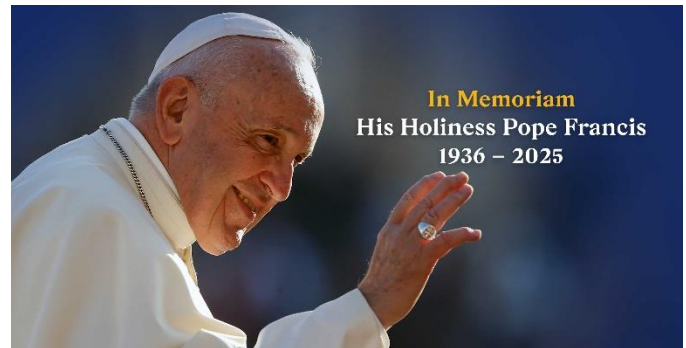
- Richard Hardesty
- Chester Williams
- Bill Queenan
- Don Clark
- Karen Webb
- Dale D’Alessandro
- Jay McCabe
- Richard Spinelli
- Andrew Balser
- Marvin Hoffman
- Gordon Hewitt
- Tom & Judy Beriou
- John Sepessy
- Frank Anderson
- John Fitzhenry
- Patrick Hill
- Rafael Mir
- Terry Valente
- John Sullivan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

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.

IN MEMORIAM

- Pope Francis**
- Robert “Bob” Yelton**
- Richard “Rick” Silver**



In Memoriam
His Holiness Pope Francis
1936 – 2025

The Knights of Columbus under Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and our current Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, maintained a close relationship with Pope Francis and the Vatican. Click on the following link:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/papal/francis.html>

and then select the box [**A VIDEO TRIBUTE TO POPE FRANCIS**] to view a short video by the Knights of Columbus that documents the interaction between the Knights and Pope Francis during his 12 years as Pope.

HOLY HOUR WITH OUR LORD



6:30-7:30 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

Nativity Widows and Widowers Group



Are you a widow or widower and looking for a faith-based group for support and fellowship? The Nativity Widows and Widowers Group will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, March 12th and may be just what you are looking for!

They hold two meetings. A morning meeting in the St. Francis Room from 10:00 am to noon and an evening meeting in the Adult Education building from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

To RSVP or for more information contact Faith Director John Fitzhenry at 813-598-3457 or Margaret VanDame at 813-833-8074.

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



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NATIVITY OUTREACH

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