



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

April 2025

Our Lady of Victory Council 7968

&

Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789



Monthly Highlights

Birthdays and Member Anniversaries

2 April	Rosary and Holy Hour
3 April	Tribute To Mike Murphy
5 April	Remembering Tony Happel
4 & 11 April	Lenten Fish Fries for Charity Fund
8 April	Second Tuesday Food Van
24 April	Exemplification and Monthly Social
30 April	A Wonderful Event

Grand Knight – Marty Mears

Faithful Navigator – Steve Malutich

Dep Grand Knight – Logan Steele

Faithful Captain – Michael Winner

District Deputy – Travis Robinson Jr

State Deputy – Richard P. Hughes

Insurance Agent – Jeff Fischer

Newsletter Editor: Doug Shepherd Newsletter Contributor: Herb Fosman

Assembly (4th Degree) Business Mtgs are held on the **1st Thursday** of the month at 6:30PM.

Council (1st-3rd Degree) Business Mtgs are held on the **2nd Thursday** of the month at 7PM.

Council Socials are typically held on the **4th Thursdays** of the month at 6:30PM.

Council Officer Planning Mtgs are held on the **Monday before** the Assembly Mtg at 6:30PM.

All meetings are held at the Knight's Hall, 701 E. James Lee Blvd.

Grand Knight's Greetings

Greetings Brother Knights!

It that time of the year – the weather is heating up and what little of spring season we get, it is just about over and we are about to officially kick off the summer with Memorial Day.

In the meantime, I hope you are all enjoying the Easter Season and receiving all the blessings that come with it.

The 121st Annual Meeting of the Florida State Council, also known as the 2025 State Convention, will be held in Jacksonville from 23-25 May.

I am honored along with our Faithful Navigator to be representing our Council at the annual convention. This will be the first convention for us to attend, and we are looking forward to meeting Knights from all around the state. I hope to learn more about the Florida State Council, the business items, and to bring back good information and hopefully some good ideas to share.

We are finalizing our Council Officers for the next fiscal year (July 2025 – June 2026), and we are still looking for a few more volunteers. Please reach out to me if you are interested in serving in a leadership role, or if there is a project or charity that you would like to support next year.

Finally, thanks again to those of you who are always at our events, supporting bingo, helping in the kitchen, working bread ministry, food van and OLV care center – we couldn't do it without you!

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

Martin Mears

Grand Knight



Faithful Navigator's Note

Hello Brother Knights!

May God's Peace be with you and your families! Thank all of you and your spouses and in some cases children and grandchildren that helped with Lenten Fish Fries! And thank you, again, to the Sir Knights that participated in the Honor Guard for our brother Tony Happel's funeral mass and interment.



I know you have heard before that we really could use more participation in the many things we do each month. If more brothers did even one thing they are currently not doing in support of the Council or Assembly, a significant workload would be lifted from those now doing many jobs. Joseph R. Perrone Assembly is still needing a Faithful Scribe for next Fraternal Year. And I have served as Recorder for our Council going on two years now, and we are still hoping and praying one of you will choose to serve your brother Knights in that position. In addition, many other important jobs are still vacant for the next Fraternal Year. Our humble and selfless Grand Knight should not have to keep doing four jobs! We would still like to field a 4th Bingo team – need 5 people to say “yes” to make that happen. Bingo is so important to our operation and is the key enabler for making contributions to worthy charities. Come on Saturday mornings once a quarter and help clean up our section of Highway 90. First Wednesday Rosaries at OLV are a wonderful way to honor The Mother of God. Help Brother Arnie Fonseca with Youth Ministry on Wednesday evenings. Volunteer to serve on the OLV Pastoral or Finance Council.

If after praying and some nudging by the Holy Spirit about spending more of your time and effort and talent in supporting our Council and Assembly, should you decide to say “Yes”, please call or text me at 713-851-2965.

Stephen Malutich
Faithful Navigator

Insurance News

Brothers,

Start your legacy with one, single payment!

Do you want the security of knowing your life insurance is paid up with just one payment?

The Knights of Columbus Single Premium Whole Life Plan, which provides permanent protection that is guaranteed paid-up for life with one premium, can help protect your family's financial future.

Who is best suited for Single Premium Whole Life Insurance?

- Those who want the simplicity of having guaranteed coverage with just one payment.
- Those who want to make sure their family has money to sustain their financial lifestyle after the insured's death. This may include: retirement income, mortgage payments, children's college funds and final expenses.

How does it work? With one premium payment, your permanent life insurance protection is guaranteed paid-up for life.

Your policy builds cash value during your lifespan and provides an income tax-free death benefit.

Owners of this plan may be eligible to earn dividends*. These dividends can be used for multiple purposes including, but not limited to, increasing the death benefit or cash value or helping to pay premiums.

* Dividends are reviewed annually and not guaranteed.

God bless & Stay safe



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Field Agent

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Birthdays

These members are celebrating birthdays in May:

Sir Knights

4 May – Reginald Brown, Jr

24 May – Travis Robinson

26 May – Joseph Peter

27 May – Jacob Allen

29 May – William Schrader

31 May – Keith Carter

31 May – Anthony Cozzie

Brother Knights

6 May – Donald Mazerat

18 May – Barry Candage

22 May – Bryan Krall

26 May – Manuel Sandino



Anniversaries

These members are celebrating their KofC anniversary in May:

1st - 3rd Degree

43 Years – John Muller, Jr
41 Years – Arthur Saunders
40 Years – Dr. W. David Harris
31 Years – Wayne Harris
30 Years – John Libby, Sr
28 Years – John Kimble
26 Years – Lee Wooledge
24 Years – William Gartner
24 Years – Reginald Brown, Jr
24 Years – Eugene Calabro
21 Years – Rev. Florencio Lagura
21 Years – Dr. Joseph Peter
18 Years – James Nelson
18 Years – Matthew Prachar
15 Years – Wilfrido Cisneros
13 Years – Jerry Gudinas
12 Years – Jeffrey Hahr
12 Years – John Sipos
3 Years – Jared Parker
2 Years – Norbert Bigirimana
2 Years – Daniel Jimenez
2 Years – Antoine Hynson
1 Years – Germainye Hudson
1 Years – Luke O'Toole

4th Degree

51 Years – Michael Wright
21 Years – John Humphrey
19 Years – Stanley Stuffbeam
16 Years – Ricardo Arevalo
16 Years – Charles Black, Sr
16 Years – Douglas Block
16 Years – Bayani Fajardo
16 Years – Joseph Lakatos
16 Years – Travis Robinson, Jr
16 Years – Carlos Santos
16 Years – Robert Webster
16 Years – James Nelson
14 Years – Robert Groves



First Wednesday Rosary and Holy Hour

Brother Knights Logan Steele, Steve Malutich, Travis Robinson, Tony Jette and Mike Winner led the reading of the Rosary before Mass on **April 2nd**, the First Wednesday of the Month. Thank you, brothers, for representing!

Unfortunately, they were so focused on praying the rosary that no one captured any photos of them in action. But here are some official looking pictures of them:



Tribute to Mike Murphy

Most of you remember Mike Murphy who passed away on the 21st of August 2025. Mike was a dedicated member of the Knights of Columbus, (KofC). He rarely missed a meeting and was a past Grand Knight, past Deputy Grand Knight, Past Faithful Navigator and past District Deputy. Mike was always involved in KofC activities. Even when Mike came down with cancer, he struggled to do the best he could until he couldn't anymore. For all the great things Mike and his wife Sally did over the years, they were selected as Family of the Year for Fraternal Year 2011/2012 which ran from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012. Not only did they win Council Family of the Year, but they also won the Florida State Family of the Year Award, WOW!

After Mike's passing his wife Sally gave his sword to Tony Jette, the Vice District Marshal for the Panhandle region of Florida. At the 4th Degree Assembly meeting, held on **April 3rd 2025**, Sir Knight Tony Jette, presented Mike's sword to the current Faithful Navigator, Sir Knight Steve Malutich, in tribute to Mike and what he did over the years. Steve is the first recipient of the sword which will be passed on to future Faithful Navigators of the Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789, to be worn during their tenure, to keep Mike's memory and everyone who knew Mike, may be reminded of the "Great Things" that Brother and Sir Knight Mike Murphy did for Council 7968 and Assembly 7968.

Picture: The presentation of the sword.



Remembering Tony Happel

Tony Lee Happel's funeral was held at Our Lady of Victory Church on the **5th of April**. It was a beautiful event with a wonderful turnout. The Mass was officiated by Father Roy and Deacon Dan with participation by the Knights of Columbus. Following Mass Fain Yearty, Tony's Father-in-Law gave a very nice talk about Tony's life.



Picture 1 - The Knights in attendance.

Picture 2 - Father Roy and Deacon Dan.

Picture 3 - Brother Cliff Wolf read the second reading.

Picture 4 - A very nice crowd.

Picture 5 - Brother Marty Mears, the Grand Knight, presented Heather a Third-Degree Plaque.

Picture 6 - Before ending the Mass, Fain Yearty gave a great talk about Tony's life.

Thanks, Mike Winner, for providing the nice pictures.

Lenten Fish Fries

The Council's last two fish fries were held on the **4th and 11th of April**. We had a good crowd and profited approximately \$2300 each, which went into the Knight's charities fund. We want to thank all the Knights and their wives who helped to support all 7 of these fish fries. This included our pre-Lent fish fry held on the 7th of February to help remind us of what it was we had to do during the six Lenten Fish Fry dinners that began on the 7th of March. Enjoy the following pictures provided by our super photographer Mike Winner.

Picture 1 - The in-processing crew.

Picture 2 - The serving line.

Picture 3 - Travis, our fish fry cook.

Picture 4 - Our French fry crew Matt, Steve and Mike.

Picture 5 - Our kitchen crew involved in different duties.

I tried for almost an hour to get a picture of Bill, Richard and Bert into this entry, who were washing and preparing the fish for cooking, but for whatever reason I could not get that picture into this input.



The Second Tuesday of the Month

Another 2nd Tuesday was held on the **8th of April** with 37 families provided a bag of food. Those in need surely enjoy driving into the area and receiving the food put into their vehicle. They love how easy it is, and the volunteers sure enjoy helping. It is a lot of fun, and everyone gets to enjoy a free lunch. The next 2nd Tuesday will be held on 13 May, so come on out and enjoy the fun and a good lunch. The monthly volunteer group will see you all then.

Picture 1 - Neneth putting bags together for the food.

Picture 2 - The crew putting food in the bags received from Catholic Charities.

Picture 3 - Brother Travis controlling the incoming traffic.

Picture 4 - A very nice group of people waiting to receive food.

The pictures were provided by Brother John Libby, thanks a bunch John.



Exemplification

On the **24th of April**, an Exemplification was held at the Knights of Columbus (KofC) Hall in conjunction with our monthly social. As always it was a very nice event during which we welcomed two new members, John Lane and Edward Girard. Deacon Dan Dailey led the Exemplification Team by playing the role of the Presiding Officer and Chaplain. The lesson on Charity was presented by Steve Malutich, the lesson on Unity by Jim Pazienza and the lesson on Fraternity by Mark Johns. The Warden was Mike Reiss, and the Investing Officer was Marty Mears, aka the Grand Knight.

Picture 1 - The start of the Exemplification with Brother Deacon Dan starting off with a prayer and playing the role of Presiding Officer.



Picture 2 - Brother Steve reading the two parts of Charity.

Picture 3 - Brother Jim reading the part on Unity.



Picture 4 & 5 - The Warden Brother Mike shows our Candidates how individual fibers are bound together to become a strong cable which helps to demonstrate the strength men possess when united in pursuit of a common purpose.



Picture 6 - Brother Mark Johns reading the part of Fraternity.

Picture 7 - The Warden brings the candidates forward to the Grand Knight, the Investing Officer, who presents them the rosary and label pins, and asks them to carry the rosary always and to pray it as often as they can.



Picture 8 - The Presiding Officer asking brother knights and the candidates to profess their commitment to the principles of the KofC.



Picture 9 - The Presiding Officer, Deacon Dan leading the people in the Closing Prayer.



Picture 10 - A picture of the Exemplification Team, members in attendance and our two new members. We welcome John and Edward to the KofC and hope they will hold fast to our principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.



Picture 11 - Everyone enjoying a good meal after the Exemplification.



*Pictures were taken by Brother Mike
Winner, THANKS!*

A Wonderful Event

On the **30th of April**, a wonderful event was held at Tiano's Italian Restaurant in Niceville to Honor the hard-working volunteer wives of the Knights of Columbus (KofC). The idea was the culmination of several Brother Knights. We listened to nice piano music, ate a great meal, and Brother Travis Robinson represented an anonymous contributor who provided 11 "Kitchen Madonna Figurines" that were presented to the Ladies who consistently support our various activities like Tuesday night bingo, Senior Bingo, Lenton Fish Fry Dinners, Spaghetti Dinners, the VA in Biloxi. MS, etc. There were 18 of us in attendance; three others who wanted to be there couldn't make it. Again, it was a wonderful event with a gift well earned by the Ladies of the KofC.



Family of the Month

For the month of April, a very worthy family was nominated and selected as the Family of the Month, and the recognition and honor were long overdue. A long-time leader in our parish as an extraordinary Eucharistic Minister (and past coordinator of this ministry), Mrs. Bernadette (Bernie) Hudson had been a devoted and profound advocate in delivering the Gospel and Holy Communion to the elderly and infirm in our local area nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, and homebound for over thirty years. Her diligent sense of service and duty gave requesting parishioners many blessings of peace, joy and love when receiving the Bread of Life, religiously. Bernie was also a participating member in OLV's Counsel of Catholic Women and actively flourished in the sisterhood fellowship while engaging in the activities and worthy fundraisers the CCW prioritizes. Furthermore, for many years, Mrs. Hudson actively ministered to OLV's middle and high school students as the Director of Youth Ministry.

As a mother and Grandmother, Bernie is the family "Rock" keeping and leading her children and grandchildren in the Catholic Faith by living it every day. Her oldest daughter, who was a Sacristan at OLV, has two children. Her second daughter has six children. All six kids grew up in Religious Education through the years. Currently, the oldest son has been Exemplified as a 3rd Degree Knight with OLV's Knights of Columbus Council 7968 last year. The second oldest (daughter) has been helping with the Vacation Bible School at OLV. The next three children are active in the Youth Ministry and Altar Servers, and one also participates in the Church's Hospitality (Ushering) Ministry.

Family Director, Brother Mike Winner presenting the Hudson Family with the FoM Award.



Knight of the Month

Brother Robert (Bob) Foley was selected as Knight of the Month for April. Bob volunteers at the Church's Food Pantry aka 'OLV Care Center' every Tuesday from 10 AM to 12:30 PM and every Wednesday from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Bob was in an automobile accident years ago and injured his right leg, but even with a partially disabled leg he still passes out food to the needy and delivers it, in most cases, to the Individual's car. Bob also works bingo every Tuesday night walking throughout the Council Hall selling pull tabs from 4 to 7 PM. We sure appreciate all that Bob does to help the church and Knights of Columbus, and he has done this continuously for years now.



Grand Knight Marty Mears Presenting Bob Foley with the Knight of the Month Certificate.

Prayer of the Month

“The Weaver”

Also known as “The Tapestry Poem”

By Grant Colfax Tullar (1869-1950)

My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me;
I cannot choose the colors
He weaveth steadily.

Of times He weaveth sorrow
And I, in foolish pride,
Forget He sees the upper
And I the underside.

Not 'til the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unroll the canvas
And reveal the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the weaver's skillful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.

He knows, He loves, He cares,
Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those
Who leave the choice to Him.

If you would like to submit a prayer to be shared in the newsletter,
please email mr.doug@outlook.com