



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

CENTRAL POINT, OR.  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
ST. AUGUSTINE COUNCIL NO. 11258  
VOL. 31, NO. 3, 2026

**MEETING**  
TUESDAY MARCH 3  
**PARISH CENTER**

Our next Council meeting will take place in the Parish Center this coming Tuesday, March 3rd. The evening begins with a pizza supper at 6:30 pm followed by the meeting at 7:00 pm. The meeting and talk will be available by Zoom at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88331277609>

**UPCOMING:**

- Sat-Sun Feb. 28 -Mar 1 Food Bag Distribution
- Tues. March 3 Council Meeting
- Sat-Sun March 7-8 Food for Families Collection
- Sunday March 15 St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- Thurs. March 19 Fourth Degree Meeting
- Tues. March 31 Officers' Meeting
- Tues. April 7 Council Meeting



PASSING THE HAT: A KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS TRADITION

In the course of Fr. Silverino's priestly ministry, he has founded or aided schools serving thousands of Uganda students. At our upcoming March 3rd Council Meeting, we will be passing the hat to collect donations to assist with a new and pressing project, described more fully on p. 2 of this newsletter.

**Annual St. Patrick's Dinner**  
Hosted by Knights of Columbus  
**Sunday, March 15 at 5:00PM**  
Shepherd of the Valley Parish Hall  
*All proceeds will benefit  
the Learning center*

**Tickets Available after Masses**  
3/7 - 3/8 & 3/14 - 3/15  
Adults \$15.00  
12 & Under \$8.00  
Family \$40.00

Traditional Corned beef & Cabbage  
Baby Red Potatoes & Carrots, Rolls,  
Dessert & Beverages  
**BINGO TO FOLLOW.**



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for the health of:

Fr. Silverino  
Don Nadeau  
Matt Sekreta  
Rich Thelen  
Julie Wertepny  
Rudy Wertepny  
Tracy Davy  
Jerry Pendzick  
John Plunkett  
Gary Miller  
Ed Daniels

Anyone who knows of other knights or family members in need are asked to contact our Chancellor, Jared Lauderdale at (541) 5423-3335.

## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Joe Thibault  
Ryan Castillo  
Jim Leannah  
Paul Steckbauer  
Chris Esser  
David Ford  
Ricardo Cervantes  
Gary Goldman  
Randy Steinbach  
Rudy Wertepny  
Jeff Lloyd  
Russ Morrison  
Richard Morris  
Harlan Bittner  
Nick Erno  
Jon Sandlin



### BRIGHT STAR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Shown above are the children of Bright Star Primary school in Fr. Silverino's home village of Rushebeya, Uganda. The school's recent performance in national exams has led to a surge in student body enrollment from 280 to 395 students. With not enough classrooms available the directors of the school have decided to purchase large meeting tents to serve as classrooms. The complete project, including benches and desks will cost \$6500 and donations are welcome.



# THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN HYMNS AND CHANT PART II:

## **THE HAGIA SOPHIA**

By  
Andres Oropeza

The Hagia Sophia (Greek for Holy Wisdom), also known as “the Great Church,” was designed by architects Isidore of Milus and Anthemius of Tralles, and was the third church to occupy the location. After the previous church had been destroyed by insurrectionists in the Nika Riots (532 AD), which left large swaths of Constantinople in ruins and almost overthrew his regime, Emperor Justinian wanted to build a church that would stand for all of Byzantium, the Eastern Roman Empire. He set out to establish an everlasting bulwark in which he would unify the empire, both church and state.

For nearly ten centuries the Hagia Sophia remained the central hub of religious, political, and cultural life until the Muslim invaders under Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II overtook Constantinople on May 29, 1453. The Sultan converted the Hagia Sophia into a mosque, which involved actions interpreted as desecration by some, such as plastering over Christian mosaics, removing altars, and adding minarets.

The materials of which the grand Cathedral was originally built were just as exquisite as the building itself and further cemented its preemi-



*An artist's conception of the Hagia Sophia [Church of Holy Wisdom] as it appeared while still a Christian sanctuary in the fifteen century.*

nence—Eight green Verde Antique marble columns from the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, Eight purple Imperial porphyry columns from Heliopolis in Egypt, yellow Aleppo limestone from Syria.

The Hagia Sophia was completed in 537 AD and took five years and 10 months to complete. It was so impressive that upon inspection Emperor Justinian reportedly said, “Solomon, I have surpassed thee!” After several earthquakes struck the cathedral in 557 AD, the dome collapsed a year later. It was if God Himself was saying, “Emperor Justinian, I had, have, and

will always surpass thee!” The restoration of the dome was completed in 562 AD by Isidore the Younger, the nephew of Isidore of Miletus.

The dome is the central feature of the basilica—measuring approximately 102 feet in diameter. It seems to float in mid air due to the ring of 40 windows, and soars to a height of 182 feet. Its broad base and the unparalleled use of pendentives and curved triangular supports, allow for a nearly seamless transition between the dome and the structure beneath.

The Hagia Sophia remained the largest cathe-



*The interior of the Hagia Sophia shapes the choral music that that is performed here.* Robert Knight Photo.

dral in the world for almost 1,000 years until the Seville Cathedral was completed in the year 1520. As we have seen in Part I of this series, the architecture of the places in Christians met had a great impact on the musical style of their hymns. The Hagia Sophia is a great example of this.

The Reverberation Time (RT60) of a structure refers to the length of time it takes for a sound

to fade away once the source has stopped producing the sound or for the sound pressure level to drop by 60 decibels (dB).

While the modern concert hall has a reverberation time of just two seconds, the RT of this grand basilica was 11-12 seconds. This means that if you were to sing a note within its walls, you would continue to hear that note for up to 12 seconds after you stopped singing. This is due to three primary causes; the materials it was constructed with, the internal size of the structure, and the geometry of the dome.

The polished marble, glass, and gold mosaics served to reflect almost 100% of sound back into the space. Since RT corresponds directly to the volume of a space, the Hagia Sophia's cubic volume of approximately 5,300,000 to 8,800,000 cubic feet means that sound waves must travel a long distance before making contact with a surface and losing energy, reverberating back and forth before finally dying out.

The shape of the dome and semi-domes acted like acoustic lenses, focusing sound back to the nave below. An acoustic waterfall effect is also created, in which the sound rushes up and impacts the surface of the dome which causes it to cascade down in a condensed, convergent tumult of echoes, obscuring its source.

If regular, everyday music were to be sung within the walls of the Hagia Sophia, the sound would be so obscured that the result would be a watery emulsion of words that would be virtually unintelligible. These acoustic effects

necessitated the further development of a style of chant, specially suited to be sung within; Byzantine Chant.

**(To be continued.)**

## **THE 2026 KNIGHT PRAYER BOOK: A GUIDE FOR ALL SEASONS**

The Knights' "Vivat Jesus" prayer Book is a yearly spiritual planner designed for Catholic men (and families) to deepen their prayer life. The beautifully-printed 130 page guide features daily plans, monthly challenges from the Supreme Chaplain, reflections on the lives of the saints, and prayers for every day of the year. This tool for spiritual growth also provides direction for practices such the Daily Examination of Conscious and Scriptural Prayer. English and Spanish versions are on sale at St. Augustine Council meetings for \$5.

