

Knight Life



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Grand Knight's Report – GK Michael Flanagan

December started off has a busy month for our council. We had two big weekends – our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive at five of the McDonald's owned by Brother Knight Chuck O'Reilly here in Plano and our Holiday Tamales Sale. Both events were a great success for our council. I would like to take the time to thank everyone who made this happen. All the events that we do turn out great because of our brothers in this Council. I have seen many times the hard work we all do for our Council. Also, I have heard from many people about how we help others when needed. God Bless you all!

May everyone have a wonderful time with their families and friends during this Christmas.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Vivat Jesus.

Fraternally yours,

Michael Flanagan

**Knight of the Month
December 2022**

Council 7850's Knight of the month for this month is Joe Petrie. Joe was instrumental in providing his time and talent recently for several key events. He participates regularly with the Plano Cleanup campaign, Minnie's Food Pantry charity and helped our latest BINGO event by working with the kitchen crew to cook for the attendees. Joe was among the first to volunteer his time for our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive on December 10 & 17. Standing for three hours in freezing weather for his shift is testament to his devotion.

Thank you, Joe, for your active involvement and commitment to the success of the Knights of Columbus and Council 7850.



Knight of the Month, Joe Petrie.

**Family of the Month
December 2022**

Council 7850's Family of the month for this month is the Rojas family, Octavio, his wife Tiffany and daughter Rosario. Although fairly new to our Council, Octavio has made his presence known. His active involvement is indicative of the precepts of our Order – Charity, Unity and Fraternity. He is also a 4th Degree Knight, demonstrating his trait of Patriotism. Octavio, his wife Tiffany and daughter Rosario were gracious with their active participation in the parish Giving Tree Ministry on December 3rd. Their efforts have made the recipients most thankful.

Thanks to Octavio, Tiffany and Rosario for their enthusiastic support of Council 7850, another true example of the Catholic Family.



Family of the Month, the Rojas family.

KNIGHTS AND THE FAMILY ROSARY EACH MONDAY

Come join us to pray the Rosary each Monday evening at 7:00 PM via Zoom platform. Prayer is powerful. Emails are sent out by Tom Juneau each Monday with the link and the contemplation prayers, you can also find these contemplation prayers and all the Mysteries on the 7850 website so everyone has a chance to follow along, no matter which Mysteries we contemplate each Monday. These Rosary prayers are now open to ALL the Seton Community, not just the Knights. Reach out to your SEAS friends to join us and forward them a copy of the prayers and contemplations. They will thank you. We have had excellent response from the parish.

ENTER YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS IN THE K OF C PORTAL

Each member should be entering his volunteer hours in the portal for each event for which you volunteer. This helps keep track of all the volunteer hours our Council logs each and every month, which is important to our Council's standings with the District and Supreme. Log in to the Member portal at [Knights of Columbus St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #7850 \(uknight.org\)](http://Knights of Columbus St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #7850 (uknight.org) .) .

Council Awards



Grand Knight Michael Flanagan presents Pastor and Council Chaplain Fr. Bruce Bradley a check for \$7,000 of proceeds from the BINGO event held on November 18th, presented at the December Business Meeting.



District Deputy Jake Fleischer presents Grand Knight Michael Flanagan the Texas State Council Honor Roll Award for 2021-2022 at the Council 7850 Business Meeting on December 12th.

First Friday Mass

The first Friday of each month is a special day for the Knights of Columbus in Council 7850. Please join your brothers, family and friends in celebrating the Eucharist each Friday at 8:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. You will find your fellow knights and family seated in the front right chairs near the altar. Each first Friday of the month our council prays together as one in Holy Communion.

We ask that you wear your knight's badge and/or clothing to show your unity and support.

After Mass, all are welcome to join in fellowship for breakfast at the McDonald's located on the northwest corner of Spring Creek Pkwy and Independence Pkwy.



The [Sacred Heart](#) appearing to Saint [Margaret Mary Alacoque](#).

While some saints [referenced the Heart of Jesus](#) in their writings even centuries earlier, in 1673, a French Visitandine (Visitation) nun named Margaret Mary Alacoque had visions of Jesus, wherein he asked the Church to honor His Most Sacred Heart. In particular, Jesus asked the faithful to “receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months.” The request was connected to a specific promise made to all who venerated and promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart. After Margaret Mary’s death, the First Friday practice steadily spread in the Church — [endorsed by popes and promoted by saints](#) — but it greatly increased in popularity when Margaret Mary was canonized a saint in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV.

The number nine is traditionally associated with a novena and finds its origin in the nine days that the apostles spent in prayer before Pentecost. A novena provides an extended amount of time for preparation and interior renewal.

Background information for First Fridays Devotion taken from (www.aleteia.org).

Tom Juneau
Faith Director

Plano Cleanup

Plano's Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) Program provides local homeowner associations, businesses, civic organizations, churches and schools the opportunity to make an impact on the cleanliness and appearance of our community. By accepting the responsibility and leadership of the assigned roadway, your group is not only increasing awareness of litter issues and the impact of beautification efforts but also demonstrating a positive behavior of local pride and ownership of Plano.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Council 7850 has been an active participant in this program since September 1987. Our Knights engage in this community cleanup effort on a bimonthly basis along Spring Creek Pkwy between Independence Pkwy and Custer Road, as well as Custer Road between Spring Creek Pkwy and Parker Road. Each leg is about one mile and it normally takes one hour for a team of Knights to pick up the trash for each street, including the medians.

The cleanup campaign started on Saturday, December 3rd at 0700 when volunteers reported for duty on the south side of the Faith Formation Center. All enjoyed fresh-brewed coffee, orange juice, bottled water, donuts and/or kolaches before suiting up with high-visibility vests, gloves, trash stick and bag to commence operations at around 0730. Upon completion of mission and return to the FFC, volunteers resume consumption of snacks before being released o/a 0900, sometimes later based on available volunteers.



Volunteers this month from l-r are: Ed Stankunas, Bill Grego, AJ Reine, Dan Zechmeister, Tom Juneau, Mike Becker and Dennis Healy. Also participating but not shown were Alex Mauricio and Craig Robinson (photographer).

Background data for the City of Plano Adopt-a-Highway Program taken from ([Plano, TX - Official Website | Official Website](#)).

David Kistner
Community Director

Weekly Rosary

Faith Director Tom Juneau hosts weekly Rosary recitals on Monday nights from 7:00pm to 7:30pm. These sessions are held in the FFC Chapel on the first and third Mondays, when the Knights meet for Officer/Director Meetings and Business Meetings respectively. Other Monday night sessions are virtual via Zoom.

Tom provides the link for these virtual meetings to attendees, along with assignments for recital of each decade of the Rosary. These precious moments provide contemplative prayer on the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries.

The Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians Who Recite the Rosary

- Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.
- I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
- The rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
- It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the heart of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
- The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary, shall not perish.
- Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
- Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
- Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
- I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.
- The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
- You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.
- All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.

- I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
- All who recite the rosary are my son, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.
- Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.



Rosary participants on December 26th are, from left to right and top to bottom: Tom Juneau, Laura Shoemaker, Terrell Landry, Raylene Juneau, Ed and Lillian Stankunas, Joe Pelletier, Phil Pollacia, Mike Becker, Charlie Lugo, Dan Zechmeister, Craig Robinson, Dick Gamble, Ron Harabis and Kristy Vaughn.

Promises of Mary taken from ([The Holy Rosary - Prayers - Catholic Online](https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/the-holy-rosary-prayers)).
Tom Juneau
Faith Director

Minnie's Food Pantry



Minnie's Food Pantry was named after [Dr. Minnie Hawthorne-Ewing](#) who was a community leader with a servant's heart. Minnie's Food Pantry is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization and is one of the largest food pantries in North Texas.

Minnie's Food Pantry was named Community Partner of The Year by The City of Plano! With four locations in three states, Minnie's Food Pantry has provided over 15 million healthy meals to families in need. Guide Star Charity evaluators have given Minnie's Food Pantry the platinum star rating which is the highest level of possible achievement.

Minnie's Food Pantry volunteering is back! If you can spend a couple of hours on a Wednesday morning (8 am—11:30 am), you, too, can help at Minnie's Food Pantry the 1st Wednesday of each month this year. We sometimes sort and stock shelves, sometimes prepare baskets of food for clients, and sometimes help push the baskets out to their cars. Lots of camaraderie and fellowship, come join us. Minnie's is now located at 661 - 18th Street in East Plano. Contact chairman Dave Kistner. (pdkistner@tx.rr.com, Cell: 469-865-7636)

Volunteers from Council 7850, both members and family, gather at Minnie's Food Pantry on the first Wednesday of each month to provide assistance to staff for sorting donations from area vendors and packing boxes of miscellaneous food items for issue to needy families. The work starts at 0830 and lasts until 1130; however, it pays to arrive early to find a parking place! If you can make yourself available during this time, you are more than welcome to join us.

The event is well attended by our Knights and family members, as well as volunteers from other area businesses that allow their staff the time to participate. Organizations are normally identified by their logo T-Shirts representing their affiliation. Often, there are individual volunteers present who are not aligned with any organization.

All volunteers work side by side as one team to serve a common cause – fight hunger. The amount of needy families seems to be an ever-increasing number. We are fortunate to have responsive vendors to provide truckloads of pallets to fill Minnie's warehouse.

This month, the volunteer effort at Minnie's Food Pantry occurred on December 7th and the volunteers from Council 7850 are depicted below.



Standing in back row (l-r) are: David Kistner, David Rosengrants, Terrell Landry, Ron Harabis and Jim Klingele. Kneeling in front row (l-r) are: Craig Robinson, Jimmy Dominguez, Tom Juneau and Dan Zechmeister. Also volunteering but not shown was Dennis Healy.

Information for Minnie's Food Pantry taken from ([Minnie's Food Pantry \(minniesfoodpantry.org\)](https://minniesfoodpantry.org)).

David Kistner
Community Director

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception

It was Mary's closeness to Christ that made her receive God's "fullness of grace" to be sinless. Without God's grace, it would have been impossible for Mary to be sinless, and she too would be like the rest of humanity. However, because of her decision to say, "yes" in giving birth to Christ, she was given a special privilege by having no sin touch her. Catholics believe that God wanted a perfectly pure woman to carry His Son, the God of the universe, for nothing else short of perfection would do.



The Immaculate Conception of Mary continues to be a major disagreement point by other Christian denominations towards the Catholic faith. Many people say that the Immaculate Conception somehow takes away from Christ's glory and message. Some will say that this belief in Mary is not found in the Bible, or that it blatantly contradicts the Bible's words. There are also thousands of people who mistakenly believe what the Catholic Church teaches about the Immaculate Conception, which unfortunately has led to many misguided opinions. What evidence do Catholics have to defend their belief in Mary's Immaculate Conception?

Evidence from the Scriptures:

"And the angel came in unto her, and said, hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." - Luke 1:28

It is the term "full of grace" that is emphasized by the Church when dealing with Mary's Immaculate Conception. The title "full of grace" comes from the Greek word kecharitomene, which describes a "perfection" and "abundance" of grace. In other words, Mary was proclaimed by the angel to be with a perfection of grace, which was a very powerful statement. How can Mary be completely and perfectly with God's grace, yet still have sin left in her? Christians eventually came to recognize that it was extremely possible for Mary to be without sin, especially if she was completely filled with God's grace. Luke 1:28 happens to be the only place in the Bible where anyone is addressed with the important title of "full of grace."

"the Holy Ghost shall come upon you, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God." - Luke 1:35

Luke 1:35 shows Mary as the Ark of the New Covenant. According to the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant was the pure and holy vessel that held the Ten Commandments (the Old Covenant). The Ark was so holy in fact, that if anyone were to touch it they could actually fall down and die! It was housed in the Holy of Holies, which was a perfectly clean place where the Jewish high priests could enter only once a year according to their law (See Lev. 16:2-4). So how are Mary and the Ark related? The same language that describes God's "dwelling" place for the Old Ark is used again for Mary's overshadowing by the Holy Spirit. Put another way, the Old Ark held God's Ten Commandments and could not be touched by human hands because of its holiness. Mary, the New Ark, holds the New Covenant in her womb, which is Jesus Christ. How much holier is Christ than the Ten Commandments? It only makes sense that for Mary to hold God in her womb, she too would be completely pure and without any sin.

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed (offspring) and hers; He (she) will crush your head while you strike at his (her) heel." - Genesis 3:15

What does the book of Genesis have to do with Mary's Immaculate Conception? Genesis 3:15 is the first passage in the Bible that refers to Jesus defeating Satan on the cross. It is also the first verse that shows us how Mary would become the New Eve. The seed of the woman, who would crush the serpent's head, is Jesus. The woman at enmity, or hostility with the serpent, is Mary. It was God who put this hostility between Mary and Satan (the serpent), and it is believed to be in the same likeness as Christ's hostility for the seed of the serpent. What exactly does all this mean? For Mary to be like Christ in His hostility for Satan forever, it is very possible to say that this passage implies Mary's lack of sin. What better way is there to be in total hostility with Satan than to be in God's constant grace? As the New Eve, Mary undid the "no" of the Old Testament Eve by saying, "yes" to carry Jesus.

Evidence from History:

Pope Pius IX officially defined the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception in the year 1854. He did so with the understanding that this belief would help the Catholic faithful grow spiritually towards Christ. The belief that Mary was without sin was not "invented" as numerous people mistakenly think. Many are still under the false impression that the Immaculate Conception was not believed until the year 1854 when it was defined. What they fail to realize is that the belief itself has extremely strong roots in Church writings going well back into the 4th century.

"Every personal sin must be excluded from the Blessed Virgin Mary for the sake of the honor of God." - St. Augustine, 390 AD.

"Mary, a virgin not only undefiled but a virgin whom grace has made inviolate, free from every stain." - St. Ambrose of Milan, 340-370 AD.

"You, and your Mother are alone in this. You are wholly beautiful in every respect. There is in you, Lord, no stain, nor any spot in your Mother." - St. Ephraem, 350 AD.

In fact, there are literally dozens of cases where early Church fathers have mentioned Mary as being without sin, using such words as "All-Holy One," "All-Sinless One," and "Immaculate." It proves that the idea of Mary's sinlessness was not uncommon in the first few centuries of the Church. As time passed, the Eastern Church began to show its strong love for the Immaculate Conception with its own feast day beginning in the 8th to 9th century. By the 12th century, the Western Church was celebrating the feast of the Immaculate Conception all over Europe, and by the end of the 15th century, it was universally recognized and defended as true Christian doctrine.

Background data taken from ([Why Catholics Believe in the Immaculate Conception \(catholiceducation.org\)](http://www.catholiceducation.org)).

Tom Juneau
Faith Director



Tootsie Roll Drive

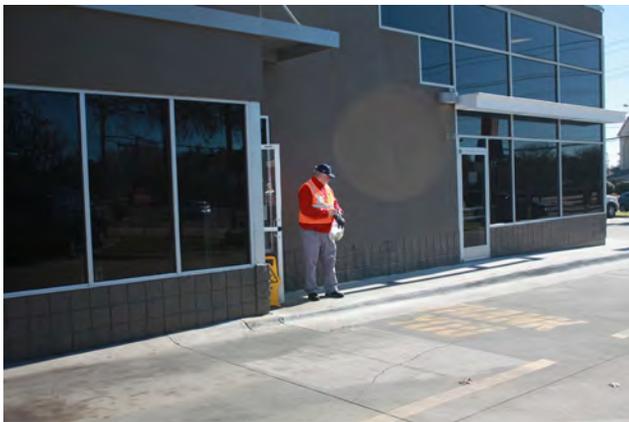


Great weather fantastic support from the Brother Knights and the O'Reilly staff for the success of this year's Tootsie Roll Drive. I would like to extend my appreciation on behalf of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Council 7850 to continue our annual Tootsie Roll Drive again this year at the five (5) O'Reilly McDonalds. The weather was great for the two Saturdays December 10th and 17th. We raised in excess of \$3,857 for Bishop Burns Deaf and Disabled Charities and Council 7850 local charities such as Pregnancy Crisis (Birth Choice, White Rose Women's Center, Bella House, Mater Filius), Special Olympics and St. Vincent de Paul Society Plano Chapter and American Wheelchair Mission. On behalf of the 45 Knights and family members who worked this event I extend our appreciation.

Again, thank you Brother Knights for your support; great job and I hope that we will be able to work with you again next year.

SK Edward Stankunas, Assistant Diocesan Deputy,
PGN, Former District Deputy 111
Tootsie Roll Drive Chairman





Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



December 12th marks the Catholic Church's annual celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a title ascribed to the Virgin Mary after she appeared to Saint Juan Diego multiple times in 1531. The feast day of December 12 was first established by Pope Benedict XIV in 1754, and Pope John Paul II declared Our Lady of Guadalupe as "Patroness of the Americas" and "Star of the New Evangelization" in 1999. Catholic communities across the United States, Mexico, and elsewhere maintain a strong devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, who is venerated as a symbol of unity in diversity and maternal concern. Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El

Paso, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, issued the following statement:

"When we speak about the issue of immigration, we are fundamentally addressing the movement of people—human persons created in the image and likeness of God, each one of them a brother or sister to us all. Unfortunately, this truth is often obscured by political rhetoric, fearmongering, and hyperbole. Our Lady of Guadalupe points us toward a better way, one that ultimately leads to reconciliation.

"The bishops of the United States continue to affirm the natural right to migrate, balanced with the sovereign right of countries to uphold their borders, as well as their obligations to provide humane processes for newcomers.

"We maintain that time, resources, and political will are best spent making structural improvements to our broken immigration system. At a moment when we are witnessing the arrival of greater numbers of families and individuals at our border with Mexico, we call on federal authorities to stand up critical infrastructure to meet their humanitarian needs. Especially during this Advent season, these newcomers are visible signs of Christ among us. Let us meet this moment not with policies of exclusion and indifference but with a spirit of compassion and generosity. We pledge our support and cooperation in meeting these challenges.

"Today, I invite Catholics and all people of faith to pray that through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe we may give comfort to those forced to leave their homes, and may Our Lady be a guide to all those entrusted with the responsibility of leadership."

Background taken from ([On Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, U.S. Bishops' Migration Chairman Reaffirms Church's Solidarity with Immigrants | USCCB](#)).

SK Craig Robinson
Public Relations Director/Newsletter Editor

Tamales Sale

The Annual Holiday Tamales Sale by Council 7850 was held on the weekend of 17/18 December after all the Masses. This year, twenty-four Knights volunteered their time to make this event a success.

Twenty cases of tamales were bought from Padrino Foods, LLC in Irving. Each case has 10 dozen tamales, vacuum-packed in half-dozen increments. All 20 cases, consisting of beef, chicken and pork flavors were sold out after the 10:00 Mass. Council 7850 regrets that there were not enough tamales available for the attendees of the 12:00 and 5:00 Masses on Sunday. Now that there are sales metrics for this year, Council 7850 can better plan this activity and be prepared to accommodate more Parishioners.

Net proceeds from the Tamales Sale this month are \$1,482.46 from cash, checks and credit card sales. These proceeds are intended for the St. Vincent de Paul charity.

SK Craig Robinson
Event Chairman

Christmas



Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. Celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is the culmination of the mystery of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

Background data taken from ([Christmas | USCCB](#)).

Tom Juneau
Faith Director

Knights in Memoriam

No Council 7850 Knights have passed away since our last newsletter was published.

Our Newsletters are Important Outreach Tools

Please contribute each month- pictures, articles, events, etc.

Newsletter Policy

By the 3rd Monday of each month refer all articles, pictures, questions, and suggestions to Newsletter Editor Craig Robinson (craig.robinson19@gmail.com) If you attend an event and snap a picture (cell phone or camera), share it with the Council. If you have an interest in helping to edit the newsletter or helping write articles, contact me. NOTE — Newsletters can be found on our website. Just click the *Newsletters* link on the left side of the page and enjoy.

Calendar notes: Events on the following pages are bold for national or church holidays or to highlight changes from the norm. Shaded events indicate recent changes or additions. Check the www.kofc7850.org website *EVENT CALENDAR* for the most up to date information that includes the specific address and Google map for most events.