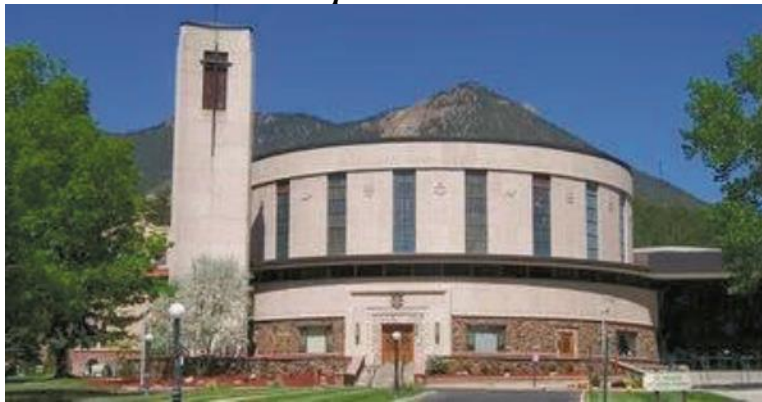


# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



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



## GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEW

Doing works for the benefit of others is a long-standing Catholic tradition. Doing works for the benefit of Brother Knights is also a long-standing tradition, in which this Council excels.

Having an Exemplification south of the Palmer Divide requires an Assembly to volunteer to host an Exemplification in that location. This required obtaining a significant amount of support from one of the Councils that belonged to the hosting Assembly. Fortunately, Mount St. Francis was willing to take on the challenge. The many dinners and ceremonies that have taken place there have prepared the Knights and Ladies for a challenge of this nature.

The recent change in Exemplification procedures has allowed spouses and guests to be in the Exemplification Chamber during the ceremony and knighting. This change required planning and supervision of families and friends to ensure that each Candidate had their guests closely at hand for the knighting, without causing any bottlenecks that would delay the process. Parishioners from the Ladies' Auxiliary took this task in hand and provided a seamless movement of the Knights and guests through an awkward path to Knighting.

The Color Corps had a workout with a posting of the Colors in the Church for the ceremony, an Honor Guard in the Church for the Mass, and a final posting of the Colors in the Hall for the banquet dinner. This required clearing all the props and equipment the Exemplification Team had brought into the Church for the ceremony, as well as returning the Choir's sound equipment and chairs to their original positions before the Mass began.



The final posting of the Colors was in the Hall. The St. Francis Ladies Auxiliary transformed the Hall from what looked like a school cafeteria during the social gatherings before and after the Exemplification into a well-decorated banquet hall with the elegance of a first-class formal dinner.





From Left to right: Maria Wolfe, Margaret Bogart, Debra Korty, Becky Davis, Marilyn Prost, Lynette Condron, Lakaiya Downen. Not shown are Susan Ridge, Janet Born, and Rosmary Toman.

The Ladies were also instrumental in hosting the Families and friends of the Candidates. This included organizing and seating them in order, so that they could quickly and easily join their Candidate for the Knighting ceremony.

## **LADIES AUXILARY**

By the end of September, the leaves are turning colors. We are all getting used to new schedules with school starting. The traffic patterns really do change with those buses on the road.

A big thank you to all the ladies who helped make the Knights 4<sup>th</sup> degree Exemplification a great success. The ladies greeted the candidates and their families. Our ladies also observed the ceremonies in the church. Most amazing was the transformation of the hall from a coffee and donut venue to a lovely banquet hall. This was accomplished in record time by this wonderful group of women.

Rose Toman provided a display of information showing the history of the Mount St. Francis campus. Not pictured is Jan Born who helped on the set-up team.



Our next meeting is **Thursday, October 2, 2025**. The rosary will be at 6:45pm in the Knights room and then the Ladies will meet at 7:10pm in the **St Francis Hall upstairs**. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert to share at the social afterwards. Hope to see you then.

Susan Ridge

Make a joyful noise

719-439-6887

# Vice Supreme Master visits Knights' training on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025



From Left to right: Ron Born, Ben Davis, J. Ridge, Vice Supreme Master Chris Foley, Ken Korty, Pierre Gaudrault (Assembly 3523), Joe Shonka, Robert Applegate (Assembly 3523). Bill Wolf and Bob Bogart, who participated as coaches for the event, are not shown in this picture.

St. Francis Parish sponsored a four-hour Knights of Columbus Color Corp training session. Fr. Erin graciously offered the Church, the Hall, and two classrooms for marching, sword drill, and flag bearers drill. Flag training requires a large room with a high ceiling due to the height of the flags. The hall met both of those requirements. The Church allowed the Knights to practice escorting processions into and out of the Church while being critiqued by their coach. Using these facilities provided an opportunity for much-needed training for the Knights.

Experienced Color Corps members (Bob Bogart, Ron Born, Ben Davis, Pierre Gaudrault (Color Corps Commander from Assembly 3523), Joe Shonka, and Bill Wolfe) provided individual coaching and instruction during the event. The individual training and coaching the Knights received was noted by the Vice Supreme Master, who praised the commitment to excellence demonstrated by the participating Knights.

## KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Knights Fabrise Suplisson, Gene Shagi, Sr. Knight Frank Casstellano, and SR. Knight Niciki Pepenella is Council 12228's Knight of the Month for September 2025.

Nicki Pepenella, the Cook Team Lead, spent 16 hours designing the menu and traveling to several locations to procure the best-quality and best-priced food for the event. Being conscious of balancing quality with price is a skill he has learned over many years of food preparation.

The entire team spent over 36 hours preparing the food, setting up, cooking, and cleaning up in the two days leading up to the event. The results were astounding. It is rare to see such high-quality meals served at an Exemplification ceremony.

Prepping, cooking, and continuous cleanup are arduous tasks that require focus, determination, and a high level of commitment to providing perfection. The team's desire to provide a meal fitting for the occasion and the attendees of the ceremony was clearly evident.

Over eighty people enjoyed the meal, which was a culinary delight. The number of people who rushed to the service window when it was announced that seconds were available is a tribute to the excellence of the meal.

The team's focus on excellence and their desire to honor the Candidates and their families demonstrates their charity, unity, and fraternity.

- **Sir Knight Javan Ridge, Grand Knight**

## FAMILY OF THE MONTH

The Council 12228 Family of the Month for September 2025 is the St. Francis Council 12228 Ladies' Auxiliary members, Margaret Bogart, Janet Born, Lynette Condrón, Becky Davis, Lakaiya Downen, Debra Korty, Marilyn Prost, Susan Ridge, Rosmary Toman, and Maria Wolfe.

The recent change in Exemplification procedures has allowed spouses and guests to be in the Exemplification Chamber during the ceremony and knighting. This change required planning and supervision of families and friends to ensure that each Candidate had their guests closely at hand for the knighting, without causing any bottlenecks that would delay the process. Parishioners from the Ladies' Auxiliary took this task in hand and provided a seamless movement of the Knights and guests through an awkward path to knighting.

The Ladies Auxiliary started their day early, creating a pleasing and welcoming environment throughout the entire parish. They wanted the Exemplification to be memorable for the Candidates and their family and friends. They went to great lengths, especially for the formal dinner, to ensure that all rooms, chambers, and Halls were decorated in a way fitting for the ceremony. Small touches, such as giving the ladies the centerpiece flowers as they departed, made the occasion memorable. The Ladies were also instrumental in hosting Families and friends of the Candidates.

The St. Francis Ladies Auxiliary transformed the Hall from what looked like a school cafeteria during the social gatherings before and after the Exemplification into a well-decorated banquet hall with the elegance of a first-class formal dinner. From the ambiance to the attention to detail provided by the Ladies' Auxiliary, they made the day a great success.

We are proud to honor the Ladies Auxiliary Family as Family of the Month for September 2025 for their contributions to our parish, community, and council.

- **Sir Knight Javan Ridge, Grand Knight**

While I was at my nephews wedding out in Clinton, Iowa, Lise and I attended Mass at Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Church on 9/28/25. They were doing a membership drive for K of C Council 707 and I got to visit with a number of the Knights. Their Council was founded just 10 years after the first council was started. Both Knights in this photo with me have a first name of Steve and it so happens their current Grand Knight is also a Steve.

- Mike



## ADVICE REQUEST

*Alex Valentine - will be chairing the parish picnic in 2026. Recognising the Knights have bore an outsized burden in supporting the the picnic (covering the gap when the Men's Club folded), he does not want to take the Knights for granted. Will you please write to him directly with your thoughts and comments - please put in a SWOT formula -*

*Strengths -*

*Weakness-*

*Opportunity-*

*Threats-*

*St Francis Parish Picnic will be a fun and engaging event for the whole parish and convent and distribute the load of work to a dispersed group of volunteers. email to [Alex.Valentine06@gmail.com](mailto:Alex.Valentine06@gmail.com)*

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE FALL CAMPAIGN

Campaign dates: September 24 - November 2

### **PRAY FOR AN END TO ABORTION!**

Please sign up to pray for an hour of two each week, preferably during the dark hours, i.e. between 6:00 pm and 8 am. Find a buddy to be there with you. If you cannot physically be on the sidewalk near Planned Parenthood (3480 Centennial Blvd, pray at home.

Signup on this website: [https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-hours-signup.aspx?L\\_id=397](https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-hours-signup.aspx?L_id=397)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|                      |                                                                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Every Friday Morning | Rachel Rosary at 9:15 am, 3420 Centennial Boulevard                |
| October 2, Thursday  | Council Meeting, 6:45 p.m. Rosary, 7:10 p.m., Rooms B and C,       |
|                      | Ladies Auxiliary meeting (Hall), followed by Social in Hall.       |
| October 12, Sunday   | Parish Breakfast in St Francis Hall after 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Masses |
| October 16, Thursday | Council Officer's Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.          |
| November 30, Sunday  | 5th Sunday Rosary                                                  |
| Future Month(s)      | 5th Sunday Rosary (when applicable)                                |

## 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       |
| 2nd Year Trustee    | Robert Condrón       |
| 3rd Year Trustee    | Frank Castellano     |
| 3rd Year Trustee    | Frank Castellano     |
| Financial Secretary | Ron Born             |
| District Deputy     | Al Batey             |

### 40 Days for Life prayer location:

3480 Centennial Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO

## INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE

|                   |                                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Brandon L. Nelson | 719-565-8896<br>brandon.nelson@kofc.org |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|

## SERVICE PROGRAM DIRECTORS

|                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cooking Team Director | Mike Ortiz                    |
| Retention             | Michael Kindt                 |
| Public Relations      | Robert Condrón                |
| Technical Support     | Paul Lagatta<br>Michael Kindt |
| Newsletter Editor     | Harvey Siegle                 |
|                       |                               |

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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](mailto: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>

