

# Columbus Crusader

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



May 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 June 2nd at 7:00 p.m. (In Parish Center). Food and Refreshments will be provided.

**Hudak.** We now have met 154% of our quota set forth by Supreme. We have recruited 20 new Knights of Columbus this Fraternal Year with 2 more months to go.

This past month, our Council sponsored the Easter Egg Hunt on April 11<sup>th</sup> with more than 150 children and adults who searched for the eggs in the parking lot behind the Parish Center. Many thanks to **Gerda Hansen** and her lady friends for providing the Easter Baskets and crafts. On April 18<sup>th</sup> we held BINGO night and 175 attended to play Bingo. On April 26<sup>th</sup> we had the Pancake Breakfast. We served 125 meals. "Thank You" to the Brother Knights who helped out at the April Events.

It is with sadness that I report the passing of **Brother Louis Frattarelli** on April 8, 2026. Brother Louis was an Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus. Also, **Brother Richard Giacomuzzi** passed away on February 2, 2026. Brother Richard was also an Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus.

The SP-7 Form has been submitted to Supreme. This form summarizes all that our Council has done this past Fraternal Year. It also is used to determine if we met all the requirements to receive Star Council. Less than 10% of all Knights of Columbus Councils will receive this yearly award.

Our final total for monies collected from the Disability



### From the Grand Knight

Hello Brother Knights,  
Congratulations to **March Knight of the Month Brother Mike Humin** and **March Family of the Month Brother Tom and Kathy Copmann**.

Welcome to new Knights – **Brothers Aspen Hawke, Kyle Hooper, Ed Jedlicka, Gabriel Nieto, Thomas Petrozzi, Bob Schowalter, and Andrew**

“Tootsie Roll” Drive was \$16,123.00 Great job Brother Knights!!

## MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS....

**May 5<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting** – 7:00 PM in the Parish Center. All are welcome. Food and refreshments will be provided.

**MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> – Mother’s Day Flowers** – We will hand out flowers after the weekend Masses for Mother’s Day. Help is needed. 6 Knights after each Mass. Also, we will provide cookies and tea for the Mother’s Day Concert after the 10:30 AM Mass.

**MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> – BINGO** – Doors open at 5:30 PM and games start at 6:30 PM. Tickets are available in the Parish Office for \$15.00 or \$18.00 at the door. We will set up at 4:00 PM. Help is always appreciated.

**MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> & 24<sup>TH</sup> -Florida State Convention** – In Orlando. **Brothers DGK Stefan Gehrold, Ed Sedillo, and Garry Richetelli** will attend and represent our Council.

**MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> – Planning Meeting** – 7:00 PM in Classroom 302.

**MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ROSARY, CORPORATE COMMUNION** – 10:00 AM

prior to the 10:30 AM Mass. This Mass will also be dedicated to ALL deceased Brother Knights from our Council 10498. The 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Color Corps will be in attendance. Please attend to honor our deceased Brother Knights and wear your red Council shirt. After Mass, we will have a luncheon at Mario’s Restaurant in the Grande Oak Shopping Center. Please RSVP to **Brother Joe Ercolino** [amjercolino@gmail.com](mailto:amjercolino@gmail.com) or **561-801-0110** if you want to attend the luncheon.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, our Council will have 5 Brother Knights that will attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification and become 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sir Knights in Assembly 2542. This Exemplification will be at St. John the Evangelist Church in Naples at 11:00 AM. God Bless **Brothers Christopher Smyth, Paolo Cavazzini, Fritz Roka, Dale Milcetch, and Jimmy Loor** in their advancement to 4<sup>th</sup> Degree.

**SAVE THE DATE....4<sup>th</sup> Degree Liberty Ball.** Saturday June 20, 2026 in the Parish Center. Cost is \$45.00 per person and it includes appetizers, dinner, drinks, and dancing. 100% of all proceeds to

benefit Hearts and Homes, Military Chaplains Fund, Wreaths Across America, and 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. A **Patriotic Celebration** honoring Knights of Columbus Veterans, 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and their families. Catering by Antonio’s Scratch Kitchen. Help by donating wine, liquor, or non-alcoholic items for the raffle baskets. Bring those items to our next Business Meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Get your tickets from **Faithful Navigator John Ryan 239-253-8813** or **Brother Knight Jim Mendolera 440-446-9110. Tickets are also available in the Parish Office.** Cash or check. No credit card sales.

Have a Blessed Memorial Day as we honor Military Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice.

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

*“Every drop of water is important, because the sea is made of drops.” Mother Teresa*



**From the Chancellor**  
Hello Brother Knights,

Thank you to all the Brothers who helped during Easter week with the Easter egg hunt and many of the services during Easter week. Mother’s Day is coming and we need at least 6 people to pass out flowers at each Mass on Saturday May 9th after the 4 p.m. Mass and Sunday May 10th after the 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and the 5 p.m. Masses.

Thank you to the many Brothers who attended the funerals of Brother Louis Frattarelli on April 24th and Bob Bailey on April 28th at Our Lady of Light. Please pray for them and their families. Continue to pray for all Brothers who have passed and those who may be ill. We only recently learned of the passing of Brother Richard

Giacomuzzi on February 2 at the age of 98. His obituary can be found here:  
<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/richard-giacomuzzi-obituary?id=60734401>.  
 Richard became a Knight in August 1967 and attained 4<sup>th</sup>

Degree in November of 2000. His family decided not to celebrate his life locally and memorial will be held in Massachusetts.

Bob Du Mont  
 630-352-1979

Mary pray for us,



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



May

James	F	Fabry		5/1	Garry		Richetelli	5/21
Paul	H	Fasy		5/2	Timothy	J	Brutsche	5/22
William	R	Heaslip	Sr	5/3	Dennis		Madden	5/23
Lawrence	I	Hardy		5/4	Ronald	J	LoFranco	5/25
Jon	M	Mc Lain		5/5	John	C	Diller	6/2
Dale	C	Milcetch		5/6	Joseph	R	Pavich	Sr 6/2
Thomas	L	Copmann		5/7	John	F	Fischer	6/7
Herman	J	Mancini		5/10	George		Mantikas	6/10
MICHAEL	J	BROWN		5/12	Paolo		Cavazzini	6/11
Peter	A	Di Paolo		5/12	Louis	W	Salera	6/12
Duane	G	Tebbe		5/12				
Lee	D	Jones		5/15				
William	T	Corbett		5/17				
Otto	F	Sitter		5/17				

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:patbecker50@yahoo.com).