





# The Knightly News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY FIRST FLORIDA COUNCIL 611  
 CHARITY • UNITY • FRATERNITY • PATRIOTISM



KNIGHT AND FAMILY OF THE MONTH		Council 611 Officers	
Congratulations to:     <b>Matthew Bell</b> Knight of the Month		Grand Knight SK Gabe Oti 904-806-2711 Chaplain Fr. Matthew Ibok 904-824-2806 Dep. Grand Knight SK Frank Hill 812-249-0038 Chancellor SK Josh Currie, PGK 904-540-9559 Recorder Andrew Butts 571-246-6253 Financial Secretary SK AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD 904-599-1436 Treasurer SK Tom Gehret 904-566-8932 Lecturer (Vacant) Advocate Bruce Dufresne, PGK 904-825-0000 Warden Matthew Bell 913-439-9737 Outside Guard SK Linwood Finley, PFN 904-827-1536 Inside Guard Tom Kaczmarczyk 904-540-6749 1 Year Trustee SK Frosty Roberts 2 Year Trustee John Gillespie, PGK 904-347-9426 3 Year Trustee SK Aaron Day 904-315-9984	
<b>The DeLux Family</b> Family of the Month			
Service Committee Directors & Chairs			
Program Director: SK AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD 904-599-1436 Membership: SK Frank Hill 812-249-0038 Life Dir: Bruce Dufresne, PGK 904-825-0000 Faith Dir: SK Josh Currie, PGK 904-540-9559 Community Dir: SK AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD 904-599-1436 Family Dir: Sk Frank Hill 812-249-0038		Newsletter Editor: SK Robert Billoni, PFN 954-445-3008 Webmaster: SK Robert Billoni, PFN 954-445-3008 4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Liaison: SK AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD 904-599-1436 Color Corp Commander: SK AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD 904-599-1436 District Deputy: SK Robert Billoni, PGK, FPN 954-445-3008 Insurance Rep: Jim Booritch 412-779-3756	

### Recruitment Drive (Every Day)

Please wear your council shirt when you attend mass. It is great advertising for the Knights and lets the congregation know we are always with them. Our goal is 8 new members and to date we have 3 with a few other waiting to take their exemplification.

If you know anyone that would make a great Knight, contact DGK Frank Hill at (812)249-0038 or hillf6466@gmail.com

### Monthly Social (Third Monday of each month)

First Florida 611 will not host a monthly social this month due to the Christmas and New Year holidays.

We will see you next month on Monday, January 17, 2022 at the Bishop Baker Center at 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm)

### Christmas Book Drive (December 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>)

**Help spread the word of God**  
 What have you done this year to help spread the word of God? We need you! We cannot be successful with the book handout this weekend unless you sign up to help. We really need more volunteers for each service.

To volunteer, contact Matt Bell at (913)439-9737

### THE NEXT GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD:

**7:00PM in the Bishop Baker Center on Monday, January 3, 2022.** Join us for food and fellowship at 6:30pm. Located at 267 St. George Street. This is an In-person meeting. ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FORM 100 HANDY!



## Message from the Grand Knight

Worthy brothers, families and friends,

I hope everyone had a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. As always I would like to thank our Brothers and their families for their continued support and dedication to our council and parish. I would especially like to extend my appreciation to all of those who gave their time and effort to our events throughout the month. On Saturday, November 13 we participated with Saint Joseph's homeless ministry and the Mandarin food bank to cook and serve from 80 to 100 meals for the Thanksgiving holiday to those in need. We have participated in this event in the past years, especially during the holiday season in Thanksgiving and Christmas. We'll be participating again now in December to do the same for the Christmas holidays. We encourage and welcome all those who would like to volunteer.

On Sunday, December 14 we held a successful membership recruitment effort after each mass. Our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Frank Hill, coordinated our efforts. A thank you to all those brothers that assisted, these recruitment efforts are the lifeline of our council. New members make all the difference in our efforts to serve the parish and our community and are an integral part of the growth of the Knights of Columbus in Saint Augustine.

The following day, November 15 we held our monthly social and were all blessed to enjoy each other's company. We would like to extend our appreciation to brother Bruce Dufrense for again cooking the main course and to all of those who joined us and brought side dishes for all of us to enjoy. On the same night of our social we held a Family Prayer night which was led by a Worthy Chancellor Josh Currie, as Catholics these nights are important for a spiritual reflection and growth.

On November 20 and 21st we participated with our parish in the distribution of the Advent prayer books after each mass, assisting our parishioners in preparation for Advent. We would like to thank brother Matt Bell who coordinated this successful event and those brothers who volunteered, the parish expressed their appreciation. Brother Matt Bell will be again coordinating our December book distribution of the Matthew Kelley Books we ordered as a Christmas gift from our parish and our council to our parishioners. Please contact Brother Matt if you wish to volunteer.

The ladies auxiliary and our council, along with Catholic Charities, have sponsor two families for the Christmas holidays. We are taking donations of non-perishable foods to present as a Christmas food basket to each family. Your donations will be greatly appreciated. May God bless you and your families and may you all have a joyful Christmas filled with peace, warmth and the love of those dear to you.



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**Protecting Families for  
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### Insurance:

As we head into the end of 2021, the Knights of Columbus has more than \$100 billion of life insurance in force, covering the lives of hundreds of thousands of our members and their families.

Knights across North America continue to trust their Order to protect them and see to it that their loved ones are well taken care of once they're gone. More and more members are preparing to leave behind legacies of protection for their loved ones.

Let's talk (386)235-4064 or [Stan.Hetrick@kofc.org](mailto:Stan.Hetrick@kofc.org)

## Message from the Chaplain Father Matthew Ibok

Thanks to you all Worthy brothers and Lady Auxiliaries for your prayers during my trip to my home diocese, Ikot Ekpene, Nigeria. I came back shortly before Thanksgiving Day.

Christmas is fast approaching. I notice that the City of St. Augustine and most of the citizens, residents and businesses are serious in their preparation for Christmas. Homes and streets are decorated and lit, the shops are parked with Christmas materials including presents people can give to others, announcement about carols have been made in the Church, the choirs including the children are practicing for Christmas vigil and day, and the parish has dates and times for Christmas liturgies and sacraments. The plaza across the street from the Cathedral is spectacular attracting many people at night, and becoming one of the most booming spots in the city at this time. The reasons for all these special phenomena is Christ even though some people may not be conscious of it. It reminds me of a bumper sticker that reads: "Christ is the reason for this season."

The Knight of Columbus makes Christmas a special celebration for some people. Its members go the extra mile in putting smile on faces of kids from some poor families who cannot afford Christmas presents for them. In doing so, they continue the good work ". . . of caring for the needy and the outcast" for which their Founder and Patron, Fr. Michael J. McGivney was known. We thank the Knight for their good work, and ask Fr. McGivney to continue to intercede for them during Advent and Christmas seasons.

Merry Christmas,  
Fr. Matthew Ibok

*You may contact Fr. Matthew at (904) 824-2806 ext. 303  
or by email at [frmatthewstaug@gmail.com](mailto:frmatthewstaug@gmail.com)*



Knights of Columbus

Programs



## CHRISTMAS BOOK DISTRIBUTION

First Florida Council 611 will be distributing Christmas books for free after all masses on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral Basilica and St. Benedict's of Moor.

Help spread the word of God this Christmas season!

Please wear your council shirt to mass on those days and if you can volunteer, we need your help, ***please contact Br. Matthew Bell at (913)439-9737***

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our Council achieved 166% of its recruitment goal of new members this past fraternal year. This is proof that now more than ever, catholic men and their families need the Knights of Columbus. We can fill out and submit Form 100's and preform the Exemplifications totally online. It only takes 30 minutes to become a full 3rd Degree Knight, making it easier than ever before to join the Knights of Columbus.

Let's keep this momentum going into the new fraternal year. Just wear your council shirt to mass and let us know who you think would make a great Knight.

Let's keep this momentum going into the new fraternal year.

***For more information, please contact our Membership Director, Sk Frank Hill at [hillf6466@gmail.com](mailto:hillf6466@gmail.com) or (812)249-0038***



Knights of Columbus

Programs

**Faith**  
in  
**Action**



### Have you asked someone to become a Knight?

*(This year's Council goal is 8, to date we have 3)*

Did you know the number one reason catholic men do not join the Knights of Columbus is just simply because no one has ever asked them before?

Ask a catholic gentlemen you know that would make a great Knight to join today. ***It never has been easier! A new member can register and participate in their Exemplification on Charity, Unity and Fraternity ceremony all online without even leaving their home. It only takes 30 minutes!***

## First Florida Council 611 Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary is current collecting donations for the St. Gerard Campus. They are specifically looking for diapers, baby formula, baby food, bottles, baby clothes, etc. You can drop off your donations at our Council Meetings and Monthly Socials or you can contact Cynthia Day at (360)628-0007 directly.

The mission of the Ladies Auxiliary is to promote spiritual and charitable growth, enhance social enrichment, encourage good fellowship and love, and perform selected works of charity in support of the Cathedral Basilica Parish, the Knights of Columbus Council #611 and Assembly #166.

Any practicing Catholic women, 18 years of age and older, who is interested in making a difference in our parish is welcome to join. Applicants need not be a spouse of a Knight.

Annual dues are \$25 and \$10 for senior citizens. Annual dues are waived for spouses of deceased Knights.

The Ladies Auxiliary meets on the first Monday of each month at 7pm at the Bishop Baker Center, located at 267 St. George Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084 (Parish Hall at the Cathedral Parish School).

If you know any ladies that would like to join or for more information, please contact:

Cynthia Day  
Cell: (360)628-0007  
Email: [cvioletm94@hotmail.com](mailto:cvioletm94@hotmail.com)

### Ladies Auxiliary Officers

President	Cynthia Day
Vice President	Keri Van Gemert
Secretary	Brittney Van Gemert
Treasurer	Beth Ann Kaczmarczyk
Trustee	Lissette Oti
Trustee	Heather Hill
Trustee	Linda Hill



## AROUND THE COUNCIL



Grand Knight Gabe Oti preparing meals to feed 100 for Homeless Ministry



Grand Knight Gabe Oti presenting Tom Gehret with Knight of the Month for October at the Council Social in November



Grand Knight Gabe Oti presenting Robert Billoni, PGK, PFN & DGK Frank Hill with special Certificates of Merit for their work organizing the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**BIRTHDAYS**

EDWARD	V	ACEBAL		12-01
JEREMIAH	F	LAMBE		12-02
RONALD		FARRELL		12-03
TERRANCE	E	AUTEN		12-13
THOMAS	J	JACKSON		12-14
MARK	WAYNE	LYNN		12-14
BRUCE	W	DUFRESNE		12-21
FRANK	A	HILL		12-22
ROBERT	SANTO	BILLONI		12-22
EVAN	R	MCDOW		12-22
AARON	C	DAY		12-23
GABRIEL	T	OTI		12-23
GERARDO	V	COELLO	JR	12-28
PETER		CRAMER		12-31

**SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES**

FRANCIS	P	DUPONT		50 Years
CHARLES	B	KANASZKA		47
CHARLES	B	THOMAS	JR	47
GEORGE	R	HESSON		45
ERNEST	S	TROTTA		45
DENNIS	E	WISSEL		43
BRUCE	W	DUFRESNE		36
CRAIG	A	MAGUIRE		36
JASON	S	MULLINS		8
EDWARD	J	REICHERT		8
AARON	C	DAY		6



## Intentions for the Sick or in Distress



### Council Prayers for:

- ❖ Prayers for Brother AJ, Jr (Brother AJ's father) who is undergoing heart surgery.
- ❖ Repose of SK Don Fox's passing away. He served the Knights for 38 years and was a member of Council 7821.
- ❖ Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
- ❖ Prayers for Brother Fox's wife, Carol and son, Shawn.
- ❖ Prayers for GK Gabe's wife's grandmother. She's 88yrs young and fighting cancer. She got out of the hospital after successful treatments and then fell. Prayers for a safe and quick recovery.
- ❖ Continued prayers for Brother Ryan LaPorte's sister-in-law as she combats her illness.
- ❖ Continued prayers for our current and former first responders, medical professionals and those serving in the military. All are protecting our great country.



# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6 Business Mtng. 7pm Bishop Baker Ctr	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Council Christmas Book Distribution All Masses Cathedral & St Benedict's
19 Council Christmas Book Distribution All Masses Cathedral & St Benedict's	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day
26	27 4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting 7pm San Sebastian	28 Officers & Directors Meeting TBA	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day
2	3 Business Mtng. 7pm Bishop Baker Ctr	4	5	6	7	8

Red = Council events open to all members

Black = Council events open to specific council members

Green = Holy Day/Event or Holiday

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If you would like to sponsor your company on First Florida Council 611's website and newsletter, please contact Sk AJ McCaffery, PGK, FDD at (904)599-1436 or [mccaff93@gmail.com](mailto:mccaff93@gmail.com)