

THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



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

GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEWS



It has certainly been an honor and a blessing to serve as the Grand Knight for our awesome Mount St Francis Council these last two years. At the same time, it has been a great challenge because almost anything worth achieving requires sacrifice and dedication. Fortunately, God provides us with the strength, through the Holy Spirit, to persevere and continue to do his good work here on earth and follow in the steps of so many amazing Grand Knights that have preceded me. The good news is, by the Grace of God we have continued to serve not only each other, but our parish and community as well.

Much of our service, as our immediate past Grand Knight Bob Condrón observed is: “the things that our guys do out of the spotlight...when nobody is looking” (this of course includes our ladies and families). For instance, just to name a few, donating a car to a brother knight in need or providing independent housing for a sibling who is unable to completely support themselves. Nonetheless, it is still nice to be recognized for our ongoing charitable and fraternal activities, whether it be Coats for Kids, supporting the fight against Human Trafficking or participating in a Habitat for Humanity Build. Once again, we were a top ten council in the State along with having another Colorado State Knight of the Year as an encore to having the Colorado State Family of the Year the previous year. Last, but not least, we continued our streak of earning the coveted Star Council Award.

Another very important part of our Knights of Columbus ministry is being there for our departed brother knights and sisters, before and after they pass, both for them and their families. Unlike our scheduled activities and programs, we can't really predict much in advance of when we will be needed.

Starting in my first month as Grand Knight, we lost Brother Knight Michael Ciletti. In the ensuing 2 years, just from our council, we lost over a dozen brother knights and sisters.

This June, my final month as Grand Knight, we sadly lost both a brother Knight, SK John Ross and a sister in Christ, Margaret Beaty, wife of SK John Heyne. On the morning of Friday, June 6th, I had the privilege of serving on a 4th degree Honor Guard for a funeral at Holy Apostles Church. Afterwards, I had work appointments and did not make it home to change out of my 4th Degree uniform. That evening while at my office, I received a call from John Heyne to let me know that Margaret had just passed. After making a couple of phone calls for him, I realized it was getting late (almost 8 p.m.) and I still needed to go visit John Ross at Penrose Hospital. I didn't know if I'd missed visiting hours. Fortunately, I was able to visit him even though he could not respond to me. I held his hand and said several prayers and let him know I just happened to still be in my 4th degree uniform for my visit with him, a fellow Sir Knight. What is the chance of that? I think it was a God wink. I finished with a sign of the cross on his forehead and said farewell Sir Knight. He passed around 6 a.m. the next morning. And who would have known, the very next time I put on my 4th degree uniform was for John's funeral on June 30th.

For Margaret Beaty, John Ross and all of those we've lost in the last two years, I would like to offer up the Refrain of the Song of Farewell, by Ernest Sands:

"May the choirs of angels come to greet you, May they speed you to paradise, May the Lord enfold you in his mercy, May you find eternal life."

I am filled with gratitude and thanks to so many of you knights and ladies (too many to name here) for the support and encouragement you have provided me these last two years! Most importantly, my heartfelt thanks to the love of my life, my wife Lise, for her inspiring support!! And now, I hand off the torch to a very capable SK J. Ridge.

Vivat Jesus,
SK Michael Wolfe
Grand Knight, Mount St Francis Council 12228

Links to obituaries for John Ross and Margaret Beaty

- [John Ross Obituary \(1931 - 2025\) - Colorado Springs, CO - The Gazette](#)
- [Margaret Beaty Obituary - Colorado Springs, CO](#)



JUNE 2025 LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Summer is here and I hope you are staying cool. Please pray for all our travelers as they head out on vacation for much needed rest and relaxation.

June Meeting

Our June meeting was the Officers' Installation and social. This was my last meeting as Ladies Auxiliary Chair. Thank you to my Sisters in Christ for your support over the past two years! When I took over the Chair from Lynnette, I had a goal to continue our motto of sorority, service and spirituality and maintain participation. I was only able to achieve that goal with your help, advice, prayers and support especially when our granddaughter was in the hospital. A big thank you to my team - Becky, Lisa, Lynnette and Susan (and to anyone I may have missed) for offering your help and support through all our activities in the past two years.

Please welcome Susan Ridge as the next Ladies Auxiliary chair and provide her the same generous support you gave me two years ago. Our next meeting is Thursday, July 3. Watch for her upcoming emails.

Prior to the installation, the Ladies discussed how our donations would be disbursed for the 2025 calendar year. Due to our success with the bake sale and butter braids we had a balance of \$4900. The Ladies decided to donate \$500 each to the following organizations: Women Partnering, Pike Peak Citizens for Life, Bakhita Mountain Home, Mater Filius, Safe Passage, USAFA FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), and Seminarians.

Father's Day Breakfast – June 15

Nick P. led Mike's Mashers cooking team to celebrate our dads with a delicious meal at the well-attended Father's Day Breakfast on Sunday, June 15 after the morning masses.

Condolences to the Heyne Family

Margaret Beaty, an active member of our Ladies Auxiliary and wife of John Heyne, passed away on June 6 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Please keep Margaret and the Heyne family in your prayers at this difficult time. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday, July 30** at 10:30 am with a rosary before at 10 am. Inurnment will be at the Columbarium immediately following the mass. There will be a luncheon afterward. Her husband has requested **NO flowers** please. In lieu of flowers, and in memory of Margaret, please consider donating to the Mission church in the diocese of Kahama (in Tanzania) to help build a medical center. Make checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi, with the notation: for the missions. Mail donations to 2650 Parish View, Colorado Springs, CO 80919. Thank you!

Thank you again to all our Ladies for your generous support. We couldn't do it without you!

Your Sister in Christ,
Lise Wolfe





VOLUNTEER

PUT FAITH INTO ACTION

Saturday, July 12, 2025

Saturday, August 2, 2025

Morning Shift: 8:30 AM - 12 PM & Afternoon Shift: 12:45 - 4:30 PM

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

No experience necessary

Join Pikes Peak Habitat for a day of service, fellowship, and fun on our construction site at our Ridge at Sand Creek Neighborhood as you help build a home for a local family!

Register Here

Please use the QR Code to register:



QUESTIONS?

Sarah Buchen, Volunteer Manager
volunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org



Fresh Picked Peaches & Pears

from Palisade, Colorado



Mt. St. Francis Catholic Church
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO 80919



Orders **MUST** be picked up **Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025**
between 11 and 3 at Mt. St. Francis Parking Lot.
PLEASE BRING THIS RECEIPT TO PICK-UP YOUR ORDER

Customer ORDER Form Please write legibly		K of C Council #12228	
NAME:			
PEACHES			
Boxes Ordered	Approx. Size	Price per box	Amount
	9 lb Box	\$28.00	
	18 lb Box	\$45.00	
Peaches Total Amount			
PEARS			
Boxes Ordered	Approx. Size	Price per box	Amount
	9 lb Box	\$27.00	
	20 lb Box	\$43.00	
Pears Total Amount			
PEACHES & PEARS - TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			

Questions: Please see Council # 12228 Representatives after Mass or contact: Ron Born at email:
rborn1946@comcast.net or phone number (719) 651-8758.

Sponsored by:

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Urban J Vehr Assembly 0088, and Your local Knights of Columbus Council

Knights of Columbus - COPY				K of C Council # 12228p			
NAME:				EMAIL:			
DATE:				PHONE(S):			
PEACHES				PEARS			
Boxes	Approx. Size	Price / Box	Amount	Boxes	Approx. Size	Price / Box	Amount
	9 lbs / Box	\$28.00			9 lbs / Box	\$27.00	
	18 lbs / Box	\$45.00			20 lbs / Box	\$43.00	
PEACHES Total Amount				PEARS Total Amount			
PEACHES & PEARS - TOTAL AMOUNT DUE							
Cash collected	Check #	Check amount	Credit/debit card amount	Total Collected			

SILVER ROSE PROGRAM

The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady.



The Silver Rose Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be celebrated on Wednesday, July 23.

CULTURE OF LIFE

The annual Life Network Walk for Life was held on Saturday, June 7

Recently Life Network President Rich Bennet shared this:

“Our Best Walk for Life Yet — Thanks to YOU!”

“The **38th Annual Walk for Life** is currently on track to be a record-breaking success — currently, our fundraisers have raised more than \$713,500 and counting!

This incredible milestone was only possible because of your passion, generosity, and commitment to life. From every step walked to every dollar raised, YOU made the difference.

Thank you for walking with us — and for standing for life. **Relive the joy and celebration by watching the recap video below!**

And it's not too late to give by going to our Walk for Life page!”

Every week Life Network:

- ✓ Gives NO COST ultrasounds so moms and dads can see and hear their baby’s heartbeat.
 - ✓ Provides counseling, parenting classes, and support (up until their baby is 2 years old).
 - ✓ Pays for critical advertising so women seeking abortion will find us instead.
 - ✓ Provides cribs, clothing, formula, diapers, and other needs for the babies’ first 2 years.
 - ✓ Introduces the clients to Jesus Christ and His gift of eternal life.
- ...and so much more.



SUPPORT THE WORK OF BAKHITA MOUNTAIN HOME!



STEPS TO EMPOWER

1 MILE WALK

2 AUGUST 2025
9:00am - 12:00pm

REGISTER NOW



@bakhitamountainhome.org



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Novena

Novena Starts: July 5th | Feast Day: July 14th | Birth: 1656; Death: 1680

Patron saint of ecology, Native Americans, the environment, and people in exile

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

Intro Prayer

O God, who among the many marvels of Your grace in the New World, did cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and Saint Lawrence rivers, the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha, grant we beseech Thee, the favor we beg through her intercession (*here make your request*), that this young lover of Jesus and of His Cross, will enkindle in our hearts a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and faith.

Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Concluding Prayers

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be



“St Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be canonized a saint. She grew up in a Mohawk tribe, contracted smallpox as a young girl, and converted to the Catholic Faith at age 19. She is known as the Lily of the Mohawks. Pray this novena for fostering ecology, for those in exile, and for Native Americans.” - <https://catholicnovenaapp.com/saints/about-st-kateri-tekakwitha/>

FAMILY OF THE MONTH



The Knights of Columbus Council 12228 Family of the Month for May 2025 is **The Bob and Lisa Kita Family**. Brother Bob is a Third-Degree member of our council who joined the Order in May 1999 as a founding member of the St Francis of Assisi Council 12524 in Fulton Maryland. SK Bob is a Fourth-Degree member of the Father Michael J McGivney Assembly 2595; he will be joining Assembly 88 soon.

When it comes to helping, Bob and Lisa are great role models for a

husband-wife team. If you need some help and they are available, you can always depend on them. For the most part, Bob likes to fly under the radar and has no desire to take on any official council leadership positions. If you ask him why, he has already served in many Council Leadership positions in his previous council and is not a big fan of extra paperwork. Now that he is retired and has grandkids to haul around, he'd prefer not to deal with the formalities and paperwork associated with official positions. Bob is a member of the Incident Management Team at St. Francis and Lisa is part of the St. Francis wedding committee. Just looking at these two volunteer positions, I'll bet they can occasionally get a little stressful.

Lisa plays a key role in the Ladies Auxiliary as Treasurer and provides critical support for both Ladies Auxiliary fundraisers, the Bake Sale and Butter Braids. She doesn't just handle the money. She bakes multiple items for Bake Sale and during these events she is usually at the church on the weekend for all 4 Masses helping. The Butter Braids, on the other hand, require sign-ups, collections and tracking people down to pick up their orders when they are delivered. They then donate all net proceeds to designated charities.

While Bob is helping the Knights with set-up and take-downs at many of our events, Lisa is helping with the decorating and all the details that make Knight's events something special. Since 2009, Lisa has been a regular volunteer in the Parish Office, and she also helps the Parish Environment Team with decorating the church for each of the liturgical seasons. This last month, Bob also served as one of the team leads for the BBQ lunch for the Sisters of St Francis and then helped work the grill as one of the cooks. The Sisters always really appreciate this event. Afterwards he provided the after-action report.

Their daughter Emily is married to J.C. Kundert who is also a Knight in our Council and their son, Jimmy (Kita's grandson) became a Knight in our council in 2024. You can see all 4 of their grandchildren: Mary, Jimmy, Patrick and Rachael at Mass on Sundays. All are Altar servers and Jimmy does the AV at 10:30 a.m. Masses. It's great to see that all of them have followed their Grandparents talents in helping-out.

The Bob and Lisa Kita family genuinely demonstrate the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism to our council, parish, and community. This family has earned and truly deserves the designation of "Family of the Month" for May 2025.

- **Mike Wolfe, Grand Knight**

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH



The Knight of the Month for May 2025 for the Mount St Francis of Assisi Council number 12228 is **Sir Knight Joe Shonka**. Brother Joe is a Third-Degree member and a past Grand Knight of our council, joining the Order in May of 2005. SK Joe is a Fourth-Degree member of our Assembly 88.

Joe is currently serving as our Council's Community Director which involves programs such as Coats for Kids and Habitat for Humanity along with many others, including him leading the Easter

Mass Parking Team. He is always willing to help with set up and take down, whether it's serving coffee and donuts after Sunday Masses, being on the Parish Picnic team or helping with and attending other Council and Parish events. He is also an active cooking team member. Speaking of leading, Joe has not only served on the Parish Pastoral Council for several years, but as chairman for the last 2 years.

On Mother's Day, Joe made certain we had an ample supply of Prosecco, orange juice and cranberry juice for our special Mother's Day Breakfast after both the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. Joe wore his tuxedo and poured many a Mimosa and Poinsettia for the delighted moms. Next was the BBQ lunch for the Sisters of St Francis, where Joe served as one of the team leads. He also prepared all of the chicken at home and then helped work the grill as one of the cooks. With over 40 attendees, including 13 Sisters, a great time was had by all! The Sisters love this event.

Each year when our council supports and sponsors a special walk to benefit the Bakhita Mountain Home for women survivors of human trafficking, Joe not only helps with working the refreshment table, he also joins hundreds of walkers in support of this critical cause. While we are talking about fundraisers, even though Joe no longer coordinates our Knight's Football Craazs sales which is the main fundraiser for K of C at the State level, he still steps in to fill the gaps to ensure our council reaches its' CO state goal. In addition, he's on the Peaches and Pears fundraiser team, which is now our biggest council fundraiser. On top of all this, Joe regularly serves on the 4th degree color corps and honor guard including at our Masses during Holy Week. Most recently, he served on the Honor Guard for Gary Lowman's funeral Mass and at the Columbarium afterwards.

Brother Joe Shonka does indeed demonstrate the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism to our council, parish, and community. He has earned and truly deserves the designation of "Knight of the Month" for May 2025.

- **Mike Wolfe, Grand Knight**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Friday Morning	Rachel Rosary @ 9:15 am, 3420 Centennial Boulevard
July 3, 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.
July 4, Friday	Independence Day
July 13, Sunday	Parish Breakfast in St Francis Hall after 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Masses
July 17, Thursday	Council Officer's Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 7:00 p.m.
July 23, Wednesday	Silver Rose Ceremony after the morning Mass
July 26, Saturday	Marian House Cooking Team Habitat for Humanity, Apostles Build
July 29, Sunday	5 th Sunday Rosary
Next Month(s)	
August 2, Saturday	Steps to Empower Walk in support of Bakhita Mountain Home
August 7, 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.=A
August 10, Sunday	Parish Breakfast in St Francis Hall after 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Masses
August 21, Thursday	Council Officer's Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.
August 23, Saturday	Palisade Peaches and Pears Pick-up (last day to order is August 2 nd)
August 24, Sunday	Parish Picnic (this year the parish will have to set up tents/pop-ups)
August 31, Sunday	5 th Sunday Rosary
September 25 & 26	Life Network 42 nd Fundraising Gala and Silent Auction with Mark Shultz, DoubleTree Hotel

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 Condrone
3rd Year Trustee	Frank Castellano
Financial Secretary	Ron Born

District Deputy	Al Batey
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Faith	Larry Gray
Community	Joe Shonka
Family	Paul Lagatta
Life Director	Harvey Siegle
Membership	Ron Toman
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Retention	Michael Kindt
Public Relations	Robert Condrone
Technical Support	Paul Lagatta Michael Kindt
Newsletter Editor	Harvey Siegle
INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE	
Brandon L. Nelson	719-565-8896 brandon.nelson@kofc.org

4 PRINCIPLES 4 REASONS

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM



Prayer To The Precious Blood

ETERNAL FATHER,
I OFFER THEE THE
PRECIOUS BLOOD OF
JESUS CHRIST,
THE MERITS, LOVE AND
SUFFERINGS OF HIS
SACRED HEART, THE
TEARS AND SORROWS
OF OUR IMMACULATE
MOTHER, AS THE
PRICE OF THE FAVOR I
WISH TO OBTAIN, IF IT
IS FOR THY GLORY AND
MY SALVATION.

Amen

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>