



Sword & Shield



Council 4726

Assembly 1500

Winter Haven, Florida

Mar 2021 Vol 52:9

Meeting Nights

Council 3rd Tues 7:00 pm

Assembly 2nd Mon 7:00 pm

Bldg Assoc 1st Thurs 7:00 pm

Columbiettes 2nd Thurs 6:00pm

From the Grand Knight

Rod Mullen



A quote from Jorge Ibacache. "As we enter our second Lent Season under this horrible pandemic, that has affected everything we do and has taken so much from us, we need to reflect as to why we are Knights, and what is our role in the Community".

What can I say? How can we encourage our Brother Knights to involve themselves in the activities that are taking place in our Council. There are the faithful few that form the core of what we do. Bingo, helping in the reopening of the Hall, showing people the new games and how they work. Landscaping the property, cleaning and pulling weeds and small trees. Meeting with contractors concerning the fencing of our property and the blacktopping of the parking lot. Besides this they show up on Wednesdays and Sundays to help with Bingo and giving of their time. They realize the importance of the monies raised, by our actions. The monies that go to our Charities and Church and School. The reason that we exist, is to help the Families of our Parish.

By the way, a shout out for the Knights, and Columbiettes. I recently sent a notice that the Church was looking for assistants for the Stations of the Cross. Knights; Ray Charbonneau, Tony Corrente and Rick Ochoa stepped forth along with Trish Ochoa, a Columbiette. This is serving our Church. Well done. As most of you know we have recently helped the School by helping to fulfill the commitment of money for the school roof. \$ 200,000 was the goal and we Knights provided 10 percent of it. This was not done without a lot of hours of work put into it. Many of you help in other ways; Prayer, Catholic Charities, assisting at mass, transportation for the sick and elderly, giving your voices to the choir. Many will take part in the School Virtual Fund-raiser. There are many ways to serve the Lord and help the Parish. We are proud of all of you. After all, if you don't live the faith how can you pass it on.

Pray for our brothers and sisters who are suffering the effects of this pandemic. God Bless.

Rod



March 2nd

Degree at the Council 7 pm

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

March 20th

Fourth Degree at the
Council 12:00 pm

March 28th

Palm Sunday

April 4th

Easter



Helping Hands

Smiles from those receiving mobility assistance devices express their thanks for the Knights generous donations! Thanks Mike Wadsworth and Rick Ochoa for your help and dedication!



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.. Matthew 25: 35

Thank you to all who continue to serve the homeless at the Church of the Nazarene. Your actions are a great example of Helping Hands in our community.



CONGRATULATIONS MIKE LOPEZ

Our very own Mike Lopez was honored by the Florida Special Olympics for the month of February as a key volunteer from Polk County. Below is the write-up. A Big Thanks for Mike and all he does for our Council and Special Olympics

This month, we are highlighting a key volunteer from Polk County. Mike Lopez has been volunteering with Special Olympics for almost 30 years, starting out in Philadelphia and making his way to Special Olympics Florida in 1996. He is the Special Olympics Chairman for the Knights of Columbus Council # 4726, Assembly 1500, in Winter Haven.

His love and dedication goes a long way and is never unnoticed. He helps with opening ceremony at numerous competitions and adopts Publix stores for the Torch Icon Campaign year after year with his son, Ricky, who is also an athlete. He spends his time helping Ricky reach his full potential and marvels at how much love our athletes have to give. That's one reason he loves volunteering.

Thank you, Mike, for all you do for the athletes in Polk County and for our program. We truly appreciate you!



Special Olympics
Florida

Did You Know: Centuries ago, it was customary on Palm Sunday to bless not only branches but also various flowers of the season (the flowers are still mentioned in the antiphons after the prayer of blessing). Hence the name *Flower Sunday* which the day bore in many countries—*Flowering Sunday* or *Blossom Sunday* in England, *Blumensonntag* in Germany, *Pasques Fleuris* in France, *Pascua Florida* in Spain, *Viragvasarnap* in Hungary, *Cvetna* among the Slavic nations, *Zaghkasart* in Armenia. The State of Florida received its name when, on March 27, 1513 (Easter Sunday), Ponce de Leon first sighted the land and named it in honor of the great feast, *Pascua Florida*, which in Spain originally meant just Palm Sunday, was later also applied to the whole festive season of Easter Week.

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

Palm Sunday

This month marks one year under COVID-19 restrictions. I remember when the news of shutting the Supreme Office was announced. I, like many I think, thought this would last a couple of months and all of us would get back to normal. The reality is much different. Maybe some of you are working from home ... maybe some will be working from home for the foreseeable future. I realize this has not been easy for many of you.

When it began, I wondered how I would be able to help my brother Knights. But as restrictions were put in place; we were provided with a new way to meet with members virtually on our computers and we were given several tools to ensure that you, our members and your families, were served. Using these new tools, I have found that I am more efficient, and I've found that many of you like the idea of meeting virtually. It's less stress for you to simply sit down in front of your computer, click on a few buttons and we can have a confidential conversation about your needs, wants and desires. For service issues I can meet much more quickly and have all the forms I might need to help you right at my fingertips ... No more running out to the car to get a form. We've had our eApplication process for a while, and with pandemic restrictions members have found it very valuable to be able to sign electronically when we meet virtually.

It's been a very different year: We missed much of the solemnity of Holy Week and Easter with many of us either social distancing at church or live-streaming Mass; by summer we were able to get outside if we didn't get too close to others who were out. Vacations were pretty much out of the question. Thanksgiving traditions of large family gatherings were taboo, and Christmas was so much smaller in 2020. Joyously we experienced the beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney.

Now we've come full circle into 2021. The vaccine is on the way. Some of you have already received it. Looks like light at the end of the tunnel; but we still must be vigilant, still must protect each other. I am most thankful to all of you. Many of you met with me this year and wanted to make sure your desire for financial security was up to date. It was my pleasure to take the time to analyze your situation and give you, my recommendations. I look forward to meeting with many more of you in the months ahead whether virtually or face to face.

Please contact me if you have any questions; I am here to serve you, and your families. I pray you will be safe and healthy. Vivat Jesus!

Tom Shaver FICF



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Prayer for Lent

Dear Lord, we are now in the holy season of Lent. We begin to realize anew that these are the days of salvation, these are the acceptable days. We know that we are all sinners. We know that in many things we have all offended Your infinite majesty. We know that sin destroys Your life in us as a drought withers the leaves and chokes the life from the land, leaving an arid, dusty desert. Help us now, Lord, in our feeble attempts to make up for past sin. Bless our efforts with the rich blessing of Your grace. Make us realize ever more our need of penance and of mortification. Help us to see, in our ordinary difficulties and duties, in the trials and temptations of every day, the best opportunity of making up for past infidelities. Every day we are so often reminded in field and wood, in sky and stream, of Your own boundless generosity to us. Help us to realize that You are never outdone in generosity, and that the least thing we do for You will be rewarded, full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and flowing over. Then we shall see, in our own souls, how the desert can blossom, and the dry and wasted land can bring forth the rich, useful fruit that was expected of it from the beginning. Amen.



**Ride with Archbishop Wenski in the
1st Annual Charity Ride for Vocations
May 27, 2021**

10:30 AM Mass at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church, Weston, FL

11:30 AM Kickstands Up

Route US 27 with Stops at:

- 'Harley Davidson' in Davie**
- 'Loves' in Moore Haven**
- 'Citgo' in Lake Wales**

Arrive at Kissimmee Council 6624

BBQ Dinner / Scotch and Cigars

\$40 per rider (includes donation) + a 50/50

\$10 entry donation for non riders at Council 6624



Contact: Stephen Bell, KOB President
Knight rider1997@comcast.net 904-860-2284

Part of a Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2021

3. Love, following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and hope.

Love rejoices in seeing others grow. Hence it suffers when others are anguished, lonely, sick, homeless, despised or in need. Love is a leap of the heart; it brings us out of ourselves and creates bonds of sharing and communion.

“Social love’ makes it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us can feel called. With its impulse to universality, love is capable of building a new world. No mere sentiment, it is the best means of discovering effective paths of development for everyone” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 183).

Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness. Such was the case with the jar of meal and jug of oil of the widow of Zarephath, who offered a cake of bread to the prophet Elijah (cf. *1 Kings* 17:7-16); it was also the case with the loaves blessed, broken and given by Jesus to the disciples to distribute to the crowd (cf. *Mk* 6:30-44). Such is the case too with our almsgiving, whether small or large, when offered with joy and simplicity.

To experience Lent with love means caring for those who suffer or feel abandoned and fearful because of the Covid-19 pandemic. In these days of deep uncertainty about the future, let us keep in mind the Lord’s word to his Servant, “Fear not, for I have redeemed you” (*Is* 43:1). In our charity, may we speak words of reassurance and help others to realize that God loves them as sons and daughters.

“Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society” (*Fratelli Tutti*, 187).

Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father.

May Mary, Mother of the Saviour, ever faithful at the foot of the cross and in the heart of the Church, sustain us with her loving presence. May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter.

Bulletin Supporters

Larry & Bernadette Feit

Bob & Jane Thibodeau

Memorial Committee

Chuck Langbein

Charles Proctor

Franciscan Missions Stamp Program

The Franciscan Friars have asked us to help with their stamp program by sending them cancelled stamps. They use these stamps in their mission work to help the hungry and needy people.

When you get a letter with a stamp on it, please cut it off, put in an envelope and bring to the Council. There is a box just inside the Council’s lounge door where it can be deposited. This is especially important toward the end of the year when people get stamps on Christmas cards. I have asked my community to save them for us. maybe you could do the same. When we get a box full Jim Riley will send to the Franciscan Friars in Wisconsin.

Medical Equipment

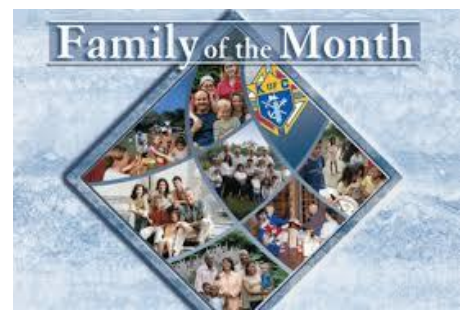
Dear Brother Knights, If you have a walker, cane, crutches, wheelchair or other items you no longer need, and you would like to donate them to the Council, please contact Mike Wadsworth at 863-224-6490 Email mikey.1952@gmail.com Mike will pick the items up and make them available to brother Knights that can use them.

Pictures in the newsletter are contributed by Carlos Ayunta as well as many members of the Knights! We appreciate everyone’s contributions! We also welcome submissions for events. Send to Tom Berdis tberdis@gmail.com or 863-224-2906



FAMILY OF THE MONTH

OCHOA FAMILY



The Knights of Columbus will recognize a couple that lives to serve, Rick and Trish Ochoa. Rick and Trish met as Ministers to the Sick, through their love of God and fellow man they too fell in love. They certainly live up to what it means to be good stewards. They both are Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers to the Sick, serve on Bereavement Ministry, Christ Renews His Parish and as Sacristans at the 4:30 mass and for most funeral.

Rick is a Fourth Degree Knight and currently serves as the Deputy Grand Knight. He also serves on the Charity Committee. Trish is a member of the Columbiettes. Trish also serves at the 7am daily mass as Sacristan and EMHC. They volunteer at the Haley Center and on Wednesday nights you will find them at the Nazarene Church feeding the homeless. Instead of gifts for their birthdays (and wedding) all they asked was their friends was to bring a can good and share a Wednesday with them to help those in need. They are involved with the annual Thanksgiving project and also started a project by making mats out of plastic bags for the homeless.

Prior to Covid You would see Trish at Winter Haven Hospital where she volunteers in the Pastoral Office and Rick- well you will see him all over town helping anyone in need. The word "Yes" is definitely in their vocabulary when help is needed, no matter what obstacles are thrown their way. What a blessing for our church and or all that know this wonderful family!! We thank them and we pray for them daily for their continued health and support.



KNIGHT of the MONTH

Mike Wadsworth

For the past three years, Mike has been our Inner Sentinel of the Assembly and Advocate of the Third Degree. He is presently a Trustee. In 2018, Mike became the Chairman of the Medical Equipment. He collects, repairs and distributes items such as wheelchairs, walkers and canes and other items that make life a little easier for those who are trying to adapt to a fall or surgery.

Mike was the third Grand Knight for Council 10484 and the Recorder and Deputy Grand Knight. He was also the music director at St. Ann's for 25 years.

Thank you, Mike, for contributing to the Knights of Columbus charity initiative.

Past Grand Knights

Harlan L. Newton*	1958-59
Michael Trabulsy*	1959-60
Omer R. McDuff*	1960-61
Paul D. Wells	1961-62
Raymond R. McKenna*	1962-63
Joseph W. Higgins*	1963-64
Steve N. Voytowich*	1964-65
Vance G. Layton*	1965-66
Charles E. Langbein, Jr.	1966-67
Norman J. Lenahan*	1967-68
Eddie Smythe*	1968-69
James J. Waters*	1969-70
Ralph Diaz*	1970-71
William McLin*	1971-72
Matthew McEnaney*	1972-73
Joseph Whitehurst, Sr.	1973-75
Charles E. Langbein, Jr.	1975-77
James Nallan*	1977-78
Gerald Roach	1978-80
Ralph Hanick	1980-81
Joseph Dobbs, Sr.*	1981-82
Edwin Maddex*	1982-83
Albert Openshaw, Sr.*	1983-84
Frank Lerza*	1984-85
Dante Batilla	1985-86
Ralph Diaz*	1986-87
Neal W. Oliver*	1987-88
Glen Wynne	1988-89
Conrad Plante*	1989-90
Raymond McKenzie*	1990-91
John Gabrick	1991-92
Tom Norton	1992-94
Mark Smurr*	1994-95
Mitchell Blackwelder	1995-96
Peter Noor*	1996-97
Len Winget*	1997-99
Cranston Montcalm	1999-01
Doug Clinger	2002-03
Aaron Corkum	2003-04
Ron Feschak	2004-05
Thomas D. Nantz	2005-07
James H. Read	2007-09
Everett Evans	2009-10
Charles Proctor	2010-11
Russ Moulton*	2011-12
Mike Lopez	2012-13
Bob Gillispie	2013-14
Mike Carter*	2014-15
Tom Berdis, Jr.	2015-16
Brian Hartpence	2016-18
*Deceased	



Chuck Langbein, Maureen Loughlin, Cindy Walter, Paul Wells, Kayla Berdis, Bob & Jane Thibodeau, Bob Nelson, Joe Hydoski, Kevin Truex, Kathy Thompson, John McNabb, Mike Lopez, Lynne Richards, Rod Mullen, Jim Sirera, Doug Murray, Tony Garcia, Trish Ochoa, Jim Zentgraft, Paul Wells, Everett Evans, Mike Wadsworth, Ed Hunter

Our continued prayers for all military personnel, Christians who are persecuted, children around the world, spiritual leaders, public officials and for those who need prayer.

Dear Lord, we lift to You our concern for people who have been infected with the virus (COVID-19). Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and, for many, preventive isolation from loved ones. We especially prayer for all people close to us that have experienced illness related to the virus. May the Lord heal all!

March 19th Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence, he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus." About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man—an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of holy Scripture.



Pray the Rosary Daily

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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For Brothers Knights by Brother Knights

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Officers for Council 4726

Chaplain	Fr. Rony Parakkal	294-3144
Grand Knight	Rod Mullen	324-6850
D Grand Knight	Rick Ochoa	326-0111
Chancellor	Jim Sierra	604-7647
Warden	Ray Taylor	604-7068
Financial Sec.	Jim Borkowski	602-6651
Treasurer	Carlos Ayunta	407-508-00
Recorder	Ken Nesbit	221-6477
District Deputy	Tom Berdis	224-2906
Advocate	Larry Cardarelli	965-7192
Inside Guard	Tim Jackman	307-9209
Outside Guard	Ricky Lopez	293-2962
Trustee (1)	John Richards	221-5499
Trustee (2)	Brian Hartpence	967-8062
Trustee (3)	Mike Wadsworth	224-6490

Officers for Assembly 1500

Friar	Fr. Jimson Varghese	294-3144
Navigator	John Richards	967-1600
Captain	Rod Mullen	324-6850
Admiral	Tom Habina	324-0581
Pilot	Tim Jackman	307-9209
Comptroller	Brian Hartpence	967-8062
Purser	Carlos Ayunta	407-508-0071
Faithful Scribe	Ken Nesbitt	221-6477
Inner Sentinel	Raymond Taylor	604-7068
Outer Sentinel	Tony Corrente	206-0775
1 st Year Trustee	Larry Cardarelli	965-7192
2 nd Year Trustee	Tom Berdis	224-2906
3 rd Year Trustee	Chris Erich	207-2638
Color Guard Cmdr	Tom Shaver	271-0229

Committeemen

Bingo Chairman	Brian Hartpence	967-8062
Bingo Co-Chairman	Jim Sierra	604-7647
Bowling Chairman	Tom Berdis	293-5528
Cemetery of Innocence	Ray Taylor	604-7068
Ceremonial Chairman	Jim Riley	289-8030
Charity Chairman	Brian Hartpence	967-8062
Degree Team Chairman	Tom Shaver	271-0229
Corp Comm Bfast	Tony Corrente	206-0775
Family Director	Mike Tanner	651-9555
Field Agent	Tom Shaver	271-0229
Food Chairman	Tony Corrente	206-0775
Free Throw, Soccer	Charles Proctor	984-6446
Golf Chairman	John Jennings	281-408-6443
Historian	Ed Zamana	293-6763
Keep Christ in Christmas	Jim Riley	289-8030
Medical Equipment	Mike Wadsworth	224-6490
Membership Director	Jim Sierra	604-7647
Memorial Chairman	Tom Berdis	224-2906
Newsletter Editor	Tom Berdis	224-2906
PC Chairman	Carlos Ayunta	407-508-0071
Retention Chairman	Rod Mullen	324-6850
Scholarship Chairman	Jim Borkowski	602-6651
Special Olympics	Mike Lopez	258-2128
Spelling Bee	Charles Proctor	984-6446
Stamps Chairman	Jim Riley	289-8030
Tootsie Roll	Ray Taylor	604-7068
Youth Director	Mike Tanner	651-9555

Officers Auxiliary 4726 Columbiettes

President	Sonia Ayunta	
Vice-President	Margie Zamana	293-6763
Past President	Joanne Barczynski	292-9796
Secretary	Klendy Molteni	
Financial Sec	Sylvia Moulton	
Treasurer	Sue Running	
Sentinel	Lina Martin	

Newsletter Contributions

Articles due by the 20th Contact

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