



# St. Michael's Message

Official Publication of Knights of Columbus

## St. Michael the Archangel

### Assembly 3410

Affiliated Councils: St. Lawrence Catholic Church, St. Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church, St. Matthew Catholic Church and St. Alphonsa Catholic Church



Newsletter Date

February 2025

### News from the Assembly

by SK Mark Winsor and Terrence Gaines

**Of the 80 new SKs that advanced to the 4th Degree at the 11/16/2024 exemplification, six are coming to Assy 3410.**



- John B. Aguiar 13440
- William C. Childress, Jr. 13440
- Alan Larkins 13052
- Raymond P. McGrath 13229
- Stanley Nwachukwu 13440
- Carey Scruggs 13440





## News from the Assembly - Continued

### Assembly 3410 serves on National Wreaths Across America Day 2024

On December 14, 2024, members of St Michael the Archangel Assembly 3410 honored the memories of local veterans by participating in ceremonies at East Shadowlawn Memorial Gardens and Gwinnett Memorial Park as part of National Wreaths Across America Day.



With the help of Lawrenceville Mayor David Still, Junior ROTC cadets, and other local civic groups, veteran wreaths were placed on the graves of more than 550 of our country's fallen heroes.





**News from the Assembly - Continued**



Weather conditions were sunny but chilly – some of our crew enjoyed a barbecue lunch at The RedBarn in Lawrenceville between events.





## News from the Assembly - Continued

Fifty-one of the wreaths were donated in 2024 through our own Sponsorship Group Page < [www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/GA0471P](http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/GA0471P) >—which is up and running for 2025. Spread the word to friends, families, co-workers...



Now that the Christmas season is concluded, we have started a new year now the service calls begin in. I have already started to receive new call outs, and I will issue the callouts as soon as I receive them. Please try to participate this year so we can always have a strong appearance of Color Corp (Honor Guard and Color Guard). We will also be forming a Color Guard this year to handle new requests. If you would like to be trained to serve as a color guard let me know. I am in the process of working with our Faithful Navigator on ordering the equipment that we will need for this unit. If you would like to schedule any future events at St. Lawrence, St. Matthews, or St. Oliver, contact our CCC Terrence at 404-396-3965



## Pot of Gold Raffle

The assembly will conduct a 'Pot of Gold' raffle at each meeting. The cost to participate is \$1. Following are the rules:

- Potential winners name will be picked from the 70 plus assembly members.
- Winner must have participated in the raffle and be present at the meeting.
- In the event a non-present member or a non-participating member's name is selected, the prize will roll over to the next meeting until an eligible member is picked.
- Assembly splits the prize with the winner
- Member's Name DRAWN for January was SK Robert Barnard,,, NOT present so the POT CONTINUES TO GROW, currently at \$26.

## St Lawrence Council 13052 Update

by SK Terrence Gaines

Here's the pictures from the Star Award Mass from Nov 17, 2024





### St Lawrence Council 13052 Update - Continued

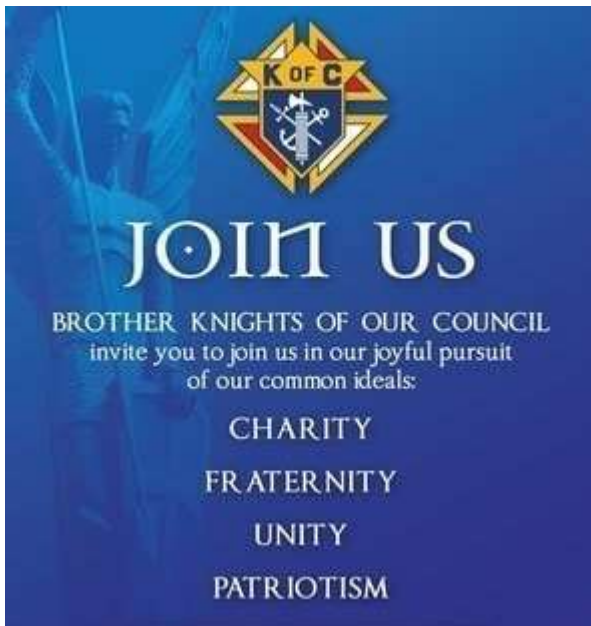


New Financial Secretary Fisher Londono at St. Lawrence begins his term with new financial leadership to council 13052. He is already exploring new ideas to increase council revenue and better manage the council resources as suggested by the District Deputy



### St Lawrence Council 13052 Update - Continued

St. Lawrence GK on fire to recruit new members to council #13052 . GK will be working on a few memberships drives to recruit 14 new members



### **Council 13052 Lady Knights News**

Our Lady Knights of council 13052 begin 2025 planning social and rewarding council activities and supporting the KOC Faith in Action programs. Please join me and welcome our new officers. Plans are currently being made for the District Deputy to install them in the future. The ladies meet monthly on Saturday mornings in the Divine Mercy room. For more information about the ladies' auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus or to get dates of upcoming meetings you can contact Sun for more information at ladyknights13052@gmail.com.



Sun Rim Brank – President  
 Idalisa Nicastro - Vice President  
 Rosanne Larkins – Secretary  
 Joanna Brown – Treasurer



### **St Matthews Council 13229 Update**

by SK Tom Hamberger

Following is activity report covering past several months for Council 13229 St Matthew --Winder.

Exemplifications:

- BK Ray McGrath attended 4th Degree Exemplification in November and is now SK Ray McGrath
- BK Trent Johnson is preparing to attend 4th Degree in Augusta Feb 8th based on Assembly vetting at Jan. Assembly mtg
- Council held 1-3 Degree Exemplification for two new Knights BK David Hall and BK Chuck Stetter

New Council member -- Long time BK Laz Gutierrez has joined the Council. Welcome to all these Brother Knights

Semiannual Council Audit -- Subject audit was completed with all accounts in good order. EOY membership total is 57 BKs

### **St Matthews Council 13229 Update - Continued**

Council Pro Life support

- Life Diaper fundraiser drive for CAM Pregnancy Center of Winder has raised approx. \$1000
- Council members supported and served Christmas luncheon for Walking With Purpose Ministry members

BK Walter Carper's home has been rebuilt after devastating fire last summer. Home is now reoccupied

Lenten Fish Fry -- Preparations and plans have started for this important Parish event starting Friday March 7th

Monastery Baked goods sale -- BKs Luis, Warren, and Hector coordinated and managed the baked goods sale at December Masses and sold out!! Proceeds of approx. \$1600 has been donated to St Matthew Burn the Mortgage fund. Well Done!!

### **St Oliver Plunkett Council 13440 Update**

None to report

### **Announcement's**

None to report

### **Calendar of Up Coming Color Corps Calls to Service**

- Fourth Degree Exemplification – February 8, 2025. St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church 4921 Columbia Rd, Grovetown, GA 30813



### **Prayer Intention for the Lord's Grace and Protection**

- For the repose of the soul of SK Deacon Ed Wilson

### **Saint of the Month - St. Padre Pio**



St. Padre Pio was an Italian priest who was known for his piety and charity, as well as the gift of the stigmata, which has never been explained.

St. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione, on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy. His parents were peasant farmers. He had an older brother and three younger sisters, as well as two other siblings who died in infancy. As a child, he was very religious and by the age of five he reportedly made the decision to dedicate his life to God.

Fortunately, his parents were also very religious and they supported his Catholic development. His family attended daily Mass. Francisco served as an altar boy at his local parish. Francisco was known for taking on penances and his mother once scolded him for sleeping on a stone floor.

Francisco's community was also supportive. Saint's days were popular celebrations and commonly celebrated in his town.

From his tender age, Francisco had a peculiar ability. He could see guardian angels, spoke with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. This was not something taught to him, but occurred so naturally that he assumed other people could see them too.

Although Francisco and his family was very religious, they were also very poor, which required that he work. He spent many years as a child tending to a small flock of sheep owned by his family. Unfortunately, the work meant he was unable to attend school regularly, so he quickly fell behind other kids his age.

Francisco was sickly as a child. He suffered an attack of gastroenteritis at age six and when he was ten, he had typhoid fever.

In 1897, after three years of schooling, Francisco expressed to his parents that he wanted to become a friar. His parents traveled to a nearby community of monks and asked if Francesco could join them. He was evaluated, despite his young age, and was told that he needed more education before he could join.

To prepare Francesco, his parents decided to hire a private tutor. To pay the cost of the tutor, Francesco's father traveled to America to find work, and sent the money home.



### **Saint of the Month - St. Padre Pio - Continued**

At the age of 15, Francisco was finally ready and he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcone. He took the name of "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I, whose relic he often saw at his local chapel.

At the age of 17, Brother Pio became extremely ill and could only digest milk and cheese. He was sent to the mountain for better air, and when this did not work, he was sent home to his family. Amid all this, he continued to study for the priesthood.

On one occasion during prayer, a fellow monk astonishingly reported he saw Pio levitate during an episode of ecstasy.

Brother Pio became a priest in 1910, but was permitted to remain at home because of his poor health.

In 1915, with World War I afflicting the world, Padre Pio was summoned for military service. He was compelled to leave a tiny community of monks, with whom he was then housed, and drafted into medical service. However, he was so sickly that he was often sent home, only to then be recalled for service. In March 1916, he was finally dismissed because of his poor health.

On September 20, Padre Pio was hearing confessions when he felt pain in his hands and feet. He noticed the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, appearing on his hands and feet. The experience was painful. Bleeding occurred. The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected. Doctors who later examined the stigmata were amazed at their perfectly round shape.

By 1919, word began to spread about Padre Pio's stigmata and people came from far away to examine him.

Padre Pio became popular with the people he encountered and soon began to attribute supernatural occurrences to him. For example, he was said to levitate, and able to perform miracles.

His popularity became a source of concern for the Church and the Vatican began to restrict his activities to minimize public interaction. Padre Pio himself was uncomfortable with his newfound popularity and the attention he received because of his stigmata. A Church investigation into his stigmata concluded that his condition was not faked.

By 1934, the Vatican began to change its attitude towards Padre Pio and he was again allowed to perform public duties. He could preach, despite never being officially licensed by the Church to do so. Pope Pius XI encouraged people to visit him.

In 1947, Fr. Karol Wojtyla visited Padre Pio who prophetically told him he would rise to the highest post in the Church." Fr. Karol Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II in 1978.

Padre Pio used his newfound popularity to open a hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo. The facility opened in 1956.

Pope Paul VI reviewed the controversies surrounding Padre Pio and dismissed any concerns over his conduct and the authenticity of his stigmata.



### **Saint of the Month - St. Padre Pio - Continued**

Padre Pio became internationally famous. He was known for his piety, charity and the quality of his preaching. He famously advised, "Pray, hope and don't worry."

He had other illnesses, as well, including cancer which was miraculously healed after just two treatments. Other problems, such as arthritis, which plagued him in his later years, never went away.

Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people.

Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint on June 16, 2002. His feast day is September 23. He is the patron of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, and the village of Pietrelcina

### **Assembly Website**

Have you visited our website? If not (and even if you have), take a moment now and click on over to [michaelthearchangel.org](http://michaelthearchangel.org) and look around!

### **Assembly Information**

Faithful Navigator: SK Mike Miller, Faithful Captain: SK Tony Annarelli, Faithful Friar: Rev Henry Atem, Faithful Comptroller: SK Mark Winsor, Faithful Pilot: SK Frank Montelione, Faithful Purser: SK James Brennan, Faithful Admiral: SK Desmond Donlin, Faithful Scribe: SK Dauda "Jimmi" Koroma, Inner Sentinel: SK Ken Dalton, Outer Sentinel: SK Elkin Vargas, One Year Trustee: Paolo Palmas, Two Year Trustee: SK Tom Hamberger, Three Year Trustee: SK Nelson Rivera, Color Corp Commander: SK Terrence Gaines

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