

CROSS AND COMPASS



*A Publication of the Knights
Of Columbus
Council 9924
April 2024*



Greetings Brothers,

Welcome to the April edition of the Cross and Compass. It is hard to believe we are in April already and the winter months are now behind us, and spring is well underway. I am always amazed at how much our council does for our church, let me say **THANK YOU** for making a difference in our church and the community we serve.

March was quite busy as we started the month with our annual Corporate Communion connection with the CCW. What a great sermon Father gave us during breakfast, it was all about **John Chapter 6**. If you were not able to attend, you may want to read this, it tells us exactly what we need to do. We also had a pancake breakfast and our monthly food drive on top of everything else. Thank you to everyone that helped make these all successful. I would like to thank Brother Bob Burhoe and all those who helped with the Tootsie Roll Drive. They raised **\$6,966.94!** All proceeds will be donated to 5 local charities. Fantastic job Bob and Team!

As we move into April there is one thing, I need your help with as we only have 1 month left to finish our CFA Raffle. I am happy to report tickets sales are going well, but we still have three hundred tickets left to sell. If you could please purchase a ticket, that would be great. Father Jay is counting on us to raise the \$60,000. I fully understand you may not be able to purchase a ticket as times are a little tight right now, could you please help us by asking a neighbor or a friend to buy a ticket? It is going to take everyone in our Council to get this over the finish line. It is easy to buy a ticket, as you can call the Parrish office, scan the QR code, or fill out the form that is in the bulletin every week. Together I know we will get the remaining tickets sold. Thank you in advance for your help and support with this.

I would like to invite everyone to the Divine Mercy Sunday on April 7th at 2:45. Attending the Divine Mercy Sunday service is important as it offers us a unique opportunity to receive abundant graces, obtain a plenary indulgence, and honor the legacy of St. Faustina Kowalska. Why is it important to attend, you might ask? Through participation in the service, we can receive sacraments, deepen our faith, and join in community prayer, fostering spiritual growth and renewal. Double bonus, if you go to confession within 1 week of attending, you will receive total forgiveness of sins and punishment. Count me in!

Lastly, I have exciting news to share! The pilgrimage of the St. Joseph Icon is coming our way April 30 to May 6. Let us prepare our hearts for this special encounter with the earthly father of Jesus. As we venerate the icon, let us seek St. Joseph's guidance and intercession for our families, our communities, and our world. Together, let us deepen our devotion and strengthen our faith. Additional details will follow on how we can make this a successful event.

I look forward to seeing you at mass or our next meeting on April 9th or at Mass. As always, stay blessed. If anyone is in need, please let the council know, we are here to help.

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 941-716-3243

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 704-776-0041

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
Armand Padula
John LeDuke**



Remembering Those Close To Us

Sean Caposella



Prayers For Those Close To Us



Ray Callahan

First Friday of the Month Adoration



Brothers:

Our Brothers in the 4th Degree have asked us to join them during Adoration to pray for our fellow Knights and their spouses with the addition of a prayer book. Please take a minute to read the message below. As we all know prayer has a lot of power and this will be a simple way for us to keep all of our Brothers and their spouses covered in prayer.

It seems that we always find that we have Knights in need of our prayers, all too often in dire need.

In an effort to generate a more intense and focused prayer effort for brother Knights and their spouses we are beginning a new program.

Every First Friday, we will have a book containing the names of Knights and or their spouses that are in need of our prayers, on the kneeler in front of the Blessed Sacrament at Adoration. Any Knight may write in the name of any other Knight or his spouse to be prayed for.

We ask that all Knights make an effort to attend Adoration, wearing our shirts, and spend a little time with our Lord asking for his blessing for our Brother Knights that are in need of His graces.

The benefits are obvious:

- Our brother gets the prayers he needs*
- Our parishioners will see Knights in numbers showing up to pray for their brothers, that's a good thing.*
- We will be teeing it up for Fr. McGivney to get that miracle he needs for canonization.*

Thank you, and remember, eventually, we're all going to be in that book.

Fraternally,

Rick Kuertz Grand Knight

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





CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

NAME		AGE
Patrick	Rapp	65
Daniel	Prickel	70
Larry	Middendorf	71
Michael	Nevinger	72
Christopher	Clair	74
James	Winslow	75
Robert	O'brien	76
John	Finn	77
William	Szyper	77
Herman	Schmitt	78
Daniel	Shaughnessy	79
Matthew	Soldano	81
James (Duffy)	Daugherty	82
Thomas	Festa	84
Frank	Bertoni	85

ANNIVERSARIES

NAME		YEARS
Donald	Armagnac	57
George	Barbiero	1
John	Chiumento	33
Ross	Cortino	1
Robb	Costa	2
Robert	Crowley	6
Jeff	Curtis	1
John	Dalla Mura	8
James (Duffy)	Daugherty	56
John	Dean	8
Laurence	Fischer	57
Loren	Frink	30
Thomas	Kirkpatrick	42
John	Kopinsky	6
James	Martin	52
Thomas	Meehan	18
Albert	Meyer	9
John	Negro	4
Ronald	Nodzon	6
Brian	O'Malley	10
Walter	Pannone	35
Richard	Potson	6
John	Powers	60
John	Prisco	2
Christian	Rodriguez	2
Robert	Rueger	7
Joseph	Schmenk	50
Herman	Schmitt	32
Daniel	Shaughnessy	51
Bruce	Simon	56
Joseph	Stasolla	1
Salvatore	Trofi	54
Richard	Ventresca	3
Charles	Woodrum li	4
James	Young	44
Gregory	Young	3

RED Denotes Life Member

SERVICE PROGRAMS

Director – Nick Catone 717-818-3167
Community - Dan Dacey 493-9107
Faith Director – Bob Burhoe 941-716-3243

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

Family Director - Nick Catone 717-818-3167
Blood Donor – Paul Krause 603-986-8123
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

Backpack – Mike Milak 941-380-7248
Insurance Promotion
Visitation – Bob Burhoe 941-716-3243
Council Prayer Tree –
Fourth Degree – Pat Burke 914-953-9307
Vocations Chairman – Greg Walsh 941-681-2438

Food Collection

\$2358 in donations and 1030 lbs of food collected. Thanks to all who donated their time, goods and money.



Knights of the Month From prior month

Henry Von Salzen - Blood Drive Chairman



Jim Palermo - Bulletin Announcements



Knight of the Month

Nick Catone

No photo available

Free throw shooting contest



New Members

Joe Saraceno

Charles Deroo

Transfer Members

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

Eddie 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

State Convention

**Election of Delegates to the State
Convention May 26/27**

Delegate 1 – Rick Kuertz

Delegate 2 – Rick Miller

Knight Times

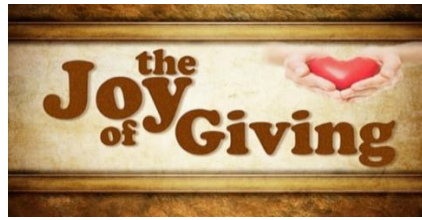


Proverbs 11:25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

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

Nick Catone is stepping down as the lead of the Basketball Free Throw contest after 2/24/25.

We will need a replacement for next year.



Deacon Peter, who is also the Executive Director of Laurel Civic (www.laurelcivic.org), gave a presentation on their programs on empowering success on at risk students in the Nokomis/Venice areas. He asked for the Knights (1) Prayers. (2) Volunteer Opportunities and (3) Financial Support.



Sock Drive



Father Jay has challenged us to collect 10,000 pairs of socks to help workers in need. So far, we have collected 3300 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

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
941-380-7248

April

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Adoration	6
7 Divine Mercy Sunday Service 2:45 Arrive at 2:30	8	9 Council Meeting 5:00 Officers 5:30 rosary 6:00 dinner 7:00 meeting	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Food Collection
28 Food Collection	29	30 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph	MAY 1 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph	2 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph	3 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph	4 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph
5 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph	6 Pilgrimage of St. Joseph					

Pilgrimage of St. Joseph Icon

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. Each jurisdiction receives one or several of these icons which travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order. Since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979, more than 174,800 council and parish prayer services with some 22 million participants have been held.

Prayer Card



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you, Mary
placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

From the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis on the 150th Anniversary of the Proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

Icon by the hand of Elizabeth Bergeron. Based on a drawing by Alexandre Sobolev. Photograph by Graph Studio.



Tootsie Roll Drive



Brothers and Wives:

I would like to thank each of you for the time and effort you gave during our Annual Tootsie Roll Drive. During the four (4) events @ Publix - Venice Village Shoppes, Our Lady of Lourdes Masses, Publix - Venice Commons and Publix - West Villages. Each of you helped to raise a total of \$ 7,200.00. After expenses, a total amount of \$6966.94 will be sent to five local organizations. The organizations are: Loveland Center, Venice Challenger Baseball League, Venice Elementary Special Education, In Stride Therapy (Easter Seals) and Special Olympics of Sarasota County.

Rick Anderson
Eric Bisighini
Paul Cacciatore
Ed Cassidy
John Chiumento
Mark Crews
Kieran Day
Scott Early
Frank Edwards
Robert Ferreira
Vince Hagerty
Paul Krause
Jerry Lietz
Bob Mickiewicz
Mike Milak
Stewart Myers
Michael Oconnell
Jim Quinnan
David Russell
Peter Spagnuolo
Bill Tarr
Michael Wood
John Yaglenski

Frank Bertoni
Ron Bowes
Cornelius Carr
Michael Chiamonte
Roberto Cordeiro
Michael Davis
George Duke
Cathy Edwards
Ed Farrell
John Finn
John Janisse
Bernie Lanza
Frank Mayle
Kathy Milak
Robert Moran
Robert O'Brien
John Prisco
Ray Ross
Bob Smialek
Daniel Stanley
Henry VonSalzen
Chuck Woodrum
George Zammit

Again, thank you and God Bless you all for helping those with intellectual disabilities

Bob Burhoe

One Blood Drive



Message from One Blood

We appreciate our partnership with the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and thank you for all you do as the chairperson to help make blood drives a success.

We are pleased to share with you that the recent blood drive resulted in 27 units of blood. Remember, each donation can save up to three lives, so that means 81 patients could benefit from the lifesaving efforts of blood donors from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

Every two seconds, someone needs blood. The blood donated at your blood drive will likely be transfused into a patient within 48 to 72 hours. The turnaround is that fast and is that constant. Your support will make a dramatic impact on patients' lives. Your service to the community is essential.

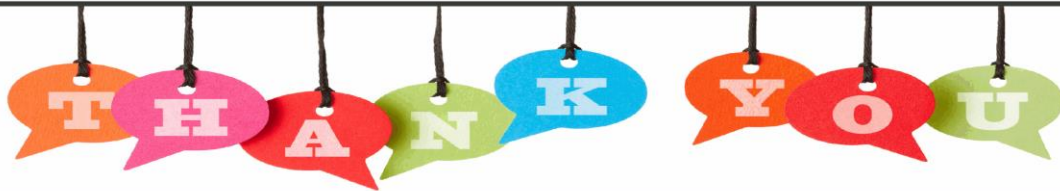
An enthusiastic, dependable blood drive chairperson is one of the keys to a blood drive's success and we want to take this opportunity to thank you for helping with coordinating the drive and saving lives in our community.

Our next scheduled blood drive is Sunday, May 19th.

We look forward to working with you again and thank you for your dedication and commitment to our lifesaving mission. Please, extend our gratitude to all Knights who helped encourage participation, as well as all the donors who stopped to share their lifesaving power this Easter holiday!

Paul Krause

One Blood Drive Results – March 24th



Blood Donor HONOR ROLL

Thank you for participating in the blood drive at
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on Sunday, March 24, 2024

ROCK ADRIEN	RATZKI AMY
LIFRIERI BARRY	WINKLER CHARLES
SHANAHAN DIANE	BISIGHINI ERIC
WEDGE GREGORY	VONSALZEN HENRY
QUINNAN JAMES	BANKS JANET
DAVIS JILL	WARD JOHN
VINCI LOUIS	REED MARILYN
QUINNAN MARY	DRAKELEY MARYFRANCES
ROBERTS MICHAEL	DELOID PATRICIA
KRAUSE PAUL	VALENTI PETER
WHITE PETER	BENKOSKY RAYMOND
PRONKO RAYMOND	URSO RAYMOND
PRUCNAL RICHARD	MARO ROBERT
OBRIEN ROBERT	ELLICKAL SAJI
URSO SHARON	NEHUHAUS THEODORE
CORWITH THERESA	DRAKELEY THOMAS GALEK THOMAS



COUNCIL 9924 COLUMBUS DAY RETREAT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center

3989 South Moon Dr., Venice, FL 34292



OPEN TO BROTHERS AND SPOUSES

TENTATIVE RETREAT SCHEDULE:

9:15 AM: Continental Breakfast

10:00 AM: Morning Session: Listening at Prayer (Part 1)

11:00 AM: Private prayer time; priests available for Confession

12:00: Lunch

12:45: Afternoon Session: Listening at Prayer (Part 2)

1:45 PM: Eucharistic Adoration

2:30 PM: Mass

3:15 PM: Day Concludes

COST: \$40 PER PERSON

Contact **Jim Quinnan** (jquinnan@sbcglobal.net)

From Sarasota Magazine: Council 9924 recognized in credits for fundraising effort.

The Icons of Veterans Healing & Health - Operation Warrior Resolution

Kendra Simpkins, Founder & CEO, Army Veteran | Ty Barnes, USMC Veteran | Jeff Jones, USMC Veteran
Presented by Operation Warrior Resolution What's This? February 27, 2024



IMAGE: JOHN REVISKY

Kendra Simpkins, the Founder & CEO of [Operation Warrior Resolution \(OWR\)](#), served in the U.S. Army. As she transitioned to civilian life, her struggle with trauma prompted an arduous search for help. As Kendra began to heal, she created OWR, a 501c3 nonprofit, designed to give veterans and their families access to innovative mental health programs, moving them out of suffering and into a journey of healing and a life they enjoy.

Jeff Jones wanted to create a better life for his family. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as an Officer in an Explosive Ordinance Disposal unit, doing 5 combat deployments, 10 total. Many men he served with did not make it home and the pain of survivor's guilt left him in a dark place. After OWR's programs, Jeff processes information differently, he can stop, think, and respond in healthy ways. Now he can counter negative feelings and do things that bring joy. His marriage has improved communication and intimacy.

Ty Barnes wanted more opportunities, so he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Like many veterans, Ty had difficulties integrating back into civilian life. With OWR Ty has now connected to a healthy and supportive veteran community. OWR also offers services more aligned with Ty's wellness goals such as engaging in meditation, yoga, breathwork, hot sauna, cold plunge, enjoying nature, running, and being a personal trainer and life coach with Fitness Professionals – Training with Ty. He's taken part in other veteran's programs, but expressed that OWR was the most caring, organized, and well put together, "they do it with excellence."

OWR provides services to local veterans and their families so they can heal from trauma. If you'd like more information or to join our community of monthly donors, please visit www.OperationWarriorResolution.org.

Special thanks to Dakota Biotech, Todd & Chris Martin, Bill & Kristin Fenech, Eric & Lynn Bisighini, Barancik Foundation, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Operation Save Our Soldiers, Green Family Foundation, Robinson Gruters & Roberts P.A., Mullet's Aluminum, American Legion Post 159, [Knights of Columbus Council 9924](#), Senator Jim Boyd and Representative Tommy Gregory.

[Operation Warrior Resolution](#)

242 S. Washington Blvd. #130,

Sarasota, FL 34236

941-806-5722

operationwarriorresolution.org

Valentine's for Vets

My Brothers here is the YouTube link for a slide show I put together of our recent Vets Dinner Dance.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEiveia6dlw>

Peter Spagnuolo

Pro-Life Update



Ray Ross

The In Vitro Fertilization Issue

In mid-February, the Alabama Supreme Court in *LePage v. Center for Reproductive Medicine, P.C.* made what has become a very controversial ruling regarding frozen embryos intended for In vitro fertilization (IVF).

The Court ruled that under Alabama's Wrongful Death of a Minor Act, the definition of a child included those who are unborn.

The case involved multiple set of parents who had their frozen embryos destroyed (killed) by negligent actions. The Center for Reproductive Health claimed a patient wandered into their lab and accidentally dropped the embryos.

The Court had to decide whether the embryos were "things" that could be destroyed or children covered by Alabama's Wrongful Death of a Minor Act. The Court in an 8 to 1 decision ruled that the embryos were children covered by the Wrongful Death of a Minor law. (The destroyed embryos were now dead and you can't die unless you previously lived.)

The ruling set off a firestorm across the multi-billion dollar Big Fertilization business. There are currently more than a million frozen embryos stored in the United States.

Back in New Hampshire, my next door neighbor's five children were all conceived using IVF. More and more children are being born through this process – often because the parents have delayed starting a family because of career priorities and when they do decide to have a family, they have difficulty getting pregnant..

A news segment a few years ago featured interviews with some of the 67 sets of twins and triplets at Greenwich High School in Greenwich, Connecticut. That's not happening naturally.

The Catholic Church does not allow in vitro fertilization. While new life is often created, most embryos are eventually destroyed and that's the problem.

IVF presents very challenging ethical problems. When does human life begin? Do the unborn have a right to life and are the unborn protected by law? How do we treat the unused embryos? Can they be destroyed? As more and more, couples look to in vitro fertilization, we need to discern what to do with the frozen embryos who deserve the dignity inherent in our humanity.

April



As our Lenten journey comes to a close, we prepare to follow Christ all the way to the cross and to witness His glorious Resurrection. Hopefully we have sacrificed and prayed so that we are now able to more fully reap the fruits of a well spent Lent. After our solemn commemoration of the last days and death of Our Lord we will spend the remainder of the month of April celebrating.

As Spring breaks forth even nature will join us as buds and blooms begin to surface and we spend this month basking in the joy of the Resurrection. We continue throughout the entire month our cry, "Christ is risen, Christ is truly risen."

The Feast of Divine Mercy offers us the opportunity to begin again as though we were newly baptized. The unfathomable mercy of God is made manifest today if we but accept His most gracious offer. Easter is the feast of feasts, the unalloyed joy and gladness of all Christians. This truly is "the day that the Lord has made." From Sunday to Sunday, from year to year, the Easters of this earth will lead us to that blessed day on which Christ has promised that He will come again with glory to take us with Him into the kingdom of His Father.

catholiculture.org

Pray For Ukraine
and
Peace in the Middle
East.