

# CROSS AND COMPASS

*A Publication of the Knights  
of Columbus Council 9924*

*October 2023*



**Reminder – Council Meeting dates changed to  
Wednesday October 11  
Wednesday November 8**

## Grand Knights Message

Greetings, Brothers!

Welcome to the October edition of the Cross and Compass. It's that time of year again and the activities of our council are ramping up and we are moving into high gear. First and foremost, I would like to send out a special **THANK YOU** to Nick Catone, John Chimento, the servers, all the Knights and our Color Corps who came out and supported our First Responders at the Blue Mass last month. It really was a great service and luncheon that followed.



Bob Burhoe is now leading the visitation committee and will be sending out get well and sympathy cards. If you know of anyone who needs a card, please let him know. Dave Tura and the Golf Committee are making the final touches to what will be an incredible golf outing for us this year. If you'd like to sponsor a hole or a foursome, please let him or his team know. Ray Pronko is overseeing an Italian Night. Tickets are on sale now and the proceeds will be going to our veterans. We need to find Ray some help as we need someone to run a silent auction. If you can help with this, please let Ray or one of the officers know.

Brothers, something interesting happened to me today while I was at adoration and was kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament. I guess I've always thought Jesus was up in heaven, in outer space or in a heavenly realm when I'm praying to him. It just clicked today that Jesus was just 10 feet away from me. It really changed the way I was praying. I guess when you think he is far away it isn't as real as realizing you are in his presence and in the same room if that makes sense. I found myself now praying to him as never before because he was so close to me, like I was talking to a friend. As I prayed and asked for forgiveness today, it just meant a little bit more to me with this realization. Jesus is at church every day and we can worship him there and on Friday's during adoration. Adoration for me is the best time of the week. I can take all my worries, frustrations, anxieties, joys and concerns straight to him, and he is there listening to me. I've always believed Jesus was present but today I really got it, he is present. Good news for all of us is that he is there waiting for each one of us. So, if you want to meet him as well, you can every Friday.

Finally, let's remember October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. This is a special month for us to deepen our faith through prayer, meditation and reflection through the Rosary. There will be a Rosary Congress on October 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 8 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes. This is the date of Our Blessed Mother's final public appearance to the shepherd children of Fatima and the occurrence of the "Miracle of the Sun". A sign up will be going out as we need someone at the beginning of each hour to lead the Rosary.

I look forward to seeing you at mass and the next meeting.

Vivat Jesus

Rick Kuertz, GK

## 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  
**John LeDuke**



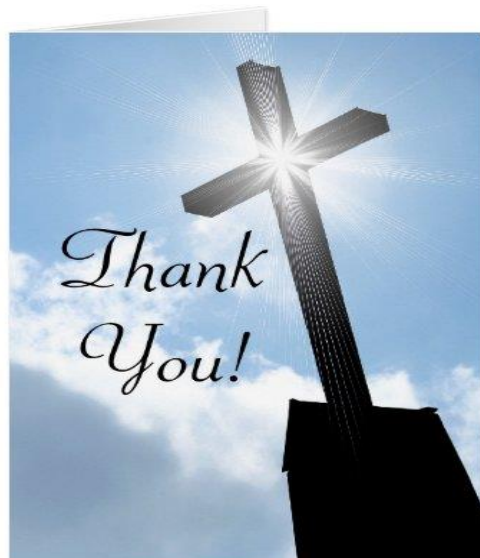
## **Remembering Those Close To Us**

**Thomas J Kanapky**



## **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

**September 25, 2023**

**Mr. Bill Morris**

**Knights of Columbus 9924**

**1301 Center Rd Venice, FL 34292**

**Dear Mr. Morris,**

**Please accept this acknowledgment of your in-kind donation of laundry detergent, paper towels, and toilet paper to Our Mother's House, received on 9/18/2023.**

**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**



# CELEBRATIONS



## BIRTHDAYS

Name	Age
Charles Dawson	90
John Tehan	89
Willard Straub	87
David Mulvaney	84
Dennis Veldman	83
Dan Griffith	83
John Yaglenski	82
Robert Stewart	80
Thomas Donnelly	80
Robert Atkins	77
Robert Cordero	77
Albert Meyer	76
Daniel Smith	75
Gary Tessitore	75
Henry Von Salzen	73
James Collins	72
Ray Pronko	64
Michael Wohlrab	61
Mike Kot	59
Manny Delgado	42

## ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Years
Raymond Benkosky	60
Douglas Banting	58
Richard Rudin	47
John Nastasi	41
Gerald Lietz	40
John Cullinan	39
Stephen Mcintegar	34
Robert Mello	30
Lawrence Baranick	26
Peter White	26
Bryan Zapf	26
John Tehan	25
Edward Pollock	21
James Schmidt	21
Richard Rosenbach	17
Patrick Burke	17
Mike Kot	16
James Palermo	16
Dennis Strittmatter	14
George Bevis	14
George Coutes	13
Dan Griffith	13
Joseph Gallo	12
Stephen Marrone	10
Guiseppe Ragazzino	9
Charlie Murdock	8
James Quinnan	8
William Srofe	8
Thomas Parsons	7
Joseph Indelicato	7
Robert Moran	4
Edmund Jones	1

## 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 Yaglenki 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



## September Food Collection

**\$1,699 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 Jay Junkus as  
Knight of the Month**



# Knights on Bikes



**Men of “Faith in Action” who lead, serve, protect, defend, and pray.**

**New members celebrating their entry on Blue Mass Sunday**

**September 17**



**Ron Doorenbos and Bill Blanchard**



# New Members



# Transfers

**Kevin O’Sullivan, Easthampton, CT**

**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>

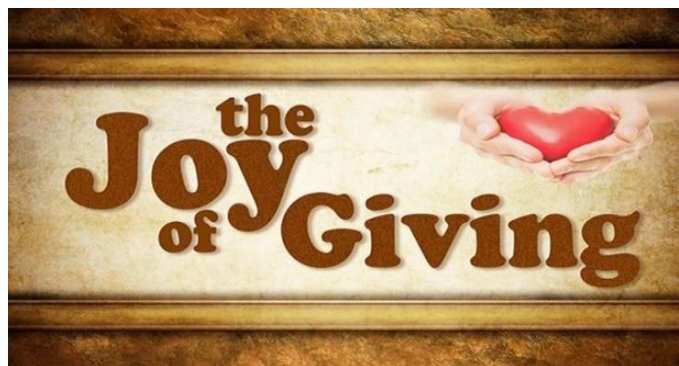
Bill Morris, FS

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 2762 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](mailto:mkreis5375@gmail.com)

## 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 KofC 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](mailto:Mmilak33@gmail.com)**  
**941-380-7248**

# Circle of Life Golf Tournament

**Our largest fundraiser of the year will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**We still need six additional volunteers to assist with the 50/50 raffle.**

**Contact Ray Pronko, [raypronko1@gmail.com](mailto:raypronko1@gmail.com)**

**Dave Tura**



# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Retreat Our Lady Of Perpetual Help	10	11 Council Meeting Officers 5:00 Rosary 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Meeting 7:00	12	13	14
15 Pancake Breakfast After 10am and 12pm masses	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Food Collection
29 Food Collection	30	31				

# One Blood Drive



We had another successful blood drive with  
17 individuals who gave blood to save lives.

As many as 51 individuals will receive the benefits of the  
donations from our parishioners.

**Henry Vonsalzen**

# Blue Mass

Held September 17 was a wonderful success.  
Special thanks to Nick Catone and John Chuimento for all their hard work and dedication to make this service a memorable one for all in attendance.



Mayor of Venice Nick Pachota



Please click on the link below to view the photos taken and edited to music by Peter Spagnuolo. These photos, and the ones above, capture the essence of the event.  
What an incredibly professional job!

Thank you, Peter.

[https://youtu.be/p3h\\_yiaq1qM](https://youtu.be/p3h_yiaq1qM)

# Columbus Day Retreat

Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto:jquinnan@sbcglobal.net)**

# **Pancake Breakfast October 15**



**After 10:00 am and 12:00 pm masses in the  
Parish Center**

# **Fundraiser for:**

## **Operation Warrior Resolution**



[www.operationwarriorresolution.org](http://www.operationwarriorresolution.org)

## **Italian Wedding Reception**



**Friday evening, November 10, Parish Hall**

**Tickets \$55 each**

**Available at the Parish Hall (see Renee) or online**

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

**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 Scallopini**

**Dessert: Italian Wedding Cake**

**All food provided by Ristorante San Marco – Venice**

**BYOB**

**Dress Code slacks/jackets**

**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!**

**As of today, only 24 tickets have been sold.**

**Please step up and join in the fun for this worthy cause and help sell out the event to  
friends and family!**

*Irish need apply*

# Christmas Party



December 7<sup>th</sup>

5:30 pm

Parish Center

Catered dinner and live music.

BYOB

More details to follow.

# Annual Clothing Drive

## December 9-10<sup>th</sup>



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](mailto:tomrenovenice@gmail.com)

941-539-0230

# Pro-Life Update



Prolife Report:  
By Ray Ross

Recently in a *Meet the Press* interview, President Trump stated that he would not sign a 15-week abortion ban if the house passed one. He said he would listen to all sides and look for a consensus from Congress. In the process he bashed Governor DeSantis for signing the 6-week Florida ban.

This positioning by Trump immediately upset a lot of pro-life people who questioned whether Trump was going soft on pro-life. Trump defended his

position by saying he was the one who put the justices on the court who ended *Roe v. Wade*.

He also said he was the first President to attend the March for Life.

On June 24, 2022 the U.S. Supreme Court in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* rightly reversed the morally bankrupt 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The Court invoked the Reserved Powers Clause of the U.S. Constitution (powers not delegated to the Federal government are reserved for the states) and placed responsibility for any abortion legislation with the states.

Trump could have avoided what I think was a terrible misstep by stating the Federal government no longer has a hand in abortion legislation.

As Knights, we have a responsibility to wade into the public square and do all we can to persuade our fellow citizens of the rightness of the pro-life position.

A procedure done to preserve the life of an expectant mother, such as an ectopic pregnancy or a premature delivery, is not an abortion.

Our message is simple: An unborn child is a person with a soul co-created by God with rights and protected by law, and we will do all we can to protect, help and love both the mother and the child. Florida has made its decision.

All abortion legislation rightly belongs to the states.

# October



## Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7. October falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

The dedication of the month of October to the Holy Rosary became common in the Church thanks to Pope Leo XIII, an enthusiastic promoter of the rosary. In the span of only five years, Pope Leo wrote eleven encyclicals on the rosary.

St. John Paul II called the rosary his favorite prayer, "in which we meditate with Mary upon the mysteries which she as a Mother meditated on in her heart (Lk. 2:19)."



# Pray For Ukraine

