

INVOCATION

APRIL 2023



Hockey Shootout Championship

Hockey Shootout Championship

By Jerry Poirier PGK, PFN, FDD



On Saturday April 1st , 2023 was the first ever Hockey Shoot Out which was held in Ocala at Trinity High School. Logistically, all went off without a hitch. Though we had a lack of participants, all had fun till the very end. We had a dozen kids show up and they all went home with a prize.

Special Thank you to Tuey Watkins, Greg Sutter, John O’Toole and Chuck Demino. Had had an opening ceremony headed by our master John O’Toole, water was supplied by Greg Sutter and Chuck Demino of Council #8012, hotdogs were supplied by Tuey and Council #5960. Special Thank you to all the ladies that helped out at the registration table with an extreme Thank you to my wife Maria that helped me put all this together and follows me everywhere for the Knights of Columbus.

Doug Blair and his wife were on hand as well. Also, we must not forget Harry Rother who was in attendance taking all the great pictures that he had. But most importantly, I want to thank all the

kids who came out and displayed their skills in this awesome Hockey Shoot out Championship. Thank you to everyone. Looking forward to next year.

P.S. Thank you Mr. Pereira for allowing the Knights of Columbus the use of your facilities at Trinity Catholic High School.



Making Our Quotas!

By State Deputy Rob Urrutia

I am sitting here at 8am mass on Palm Sunday, and I am looking at so many parishioners that I haven't seen in awhile. It was good to see these families attending mass.

I spoke to one member of the Knights who belongs to another council and I asked him how his council is doing. He informed me that he hasn't been to a meeting in awhile. I asked him is it because of work and he said no, meetings are too long and unproductive. I invited him to my council meeting to try and get him active again. He also wants to get his son's involved.

In this time of lent and entering holy week. We should be renewing our faith and not shutting people out. A simple conversation lead a member back to the order and to be active.

I want to thank everyone for a great month of March as we brought in over 300 new members. We must continue to work hard for the last 3 months to make our quota. We are only 630 members away as of the writing. This is a very makeable goal in these last few months. If any

council is having issues please feel free to call me.

April 16th is our final day to get our resolutions and reports to the proper director or officer. Don't wait until the last minute and get those reports in. Remember! To qualify for Supreme awards and Star Council. Your Council

has to be in good standing with Supreme and be Safe Environment compliant. Please don't be the one that denies your council the awards that they worked so hard on.



State Deputy
Robert Urrutia



Are You A Member?

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney.

The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics.

Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Blessed Michael J. McGivney's



cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild.

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July - August, and is

sent free to Guild members.

To join the Guild, register online at: <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/> †

He Has Been Raised!

By State Chaplain Very Rev. Bob Kantor

“He is not here, but he has been raised.”

~ Luke 24:6

Alleluia! He is Risen! Easter has finally come! It is the most important day of the year for Christians. Our belief in the Resurrection and the promise of sharing in it gives our lives meaning and hope. Despite any cross we may experience in our life, throughout the Easter season we celebrate Jesus Christ’s victory over death and His ability to help us carry and move beyond our crosses too. We joyfully proclaim Jesus Christ crucified and risen!

My parish in Naples provides powerful reminders of both the crucifixion and the Resurrection. The crucifix above the sanctuary in the church reminds people of God’s selfless and unlimited love for us in the gift of his only begotten Son. But it doesn’t end there. Upon leaving people are inspired by an artist’s depiction of the Risen Christ. We are reminded to always look up! We are freed from the mire of an imperfect world! We are uplifted by the truth that God has given us a profound dignity that makes us worthy of this saving act!

Knights and their families who have persevered in the holy practices Lent have hopefully experienced a busy, exciting, and spiritually uplifting time in their lives. It has also been a bit tiring! The good works of our Order tend to intensify in this period of preparation for Easter that coincides with peak seasonal crowds in Florida.

After attending Sunday Masses, weekday Masses, missions or retreats, and participating in various programs run by the Knights to feed the faithful in body and soul, some Knights must feel like they have hopped higher and farther than the Easter bunny! The fruit of that effort resides in hearts that are satisfied at having served the Lord to the best of our ability. We believe Jesus is risen and the resurrection will come one day for us

too. In another sense, the spirit of the Resurrection strengthens us now and keeps us rising again, to meet the next challenge, support the next cause, and serve God and neighbor in creative ways.

God is indeed alive. The Risen Christ is evident in the enduring example of Blessed Michael McGivney and his spirit that permeates

our Order. I invite you to draw deeper into God’s service. Find your heart’s desire and greatest joy in Jesus Christ as a member of the Knights of Columbus in the Body of Christ which is the Church. What great things God will do in our lives when we open our hearts to Christ! On behalf of the officers of the Florida State Council, may our Risen Lord grant you and your families a most blessed Easter season! Alleluia! He is Risen!



*State Chaplain
Very Rev. Bob Kantor*



And There Was Darkness

By Former State Chaplain Reverend Salvatore Pignato

There were two times that God saw darkness come into the world. The first time was in the Garden of Eden. The moment Adam and Eve ate from the Tree of Knowledge, we can say darkness fell over Paradise and Adam and Eve. They were expelled from Paradise, lost perfection, and became subject to sickness and physical death.

The greatest pain and darkness that they had to endure was the loss of seeing God. Although they lost that gift of seeing God, as it says in the Anaphora of the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great "...For you did not turn away from your creature forever, O Good One", God promised to Adam and Eve a Savior.

The darkness of soul Adam and Eve and their posterity experienced had a silver lining, and it was the hope of dispelling that interminable darkness of soul by the Promise of God to send a Savior.

The second time darkness came into the world was when Jesus, the Savior promised by God, hung on the Cross. In the Gospel of Luke, he says, "It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon."

Creation was in mourning. God the Father was in mourning. God the Father had, in a certain sense, lost a son. Jesus shed His Blood for us and offered His Life to the Father when He said, "It is finished", and "Into Your Hands I commend My spirit." In His death, for the life of the world, Jesus crushed the head of Satan and in that act brought forgiveness into the world

and to you and me.

The "hope" promised to Adam and Eve in Paradise, and that would dispel the darkness of their soul, came in a marvelous way. Jesus said of Himself, "If I be lifted up, I shall rise on the third day." On that third day of His death, Jesus rose from the dead. The Centurion guards guarding the tomb of Jesus saw a great flash of light. That flash of light announced to the world, as the star did, with its bright light, announce



Former State Chaplain
Rev. Salvatore Pignato

the birth of Christ to the Shepherds, announced the Resurrection of Jesus and effectively dispelled the darkness covering the world and the darkness covering the souls of Adam and Eve.

At the beginning of the month of April, we celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus. Let us remember Jesus called us the light of the world and the salt of the earth. We have risen out from "under sin" as St. Paul says, and we have "put on the cloak of Christ. We must bring into our ministry, obtained in the waters of baptism, that flash

of Resurrection "light," so that others might see the image of Jesus in that light and proclaim as St. Thomas proclaimed: "My Lord and my God.". CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!"



State and Supreme Conventions

By State Secretary Rick Hughes

I hope and pray that your Easter season is filled with the joy of the Resurrection! As I hope you are all aware, the 2023 State Convention will be held May 26-28, 2021 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando May 26-28. The deadline for submission of Election of Delegates forms by each Council was April 1.

The deadline for individual registration for Delegates and other attendees is May 1, 2023. There is much information on the State website about hotel reservations, elections, compensation, and other topics. Please be sure to visit the site periodically, as information gets updated frequently. Go to State Meetings/2023 State Convention, or you can go to this link:

<https://www.floridakofc.org/2023-State-Convention>

Voting Delegates should pay particular attention to the instructions for electronic Caucus nominations and elections for Delegates to the Supreme Convention, which will be held prior to convening the State Convention, as well as the rules for compensation.

Speaking of the Supreme Convention, we are well on our way in planning for our hosting responsibilities for the Supreme Convention in Orlando in August. This will be an exciting time

for Florida, but it will also be a very busy time. We want to be sure that, as the host Jurisdiction, we show our Brother Knights from across the world the the great hospitality of Florida Knights.

To that end, we have extensive requirements for volunteers for a Welcoming Committee, State Hospitality Registration, Tour Administration, Color Corps for Masses and Adoration Chapel, and other needs. We expect to have volunteer signups available in late April.

We will be looking especially for volunteers in the Orlando area to help, as we do not expect to have the resources to compensate volunteers for overnight stays. Since we will be relying heavily on electronic means to support our efforts, those conversant in or able to learn such things as managing Microsoft Teams, SignUp Genius, and EventBrite are especially needed.

I hope to see you at the State Convention in May.



*State Secretary
Rick Hughes*

Is Your Personal Information Accurate?

Every member of the Knights of Columbus in the Florida jurisdiction is listed on the Florida KofC website. Financial Secretaries update council lists on the Supreme and State websites at least quarterly. To ensure your information is correct, please review the brief YouTube video link below to confirm that your personal information and your preferred contact information is correct.

The 5-minute video describes how to log on or gain initial access, and reviews how to correct or confirm your personal information.

Please note that if you are a State, Assembly or Council officer, chairman or director, you must remain subscribed to the State Council's email list. Failure to do so will result in you missing important communications concerning your position and may result in your forfeiture of that position.

Follow the instructions on the video <https://youtu.be/IVS3XkgiUs> and while you are on the site, check out the other good news and information is available to you with just a click or two.

Practicing the Principles of Our Order

By State Warden Joseph Coicou

Brother Knights! May 26-28, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Orlando (9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819) will be the 119th Annual Meeting or the State Convention. This will be an excellent time for us to practice the principles of our order. Charity by reviewing what the councils have done throughout the fraternal year and being recognized for such achievements.

Unity by working together to accomplish the convention's work through its operation and delegation in the meeting. Fraternity by being with your brother knights through fellowship, especially during times at the banquet or hospitality rooms. And last, patriotism by respecting the countries that this jurisdiction serves: the USA, Bahamas, and St. Lucia.

Before you leave home to attend the convention, please ensure you have your current membership card and government identification for registration. You should review the [state convention dress code](#) on the state website to ensure you have the appropriate clothes for the event. Delegates should bring their council banner for the opening ceremony, which will be placed on the meeting chamber's walls. It would be best if you were well hydrated and stretched, for there will be much walking from the parking lot to the lobby and from the lobby to the convention area. So be prepared.

When you arrive at the convention hotel, state convention registration and the events will occur in Tower One at the "C" level or convention floor in the elevators. A welcoming committee and signs will direct you where you need to go. Please familiarize yourself with the [state convention agenda](#) on the state council website or through the convention program book you will receive in the registration packet. Registration lines are done in the order of your council number. So please

look for the lines with your council number, and register on that line.

By reviewing the agenda, there will be times the chamber will be open to all brother knights and guests, and there will be times when it is not. When it is time for the actual meeting to occur, delegates will sit with their district row of seating, and attendants (brother knights who are not delegates) will sit separately from the delegates in a designated seating area. Microphones will be provided in the aisles near the delegates to be used to speak to the presider of the meeting.

Delegates and other eligible members will vote for a new state officer slate. Election Buddy will be used in the voting process. Delegates and eligible voting members must ensure their mobile devices are charged and have internet access to vote. Doing this can help make this voting process quicker. You can review the [Election Buddy](#) voting process on the state website. Brother Knights will assist you if you need any help. There will be voting booths for those who do not have any mobile devices.

At the end of the convention, if you can assist in breaking down the convention hall, please help us if you can. Please remember to take home your council banner if you brought it. Delegates should report at their next council meeting on the events at the state convention.

I hope to see my brother knights and their guest soon at the state convention.



Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

By Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

While he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him. (Gospel for April 23, Lk 24:30-31)

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus had been walking and talking with the two disciples all along, but they did not recognize him until he broke bread with them. Do we recognize Jesus in our midst — in the Eucharist, in Scripture, among the poor and those in need, in the face of every person? Do we help others, particularly our friends and family, to do the same?

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, remind yourself and others — particularly your family and those closest to you — that Christ is present by speaking about your faith in everyday conversation (perhaps simply by thanking God for some blessing he has bestowed). Second, I challenge you to participate in the Faith in Action Family Fully Alive program.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you sometimes lose sight of God or become distracted with other things? Are there times in your life when God's presence is easy to recognize? What are some specific things you can do to more regularly remember God?



The Knights of Council 10718 hosted our first Hockey Challenge at the Halpatiokee Rink in Stuart. 15 boys and girls entered and competed. Numerous Knights including Brother Jerry Poirier from Ocala attended and helped make the event special. Winners for each age 10-17 have been invited to compete at the state championship in April.

Coastal Laps for Life



Our Lady of Hope Knights of Columbus Council 8086 hosted the seventh annual Terry Cassidy Memorial Coastal Laps for Life at Father Lopez Catholic High School on Saturday, April 1.

The Knights joined councils from throughout Central Florida in raising funds to place ultrasound in regional faith-based women's centers. The initiative has already placed 11 ultrasound machines through the initiative, and is hoping to install two additional needed machines through funds raised at this year's event.

The KofC Fourth Degree Regional Color Corps provided the honor guard for the event. Albert Morganti sang the National Anthem; Erin Cassidy led the singing of God Bless America; Our Lady of Hope Pastor Father Matt Mello provided the

invocation; and Council 8086 Grand Knight Roger Packard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resources for Women of Daytona Beach; Grace House Pregnancy Center of DeLand; Mayfair Women's Clinic of Jacksonville; and JMJ Pregnancy Center of Orlando also participated in the opening ceremonies.

For additional information, please visit coastallaps4life.org.



Council Awards Scholarships



Knights of Columbus Notre Dame Council 10514 and Corpus Christi Assembly 2810 of Flagler Beach awarded scholarships to four young adults. The four were selected to receive a \$500 scholarship to help toward college expenses based on the following criteria:

Applicant must be a member of Santa Maria del Mar Parish in Flagler Beach and looking to pursue undergraduate studies in a two- or four-year college or technical college. Applicant may be an entering freshman or upper classman.

Each applicant submitted a written essay that answered the following questions:

- What school or schools are you looking to attend
- What is your intended course of study
- What are the goals you hope to achieve
- What activities have you been involved in:
 - Parish
 - School
 - Community
 - Free time (hobbies)
 - How would the grant monies be used

The scholarship awardees received their checks at the March Santa Maria del Mar Parish Breakfast. They were Katie Pollak, Mike Silva, Marcella Warner and Zachary Warner. Pastor Manny Lopez, Grand Knight Bryant Perszyk, and Faithful Navigator Dan Nagy presented the checks to each recipient.



Combining Faith and Community

Very often there are more needs than there are fundraisers to provide funding in support of the many Faith in Action programs. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Council 13300 in Wildwood combined the needs of both Faith and Community under one fundraiser.

Its plan was to support four programs; including “RSVP,” “Marion Servants of the Word Incarnate,” and “Sacramental Gifts” under the Faith category, and “Our Mother of Mercy Outreach” under the Community category.

The goal was to raise \$4,600 in support of these programs as well as covering the cost of the event.

This was the third year the council; proposed a raffle where the winner would receive a customized five-course dinner, two bottles of wine, a dedicated server, and tax and gratuity included – with all being served in a private dining room at the Rose Plantation restaurant in Fruitland Park.

Based on the past two years, the planning committee felt this would be a doable venture. Brother Knights helped by selling tickets in two-hour blocks, two days per week for five weeks at two different locations. In addition, many Knights took groups of tickets and sold them to friends and neighbors, and a last-minute push at the March Council meeting put them over the top.

When we look deeper into our Faith category funding, we focused on RSVP, the Refund Support Vocation Program, where we recognize the importance to help offset the tuition incurred for our designated Seminarians. We are proud to have been able to provide \$1,000 to two seminarians at the St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in Boynton Beach.

Our next focus was the “Marian Servants of the Word Incarnate,” whose mission is to bring Catholic Christian men, women, lay and religious, to a deeper understanding of their vocation in



Christ, the Church, and the World. Through this fundraiser, we were able to provide \$1,000 to assist them in promoting spiritual direction and healing prayer. And last, we were able to support our Sacramental Gifts program at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Wildwood by providing \$600 to cover the cost of rosaries, prayer books, and Bibles.

Moving into the Community category, we focused on Helping Hands in support of Our Mother of Mercy Outreach, a specialized effort using the inspiration of St. Vincent de Paul and Mother Teresa, where trained volunteers work to help those individuals and families in our local community who are facing difficult situations or circumstances. Knowing the importance of this mission, we were able to donate \$1,000 for use in support of these needy families.

Our Council was once again blessed by being able to meet our goal of funding all these charities. We want to thank our Brother Knights who participated in helping sell tickets, those that purchased tickets, and those who kept us in prayer for a successful venture. On March 16, the Rose Plantation Raffle winning ticket drawn was for our Brother Knight Bill Prendergast. On March 20, Worthy Grand Knight Bill Wirtz and Deputy Grand Knight Mike Lepore presented the Rose Plantation gift certificate to Bill, and his wife Joyce, at the St. Vincent de Paul Family Life Center.

Bishop of the Moon



Bishop John Noonan has a diocese that’s literally “out of this world.” When he was named Bishop of Orlando in 2010, he took over a diocese that currently contains 80 parishes and 11 missions, two basilicas, 36 schools, and hundreds of ministries, encompassing 11,254 square miles spanning Brevard, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties – and the moon!

Rev. Donald Borders became the first Bishop of Orlando when the diocese was established in 1968. One year later, Apollo 11 became the first crewed mission to explore the moon. Bishop Borders was actually on hand for that historic launch, posing for a photo in front of the giant Saturn V rocket with New York City Cardinal Terrence Cooke on the eve of the mission.

The ensuing lunar landing then technically expanded his new diocese.

According to the 1917 Cope of Canon Law,

when an expedition discovers new territory, that land becomes part of the diocese that was home to the expedition.

Since the expedition was launched from Cape Kennedy (now Cape Canaveral), that made the earth’s satellite part of the recently established Orlando Diocese – and Borders became the first “Bishop of the Moon.”

Bishop Borders shared that fact with St. Paul VI during an ad limina visit to the Vatican.

“I’m sorry – what? You’re who?” reportedly replied the pontiff, who actually avidly followed the moon mission on television.

While Bishop Noonan may have inherited the moon as part of his diocese, he’s more concerned with the more than 400,000 Catholics living in his jurisdiction – none of whom live anywhere near the Sea of Tranquility where Apollo XI landed.

Since there is no one to exercise jurisdiction over, the title Bishop of the Moon “means nothing,” according to Rev. John Giel, Chancellor for Canonical Affairs and Vicar General of the Diocese of Orlando, quoted in a story on the historyofyesterday.com website.

But it does make for a good story – one good enough to even share with the Pope!



St. Joseph Feast Celebration



St. John Council 11281 in Naples Florida, has celebrated the March 19th St. Joseph Feast Day for 32 Consecutive Years. Through the years, the celebration has included building a three layer Altar Table in the tradition of original Altar Table and feast in Sicily, Italy hundreds of years ago. The Altar Table was constructed each of those years to keep the tradition alive and to Honor St. Joseph.

Altar Tables were located in the Narthex of St. John the Evangelist Church for all Masses during the weekend celebration of the feast and a second Altar Table was located at the Dinner Dance held on March 18th, in the Parish's ballroom. The St. Joseph Statue, led by the AJ Corr Assembly 3308 Color Guard, was processed to the Parish Ballroom.

Both Altar tables included fruits and vegetables donated by local farms and other traditional items such as fava beans. All fruits and vegetables,

along with donations, were later distributed to the Allen Chapel African Methodist Church Episcopal Church located in nearby Immokalee, to be distributed to those in need in that area.



Behold I Make All Things New

On March 4th 2023, St. John Council 11281 of Naples Florida hosted a Lenten Retreat which was attended by 74 Men of the Council and the parish of St. John the Evangelist Church.

The Retreat theme was “Behold I Make All Things New.” It was an all-day event led by Rev. Fr. Nick Thompson and Deacon Jim Walworth. The Retreat began with the monthly First Saturday morning Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. Grand Knight Paul Curti coordinated the days events, which included Prayer, Reconciliation, Teambuilding Exercises and Stations of the Cross led by Deacon Jim.

Quiet time was provided for prayer and reflection with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, which was available throughout the day in a private chapel area set aside with proper solemnity. The retreatants paid their devotions before It throughout the retreat.

Discussion on the Spiritual Role of men was a key part of the Retreat using the “Into the Breach” series of videos provided by Supreme Council. Team workshops focused on the “meaning of Lent” and “what Lent means to me.” The importance of grace and the sacraments in building our relationship with Jesus" was an area of focus during the workshop period.

The Men on Retreat were grateful for the attention to detail and retreat leader’s support

throughout the retreat. “It was amazing how each team was able to share and discuss their life challenges, and successes, throughout their spiritual Journey.” .

Feedback from the session also noted that this was a great way to start Lent and to prepare ourselves for the Lenten Journey. The Retreat Concluded with the Weekend Vigil Mass where retreatants were joined by family and friends.



Council 11281 at St. John the Evangelist (SJE) parish in Naples, Florida held their Handicapped Citizen’s Tootsie Roll Drive in February and March. The 2023 drive raised \$18,503. 100% of all donations are distributed to LARC inc. of Bonita Springs, Special Olympics of Collier County, the STARability Foundation in Naples, and United Cerebral Palsy of Southwest Florida.

First Annual Crawfish Boil



On Friday, March 31, 2023 from 5-7 PM the Emerald Coast Council of the Knights of Columbus Council 11893 held their 1st Annual K of C Crawfish Boil at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Destin, FL. The event was designed to build community in the parish, increase momentum that is supported by the excitement of getting back into a beautifully renovated and expanded Church facility and to make the KCs more visible so they can do more for Corpus Christi. This benefits the Corpus Christi parishioners, the pastor, office staff and the entire community shining a bright light on the parish that can attract others.

Corpus Christi Catholic Church underwent an expansion and extensive renovations over the last 18 months. The church building was closed during renovations and the parish hall was used for Mass which is about 1/4th the size of the church building. With the recent re-opening of the church, there is a buzz in the parish and a lot of excitement from its parishioners and the local community.

The idea of a crawfish boil was fostered by Fr Viet Huynh, Pastor at Corpus Christi Catholic Church. The Knights of Columbus, drawing its membership from Corpus Christi in Destin and Resurrection in Miramar Beach, offered a fish fry but Fr Viet thought that a crawfish boil would be better. He was right!

Brother Tim Kersanac, a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus 11893, Trustee, Past Grand Knight and Corpus Christi parishioner led the team that developed the idea, organized the event and made it happen in less than 30 days. "This was definitely a team effort and I thank our council for supporting this exciting event at Corpus Christi," said Kersanac. "We hope this will become an annual event."

The event was wildly successful with great comradery, friendship and sharing a good time with each other. People are already talking about next year.

Council Hosts Inaugural Parish Cookout



The cookout event was a wonderful way for the Parish and the Knights council to come together to build a strong relationship combining their Faith in Action. The evening of fellowship began with prayer and the hope to encourage new membership.

And another way of showing support from the Council for St. Vincent's Parish community and

their Knight's Chaplain and Pastor, Father Dennis Gonzales, in his efforts to build the Body of Christ at the Parish. St. Vincent Ferrer Council's Membership Director, Michael D'Addio, took the opportunity at this event to explain what the Knights of Columbus do for the parish and the greater church.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt



On Saturday April 8, 2023, St. John Council 11281, Naples FL. Sponsored their annual Easter Egg Hunt for children of the Parish and Council Members. Brother Knight Scott Jannish and his wife Joy coordinated the event. and Rev. Father Nick Thompson provided a beautiful blessing before the hunt before the Easter Bunny paid a special visit to get the hunt underway.

One Hundred Fifty (150) children participated in the day's events which included refreshments and prizes. Over 3500 eggs were hidden in three separate areas of the Parish grounds for each of the different children's age levels. The Council received much assistance from St. John the Evangelist CYO and Faith Formation groups, as well as students from St. John Neumann High School

Council Donates to Pregnancy Center



St. Thomas Aquinas Council 11497 of New Port Richey recently presented a \$3,004.21 donation to West Pasco Pregnancy Center as part of the ASAP program. Grand Knight Larry Alaimo, along with Brother Knight Tony Fontana and his wife Rosemarie and Brother Knight John Treska, made the presentation on behalf of the Council.

Executive Director James Sutherlin, along

with Office Manager Hope Good, Lisa Yeager, wife of Florida Representative Brad Yeager, and Advocate/Administrator Carolyn Touchton accepted the check on behalf of the Center.

The donation represented the net proceeds from a Pro Life Dinner/Dance Gala the Council held on January 21 at the St. Thomas Aquinas Church Parish Hall. The Council is awaiting a \$400 ASAP grant that will also be donated to the Center.



When a parishioner donated a statue of St. Joseph to honor her deceased husband, the Knights of Columbus Council 15154 decided to hold a fundraiser and to beautify the statue at the same time. Beginning in June 2022, the Knights began selling bricks to place around the statue. The parishioners responded enthusiastically. Over \$ 12,000 was raised, with half going to the church

Council Donates an Ultrasound Machine

Saint John Council 11281 Knights of Columbus donated a Philips ClearVue 850 Ultrasound Machine to Community Pregnancy Clinics, Inc. (CPCI) in Naples, Florida. The machine includes 3D/4D imaging modes and color Doppler.

Rev. Fr. Tom Zalewski of St. John the Evangelist parish in Naples led the Blessing and Dedication Ceremony at the CPCI clinic on February 23. Fr. Nick Thompson, of St. John the Evangelist, proclaimed a Gospel reading from the book of Matthew. Then, Fr. Zalewski blessed the machine. He quoted God’s promise through the prophet Isaiah, “Can a mother forget her infant? Be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you”. He emphasized that all human life is a gift from God, and that we are each called to help build a Culture of Life in our community.

Scott Baier, CEO of CPCI, spoke about the importance of ultrasound technology and thanked St. John the Evangelist parish and the Knights of Columbus for donating the machine. CPCI operates pregnancy clinics in Naples, Fort Myers, Sarasota and Gainesville – as well as two mobile clinics.

The Knights of Columbus Council 11281 Grand Knight, Paul Curti, explained that the Council has held various fundraisers (including a Baby Bottle Drive and an outdoor Country Life Fest concert) to raise money for the Ultrasound machine and other donations to local Pro-Life organizations. Central

Florida Laps for Life provided additional funding, and the Supreme Knights of Columbus Council provides a dollar-for-dollar match for Ultrasound purchases.



The Knights of Columbus has donated over 1,600 Ultrasound machines to pregnancy resource centers over the past 15 years.

Leona and Tony Hernandez, members of St. John the Evangelist parish, volunteered to help with the Ultrasound machine demonstration. The CPCI staff and the 25 attendees at the Dedication Ceremony were extremely impressed with the clear and powerful images of their preborn child.



2023 State Convention General Information

The 119th Annual Meeting of the Florida State Council, otherwise known as the 2023 State Convention, will be held May 26-28, 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando, 9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819.

Key Items for the preparation and conduct of this State Convention are as follows:

- **Agenda:** The Convention Agenda will be posted at [this link](#) when finalized.

- **Election of State Convention Delegates:** Each Council must conduct an Election of its Delegates to the State Convention after January 1, 2023 but before March 31, 2023, and Council Financial Secretaries must enter the election results through Division Management on the State website by April 1, 2023. Click [this link](#) for more information.

- **Registration:** Each person attending the Convention must individually register and, if applicable, pay the appropriate fees. Please note that Financial Secretaries cannot register their Council's Delegates--each Delegate (and all other attendees) must register himself. However, Delegates will not be able to self-register until Financial Secretaries enter Delegate information on the website through the Election of Delegates capability. [Click here](#) for more information.

- **Hotel:** Information on hotel reservations can be found at [this link](#).

- **Resolutions:** Information on the submission of resolutions by Councils can be found at [this link](#).

- **State Awards Forms and Instructions.** Instructions for State Awards, as well as links to all of the required 2022 State Awards Forms, can be found at [this link](#).

- **Program Advertisements and Sponsorships:** Each Council is requested to contribute to a District Ad for the State Convention Program Book. Also, we are soliciting Business Advertising and Sponsorships. [Click here](#) for more information.

- **Elections and Electronic Voting:** Supreme Convention Delegates will be nominated and elected through four Caucuses. Nominations and elections will be conducted electronically before the State Convention through the ElectionBuddy election service. All other elections will take place in person at the State Convention site; there will be no remote Delegate voting. However, in the case of a contested election, we will again use the ElectionBuddy election service, so all Delegates should have their smartphones on hand. More information will be posted at [this link](#).

- **Convention Committees.** State Convention Committees are essential for the planning an execution of the State Convention. Most of these committees will fall under the State Warden. District Deputies, Regional Administrators, and State staff should check [this link](#) for Committee assignments.

- **Convention Rules and Regulations.** [Click here](#) for the 2023 State Convention Rules and Regulations.

- **Dress Code.** [Click here](#) for the Dress Code for attendees.

- **Compensation.** Information on Compensation for Convention attendees can be [found here](#).





Jim Effner presents
**Importance of Whole Life
as Part of a Retirement Plan**



Jim Effner is founder and President of P2P Group and specializes in training financial services professionals. Previously Jim was Managing Partner of one of the largest Northwestern Mutual offices in the country. He built the Effner Group to nearly 150 full-time and college advisors, insuring over 65,000 policyholders.

You are invited to join our webinar featuring Jim Effner, who specializes in financial services and has been helping thousands of families with financial planning.

April 26, 2023

Date

7:30 PM EST

Time

<https://tinyurl.com/KofCEffnerApril26>

RSVP



Scan here

No purchase is necessary. This event is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, tax or legal advice. Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

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**Knights of
Columbus®**

Knights of Columbus

Florida State Council



Charity Raffle

FIRST PRIZE

\$25,000

2nd Prize:- \$15,000
(3) 3rd Prizes - \$5,000

\$5 Per Ticket

Proceeds will benefit
The Florida Knights of Columbus
Charities

**"Time's
Running Out"**

Only 1 month remaining

Drawing will be May 27, 2023
at FL State Convention

Details, or Questions, contact

John Gearon III at 941-320-4745
Johngearon@yahoo.com

www.floridakofc.org



!!!69th ANNUAL FLORIDA STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT!!!



PRESENTED BY

Knights of Columbus – Florida State Council Bowling Association

Singles and Doubles: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Team (4-Person): Sunday, April 23, 2023

Proceeds to benefit: Special Olympics Florida State Bowling Competition

USBC Sanctioned - Handicap 90% of 230. Open to all KofC members & pledges, female family and significant others. For new bowlers (males) enter at 145 average; new (females) enter at 130 average.

1st Bowler to roll a 300 wins \$100!!!

Bowling at:

Boardwalk Bowl & Entertainment Center

The Largest Bowling Center in the Southeast USA!!!

10749 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32817

Website: www.alomabowlingcenters.com/boardwalk

Lodging: Ask for “Knights of Columbus Bowling Tournament” group rate at the La Quinta, or click on hyperlink. All within 3 miles of the Boardwalk Bowl & Entertainment Center.

La Quinta Inn (Host Hotel)

407-737-6075

3.0 miles from Boardwalk

Continental Breakfast Included

Starting @ \$115&tax per nite

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/orlando-florida/la-quinta-orlando-ucf/rooms-rates?&checkInDate=04/21/2023&checkOutDate=04/23/2023&groupCode=CGFSCB>

Days Inn

407-996-9500

1.3 miles from Boardwalk

Continental Breakfast Included

Best Western

407-282-3900

2.5 miles from Boardwalk

Continental Breakfast Included

For additional information, please feel free to contact:

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Michael Schrader - Sec/Treas

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305-401-9424

(Tournament Director)

Greg Davis - Director

gdavis1002@yahoo.com

772-579-5340

Tom Berdis - Director

tberdis@gmail.com

863-224-2906

Chris Ferrizzi - Director

cfrizze@att.net

904-502-1199

Chris Fazio - Director

christ2744@outlook.com

954-558-5124

Additional information can be found on the State website (www.floridakofc.org) or on our Facebook page ([Kofc Florida State Bowling](#))

INVOCATION

Knights of Columbus Florida State Council Newsletter How To Write an Article

Newsworthy • Broad Appeal • Concise • Complete • Factual • Accurate
Answers the Questions: Who, What, When, Where, Why & How

INVOCATION reports on local council activities throughout the entire State of Florida

- Article size: **300 words** ideal (half page) to 500-600 words max (full page)
- Articles submitted as an attachment in Word format - not in the body of an email
 - PDF submissions are for ads or promotions - not articles
- Pictures need to be sent separately as an attachment and the original pictures **Please do not format them in any way, we will do it**-- not embedded in a Word document
- **Articles need to be brief, highly relevant and actionable**
- **At a minimum, Who, What, When and Where needs to be in the first paragraph,**
- Articles need to be brief, to-the-point and **of interest** to the entire State Council
 - What is the event/activity about?
 - Whom did it benefit?
 - What was the result?
 - Who are the key players/Knights?
- **Similar story** submissions will be consolidated/batched into one article by the Editors
- Authors must submit on time per the Editor production calendar- **Deadline 1st of each month**
 - Late submittals will be placed farther down the newsletter or not published.
- Proof your article carefully for spelling and grammar before sending (**use spellcheck**)
- Document filename should reflect the office/title, i.e. State Deputy article
- Every Region needs to participate – one page of the Invocation will be dedicated to each Region respectively
 - If a region does not submit content their page will be eliminated from that issue
- Cover story submissions need to be submitted ahead of the deadline due to special photo editing
 - Cover story photos – in portrait style at least 1mb in size - not formatted or resized
 - filename “Cover Story”

Send all information:

Region 1: Robert C. Guillery rag130@outlook.com

Region 2: invocation@floridakofc.org

Region 3: John O'Malley jomalley1@cfl.rr.com

Region 4: invocation@floridakofc.org

Region 5: invocation@floridakofc.org

Region 6: Armando Minutoli alminutoli146@gmail.com

For general information or questions email: invocation@floridakofc.org



Support Florida K of C Charities Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)



Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you can now have .05% of your purchases donated to Florida K of C Charities! All you need to do is use the link for Amazon Smiles. To activate this on your Amazon account just click on this link [AmazonSmile](#) that's all you have to do!

Did you know that the State of Florida Council has a YouTube Channel? Well, we do! This is a place where we can put in videos of all the great things that we do as Knights in the State of Florida.

During the State Convention we took video interviews of some of the Dignitaries that honored us with their presence. You can

see the videos by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Please be sure to subscribe to the channel so you will be notified when new videos are added. If you have any videos that you would like to add that shows your Council doing good works please email Jim Clark, Broadcast Media Relations and Production Director at jclark1@gmail.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

Evangelize and proclaim our faith, protect families, and perform works of charity.

Through our witness and deeds attract Catholic men to our Order.

Build the Domestic Church through service, support our parishes, clergy, and communities.

Incorporate principled fiscal responsibility for charitable giving.

The Florida State Logo



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Region 6 Armando Minutoli *alminutoli46@gmail.com*

Region 7 (Open)

Region 8 (Open)

Florida State Council Social Media

Your State Council is now on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube. We need all Brother Knights to participate and Let Your Light Shine.

- Go to Facebook and "LIKE" the page
- Go to Twitter and Instagram and "follow"
- #LetYourLightShine @KofcFlorida



Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Check out the current issue of **Knightline**, a monthly resource for local KofC leaders. It is designed to help council officers plan events and activities, meet quarterly goals for the fraternal year and learn about Orderwide news. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the issue.

COLUMBIA

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the online version of **COLUMBIA** Magazine, a publication for the Knights of Columbus.



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— THE —
Catholic
DIFFERENCE