



The

Korona

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

Charity
Unity
Fraternity



November 2025

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



**Give thanks to the Lord, who is good,
whose mercy endures forever.**

Psalm 106:1

Our council continues to be active and engaged and the month of November plans to be no different.



This November, **All Saints' Day** is **Saturday, November 1st** and is **NOT** a **holy day of obligation**. That same Saturday, November 1st, is the **Tony Gasparino Veteran's Day Celebration** at **Santa Maria del Mar Church**. Ceremony begins at **11 a.m.** with a Mass honoring all those who served or are serving in the Armed Forces, Law Enforcement and Fire Rescue. Awards will be given following Mass and our council's recipient for this award is **Nestor Ramos**, Navy veteran. *Let's show Nestor our support by making a good showing at the Mass and ceremony!*

We will remember our brother Knights who have gone on to their eternal reward during the past year with a **memorial Mass** will be on **Sunday, November 2nd** at **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Chapel** at **10 a.m.** *I strongly encourage all to attend and please wear your council polo shirt.* We will be hosting a **blood drive** this Sunday as well from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the Monastery grounds.

On **Friday, November 7th**, District 17 will hold its first **Retreat Day** at **St. Joseph's Carmelite Monastery**. I am personally excited for this spiritual event to take place after many years of trying to make it a reality for our council. This morning retreat is for all Knights and their wives. *Please see the flyer at the back of the newsletter.*

The weekend of **November 22 & 23**, we will hold our 1st **Tootsie Roll Drive** in many years. Our event will take place at **Harris' Grocery** on Route 1 in Bunnell on Saturday and

Sunday. The Drive proceeds will benefit the mentally challenged. *We will need volunteers for both days!* **Veteran's Day** will be on Tuesday, November 11th. *Don't forget to thank a vet this day!*

Of course, our national **Thanksgiving Day** will be on Thursday, November 27th. Our council has much to be thankful for – the kindness and generosity of our fellow District Knights, the strong brotherhood we share, and Father Robert's hospitality and spiritual guidance. Most especially we are thankful for the love of Christ and His Church.

God bless all of our Knight volunteers for an October of charity, unity, and fraternity!

Our second annual **golf outing** was a phenomenal success! The group of 82 golfers had a fun day out on the Grand Haven links and then over 100 attendees were treated to a sumptuous dinner in the banquet room. Thank you to Tournament Chairman, **John Thomas**, and his committee, Mike Gossman, Fred Harting, and John Picucci, along with a host of volunteers, for all your hard work and humble service.

In closing, I pray that all of my brother Knights have a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving Day with their loved ones.

Vivat Jesus!

District Deputy Message



Brothers,

We gather, in the heart of our parish, to worship and to be renewed. But the call of the Gospel doesn't end when we leave these doors. It is a constant invitation to live our faith out loud—to take what is in our hearts and put it into action. This is the spiritual mission of the Knights of Columbus.

Our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, knew that Catholic men face many challenges. He didn't just tell us to pray—he created a brotherhood, a fraternity, to support us on our journey to become better men, better husbands, better fathers, and stronger Catholics.

Knights of Columbus membership is not just a title; it is a vow to a life of Faith in Action. It means actively living out our core principles.

First is Charity. We are the strong right arm of the Church, serving our neighbor and the less fortunate, whether it's through a food drive, a commitment to the sanctity of life,

or simply lending a hand where it is needed most. We believe that faith without works is dead.

Second is Fraternity and Unity. We are not meant to walk this journey alone. We commit to a Christ-centered brotherhood—a community of men who support each other in prayer, formation, and virtue. It is in this bond that we find the strength to resist the challenges of the world and to lead our families closer to Christ.

We say to our friends and neighbors: “If you are a Catholic man, 18 or older, and you feel that call in your heart—the desire to deepen your faith, to lead your family, and to serve your Church—then we are looking for you.”

We are looking for men ready to commit to this intentional Catholic life, a life where every act of service is an act of prayer.

Join us, and together, we will continue to be a visible sign of God's love in our parish and community.

Vivat Jesus! God bless you all.
Greg

Field Agent – Larry Kennedy Long-Term Care Planning”



This time of year, we give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. I'm thankful to call each of you my brother Knight, and I give thanks to God for all he has helped us do in our community this year. Like many of you, I became a Knight out

of love for my family. I wanted to join other Catholic men in becoming a better man, husband and father. I wanted to be a better protector of my family.

Knights of Columbus is your capable partner in this pursuit. In addition to helping form members in faith, we also offer a variety of insurance products to help you protect your family financially.

One way to protect your family is to start thinking about your family's future and how an extended care event could make a large impact. Do you know somebody that has experienced an extended care event – if so, how did that impact their family's situation?

I want to take this opportunity to help you prepare for the possibility that you or your spouse may one day need extended care. November is Long-Term Care Awareness Month.

With that in mind, I would like to share a valuable resource available to you and your family and would encourage you to check this out.

WhatCareCosts gives you access to view the costs of Skilled Nursing Homes, Home Health Aides and Assisted Living Facilities in your area and across the country. This service is available free of charge to all our members regardless of whether or not you hold an insurance policy with Knights of Columbus.

Visit www.whatcarecosts.com/KnightsofColumbus and enter sponsor code “KofC” to get started. We want to help families focus on their time with their loved ones – not the financial cost of caring for them.

Now is the time to prepare for your family's future needs. As your Knights of Columbus agent, I can help you review your financial goals and ensure you have an extended care plan in place. Come talk to me to set up an appointment. *Insurance products offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510*

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



Council 11961 Officers 2025-2026



Grand Knight
Darren Molony



Financial Sec.
Mike Gossman



Deputy GK
John Picucci



Chancellor
Chris Grecek



Recorder
Tom Flemming



Treasurer
John Thomas



Advocate
Phil Lajeunesse



Inside Guard
Joe Beck



Outside Guard
Tony Flynn



1 Year Trustee
Ron Kiceina



2 Year Trustee
Joe Jurec



3 Year Trustee
Dr. Jim St. John



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
Darren Molony
dmolony@proton.me



Faith Director
Paul Vicario
pvcrosscap@comcast.net



Community Director
Chris Grecek
cgrecek40@gmail.com



**“AND WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR
THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM” (ROMANS 8:28)**

Nov 2025 Calendar

Sun Nov 2, 2025	10:00am-11:00am
Sun Nov 2, 2025	8:00am-1:00pm
Thur Nov 6, 2025	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Fri Nov 7, 2025	7:30am – 1:00pm
Sat Nov 15, 2025	10:45am- 12:45pm
Tues Nov 18,2025	4:30pm – 6:30pm
Sat/Sun Nov 22, 2025	All Day
Thur Nov 27, 2025	All Day

Mass – St Joseph Monastery
 Memorial – Deceased Brothers in 2025
 Blood Drive
 Business Meeting at (Monastery)
 Retreat – St Joseph Monastery
 Basketball Free Throw (SEAS)
 Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
 Tootsie Roll Drive
 Thanksgiving Day

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2025

26	27	28	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	1	2	3	4	5	6

Dec 2025 Calendar

Mon, Dec 1,2025	6:00pm- 7:00pm
Thur Dec 4, 2025	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Sun Dec 7, 2025	10:00am – 11:00am
Tues Dec 16,2025	4:30pm – 6:30pm
Wed Dec 24, 2025	All Day
Thur Dec 25, 2025	All Day

Officers Meeting at the Monastery
 Business Meeting at the Monastery
 Mass – St Joseph Monastery
 Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
 Christmas Eve Day
 Christmas Day

December 2025

	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			

On Saturday November 1st, we will celebrate Lest We Forget and honor those we served. On November 2nd 2024 we paid tribute to our Brother Paul Przybysz, Navy veteran. This November 2nd, two short years later, we will celebrate Brother Paul life with a Mass on Sunday. Let's all join in prayer for Paul his wife Patty and their family. Along with Paul, we will pray for Norman Mugford and Rev. Francis Zammit.



**Knights of
 Columbus®
 Florida State
 Council Raffle**

2025-26 Charity Raffle Prizes

First Prize: \$25,000

Second Prize: \$5,000

Third Prize (2): \$1,000

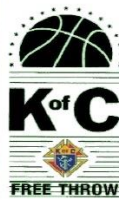
\$3/ticket or \$10 per book of 4

Drawing Saturday, May 23, 2026 @ State Convention in Orlando

SOCCKER CHALLENGE



On September 27th Council 11961 joined the Councils of SEAS and SMdM at the annual Soccer Challenge held at Wadsworth Park. It was well attended with 31 children trying their best to score high points. As you can see, even the tiniest got a chance to make a goal and go home with a medal.



**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Basketball Court
4600 Belle Terre Pkwy
Palm Coast, FL 32164**

Join in the Fun!



Registration On-Site, No Pre-registration required.
Open to all youth ages 9 – 14.
Certificates and medals will be awarded.
Winner of the Council level competition will advance to regional level competition.



Sponsored by:



Knights of Columbus

10514 Flagler Beach
11961 Bunnell
17480 Palm Coast
8101 Crescent City

District 17

Community (Youth)

Time: 10:45 AM – 12:45 PM

Date: Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025

For More Information Contact: Doug Hill – (484) 614-7954 (SMdM)
Chris Grecek – (703) 895-5651 (St. Mary's)
Jeff Hadley – (919) 879-9014 (SEAS)
Tom LaValle – (386) 295-7794 (Crescent City)



Faith in Action



OUR SEPTEMBER KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

MIKE GOSSMAN

The Financial Secretary's responsibilities are second only to those of the Grand Knight. He is appointed by the GK for a term of three years and is approved by the supreme knight. His responsibilities include, collecting dues, ensuring the council's records are kept up to date, files various reports (not a small task) and membership/insurance transactions with the Supreme Council, plus other duties.

Brother Mike does this quietly and on time. But that isn't all he does. Mike has volunteered for all events, Golf, Cooking, Monastery "Swamp Duties", Special Olympics, and Altar Server. He is also our Faith Director. He plans, promotes, and coordinates all Faith Programs. He is heavily involved in anti-abortion activities, such as standing in the rain while holding anti-abortion signs. Thanks, Mike, for all you do!!!!



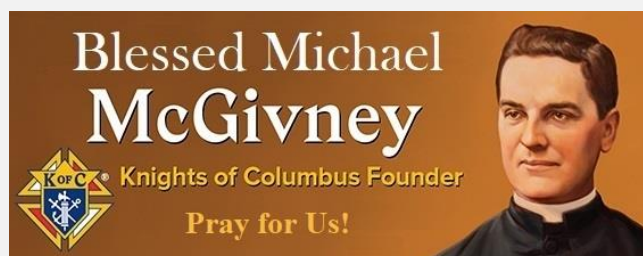
HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Those who have reached the age of 65 and have been a member of the order for 25 consecutive years are designated as Honorary Members.

We are fortunate to have five Honorees, Robert Borst, Frank McNally, Norman Mugford, Anthony Flynn and Father Robert.

At the October 2nd meeting Financial Secretary Mike Gossman presented the special membership card to Brothers Tony and Father Robert.

Sad to say Brother Norman had passed at the time of this meeting.



Knights of Columbus Council 11961

'300 Club'

Knights of Columbus St. Mary Korona are selling '300 Club' raffle tickets for the 2026 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 1 - 2, 2025.

Starting in January and throughout 2026, 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 K of C shirts)!

*Tickets are also available at the Monastery office (M-F)
OR contact Grand 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/>

First Friday Blessings



"I promise you that my omnipotent love will grant to all those who receive communion on the first Friday of the month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance, and that they will not die without receiving the holy sacraments."

The 'great promise' made by Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

The Twelve Promises of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. will bless every home in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.
4. I will console them in all their difficulties.
5. I will be their refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
6. I will shed abundant blessing upon all their undertakings.
7. Sinners shall find in My Heart a fountain and boundless ocean of mercy.
8. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
9. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
10. will give to priests the power of touching the hardest hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart never to be blotted out.
12. I promise you, in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all who communicate on the First Friday of the month for nine consecutive months the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My displeasure nor without their last Sacraments: "My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment."

November Birthdays



<i>Arturo A. Araya</i>	<i>11-1</i>
<i>Rev. Robert Marciniak</i>	<i>11-11</i>
<i>John J. Picucci</i>	<i>11-24</i>



300 CLUB WINNERS

October \$50 Winners

#189 Jean Oakley
#44 Jacky DeMartino
#219 Andre Gadlet
#228 Lucy Hashman

Third Quarter Winner

#159 Liz Kempnich

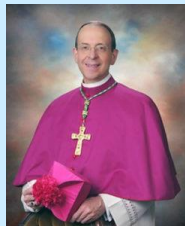




If you are over 18 years of age; a citizen of the country in which you reside; a practical Catholic in union with the Holy See; and you are a Third Degree member in good standing, it's time to consider joining the ranks of the Fourth Degree. To learn more about the Patriotic Degree and how to join its ranks, contact:
SK Ramon Marrero 386-793-2251

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge (November)

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



"You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives." (Gospel for Nov. 16, Lk 21:17-19)

Jesus promised his faithful disciples many things — that he will always be with us, that we will receive if we ask, and that he would give us rest. He also promised that we would be hated and that we would be persecuted for the sake of his name. We must persevere and remain faithful despite the hardships we suffer for our faith. May we always put into action St. Paul's admonition: "Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction,

persevere in prayer" (Rom 12:12).

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to learn more about the lives of the saints by selecting one or more martyrs to read about and then reflecting on how you can imitate his or her perseverance and hope.

Questions for Reflection:

Have you ever struggled with hope when life has brought challenges? Have you ever experienced bigotry. Rejection or hostility or hated on account of your Catholic faith? What are some concrete ways you can seek to grow in perseverance to face life's difficulties?

EXEMPLIFICATION OF ESTABAN GOMEZ



The exemplification ceremony serves as an initiation for new members of the Knights of Columbus, where they learn about the core values of the organization: **charity, unity, and fraternity**. On Tuesday, September 30th, we held an Exemplification for **Brother Esteban Gomez**. This beautiful ceremony was officiated by Chaplain Fr. Robert, GK Darren, and DD Greg Gully. In attendance was Estaban's beautiful family and DW Owen Thomas.



Knights of Columbus Knights & Family

Retreat



Saint Joseph Carmelite Monastery
141 Carmelite Dr, Bunnell, FL 32110

Time: 8:30 AM (St. Joseph Monastery) **Date:** Friday, Nov. 7, 2025

For More Information Contact: GK Darren Molony (Bunnell) - dmolony@protonmail.com;

Bob Conochalla (Flagler Beach) - bconochalla@gmail.com; GK Joseph Paul (Palm Coast) - irocjo@yahoo.com



Retreat Schedule

Confession (optional)
Mass and Holy Hour
Social Break

7:30 – 8:30 AM
8:30 – 9:45 AM
9:45 – 10:15 AM

Stations of the Cross
Spiritual Reflection Talk
Fellowship Lunch

10:15 – 11:00 AM
11:10 AM – Noon
Noon

District #17

Faith in Action

Faith



Safe Haven
Baby Boxes

The Observer reported "The Palm Coast Safe Haven Baby Box was made possible through the dedication and support of local advocates, including the Knights of Columbus, Flagler Palm Coast Kiwanis, and community partners who worked tirelessly to bring this resource to Palm Coast. Together, they raised nearly \$41,000 to make this resource possible." K of C efforts were spearheaded by GK Bryant Persyzk with hard work and financial from all councils in District 17. Our Council donated \$2,000 towards the Baby Box.



COLUMBUS DAY OCT 13, 2025

ST MARY'S KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS 2ND ANNUL GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Grand Haven golf tournament was enjoyed by over 80 golfers and more than 200 dinners. We thank the great job by Brother John Thomas and his team , Cindy and Caren plus all the sponsors and contributors. It takes a lot of hands to make this work.

Our Lord provided a beautiful day with abundant sunshine and light winds. Unfortunately we had to rely on our own talents to put the ball in the hole.

THE BIG RED BUS WILL RETURN TO THE MONASTERY ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2ND. COME ATTEND THE 10:00 MASS AND VOLUNTEER.



PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR SICK LIST

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.

Nacci Family, Eric Bonilla, Mel Young, Nestor Ramos
Joan Beck, Bob Stearns and son, Peter Capozzi, Judd McNally, Nigel Powell's daughter Megan Cuna
Joe Rios Family, Dr. Joe Moore, Joe Pimentel, 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, Norman Mugford, Paul Przybysz, Richard Rentz, Gus Simms, Mel Vevera, Rev. Francis Zammit and also our former District Deputy Paul Gloekler, and our founder Hank Kesselring. 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





The

Korona

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

November 2025

Charity
Unity
Fraternity

Offer a Catholic gentleman the
GIFT of becoming a Knight.
Please use the e-membership
function on KOFc.ORG/JOINUS



Different for a reason

Discover the Catholic difference
of doing business with the
Knights of Columbus.



Our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney



Knights of Columbus®
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Larry Kennedy, Field Agent
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LIFE INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE LONG-TERM CARE RETIREMENT PLANNING