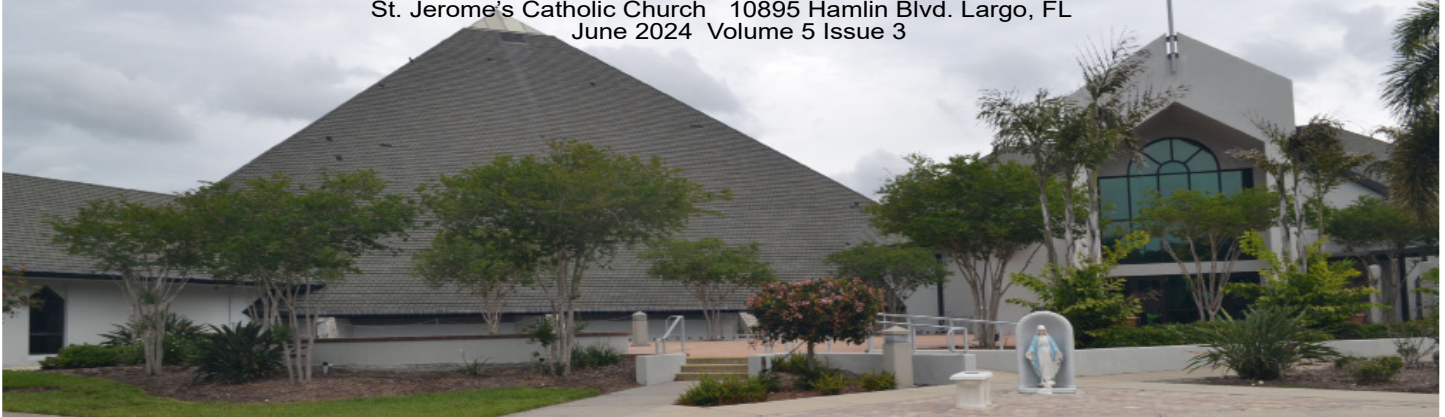


# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL  
June 2024 Volume 5 Issue 3



## Origins of Father's Day

The campaign to celebrate the nation's fathers did not meet with the same enthusiasm—perhaps because, as one florist explained, "Fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have." On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the nation's first event explicitly in honor of fathers, a Sunday sermon in memory of 362 men who had died in the previous December's explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah, but it was a one-time commemoration and not an annual holiday.

The next year, a Spokane, Washington, woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, one of six children raised by a widower, tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother's Day for male parents. She went to local churches, the YMCA, shopkeepers and government officials to drum up support for her idea, and she was successful: Washington State celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day on June 19, 1910.

Many men, however, continued to disdain the day. As one historian wrote, "Men scoffed at the holiday's sentimental attempts to domesticate manliness with flowers and gift-giving, or they derided the proliferation of such holidays as a commercial gimmick to sell more products—often paid for by the father himself."



When World War II began, advertisers began to argue that celebrating Father's Day was a way to honor American troops and support the war effort. By the end of the war, Father's Day may not have been a federal holiday, but it was a national institution. In 1972, in the middle of a hard-fought presidential re-election campaign, Richard Nixon signed a proclamation making Father's Day a federal holiday at last. Today, economists estimate that Americans spend more than \$1 billion each year on Father's Day gifts. This year's Father's Day will be Sunday, June 16.



### FROM AROUND THE WORLD OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

Crown restored to Marian statue at Michigan parish after missing for 44 years

LEGO announces Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral set

Tabernacle untouched at Oklahoma parish hit by powerful tornado

Vatican opens photographic exhibition on effects of climate change

South Carolina to ban sex-change treatments on minors

Pope Francis on record-low fertility rate: 'Human life is not a problem, it is a gift'

Orthodox Church ordains female deacon

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. endorses unrestricted abortion 'even if it's full term'

Uganda's Catholic dioceses notified of limited stock of altar wine for Mass

# FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete McCabe

**B r o t h e r Knights:** First I would like to thank you all for your continued support of this council as we conclude our fraternal year on June 30. It has been a year of highs and

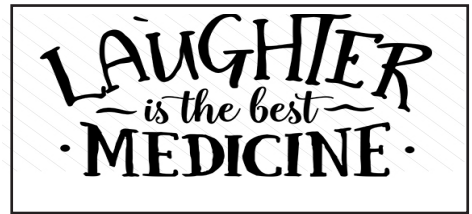
lows. The highs are the great programs in Faith, Family, Community, and Life that we have supported and participated in throughout the year. These were all funded through our Bingo revenues. Bingo has allowed this council to help so many people inside and outside our parish. The lows have been those brothers we have lost this past year: Chuck Lake, Pat O'Leary, and David Bright. They are with our Lord cheering us on.

With elections now behind us, we begin our next fraternal year on July 1. I thank you for the confidence in granting me another year to serve this council. We will once again vote on our next budget at the June 12 general meeting. You will receive a copy of that budget to review soon.

Please come prepared to participate in the future of your council. Additionally, we will conduct our Installation of Officers at the August 14 general meeting because I will be out of town in July. Denise and I will be on back-to-back cruises over 5 weeks, and we could use your prayers for safe travels.

A focus for the next fraternal year is on membership. You have heard me say before (and I will say it a lot, moving forward) that "Quality is more important than Quantity." Our membership drives should seek members who are interested in participating in our council activities. We should be asking each new candidate: How can you contribute to our council programs? We are NOT asking for 100 percent participation from anyone. We are asking for everyone to pick ONE thing they can do: go to a general meeting, help clean the grotto, participate in one of our many program activities, help at breakfast or at bingo. The list of things to do is long but just pick one to pitch in and help. The council would be a force for good and our reach could be so much longer. Supporting our clergy and parish is our mission. Let's work together to make a difference.

Once again, thank you all for all you do!



Edna, where are my golf clubs?

# FROM THE DESK OF THE COLUMBIETTES

The Divine Mercy of Jesus Columbiettes are concluding their first year as an auxiliary.

It has been an exciting year of organization, service, learning, and faith as well as a year of growing friendships, commitment, and assistance to the Knights and other ministries. One of the highlights of the first year is the tremendous success of the Columbiettes' first fundraiser, Fun Trivia Night on April 20.

The election of officers was conducted in May. The new board members are Claudia McClelland, President; JoEllen Abou-Nader, Vice President; Carrie Zdrubecky, Secretary; Debbie James, Financial Secretary; Bonnie Prudlow, Treasurer; Rachel Keeser, Sentinel. The Columbiettes are looking forward to their second year as a successful auxiliary!



A group of friends playing trivia.

## Knight of the Month Brother Pete Ganio



GK Pete McCabe and Pete Ganio

Brother Pete Ganio is the April Knight of the Month. Pete is the council's Community Director. In this position, Pete has put together some great programs for the council (such as the Coats for Kids program).

Recently, Pete reached out to the Young Adult Group at St Jerome. This group of 18- to 30-year-old Catholic men and women meet for Mass and Bible Study.

Also, Pete organized a bowling night for the Knights to meet these outstanding young people. The council paid for the Young Adult Group to bowl while the Knights paid their own way. It was a fun night and we received great feedback from the group.

The council hopes to continue this camaraderie with the Young Adult Group in the future.

Besides his work as the Community Director, Pete also finds time to help with other council events (such as setting up for Bingo on Wednesdays) all the while working full-time.

Brother Ganio's dedication to our council is inspiring.



Welcoming Banner

## New Officers Elected

At our regular general meeting on May 8, our council voted for the next slate of officers for the 2024/2025 fraternal year (July 1 2024 - June 30 2025). Here are the results:

Grand Knight	Pete McCabe
Deputy Grand Knight	Bill Bannon
Chancellor	Greg Musick
Recorder	Rocco Totino
Treasurer	Rich Pettit
Advocate	Gregg Appel
Warden	Joe Ghezzi
Inside Guard	Wayne Nuñez
Outside Guard	Joe Moore
1 Year Trustee	Rick Hendrickson
2 Year Trustee	Bill McClelland
3 Year Trustee	Jim Patton

Please congratulate these brothers but more important, please provide your support to help them fulfill their duties. The council will have another great year if everyone pulls together.

The installation of officers will take place on August 14.

With a new fraternal year means a new council budget. That will be sent out for everyone to review prior to the next general meeting on June.12. Hopefully you can make it to that meeting and participate in the important vote to approve the council budget.

~~GK Pete McCabe

## 2024 Florida State Council Convention Held May 24-26

The Florida State Council held its 120th Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida, at the end of last month. It was filled with some highs and lows. Unfortunately, our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Bill Bannon, and his wife JoAnn got sick and had to cancel at the last minute. Brother Bill and the Grand Knight, Pete McCabe, were our Council's delegates to the convention.

At the convention, the district delegates sit in the same row. Unfortunately, our Grand Knight was the only delegate that showed up from District 42. Finally, our Worthy District Deputy, Pete Grasso, and his wife, Dawn, were caught in I-4 traffic for a number of hours and did not arrive at the convention until Friday evening. Despite these setbacks, the convention was well worth attending.

On Friday, May 24, the Grand Knight attended a Cor workshop. Cor is a Supreme faith program that is for all men of the parish, not just for

Knights. Cor, simply put, is a program to develop your faith formation, prayer, and fraternity. The Grand Knight brought some material back from the Convention and it will be discussed at upcoming meetings.

On Saturday, May 25, the agenda consisted of various program reports, awards, resolutions, and voting. Speaking of awards, our council received two awards. We received a first-place award for our Life Activities and a second-place award for our Faith Activities. Please reach out and thank our Life Program Director, Brother Kevin Manning, and our Faith Program Director, Brother Pete Nunes, for their efforts. As for voting, the current slate of officers for the Florida State Council was retained for another year.

The Convention concluded with a Mass on Sunday morning. If you have any questions about the Convention, please see our Grand Knight or District Deputy. They will be happy to expand on the Convention.



Worthy DD Pete Grasso  
and Worthy GK Pete McCabe



Denise McCabe and Dawn Grasso

# Pro-life 'Baby Olivia Act' signed into Tennessee law



In a press release following the decision, Founder and President of Live Action Lila Rose called the state legislature's decision to pass the Act "a crucial step toward educating students about the incredible process of human development in the womb."

"I applaud the Tennessee state legislature," she stated in the release, adding: "By ensuring that all students in Tennessee are provided with accurate information about human development, we are empowering future generations to understand and respect human life."

Rose noted that the state's decision sets a precedent for other states to follow, potentially setting the ball rolling for setting new education standards across the US. Tennessee joins North Dakota in its decision to mandate a more comprehensive approach to education on human development.

"This is just the beginning of ensuring every American student has access to accurate information on when human life begins and how it develops," she said. "I encourage our other 48 states to follow the forward-thinking lead of Tennessee and North Dakota."

Reviewed and accredited by licensed professional OBGYNs, Live Action created its Baby Olivia video in order to demonstrate, with scientific accuracy, that life begins at the moment of conception, and to "show the humanity of the preborn throughout each stage of human development."

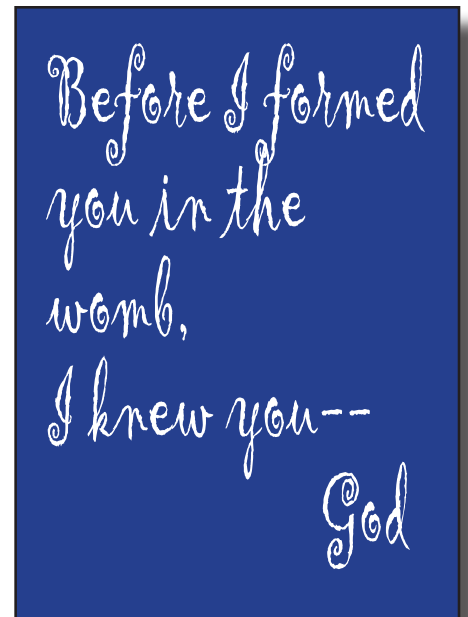
"The fruits of including Meet Baby Olivia as a part of every family life curriculum used in Tennessee's public schools will be long-lasting and widespread across Tennessee," Rose concluded.

**A Never Before Seen Look At Life In The Womb | Baby Olivia**  
<https://youtu.be/S-IQOooYAs8>

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee signed a new law requiring public schools to show students video representation of fetal development as a part of its family life curriculum.

Lee signed HB 2435/SB 2767, otherwise known as the Baby Olivia Act after the Live Action video that inspired it, on April 23. The legislation will take effect in the next 2024-2025 school year.

The Act specifies that schools must include "the presentation of a high-quality, computer-generated animation or high-definition ultrasound of at least three (3) minutes in duration ..such as 'Meet Baby Olivia,' a high-quality, computer-generated animation developed by Live Action."



# Planned Parenthood Performed More Abortions Than Ever Last Year And Got Another Raise from Taxpayers



Planned Parenthood's just-released annual report reveals that the industry giant performed a record number of abortions last year: 392,715.

And while the organization's leaders bemoan that, since the Supreme Court's ruling, "More than 20 states have banned some or all abortions." The report also reveals that the group received a hefty raise from American taxpayers.

Taxpayer funding via government grants, contracts, and Medicaid reimbursements reached \$699.3 million, as indicated in the most current report, up from \$633.4 million in 2022, and an amount that is 34% of Planned Parenthood's overall revenue.

"There's not enough outrage to force the federal government to stop subsidizing abortion," Catholic Vote Director of Government Affairs Tom McClusky said about the abortion giant's increase in taxpayer funding. Planned Parenthood has also touted that it is now the second-largest provider of transgender hormone drugs in the nation, and its current report boasts that 45 of its affiliates are now offering so-called "gender-affirming care" hormone drug treatments.

## Pregnant with Conjoined Twins, Woman Finds Powerful Strength In Her Faith

Nicole Duque, 23, has always desired to become a mother. From the day she got married at the age of 22, she and her husband, Austin LeBlanc, began trying to conceive, praying novenas for their wish to come true. After months of waiting, she finally took a pregnancy test, which came back positive.

Six weeks into her pregnancy, Duque began to experience severe nausea and lost 10 pounds. Concerned about her condition, she visited a doctor who conducted an ultrasound, which revealed she was carrying twins. However, only one heartbeat was detected during the initial test, prompting Duque to seek a second opinion.

For Duque and her husband, hearing the heartbeat at seven weeks was exciting, despite knowing there could be complications.

At 10 weeks, Duque was rushed to the hospital with severe abdominal pain. There, doctors made the difficult diagnosis that she was carrying conjoined twins, daughters joined from the chest to the navel. The diagnosis was painful: The twins shared a heart, liver, diaphragm, intestines and umbilical cord, which significantly increased the risk neither child would survive.

In the subsequent weeks, Duque faced tough challenges when some doctors questioned her about the possibility of an abortion. Despite the pressure, she never considered terminating her pregnancy.

Even though the twins were still very small, and she couldn't feel them moving, yet the idea of abortion never crossed her mind.

"I saw them both on the screen, with

their heart beating and jumping at the same time. How could I kill my babies? They were made with love; how could I kill love?"

Duque, Pro-life since childhood, seeks to honor the lives of her babies and raise awareness among young Hispanic women who find themselves in similar situations, as these topics are not openly discussed. Her goal is for her story to reach many women who are considering abortion and touch their hearts.

Although she is realistic about her babies' condition, she believes in God as the Lord of miracles and has witnessed miracles in the past during her father's illness.

One of their daughters is named Maria Teresa in honor of Mary, St. Teresa of Avila, to whom Nicole is devoted, and St. Therese of Lisieux, who was revered by her late father. Her other baby is named Rachel Clare, a more American name due to her husband's origin and inspired by Rachel, the mother of Joseph the Dreamer, and St. Clare of Assisi. Duque finds it emotional to think about Rachel because both are mothers of children destined for great things, and for her babies to also have a special mission.

Duque is currently in her 24th week of pregnancy, and the doctors have estimated that her twins may reach



Austin LeBlanc and Nicole Duque

week 35, when she will have a cesarean section.

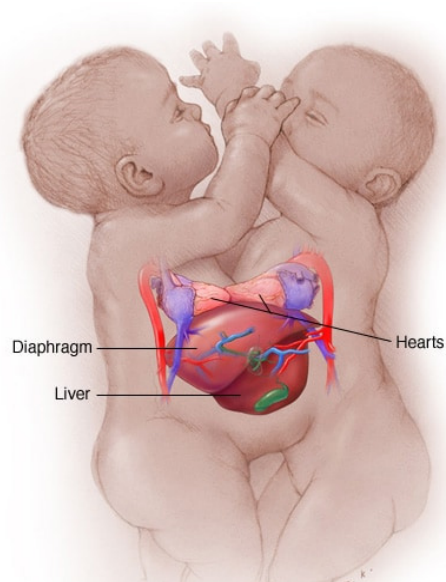
The duration of Maria Teresa and Rachel Clare's life is uncertain, but baptizing their daughters at the time of the cesarean section is of great importance to Duque and her husband. As a result, during the operation, her husband, mother, and a priest will be present.

Throughout this painful experience, God has been with Duque every step of the way. She was grateful to have the opportunity to speak with a Mexican mother who lives in Texas and is going through the exact same situation, and whose daughters are about to turn 7 months old.

"Hearing the cries of her babies in the background during our conversation has filled me with strength and hope," shared Nicole. "I continue to pray for the miracle of being able to have my daughters for as long as God allows and according to His will."



Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life



## 6 Fascinating Facts About Jonathan Roumie, The Catholic Actor Who Plays Jesus in 'The Chosen'



Jonathan Roumie is a devout Catholic actor best known for his role as Jesus in the hit series "The Chosen." The 49-year-old's popularity has spread like wildfire as the show has over 500 million views worldwide.

1. He was baptized Greek Orthodox.

Born in New York City, Roumie was baptized Greek Orthodox. After his family moved from the city to the suburbs of Long Island, his family struggled to find a Greek Orthodox church.

His father, who was born and raised in Egypt, attended Catholic school there and was familiar with the Catholic faith. His mother is a Roman Catholic from Ireland. Therefore, when they could no longer find a Greek Orthodox church, the family felt it natural to attend the local Catholic Church down the street. There Roumie made his first Communion and confirmation as a Catholic.

2. He had a powerful conversion.

While Roumie grew up Catholic, he has spoken openly about the deeper

conversion he experienced. He explains that he began growing in his faith five and a half years ago.

Roumie had been an active member at his parish and participated in several ministries such as being a sponsor in RCIA, a Eucharistic minister, and a lector. But he admits that he was not letting God take part in his career.

It wasn't until he was brought to the brink of poverty that he finally let God take complete control of his life.

Roumie shares that he woke up one day in May 2018 and was overdrawn on his bank account, had \$20 in his wallet, had enough food for the day, had rent and bills arriving, and had not worked in three weeks.

He got on his knees in front of his crucifix and poured his heart out to God. Roumie expressed that he felt an overwhelming sense of peace that everything would be okay. Later that day, he received four checks in the mail. It was then that he truly surrendered his career to God.

3. "The Chosen" is not the first time he has played Jesus. Although the dynamic duo is most well-known for their recent work on "The Chosen," Roumie's and director Dallas Jenkins' relationship goes back several years.

The two first worked together when Jenkins, an evangelical Christian, was the media director for his church. He cast Roumie to

play Jesus for a short film he made for his church called "The Two Thieves." The film told the story of the two other men who were crucified with Jesus. Soon after, Jenkins made the short film entitled "The Shepherd," which became the pilot for what became "The Chosen." Several months after its release, Jenkins called Roumie to ask if he would be interested in playing Jesus again in this new series.

4. He is outspoken in urging Christian actors in Hollywood to stand firm in their beliefs.

He discussed how the culture is at odds with faith and reminded Christian actors to look at the kind of roles they are offered and if they compromise their spirituality. He added that there are certain shows he cannot watch anymore because his spirit rejects them.

Roumie advised Christian actors to try to find Christ in each role and emphasized the importance of prayer and discernment. Roumie also shared that others in Hollywood have told him to "downplay" his faith. "I've had people say, 'you might want to downplay your faith a little bit because it's not really that's going to win you over to people in casting films and TV shows,'" he said.

"I think in Hollywood especially, people are kind of nervous about talking about their faith in a business setting," Roumie added.

"I never was. I'm happy to talk about it to anyone who wants to talk about it but getting that kind of advice was a little strange and disappointing."

5. He has a partnership with a Catholic charity helping children in need.

Roumie first began sponsoring with Unbound in 2019, financially supporting and writing letters to a child in Tanzania. Unbound is a Catholic agency that uses a network of thousands of sponsors to deliver personalized support to children, elders, and their families living in poverty in Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

In November 2023, Unbound announced that Roumie partnered with them to sponsor their one-millionth impoverished child entering the program.

6. He spoke at the 2023 March for Life in Washington, D.C., in front of thousands of pro-lifers at the National Mall in Washington D.C., about his pro-life views at the annual March for Life. He focused primarily on the spiritual battle that is taking place in United States society over abortion. He cautioned the crowd to take their faith seriously in the face of resistance, including from popular culture and the media.

"Just as God is real, Satan is also real," Roumie warned. "He pushes you to doubt when you know in your heart the right thing to do."

## What Are Marian Apparitions And How Does the Church Decide If They Are True?

Down through the centuries, there have been numerous reports of appearances or apparitions of Mary. Some of these apparitions have been accepted as worthy of belief by church authority, most especially the apparitions at Guadalupe, Mexico (1531); Lourdes, France (1858); and Fatima, Portugal (1917).

Marian apparitions are considered to

be private revelations according to what is taught in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. They don't "improve or complete Christ's definitive Revelation but help to live more fully by it in a certain period of history."

Marian apparitions can be investigated and approved by the local bishop, but in some cases, the Holy See takes over the inquiry. In 1978,

Pope St. Paul VI approved a document of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith that lays out norms for discerning apparitions.

Among the criteria used are the harmony of the messages with Catholic doctrine, the docility of the visionaries to church authority, and the signs of the supernatural.

# Images of How Our Blessed Mother and Baby Jesus Are Portrayed Around the World.



America



Native American



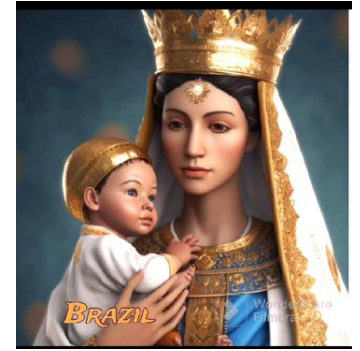
Indonesia



Poland



Mexico



Brazil



England



France



Spain



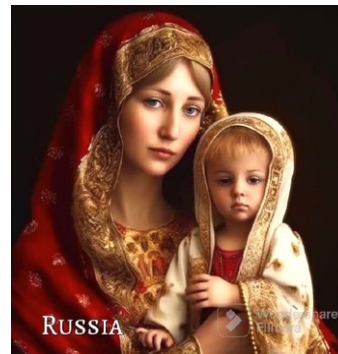
Thailand



Egypt



Japan



Russia



Africa

## Famous Catholics, Social Media Stars Express Wholehearted Support for Harrison Butker After Graduation Speech



Three-time Super Bowl Champion Harrison Butker made headlines for his commencement address at Benedictine College on May 11, 2024. Butker, a devout traditional Latin Mass Catholic attendee, husband, father, and entrepreneur, took to the stage in a somewhat untraditional speech.

"I know that my message today had a little less fluff than is expected for these speeches, but I believe that this audience and this venue is the best place to speak openly and honestly about who we are and where we all want to go, which is Heaven." He touched on the beauty of marriage, the role of husbands and wives, gender ideology, the dignity of life, and truly living out the Catholic faith. He also chastised "Catholic" President Joe Biden for his outspoken pro-choice stance as well as mem-

bers of the clergy he believes care more about political talking points and gaining popularity than leading their flock.

Former Notre Dame football coach and Hall of Famer Lou Holtz posted a note of praise, stating "Thank you for standing strong in your faith values. Your commencement speech at Benedictine College showed courage and conviction and I admire that. Don't give in."

Catholic Fox News Host Rachel Campos Duffy posted, "Outrageous. I heard the entire speech by Harrison Butker. It was 100% Catholic in its worldview. Is the NFL saying they have no place for Catholics in their organization? Why does tolerance only go one way in America? So sick of it."

Catholic actress Patricia Heaton from "Everybody Loves Raymond" said, "Harrison gave a commencement speech. The audience applauded twice during the speech and gave him a standing ovation at the end, so clearly they enjoyed what he was saying. He is espousing his own opinions and Catholic doctrine. So what?" Heaton said. "He's not a monster for stating what he believes."

Bill Maher also defended Butker on his talk show. He stated, "I don't see what the big crime is, I really don't." He also noted the irony of college leftists enraged over Butker while simultaneously demonstrating for Hamas.

"My name is Liz Wheeler. I have a

high-powered career that I love, and I totally agree with Harrison Butker."

Notable Catholic clergy also came to Burker's defense, including San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone and Bishop Joseph Strickland of Texas.

Encouraging people to read Butker's speech, Archbishop Cordileone shared Harrison's call for "...young Catholic men to put their vocations as husbands and fathers first. Surely we spiritual fathers can ponder his call to us too. Faithfulness is the way."

Bishop Strickland stated, "Thank you Harrison for speaking truth. It is no surprise that some are reacting with extreme negativity. Too many today hate the truth & merely want their version of truth which is not truth at all. You are in my prayers."

Senator Josh Hawley posted a photo with Butker, stating, "Never more proud to call Harrison Butker my friend."

Congressman Keith Stelf of Texas also shared a photo with the Chief's kicker and said, "I stand with Harrison."

Shawn Carney, CEO of 40 Days for Life, said, "The NFL has had rapists, the NFL has had people that have beaten women and we're going to attack a guy who teared up about the day that he met his future bride in middle school? Who challenges men to be good husbands and good fathers? This is who we are attacking?"

### 85 CHURCHES BURNED DUE TO CANADIAN MASS GRAVE HOAX

According to the Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations in Canada, no human remains have been discovered at the site of an alleged "mass grave" at the Indian Residential School in Kamloops in British Columbia.

On May 27, 2021, the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc First Nation claimed they had discovered the "heartbreaking truth" regarding the Catholic-run residential school after a ground-penetrating radar allegedly uncovered a mass grave of 215 children.

Three years, \$7.9 million, and at least 85 destroyed historic Catholic churches later, no human remains have been discovered, according to a May 9 report from Western Standard. Department spokesperson Carolane

Gratton stated in the report that the department had allocated the \$7.9 million to uncovering the bodies and confirmed that no progress had been made.

Davidson further noted that the alleged mass graves were not mass graves, as "the outraged left said they were," but rather, individual graves located in cemeteries. The graves, which also contained the bodies of priests and nuns, Davidson wrote, were unmarked because the government had refused to pay for headstones.

"So there was no cover-up and no mass graves, just a complicated and nuanced history. But it's a history Canada's ruling political and media elite aren't interested in exploring honestly," Davidson concluded.

**WOE TO ME IF I SHOULD PROVE MYSELF BUT A HALFHEARTED SOLDIER IN THE SERVICE OF MY THORN-CROWNED CAPTAIN.**

ST. FIDELIS



# Knights of Columbus Council 17249 St. Jerome's Parish Largo, FL



**1st row:** Knight Dave Unkrich; Sir Knight Rick Hendrickson; Knight Rick Pettit; Knight Art Corby; Knight Tim Kunish; Knight Ron Abou-Naber; Sir Knight Joe Ghezzi; Knight Wayne Nuñez; Sir Knight Edgar Lecuyer; Sir Knight Jim Patton  
**2nd row:** Sir Knight Fred Belzel; Sir Knight Greg Musick; Knight Steve Villano; Sir Knight Bill Bannon; Sir Knight Jim Cullinan; Knight Bill Woodard; Sir Knight Joe Moore; Knight Dan Timmons; Knight Bob Jodal; Knight Ed Wirth;  
**3rd row:** Sir Knight Pete McCabe; Knight Tom Giotta; Knight Pete Ganio, Jr.; Sir Knight Bill McClelland; Knight Nate Ganio; Sir Knight Paul Lee; Knight Jim Kowallek; Sir Knight Rocco Totino; Kinight Tim Condron; Knight Kevin Manning; Sir Knight Ralph Frizzle; Knight Sam Steele; Knight Mike Keeser; Knight Gene Sanders; Sir Knight Gregg Appel.

## Reception Held for Fr. Mike O'Brien

After the 4 pm Mass on Saturday, May 18, the council hosted a reception for Fr. Mike O'Brien's 45th Anniversary as a priest.

At Fr. Mike's request, the council cooked our usual breakfast of pancakes, scrambled eggs, and bacon.

Since the council was hosting the monthly breakfast the next day, we cooked 45 pounds of bacon that day. Fr. Mike informed us that he could smell the bacon cooking over at the rectory. Of course, he came by to sample the bacon and then had some more to make sure the first sample wasn't a fluke.

The reception was attended by Fr. Mike's friends and family (about 58 people) and everyone had a great time. Fr. Mike is already planning his 50th Anniversary celebration and hopefully the council can in some small way contribute to its success.



Fr. Mike prepares to cut his cake



Fr. Mile Celebrates Mass at St. Therese Byzantine Catholic Church, St Pete, FL.

## Irish Medical Council Strips Directive Banning Deliberate Killing of Patients

The Irish Medical Council has stripped a prohibition against the deliberate killing of patients.

The Medical Council said it regulates medical doctors in Ireland by way of promoting and better ensuring high standards of professional conduct, education, training, and competence among doctors.

Part of its regulation includes its Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners, which it reissues with updates periodically. The council said the guide sets out the principles of professional practice that all doctors registered with the council are expected to follow.

In the seventh edition of that document, published in 2009, the council explicitly directed that doctors may not participate in the deliberate killing of a patient by active means. The ninth edition, dated this year, however, has removed that prohibition on the deliberate killing of patients. The council said the revised guide-

lines were developed by an ethics committee chaired by its Medical Council President

In its ninth edition, similar to previous revisions, the council says that doctors play an important role in supporting patients, families, and the community to deal with death.

"One should be sensitive in discussing end-of-life options, including palliative care, and make sure that patients and their families have a clear understanding of what can and cannot be achieved," the guide says.

In Ireland several years ago, lawmakers considered what was dubbed the "Dying with Dignity Bill," a piece of legislation that if passed would have "[made] provision for assistance in achieving a dignified and peaceful end of life to qualifying persons."

That bill ultimately stalled in Parliament. At the time, the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference said the bill was fundamentally flawed and at odds with the common good. "We believe that every life has an inherent value,

which should be endorsed by society," the bishops said. "This bill, if passed, would be a sad reflection of the unwillingness of society to accompany people with terminal illness. It would reflect a failure of compassion," they said.

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland — the largest doctor's group in the country — likewise came out against assisted suicide there, with a group representative saying the practice was contrary to best medical practice and that "the potential harms outweigh the arguments that can be made in favor" of it.

A British poll last year found a majority of Britons are in favor of making assisted suicide legal. The U.K. Parliament throughout 2023 held an inquiry into assisted dying/assisted suicide in which lawmakers explored the controversial practice.

A handful of U.S. states allow assisted suicide, meanwhile, with several more considering legislation on the matter.

## Vandal Shatters Historic Marian Statue outside Catholic Church in Oklahoma

Police are investigating an incident of vandalism that took place last week in Oklahoma, where a suspect forcibly toppled and broke a historic statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a statue of the Holy Family outside of a Catholic church.

The vandalism took place at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Upon discovering the toppled statues, the parish reported the vandalism, which was caught on security cameras, to local police.

Three people were seen on camera when the vandalism took place, but only one of them is reportedly seen damaging the statues.

Associate pastor Fr. Robert Dye told a local news outlet, "It looks like



someone came up to both statues and pushed them over. One of them, you can see him pushing hard. It took some effort since it was bolted down."

The statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which parish members said was more than 100 years old, was found

shattered on the sidewalk by the church.

"I just remember how beautiful she is. She just had the most beautiful face ever," a parishioner said, describing the historic Marian statue. "It's just breaking my heart."

The other toppled statue, which depicted Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, was knocked into a flower bed. According to Muskogee Phoenix, the statue of the Holy Family, installed only a few months ago, was "mostly intact."

The statue of the Holy Family is valued at \$1,200, and the historic statue of the Blessed Virgin is valued up to \$10,000. Neither statue had any graffiti on them, Fr. Dye noted.

Our unknown future is secure in the hands of our all-knowing God.

Contentment is not having everything you want  
but having everything you need.

## Brothers, Here is a list of upcoming June events

<p><b>Saturday, June 1</b> Landscaping at the church (bring gloves, something to kneel on, shovel), 8:30 am - 11:30 am</p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 5</b> Officers' meeting, 7 pm</p> <p><b>Thursday, June 6</b> Bingo (team B), show up at 11 am</p> <p><b>Saturday, June 8</b> Grotto cleanup (bring gloves, something to kneel on), 8 am</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, June 12</b> General meeting, 7 pm</p> <p><b>Thursday, June 13</b> Bingo (team A), show up at 11 am</p> <p><b>Sunday, June 16</b> Msgr Muldoon Anniversary, 10:45 Mass and reception to follow (please bring appetizer)</p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 19</b> Reset PC for Bingo, 4 pm</p>	<p><b>Thursday, June 20</b> Bingo (team B), show up at 11 am</p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 26</b> Reset PC for Bingo, 4 pm</p> <p><b>Thursday, June 27</b> Bingo (team A), show up at 11 am Happy Father's Day to all. Hope you can help. It is always great to see our brother Knights. Pete McCabe, GK</p>
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# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



## Council 17249 Divine Mercy of Jesus Officers for 2024-2025

<p>Worthy Chaplain Worthy Grand Knight Worthy Deputy Grand Knight and Program Director Worthy Chancellor Worthy Recorder Worthy Financial Secretary Worthy Treasurer Worthy Advocate and Membership Director Worthy Warden Worthy Inside Guard 1 Worthy Outside Guard 1-year Trustee 2-year Trustee 3-year Trustee Worthy District Deputy Field Agent Newsletter Editor</p>	<p>Deacon Fred Kunder Sir Knight Pete McCabe Sir Knight Bill Bannon  Sir Knight Greg Musick Sir Knight Rocco Totino Sir Knight Fred Belzel Knight Richard Pettit Sir Knight Gregg Appel Pgk  Sir Knight Joe Ghezzi Knight Wayne Nunez Sir Knight Joe Moore Sir Knight Rick Hendrickson Sir Knight Bill McClelland Pgk Sir Knight Jim Patton Sir Knight Pete Grasso Pgk Knight Tony Crevello Knight Jim Hand</p>
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