



December 2015



Congratulations to the Following Honorees

**October Knight of the Month
Richard (Rick) Norman**



**October Family of the Month
Sue and Paul Blier**

**Knight of the Quarter
July, August, September
George Walston, FS**

**Council 802 Knight of the Year 2015
John Kasper, PGK**

**Council 802 Family of the Year 2015
Bob & Rosalie Leo**



**Assembly 1251 and State
Sir Knight of the Year 2015
David Viger**





**Knights Of Columbus
The Meridian Knight
Council Officers**



Grand Knight
David Viger

Chaplain
Father Francis Cosgrove

Deputy Grand Knight
David Klutz

Financial Secretary
George Walston

Chancellor
Robert J. Leo PDK

Treasurer
John D. Harwell

Advocate
Roland Stewart

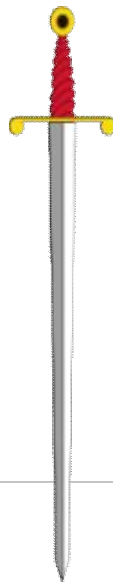
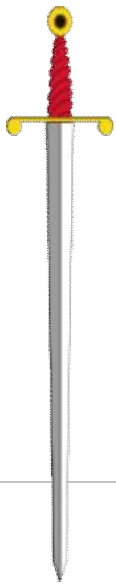
Recorder
Frank Polizzi, PDK

Lecturer
John Bennett, PDK

Warden
Howard McCarty

Inside Guard
Frank Sharp

Outside Guard
David Stephens



Trustees

Patrick J Carter PDK
John Maloney Sr PDK
Mouise Richards PDK



Newsletter Editor
George Walston

**The Main Principles of
Our Order**

Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism

THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS



PROTECTING FAMILIES
FOR GENERATIONS



*We Thank You Lord for all that
you give us freely*

[Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage](http://www.kofc802.org)
<http://www.kofc802.org>



Grand Knight Dave Viger



Brothers Knights,

November was another busy and productive month for us. In addition to our regular BINGO, Adoration and EMSH visit, we celebrated a mass to honor and remember deceased members of our council, hosted a Second Degree Exemplification where eight (8) Brothers from our council advanced in Knighthood, judged the Free Throw Contest at St. Patrick's School and delivered an "all star performance" in the Variety Show!

As the month comes to a close, and we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we should reflect on all of the blessings, which God has given us and how we might share those blessings with others in our community.

I pray all of you have a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

Vivat Jesus,
Dave Viger

Congratulations to our New 2nd Degree Knights!



L-R: Fr. Sanchez, Archie McKinley, Stephen Slimp, David Rauenhorst, Rick Harris, Ken Napierkowski, Mike Holcomb and Sam Coleman

**Community
Roland Stewart**



Thanks to Tom Zettler, Dewayne Klutz, David Klutz, and Frank Polizzi for Visiting East Miss. We and the patients enjoyed the night . We are in need of caps, scarves, calendars for the Christmas visit on December 17th at 6:00 pm. We hope to have Santa with us as well as Christmas treats, Christmas music and singers for a special Christmas visit, celebration. If you can share a little time and joy that Thursday please come out and enjoy the fellowship. Contact Roland @ 601-917-1781 or rolbetstewart@bellsouth.net if you have any questions. Looking to see you there. Thanks in advance.

Roland Stewart
Chairman

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Chaplain
Fr. Francis Cosgrove



Dear Brother Knights,

As you receive this letter we will have begun the Advent/Christmas Season. During Advent we celebrate three comings of Christ; His birth in Bethlehem, His final coming and His coming into our lives, especially through the Sacraments. We remember his birth with thanksgiving and appreciation. We look forward to His second coming but “we know not the day nor the hour.” And we celebrate His coming into our lives as we pray privately, celebrate the Liturgies of Advent and try to live as His faithful followers.

This Advent we begin the Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis. Our Holy Father hopes that we will all experience God’s mercy and pass it on to others. Mercy begins with our own conversion. This Advent we invite you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during our Penance Service on December 14th, Saturday evenings 4:00 – 4:30 p.m., or by appointment with Fr. Sánchez or me. Please invite someone to come with you especially if they have been away for a while.

Having received God’s mercy ourselves, we will try to live it by practicing the Corporal Works of Mercy during the Year of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy are: Feed people who are hungry; Give drink to people who are thirsty; Clothe people who need clothes; Visit prisoners; Shelter people who are homeless; Visit people who are sick; Bury people who have died. Our pastoral councils of St. Joseph and St. Patrick have set up a joint committee for each of the pastoral works of mercy. I hope as many Knights as possible will become part of one of these committees. Several are already.

Advent is a special time of grace for our Church. May you and your families experience the grace of His mercy during the coming year.

Fr. Frank



Church
Sal Moreno



Greetings! There is not much to talk about in the coming month as far as Church programs are concerned. We had our Corporate Communion on Saturday, the 28th of November, with a good turnout and that same weekend we had our 5th weekend rosary program. In closing, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sal Moreno

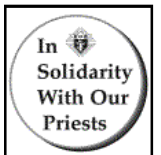
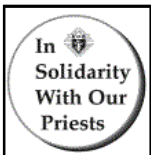
December Birthdays

1st James Baron **4th** Louis Montesi, III & Dr. Ivan Zamora **6th** James G Crain **7th** David Stephens

16th Dr. Luis Borrell **19th** John Baranello **25th** Greg Stephens **26th** Stephen Slimp **29th** Patrick J (PJ) Carter

30th Jack Collins, Jr.

Please continue to pray for vocations.
We need more priests





Special from
John Maloney, PGK



On August 17, 1969, Hurricane Camille hit the Gulf Coast. At that time it was the worst recorded hurricane to hit the U. S. On August 19th a truck loaded with food and water jugs left Meridian, headed for Biloxi. Joe Bailey, Andy Stockton, and John Maloney rode the truck. 250 gallon jugs donated by Western Auto were filled with water when we got to Hattiesburg. Interstate 10 was not built at that time and Highway 90 was almost impassible when we arrived in Gulfport.

We were told to drop off our food and clothing there. When we told them we had food and water for Biloxi they wished us good luck and said go ahead. It is impossible to describe the destruction we saw on our way to Biloxi. Highway 90 was torn up in many places but we were able to find a way around it. Arriving in Biloxi we went to their KC Hall. No one was there. Andy Stockton knew some KC members there and where they lived.

After rounding up some of their members we off loaded the food and water. They were very appreciative and said they would disburse the food and water. At that time they did not know of any help from the Red Cross or Government.

We thanked God for getting us there safely and then we returned to Meridian.

John Maloney, Sr.
Trustee and PGK



Seminarians Corner
Nick Adam



Brother Knights,

It is hard to believe that another semester is almost in the books. November was a wonderful month of fraternity for the seminarians at Notre Dame. We took part in the annual Bonfire celebration at St. Ben's on the Northshore. I have written about this tradition before. It goes back about 80 years and it helps unite the theologians on the Southshore and the philosophers on the Northshore! This year I worked with the other members of the student government at Notre Dame to help our community get into the "spirit" of the Bonfire. We hosted several events to build camaraderie amongst ourselves so that those men who did not attend St. Ben's would still feel like a part of the festivities. I think the event was a great success, and Notre Dame won the annual flag football game for the 2nd year in a row!

The next step for me will be a canonical retreat that is required of every seminarian. This year's retreat will be at the Lumen Christi retreat center near Houma. It will take place in early January. My family is doing well, my brother and his wife had their 2nd child in October and one of my sister's and her husband had their 1st child in November, so more nieces and nephews for me to spoil!

I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving and a very blessed and happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you over my Christmas holidays!

- Nick

*Please continue to pray for vocations.
We need more priests*



Bingo Bob Leo



Maybe all of the bugs are worked out of our new bingo machine, (I hope). Our last episode was the flash board. It seems that a circuit board failed, this time. I informed the dealer that any further occurrences that interrupt our bingo session and they can come and take this unit back and bring a different one. Preferably one that is problem free, (personally I don't think that's possible, but we can try).

Other than the problems with the machine, everything is running smoothly, our attendance has been very good these past few weeks, this past week was exceptionally good, we had 196 attendee's, and this couldn't have come at a better time, since this was going to be a short month (only 3 sessions).

Next month, December, is a 5 session month, but we will only play four sessions, we will **not** have bingo on December the 30th due to the New Year Holiday.

I would like to wish a Very Merry Christmas to all of the Kitchen crew, John Bennett, Ed Shamp, Frank and Carolyn Sharp, Sue and Paul Blier, Teresa LaBiche, and Joshua Maeda. Also, to all of the bingo callers: Grand Knight, David Viger, John Harwell, and Frank Polizzi. All of the Floor workers: John and Janice Kasper, Johnny Johnson, Sal Moreno, Howard McCarty, DeWayne Klutz, David Stephens, PJ Carter, Tom Zettler, and George Walston. Also, all of the Cashiers: Roland Stewart (our popcorn man also) Richard Norman, Liberty Moreno, and Tiffany Browning (Our Popcorn girl also).

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, to all of you and your Families.

Bob Leo



Family Bob Leo



Congratulations to the Paul and Sue Blier family for being chosen as the "Family of the Month" for the Month of October. This family was certainly deserving of this award, by our council. As you may or may not know that Paul saves the council a lot of time and effort, by making up our intermission packs as well as our special packs, and his lovely wife Sue is a constant figure behind the bar and in the kitchen, during our Wednesday night bingo sessions, they are both great assets to our council. Again, congratulations to Paul and Sue.

On October 31st we held our annual " Halloween party" at the Knights of Columbus Hall. We entertained approximately 68 - 76 members, guests and children, at this event, and what a great time was had by all. We had various games and costume contests by the children and adults alike. As you all know, an undertaking such as this is not done by only one person. It takes the effort of a lot of dedicated people to make it a success and I would like to thank those individuals who made it possible. I would like to thank all those who brought side dishes. Thanks to my wife Rosalie, and Liberty Moreno for the decorations, Sal Moreno, for cooking the hot-dogs, and helping set up, Gary and his wife Betty , for manning the games for the children and adults, Frank Polizzi our music man. Roland Stewart, was our apple-dunking contest manager. Dewayne Klutz , Frank Polizzi and Frank Sharp, were our three (3) judges for the costume contest. and thanks to all who helped in setting up and cleaning up the hall. Thank you one and all.

On November 10th, we celebrated our "Deceased Members Mass. On this occasion we honored our deceased members and their families with a Mass that was celebrated by Father Jose Sanchez. Thank you to all those who attended the Mass.

Following the Mass we had our flag retirement ceremony. (That will be reported on later). After the flag retirement, we had hotdogs cooked by Sal Moreno and pulled pork, done by John Bennett. Thanks to Rosalie Leo for setting up the food table. Tom Zettler, Grand Knight David Viger for setting up the Hall and the altar. P.J. Carter & Tom Zettler as altar servers.

Thanks to Bob Connor for serving as the reader on short notice. Many thanks to Fr. Sanchez for a beautifully celebrated Mass.

A date to remember is Sunday, December 20th. On this date we will have our annual, " Children's Christmas Party " This is an **RSVP** activity. The age limit will be from, 0-10 years old. Please **RSVP** to Bob Leo @ H: 601-737-5253 or cell: 601-616-8396, with your child's name, age and gender (male or female). The dead line for the **RSVP** will be December 13th. Due to the time involved for shopping for the gifts, no names will be accepted beyond December,13th. **No exceptions.**

We will serve hotdogs, and soft drinks, Please feel free to bring, a dessert of your liking, We will have a special guest that will visit with us on this date (I hope) So come on out and enjoy the fun

A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Bob Leo



Special on Youth from Dave Klutz, DGK



Thank you to all the Knights who made the Free Throw Championship possible. Dewayne Klutz, Tom Zettler, Richard Norman, Mouise Richards, Sandra Klutz, and Adrian Perry helped me count shots, get everyone together, and then help make the awards presentation. We had 15 participants from St. Patrick's and 2 from Meridian High School. All winners will be invited to compete in our State Free Throw Championship.

If you missed the Fall Festival then you missed an incredible dance routine from our youth group with a little help from Fr. Sanchez, Adrian Perry, and me. It is available on Facebook. Check it out.

Speaking of our Youth Group...they have been challenged by Fr. Augustine and the Youth of Holy Cross in Philadelphia to a game of basketball and dodge ball. Wish them all luck and great fellowship.

Don't forget the deadline for the essay contest is December 11th. Also don't forget December 24th we will meet at the hall to visit youth in the hospital. Santa is coming, so please remember to remind any youth you know to come join us for lunch, visitation, and Christmas singing.

Last but not least.....please someone needs to step up and take over as our Youth Chairman.

Dave Klutz, Acting Youth Chairman

Local Free Throw Winners



Members Pictured L to R Rear: Tom Zettler, PSD, Rick Norman,
Dave Klutz, DGK (Acting Chairman), Mouise Richards, PGK and Dewayne Klutz



Fourth Degree John Harwell, F N



Greetings to all. I hope you all had a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday. Looking back on November, I would like to touch on several items.

First, a big thank you to SK's Tom Zettler, PSD, Bob Leo, PFN, and Bob Connor for recently visiting Mrs. McPherson's religion class at St. Patrick School. They were dressed in their regalia and explained the symbolism of their attire along with the core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism that we as Knights espouse.

Second, we had our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony after the Deceased Members Mass on November 10th. Some 65+ were in attendance that night. Special thanks to our Scout Troop 7 for their participation again this year. This included Scoutmaster, Joe Price and the following Scouts: John Graupman (who read the story behind the importance of the flag), Hieu Le (who shared the concluding portion of the ceremony), Stephan Arora, Tate Smith, Josh Everett, Royce Little, Harry Cummings, Fulton and William Ascherl and William Holder. Our SK's Mousse Richards and David Viger (who carried the flags), Rick Norman and Howard McCarty (lowered old flag and raised the new flag) and our color guard Commander Bob Leo, Tom Zettler, Bob Connor and Roland Stewart whose presence added to the beauty and dignity of the ceremony. Thank you to Tiffany Browning for playing "Taps" as the old flag was being lowered. A final thank you to John Bennett, PFN and Ed Shamp for setting up the fire pit and maintaining it to the conclusion.

On the food side of the evening, John and Nelda Bennett outdid themselves again with the delicious 7 bean taco soup that was the main fare for all who attended. Thank you to John and Nelda, Ed Shamp, Sal Moreno, and a number of others who helped with the food and clean up.

On November 11th, the following people joined together at St. Patrick Cemetery at 8AM (0800) to raise our Nation's Colors in honor of our Veterans; Teresa LaBiche, David and Sandy Klutz, Dewayne Klutz, Tyler Oakes, PJ Carter, PGK, Grand Knight David Viger, Roland Stewart, John and Nelda Bennett, Rick Norman, Bob Leo, PFN, Bob Connor, Frank Polizzi, PFN, and yours truly. Thank all of you for being a part of that ceremony.

Upcoming in December the Honor Guard will again participate in the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on December 13th. If you are a member and wish to join in on this, please see Bob Leo for details.

Our annual Christmas party will be January 9th at Ole Farm Beef House. It is open to 4th Degree members and spouses, companion or guest. Please RSVP to me at 601 513 5456 or email jdharwell4@comcast.net by January 7th if you are going to come.

No 4th Degree Meeting on December 22nd.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

John Harwell
Faithful Navigator
1 COR 12 4-7



Membership David Stephens



Brother Knights,

We actually received one of the applications back that was issued during the “Council Recruiting Challenge” weekend in October (24-25th). Although it was a transfer, it was a positive response from our efforts. I’m very happy to announce we have received at least one membership application during the month of November (will be presented for approval at the December 1st meeting) and, hopefully, we will have a 1st Degree Exemplification during the month of December. Just like last month, I am excitedly optimistic that we will have new applicants during the month of December. “Membership is truly a team effort!”

The 2nd Degree Exemplification hosted by Council 802 on November 14th was a huge success. Great Job guys! Thank you.

Exemplifications in December:

2nd Degree – Saturday, December 5th, 9:00 a.m.; St. Joseph; Greenville, MS.

4th Degree – Saturday, December 5th, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.; Hattiesburg, MS.

All of you 3rd Degree Knights, please contact GK David Viger or Faithful Navigator, John Harwell and let them know if you wish to be a candidate for the 4th Degree Exemplification above.

Additionally, Sir Knights planning to attend and observe any of the out of town Degree Exemplifications should notify David Viger and/or John Harwell of your intentions.

As always, we are **“in search of”** membership applicants – No Applications = No Degree. Seek out those who you believe might be interested and qualified, then plant a seed...

Finally, let me take this opportunity to wish all a Very Merry and Safe Christmas Celebration! Thank you in advance for your support!

Vivat Jesus!
David T. Stephens,
Membership Chairman



Deputy Grand Knight
Dave Klutz



Happy Advent! By the time you read this, we will be starting our Advent season. This Sunday, November 29th, is the first Sunday of Advent. Hopefully, you have taken your Advent wreathes out. If not, I know the Ladies Corner has them on sale. OK, that was a shameless plug, but they deserve our support!

Speaking of Advent, there are a lot of Christmas events happening all over Meridian, some inside and some outside our Catholic Community. I thought I would devote this article to mentioning a few in hopes that you might choose one and make some great family memories this Christmas.

On December 1st at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall is the Meridian Christmas tree lighting. The Christmas parade is scheduled for December 5th at 5:00 p.m. For those patriotic families the Navy Band will be playing at the Temple Theater on December 8th at 7:00pm. Tickets are free. Meridian Little Theater will have the play "Rented Christmas" December 10-15. St. Patrick's School Christmas Play is December 10th at 6:00 p.m. And, don't forget our Catholic Community Christmas pageant on December 19th after the Saturday night mass. You have to come see the Knights Choir. Oh you didn't know we had a choir? Guess you will have to come check it out. I know that many of our chairmen will have events like coats for kids, hospital visit to EMSH, hospital visit on Christmas Eve, Children's Christmas party, 5th Tuesday event and a few more I can't remember off the top of my head so make sure you read the entire newsletter and double check our calendar.

Well, I am sure there are plenty of things I missed, but this might give you a few you might have overlooked. The point is to stop and make a little time with your family and friends. Most importantly is to remember to Keep Christ in Christmas. Another shameless plug...the 4th Degree Knights are selling the Keep Christ in Christmas cards again after every mass. Stop by and pick up a few. Oh.....and remember to keep an ear out for our "Keep Christ in Christmas" advertisements on the radio.

Until next month, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dave



Pro Life Darrell Hober



Brother Knights

During the month of December we celebrate Advent and the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are thankful to Mary, the Mother of Jesus for saying YES to LIFE. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The 40 Days for Life campaign was a huge success. Thank all of you for participating and saving lives. Our next Pro-Life event will be the annual Pro-Life Mississippi Candlelight Prayer Vigil held on the first Floor Rotunda at the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson. Date and time will be announced in next month's newsletter.

We received the following invitation to attend the Pro-Life Mississippi Christmas party. If you would like to attend, please give Dana a call.

On Saturday, December 5 from 5:00 - 8:00 p. m. at Dayspring Church in Clinton we will be celebrating PLM's annual Christmas Party. We bring finger foods and have a great time of fellowship. Please RSVP to the office and let us know what food you are planning to bring.

In the spirit of our generous Heavenly Father, we are gifting an expectant mother who has chosen life for her precious baby. We are asking you, if possible, to bring a gift card or cards in any amount. We hope to have the expectant mother attend the party. If you have any questions, please call or text Dana Chisholm at 601-260-0746. Thank you in advance for your generosity and love.

James 1:26-27 --- Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (NIV)

God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS PRECIOUS. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Darrell, Pro-Life



*Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion
in our lifetime*



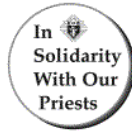


December 2015



Please continue to pray for vocations.

We need more priests



Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage
<http://www.kofc802.org>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 4	 Abortion Kills the Innocent	 1 Business Meeting 7:30pm	 2 Bingo 6pm	 3 Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	4	5 2nd Degree 9AM Greenville 4th Degree 12:00 Noon Hattiesburg
6	7	 8 No Meeting Tonight	 9 Bingo 6pm	 10 Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	11 Deadline for Essay Contest	12
13	14 Penance Service at St Patick Check Church Office for Time	 15 1st Degree Exemplification 6:30pm Business Meeting Follows at 7:30pm	 16 Bingo 6pm	 17 EMSH Christmas Visitation 6pm Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	18	19
20 KC Children's Christmas Party at KC Hall	21	 22 No 4th Degree Meeting	 23 Bingo 6pm	 24 Christmas Eve Hospital Visit No Adoration	25 Merry Christmas <u>Remember Jesus is the reason for the season</u>	26 January Newsletter Deadline
27	28	 29 No Meeting Tonight	 30 No Bingo tonight	31 Happy New Year  No Adoration		 Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime