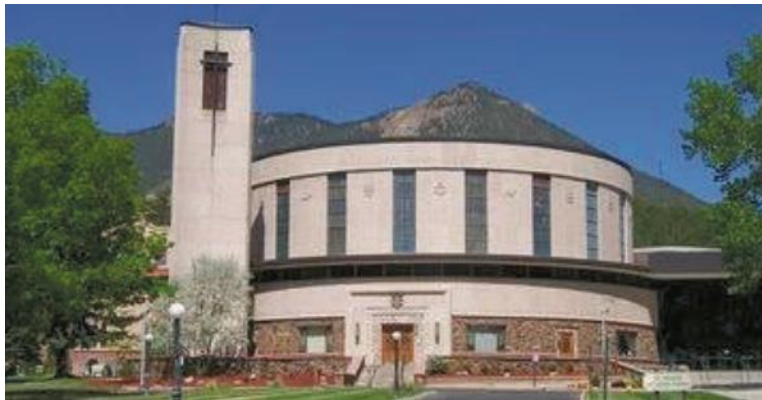


THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



MOUNT ST. FRANCIS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #12228
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
2025 December Edition



GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEW

As I look toward the new year, I am thinking of how we could bring more men, and especially younger men, into the Knights. I was amazed to hear a CBS news story that reported that young men, predominantly millennials and Gen Z, are returning to church and other religious activities in greater numbers than in past years. As these groups return to the churches they grew up in, they may wish to take the next step and become Knights, where they can put their faith into action.

In the recent *Columbian Magazine*, Our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly wrote, "It's no secret that many young men in America today are struggling. We are hardwired, as men, for purpose and mission. By serving shoulder to shoulder and making sacrifices to help those in need, men find the meaning they are looking for."

In a panel discussion titled "The Role of Faith and Civic Institutions in Restoring Male Community," the supreme knight emphasized that many young men seek an antidote to relativism and find it in organizations such as the Knights.

We are holding a Charity, Unity, and Fraternity (CUF) Exemplification on January 18th. Information about the Knights and handouts that show prospects how to register for the Exemplification will be available in the Hall after Masses during the weeks leading up to the CUF Exemplification.

When you see a prospect, approach them and ask them if they know what Knights do. This will give you an opportunity to explain all the many events we sponsor and support without our efforts and our donations.

Here is but a partial list of donations made by our Knights Council:

- Fellowship of Catholic University Students
- Seminarians
- Chesterton Academy
- Habitat for Humanity
- Special Olympics
- Coats for Kids
- Cheyenne Village
- Pikes Peak Citizens for Life
- Saint Mary's Scholarship Fund
- Bakhita Mountain Home
- Safe Passage-healing services for Human Trafficking

Here is a sample of the events and activities our Knights participate in:

- Breakfast with Santa
- Decorating the Church for Christmas
- Pregnancy Center Support
- Monthly Parish Breakfasts
- Apostoles' Build with Habitat for Humanity
- Lenten Fish Dinners
- Easter and Christmas parking teams
- Mother's Day breakfast
- Sisters picnic
- Father's Day breakfast
- Silver Rose Ceremony
- Special Olympics
- Parish picnic support
- Coats for Kids, sorting and distribution
- Patriotic Rosary
- Veterans Day parade
- Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest for children.
- Taking Communion to the sick and infirm
- Visiting Parishioners in care facilities

Please print out the two tables and the following URL. Please take them with you so that you have the materials to talk to men who could sign up for our CUF on July 18th.

Ask any Knight how to join, or go to:

Kofc.org/join

LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS – December 2025

The Christmas Dinner was beautiful and fun. Thank you to all the ladies that made the evening a success. The decorations were lovely. Thank you to Becky Davis for designing and making the centerpieces. Debra Korty led us in the completion of the design plan. Twelve ladies quickly spread tablecloths, set out flatware, napkins and butter. So many hands made the set-up of the venue fast and pleasant. Lisa Kita and Lynnette Condron greeted the guests with a smile. Rosemary Toman, Carol Lagatta, Margaret Bogart and Karen Loman put the finishing touches on the tables by plating salads and setting out the rolls. Thank you to the gift exchange elves, Carla Shonka, Lise Wolfe and Donna Priester for setting up the exchange area and keeping the exchange moving. Delia Barr, Sheila Castellano, and Debra Korty satisfied our sweet teeth with their cake cutting talents.



The set – up elves.

We have planned a Ladies Night Out at La Baguette French Bistro on 15 January 2026. We will sign up at our next meeting on 8 January 2026. If you can't make the meeting, you can contact me and I will put your name on the list.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Susan Ridge

Ladies Auxiliary

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

The Council 12228 Knight of the Month for December 2025 is Brother Sir Knight Al Batey. Al is a Third-Degree council member, joining the Order on May 23rd, 2005, and became a 4th Degree member of Assembly 88 on May 20th, 2007.

Sir Knight Al is a past Grand Knight of Council 12228. He distinguished himself in that position and was selected to serve as a District Deputy. As a District Deputy, he has mentored and guided many Grand Knights from many Councils. Most extraordinarily, he has served the needs of Council 12228 through multiple Grand Knights.

Though he holds a very high position in the Knights, he also serves in activities that do not require his extensive knowledge and leadership skills. You will see him taking his turn preparing doughnuts for consumption. You will also see him preparing the Hall for parties, meetings, or ceremonies. There is no job too simple nor too complex for him. He helps wherever hands are needed.



Sir Al also volunteers throughout the community. He provides communion to those who cannot travel to Church and visits those who are hospitalized. He also volunteers at the United States Air Force Academy pharmacy.

Given his broad field of practice, it is not surprising that he has also distinguished himself in Assembly 88's Color Corps. He has risen to the position of Captain in the Assembly that provides service to our Parish and has participated in most of the Color Guard and Honor Guard events at our Parish. He has also stepped up to provide Color Corps assistance to Parishes with few Color Corps Knights of their own.

We are proud to honor our brother Knight, Al Batey, as Knight of the Month for November 2025 for what he does for our parish, community, and council.

Javan Ridge, Grand Knight

FAMILY OF THE MONTH:



The Council 12228 Family of the Month for November 2025 is the Condron family. SK Bob Condron is a Third-Degree council member, joining the Order on January 25th, 2018, and is a 4th Degree Knight in Assembly 88, receiving that degree on May 20th, 2018.

SK Bob Condron is instrumental in the transition of the new Grand Knight and other new officers for the Fraternal year. His professional

experience and experience as a Knight and Officer have been instrumental in ensuring that new officers succeed. He is genuinely a standout as a leader and brings confidence to those around him.

He participates in activities ranging from the physical setup of the hall in various configurations to the Parish picnic and all social functions. He is instrumental as a member of committees, able to grasp the breadth of an event and ensure that all the bases are covered. His previous professional experience prepared him well to ensure complex requirements are executed smoothly and on time.

Lynnett Condron has been equally proficient at applying her talents and experience to complex, time-sensitive tasks. She has been a mainstay in overseeing the Lady's Auxiliary's tasks and in working with the new leadership to ensure all projects, activities, and functions are planned and executed in a way that not only delivers excellent results but also reduces or eliminates frustration and missed steps.

The Condron Family works as a team to ensure the success of Council 12228 and consistently provides the guidance and support needed to reduce the stress on those responsible for the Council's success. Bob and Lynnett Condron genuinely demonstrate the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity to our Council, parish, and community. They have earned and deserve the "Family of the Month" designation for November 2025.

SK Javan Ridge, Grand Knight

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & MRS. CLAUS



Santa and Mrs. Claus graced our December 7 Parish Breakfast, much to the delight of the children (young and young at heart).



NOVENA

The feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas, but you can pray the Holy Family Novena for any reason that you want, so go ahead and start praying!

The Holy Family consists of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. They serve as a holy example for our families and us. As Blessed Pope Paul VI said, we meditate on the Holy Family that it may “teach us what family life is, its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character.” In this novena, we will reflect on different aspects of the members of the Holy Family and different events that took place in their lives to help our families and us grow in holiness.

Read more at: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/holy-family-novena>

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Holy Family Novena Day 1:

Holy Family, you were close to our Heavenly Father on Earth, uniting your wills to His, and are now close to Him in Heaven. I ask that you intercede with Him on my behalf.

(Mention your intentions here)

Holy Family, you traveled to Bethlehem without knowing where Mary would give birth. You relied on God to provide, and what He provided for His Son was a manger in the midst of animals. Help my family to rely on God for our needs and trust in His ways, even when they are not what we expect.

Holy Family, you who once walked this Earth, accompany my family as we strive to follow your example by walking in your footsteps.

Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

For Day 2 through Day 9 go to <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/holy-family-novena>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Friday Morning	Rachel Rosary at 9:15 am, 3420 Centennial Boulevard
January 1, Thursday	Knights Council Meeting, 6:45 p.m.; Rosary, 7:10 p.m., Rooms B & C
	Ladies Auxiliary meeting (Hall), followed by Social in Hall.
January 11, Sunday	Parish Breakfast after 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses
January 15, Thursday	Council Officers' Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.
January 18, Sunday	CUF Exemplification, Church
February 5, Thursday	Council Meeting, 6:45 p.m. Rosary, 7:10 p.m. Rooms B and C, Knights, Ladies Auxiliary meeting (Hall), followed by Social in Hall.
February 14, Saturday	Saint Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance after 5:00 pm Mass
February 19, Saturday	Council Officers' Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.
February 20, Friday	Fish Dinner
February 27, Friday	Fish Dinner
March 5, Thursday	Council Meeting, 6:45 p.m. Rosary, 7:10 p.m., Rooms B and C, Knights, Ladies Auxiliary meeting (Hall), followed by Social in Hall.
March 13, Friday	Fish Dinner
March 14, Saturday	St Patrick's Dinner
March 20, Friday	Fish Denner
March 27, Friday	Fish Dinner
March 29, Sunday	5 th Sunday Rosary, - after 8:30 and 10:30 Mass, Palm Sunday

COUNCIL #12228 OFFICERS

Grand Knight	Javan Ridge
Chaplain	Fr. Erin Kochivar
Chaplain Emeritus	Fr. Ken Przybyla
Deputy Grand Knight	Robert Bogart
Chancellor	Ben Davis
Advocate	John Heyne
Recording Secretary	Patrick Baldwin
Treasurer	Ron Toman
Warden	Michael Kindt
Inside Guard	William Wolfe
Outside Guard	Nick Pepenella
Lecturer	Joe Priester
1st Year Trustee	Michael Wolfe
2nd Year Trustee	Robert Condron
3rd Year Trustee	Frank Castellano
Financial Secretary	Ron Born
District Deputy	Al Batey

SERVICE PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Program Director	Ben Davis
Faith	Larry Gray
Community	Joe Shonka
Family	Paul Lagatta
Life Director	Harvey Siegle
Membership	Ron Toman
Cooking Team Director	Mike Ortiz
Retention	Michael Kindt
Public Relations	Robert Condron
Technical Support	Paul Lagatta Michael Kindt
Newsletter Editor	Harvey Siegle

INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE

Brandon L. Nelson	719-565-8896 brandon.nelson@kofc.org
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Editor's Note: Send questions, letters, comments, or article ideas to the editor. Submissions must be received by the 26th of the month for inclusion in that month's newsletter.

- harvey.siegle@saintfranciskofc.org

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Mount St. Francis Council #12228 website: <http://saintfranciskofc.org/>

Knights of Columbus Colorado State website: <http://www.coloradokofc.org/>

Knights of Columbus Supreme website: <http://www.kofc.org>

