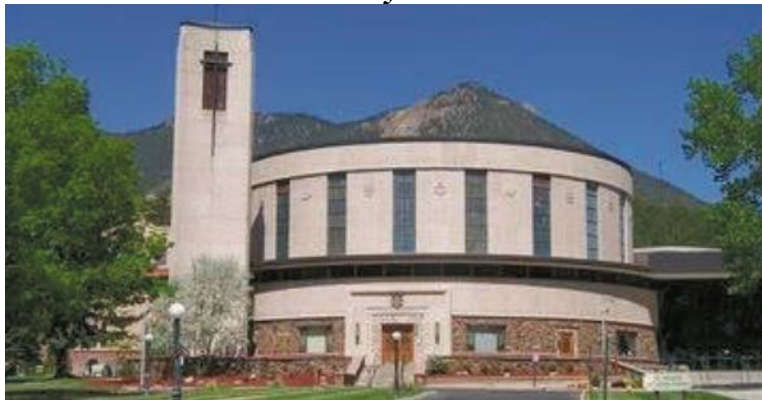


THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



MOUNT ST. FRANCIS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #12228
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
2026 July Edition



GRAND KNIGHT'S VIEW

As I begin my term as Grand Knight for Council 12228, I am very humbled by the confidence and support you, the members, have shown by electing me as your Grand Knight. I will do my best to justify them.

I congratulate PGK Javan Ridge and Susan for their amazing efforts to sustain the success of our council. Under their leadership, the council has continued to grow and maintain the level of excellence that kept the long string of awards given to our council coming. Thank you both.

The council and the officers are already starting to make some much-needed changes with regard to our admissions system to make it work a little more smoothly and to give our new members a council vest and perhaps even a name tag at the time of their exemplification. We may have a new vest color in the future due to the unavailability of the old Khaki fabric – more to follow.

Participation will be my main focus during the coming year. Participation in council activities is the life blood and beating heart of success for our council. We have a lot of members who no longer actively participate or support the programs and activities of our council – this is sad. The council has had great success and awards because of the dedication to service of a small core group that winds up doing all the “work” of the council. Just think of how much more we could accomplish if every one of our 160+ members would honor the commitment they made at their exemplification to support the council’s activities. We must, and will, work to improve the participation of our council members.

This fall season is shaping up to be a busy one, with our first CUF exemplification on July 19th.

The Bakhita Walk/Run on August 1st followed by our Peach deliveries in the parking lot. The Parish Picnic on August 23rd. And that's just the beginning!

Vivat Jesus!

- Ben Davis, WGK Council 12228



LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS JULY 2026

The Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting on July 2nd was very nice. We discussed the Octoberfest dinner party and are moving forward with plans. We also discussed the Bakhita Home Walk on August 1st as well as the October celebration for the 800th Jubilee of St. Francis' death. Ben and I met with Jason Frieze and others from the Bakhita Home to finalize plans for the Walk/Run as well as work out a plan for the Knights to deliver the peaches that same day. Everyone was very excited about the Walk as it is going to be bigger and better than ever.

Ben and I were able to get up into the mountains for a few days. I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. See you soon

- Becky Davis. Head of the Ladies' Auxiliary

Knights of Columbus Council 12228 welcomed Edwin Morrison, on July 19, as its newest member of the 2026 fraternal year.

Edwin grew up in the Florida Panhandle and joined the U.S. Army immediately after high school. He later transitioned to the U.S. Air Force. Following his military service, he built a career as a civilian aircraft mechanic.

While working in helicopter support for offshore oil rigs in the outback of western Australia, he met his wife, Carol. The couple married in 1981 and have shared a life of adventure and travel ever since.

Edwin's professional expertise centered on helicopter operations in the Western U.S. and Canada. The majority of his career was spent in the oil exploration sector, where he served in numerous international locations, including Papua, New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Morocco, Namibia and others.

In 2007, he and Carol relocated to Colorado Springs. He recently became a Catholic at Easter at St. Francis.

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FAMILY OF THE MONTH

The Knights of Columbus Council 12228 Family of the Month for June 2026 is the Joe and Donna Priester Family.

Joe is a Third-Degree member of our council who joined the Order in 1963 but drifted away from active participation. Donna and Council Knights ushered him back into active participation, and he reentered the order in December 2019.

Joe serves as the Lecturer for our Council, and we can always count on him for an entertaining reading from the book "Drinking with the Saints" at our monthly member meetings. His skills as a storyteller provide an enlightening and entertaining journey into the history and ceremony of prominent and delightful drinks. All of us are now thoroughly familiar with exactly how many times one must shake a cocktail before it is suitable for drinking.

Joe is regularly called upon to deliver opening and closing prayers for our officers' meetings. Brother Joe also stepped up to do the readings at our Silver Rose Ceremony. He leads our council's 5th Sunday Rosary Program, and as always, did an excellent job leading our most recent 5th Sunday Rosary on June 29th. In addition, Joe has reintroduced special rosaries that add special meaning and depth to our understanding of the Rosary.

Joe and Donna are the long-standing Santa and Mrs. Claus for the Parish children's party. Both are natural for the roles. Joe looks, speaks, and interacts with the children in true Santa fashion. Donna portrays a kind, grandmotherly character that reflects her real personality, not just an act. The two are ideal for their roles.

Joe and Donna have always been very active in our church. Both Joe and Donna have served as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. and have done Marital Counseling for over 20 years.

The Joe and Donna Priester family genuinely demonstrates 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 June, 2026.

Javan Ridge, Grand Knight

(Photo Not Available 🙄)

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH



The Council 12228 Knight of the Month for June 2026 is Brother Knight Ben Davis. SK Ben is a Third-Degree council member, joining the Order on April 19th, 2018, and becoming a 4th Degree member of Assembly 88 on May 4th, 2022.

If a Knight has not met Ben Davis, it is because he has never participated in a program, an event, or helped sell tickets for our dinners or fundraisers. Ben not only participates, but is more often than not managing the activity, other Knights, and directing critical activities ranging from the physical setup of the hall in various configurations, the Parish picnic, and numerous administrative functions. For all Council Officers and volunteers, he is the go-to man for suggestions on organizing and managing activities.

As our Program Director, he plans and supervises Council Programs, and ensures the timely and accurate submission of reports. Simply completing programs such as the Silver Rose, Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, Keep Christ in Christmas, and many more is only one step in the process. Brother Ben submits reports on all of our activities, ensuring 12228's continued recognition as a Star Council.

Brother Ben also seeks additional programs to deepen and broaden the Council's offerings. This is not just to win awards, but also to provide more support to beneficial programs in the community. He then finds the Knight who has an interest in or passion for the activity and assists

them in making the new program a success. If an issue arises where someone has accepted a task but then faces family or other constraints that hinder completion, Ben steps in and either completes the task independently or finds a suitable replacement to finish it.

He has been instrumental in the transition of new Grand Knights and other new officers for the Fraternal year. When the current Grand Knight was offered a position as District Marshal, the Deputy Grand Knight was not available for the transition to Grand Knight. Brother Knight Ben, although not an officer at the time, but knowing that continuity and quality of performance in all that the Council achieves is so critically important, stepped up to take on the role Grand Knight for the 2026 - 2027 Fraternal Year.

His decision clearly shows his dedication to the Council, its Knights, our Parish, and the community. For his ceaseless demonstration of stellar charity, unity, and fraternity, he has been selected as the Knight of the Month for June 2026.

- **SK Javan Ridge, Grand Knight7**



Officer Installation on Thursday July 2 | See page 11 for the list of officers and their titles.

NOVENA: Novena to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Christians look to Mary, the Mother of our Lord, as the first Christian and the model of holiness. This novena presents a profound opportunity for us to pray that Jesus may give us the Grace to be more and more like His mother and thus come closer to Him through His Immaculate Mother.

Read more at: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-immaculate-heart-mary>



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

Immaculate Virgin, by the holy will of your Son my Lord Jesus Christ, you are my Mother in Heaven. Your Immaculate Heart is full of love, mercy and compassion for sinners like me. I ask that you intercede for me today for...
(mention your prayer intentions)

I trust in your intercession before the throne of God for my needs. Please pray also that if my requests are not in accordance with the will of God, that I may be, like you, conformed to His will and not my own.

Hail Mary...

Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pray for us!

Amen.

Act of Consecration

- by Pope Pius XII

Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of Your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to You, all the people of our country and all the world.

Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as You wish to accomplish Your designs in the world.

O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully.

We come with confidence to You, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflammé us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed Your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes Your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home.

Amen.

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

Amen.

Read more at: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-immaculate-heart-mary>

(Mention your request here...)

STEPS TO EMPOWER WALK & RUN

Over 300 people participated on Saturday, August 1 in this annual 5K walk & Fun Run at Mount Saint Francis, supporting survivors of human trafficking through BAKHITA MOUNTAIN HOME.

Beautiful blue T-Shirts with the Bakhita Mountain Home logo were available for purchase.

As can be seen in the photo below, vendor tents were on-site and were visited by most people in attendance, both before and after the walk.



More photos on the next page

Refreshments courtesy of the ladies after the walk and run.

Coinciding with the Steps to Empower Walk & Run event was the Knights of Columbus Palisades Peach pickup option for those who had ordered them.

The peaches are sweet and **delicious** as expected!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Friday Morning	Rachel Rosary at 9:30 am, 3420 Centennial Boulevard
August 1, Saturday	Bakhita Walk: "Steps To Empower Walk & 5K Run" at 9:00 am (Outside on the grounds of Mount Saint Francis)
August 6, 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.
August 20, Thursday	Council Officers' Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.
September 3, 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.
September 17, Thursday	Council Officers' Meeting, Rooms B and C, Time: 6:00 p.m.
September 27, Sunday	Sunday Rosary after 8:30 and 10:30 Mass
October 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.

COUNCIL #12228 OFFICERS

Grand Knight	Ben Davis
Chaplain	Fr. Erin Kochivar
Chaplain Emeritus	Fr. Ken Przybyla
Deputy Grand Knight	Robert Bogart
Chancellor	Patrick Baldwin
Advocate	John Heyne
Recording Secretary	Patrick Baldwin
Treasurer	Ron Toman
Warden	Michael Kindt
Inside Guard	Walter Lamb
Outside Guard	Thomas Barr
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>

