



February 2017



Congratulations to the Following Honorees
December Knight of the Month
Ed Shamp



December Family of the Month
The Donna & Frank Polizzi Family

Knight of the Quarter
October, November, & December
Darrell Hover

Council 802 Knight of the Year 2016
Howard McCarty

Council 802 Family of the Year 2016
Liberty & Sal Moreno



Assembly 1251 and State
Sir Knight of the Year 2015
Sal Moreno





Knights Of Columbus The Meridian Knight Council Officers



Grand Knight
David Viger

Chaplain
Father Matthew Simmons

Deputy Grand Knight
David Klutz

Financial Secretary
Richard (Rick) Norman

Chancellor
Robert J. Leo PGK

Treasurer
John D. Harwell

Advocate
Roland Stewart

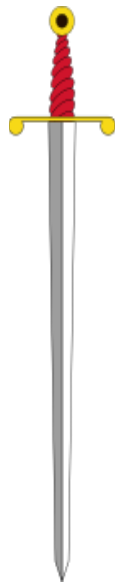
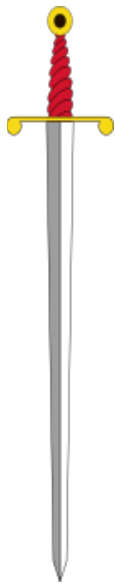
Recorder
Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer
John Bennett, PGK

Warden
Howard McCarty

Inside Guard
Frank Sharp

Outside Guard
David Stephens



Trustees
Patrick J Carter PGK
John Maloney Sr PGK
Alouise Richards PGK



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*

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<http://www.kofc802.org>



Grand Knight Dave Viger



Brothers Knights,

I want to thank all of you who helped in our events during the month of January! It was a full month that included leading the Rosary prior to weekend Masses, Marion Hour of Prayer Service, Bingo, Adoration, East Mississippi State Hospital and the Pro-Life Mississippi Annual Candlelight Prayer Vigil. These are only some of the many activities we participated in. I'm also very happy to announce that we have formed a 2nd (Formation) Degree Exemplification Team and we hope to be certified in the very near future.

During the month of February there are a couple of degree opportunities available. Starkville will host both a 2nd (Formation) Degree and a 3rd (Knighting) Degree this month on the 18th and 25th respectively. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can participate or support and observe either of these ceremonies.

We also have our Super Bowl party and Sweetheart's night at the hall this month! I hope you are able to come out and enjoy these Council events. I'm sure a GREAT time will be had by all!

As always, thanks to all who do so much for our Council! Your many good works and deeds are appreciated by many!

Last, but certainly not least, I want to wish Father Matthew a Happy One Year Anniversary as our Pastor at St Patrick and St Joseph's! May God continue to Bless you, Father!!!

Vivat Jesus!
Dave Viger, GK



Chaplain
Fr. Matthew Simmons

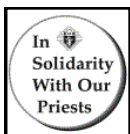


Brother Knights,

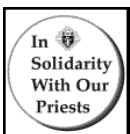
During the week of January 30th priests will be at a meeting concerning the new pastoral plan for the diocese. As part of that pastoral plan, we will all again be asked to reflect on Christ's calling us in baptism. In the pastoral plan, the bishop says that we need to encourage a culture of vocations. As the former vocation director of the diocese, I was schooled in that term by the National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors. For a former vocation director, a culture of vocations is primarily a parish setting that produces vocations to the priesthood. Since the priesthood is intimately connected to the sacrifice of the Mass, a culture of vocations is one in which the Mass is truly the source and summit of not just the sacramental life of the Church, but the source and summit of all life in the Church.

As a former evangelical, I agree with the bishop that everyone needs to understand his or her baptismal calling. As I say regularly in homilies, there is no more personal relationship with Jesus Christ than receiving His Body and Blood. Unfortunately, many Catholics don't believe or understand that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ. Next month provides a special opportunity for promoting a culture of vocations as we celebrate the diaconate ordination of Nick Adam. This provides an ideal time to talk with our children, grandchildren, and other people we know about their own vocation. As Cardinal Sean O'Malley of Boston, chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations, said, "It is our responsibility to encourage young people to be generous in their response as they discern the possibility of a call to service in the Church. We must also ask parents, families, and our parish communities to assist with this work." He added that "vocations are everyone's business." I thank you for your support of priestly vocations and ask for your help in making this celebration an opportunity for promoting vocations to priesthood.

Fr Matthew



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Seminarians Corner Nick Adam



Brother Knights,

Before starting the new semester I was able to make my annual retreat, and this retreat was geared toward those of us who will be ordained to the diaconate this year. The retreat was led by Fr. Michael Champagne of the Diocese of Lafayette. Fr. Champagne was an incredible presenter and opened my eyes to the ministry and identity of the deacon.

We learned that deacons are meant to be servants both of the clergy and the people. Their place in the liturgy speaks to this identity. The deacon stands next to the priest, but he only assists the priest in getting the vessels ready and saying some of the prayers. He does not say the Eucharistic prayer but kneels as the congregation does. The symbolism that comes forth from this is the deacon as the representative of the congregation in the sanctuary. He prays for the people and offers these prayers as the gifts are received and blessed by the priest.

The deacon is also expected to be a man of service outside the walls of the Church. We learned that this spirit of service needs to be apparent even before ordination. With diaconate also comes the ability to preach homilies at mass and other liturgies, to baptize, and to witness marriages.

The retreat only made me more excited to reach this milestone in my formation, and I look forward to celebrating with all of you at St. Patrick and St. Joseph in March. The ordination will be Friday, March 17th at 6 PM at St. Patrick. I will also preach the homily at the 8:30 AM mass at St. Joseph on the 19th and the 11 AM Mass at St. Pat.

Nick

(Editor's Note: Please be sure to keep Friday, March 17th, free so that you will be able to attend Nick's Ordination into the Diaconate. It will be held at St. Patrick Church at 6:00 pm. We owe it to Nick to fill the church with Knights for this most Sacred and long awaited event for our parish)



Church Sal Moreno

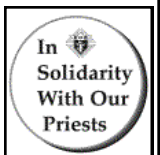
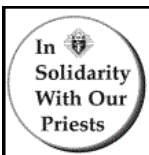


I know you are all gearing up for the Super Bowl and for some numerous events and activities for the month of February, so I will make it quick. Our February Weekend mass rosary went very well thanks to brother David Viger, Gary Koca, George Walston, Frank Polizzi, Roland Stewart, Tom Zettler, P.J. Carter, Larry Birzer, John Maloney and our latest volunteer Tyler Oakes.

Before I forget, I would like to also thank those of you who made our Marian Hour of Prayer Service a success. Music and song, Liberty Moreno, Service participants – David Viger, Bob Connor, Bob Leo, Roland Stewart, Howard McCarty, Fr. Matthew, Frank Polizzi, Larry Birzer, Dr. Borrell and to those who worked the floor, P.J. Carter and Sal Moreno. Lastly, we will have our **Quarterly Communion Service on the 25th of this month.** Thanks, see you at the Super Bowl Party.

Sal Moreno
Church Program Chairman
salmoreno@comcast.net

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





Special on Youth from Dave Klutz, DGK



For two years I have been filling in as the Youth Director and asking for help. I have continued to make sure the youth events continued to happen because no one stepped forward. But all good things must end. There are several events that will not happen in the next couple of months if no one steps forward to take charge of these events. Please let me know if you want information on how to supervise these events:

*Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest
Free Throw Contest
Easter Egg Hunt*

Dave Klutz
Email: david.d.klutz@navy.mil



Council Tau Iosia



On February 5th, we will have our Super Bowl Party at the KC Hall. We will start one hour before the kickoff. I will have a pasta bar for our event. It will consist of pasta, choice of sauces and other condiments for your liking. In addition, I will have a rotel dip and a spinach dip with pita chips. We ask that individuals who attend to please bring a side item or dessert to the party. Beverages will be provided by the Grand Knight. Moreover, we will have our football pool divided by the quarters and a percentage going to priest education.

On February 11th, we plan to have our Sweetheart's Night at the hall after the 5pm Mass. I will be asking for help with this event. We will also have our auction for Knight for Day that evening. You can send me an email at tiosia@yahoo.com, or you can text me at **601-692-8746** to sign up for the auction or if it is your intention to buy out for \$25. The proceeds go to Priest Education.

Thank you,
Tau Iosia 601-692-8746

February Birthdays

1st Frank Sharp **4th** John Rivers **6th** Fr. Jose' De Jesus Sanchez **7th** Ed Ivey **8th** Rick Berryhill
10th Michael Dale **11th** Robert Shields **12th** John Lamont **13th** Joe Semmes **17th** Derek Glicco
18th Cory Griffin & David Zettler **20th** David Hammes & Roland Stewart **22nd** George Walston
23rd Dr. Romeo Gomez **24th** Fr. Maurice Haiss **25th** Alfredo Luhers & Howard McCarty
27th Richard Moody **28th** Adam Ethridge & Fr. Binh Nguyen

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Fourth Degree John Harwell, JN



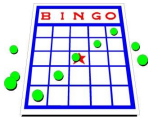
Greetings to all Sir Knights and their families!!!! As the afternoon sun continues to shine a little later each day, we know that the Son is always shining on us, even when we are in our darkest midst. It is my prayer that Christ will be in each of our hearts to comfort us when we are sick or in distress and share with us in our joy as well.

Looking back on January, we had a great evening of fun on Saturday, January 7th, when we held our annual 4th Degree Christmas party at the KC Hall. Some 65 people were in attendance and all enjoyed a great meal prepared by our own SK Sal Moreno. He and his wife, Liberty, had the hall tastefully decorated. The delicious meal included lobster and prime rib along with the fixings and dessert. After dinner, we enjoyed music/dancing well into the evening. Special thanks to SK Frank Polizzi and his wife Donna for setting up the music and helping to make the evening fun for all. During the evening we gave away 4 O'Charley's gift cards that were purchased as script from St. Patrick School. In addition to the above mentioned, thank you to the following people who helped set up, serve and/or clean up: Frank Sharp, Teresa LaBiche, PJ Carter, Frank Washington, Bob Leo, Bob Connor, Tau & Karen Iosia, Howard McCarty, Debbie Hover, and I am sure I missed a person or two but you know who you are. Lastly, special thanks to SK John Bennett for taking the leftovers from the party and adding some ingredients to make a taco soup that was sold at a recent meeting with the proceeds going to the PE Fund.

Upcoming events include a Flag Raising Ceremony at St. Patrick Cemetery on Monday, February 20th, Presidents' Day at 8AM. Please join us if you are able. Please put on your calendars, the Diaconate Ordination of Nick Adam, which will be at St. Patrick Church at 6PM on Friday, March 17th. The Honor Guard will participate in this celebration.

I hope each of you have a good month. Thank you to all our Sir Knights, spouses, widows, families and friends for supporting and participating in our programs.

Faithful Navigator
John Harwell
1 COR 12 4-7



Bingo Bob Leo



Well all the paper work is finally done and mailed in to the State Gaming Commission. We should be receiving our new license sometime in February. I wish to thank all of the members that participated in the filling out of the personal history applications. Apparently, the gaming commission has changed their procedures on filing for a new license.

Our bingo program is progressing well. We are still seeing a lot of new patrons coming to our bingo sessions. I have heard a lot of comments about our snack bar, and how good the food is, many thanks to Brother Knights John Bennett, Frank Sharp, and Ed Shamp, and let us not forget our ladies behind the bar, Teresa La Biche, Sue Blier, Carolyn Sharp, Debbie Hover, and a big welcome to Sherry Graupman.

With all of the new Knights that we are getting into our council, I would expect to see an increase in the help in the bingo program. To you newly admitted Knights, I extend to you an invitation to come on out to bingo and see your brother knights in action. You will be greatly impressed in just what we do. It doesn't cost a thing, in fact I will even buy you free drinks of your choice, so come on out and join your brother Knights. Hope to see you there soon!!

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager



Membership David Stephens



Brother Knights,

Happy Valentine's Day! Be sure 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 having their Mardi Gras Party on Saturday, February 18, 2017, 6-10 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' Burkhardt. She was very instrumental in helping the KPC's plan to implement the event. Also, she put together the first Goodies Basket for the Knights to raffle off – to help offset some of the cost of the free Mardi Gras Party for the Catholic Community. All KPC Brothers have raffle tickets to sell for a chance to win the beautiful Goodies Basket (\$1 each).

Our next Admissions (1st) Degree is February 21, 2017, 6:30, KC Hall. Ryan Sidlovsky is the only approved applicant I am aware of as of this writing. However, I extend an invitation to a couple of new guys stationed at NAS Meridian for training (and sent them a copy of our brochure). If any of you know Luke Bielawski and Lucas Papadakos at St. Patrick or St. Joseph of Cupertino, please encourage them to consider joining the Knights of Columbus. They were attending St. Joseph for the first time when I met them a couple of weeks ago.

Exemplifications in January:

- 2nd (Formation) Degree – Saturday, February 18th, Time TBA, Starkville
- 4th (Fourth) Degree – Saturday, February 18th, 11:00 a.m., Gautier
- 1st (Admissions) Degree – Tuesday, February 21st, 6:30 p.m., Meridian
- 3rd (Knighthood) Degree – Saturday, February 25th, Time TBA, Starkville

All 2nd and 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 Knighthood and/or Fourth Degree exemplification listed above. Additionally, Sir Knights planning to attend and observe the Degree Exemplification should notify David Viger and/or John Harwell of your intentions.

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,
Membership Director



Deputy Grand Knight
Dave Klutz



Another month has passed without a Youth or Family Director. We need someone to step up take on these programs. We have already had to cancel a few events due to having no one to step in. Also my term as Deputy Grand Knight is also getting closer to being finished. Someone will have to take over when I step down in June. If you are interested please let the Grand Knight know. Just to let you know we are finishing up our end of the year awards for the state convention. Program Directors I might need some help with details to strengthen our write-ups. Thanks to all directors for a great year in 2016.

Dave Klutz
Email: david.d.klutz@navy.mil



Pro Life
Darrell Hober



Brother Knights

Due to the impending bad weather on Saturday, January 21st, I was not able to attend the Candlelight Vigil at the state capital this year. I did check with Pro-Life Mississippi and they report approximately 200 were in attendance. There were also vigils in Olive Branch and Long Beach this year; the attendance numbers for these locations had not yet been received.

Special thanks to all of you who led and prayed the Rosary before each Mass during the Month of January to pray for an end to abortion. THANK YOU!

From the 40 Days for Life newsletter came the following report: With the stroke of a pen, President Trump has taken the first step towards seeing that none of your tax money pays for abortion. A freshly-signed executive order denies American funding to any organization that performs or promotes abortions overseas.

This is great news ... but the next step will be more difficult -- denying tax funding for Planned Parenthood at home. Planned Parenthood is going all in as they try to save their tax funding. Your help is needed... Please listen to the webcast where national leaders share the threats Planned Parenthood faces in 2017. Listen at: <http://defundplannedparenthood.com> We'll have much more to say in the coming weeks, but in the meantime keep praying that God will make America -- and the world -- abortion- free!

As a reminder, the next 40 Days for Life campaign will start on March 1st. The annual Pro-Life Spring Banquet at First Baptist Church, Jackson is on Thursday April 6th. The Walk for Life campaign will be held in Jackson on June 10th, 2017.

God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS A GIFT.

Darrell, Pro-Life



Community
Roland Stewart



The next meeting at East Mississippi Nursing home is February 23rd at 6:00 pm. The theme will be Mardi Gras. Bring any beads you can for the residents. Thanks to all who help with the program.

Roland

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



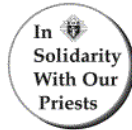


March 2017



Please continue to pray for vocations.

We need more priests



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 5	 Abortion Kills the Innocent	 Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime	 1 Bingo 6pm	 2 Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	3	4
5 Super Bowl Party Falcons vs Patriots 4:30 pm KC HALL 	6	 7 Business Meeting 7:30pm	 8 Bingo 6pm	 9 Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM KC Responsibility	10	11 Sweetheart's Night and Knight for a Day Party
12	13	 14 No Meeting Tonight	 15 Bingo 6pm	 16 Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	17	18 2nd Degree Starkville Time TBA 4th Degree Gautier MS 11:00 am
19	20 Presidents' Day  At 8:00 am	 21 1st Degree Exemplification 6:30pm if applicant available Business Meeting Follows at 7:30pm	 22 Bingo 6pm	 23 EMSH Visitation 6:00pm Adoration St Aloysius Chapel 12 Noon to 8PM	24	25 3rd Degree Starkville Time TBA Corporate Communion St. Patrick 5pm Mass
26	27	 28 Shrove Tuesday Lent begins Tomorrow (Ash Wednesday) 4th Degree Meeting 7:30pm	<u>For your future reference</u> On Friday, March 17th, at 6:00 pm, we will be able to witness a very important event at St. Patrick Church, for all of the Catholic Community of Meridian, when our own Brother Knight, Nick Adam, will be Ordained into the Diaconate for the Jackson Diocese. Mark your March calendar now for this important event.			