



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



**MARCH 2025  
NEWS & NOTES**

**COUNCIL #5644 1330 SUNSHINE AVE. LEESBURG, FLORIDA 34748**

<b>GRAND KNIGHT</b> Ken Lynch (617) 839-3790	<b>DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT</b> Dick Davis (352) 638-0557	<b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</b> Tom Diemer (352) 267-9502	<b>INSURANCE AGENT</b> Kevin Maxwell (850) 323-1020
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**A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT**

We soon will begin the Lenten Season of 40 Days of sacrifice. Lent gives each of us an opportunity to take a step closer to our Lord. Many people during this time give up something such as sweets, fast food, television, coffee or alcohol. These can be difficult to give up and are signs of sacrifice.



My mother knew I would not be able to commit to giving up anything for 40 days, so I was always assigned a new chore which became permanent after Easter. I would like to suggest instead of giving up, consider taking up something, as Jesus took up his cross for us. Possibly take up going to daily Mass, being kinder to other people, doing charitable works, or simply praying more. We can follow in the footsteps of the Lord and take on a self-giving way of life. Lent gives us the opportunity to make changes. You may have figured out where I am going with this. Why not take time in Lent to “step-up” and help our council, parish, community. One way of doing this could be to volunteer with our council. We have many opportunities for volunteers in March with our fish fries, St. Paul School events. Whatever you decide to do for Lent, I hope you reach Easter filled with the joy of Christ risen.

Our elections for Council Officers are quickly approaching. The first of three opportunities of nominations begin in March, please consider “stepping-up” by taking a more active role, whether as an Officer, Program Director, or Chairman of a task (hint: Keep Christ in Christmas billboard). I guarantee you will be rewarded in more ways than you know. These are truly volunteer leadership positions that make a difference in so many people's lives. Isn't that what Knights have signed up to do?

Lastly, we should all complete the Safe Environment Program, including being accredited, click the link below for Self-registration: (<https://www.kofc.org/en/safe-environment-program/training.html>)

God Bless you and your family during this Lenten Season.

**Vivat Jesus,**

*Ken Lynch*, Grand Knight



**Honorees**

Knight of the Month (Pg. 2)



Family of the Month (Pg. 2)





**“DO YOU NOT HAVE  
ONE HOUR TO  
SPEND WITH ME”  
EVERY FRIDAY  
9am Until 12 Noon  
**St. Paul’s Church**  
**Exposition & Benediction**  
**Everyone Welcome!****



Council #5644 Website  
KofC5644.org

Florida State Website  
FloridaKofC.org

Supreme Website  
KofC.org



## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Tom & Carol Cane, **Thelma Cecil**, Ryan Cimino, **James & Karen Croson**, Pat Detweiler, **Tom Diemer**, Anthony Durkin, **William Ehrbar**, Stephen Gabriel, **Susan Gaucher**, Ron Golembiowski, **Terry Graham**, Maria Iturbe, **Barbara Klein**, +Ronald La Pierre, **Dixie, Edward, Kathy, Ken & Marianne Lynch**, George & Linda Mello, **Bob Nixon**, Don & Lucy Oblazney, **Greg & Mark Ochalek**, Dawn Pauline, **Fr. Vincent Pierino**, Susan Polito, **Al Ragona**, Larry Regan, **Doug Rollins**, Tom Schweitzer, **Kathleen Skoblicki**, Kelly & Sharon Way, **Mel Weaver**, Fran Wolman, **Haley Williams**, Joan Woodson, **Walt & Marilyn Young**, Vincent & Mary Clare Zedler.



## KNIGHT OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

February Knight of the Month is SK Ray Crowell. Brother Ray has been a Knight for 45 years and a Sir Knight 14 years. He volunteers as Usher Captain for the 9am Mass; there he meets & greets all parishioners and has become an ace recruiter for new Knights, helping the Council make their quota almost securing the Star Council Award. Ray is also the council Faith Director, bringing us the Silver Rose and Sacred Heart Icon.

Your service to the Church and to the Knights is greatly appreciated. Congratulations on being selected Knight of the Month for February 2025!

## FAMILY OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

February Family of the Month are SK Gary & Martha Ann Edwards. Brother Gary has been a Knight 25 years and Sir Knight 24 years. Martha Ann is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary. They both support all of the council Socials, and readily volunteer when a call goes out for help with St. Paul Catholic School events like the STEM Activity Night, Basketball Freethrow Contest, Game Night; And parish functions: Trunk or Treat and Picnic.

Your service to the council and the parish are greatly appreciated! Congratulations on being selected the February 2025 Family of the Month!



## LADIES' AUXILIARY

Greetings,  
The KofC Ladies' Auxiliary had a successful meeting on Feb. 13th and

planned for volunteers for the Polish Dinner on the 15th and the future Lenten dinners in the month of March. We look forward to working alongside the Knights and the Youth Group, as the Fish Dinners' net proceeds will be dedicated to the Youth Groups' Mission Trips. The next meeting for the Ladies' Auxiliary will be April 10th and the date for Election of Officers. ALL positions are up for election. There should be no hard feelings towards any challengers for any positions. Those winning their election will be installed at the June 12th meeting. We will look forward to planning the 2025/2026 Calendar of Activities.

Please pray for those suffering and especially those in quiet. Pray for the conversion of evil to Faith and Love for one another. Our Prayer Warriors have definitely made a positive impact on those in need.

**Cindy Diemer & Joyce Collins - Co-Presidents**

**Faith over Fear in ALL Things... Always!!**

email: [ladiesaux5644@aol.com](mailto:ladiesaux5644@aol.com)



**"Carry it with you**

Always...

And Pray it

Often!



**SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE:**  
**2025 Tickets SOLD OUT!**



### March 2025 Winners

- 1st Prize - \$75.00: #202 Kelly & Sharon Way
- 2nd Prize - \$50.00: #009 David Champagne
- 3rd Prize - \$25.00: #089 Ellen Thayer
- 4th Prize - \$10.00: #335 Christine Malone

~~~~~  
The Knights graciously thank you for your Continued Support of this Program!!  
God Bless you!!

## Membership Meeting Highlights

The February Membership Meeting was held the 19th, in the BMMMC; meetings are held the 3rd Wed. if no federal holiday; Food Service: 5:30 to 6:15pm, Rosary 6:30pm, Membership Meeting 7pm.

**New Exemplification of Charity~Unity~Fraternity; All 1st & 2nd Degree Knights are encouraged and reminded they can immediately advanced to the 3rd Degree by merely attending an Exemplification; If you have not yet attained your 3rd Degree, sitting through this 30 minute ceremony automatically advances you! Contact your Grand Knight Ken Lynch.**

The GK opened meeting with Prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance; the Charter was draped for two recently deceased brothers: Michael Jimenez (1/19) & Ernie Little (2/14), w/prayer for the repose of their souls; prior Minutes were approved;

- GK report: Recap of events: Polish Dinner was a success; Upcoming: Parish Picnic 2/23, we're cooking hamburger sliders & hotdogs; Citizens with Disabilities Campaign at all Masses 3/1-2; Ash Wednesday serving Soup-n-Sandwich 3/5; Lenten Fish Fries - cooking 3/7,14,21,28 and 4/7 & 14; we'll Host the Silver Rose on Tuesday 3/11, 6pm; Tony Lause is the new Apparel Director; looking for a Keep Christ In Christmas billboard chairman;
- Treasurer: Report on accts, running a deficit;
- Faith Director: YouCat books for Confirmation students received, once tagged will be given to Dan Gonzalez; Silver Rose Prayer Service 3/11, start getting the word out; Seminarian Stipend to be given to John Triolo (Support Vocations Prgrm);
- Scholarship Raffle: 2026 Ticket "at Mass" Sales booked for same weekends, 11/29-30 and 12/6-7;
- 4th Degree: Coffee & Donuts at VA Clinic first Fridays, 8:30 to 10:30; doing lunch 3/6 for Habitat for Humanity college volunteer group U. of Toledo; Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics FL, raised over expectations, Chris Berens' grp \$6,000;
- New Business: voted to give Seminarian Stipend to Reverend Mister John Triolo; voted to buy vinyl signage promoting the Fish Fries by the Council;
- DD: reviewed two Protocols that have been lacking lately: salute to GK, respect of the office; Star Council is close, need a program director and he must pass the safe environment certification;
- Good of the Order: Tom Diemer
- Attendance Drawing \$27, was Not Won by Georg Couturier; 50/50 - \$40 was handed to Tony Lause; 20 were present, meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

**Next Membership Meeting:  
Wednesday, March 19th, 2025**



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



|                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Harley D Burkett      | 16 <sup>th</sup> Vincent F Zedler 84 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Gary R Edwards       | 17 <sup>th</sup> Charles M Baxter    |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Georg J Couturier    | 19 <sup>th</sup> Stephen J Bradley   |
| Lawrence B Rinehart                   | 25 <sup>th</sup> Roy R Noble 80      |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Mark A Olszewski     | 26 <sup>th</sup> John G Pauline      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Douglas E Rollins    | 27 <sup>th</sup> Richard D Davis     |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> William J Collins 82 |                                      |

### Attendance Drawing:

**\$27 was NOT Won by Georg Couturier...**

**Next month's drawing will be \$30.**

**You must be present to win!**

**50/50 Raffle: \$40 Won by Tony Lause...**

**You have to be present to play & win!**

## MEMBERSHIP

As of 2/25/2025, the Council has 164 members: 75 insurance, 89 associate; 49 Honorary Life, 6 Honorary.

*Tom Diemer, FS*



## COUNCIL SHIRTS & VESTS

**Congratulations and Thank you!  
to the Council's new Apparel Director, Tony Lause.**



**Show you're a member of the Knights of Columbus by purchasing a council shirt or vest.**



For information and ordering contact:

**Tony Lause:**  
**tonylause@gmail.com**  
**or phone: 573-346-0643**





**FREE TO BE Faithful**

"It is true that on our way we have hard battles to fight and serious obstacles to overcome, but Mary, our Mother and Queen, stays close to her faithful servants. She is always at hand to brighten their darkness, clear away their doubts, strengthen them in their fears, sustain them in their combats and trials."  
 ~ by St. Louis De Montfort (in his book: True Devotion to Mary)

Ray Crowell, Faith Director

**PGK Mark O's Corner Offering !**

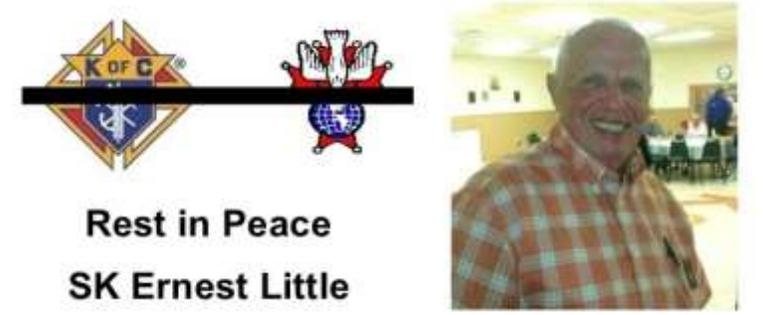
Peace be with you! There was a carpenter who had a habit of taking jobsite materials home at the end of the day. His conscience got the better of him and he went to confession. Fr. Obrien said Paddy are you sorry for what you have done and resolve not to continue; he did. Father tried to think of an appropriate penance to impose; a Rosary was not it, nor saying many Our Fathers & Hail Marys. So he asked: Paddy, have you made the Stations of the Cross? And Paddy responded: No Father, but if you have the plans, I have the lumber!

As we begin this Lenten Season, may we all resolve to be better men and women; preparing ourselves for the most Blessed and Sacred time of our calendars, Holy Week and the institution of the Body & Blood of Our Savior Jesus Christ at the Last Supper, to His ultimate Sacrifice for us on the Cross and the Glory of His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Are you ready?

Vivat Jesu! Please Pray for Vocations!




**Holy Week**



**Rest in Peace**  
**SK Ernest Little**



**FIELD AGENT**

If you have any questions or concerns about your coverage, policies, or our products Please call me (850) 323-1020

*Kevin*

**KofC 4th Degree Assembly 1675**

**1975 ~ 50th Anniversary Year ~ 2025**

**Coffee & Donuts for Vets**

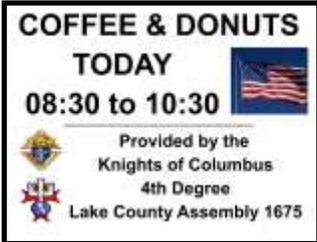
We will be at the Taveras V. A. Clinic Friday, March 7th from 8:30am until 10:30am serving coffee and donuts in appreciation to our veterans.

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Lunches will be cooked and served to the Student Volunteer Group from the University of Toledo, Thursday, March 6th and possibly Endicott College, Thursday, March 20th.

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(Assembly Meetings: 2nd Wednesdays at St. Paul's Blessed Michael McGivney Center, 1320 Sunshine Ave.)

# MARCH 2025

# APRIL 2025

Mar 1/2 8th Sun in Ordinary Time  at All Masses

Mar 3 St. Katherine Drexel 

Mar 4 St. Casimir 

Mar 5 Ash Wednesday  Soup-n-Sandwich Dinner - Holy Family Room 

Mar 7 Sts. Perpetua & Felicity  Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross  Fish Fry - School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Mar 8 St. John of God 

Mar 8/9 1st Sunday of Lent  Daylight Savings Time  

Mar 11 Silver Rose Prayer Service - St. Paul's, 6pm

Mar 12 4th Degree Meeting ~ 7pm: BMMMC 

Mar 14 Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross  Fish Fry - School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Mar 15/16 2nd Sunday of Lent

Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day  

Mar 19 St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM  Membership Meeting ~ BMMMC  Dinner 5pm ~ Rosary 6:30pm ~ Mtg 7pm 

Mar 21 Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross  Fish Fry - School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Mar 22/23 3rd Sunday of Lent

Mar 25 The Annunciation of the Lord 

Mar 28 Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross  Fish Fry - School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Mar 29/30 4th Sunday of Lent



Apr 4 St. Isidore ~ Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross ~ Fish Fry - School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Apr 5/6 5th Sunday of Lent 

Apr 7 St. John Baptist de la Salle 

Apr 12 4th Degree Meeting ~ 7pm: BMMMC 

Apr 11 St. Stanislaus ~Friday Adoration/Stations of the Cross ~ Fish Fry-School Cafeteria 5-7pm 

Apr 12/13 Palm Sunday  Hosanna  Stations of the Cross 

Apr 14-19 Holy Week 

Apr 16 Membership Meeting ~ BMMMC  Dinner 5pm ~ Rosary 6:30pm ~ Mtg 7pm 

Apr 17 Holy Thursday 

Apr 18 Good Friday ~ Passion of the Lord 

Apr 19 Holy Saturday 

Apr 19 Easter Vigil 

Apr 20 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection 

Apr 25 Friday Adoration: 9am - 12pm Church 

Apr 26/27 2nd Sun. of Easter/Divine Mercy Sun. 

Apr 28 St. Peter Chanel 

Apr 29 St. Catherine of Siena 

Apr 30 St. Pope Pius V 



Location: St. Paul Catholic Church, Leesburg, FL Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
Time: 6:00 PM Contact: Grand Knight Ron Lynch - 817-820-3190



# Knights in the News



## 2025 Polish Dinner a Success



### KNIGHTS ANNUAL POLISH DINNER

### THANK YOU



The Council's Annual Polish dinner was held on Saturday Feb. 15th. As in the past everything was prepped and cooked that day. Held in the school cafeteria it turned out to be a very successful day. Over 100 diners were served. Many of the attendees are repeat customers who look forward to the event. Father Matthew and Father Augustine came by and socialized with many of the attendees. The Ladies Auxiliary handled the 50/50 raffle and the winner donated all the money back. It was a busy but fun day!

I would like to thank the following volunteers for their extremely hard work to make the dinner a success, The Ladies Auxiliary was a great help again this year during the prep work and serving.

Thank you to the following Ladies Auxiliary members, Co President's Cindy Diemer and Joyce Collins, Jan Huber, Mary Huhn, Jo Roberts, Joanne Jennings, Ellie Scalzo, Louise Karwowski.

Thanks to the following Knights Larry Huhn, Mark Ochalek, Joe Huber, Kelly Way, Frank DeLise, Bill Collins.

Outstanding work!!!!

Tom Diemer

Chairman



St. Paul Council #5644 - St. Paul Catholic Church, Leesburg, FL



# Knights in the News



From the Desk of District Deputy Denis Milonas



**Brother Knights,**

**Lenten Reflections:**

March marks the beginning of Lent, a season of penance, fasting, and prayer. As Knights, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives and lead by example. Whether it's through extra time in prayer, acts of charity, or a renewed commitment to our Catholic values, let us take this season as an opportunity for personal and communal growth. Remember, the sacrifices we make during Lent are not just about giving something up; they are about growing closer to God and serving His people.

**Knights in Action:**

Our council has been busy with various charitable activities. From helping with parish events to supporting local families in need, our work continues to have a meaningful impact. Recently, we assisted with the parish food drive, ensuring that food donations reached families who are struggling in our community. These efforts reflect the core of our values: service, faith, and charity.

If you haven't yet become involved with a council activity, we encourage you to do so this month. Whether you have a few hours to spare or want to take on a more significant role, there's always an opportunity to make a difference.

**Membership Updates:**

As we grow in numbers, we grow in strength. If you know a Catholic man who might be interested in becoming a Knight, please invite them to one of our upcoming meetings. The Order is always looking for new members who are committed to serving their Church and community.

**Brotherhood Corner:**

As a reminder, we have a strong tradition of supporting one another. Please keep our fellow Knights and their families in your prayers, especially those who may be ill or going through challenging times. Our brotherhood is one of the greatest strengths we have, and offering support, whether in prayer, time, or tangible assistance; is part of what it means to be a Knight.

**Final Thoughts:**

March is a month of renewal—both for our faith and for our commitment to service. Let us continue to live out our vows to be men of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. As we journey through Lent, may we grow closer to God and to one another, strengthening the foundation of our Council and our community.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Knights of Columbus and to our mission of serving others. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.



**Knights of  
Columbus®**  
Florida  
State Council

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Denis Milonas**

District Deputy 23

Office Phone: 850-659-7222

Cell Phone/Text: 850-240-8422

*"We Are Here to Build the Body of Christ, which is His Church"*

**St. Paul Council #5644 - St. Paul Catholic Church, Leesburg, FL**



BLESSED  
MICHAEL MCGIVNEY  
Pray for Us!

[A Litany of Blessed Michael McGivney](#)

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us. God, the Father of heaven, have mercy on us. God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us. God, the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, ... Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelization, St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary and Guardian of the Redeemer, St. Michael the Archangel, Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us. Humble Servant of God, ... Faithful Disciple of Jesus, Son of the Immaculate Heart, Obedient Son of the Church, Exemplary Priest of Purity, Zealous Priest of Christ, Gentle Shepherd of Souls, Devoted Parish Priest, Wise Counselor, Teacher of the Faith, Servant to All, Protector of the Poor, Defender of the Widow and Orphan, Friend of the Lonely and Suffering, Companion to the Imprisoned, Comforter of the Sick and Dying, Apostle of Christian Family Life, Father to the Young, Advocate of Workers, Evangelizer of Those Gone Astray, Champion of the Gospel of Life, Guardian of the Laity, Pastor of Immigrants, Exemplar of Charity, Model of Unity, Builder of Catholic Fraternity, Instructor of Christian Patriotism, Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael, humble in service, pray for us. Blessed Michael, devoted to the Sacred Heart, ... Blessed Michael, pure in heart, Blessed Michael, faithful in priestly duties, Blessed Michael, strong in suffering, Blessed Michael, peaceful in dying, Blessed Michael, conformed to Christ crucified, Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord! Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord! Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us!

V/ Pray for us, Blessed Michael McGivney,

R/ That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. God, our Father, inspired by the heroic example of the life and virtue of your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, 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 outcast. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.