



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

October 2023

Our Lady of Victory Council 7968

Joseph R Perrone Assembly 2789

Grand Knight – Dan Lesh

Deputy Grand Knight – Dennis Daigle

Faithful Navigator -- Bill Marchand

Faithful Captain – Steve Malutich

State Deputy – Richard P. Hughes

District Deputy – Travis Robinson Jr

Insurance Agent – Jeff Fischer

Council business meetings are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of the month at 7PM.

Council social meetings are held on the **4th Wednesday** of the month at 7PM.

Assembly meetings are held on the **1st Thursday** of the month at 7PM.

All meetings are held at the Knight's Hall, 701 E. James Lee Blvd.

INSURANCE NEWS

Catholic Charities Food Truck

The 10th of October was Catholic Charity Day and the second Tuesday of the month when weekly bags are filled with food and given to families in need. We had sufficient bags filled with a week's supply of food for 44 families, but we had 50 families in the line. No problem, the Care Center provided the additional bags needed. Hopefully, next month Catholic Charities will bring even more food.

Picture 1 - Unloading the food from the Catholic Charities truck.



Picture 2 - Sorting the food and packing the bags.



Pictures 3 & 4 - Brother Travis controlling the incoming traffic with a representative from Catholic Charities checking in the families.



Picture 5 - Issuing the bags to the cars.

Picture 6 - Volunteers enjoying a great lunch.



Let's Talk Bingo for a minute...

Many years ago, Brother Steve Maloney ran weekly bingo. At that time there was another bingo hall in Crestview, also on Highway 90. Because of the competition there were times when we lost money. Steve started quarter bingo to see if it would help us earn a little extra money. We started out earning about 100 dollars on quarter bingo. However, within six months our competition went out of business, and we were earning money again. Quarter Bingo proceeds dramatically increased from \$100 to \$200 and occasionally, over \$300. The most we ever made on Quarter Bingo was \$354. That was until Tuesday, 3 Oct 2023 when we broke our record and pulled in \$543! We couldn't believe it. Brother Pat Quinn was calling Quarter Bingo and played 27 games between 4:30 PM to 6:15 PM. Bingo participation has increased in the past few weeks, and we are now regularly earning close to \$400, WOW!

Thanks to all our volunteers who make this possible!

District Exemplification

On the 12th of October, the District 5 Exemplification for Charity, Unity and Fraternity was held at Holy Name of Jesus Parish. One young sailor from Niceville became a Third Degree Knight. Brother Arnie conducted the ceremony, ensuring that it was seen throughout the state of Florida, and took the picture. Our District 5 Deputy Travis Robinson was also in attendance.



Free Breakfast

On the 22nd of October after both the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses, the Knights of Columbus prepared and served a free breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice and coffee in the Parish Hall. The breakfast was enjoyed by a few hundred parishioners.



Picture 1 - Brothers Travis and Mark preparing the food outside with Brothers Bob, John and Steve bringing the food into the hall.



Picture 2 - Some of the crowd following the 9AM Mass.

Picture 3 - Helpers preparing the drinks, fruits and transporting the pancakes and sausages out to the

cooks.

Picture 4 - Knights and their wife's serving the food.



District Soccer Challenge

Winners in their local council/churches' soccer challenge within District 5 that includes two councils and two churches in Niceville, one council/church in Destin and one in Crestview could have participated in the District 5 soccer challenge that was held on 21 October at Our Lady of Victory Church. The District 5 Soccer Challenge was hosted by our Council 7968 and was run by Brother Travis Robinson. There were participants/winners in the 9, 10, 12, & 14 age groups and the winners were all from Our Lady of Victory Church. The District 5 winners will be advancing to the Regional Soccer Challenge Competition that will be held sometime in November. Winners of the Regional Competition will compete in the Florida State Soccer Competition. Winners in each age group follow:

9yrs-Zowey Schmitz

10yrs-Jade Wylie

12yrs-Henry Nurmi

14yrs-Benjamin Harrison

Picture 1 - Knight helpers.

Picture 2 and 3 - Kids competing.



Pictures 4, 5, 6, and 7 - Our four winners noted above.

Day of the Dead

On Saturday the 29th of October, Our Lady of Victory celebrated Dia de las Muertas, the Day of the Dead. A Mexican holiday where families welcome back the souls of their deceased relatives for a brief reunion that includes food, drink, and celebration. It is celebrated in Mexico from 31 Oct through 2 Nov. The parish kids enjoyed this celebration dressed in costumes and using it to celebrate Halloween. The Knights of Columbus (KofC) were there preparing and serving a mixed Taco Lunch. The pictures were taken by Arnie Fonseca, thanks Arnie.

Pictures 1 & 2 - The KofC helpers.

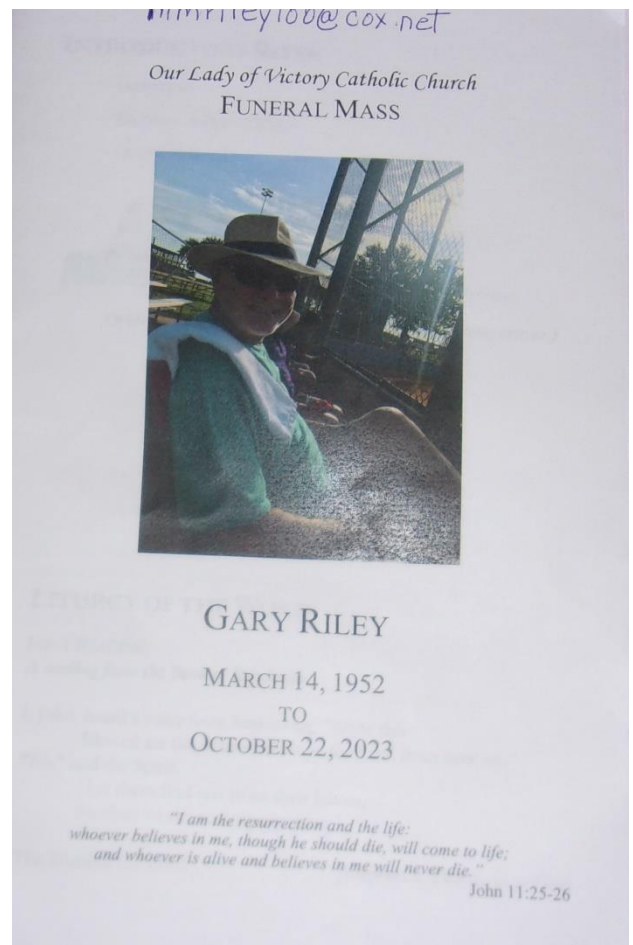
Pictures 3 & 4 - A few of the decorations.

Pictures 5 & 6 - A few of the Halloween costumes.



THE SAD PASSING AND MEMORY OF BROTHER KNIGHT GARY RILEY

Brother Gary Riley passed away on the 22nd of October 2023 at the age of 71. Gary was born in Chattanooga, TN on the 14th of March 1952. His family moved to St Simons Island when he was 11 and attended school there. Gary was the first child of James and Joyce Riley. Gary has one sister and two brothers, Sandra, Larry, and Ronald, who recently passed away. Both Sandra and Larry were at the memorial Mass held at Our Lady of Victory Church. St. Simons Island is also where Gary met his wife, Margaret. Gary and Margaret spent 51 wonderful years together and shared many lives changing experiences. Gary and Margaret raised three wonderful and successful children, Ryan, Stephen, and Bridget. They were also at the Memorial Mass with their families. Also, there were their four grandchildren Alayna, Gabby, Riley, and Davey. In their later years Margaret and Gary made Crestview, Florida their home, where each of their children graduated from Crestview High School and went on to start their own family.



With Margaret by Gary side, Gary served in the United States Air Force for over 22 years where he obtained the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. During those 22 years, Gary worked on many of the Air Force advanced fighter jets, including being the crew chief for the F15 fighter jet. On the flight line Gary was known as, "Thumbs Up Gary".

Gary back on 26 Sep 2001 became an active member of the Knights of Columbus (KofC). For years Gary took on the job of renting the KofC Hall. The rental fees were used to finance the upkeep of the KofC Hall. Gary, also for a few years, before moving to Arizona, took responsibility for quarterly Highway Cleanup where a two-mile stretch of highway had to be cleaned up every quarter. He was responsible for picking up and returning the needed equipment from the city and getting rid of the trash picked up by the Knights and he attended most monthly meetings.

Gary was also a master storyteller. His stories and jokes were always an important part of putting people at ease and bringing people together in any group or situation. He loved



BROTHER KNIGHTS PAYING TRIBUTE TO GARY AND BROTHER HERB WAS THE LECTOR

traveling. He used to love riding his motorcycle, Gary also loved to BQ and cooking out in the back yard. Gary was like a master chief on the BQ grill, and sometimes it seemed like he was cooking for all of Crestview.

Gary was enrolled by the KofC as a Perpetual Member in the Missionary Society of St. Columban to share in the Masses, prayers, and work of Columban missionaries

worldwide. All Associate members share in the

following: Each year 2,000 Masses are offered for Associate Members including 100 special Masses at Easter, All Souls and Christmas.

Each week special prayers are offered in all Columban houses and mission centers. Each Day the sacrifices and prayers of Columban missionaries are made.

Gary made such a wonderful impact on so many lives that he will truly be missed!

Knight of the Month

The October Knight of the month is Brother (Retired USA Colonel) Joe Masterson. Joe has made numerous contributions to our council as he has used his woodworking skills to make both the K of C and 4th Degree emblems that now hang on our walls in the council hall. He has put wheels on our BINGO counter that helps to make it mobile so that we can do the required maintenance to the hall when it must be moved. Joe has helped with many charitable drives for the council, helping to raise the money we need to continue our charitable activities. He participates as our representative on special occasions when we need to have someone to lay wreaths at the downtown veteran's wall recognizing our fallen heroes from past military conflicts.



Family of the Month



It was with great pleasure that we presented the October Family of the Month Award to Arnie Fonseca and Yazdel Alvarez Two of our most avid parish members. Arnie is a Knight and participates with the District Exemplification Team as their communications specialist ensuring that the monthly Exemplification is broadcast throughout the state without interruption. He organized and ran the council's Soccer Championships last month which saw four of our champions go on to win the District Championship. He also is the Youth Director for the 9th through 12th grade for OLV parish. He takes pictures and videos for the parish along with his wife Yazdel at all the parish functions. Yazdel and Arnie are both Extra Ordinary Eucharist Ministers for the parish and work the weekly youth meetings on Wednesday nights. They both go that extra mile to do what needs to be done.