

Columbus Crusader

Newsletter of Our Lady of Light Council 10498 in Estero, FL
Roman Catholic Brothers in Christ, Chartered in 1990



February 2026

Charity, Unity, Fraternity,
Patriotism

Officers for 2025-2026 Fraternal Year

Grand Knight: Jim Mendolera
Deputy GK: Stefan Gehrold
Chancellor: Robert Dumont
Recorder: Bob Lehman
Treasurer: Joe Ercolino
Advocate: Don Fiscella
Warden: Ron Molinaro

Inside Guard: Frank Valvo
Outside Guard: Brent Labreche
Trustee 1yr: Todd Junker
Trustee 2yr: Mitch Pappas
Trustee 3yr: Felix De Los Santos,
Jr.
Fin Secretary: Ron Kuhnen

Lecturer: Pat Becker
Field Agent: John Fischer
District Deputy: Steve McPhillips
Chaplain: Fr. Reji Joseph

Next Month General Membership Meeting: Tuesday March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. (In Parish Center). Food and Refreshments will be provided

**NOTE: THIS MONTH
BUSINESS MEETING IS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10,
2026 at 7:00PM**

Congratulations to **December
Family of the Month Brother
Marco and Anna Salomon.**

This past month our Council hosted BINGO on January 10th and 195 Bingo players were in attendance. Also, we had the Pancake Breakfast on January 18th and served 212 breakfasts. Thank you for all who helped at BINGO and the Pancake Breakfast. It is always appreciated.

Congratulations to our Council 10498 as we received 2 awards from Supreme. We received the **COLUMBIAN AWARD** for our participation in Faith in Action Programs and the **Fr. MICHAEL**

McGIVNEY AWARD for meeting and exceeding our New Membership Goal by 113%. **District Deputy Steve McPhillips** presented the certificate of awards.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS....

FEBRUARY 6TH – John Denver Concert Tickets **SOLD OUT!**

FEBRUARY 7TH – BINGO
Doors open at 6:00 PM and games start at 6:30 PM. Tickets available in the Parish Office for \$15.00 or \$18.00 at the door.

FEBRUARY 14TH – SILVER ROSE – The Silver Rose will be transported by the Knights on Bikes to OLOL at 3:00 PM with a Prayer Service at 4:00 PM. The Silver Rose will only be present at OLOL for 2 hours and then will be transported to St. Agnes in Naples at 5:00 PM. The Silver



From the Grand Knight

Hello Brother Knights,

Welcome to our new **Pastor Fr., Eric Scanlan** and new **Parochial Vicar, Fr. Mike Young** to Our Lady of Light. Also, congratulations to **Brother Knight Fr. Timothy Sheedy** on his 50th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

Rose has 8 different routes that originate in Canada and travel the 50 States and Puerto Rico and its final destination is at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Monterrey, Mexico on December 12, 2026. Through the **Silver Rose Program**, we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Knights of Columbus, but we also reaffirm our dedication to the sanctity of human life. Please attend this Prayer Service in your Red Council Shirt.

ALSO, ON FEBRUARY 14TH – we will be collecting for the **DISABILITY “TOOTSIE ROLL” DRIVE** after the 5:00 PM Mass.

FEBRUARY 15TH – We will be collecting for the **TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE** after ALL Sunday Masses. The sign-up sheet will be coming soon.



From the Chancellor

Ash Wednesday is February 18th. Please attend one the 4 services: 6:30AM Ash Distribution only, and Masses at 9AM, 12PM, and 7PM. The Ushers will do a collection before and after Mass at both entrances to the church. The baskets will not be passed.

We have many events coming up through Easter. Please read our

FEBRUARY 18TH – 40 Days of Life Kickoff. Contact **Brother Bob Reynolds 267-733-2737** or rgrcons1@gmail.com to schedule your time for prayer with OLOL. Please see attachment for more details regarding 40 Days kickoff and registration for Banquet to support Immokalee Pregnancy Center on February 12.

FEBRUARY 19TH – KNIGHTS NIGHT OUT – Dinner at Mario’s Restaurant at Grande Oaks Shopping Center at 5:00 PM and **FGCU Women’s Basketball vs Eastern Kentucky Colonels at 7:00 PM**. Tickets are \$14.00 per person. You must **RSVP to Brother Ralph Abate 239-273-4727** or

RalphFLHomes@gmail.com for dinner and game tickets.

FEBRUARY 20, 21, 22 – DISABILITY “TOOTSIE ROLL” DRIVE – at Walmart.

Grand Knight’s schedule that is listed and help were you can.

Thank for all who attended John Bradford's funeral Mass on January 24th. There were many Knights present and the Color Corps had 20 Knights in attendance to honor John.

Please pray for member Thomas Wolfe and Connie Valvo, member Frank Valvo’s wife. Continue to pray for all Knights who have passed and those who are sick.

A special welcome to Father Eric our newly appointed Pastor and Father Mike our new Parochial Vicar. We all look forward to

Please contact **Brother Pat Maley 239-267-1160** to sign up. The hours are: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM. 2 persons need for 2-hour shifts.

FEBRUARY 26TH – PLANNING MEETING – 7:00 PM in Classroom 302.

UPCOMING IN MARCH – Saturday, March 7th **MEN’S RETREAT** 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in the Parish Center. More information to come.

God Bless,
Jim Mendolera, GK, PFN
Knights of Columbus Council
10498

“May the birth of Christ, the light of the world, bring hope in the midst of our fears, peace in the midst of our strife, and light in the midst of our darkness.”

you bringing us closer to Our Lord.

Mary Pray for us.

Bob Du Mont

630-352-1979



Please pray for the following brothers, family members, and significant others: Tony Almeida, Bob Dumont, Jim Culley, Jackie Erickson (daughter of brother Dave), Jack Horan, Horace “Bud” Fichera, Jes Jensen, Greg Mitchell, Ron Molinaro, Pat Neville, Jim Scialabba



February

Jes	H	Jensen	Jr	2/1	Raymond		Axberg		2/27
Thomas	J	Mac George		2/1	James	P	Hamilton		2/28
Brian	P	Copeland		2/5	Edward	C	Weil	III	2/28
John		Abatecola		2/6	Frank	P	Ragonese		3/1
Jeffrey	T	Maas		2/7	Thomas	J	Costin		3/3
Giuliano		Farina		2/10	Kenneth	J	Corr		3/5
Barry	C	Bratton		2/14	Robert	J	Dumont		3/5
John	D	Carragher		2/14	Joseph	W	Boss	Jr	3/10
Robert	G	Reynolds		2/14	Jeremy	M	Brown		3/11
Thomas	J	Kukla		2/15	Edward	J	Riley	Jr	3/13
Charles	J	Collins	III	2/18	Dave	H	Crawford		3/16
Sal	P	Dassaro		2/21					
James	L	Ripley		2/22					
Michael		Vanden Bossche		2/24					

In Case of Death: At the death of a Brother Knight, notify the Grand Knight or the next in charge, who will then contact the family and offer sympathy and help from the Council. The Council member contacting the family should ask whether a wake will be held and if so, whether the family would like the Council to do a rosary service. If a Mass will be offered, the family should be asked if they would like a resolution of condolence to be presented. Any ceremonial presentation requested should be done only with permission of the clergy. If the deceased Brother is a 4th Degree member, the Grand Knight will notify the Insurance Field Agent and the Faithful Navigator of the Assembly. Grand Knight: Jim Mendolera. Email: jmendolera323@yahoo.com. Telephone (239) 390-0346

Please visit our website at <http://www.kofccouncil10498.org/> for additional information and upcoming events.

Please contact our Financial Secretary Ronald Kuhnen (715) 215-0408, kuhnen10498@gmail.com, to make updates to your personal profile (change of address, change or added phone, email address, etc.)

To add or delete from the prayer list above, or correct birthday and/or name please contact Patrick Becker.

E-mail: patbecker50@yahoo.com.

Pro Life News for the Monthly Knights Newsletter for February 2026

From: Bob Reynolds (rgrcons1@gmail.com)

1) Immokalee Pregnancy Center Annual Banquet and Fundraiser

This will occur on Thurs, Feb 12 with doors open at 6:30 PM at the parish center at St Leo's Catholic Church. I created a parish version of the IPC ad which I submitted for publication on OLOL social media and the bulletin several weeks ago. I have attached the same here.

Also, we have just procured a 4th table to be shared between our parish and Resurrection at the banquet. All of our tables will be organized together at the event. The self-registration link is <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=31139>

If anyone wants to sit at one of our tables, they can choose seats at the tables hosted by Chas Defeo or Sal Evola since my table and Pat Becker's table are full at present.

2) 40 Days for Life International Spring 2026 Campaign During Lent

Again this year, we will support a local presence at the Planned Parenthood in Ft Myers for public prayer. This campaign will last from Ash Wednesday to March 29. The kickoff will occur at 10:30AM on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18 at Planned Parenthood of Ft. Myers, 6418 Commerce Park Dr., Ft Myers. We are asking for private prayers for this campaign and its participants. We are also asking our parishioners at OLOL to pray publicly, as possible, at any time Wednesday afternoons from 11AM-4PM during the campaign's 6 weeks duration. An alternate day is Saturdays, when possible, as Planned Parenthood will be open between 8AM and 4PM. Parking is readily available curbside on Commerce Park Drive. I have attached a draft flyer which details the kickoff and public prayer signups. Call or text: (267) 733-2737, or email: athomas8022@gmail.com)



40 DAYS FOR LIFE®
KICKOFF RALLY!

**SPRING 2026 FT MYERS PRAYER
VIGIL**

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18
10:30AM**

Please join us on the sidewalk outside of:
Planned Parenthood
6418 Commerce Park Dr

SPEAKERS INCLUDING:

Elise Rose
PhD, MA
Longtime Pro Life Advocate



and others

GET YOUR CHURCH ON OUR CALENDAR FOR THE SPRING VIGIL:
TEXT OR CALL: 267-733-2737
EMAIL: ATHOMAS8022@GMAIL.COM

40daysforlife.com/fortmyers



anchored in
HOPE



WE HAVE THIS HOPE AS AN ANCHOR
FOR

THE SOUL, FIRM AND SECURE.

HEBREWS 6:19A

To Reserve a seat at one of
the OLOL tables ,pls
contact Bob
Reynolds@267-733-2737

To self-register go to
<https://>

[secure.fundeasy.com/
ministrysync/event/
home.php?e=31139](https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=31139)

Immakalce Pregnancy Center

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET

FEBRUARY 12, 2026