



The Compass Newsletter

January 2025

Calendar of Events

- January 1 New Years Day
January 1 Mary, Mother of God H.D.O.
January 6 KC Council Officers Mtg.
January 11 Dist. Mtg. Our Lady of Lourdes
January 10,11,12 Coats 4 Kids fundraiser
January 12 KC Pancake Breakfast
January 13 KC Business Meeting, Rosary
 Into the Breach video
January 16- 24 Novena for Life
January 20 KC Assembly Meeting
February 3 KC Officers Meeting
February 9 KC Pancake Breakfast
February 15 Semi Annual Audit Due

Grand Knight Letter

Brother knights,

December was a busy month for our council. We began the Baby Bottle Campaign on October 26 and 27 and ran the campaign through November 30th. The campaign was well supported and was very successful. We collected over 5400 dollars with more bottles still to be collected. Collections will go to EmpowHer Inc., a pregnancy resource center based in North Port

and Port Charlotte. Thanks to our members of the Ladies Auxiliary and Knights from our council who gave their time and energy to promote the campaign and being present for collections after Masses each weekend. We will make the donation presentation before the end of the year.

The efforts of many knights and ladies from our Ladies Auxiliary and Council worked so hard to make this Christmas Dinner and Dance a big success. The event was held at the American Legion Rotonda Post 113 on December 14th from 5-9 pm. Nearly 200 people attended the dinner. Pastor Fr. Mayer, Fr. Tony Chermeil, Fr. Edwin Mathias, SFOA staff, parishioners, and guests from outside SFOA attended the event and made the evening a very special evening. Thanks to all of you for making the KC Dinner and Dance a big success.

We had our KC Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 8th. It was well attended.

We recently visited the Jacobsen Center in Port Charlotte and a

Veterans' Village in Punta Gorda in need of support. We provided money, gifts, and toiletries to veterans in need. We toured and observed the many services that were provided to its residents.

The parish Outreach ministries conducted many programs helping those in need in our community with food, blankets, slippers and more.

Our choir, youth, and parishioners treated us with Lessons and Carols to bring Advent and Christmas closer to us by word and song. Thank you.

I wish and pray that all my KC brothers, sisters, and families have a blessed Christmas and new year filled with peace and joy.

Vivat Jesus!

Bob Bazinet

KC Dinner & Dance Photos 12/14



Jacobsen Center- Helping Vets



L-R- Tim Fallon, Diane and Phil Jeleniewski, and Bob Bazinet and staff member Jessa Atwell. Donated crafts, food, clothing, and toiletries at the Jacobsen Center on December 23, 2024.

KC December Family of the Month

The Knights of Columbus Family of the Month award is being awarded to Phil and Diane Jeleniewski. Phil is our Life Director and his wife Diane from the Ladies Auxiliary have done exemplary work in the past month. Together they have demonstrated the leadership to successfully conduct the Baby Bottle Campaign and the KC Dinner and Dance. In addition, Diane and Phil have done exceptional work at our Pancake Breakfasts. Diane serves as the Auxiliary VP and Phil serves as the

DGK for the council and FN for the Assembly Both Phil and Diane serve our veterans as well. The Jeleniewski family inspires our parish, community, and council by supporting and strengthening Catholic Family Life. We truly appreciate their many years of service and are proud to have them in our community. Thank you, Phil and Diane, for all you do for our council and community.

KC December Knight of the Month

Our Knight of the Month is being awarded to Nick Gizzi for outstanding service as our Council Recorder and Assembly Pilot. Nick also is responsible for ordering and ensuring we have adequate food and supplies for our Pancake Breakfast each month. Nick has been a faithful servant for our parish. It is good to see our knights inspire other knights and parishioners in our community by supporting and strengthening Catholic parish life. We sincerely appreciate Nick and all of his contributions. We are proud to have Nick in our council and parish community, council and assembly. Thank you, Nick for all you do.

Family and Knight of the Month nominations.

Brothers, please submit names of families and knights worthy of being nominated for the Family of the Month or Knight of the Month. The nominations do not have to be KC

members. They can be parishioners outside of KC membership. Please submit your suggested nominees to the newsletter editor (last page).

Coats for Kids Fundraiser

Our council is scheduled to fundraise on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday January 10,11,and 12 at the Publix at the Merchants Crossing location. Please reach out to Gil Ulrich regarding helping with the collection. We especially need help on Sunday during the morning when we have our pancake breakfast.



KC Pancake Breakfast January 12th

Our Pancake Breakfast will be held on **Sunday, January 12th, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Enjoy a plate of delicious pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages, biscuits, gravy, a glass of orange juice, and coffee.

Donate Blood

Donate Blood on Sunday January 12 between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm. A Big Red Bus parked on the lot on the north end of the parish hall will receive donations. I.D. is required.

Those who donate blood will receive a \$20 eGift Card, LS T-Shirt, and wellness checkup. Additionally, a Pancake Breakfast is provided at no charge to those who donate. One offer per donor per donation.

Supporting Life in Our Community

Our council has recently completed a Baby Bottle Campaign (fundraiser) for the women's pregnancy resource center EmpowHerwrc, which provides services to expectant and post-partum mothers in the Port Charlotte and North Port, FL. areas. They provide expectant mothers with counseling services vital during pregnancy and support during the postpartum period for the short—and long-term health and well-being of a woman and her newborn. Their services are provided free to women seeking their help. Here is a partial list of services they provide: pregnancy tests, pregnancy counseling, prenatal classes, parental training, community assistance, adoption referrals, and material assistance. Thanks to the generosity of the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi, the KC Baby Bottle Campaign collected over \$5400 in donations. We will present a check for that amount to the Exec. Director of EmpowHerwrc Inc. by the end of December.

Phil Jeleniewski- Life Director/DGK

Chancellor's Chat January 2025

Happy New Year to you and your family; may the year bring you peace and prosperity! Here is some Catholic News from the Vatican: Pope Francis 'throws open' the Holy Door to St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve to inaugurate the 2025 Jubilee Year! The theme of the year is Jubilee of Hope. This Jubilee will extend from December 24 until the closing of the same door on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord on January 6.

"During the Holy Year," the Pope has prayed," may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world." The Pope recalled Saint Augustine (Doctor of the Church) suggesting that hope calls us to be upset with the things that are wrong and to find the courage to change them.

Jubilee Years take place every 25 years, with the last Jubilee being ushered in by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000 as the Jubilee of Mercy. This tradition in the Catholic Church dates to Pope Martin V When he created the first Jubilee in 1423. The Holy Door is located on the rear wall of the Lateran Basilica.

On 26 December, for the first time in the Jubilee tradition, Pope Francis will open a fifth sacred portal in a Roman prison, a gesture of hope

that shows his ongoing closeness to detainees. On Sunday, December 29, the Pope will open the Holy Door of his cathedral Saint John Lateran. Our Communion Breakfast which is on December 29 this year celebrates the 1700th anniversary of its dedication. Then on January 1st 2025, the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major will be opened. Lastly, Sunday, January 5th 2025, will mark the opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. All of these four door openings will close on Sunday, December 28th, 2025.

Joe Haggerty-Chancellor/Mem. Dir.

Elected Council Officers

Grand Knight	Robert Bazinet
Dep. Grand Knight	Phil Jeleniewski
Chancellor	Joe Haggerty
Recorder	Nicolas Gizzi
Treasurer	Chuck De Ninno
Advocate	Carmine Laterra
Warden	Dave Flynn
Inside Guard	William Doyle
Outside Guard	Renzo Torchiani
One-Year Trustee	Gilbert Ulrich
Two-Year Trustee	Anthony Palermo
Three-Year Trustee	Al Losacano

Appointed Council Officers

Financial Secretary	Tim Fallon
Chaplain	Deacon Bob
Lecturer	Giuseppe Crispino
Program Director	Robert Bazinet
Faith Director	Robert Bazinet
Community Director	Tim Fallon
Family Director	Don Kasson
Life Director	Phil Jeleniewski
Membership Director	Joe Haggerty
Public Relations Dir.	Robert Bazinet
Health Service	Tony Labay
Newsletter Editor	Robert Bazinet

Prayer Intentions

Janet D'Antonio	Dorothy Blum
Michael Liepert	Pat Sierocuk
Joe Pizzuto	James Laterra
Squeaker DeNinno	Gary Tatel
Don, Susan Kasson	Gil Ulrich

Important Links

Knights of Columbus kofc.org
 Council 7672 webpage
<https://www.sfoachurch.com/about-2>
 Florida State KC Council
<https://www.floridakofc.org>

Please send your comments and articles by the 15th of each month for

the following month's newsletter to
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