



Knights of Columbus

Council 2505

St. Joseph's Church

Lakeland, FL

September, 2025

Continuing Our Second Century of Service 2025

A message from the Grand Knight



Hello Worthy Brothers,

I hope you are enjoying the summer. Fall officially begins later this month, and I know I am looking forward to what I consider the best season in Central Florida. As the holiday season approaches, we will be doing more, but let's take a brief look at what we've accomplished so far this year.

Way back in January, we took part in the March for Life in downtown Lakeland, and we provided lunch for all the marchers. In February we held a very successful Tootsie Roll drive, earning funds for people with disabilities. We also hosted a fun spaghetti dinner for the parish. In March we had our well received fish fry each Friday of Lent. In May we volunteered for the Special Olympics event at Walt Disney World.

And over several weekends in June and July, we rolled up our sleeves and helped with the wonderful renovations taking place at Santa Fe Catholic High School. This is a fantastic facility and we are very lucky to have it here in Polk County. I'm sure there are other things I'm forgetting but you can see we like to be active.

Upcoming events include our first monthly pancake breakfast and our Keep Christ in Christmas fund raising effort.

All of these things require manpower. I want to thank everyone who has come out to help at any of our events. Nothing we do is possible without your help and support. Please consider what you can do to help us in the future. We all became Knights to be of service.

I hope for everyone a safe and happy fall season, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Vivat Jesus

Scott

Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer



God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, You called Your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow Your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling His commandment of charity and building up His Body, which is the Church. Let the inspiration of Your servant prompt us to greater confidence in Your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that You glorify Your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of Your holy will.

Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*), through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Volunteers Needed

We are starting a new year with a renewed set of events which will need all Brother Knights to consider participating in, in a small or large way. The next event is the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday September 7th. No skills required; show up after 9:00, between Masses, or after the 11:00 and the team will get you going.

Pancake Breakfast

September 7th in the Parish Hall after 9am and 11am Masses



Presented by:
**Knights of
Columbus®**
Council #2505



This is a very convenient event for new Knights to get to know your Brothers and for long term Knights to get to know our new Brothers!

Saving the Unborn – An Ongoing Fight Against Abortion



VISION
FOR  **LIFE**

OPTIONS FOR WOMEN CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR
FREE FUNDRAISER
SEPTEMBER 25, 2025
LUNCHEON: 12-1PM | DINNER: 6:30-8PM
(FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED)
FIRST PRESBYTARIAN CHURCH
175 LAKE HOLLONGSWORTH DRIVE LAKELAND, FL 33803
PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
You can register for either the lunch or evening program
by emailing ae@optionsforwomenphc.com or visiting
www.ofwsupport.com/events/

There is still ample time to reserve a place for you, your wife, friends, and age appropriate children. This is a strong and moving opportunity to live our faith and share it with your guests.

Council Fundraising Opportunities – Ken Dauphinais

Worthy Brothers,

We held our first Council fundraising meeting on August 7th. It was well attended, and we had some good conversations with regard to current and future fundraising ideas. While our current events, such as the Lenten Fish Fry, State Council's Raffle (details below), and Pancake Breakfast provide our Council's annual operating funds, there is room for other, possibly larger fundraising events, which could be directed toward specific Parish needs or projects. Our next step is to meet with Fr. Zach to gain focus on which projects or needs should be addressed, and how to move forward logistically with raising the necessary funds. ***We're always looking for volunteers***, so watch for updates each month as we zero in on events. We'll let you know who to contact, and where to sign up to help.

Florida State Council Charity Raffle is Back!

The Florida State Council, Knights of Columbus, is conducting a state-wide raffle in which the proceeds will go to raise funds for local affiliated Councils as well as for Florida K of C Charities, Inc.

Sixty-six raffle books containing 4 raffle tickets each have been distributed directly to our Council. At the Council level, each Knight will be asked to take a number of books and seek donations from their friends and families to buy a chance to win.

The final drawing will be held at the Florida State Council - Annual Convention Dinner, May 23, 2026, in Orlando, FL. **1st Prize \$25,000 2nd Prize \$5,000 3rd Prizes (2) \$1,000 each**

Additionally, our Council will receive a portion of some of the funds collected from the suggested donation of \$3.00 per ticket or \$10 per book.

Here's how it works: The Knight will fill out each ticket with the name and number of the contributor after collecting the donation. The Knight collects the tickets and returns them and the funds directly to Doug Cooper or in a sealed envelope at the Parish Center.

The Council will send in \$6.00 per book distributed while retaining the left over \$4.00. When our Council collects donations for the initial 66 books, we will retain \$264 for our own charitable projects. Should we sell 100 books, we will retain \$400.

In addition to the final drawing, there will be two other drawing for the Knights who are collecting donations: the "Quick Start" and "Early Bird" drawings.

1st prize winning ticket gets \$500.

2nd prize winning ticket gets \$250.

3rd prize winning ticket wins \$100.

Doug Cooper has ticket books to hand out and will collect all proceeds from the donations you gather. Contact Doug to get books. DougStJoe@gmail.com or 954.589.9446

A small effort on your part will go a long way in funding our Council's operations and is a very easy way to get involved with the Council. ***Consider asking for 2 books!***

Important Dates

Member Birthdays		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>	<i>Age</i>
Mr Bill D Buchanan	09-01-1955	70
Mr George H Riddle	09-02-1941	84
Mr Lawrence R Tapley	09-05-1951	74
Mr William J Thompson	09-12-1973	52
Mr Steven W Lannon	09-15-1961	64
Deacon Jason Bulman	09-16-1981	44
Mr Charles James Stokes	09-19-1956	69
Mr Albert P Marshall	09-20-1955	70
Mr Michael Paul McFarland	09-21-1957	68
Member Wedding Anniversaries		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>
Mr Kevin R Rodriguez	09-01-2018	Lina Rodriguez
Wife Birthdays		
<i>Member's Name</i>	<i>Wife's Name</i>	<i>Birthday</i>
Mr Gary L Cavender	Tana Cavender	09-02
Deacon Josue G Diaz	Jackeline Diaz	09-21
Mr Michael Paul McFarland	Helen McFarland	09-28

Special Award Presented



PGK SK Steve Jones accepts a long term appreciation plaque from GK Scott Phillips and PGK SK Charlie Stokes as he has served as an officer every year for the past 20 years. This year is the first time in 2 decades Steve has chosen not have an officer role. But we are confident that his significant contributions will continue.

Congratulations and thanks!

St Michael's Lent - A Summer Period of Reflection

By Brother Knight JJ Niekro

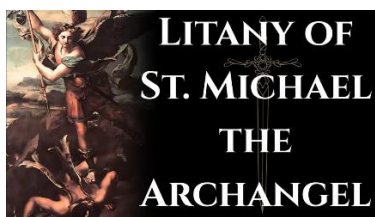
Every Catholic knows that Advent prepares us for Christmas and Lent for Easter. The liturgical calendar is highlighted by these two great opportunities to properly delve into the most important mysteries in the life of Christ. Currently, we are between these seasons and in the thick of Ordinary Time. Sunday, August 31st marks the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time which can become somewhat redundant to many Catholics as they navigate the end of summer and the beginning of the school year. Mother Church, in her brilliance, offers us a unique opportunity to sanctify our hearts in the midst of what seems to be a semi-stagnant time in the liturgical calendar.

Though not officially in the liturgical calendar, St. Michael's Lent is a 40-day spiritual fast that began on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15th, and ends on the Feast of St. Michael, September 29th.^{*} Saint Francis, the saint who perhaps embodies the life of Christ more than any other, started this devotion as he deeply venerated St. Michael the Archangel as a protector of souls. Legend states that St. Francis also received the stigmata during this period of penance and fasting.

Why begin on the Assumption? Mary is the Queen of Heaven, assumed body and soul into the realm of the angels. The culmination on Michaelmas thus allows us to develop a connection to the power of the angelic hierarchies in our lives: Michael fights, Mary crushes.

Through this supplemental Lenten period, tradition offers us an organic way to develop relationships with the three archangels found in Scripture (Raphael, Gabriel, and Michael) and our own guardian angel. Have you ever prayed through the intercession of your guardian angel --asked him his name? The Franciscan tradition encourages us to ask these beautiful questions of our heart.

Fellow brother knights Daniel Wagner, Clay Tucker, Akol Arop, Manny Velazquez, Steve Simeone, and I have found that this period of devotion has strengthened our hearts' understanding of seeing Christ in all things and developing relationships with our angelic protectors.



How do you participate? Pray daily the litany of St. Michael (which can be found online), implement a daily or weekly act of penance, demonstrate charity through the corporal works of mercy, and attempt a weekly Confession and/or additional Mass during the week.

<https://thecatholiccrusade.com/litany-of-st-michael-the-archangel/>

I encourage all of our brother Knights to use this time as a novel way to come closer into the tradition of the Church so that we may become saints with our Lord in eternity.

^{*} *In the current calendar, we celebrate all three Archangels this day—Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael—and all the holy angels.*

September Calendar

Sep 2nd	Tuesday	Officers' Meeting	6:30 PM
Sep 5th	Friday	Holy Hour/ Vespers	6:00 PM
Sep 7th	Sunday	Pancake Breakfast	9 AM - Noon
Sep 8th	Monday	Council Business Meeting	6:00 PM
Sep 12th	Friday	Honoring Heroes Dinner First Presbyterian Church	
Sep 15th	Monday	4th Degree Meeting St. Joseph	6:00 PM
Sep 16th	Tuesday	Knights' Open House Parish Hall	7:00 PM
Sep 25th	Thursday	Options for Women - Vision for Life First Presbyterian Church (RSVP by Sep 22nd)	12:00 and 6:30 PM
Sep 27th 28th	Sat - Sun	Columbiettes Ministry Fair	After Masses

Knights' Open House

Perhaps you've seen this panel before Mass recently. Our Council is preparing a special evening in conjunction with the Fraternal Benefits presentation given by Brother Andy Burke. Not only is this an opportunity to learn more about financial security products offered by the Knights of Columbus but an opportunity to share our programs and their impact on our families, friends and community.

Please plan to attend and to invite men interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus to this event. RSVP's accepted but not required to Ken Dauphinais, Charlie Stokes or Doug Cooper.

Learn More about the Knights of Columbus
at our upcoming Open House

We're recapping our century of service to St. Joseph families and presenting our ongoing programs supporting Faith, Family, Community and Life.

7pm, Tuesday September 16, in the Parish Hall
Families are encouraged to attend
Refreshments will be served



"FAITH WITHOUT WORKS"

By Brother Knight Charlie Stokes

One of the most misunderstood differences between ourselves and some of our Protestant brethren is the subject of "faith and works". Many say "just have faith, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." But Jesus did say, "Not everyone who cries 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven but only he who does the will of my Father."

Briefly - all the good works in the world would not "earn" anyone the right to heaven. If it weren't for the Cross it would be impossible. So, we can't totally "earn" our way into heaven by our good deeds. On the other hand - we must listen to Jesus for the clues -- He did not say that some souls would be lost. Now, if He died for all, how come some would be lost?

Learn - in addition to what He did, He asks us to join Him in doing the will of the Father. In other words, our acts **MUST** reveal and give **support to our faith** and not simply rely on a statement of what we believe. Words can be cheap.

This is one of the most important understandings we need in the practice of our faith. It is also part of the foundation for our belonging to the Knights of Columbus. We not only **BELIEVE** it is a good Catholic organization, but we support and back up that belief by our participation in its works.

There are a few in our Council who physically or for other valid reasons just can't help with Lenten Fish Fry Events, Tootsie Roll Drives, Pancake Breakfasts, painting of our parish hall or other events; but they could be part of a "phone tree", attending Council meetings or other activities that may not require physical strength. Each of us, as Council members need to be involved in some way in Council activities.

WHAT IS YOUR WAY?

Given our Deputy Grand Knight's creation of a Fundraising Committee to staff and guide our event and charitable activities, this is a "golden opportunity" to join in. if you haven't been "involved" with Council activities in a while; ***please reach out to any of the following Brothers to volunteer and find your niche!***

Charlie Stokes, Financial Secretary @ cstokes9@tampabay.rr.com or 863-899-6005

Doug Cooper, Chancellor & Membership Director @ dougstjoe@gmail.com or 954-589-9446

Ken Dauphinais Deputy Grand Knight @ kendauph@outlook.com or 863-409-5318

Urgent -- Knight in Need

We learned very recently of the hospitalization of DGK SK Ken Dauphinais' father after a fall. Mr. Dauphinais senior is advanced in age and potentially will not be able to recover.

Please keep him and the Dauphinais family in your prayers.

*Have something to share, an idea for an article
or are you leading an event?*

*Contact Doug Cooper Dougstjoe@gmail.com to
have your contribution included in next month's
newsletter.*

*"Be anxious about nothing, but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." **Phillipians 4:6-7***