



The

Korona

St. Mary's Council 11961
Website: www.council11961.org

Charity
Unity
Fraternity



December 2024

Grand Knight Message *In service to one. In service to all*



**A thrill of hope the weary
world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and
glorious morn
Fall on your knees; O hear the
Angel voices!
O Holy Night**

We begin our joyful journey of **Advent** on **Sunday, December 1st**.

On **Sunday, December 8th**, Brother Chris will be running our first **blood drive** at the **Monastery**. The Big Red bus will be there from **8 a.m. until 1 p.m.** Walk-ins are welcome but it is preferable to sign up for an appointment online with at www.oneblood.org.

The next day (Monday, December 9th) will be a **holy day of obligation/privilege** as we observe the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.

Bishop Eric Pohlmeier will be visiting the **Monastery on Saturday, December 14th** and saying Mass with Father Robert at **9 a.m.** It is the feast day of St. John of the Cross, a Carmelite Doctor of the Church. The district Color Corps will be attending and our Hot Smokin' Knights will be serving BBQ sausage at the reception. Please let's have an outstanding turnout for this Mass to show our support for Father Robert and the Monastery!

Our second **K of C Mass** will be held on **Sunday, December 15th at 10 a.m.** at the Monastery. If the stars align for us, we may have another K of C Mass the following Sunday. Stay tuned for an update!

We have been invited to attend Mother Seton council's **Christmas Party on Thursday, December 19th at 6 p.m.** Wives are invited as well. There will be a choice of fish or beef for dinner so please contact me by **December 13th**

so I can give a head and dinner count to Mother Seton. The only price of admission is an **unwrapped toy**.

Reviewing our active month of November...

Our own Outside Guard, Paul Przybysz, was awarded the "Lest We Forget" Award at the Tony Gasparino Veteran's Day Celebration at Santa Maria del Mar Church on November 2nd. Congratulations, Brother Paul!

We remembered our brother Knights who have gone to their eternal reward during the past year at the council's memorial Mass at St. Mary's Church on Sunday November 3rd.

On Sunday, November 10th, the Hot Smokin' Knights served BBQ for those who attended the Monastery's 5 p.m. Sunday evening Mass. This "sampler" cook proved to be a very successful way to introduce us to the community and as a thank you for the warm welcome we have been given.

Father Robert with more than 20 Knights and their families celebrated the first Knights of Columbus Mass at St. Joseph's Chapel on Sunday, November 17th. Many in the monastery community joined us as well. It was an inspiring liturgy with music by Brother Nigel and a presentation to the John Thomas family as *Family of the Month*. Congratulations, John and Linda!

Community Director, Chris Grecek, headed up our first *Coats for Kids* team and the distribution of lightweight jackets to youngsters at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on November 25th. Thank you, Chris, for leading this charitable effort!

DON'T FORGET TO SELL YOUR 300 CLUB TICKETS !!!

*Grand Knight
Darren Molony*

District Deputy Message



Brothers,

Remember the 'reason for the season'. A Savior was born in Bethlehem to give his life to grant us, sinners, eternal life. 'EVERY KNEE SHALL BEND AT HIS HOLY NAME' (**Philippians 2:9-11**). As members of our fraternal order let us always be thankful for the gifts bestowed upon us by

JESUS CHRIST. Let's always pay it forward by helping those less fortunate.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ Amendment #4 has been defeated. The Knights have been on the front lines of life issues since their inception. Although we won this battle the war for the protection of life is not over. The baby killers are already hard at work devising another scheme to place a new constitutional amendment on the Florida ballot. Let's keep the pressure on. Remember, abortion is STILL legal in Florida.

Now my primary concentration will be on membership and helping each council to achieve their goals. Your council is

adding new members, performing fraternal benefit events and Faith in Action programs. Star Council

is the goal. However Double and Triple stars are not out of reach. You DO NOT need to wait for a membership drive to offer a Catholic gentleman the gift of membership. That Catholic gentleman you see in church every week is a prime candidate for the invitation to join our brotherhood. In unity and fraternity, we can accomplish this.

Please consider creating or joining a COR group at your Church. Open to ALL Catholic men of the parish. A great way to evangelize and show men that being a Knight is truly based on our shared catholic values.

Always remember, we were INVITED to be Knights!

In closing let's pray that Worthy FDD Kevin Ryan has a safe trip on his sleigh. 'Santa' has departed for the north pole to get those lazy elves back to work!

Have a blessed Christmas season.

Vivat Jesus!
Greg Gully

Field Agent – Larry Kennedy Christmas Gifts”



Merry Christmas! To all my brothers and their families, I extend my very best wishes for a merry and a blessed Christmas. As we are celebrating the Christmas season, we give thanks that God sent his Only Begotten Son to live among us and save us! That gift from the Father sets the stage for our giving gifts at Christmas.

It seems we say it every year: "It's Christmas; where did the year go?" Seems like a good time to look back on the year and note all the gifts given by you and our members worldwide. As Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly mentioned in his annual report this year in Nashville, Tennessee, we have much to be thankful for and much more work ahead of us. Consider these gifts that SK Kelly mentioned. The Order gave more that \$154 million and more than 48 million hours of volunteer service. But those are the big totals. Look at these specifics: we gave the gift of warmth to more than 150,000 children through the Coats for Kids campaign. We gave 8,891 physically challenged individuals the gift of

**For more information contact: Larry Kennedy, FICF, MDRT
407-579-9888 lawrence.kennedy@kofc.org**

mobility this year through our wheelchair program. We raised more than \$19 million for Ukraine support and gave those families the gift of respite at Mercy Centers and Easter packages. RSVP gave the gift of financial support to nearly 5,900 seminarians or postulants. And we had more than 450,000 members give the gift of life through donating blood.

These are gifts that change lives. Real people, real individuals benefited from these gifts.

As I consider Christmas I think of the gift of support and encouragement that you have given me. I appreciate the opportunity to work with you and your families this past year and I look forward to a new year and renewing connections with you.

Again, a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Insurance products offered through Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Larry Kennedy



IMPORTANT DATES

December 2024 Calendar

Wed Dec 4, 2024 5:30pm – 6:00pm
 6:00pm – 7:00pm
 Mon Dec 9, 2024 All Day (Holy Day)
 Tues Dec 10, 2024 11:30am – 3:00pm
 Sat Dec 14, 2024 9:00am – Noon
 Noon – 2:00pm
 Sun Dec 15, 2024 10:00am – 11:00am
 Tues Dec 17, 2024 4:30pm – 6:30pm
 Wed Dec 25, 2024 All Day

Officer's Meeting (Monastery)
 Business Meeting (Monastery)
 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
 BINGO (SMdM Parish Hall)
 Mass Bishop's visit (Monastery)
 Wreaths Across America (Cemetery)
 Mass for Knights (Monastery)
 Assembly 2810 Meeting (SEAS Parish Hall)
 Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)


December 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

January 2025 Calendar

Wed Jan 1, 2025 All Day
 Thurs Jan 2, 2025 5:30pm – 6:00pm
 6:00pm – 7:15pm
 Mon Jan 20, 2025 All Day
 Tues Jan 22, 2025 4:30pm – 6:30pm
 Sun Jan 26, 2025 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)
 Officer's Meeting (Monastery)
 Business Meeting (Monastery)
 Martin Luther Day
 Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
 Hawaiian Chicken Smoker

January 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1



DONATE BLOOD


**St. Mary's Knights of Columbus
at St. Joseph's Carmelite Monastery
Sunday, December 8
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

All donors will receive*:


- \$20 eGift Card
- OneBlood Six Reusable Cups
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.


Donors Receive





- PLUS -





- PLUS -

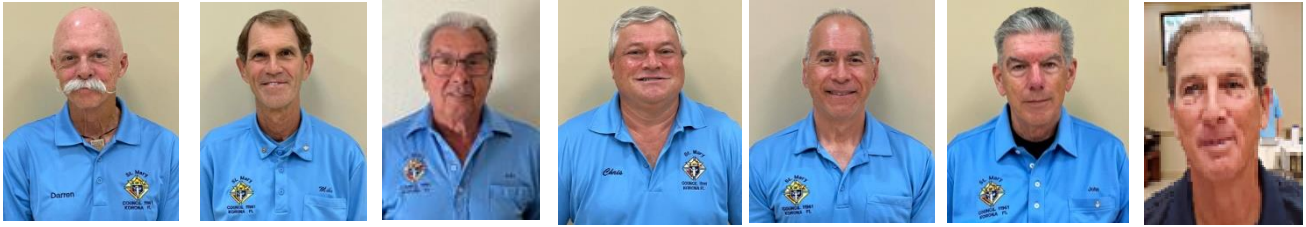






St. Mary's Knights of Columbus, Council 11961 Officers 2024-2025



Grand Knight Darren Molony **Financial Sec.** Mike Gossman **Deputy GK** John Picucci **Chancellor** Chris Grecek **Recorder** Nestor Ramos **Treasurer** John Thomas **Advocate** Phil Lajeunesse



Inside Guard Joe Beck **Outside Guard** Paul Przbysz **1 Year Trustee** Rich Friese **2 Year Trustee** Ron Kiceina **3 Year Trustee** Joe Jurec **Lecturer** Dr. Jim St. John **Warden** Bob Stearns



So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. **James 2:17**

Council 11961 Chaplain & Directors



Chaplain
Fr. Robert Marciniak



Program Director
John Picucci
johnpicucci@yahoo.com



Life Director
Mike Gossman
Gossmanmike@gmail.com



Family Director
John Thomas
jjthomas.10@icloud.com



Faith Director
Darren Molony
dmolony@protonmail.com



Community Director
Chris Grecek
cgrecek40@gmail.com



Shed Move – Episode One

Included with our Historical move to St Joseph Carmelite Monastery came the requirement to move our newly purchased shed. We were overly anxious to complete this move and sought help from Brother Sonny DeMartino. Sonny who works two jobs, took it upon himself to purchase, deliver and build the foundation.

We moved too hastily and ignored the requirement of a "permit". Consequently Sonny, again on his own, dismantled the foundation. We owe Sonny a debt of gratitude for his willingness to take on this project, only to undo his work once completed.





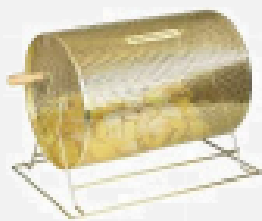
Knights of Columbus Council 11961 '300 Club'



Knights of Columbus St. Mary Korona are selling '300 Club' raffle tickets for the 2025 calendar year. Tickets will be sold to the Monastery community and the public for \$25.00 each. A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold!! Ticket sales will begin at St. Joseph's Carmelite Monastery on the week-end of November 23 - 24, 2024.

Starting in January and throughout 2025, St. Mary' Council 11961 will have a drawing on the first Thursday of the month at the conclusion of the Council 11961 business meeting.

- Each month four winners will be drawn. Each winner receives \$50.00*.
 - Bonus Drawing: an additional ticket will be drawn to win \$100* at the end of each quarter of the year (March, June, September, December)
 - In December, a sixth ticket will be drawn to win a grand prize of \$500*.
 - Tickets can be purchased during the year until 300 are sold. Tickets purchased after any month's drawing will only be eligible for the remaining months of the calendar year (\$25.00 ticket price is not pro-rated).
 - Winners need not be present at the drawing but be sure you completely fill out the address portion of your ticket.
- * Each ticket holder is eligible to win multiple (53) times during the year (12 drawings a year, ticket holders are eligible to win each month).



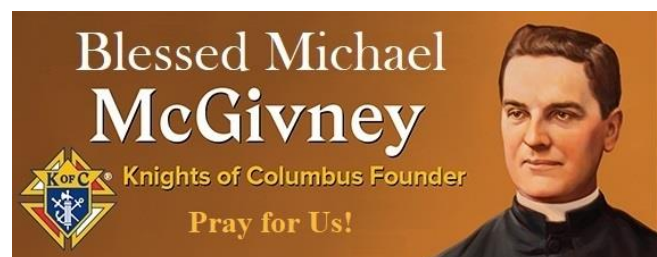
You can get your tickets from any Knight of Columbus (just look for the blue KofC shirts)!

Tickets are also available at the Monastery office (M-F).
Contact Knight Darren Molony at 203-241-8034



Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase tickets.
Makes a great Christmas, birthday or anniversary gift!

For more detailed information, visit <https://council11961.org/index.php/300-club/>



Recognition Awards



This Month's, "Knight of The Month" award goes to Fred Harting. Fred brings his wealth of experience and knowledge to the "Hot Smokin' Knights". He worked all weekend at SEAS festival as well as smoking at the Monastery Smoke Sampler.

Fred also was a great asset to the Golf Team, getting sponsors, sponsor a hole, soliciting players and MCing at the Golf Diner. Well-deserved Fred.



On November 11, 2024 we recognized our Brother Paul Przybysz with a "Lest We Forget" presentation. The service was held at Santa Maria Del Mar. With Paul is his wife Patty, also a Navy veteran.



Say Hi to Tony Flynn. Tony is a US Navy veteran having served aboard the USS Auccilla (AO-56) for two years. Upon discharge from the Navy in '62. Tony joined the Knights He was a fire fighter in New Rochelle NY prior to moving to Florida in 1992. In Florida he is able to pursue his interests of fishing and enjoying the beach. That is when house chores are done.



*Star Council
2023-2024
Joseph Jurec*

Star Awards recognize outstanding achievement in membership, insurance, programming, and overall operations. Earning a Star Award is the marker of a high performing Knights of Columbus unit and the goal to which every council, district, and assembly should strive. Star Council, Star District and Star Assembly Awards can be earned by completing criteria designed specifically for each division of the Knights of Columbus.



COATS FOR KIDS



Florida Supreme offered a BOGO on lightweight coats for qualifying districts throughout the state if they agreed to conduct a "Coats For Kids" distribution day on Black Friday. Our district was approved and the distribution will be held at SEAS, on Nov 25th. Community Director Chris Grecek will look for a few council members to volunteer a couple of hours on that day. Our council will be responsible for the cost of one case of coats. On November 17th, after our Sunday Mass at the Monastery, Chris Grecek and DD Gregg Gully displayed the beautiful coats.



Family of The Month

Family Director, John Thomas and his wife Linda have worked tirelessly. John took a suggestion to play golf and turned it into the very successful Monastery Golf Tournament. A tournament usually takes six months of prep, John and his team had only six weeks to *Tee Off*.

Linda volunteers at St Vincent DePaul, and the food pantry. She helps out whenever possible including making signs for the Hot Smokin Knights.



As a result of Brother John's and the "Golf Team's" efforts in managing the Golf Tournament, our Council was able to present a check for \$6,000.00 to Father Robert. This is a step towards the building fund at St Joseph Carmelite Monastery.

Father Robert and Father Gregory are very appreciative of our donation.



THE FIRST MASS AT ST. JOSEPH CARMELITE MONASTERY FOR ST MARY KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 11961

On Sunday November 17, 2024 Father Robert said Mass for our council. It was a very happy occasion for those who attended and as word spreads, we will fill the church to overflowing. The Council was honored to participate with Brothers - alter server Bob Stearns, cantor Nigel Powell, lector Paul Przybysz, ushers Rich Friese and Joe Marotti,

gifts presented by John and Diana Picucci. GK Darren Molony presented a Family of the Month award to Br John Thomas.

The next Mass will be December 15th at 10:00am followed by two Sunday Masses in January. More to follow.



"Speak, for your servant is listening." 1 Samuel 3:10
Vocations are *Everybody's* Business. Pray for Vocations!



Hot Smokin' Knights

At the conclusion of Sunday's 5:00PM Mass on Nov 10th, the Hot Smokin' Knights provided a sample of their well renowned pulled pork and sausage for the Monastery faithful.



The sampled meats were appreciated by all who attended Mass. Many, despite the light rain, lined up for a taste of the product. Thanks go out to Brothers Fred Harting and Rich Friese who spent the entire day in preparation. Also, thanks to Chris Grecek and Darren Molony for serving and clean up. None of this good will is possible without those willing to donate their time and skill to make it happen.

December Birthdays

Frank McNally 12/3
Alex Saccovino 12/4
Robert Cortez 12/8
Billy Lindroth 12/8



Nigel Powell 12/9
Fred Harting 12/16
Nestor Ramos 12/21



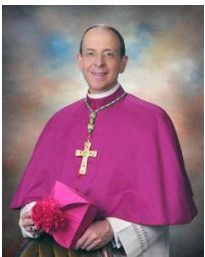
300 CLUB WINNERS November \$50 Winners

239 Elizabeth Kempnich
5 Cen Powell
260 Richard Sawicki
96 Kelly Nichols



Supreme Chaplain's Challenge (December)

A monthly reflection and practical challenge from Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori



"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man." (Gospel for Dec. 1, Lk 21:36)

To remain watchful is a frequent exhortation of Jesus, for we do not know when the end will come. For most people, their end will come at the moment of their death. We trust in God's grace, but grace requires our response: We must not grow lax and presume we have plenty of time to repent. We must pursue holiness and seek God's will at all times so that we stand ready to meet him at any time.

This month, in which we celebrate the birth of Jesus, I challenge you to meditate on the poor shepherds who watched over their flocks on the night he was born and identify one way you can better incorporate watchfulness into your own life.

Questions for Reflection:

- Do you maintain a practice of daily prayer, regular examination of conscience and frequent confession, or do you sometimes grow spiritually lazy?
- Do you commit yourself to steady growth in holiness and virtue as preparation for the final judgment?
Do you teach and encourage your loved ones to do the same?

Chaplain's Archdiocese Dinner Dance
Saturday, January 18, 2025
Dinner - Dancing 6:00 - 9:30 P M
Santa Maria del Mar Parish Hall
Flagler Beach, FL
Music Featuring
Tim Rippey, CBS Recording Artist
Chicken or Salmon Dinner
Proudly Supported by
Bob Calabrese
386-547-9312

Corpus Christi Assembly 2810
Knights of Columbus
Greg Wilson
651-470-5781

\$35
per person

50/50 Drawing



Supreme-Recommended Program Category Matrix



FAITH	COMMUNITY
RSVP Into the Breach Spiritual Reflection Holy Hour Pilgrim Icon Program Building the Domestic Church Kiosk Rosary Program Sacramental Gifts	Coats for Kids Global Wheelchair Mission Habitat for Humanity Disaster Preparedness Free Throw Championship Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Soccer/Hockey Challenge Helping Hands
FAMILY	LIFE
Food for Families Family of the Month/Year Family Fully Alive Family Prayer Night Keep Christ in Christmas Family Week Consecration to the Holy Family Good Friday Family Promotion	March for Life Special Olympics Ultrasound Program Pregnancy Center Support Christian Refugee Relief Silver Rose Mass for People with Special Needs Novena for Life

Bold denotes Featured Programs

If you know of any Brother or family member in distress please notify one of the council officers.

MARY, QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS
intercede to Jesus for those in need of his healing.

Joe Jurec wife Karen , Nacci Family, Eric Bonilla, Mel Young
Joan Beck, Bob Stearns and son, Payton Phillips wife Jane
Joe Rios Family, John Ruck, Dr. Joe Moore, Joe Pimentel, Rich Friese, PDD Kevin Ryan's son Shane

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servant for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being restored to bodily health, he (she) may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord.



Prayer for the Healing of Loved Ones

Almighty God, look with mercy and kindness on our loved ones who are sick, especially those listed here. Grant them good health. Send your holy Angels to watch over them. Protect them from danger, and keep them safe from lasting injury or harm. May the life-giving grace of Your Divine Son relieve their suffering and bring them to a full recovery. Embrace them with Your constant love, and with the power of Christ's healing presence, that Your bountiful goodness may be their source of comfort, strength and joy. Amen.

Prayer for the Faithful Departed

O Loving Father, Source of all life, please accompany Your servants, listed here, from this earth, to the Kingdom of heavenly peace, rest and eternal life that You have prepared for us. Forgive any sins that have been committed, and welcome these departed souls into the joyful embrace of Your never-ending love. Amen



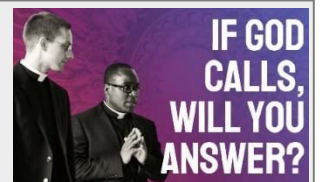
Pray for our Deceased Brothers

Let us remember and pray for our Brothers that are no longer with us, George Baldyga, Michael Benedetto, Francis A. Bock, John A. Carey, Jerry Fondow, Hank Kesselring, Thomas Lee, Andrew Petersen, John Placenti, Richard Rentz, Gus Simms and also our former District Deputy Paul Gloekler. May our Lord welcome them home.



Pray for Vocations

“The way Jesus shows you is not easy. Rather, it is like a path winding up a mountain. Do not lose heart! The steeper the road, the faster it rises towards ever wider horizons.”
St. John Paul II



If you are over 18 years of age; a citizen of the country in which you reside; a practical Catholic in union with the Holy See; and you are a Third Degree member in good standing, it's time to consider joining the ranks of the Fourth Degree. To learn more about the Patriotic Degree and how to join its ranks, contact:
SK Gregg Wilson 651-470-5781



The

Korona

St. Mary's Council 11961
Website: www.council11961.org

December 2024

Charity
Unity
Fraternity

**This Christmas,
give your family
peace of mind.**



Larry Kennedy, Field Agent
407-579-9888
lawrence.kennedy@kofc.org



LIFE INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE RETIREMENT ANNUITIES