

CROSS AND COMPASS

*A Publication of the Knights
of Columbus
Council 9924
September 2023*



Grand Knights Message

Greetings, Brothers!

Happy Labor Day! Welcome to the September edition of the Cross and Compass. I say this every month, but it's hard to believe we are already in September. The summer just flew by. Good news for us as this means the temperature is going to start dropping and the dog days of summer are almost over and behind us. As we begin entering the fall season, we will also be welcoming back many of our members who went north for the summer.

I have a quick story to share. I bought my wife a nice pair of earrings for Christmas last year. She absolutely loved them and wore them every day. Then one day last month she said those magical words, "have you seen my earrings by chance"? I was a little panicked and we immediately began a full search of the house. After several days of searching, we decided to admit that they were gone. She was really upset. While I was out one day, I stopped into the jewelry store to inquire about buying a new pair. When I got home, I said we needed to talk for a minute about the earrings, and she said OK. I said Hey what do you want to do, I stopped by the store, and I can replace those exactly or we can get something a little different. Her reaction was not what I was expecting. She broke down and began to cry. I quickly said I hadn't bought anything yet and she said she couldn't believe that I was going to replace them for her as she was holding back the tears and she was so happy with what I had told her. This made me realize how we react to things is very important. I didn't get upset at all. This made me think of all the times I've lost my cool or reacted in a way that wasn't Christian let's say. It was a powerful reminder to me to handle situations the right way and I'm doing my best to put this into daily practice.



As we embark on the month of September, we delve into its significance within our Catholic faith. This month holds a special place in our hearts for several reasons that highlight our faith, tradition, and devotion. September 8th is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day marks the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus and holds a deep meaning with our Catholic tradition. Mary's birth is a symbol of hope, purity, and new beginnings, making it a significant day of prayer and reflection.

As we embrace the month of September, let us be reminded of its deep spiritual significance. Through the celebrations of Mary's birth, the dedication to her, and the blessings sought for this year invite us to grow in our faith, love and service.

Mark your calendars and please attend the Blue Mass on Sunday September 17 at 12:00 pm. Brothers, please wear your council shirts to the mass. It is going to be a great service as we honor our Police Officers, EMS personnel, Firefighters and all First Responders who make a difference for us every day in our community. Lastly, we still need someone to take over the Historian/Visitation Committee. If you are interested please let me or one of the officers know.

I look forward to seeing you at mass!

Vivat Jesus

Council 9924 2023-2024

Grand Knight

Rick Kuertz 513-430-4330

Deputy Grand Knight

Eric Bisighini 860-899-8785

Chancellor

John Tosado 610-428-9292

Treasurer

Robert Rueger 941-493-4927

Advocate

Peter Spagnuolo 941-786-6638

Recorder

Robert Burhoe 941-460-6546

Warden

Bobby Whiting 941-416-5912

Outside Guard

Larry Middendorf 513-884-1559

Lecturer

Jay Junkus 630-842-3618

Trustee 3 Year

Ron Bowes 412-965-1983

Trustee 2 Year

Bill Szyper 704-776-041

Trustee 1 Year

Dave Tura 978-837-0692

Chaplain

Father Saji

Financial Secretary

Bill Morris 214-244-9464

Field Agent

Brian DeBlauw 440-669-8957

District Deputy

Michael Costanza 941-400-7416



Prayers for Our Sick & Distressed

Jim Collins
Patrick Burke
Dennis Putman
Scott Sheldon
Armand Padula
Dick Maier
Jack Stass

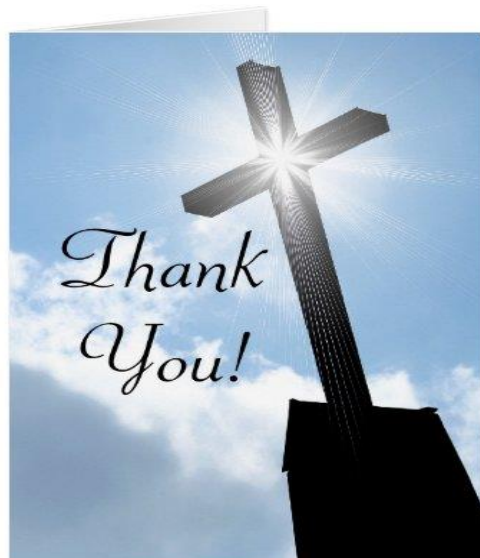


Remembering Those Close To Us



Prayers For Those Close To Us

Thank you letters from those receiving donations from Council 9924. These illustrate the value of the rewards of our charitable work and commitment to those in need.





**CATHOLIC
CHARITIES**

Diocese of Venice, Inc. Our Mother's House

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of Venice in Florida
Rev. Msgr. Stephen E. McNamara, V.F. - Vicar General
Dr. Volodymyr Smervk, M.A., J.C.D., J.D. - Chancellor

Rita Cavuoto, Chair
Robert Farnham, Vice-Chair
Eduardo Gloria, Chief Executive Officer

August 16, 2023

Mr. Bill Morris

Knights of Columbus 9924

1201 Center Rd Venice, FL 34292-3810

Dear Mr. Morris,

Please accept this acknowledgment of your in-kind donation of diapers, wipes, pull-ups, dish soap, hand soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and paper towels received on 8/9/2023.

We greatly appreciate your generosity and are confident that together we can continue to provide help, create hope, and serve all.

Be Well,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eduardo Gloria".

**Eduardo Gloria
Chief Executive Officer**

August 10th, 2023
Feast of St. Lawrence

Dear Our Lady of Lourdes
Knights of Columbus,

I am very grateful to
receive your check of \$300.
This money will be going to
my new computer. I hope

to study hard and one day
to become a smart, charitable
priest. Please keep me in your
prayers. I am praying for
you! 😊

In Christ through Mary,
Alexander Baugh



CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

Name	Age
John Powers	88
Isabelo Sanchez	88
Hough MacDonald	84
Thomas Reno	83
Daniel Lanktree	78
Dennis Strittmatter	77
Donald Armagnac	77
James Palermo	77
John Harrison	76
Vinnie Ferris	76
Dennis Putman	75
Paul Krause	75
Gregory Young	74
Stanislaw Pierog	72
Richard Gray	72
Michael Milak	71
Marvin Bumb	65
Peter Casamento	64
Charlie Murdock	60
Paul Driscoll	36

ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Years
Michael Didyk	42
Robert Burhoe	33
Herbert Ziefel	24
David La Liberte	24
John Le Duke	20
Keith Chasse	15
Robert Cordero	15
Kevin Broughton	13
Antonio Cardenas	10
Patrick Ewing	10
Stefano Ragozzino	10
Ray Pronko	2
Robert Whiting	2
Don Morra	2

Red denotes Life Members

SERVICE PROGRAMS

Director – Nick Catone 717-818-3167

Community - Dan Dacey 493-9107

Faith Director – Bob Burhoe 941-460-6546

Family Director - Nick Catone 717-818-3167

Blood Donor –Henry VonSalzen 631-672-1803

Membership – Ed Jones 240-507-0800

Retention – Bill Morris 214-244-9464

Culture of Life- John Yaglenski 941-408-7558

Publicity - Jim Palermo 941-493-3424

Food Service – John Tosado 610-428-9292

Food Collection - Eric Bisighini 860-899-8785

James Collins 917-837-8698

Cross & Compass – Ray Pronko 858-880-8376

Backpack – Mike Milak 941-380-7248

Insurance Promotion

Vocations Chairman - Greg Walsh 941-681-2438

Council Prayer Tree –

Fourth Degree – Pat Burke 914-953-9307

Visitation - Rick Kuertz 513-430-4330



August Food Collection

\$2,537 in donations and 948 lbs of food collected. Thanks to all who donated their time, goods and money.

Knight of the Month

Grand Knight, Rick Kuertz, presents Ray Pronko as Knight of the Month



New Members



Transfers

Welcome to Council 9924. We look forward to your contributions.

Ed Jones – Membership Chairman

Council Merchandise



If you would like to order a Council shirt or ballcap, please click on the link below. We have sizes Small through XXXL.

**Shirts are \$25 or \$28 depending on size and optional embroidery of your name on the shirt is \$3.
Ballcaps are \$20.**

If you have misplaced your name badge, please let me know.

<https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-20001756>

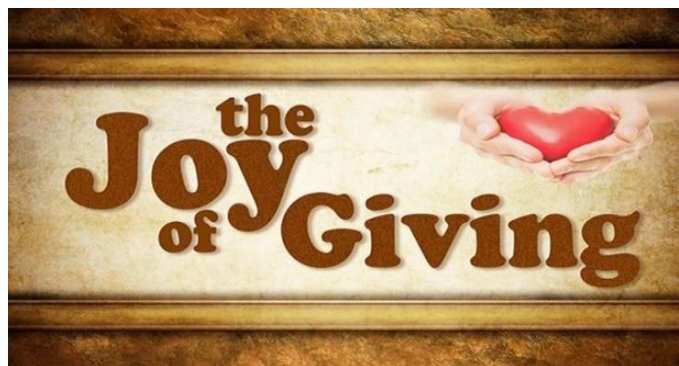
Bill Morris, FS

Knight Times



Proverbs 11:25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

We are always in need of ushers for most masses, volunteers for food collection and readers for the 5th Sunday Rosary.



Sock Drive



Father Jay has challenged us to collect 10,000 pairs of socks to help workers in need. So far, we have collected 2440 pairs. Ollies Bargain Outlet has low prices on work socks. They can be collected at the monthly meeting. This will be an ongoing effort.

Marty Reis

mkreis5375@gmail.com

Our Mother's House



John Chiumento shows the goods collected at the August meeting for the benefit of Our Mother's House as a response to their need for various items this summer. It proved to be a very successful operation!

Knights of Columbus 9924 Backpack Program Update



Since The Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Venice was approached by AFFB 15 years ago to get involved with the Backpack Program, Jim Palermo was the KoC Chairman. The Council handled Oak Park at the Middle School and Taylor Ranch School. Oak Park no longer exists. It has been a very meaningful 16 years knowing and seeing the good we have done for the kids and families in this area. Since Covid the involvement of the Knights has been drastically reduced. Also, as more and more donors have turned to QCD's from their IRA's we felt it appropriate to alert all donors and all Knights to send donations directly to AFFB, a 501c3 charity. There is no need for the knights to be the middleman since we turned over all donated backpack money to AFFB anyway. We ask that in the future you mark your donations to AFB and in the subject line that you note FOR Benefit of the Knights of Columbus.

Over the past 2 years we have been blessed with a few significant donations that have allowed us to support 100 students at Taylor Ranch School with weekend lunch bags as well as providing 75 Turkey Dinners for their families at Thanksgiving and 75 Ham Dinners for Christmas. But as with all programs the needs in our communities continue to grow and the need for more volunteers and donations along with it. **Volunteering can be done in one of two ways:**

1. **Warehouse Packing of Back Packs and Case goods. Sessions last 2-3 hours have both morning and afternoon shifts. AFB is located in Sarasota off Fruitville Road.**
2. **Mobile Food Pantries. These are held at multiple locations and include about 6 to 8 locations around Venice. You help setup and work a drive thru distribution of a variety of food products to prequalified families. In any given shift a locations will serve 100-200 families.**

So How do we volunteer. Its easy. Once you are registered (you can follow the link below) you will receive an email once a month listing available/shifts that you can sign up for. Teams normally have 12-15 volunteers and wife's are highly encouraged. Volunteer opportunities include sorting and packing food, distributing at pantries, participating in our nutrition education and cooking classes, helping in our offices, lending a hand at events and more!

<https://allfaithsfoodbank.org/volunteer-application/>

Be a hunger hero -- DONATE!

When you donate to All Faiths Food Bank, your gift provides meals to children, families and seniors in our community. Donate today! Your tax-deductible gift feeds children and families right here at home. Food is the first step to help families gain stability, gives students the opportunity to achieve academic success, ensures that senior citizens can afford medication, and lets our veterans know they are not forgotten. Please mail your donation to:

Victoria Hasselbring
All Faiths Food Bank
8171 Blaikie Ct.
Sarasota FL 34240

Hope you find a way to either donate your time or donation or both. Questions, please contact me.

Mike Milak; Backpack Coordinator
Mmilak33@gmail.com
941-380-7248

Circle of Life Golf Tournament

Our largest fundraiser of the year will be held on November 4th at Pelican Pointe



In order to achieve our goal of \$30,000 we need all brothers to successfully recruit one business to contribute funds or make a \$100 donation. Many brothers have stepped up ensuring success with this effort so let's continue to make progress on both sponsors and personal donations.

We have successfully received commitments for volunteers for the registration, hole-in-one and raffle tickets. All volunteers are invited to join us for lunch at 1:00 pm. Attending will be the three charities as well as the Venice Gondolier, which will help create more recognition for the event.

Dave Tura

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Blood Drive 8am-1:30 pm	11	12 Council Meeting Officers 5:00 Rosary 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Meeting 7:00	13	14	15	16
17 Blue Mass 12:00 followed by luncheon	18	19	20	21	22	23 Food Collection
24 Food Collection	25	26	27	28	29	30

One Blood Drive



**Sunday, September 10,
8:00 am -1:30 pm**

Copy and paste the link to reserve a time.

<https://donorportal.oneblood.org/donate-now/donation-centers-list-select-time?type=md&driveID=1357186&driveStart=1694347200&driveEnd=1694367000>

In September, we offer donors a \$20 e-gift card and a One Blood Cancer Awareness T-Shirt

Every two seconds, someone needs blood. The blood donated at our blood drive will likely be transfused into a patient within 48 to 72 hours. The turnaround is that fast and is that constant.

Henry Vonsalzen

Blue Mass

September 17

12:00 Mass



All former first responders, retired or active, and their spouses & family are invited.

Retirees are encouraged to attend in uniform.

All denominations are invited.

If anyone has contact info about first responders organizations that would help us achieve a higher attendance, please contact Nick Catone at 717-818-3167 via text only or email

nickcat813@aol.com

Also, we will be hosting a luncheon in the church hall after mass.

Nick Catone

Columbus Day Retreat

Monday, October 9th

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center

9:00 AM



Presentation Topic: Discernment of God's Will

Retreat Includes: Continental Breakfast, Morning Session, Lunch, Afternoon Session, Meditation time, and ends with a Mass.

Open to Council 9924 members and their wives.

Cost is \$40.00 per person.

**If you signed up for last year's event, you do not have to pay again.
More information on how to sign up is forthcoming.**

Contact Jim Quinnan

jquinnan@sbcglobal.net

Fundraiser for:

Operation **Warrior** Resolution



www.operationwarriorresolution.org

Italian Wedding Reception



Friday evening, November 10, Parish Hall

Tickets \$55 each

Available at the parish hall. More info to follow soon.

5:30 mingling

6:00 appetizers and dinner

6:45 live entertainment

7:30 intermission – words from OWR,
recognition of all veterans
Italian wedding reception

8:15 live entertainment

Enjoy the sounds of Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra via live entertainment and Italian wedding songs.
There will be plenty of room on the dance floor.

Starters: bruschetta, charcuterie board
Family Style Italian Dinner: Italian Salad, Focaccia Bread
Rigatoni Bolognese, Meatballs, Chicken Scalopini
Dessert: Italian Wedding Cake

All food provided by Ristorante San Marco – Venice

BYOB

Dress Code slacks/jackets

*Seeking an accordion player for the
mingling/dinner portion*

Let's fill the parish hall with 100 brothers plus guests to raise funds for this worthwhile
cause and have an enjoyable evening to remember!

Irish need apply

Annual Clothing Drive

December 9-10th



We need a volunteer to serve as Co-Chair.
In addition, we will need volunteers to collect the items at the pavilion. More
information to follow.

Please contact Tom Reno
tomrenovenice@gmail.com
941-539-0230

Pro-Life Update



Prolife Report: By Ray Ross

At the urging of Shawn Carney, the CEO of 40 Days for Life, I purchased *The Scapel and the Soul: Our Radical Transformation as Husband and Wife Abortion Doctors* by Noreen Johnson, M.D., and Hayward Robinson, M.D. It was quite an interesting read.

Noreen Johnson and Hayward Robinson met while they both did their residencies at King/Drew Medical School in Los Angeles. Noreen was a year ahead of Hayward and an OB/Gyn resident, while Hayward was focused on becoming a Family Practitioner.

As part of the OB/Gyn curriculum there was a section on abortions that was completely voluntary although everyone in her class except one took the training. Noreen explains that there was subtle pressure by the faculty and doctors to take the abortion section and she said she and her classmate always looked to please their instructors.

She explained that they were first asked to observe an abortion. She explained once you allow yourself to watch, you are already sucked in, and the dehumanization process begins. After observing, the student then assists in an abortion and then does an abortion. Finally, each teaches an abortion to another class. In fact, Noreen taught Hayward who took the training a year after she did her first abortion.

Not too long after she did her first abortion, Noreen noticed one of her male classmates was driving a nice car, had nice clothes, and had moved into a nice apartment. He told her he was doing abortions on the side, and she asked how she could get started. He gave her his contacts. She started soon after. Once she started, she became more and more proficient and got to the point where she could do an abortion in 10 minutes and as many as 50 abortions in a day. For her it was all about the money. This is in the late 70's and she was making \$50 per abortion all under the table. She could take home as much as \$2000 on a Saturday.

As far as she was concerned, she was performing a needed service to make money. She became completely desensitized to what was happening to the baby and the patient was completely dehumanized. She rarely looked the mother in the eyes and never had any idea what led the mother to make the decision to get an abortion. It was a mass production operation where the mother would be prepared before she came into the operating area. She would do the procedure and move onto the next patient. She described the whole process as desensitizing and depersonalized. For the doctors it was a business transaction.

The American Colleges of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) offers a one-year fellowship on late-term/third trimester abortions that Noreen took advantage of as well. I have identical twin grandsons that were born at 28 weeks. I held them in my arms when they were 2lbs each. Late term abortions today are being done right up until the mother is about to give birth.

In the meantime, Noreen and Hayward had fallen in love and she soon had Hayward doing abortions as well. The owners of the abortion business where they worked decided to open another abortion business. This one in Orange County and Noreen was made Medical Director and Hayward was the only doctor. They were living high and partying, but soon made a decision that ultimately changed their lives.

I highly recommend this book. While I briefly took you through the crass materialism that led both Noreen and Hayward into the abortion business, the primary focus of the book is on how they transformed their lives, found Jesus, saved so many babies from abortion, and became pro-life champions. Hayward, in fact, became medical affairs and education director for 40 days for Life. If you're interested check out this interview with Hayward –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hStAc-8v_t4



Knights of Columbus

OUR LADY OF LOURDES COUNCIL, No. 9924
1301 Center Road, Venice, Florida 34292

Council 9924 Dues Notice - July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2024

To pay with a Credit Card online, click on the link below and then click on “Home” at the top

[Give \(wesharegiving.org\)](https://wesharegiving.org)

ANNUAL DUES	\$35.00	\$35.00
Optional - Seminarian Support	\$15.00	\$15.00
		\$50.00 (recommended)

Our Council supports 3
Seminarians, with a
quarterly donation of \$300,
or \$1,200 per year. Your
donation of \$15 will help
ensure that our Council can
continue to support our

If paying by check (payable to KofC Council 9924): mail to:

William Morris, Financial Secretary
1606 Monarch Drive
Venice, FL 34293

Confirmation of Contact Information on File

Venice/SW Florida Address

Seasonal Address

Email Address

Cellphone Number

Wife’s Name and Phone Home

Phone Number

September

Our Lady of Sorrows



From the early days of Jesus' life, Mary suffered through these maternal pains and anxieties. With Simeon's prophecy, Mary knew that a sword would pierce her own soul. Soon thereafter, the Holy Family was forced to flee to Egypt in order to save Jesus from King Herod (Matthew 2:13-23). Also, the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph suffered the pain of Jesus remaining behind in the Temple for three days. With her Son entering upon His Mission the opposition of so many to Him, as recounted in the Gospels, must have been a tremendous sorrow for her. All of this culminated at the Cross.

The title "Our Lady of Sorrows," therefore, honors the trials that the Mother of the "Suffering Servant" (Isaiah 52:13-53:12) faced, and, therefore, this feast follows immediately after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Why do we celebrate a feast of Our Lady of Sorrows?

Like all feast days, this feast gives glory to God for the salvific work that He accomplished in one of His creatures, in this case His greatest creaturely work, Mary.

For Mary herself, her earthly maternal union of heart and soul with Her Son, in which she experienced both joys and sorrows, is now perfectly consummated in Heaven. However, her maternal love and union extends to us still here on Earth! As the Mother of Christ she is also the Mother of the Mystical Christ, the Church, and of we, the members of Her Son as individuals (see Revelation 12:17).

St. Louis de Montfort said, "If you put all the love of all the mothers into one heart, it still would not equal the love of the heart of Mary for her children." This means that she suffers for us as well, and we can turn to her as we would turn to our biological mothers, in both joys and sorrows.

Pray For Ukraine

