



The Meridian Knight

February 2018



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Chaplain - Fr Matthew Simmons
Grand Knight - John Harwell
Deputy Grand Knight - Joe Hosch PGK
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Chancellor - Robert (Bob) Leo , PGK
Treasurer - David Stephens
Advocate - Roland Stewart
Recorder - Frank Polizzi, PGK
Lecturer - John Bennett, PGK
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Inside Guard - Frank Sharp
Outside Guard - Dewayne Klutz

Trustees

Patrick J (PJ) Carter, PGK
David Viger, PGK
Mouise Richards, PGK

*The Main Principles of
Our Order are*

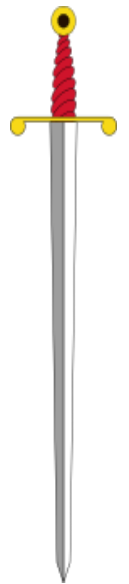
Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism

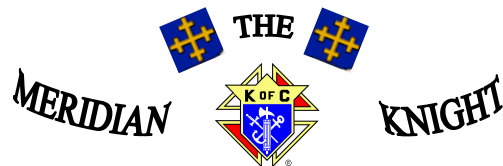
*Newsletter Editor
George Walston*



THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS



PROTECTING FAMILIES
FOR GENERATIONS



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

**Chaplain
Fr. Matthew
Simmons**



Dear Brother Knights,
This week some of the priests of the diocese attended a workshop on preaching. During the workshop, we were supposed to work on two sample homilies using a particular method. One was for the memorial of St. Timothy and Titus. At the end, we were told to use our homily for the Mass of Saints Timothy & Titus. Since I don't usually preach at weekday Masses, I knew I would not comply at Mass; so you're getting the fruits of that meditation as I write to you on their day. Timothy & Titus, as disciples formed by St. Paul to be his successors, are exemplary for all disciples of Jesus Christ. St. Paul wrote to St. Titus, "I left you in Crete so that you might set right what remains to be done." Paul gave Titus the authority and responsibility to appoint presbyters (priests) in every town. Neither you nor I have the authority or task of appointing priests; nevertheless, the Church does task us to "set right what remains to be done."

In the gospel for the memorial, St. Mark tells us, "Without parables Jesus did not speak to [the crowds], but to his own disciples, He explained everything in private." From my preaching, you can pick up that I believe one of the most important things we do in the Church is to pass on Faith to the next generation. As the Lutheran pastor who led the workshop pointed out, no one comes to Church anymore because "it's what everyone does on Sunday morning." We can assume adults are at Mass because they want to be there. These

days, parents often don't require their minor children to come to Mass. By doing so, those parents are disobeying the authority of Scripture and the Church. I highlight that to again emphasize the importance of the formation of the young. We get few opportunities; so we seize those few as best we can. Even the Church in recent years has not done well at convincing her members that, as St. Paul wrote, "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." Further, we don't often repeat the words of St. Paul that "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord."

Because I went to Presbyterian school, I don't even have to look up those verses. As St. Paul did for Timothy and Titus, young people need to have older disciples of Christ – primarily their parents – share with them the importance of a relationship with Jesus Christ. The foundation of that relationship with Christ and formation in discipleship comes from reading Scripture. I'm willing to bet knowledge of Scripture is not going to come to you in a vision. Jesus explained his parables to the apostles; and the apostles wrote down those explanations. Knowledge of Scripture comes from regularly reading reasonable portions of the Bible. As St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

Fr. Matthew

**Youth Director
John Harwell**



By the time you read this we will have held our local Free Throw Championship on January 30th at St. Patrick School. It was held in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week (Full Report will be in the March issue). On February 17th, the District/Regional Free Throw Championship will be held in Starkville. Hopefully, some of our winners from here will make the trip up for the competition. We do have a church bus reserved for the day for any of you interested in riding up.

John Harwell
Youth Chairman

**Community
Larry Birzer**



Please join us for our next visit to the East Mississippi Nursing Home, now known as The Pines, on **February 22nd at 6 pm**. You will receive greater rewards from these visits than will those whom we visit.

Larry Birzer
Community Chairman

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<http://www.kofc802.org>

**Church
Sal Moreno**



Our Family rosary program for the month of January went real well along with our Corporate Communion held on Saturday, January 27th. Thanks to our rosary leaders: David Viger, PGK, Larry Birzer, Frank Polizzi, PGK, Bob Leo, PGK, Tom Zettler, PSD, PJ Carter, PGK, and our two new volunteers, Tau Iosia and Chad Lint. We also conducted the yearly Marion Hour of prayer program on January 21st, at the KC Hall. Thanks to our lectors and readers: Tom Zettler, PSD, Bob Connor, Bob Leo, PGK, John Harwell, GK and John Maloney, PGK, who led the Rosary.

We do not have a scheduled Church Activity for the month of February. Just a reminder . February 14 is Ash Wednesday. Early next month , March 2nd. to be exact the K of C council 802 and the Knights of Peter Clever will be doing the Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph.

Thank you, have a blessed Lent,

Sal Moreno, Church Chairman

**4th Degree
Sal Moreno**



Our assembly (1251) was recognized and awarded a CIVIC AWARD for outstanding implementation of patriotic programing. Congratulations !

Our next meeting is Tuesday February 27th. At that time, I will be taking nominations and we will be voting for our 4th Degree Sir Knight of the Year. Have your nominations ready.

Thank you, have a blessed Lent.

Sal Moreno

**Council
Taupule' (Tau) Iosia**



Our Super Bowl party on February 4th will start one hour prior to kickoff , around 4:30pm.

We have had menu requests for wings both boneless and bone in. I will also have jambalaya, rotel dip and spinach dip with pita chips and some other sides. I'm asking Knights that will attend to bring either a salad, coleslaw or dessert for the Super Bowl party. In addition we will have our football pools of which a percentage will go to the Priest Education Fund.

An update on the NFL: Yes, as Knights we are rooted in patriotism. The focus of this gathering is fellowship and friendship. This event could be used for positive aspects like recruiting new members. Showing them our commitment to helping our local society through charity, and support of our Catholic community while having fun at the same time.

Sweetheart Night is on February 10th at 6:30pm. It is time to show our appreciation to our sweethearts. Bingo, food, our Knight auction, and wine drawing will be held that night. Fellow Knights, please remember that you can buy out of the auction for \$25. Extra cards for bingo will be able to be purchased for \$1. All proceeds raised for this event will go to priest education. I am asking for some help with setup at 9:30 at the hall that morning. I'll need one or two individuals to help prep and a few to help serve that night.

Tau

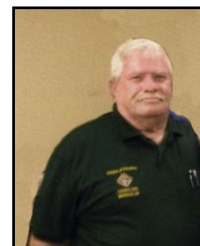
Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime

Congratulations to the Following Honorees



December Knight of the Month

Bob Leo



December Family of the Month

Adrian & Dave Viger



Knight of the Quarter

Ending in December

Bob Leo



Council 802 Knight of the
Year 2016-2017

David Viger, GK



Council 802 Family of the Year
2016-2017

Debbie and Darrell Hover



Assembly 1251 Sir Knight
of the Year 2016-2017

Frank Polizzi



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<http://www.kofc802.org>

Seminarians Corner
Deacon Nick Adam



Brother Knights,

Each year the men who are preparing for priestly ordination are offered an opportunity for a guided tour of the Holy Land. This year, 18 of us embarked on an early January morning for the pilgrimage. We were joined by our beloved professor Father David Kelly, who served us as chaplain and who was making his first visit to the Holy Land after more than 60 years as a priest.

As soon as we landed in Tel-Aviv we were off and running. We spent two days outside of Tiberias along the Sea of Galilee, seeing all those places that you hear about in the Scriptures. We walked on the mountain where Jesus gave the Church the Beatitudes, we visited his hometown of Nazareth, and we saw the Mount of Transfiguration.

We were then blessed to be able to stay within the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, see-

ing more and more incredible places each day. Father Kelly was the spiritual and literal leader of the trip as he kept up with our excellent tour guide better than anyone! We visited Bethlehem and got an insightful lesson on the political tensions that continue to hamper the Holy Land as Palestine and Israel struggle to co-exist. We also were given the opportunity to join in a daily procession that the Franciscan friars take each day, praying at the birthplace of Christ and the cave of St. Jerome among other sites.

I know that we were all deeply impacted by our various visits to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Fr. Kelly celebrated mass for us on the site of the resurrection, and we spent time praying at Golgotha. There were many other incredible moments that I'm afraid will have to be left to pictures and hopefully to your own experience in the Holy Land. This place is so incredible because each of us is impacted uniquely by walking in the land of the Lord.

I, for one, was struck to the heart while we prayed Psalm 88 in the pit under Caiaphas' house. This was the pit where Jesus was sent while he awaited his fate from the chief priest of the Jews. While a classmate read the psalm I was struck by the authenticity of that prayer of sorrow. The psalmist never fails to capture the emotions of being human, and standing in that place, I felt that I knew something of what Christ must have felt at that moment of his passion.

This is the beauty of God's plan, that our Lord *knows* what it is to be human; he can help us bear our sacrifices and indeed offer them for his greater glory, for our own sanctification, and for the sanctification of others. I will never read the Scriptures the same way again, and I will never forget my time in the Holy Land, walking where Jesus walked, standing where Jesus suffered, and rejoicing with my brothers where the Lord was made incarnate and offered that perfect sacrifice to the Father so that we might have life in Him.

- Deacon Nick

Dep Grand Knight
Joe Hosch



Brothers,

Please support our council activities by attending those you can. No one can do all, but keep a copy of the calendar from the newsletter handy to remind you of upcoming events, and then participate in the activities of interest. Remember, many hands make light work. Enjoy your Mardi Gras season, and make Lent meaningful.

Best regards,
Joe Hosch, DGK

Please continue to pray for vocations. We Need more priests

**Bingo
Bob Leo, PGK**



Well, it's been a while since my last newsletter. As I've stated before, there are only so many subjects to write about for our bingo program. However, I would like to thank everyone of our workers for their help during the past year. It's because of all of your hard and dedicated work that makes our program successful.

To see the fruits of your labor, all you need to do is look at the men and women's restrooms, and the snack bar room, this is what you have accomplished so far, not counting all of the charities that we donate to.

Well, we have had a few more extra days of vacation this and last year, due to holidays and bad weather days, and I see we will have more, with the 4th of July being on a Wednesday this year, and Christmas being on Tuesday. We were very fortunate this year because the days that we took off were days that were in a 5 week month, so we really didn't lose too much.

If there are any Brother Knights who know of a new member that has just joined our council, and is in touch with him please mention our bingo program and see if he would like to come out and join his brother Knights and help with working bingo. We are still looking for bingo callers, if anyone is interested please contact Brother Frank Polizzi or me. I would like to congratulate and welcome David Viger, Jr. for joining our bingo program, Welcome David.

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager

**State Council
Chairman
Bob Leo, PGK**



Also, as State Council Chairman, I would like to remind you of the State Bowling Tournament to be held in Natchez this year on Saturday, February 24th and Sunday the 25th. Hopefully, we will have a good turnout this time. I'm looking for some members who would like to get away for a weekend of fun and games, members who would like to bowl in a tournament. You don't have to be a very good bowler, because you will be assigned handicap average to take care of that, times to be determined later. If you are interested please contact me. Just a reminder, that this tournament is open to all members of the Knights and their family, that means wives, daughters, brothers, etc. So come on out with us and have a weekend of fun.

Bob Leo
State Council Director

February Birthdays

1st Frank Sharp **4th** Dolson (John) Rivers **6th** Fr. Jose' De Jesus Sanchez **7th** Ed Ivey **8th** Rick Berryhill **10th** Michael Dale
11th Robert (Bob) Shields **12th** John Lamont **13th** Joe Semmes, Jr. ,PGK **17th** Derek Glicco **18th** James Griffin & David
Zettler **19th** Orrin Bryant **20th** David Hammes & Roland Stewart **22nd** George Walston **23rd** Dr. Romeo Gomez
25th Alfredo Luhrs & Howard McCarty **27th** Richard Moody **28th** Adam Ethridge & Fr Binh Nguyen

**Grand Knight
John Harwell**



Greetings to my fellow Knights, Spouses, Widows, Families and Friends,

We hope that the worst of the cold temperatures that we have experienced during December and January are behind us and as the days start stretching longer we will see some warmth in the air as well.

Looking back at January, I will start by saying our bathroom renovation/front entrance project is now complete. The city has signed off on the completion, the contractor has been paid in full and I think we can all agree that the restrooms are beautiful along with being fully functional. The front entrance area and hallway are night and day better than what they looked like before construction started. Too many people to thank here but I would like to mention a few people who were integral with the endeavor: Ed Shamp (who went above and beyond over the last 18+ months from the start to the finish), John Bennett PGK, P J Carter PGK, Frank Polizzi PGK, DGK Joe Hosch (in the more recent months) and our immediate PGK David Viger, whose vision started this venture almost two years back. I know a number of other Knights contributed along the way, you know who you are and I say thank you to all who helped in any manner.

Other highlights during the month included leading the Rosary before the Weekend Masses, the Marion Hour of Prayer that was held on January 21st and our Corporate Communion on January 27th. Special thanks to Sal Moreno for coordinating both of those programs, particularly the MHP evening (if you missed out on the soup, chicken salad sandwiches and bread pudding, then you missed out on a delicious meal). On January 20th, several Knights and

spouses traveled to Jackson for the Pro-Life Vigil. Additionally, the Knights were in adoration on January 11th in the St. Aloysius Chapel, we also visited the residents at the Pines on N. Lakeland on January 25th and by the time you read this we will have conducted our Free Throw Championship at St. Patrick's on January 30th. Congratulations to our December Family of the Month, Adrian and David Viger, PGK and our Knight of the Month as well as Knight of the Quarter for the 4th Quarter, Bob Leo PGK

Upcoming in February, Tau has a couple of events right off the bat with the Super Bowl Party on February 4th at the KC Hall starting at 4:30 PM followed by our Sweethearts Night at 6:30 PM on February 10th, also at the KC Hall. We also have Adoration from 12 Noon until 7:00 PM on February 8th in the St. Aloysius Chapel (note the new ending time, one hour earlier). These along with our usual meetings and bingo evenings will keep us busy throughout the month. I invite members to participate as you are able and just giving an hour here or there is helpful to our council.

On a more somber thought, I note with sadness, the death of Sir Knight Pete Vining, who departed our world on January 7th. He originally joined Council 802 on December 1st, 1955 and was a long time member of our Council and Assembly. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Sarah, and the Vining family.

With that, I hope you all have a good month.

John Harwell
Grand Knight

In Memoriam



Sir Knight James A. (Pete) Vining
August 26, 1928—January 7, 2018

We have lost another Brother Knight. Pete was an active member of our council for many years, joining our council on December 1st 1955. At one time, he served as the Warden of our council. He was also a 4th Degree member of Assembly 1251. He was a veteran of the Marines and served during the Korean Conflict. Our condolences and prayers go out to his wife, Sarah, and to his children.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Culture of Life
Darrell Hover**



Brother Knights

THANK YOU, Tom Zettler, PSD, Frank and Carolyn Sharp, John Bennett, PGK and his wife Nelda for attending the annual Pro-Life Mississippi Candlelight Prayer Vigil in Jackson. Special thanks to Tom for riding with me as I really enjoyed the wisdom he shared with me. I am in hopes that next year we can get a larger group to travel with us to this very worthy event.

Special thanks to all of you that lead and prayed the Rosary before each Mass during the month of January to pray for an end to abortion.

Our Spring 40 Days for Life begins on February 14th and runs through March 25th. I will be asking you to join me in prayer during the business meetings as well as the daily devotionals that will be posted on our Facebook page. Our local kickoff event will be at noon to 1 p.m. on February 14th at the Women's Health Organization in Jackson.

The annual Pro-Life Spring Banquet and Silent Auction at First Baptist Church in Jackson is on Thursday, April 5th. The Keynote Speaker will be Retired Lt. Col. Allen B. West. Please

make plans to attend. The Walk for Life campaign will start earlier in the year; instead of June it will be held on April 28th. We will drive to Jackson and walk from St. Richards Catholic Church to the Women's Health Organization and back. Students can earn service hours for this event.

There has been a lot of news concerning pro-life movements this past month. So many, I do not have the space here to list all of them in detail. Here are a few highlights.

- Huge crowds (500,000+) rallied peacefully in the nation's capital Friday for the 45th annual March for Life. President Trump praised the efforts of the Pro-Life movement.
- U. S. House votes to protect babies who survive botched abortions.
- Lifenews.com reports that Planned Parenthood abortion biz closed 32 clinics in 2017, runs fewer centers than ever before.

A just-completed survey for the first time indicates the number of Planned Parenthood facilities fell below 600. To be exact, PP now has 597 facilities. You can compare that with 700 facilities in 1973—when Roe v. Wade was decided—and 938 in 1995, when PP was at its peak. The dwindling facilities and customer numbers have also had an effect on Planned Parenthood's single most profitable activity—abortion. Despite its ever-increasing emphasis on abortion, it has struggled to maintain its abortion business numbers. Over the last eight years, PP has averaged 328,302 abortions a year—with very little year-to-year fluctuation. Now 328,000 is a lot of dead innocent human beings (even one is too many), but, as the report shows, it is estimated that at least 50,000 babies will be saved in 2018 because these PP centers are no longer around.

God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS A GIFT.
Darrell, Culture of Life



Pictured Center, Sir Knight Darrell Hover, Chairman and far right holding the "Choose Life" Sign is Sir Knight Tom Zettler, PSD

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

**Membership
David Stephens**



Brother Knights,

Happy Valentine's Day! Consider this as your friendly reminder to recognize that Beautiful Sweetheart in your life on Valentine's Day. Also, Happy Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday")! Our local Brother Organization in Christ, the Knights of Peter Claver, is hosting a Mardi Gras Party for the Catholic Community on Saturday, February 3rd from 6:00 pm to 10:00 p.m at St. Joseph Church, Kehrer Hall. Please consider this your personal invitation to come celebrate with your Catholic Brothers and Sisters. There will be plenty of food, beverages (including spirits), music, and competitive costumes – Note: No one under the age of 21 is permitted. The first Mardi Gras Party at St. Joseph was suggested by Sr. Andre Burkhart. She was very instrumental in helping the KPC's plan and implement the event. Also, she put together the first Goody Basket for the Knights to raffle off – to help offset some of the cost of the free Mardi Gras Party. All KPC Brothers have raffle tickets to sell for a chance to win the beautiful Goody Basket (\$1 each).

Our next Admissions (1st) Degree is February 20, 2018, 6:30, KC Hall. Although I am not aware of any applicants as of this writing, we still have time to recruit prior to the 20th.

Exemplifications in February:

- 1st (Admissions) Degree – Tuesday, February 20th, 6:30 p.m., Meridian
- 2nd (Formation) Degree – Saturday, February 24th, 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Starkville

All of you 1st Degree Knights, please contact GK John Harwell and let him know if you wish to be a candidate for the 2nd (Formation) Degree exemplification listed above.

As always, we are *"in search of"* membership applicants – No Applicants = No Growth!

Thanking you in advance for your continued support!

Fraternally,
David T. Stephens,

**Family Director
David Viger, PGK**



No Entry This Month

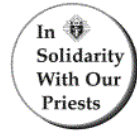
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February 2018



Please continue to pray for vocations. We need more priests



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Abortion Kills the Innocent</p> 	<p>Please continue to say the Rosary for an end to abortion in our time</p> 	<p><u>Please wish A Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 6 of this newsletter</u></p> 		<p>1</p> <p><u>Adoration</u> <u>12 Noon to 7PM</u></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Mardis Gras Party St. Joseph Kehrner Hall 6pm to 10pm</p> <p><u>ADULTS ONLY</u></p>
<p>4</p>  <p>One Hour prior to Kickoff or Around 4:30pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p><u>Business Meeting</u> 7:30pm</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>6:00 PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p><u>Adoration</u> <u>12 Noon to 7PM</u> <u>KC Responsibility</u></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p><u>6:30pm</u> <u>Sweethearts Night</u> <u>at the KC Hall</u></p> 
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>No Meeting tonight</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>6:00pm</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p><u>Forty Days for Life Begins</u></p>	<p>15</p> <p><u>Adoration</u> <u>12 Noon to 7PM</u></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>District/Regional Free Throw Contest in Starkville</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1st Degree if candidate(s)</p> <p>Meeting follows at 7:30 PM</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>6:00 pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p><u>EMSH</u> <u>Visitation 6:00 pm</u></p> <p><u>Adoration</u> <u>12 Noon to 7PM</u></p>	<p>23</p> <p><u>March Newsletter</u> <u>Deadline</u></p>	<p>24</p>  <p>State Bowling Tournament Natchez</p> <p>2nd Degree Starkville</p>
<p>25</p>  <p>State Bowling Tournament continues in Natchez</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4th Degree meeting 7:30</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>6:00pm</p>			