



Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

Happy Labor Day



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Grand Knights Report

You might not think there is a connection between **our celebration of Labor Day** and **Blessed Father McGivney** as illustrated on the cover of our newsletter . . . but there is.

Labor Day pays tribute to **the contributions and achievements of American workers**. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and **became a federal holiday in 1894**. It is fitting that we recall the **history of our Order** and the motivation of our Founder, **Blessed Michael J McGivney** during this Chapter in American worker history.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, **the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks** in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, **children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines** across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages. **People of all ages, particularly the very poor** and recent immigrants, often faced **extremely unsafe working conditions**, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and work breaks.

Grand Knights Report Continued

It was **during this tumultuous time** that an American **Catholic priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, founded the Knights of Columbus** at St. Mary's Church in 1882 as a mutual benefit society **for Catholic immigrants** in New Haven, Connecticut. As a parish priest in an immigrant community, **McGivney saw what could happen to a family** when the main **income earner died**. This was before most government support programs were established. **Because of religious and ethnic discrimination, Catholics in the late 19th century** were regularly **excluded from labor unions, popular fraternal organizations, and other organized groups that provided such social services**.

Thanks to **the foresight of our Founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney**, to address the **conditions within his local community** and his determination **to help those widows and orphans**, the **Knights of Columbus started during the labor movement in the late 19th century**. It has grown to become an **international organization with over 2 million members** dedicated to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

These core principles are **implemented through charitable gift-giving** and a comprehensive **financial and insurance program for its members**. As we celebrate Labor Day let us recall the courage of Fr. McGivney **this Labor Day and renew our commitment to works of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity** for those in need.

Grand Knights Report Continued

Thank you for asking me to be your Chaplain.

All throughout my years **in seminary** I have been **blessed to have the knights support me** through both **their prayers and their financial support** and I cannot tell you how much that meant to me. It was **such a powerful witness** that **someone who did not even know me** would **support me over and over again**. You have **helped so many seminarians** to the priesthood and **the Church cannot thank you enough for all that you have done for us**. I haven't shared this with many but **one of the reasons I looked forward to being ordained** was so that **I can finally serve the knights** in return **for all that they have done for me**.

At all the parishes **I've served at as a seminarian, the Knights of Columbus** have always **been the heart of the community**. One only needs to **look at your Knights calendar** to see **how active and important you are to the life of the parish**. Thank you for all the work you do, for all the **many ways you serve St. Thomas More**, and for being true witnesses of His love and service. **Know that as your Chaplain I hope to serve you as best I can**. Be assured of my **prayers for each of you and your families** and thank you once again for being **so good and welcoming to me**.



FATHER DANIEL SCANLAN HAS AGREED TO BE OUR NEW CHAPLAIN. FR. SCANLAN IS A 3RD DEGREE KNIGHT. HE WILL BE FORMALLY INTRODUCED AS OUR NEW CHAPLAIN AT OUR SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.

Grand Knights Report Continued

On **August 9th** we had our monthly “**Knight’s Mass**” at the **8:00 a.m. Mass** with almost **25 Knights and wives in attendance**. Also, the **rosary was prayed** starting at 7:30 a.m. before the Mass. Both the rosary and the Mass were **dedicated to those on the Good of the Order** list with a special intention for **Brother Dan Borgmeyer**. Please join your Brother Knights for this special Mass in September.

Our **August 10th** our **Council Meeting** was **attended by close to 50 Brother Knights** as we continue our trend of **record attendance**. Thank you for **your continued support of the Council** and our General Meeting.

On **August 14th** the **Assembly** installed the new **board of Officers** at Incarnation after the Assembly Meeting with **Worthy Bob Marrah** as the Installation Officer. **Dr. Steven Wyer** was installed as the **new Faithful Navigator** and **Worthy Charlie Culkin** as the **Faithful Scribe** and **Brother Steve McElroy** as the **Purser**. All from our Council.

On **August 15th** the Exemplification Team held the **3rd Degree ceremony** where we welcomed **Brother Lynn Quartermaine to our Council**. The **Honoree for this Exemplification** ceremony was **Brother Phil Arsenault** in recognition of **all his many contributions to our Council**.



On **September 24th** we held our monthly **prayer walk at Planned Parenthood**. Thank you to all who **were able to participate**.

Our next **Council Meeting** will be on **September 14th** in the **Spirit Center** at **7:00**.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR COUNCIL!

The Installation of New Officers was conducted after the **4:00 pm Mass** on **August 12th** lead by our **District Deputy, Dr. Steven Wyer**. *(Missing in the following picture are: Larry Hall and Dan Bulinski while Joe Sommer and Johnnie Turner were their stand-)*

Grand Knights Report Continued



**A celebratory dinner followed the Installation ceremony
at the Mattison's on 41**

Faith In Action

Food Pantry

Thank you also to the **Food Bank volunteers** and **their spouses** for your in-person **participation and your monetary support**. As you may know, **the supply chain remains a challenge** and food supplies are in still **in short supply**. Given today's economy, **we have 75-100 families in need** every week. **Please continue to support the pantry** with **both food and monetary donations**.

The pantry **continues to purchase additional** basic items each week to **supplement what we receive** from All Faiths Food Bank. **The weekly bulletin lists the items we critically need**. Your donations are **greatly appreciated by the pantry** and those families we serve.

Faith In Action

On **August 8th Brother James Alexander** and I met with **the leaders of Habitat for Humanity**. They were **most grateful for our Council contribution of \$400**.

(Please note the thank you letter below.)

Hello Ralph and Jim,

On behalf of Renee and all our Habitat Sarasota families, I want to thank you again for the donation from the St Thomas More Knights of Columbus Council. (And Jim, thank you for your hours on our build site!) I have attached the picture taken during the check presentation.

We appreciate you promoting volunteer opportunities on our build site and spreading the word about the ReStore as an option to donate or purchase items. Please feel free to reach out if you or any member has any questions. Thank you for making an impact on families in our community.

Kindest regards,

Susie Ellis
Resource Development Coordinator



Fr. Gordon attended our **August 10th** Council Meeting during which **we presented him with a \$2000 check** for the Catholic Faith Appeal.



Faith In Action Continued

The **August Social** was held at the Dockside Grill on **August 24th** with **approximately 50 in attendance**. It was a delightful evening of fraternity for all. **Thank you Brother Dave and Sue Bracy!**



Faith In Action Continued

August Knight of the Month

This Brother Knight has served the Council in so many ways: as a **Committee Co-Chair** for the **Good of the Order**, a prayer warrior, all around a hard working, dedicated Knight.

Our August Knight of the Month is:
John Maier



August Family of the Month

Our **August Family of the Month** is **Derek and Margie Noll**. Derek is our Council Lecturer and Margie is a Lay Distributor. **Both Brother Derek and Margie are very involved** in our Council and St. Thomas More Parish

Our August Family of the Month is:
Derek & Margie Noll



Parish Committee News

Update on construction . . .

The pavers are nearly finished , however, they still **need to be sealed**. In order to seal the pavers **the crew requires a 4-5 day window of DRY weather**. We **don't expect this to delay our meetings** this month e.g. **Council Business, Exemplifications, Committees** weather permitting.

Ministries . . .

St. Thomas More is also in need of Hospitality & Eucharistic Ministers. There is a need for Hospitality Ministers **for Sunday 12:00 mass**. If you are a current Minister, **please consider changing to assist** in covering **these masses**. This is a great way to **volunteer your time to assist our parish** and **increase the visibility** of all we do as a Council. **Please call the Parish Office** if you are **interested in volunteering**. **Thank you to those who have responded** to this call.

Committee Corner

Special Olympics August Monthly News and Updates

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization. Volunteers range from coaches, Unified partners, mentors, officials, and event coordinators.

Volunteers are needed for bowling, swimming and Fall Classic competitions.

We are in search of incredible individuals who are **willing to make a difference** as mentors. **If you have a passion** for guiding **Athlete Leaders toward their goals** and being **a positive influence in their lives**, we need you!

There are many great opportunities coming up where you can volunteer to assist and participate. **Brother John Cesare has done a fantastic job** as Chairman of this committee **through his leadership** and communications of its activities. **If you are interested in becoming involved** in Special Olympics **please reach out to Brother John Cesare for details.**



Committee Corner Continued

Right to Life

More families are suffering economic hardships and **consequently more pregnant women are in need** of the life-saving services and **support provided by the Community Pregnancy Center.** As Knights **we are dedicated to the sanctity of life.** The **“40 Days for Life 365”** campaign provides each of us the opportunity to **participate 365 days a year.** Our Council has been **requested to participate** at the **Sarasota Planned Parenthood facility on the 4th Thursday of every month – from 9AM to 1PM.** We are **asking our Members** to consider a **one hour shift** and to **sign-up by contacting our Right to Life Co-Chairs,** either **Brian Harkins** at bjharkins1@gmail.com or telephone # 908-451-7454 **or Neil Corrado** at fdny0261@gmail.com or telephone # 941-993-1520. **Please consider praying outside** of the Planned Parenthood facility. **Thanks to our Brothers** for participating on our day to pray.

Please continue to safely and peacefully support the work we are already doing.

Please **remember that in accordance with K of C guidelines you cannot handout materials or confront someone entering Planned Parenthood unless you are approached by the person first** for information. **You are allowed to greet them and pray for them, but do not go beyond that unless they reach out to you.**

Membership

Our New Member Goal this fraternal year is ten (10) New Members. We currently have two (2) new members. We have 10 more months **to recruit 8 more members** and **make Star Council** again this year -with YOUR help!!

New Members must be a practicing Catholic, 18+ years of age. We need your help to **reach out to K of C “prospects”.** You will **be assisted** by our Membership Development Committee. **Please provide the name of an individual** that may/has an interest in K of C and our St Thomas More Council. **Please contact Chancellor Chris Pariseau,** at his email pariseau314@outlook.com or his telephone # **443-994-7397.** **Membership growth is essential to the success** of the Knights of Columbus. With **the addition of each new member,** the Order can better **serve the Church,** local communities and particularly **those in need**

Committee Corner Continued

Social Media

Our **Council** provides several internet opportunities to stay in touch with our Members via **Facebook, STM K of C Website, Emails, Telephone contact** and the “**Good of the Order**”.

Facebook – “KofC Council 7826”

Many thanks to **Brother Steve McElroy** and his wife, **Carol**, in managing our **FACEBOOK account**. if you need assistance to sign up on our **FACEBOOK account** or to post information - **contact Steve and Carol at his email address: mcelroyfs@verizon.net**

STM K of C Website – The STM parish web page and our STM Council 7826 website are being updated to ensure current information and events are available in a timely manner **to all members**. Many thanks to **Brother Dan Martin** for taking on the **administration of these important social media platforms** for our Council. **Our Council website address is www.kofc7826.org. Please use this website and pass it along to your friends, relatives and associates** that may have an interest in the **Knights of Columbus and our St Thomas More Council**.

We are **asking all 3rd Degree Knights** to consider accomplishing **your 4th (Patriotic) degree** – and join the Our Lady of Charity Council 3089. **This is a separate degree ceremony and must be scheduled** with FL State/ District..

We have the need on many of our committees for new members. To our new members, this is a great way to become involved in our Council activities. **Please see Deputy Grand Knight Charlie Culkin and Chancellor Chris Pariseau** to assist you in joining a committee.

Council Good of the Order

Good of the Order List. Please include the following individuals in need of our prayers:

John & Kay Maier
John McAlonie
Erin McAlonie Brady (daughter of John McAlonie)
Alec & Shirley Berardinelli
Janek Jakubiuk
John & Craig Spinale (John's son)
Rose Marcella (wife of Richard Marcella)
Carol & Kim Wojtyna
(daughter of Carol & John Wojtyna)
Shirley Berardinelli (wife of Alec Berardinelli)
Sheree Levanti (wife of Ken Levanti)
Donna Woodford (wife of David Woodford)
John Baldelli (son of Charles Baldelli)
Christopher Peppard (son of Hank Peppard)
Nancy Risbano (wife of George Risbano)
Ted Bogusz
Dan Borgmeyer
Ruth Walsh
Ron McCluskey
Fr. Gordon Zanetti
Judy Moore (wife of Joe Sommer)
Deane MacGillis (wife of Roy)
Gary Ellis
Pasquale Guadagno
Don & Jeanne Leonard
Leon Leroux
Dave Bracy
Jeff Nociolli & Family

PLEASE NOTE:

The funeral Mass for Brother Lee Dusoe will be held at St. Thomas More **on September 11th at 9:00 a.m. Dress code is Council shirt and slacks.**

If you **know of any Brother Knight in need**, let us know, and **we will make sure that he is contacted.** If you have any questions or needs, **please contact me** (Ralph Neller, Grand Knight) at my email address **rneller65@outlook.com** or my **mobile 513-708-0528.**

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Brother James Alexander and his son Jared for their kind assistance with this Newsletter!

Council Birthdays

Please join in recognizing the following Knights celebrating birthdays in September.

September 2 – Stephen Zavada, Jr.
September 3 – Steven Kepecz
September 6 – Stephen Cerian
September 6 – Stephen Tasch
September 9 – Kenneth Russo
September 9 – Pablo Londono
September 11 – Gary Garvin
September 11 – Christopher McDevitt
September 12 – John Spinale
September 12 – John Koitsch
September 12 – Kevin McGuir
September 14 – John Ladowicz
September 15 – Daniel Flynn
September 17 – Michael Piscopo
September 17 – Eric Dudley
September 18 – Dan Borgmeyer
September 22 – Dennis Armstrong Jr.
September 23 – Jon Engelbrektson
September 23 – Kenneth Levanti
September 24 – Thomas Flamminio
September 26 – Ronald McCluskey
September 26 – Jeb Kingseed
September 27 – John Solum
September 28 – James Alexander
September 29 – Allen Hillman III

Happy Birthday

Here is the Officer Info:

Fr. Daniel Scanlan - Chaplain
frdaniel@stthomsmoresrq.org

Ralph Neller - Grand Knight
rneller65@outlook.com

Charlie Culkin - Deputy GK
cinandchas@verizon.net

Larry Hall - Financial Sec.
hallorhall@gmail.com

Ken Berberich - Treasurer
berberichken@yahoo.com

Chris Pariseau - Chancellor
pariseau314@outlook.com

Dan Bulinski - Recorder
danb6002@comcast.net

Dave Bracy - Warden
dsbracy@comcast.net

Joe Tiffany - Advocate
iav82@yahoo.com

Derek Noll - Lecturer
derekjnoll@msn.com

Corey Devito - 3yr Trustee
cmdevito@kaighnco.com

Al Ferrigno - 2yr Trustee
A7342@gmail.com

Scott Deahna - 1 yr Trustee
scott34465@yahoo.com

Charlie Ballschmieder - Inside Guard
cjball01@verizon.net

Hank Peppard - Outside Guard
hakp7916@gmail.com

Council Upcoming Events

Thank you for your support of these futures events!

UPCOMING SOCIAL NEWS

·**The next Council Social** Event will be held on **Thursday, September 28th, at Miguel's on Siesta Key at 5:30 p.m.**
Please contact Brother Dave Bracy at [**dsbracy@comcast.net**](mailto:dsbracy@comcast.net) for reservations.

·**Our monthly "Knight's Mass will be on September 13th at the 8:00 a.m. Mass.** We will pray **the rosary** prior to the Mass **beginning at 7:30 a.m.**

·**We will hold our next Council Business Meeting on September 14th at 7:00, in the Spirit Center.**

·**Our Council will host Coffee & Donuts on Sunday, September 10th, after the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses** in the Spirit Center.

·**The next Exemplification Ceremony** for candidates is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 19th, at 6:30 p.m.**

·**The Prayer Walk for STM is scheduled for Thursday, September 28th between 9-11:00 a.m. in front of Planned Parenthood in downtown Sarasota.**

Insurance Advisor

NEWS FROM OUR FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. It's the one month each year that the life insurance industry coordinates a campaign aimed at educating folks about the importance of life insurance and helping them get the coverage they need.

Christopher Kauffman, the historian, spent several years at the Supreme Office and at the Museum, researching the book that he wrote on the 100th anniversary of our founding. That book, *Faith and Fraternism*, notes on page 35, "...he [Fr. McGivney again] spent his energy in promoting the insurance feature...his emphasis on business was his pastoral concern for the social and financial security of the family."

Fr. McGivney lived both the social and the financial insecurity of a desperate family, with the breadwinner suddenly taken, that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and support his mother and siblings. As a pastor, he didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing our Order.

Fr. McGivney lived both the social and the financial insecurity of a desperate family, with the breadwinner suddenly taken, that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and support his mother and siblings. As a pastor, he didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing our Order. Everyone who joined in those first years was insured; that was part and parcel of being in the organization. Now every member has a choice. I'd like every member to know what we do, and how we do it. Here's the process I use when I meet with families:

Insurance Advisor Continued

1. Discover – Identify their current insurance situation and financial goals
2. Gather Data – Collect facts & figures based on their current situation
3. Analyze – Conduct an Insurance Needs Analysis (Input data, run calculations, identify shortfalls)
4. Recommend – Propose appropriate KofC products to help them meet their needs and goals
5. Implement – Work with them to implement the product solution they select (take the application, etc.)
6. Periodic Review – Review regularly (at least annually) for changes in their needs and goals and make appropriate recommendations based on those changes
This is a painless process. But it can help any family, at any age, determine if they have blind spots in their coverage. It can help you avoid the pain of being underinsured. With a variety of life insurance products we offer, we can help find solutions that fit within almost any budget.

I don't know about you, but I don't want to buy life insurance...I want to buy what life insurance can provide: protection from the risk of a significant change in lifestyle for the survivors, including not being able to stay in the house where they want to be or not being able to give your daughter the wedding she's been promised, or a child the college education he or she has been promised and much more. What does life insurance provide? Peace of mind.

**That's where I can help.
Vivat Jesus!**

Yours in Christ,



Calendar - September 2023



Knights of Columbus®

ST THOMAS MORE COUNCIL #7826

SC – Spirit Center

CC – Chelsea Center

C - Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 LABOR DAY	5	6 Officer Mtg 7:00 pm SC	7	8	9 40 Days for Life Sign Up C
10 40 Days for Life Sign Up C Coffee & Donuts SC	11 Assembly Mtg: 7:00 pm Incarnation	12	13 Knight's Mass: 8:00 am Mass + Rosary C	14 Council Business Meeting 7:00 PM SC	15	16
17	18	19 Exemplification Ceremony 6:30 pm SC	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Prayer Walk: Planned Parenthood	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7