



February 2016



Congratulations to the Following Honorees

**December Knight of the Month
Bob Leo, PGK**



**December Family of the Month
The Sandy & Dave Klutz Family**

**Knight of the Quarter
October, November, December
Fr. Francis Cosgrove**

**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 Matthew Simmons

Deputy Grand Knight
David Klutz

Financial Secretary
George Walston

Chancellor
Robert J. Leo PGK

Treasurer
John D. Harwell

Advocate
Roland Stewart

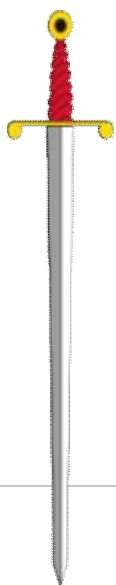
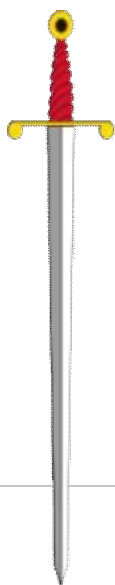
Recorder
Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer
John Bennett, PGK

Warden
Howard McCarty

Inside Guard
Frank Sharp

Outside Guard
David Stephens



Trustees

Patrick J Carter PGK
John Maloney Sr PGK
Mouise 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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Grand Knight Dave Viger



Brothers Knights,

BIG Brother Knight Father Frank, by the time you read this your farewell will be long over and you will be enjoying the "easy life" at St. Catherine's. On behalf of Council 802, "THANK YOU!" Thank you for being our spiritual leader, our mentor and our friend! You will forever be in our hearts and prayers!

Brother Knight Father Matt, it's also my pleasure to "WELCOME YOU!" on behalf of our Council. We stand ready to help and support you to the very best of our ability!

Little Brother Knight Father Jose, well, never mind. Father Matt might make me be nice to you! Welcome back. I hope you had an okay vacation. Now, get to work, please! ;-)

All Brothers Knights, January was a very busy and productive month for a lot of KNIGHTS! Your continuous participation and dedication to so many functions, such as: Adoration, EMSH visits, leading the Holy Rosary before weekend masses, the Holy Family Prayer Program, supporting Bingo as well as performing Greeter and Eucharistic Minister duties and much, much more is more than inspiring! February holds a couple of "paybacks" for you and your Lady! Our Super Bowl Party and Sweet Hearts Night will be on the 7th and 13th of February respectively. Please come out and enjoy them...y'all deserve it!

Thank you and God Bless!

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Viger, GK



**Council
Tau Iosia**



On February 7th we will have our Super Bowl Party at the KC Hall. We will start one hour before the kickoff. I will add a small new twist to our event. I will have fried and baked chicken tenders (for healthy concerned individuals) "hand tossed" into your choice of spices and sauces for this event. Some choices of sauces will be Buffalo, Teriyaki, Honey Mustard, Lemon Pepper (dry), Six Spice Pepper(dry) and a few others (possibly a bourbon and zesty orange). I would like to thank Bob Leo and Frank Polizzi for helping with the Rotel Dip and Red Beans that will also be offered that day. We ask that individuals that attend please bring a side item or dessert to our Super Bowl Party. Beverages will be available at normal charges.

On February 13th we will plan to have our Sweetheart's Night at the hall after the 5pm Mass. I will ask for help with servers and dealers for this event. We also will have our auction for Knights that evening and the proceeds go to Priest Education.

Tau Iosia

Council Chairman



Chaplain Fr. Matthew Simmons



"God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1.7:

It is the *Feast of Saints Timothy and Titus - Bishops* as I try to organize the office I have been occupying as vocation director. Sitting before me is a letter I opened earlier from Bishop Kopacz. At the bottom, he wrote by hand, "May the Lord bless you abundantly as you transition to St. Patrick and St. Joseph. The fire is already blazing."

Transitions are seldom easy. I remember that the transition when I left Meridian ten years ago was more difficult than I had expected it would be. I told my spiritual director of the time, Fr. Brian Kaskie, that I realized in hindsight that I had surrounded myself with the people I needed for support during those three years. A significant part of that support came from my relationship to the Knights of Columbus. Especially through KC support of vocations, that connection has remained strong during the past years. I transition back to Meridian convinced that a pastor can do more for vocations to the priesthood and religious life than can a vocation director.

Fr. Sanchez will need our support - most especially by our nurturing vocations among our young people in the parishes. For the sake of vocations - including himself as vocation director, I am glad Fr. Sanchez has chosen to stay connected to the parishes. The warmth of the community will be something he needs. A fire needs to be tended constantly, and our job of handing on the faith to the next generation does not permit us to rest.

The KCs have recognized the need to strengthen fathers for the sake of children and mothers of children. Fathers have a sometimes subtle but strong impact on the discipleship of their children and, hence, vocations to priesthood and religious life. St. Paul sometimes spoke of himself as a father in the faith, and God used Paul to impart to Saints Timothy and Titus the spirit of power and love and self-control.

Pray for me as I return as your spiritual father. It is a great privilege to serve you in that way, especially in offering the Mass. May we glorify God by passing on to another generation what has been given to us. Saints Timothy & Titus, pray for us.

Fr. Matthew



Church Sal Moreno



We are now looking and planning for Lent. The following is a schedule of events as far as the church program goes.

February 1st. We will pass the Holy Family (Marian Hour of Prayer) Icon to Columbus.

February 10th is Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of Lent.

February 12th (Friday at 6:00 PM) We, along with the Knights of Peter Claver will be doing the Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph. Please come join us.

It looks like February is going to be a fairly calm month, at least I think it is, but I have been warned that it is usually the calm before the storm. Sure enough a lot of things will be happening for the next few months. I will inform and update you all as they get closer.

We are having success in our Rosary giveaway program. During the last 6 months we have given away more than 200 rosaries. I am ordering 100 more.

That's all for now.

Please continue to pray for vocations.

Sal Moreno
Church Chairman

We need more priests



Special from John Maloney, PGK



KC Council 802 held Bingo every Wednesday for years before the current hall was built. I remember using a small hand operated cage with little balls to call bingo. This was done in the back of the hall without a microphone. Prizes were \$25 a game and we had a \$100 jackpot which started at 48 numbers and went up one number each week until the jackpot was hit. We played ten games. Cards cost \$1.00 each. After the jackpot game we played games for ten cents per card and we split 50/50 of what we collected each game as the prize. Usually we didn't make very much money until the numbers got up to 55 numbers for the jackpot. Players used pennies, corn or little plastic disks to mark their cards. Later we got the cards with slides to cover the numbers.

After the stage was built we got better equipment, a bingo machine that blew ping pong balls with the numbers, and a PA system. Ms. Marie Bailey donated a bingo board which showed the numbers called.

Bingo was played at the American Legion, Moose Lodge, V.F.W., St. Joseph Church, and also at K of C. Then it happened, Professional Bingo came to town.

More memories next month.

John Maloney, Sr.
Trustee and PGK



Seminarians Corner Nick Adam



Brother Knights,

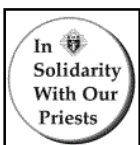
With Father Frank's retirement at the beginning of this month, I wanted to share a couple of reflections about our outgoing council Chaplain's impact on my life.

The first person I approached to speak to about returning to the Church was Father Frank Cosgrove. I had moved to Meridian to do sports with WTOK TV and was not attending Church anywhere. I had grown up Catholic but had grown lukewarm in my faith through college and had my doubts about organized religion.

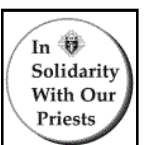
When I finally decided to attend Mass at St. Patrick one Sunday, I was very nervous. I approached Father Frank and he greeted me with some surprise (since he knew who I was from television but *didn't know I was Catholic!*) and I asked if I could speak with him after mass. The conversation that we had that day changed my life. I often look back on how he treated me and I saw the kind of priest that I want to be. Of course, it is very important to be who *we* are. I am not called to be a carbon copy of Father Frank in my own ministry, but I do want to model his gentleness, humanity, and humility in my life as a priest.

Father Frank Cosgrove is a man of prayer. He is a man who can deal with people in a loving way because he is grounded in his own relationship with the Lord. He helps us to feel loved by God because he *knows* that he himself is loved by God. I will be forever grateful to God for the ministry of Father Frank, and I know that all of us in Council 802 will keep him in prayer. I am excited for the people to whom he will now minister and wish him the very best.

Sincerely,
Nick Adam



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





Bingo Bob Leo



Well, another bingo hall has been robbed, only this time they only stole the bingo paper (sheets) we have a listing of the serial numbers of the sheets that were stolen, it's in the bingo office if you care to see them.

On a more joyful note our bingo program is doing OK. We are seeing more and more new faces at the bingo sessions, (that's probably why we have so many missed bingo's) there are a lot of first time players coming out to the hall, but I'm glad that we have very knowledgeable workers on the floor to help out the first time players, such as brother Knights Howard McCarty, Dewayne Klutz, David Stephens, John Kasper, Sal Moreno, Johnny Johnson, David Sloan, Tom Zettler, George Walston, Tau Iosia, and a welcome back to Greg Stephens who came out last week, and let us not forget our ladies Janice Kasper, and let's not forget our money changer(on the floor) P.J. Carter.

Thank you one and all and those that I forgot to mention, for doing a great job in keeping our bingo program the success that you have made it. For you new Knights, come on out and see what you are missing. Come out and meet your Brother Knights, spend a Wednesday night with us and learn what the Knights of Columbus is all about. I remember seeing you at your installation, but now I forgot what you look like, come on out and refresh my memory. Hope to see you soon.

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager



Family Bob Leo



I still notice at the meetings that there is still a hesitancy to chose a Family of the Month. It seems that all the members present look to one person for a nomination of a family. The family of the Month program is for everyone to participate in, not just one member. The time to think about a family you would like to nominate is now, one month before the nomination is due. This will give you plenty of time to make a selection, of the family you would like to nominate. Some of the areas you could look to are (1) your parish priest (2) any of the ladies organizations that you have in the parish,(3) the parish school.(4) your scout leaders. But now would be the time to be thinking of who you would like to nominate and see selected as the "Family of the Month, for that month.

In the near future when things calm down a bit, and we don't have so many projects going on, I will get with the Grand Knight David Viger and try to outline a plan to have a "Food for the Poor collection program put in place. This is one of the family programs that is a requirement of the Supreme council, that we will get credits for on our quest for "Star Council"

Our next family get together will be on Friday, February 26th, unless some other function takes precedence over it. The time will be 7:30 P.M. The place, the KC Hall. The Knights will provide the meat and soft drinks, Please feel free to bring a dessert or side dish of your liking. This Family get together is open to all Members and members guests, and to all potential members. I hope to see a great turnout for this get together.

Bob Leo
Family Director



Special on Youth from Dave Klutz, DGK



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: The biggest event of the year for our school is almost here. Did you see the special insert in Mississippi Catholic? The school will celebrate National Catholic Schools Week February 1-6. There will be a special Mass closing out the eventful week on Saturday February 6th at 5:00 p.m. All are invited.

IRISH FEST will be on Saturday, March 19th from 11-3. Come out and get some great food and enjoy a fun day for the whole family. Also remember that the annual Countdown is Friday, April 15th. The Countdown is an adults-only event with a chance to win \$5,000. Contact the school if you wish to purchase tickets. Every year the Council 802 is kind enough to purchase tickets with the promise to return all winnings to the school.

Dave Klutz
Acting Youth Chairman



Deputy Grand Knight
Dave Klutz



Doesn't it just feel like you just put up the Christmas tree? Do you know Lent starts February 10th? That's right, Ash Wednesday is February 10th! So are you prepared for Lent? You know they say anything worth doing is worth preparing for. Will God help you to transform your life, with greater freedom, greater joy, deeper desires for love and service. If we want it, we will choose it. Lent will be this wonderful season of grace for us if we give ourselves to it. And, we will give ourselves to it to the degree we really want it badly. So, in these days before Lent, we need to prepare our hearts. If you imagine Lent as an "ordeal" or a time to dread in some way, then you've already pre-disposed yourself to not get very much out of it. These days before Lent are a time to start anticipating something wonderful that is about to happen.

Our Focus: On what God wants to give us. Our sense of excitement and anticipation will grow more easily if we begin to imagine what God wants to give us, not starting from a dead stop, but taking some time to get ready for Lent will ensure that we aren't going to miss the first week or two of Lent, because we are just getting started.

Before we get to Ash Wednesday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?"

Lent is not something I need to do alone. I should begin to talk with friends about how we will support each other in this Lenten journey. The anticipation and the preparation is transformed with the companionship of family and close friends. Let's help others see that Lent doesn't have to be something to avoid, and certainly can't be reduced to "giving up candy." We can help our loved ones to begin to imagine what they could receive from God in these days. It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We could wake up each morning a minute early, stand by the edge of our beds, and just ask the Lord for the grace to let this day be one in which I long for the beginning of Lent.

Dave Klutz, DGK



Fourth Degree John Harwell, JN



Well, ole man winter waited until January to show his face and now we are in the midst of some cold weather as we turn the calendar over to February.

Looking back at January, we had our 4th Degree Christmas Dinner on January 9th. Some 43 people enjoyed the evening of food, fun and fellowship. At the close of the evening we gave away five \$25 O'Charley's gift cards (purchased as script from St. Patrick School, of course) as door prizes. The drawing went like this:

Sister Marilyn pulled Richard and Aileen Semmes ticket, Father Cosgrove then pulled Teresa LaBiche's ticket, Liberty Moreno, then promptly, pulled Sister Marilyn's ticket. That was followed by Jo Anne Zettler pulling none other than her and Tom's ticket. Finally, I initiated a trivia question for the final gift card. Two questions were posed to the group and no one answered either question correctly and so I had made an executive decision to give our last gift card to our Faithful Friar Father Frank Cosgrove.

As an aside, at the direction of our GK David Viger, we presented Father Cosgrove with his retirement gift that Council 802 had recently voted to give him. It was a great way to cap off the night. I know I speak for many when I say we will miss Father Frank. He has meant so much to our Catholic Community, our Knights of Columbus Council and Assembly and the greater Meridian community as well. On a personal note, I was the President of the Parish Council when he was first assigned to our Parish back in January 2005. I had the privilege of speaking with him several times over the phone before he ever arrived in Meridian. Those conversations sparked a friendship that has flourished to the present day. My faith has grown evermore over the last 11 years by following his example as our spiritual leader. Father Frank, we wish you well in your retirement and pray for God's Blessing to shine upon you. Thank you for your 50 years of service to the Catholic Diocese of Mississippi.

Thank you to the following Sir Knights that served on the Honor Guard for the Marion Hour of Prayer on January 24th at St. Joseph Church: Commander Bob Leo PFN, David Viger, Sal Moreno, Richard Moody, Larry Birzer, PJ Carter PGK, Frank Sharp, Howard McCarty, Roland Stewart, Frank Polizzi, and Bob Connor, It was a beautiful program that honored the Holy Family.

By the time you read this article, our Honor Guard will have participated in Father Frank's final Mass on the 31st. Also, upcoming on the 14th, the Honor Guard will participate in a special Mass at NAS Meridian. Please contact Commander Bob Leo PFN, if you wish to participate.

On February 15th, we will meet at 8:00AM (0800) at St. Patrick's Cemetery to raise our Nation's Colors for Washington's Birthday. The flag will be retired at 5:00PM (1700). Please join us if you are able.

I hope everyone has a great month.

Faithful Navigator
John Harwell
1 COR 12 4-7



Community
Roland Stewart



Thanks to all who helped with the Christmas party at East Mississippi. It was one of the best. Everyone enjoyed Santa and the gifts and the songs led by Tyler Oakes. Our February visit will be on Thursday, February the 25th at 6:00 pm. Please try to attend, The patients really enjoy the company and fellowship we provide, along with treats.

Roland

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<http://www.kofc802.org>



Membership David Stephens



Brother Knights,

Good day, Knights. For some people, February is considered the sweetest month of the year. Please do consider this your friendly reminder to buy/do something very special for your sweetheart for Valentine's Day, so you will make it through the month feeling it was a sweet month for you.

Thank you to all who have helped in some way to recruit new members and I encourage you to continue your efforts. In March we will have another Order-wide Church Drive to recruit new members. The specific weekend for our Catholic Community will be listed in next month's report. "Membership is truly a team effort!" Let's Go Team!!!

Exemplifications in February:

4th Degree – Saturday, February 13th, 12:00 – 6:30 p.m. (Mass included); Macon, MS.

2nd Degree – Thursday, February 25th, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; Clinton, MS.

3rd Degree – Saturday, February 27th, 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m., Starkville, MS.

All of you who are 1st, 2nd or 3rd Degree Knights, please contact GK David Viger and/or Faithful Navigator, John Harwell (for 4th Degree) and let them know you wish to be a candidate for the 2nd/3rd/4th Degree Exemplification listed 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"** new members. Seek out those who you believe might be interested and qualified, then plant a seed...

Thanking you in advance for your support!

Vivat Jesus!

David T. Stephens,
Membership Director



Special from
Mike Lundstrom



To all my Brother Knights, your wives, and all Catholics. I am in need of a couple of folks to help hold Catholic Services at the Lost Gap prison. With me having so many medical problems and some recent amputations there have been times that I haven't been able to hold services and it is extremely important to my heart that these inmates will always have someone there every week.

As Director of St. Patricks Prison Ministry I am very proud of the wonderful Knights that I have now whom are John Maloney Sr, Daniel Pittman, and Ken Woodward. They do an "OUTSTANDING" job of delivering the WORD of GOD, and warmth to the inmates hearts and minds. We have inducted many new Catholics into the Catholic church because of our works. The prisoner is one of many very special groups of people to our very Dear Lord. Forgiveness and mercy is one of the most important things that these attending inmates seek along with HIS Word.

Please spread the word and please consider volunteering for this most very important ministry. My email is rlundstrom@msn.com. My sincere THANKS to all for your consideration.

Mike

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<http://www.kofc802.org>



Pro Life Darrell Hober



Brother Knights

Special thanks to Tom Zettler, John and Nelda Bennett who drove to Jackson and attended the 2016 Annual Candle Light Vigil at the State Capitol. This is a special event and we need to consider having a few more Knights representing Council 802 joining us next year.

The spring session 40 Days of Life will start on February 10th and run through March 20th. I will need to ask for a volunteer to post the daily prayers when they become available.

Biking for Babies needs riders and support crew. Biking for Babies strives to renew the culture of life in America by financially and spiritually supporting pro-life organizations like Pro-Life Mississippi, one pedal stroke at a time. We are looking for 40 college students and young professionals to join us as cyclists and support crew for two long-distance rides (one leaving from Chicago and one from New Orleans, both converging in Memphis) on July 12-17, 2016. Applications can be found at www.bikingforbabies.com and are due February 12. Email sarah.voet@bikingforbabies.com with questions!

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

Darrell, Pro-Life



Special from John Bennett



On 16 January, a group of Knights participated in the Annual Candle Light Vigil in Jackson. Along with a wife. This year's crowd was at least as large as last year's. Lots of young people. I noticed that a contingent of Sir Knights from the Jackson area was in attendance, also. Pro-Life is alive and well. Sadly, no elected officials were on hand. As we all know, there is only one abortion clinic active in the state of Mississippi. That is one too many. It will take more prayer and community outreach and support at peaceful vigils to make a difference. We still need to inform our elected officials that God is alive and well and not too happy with the killing of babies. Over 2,000 babies will be aborted in 2016 at this killing mill in Jackson alone. Prayers alone will not stop this. Somewhere along the line, politicians need to answer for their vote. This year from 10 February to 20 March is designated as 40 Days of Life. Please consider these as prayer days. Thanks.

John Bennett, PGK
Lecturer

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



In Memoriam



Dudley Valentine

The Catholic Community lost another special member on January 14th. Dudley Valentine went to meet Jesus. Dudley was another of those behind the scenes parishioners who was quite active before his health began to fail. Dudley worked with the Prison Ministry Program. In fact, if my memory serves me, I believe he started the Ministry. I was fortunate enough to attend one of the first Cursillos held in Dedeaux Mississippi with Dudley back in 1970. It was a memorable experience for both of us.

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

Amen

February Birthdays

1st Frank Sharp **4th** Dolson 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** Derrick 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

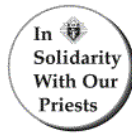


February 2016



Please continue to pray for vocations.

We need more priests



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Start of National Catholic Schools Week	 2 <i>Business Meeting 7:30pm</i>	 3 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 4 <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	5	6 End National Catholic Schools Week Special Mass 5pm
7 Super Bowl Party Beginning One hour before Kickoff	8	 9 <i>No Meeting Tonight</i>	 10 Ash Wednesday Mass 6:30 at St Patrick Bingo 6pm	 11 <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM KC Responsibility</i>	12 Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph 6pm	13 4th Degree in Macon 12 to 6:30 Sweethearts Patry KC Hall after 5pm Mass
14	15 Flag Raising at the Catholic Cemetary 8 AM Retiring Flag 5 PM Washington/ Lincoln Birthday	 16 <i>1st Degree Exemplification 6:30pm if applicant</i> <i>Business Meeting Follows at 7:30pm</i>	 17 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 18 <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	19 Stations of the Cross at St. Patrick 6pm	20
21	22	 23 <i>4th Degree Meeting 7:30pm</i>	 24 <i>Bingo 6pm</i>	 25 EMSH Visitation 6pm 2nd Degree in Clinton <i>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</i>	26 Family Potluck 7:30 KC Hall Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph 6pm	27 3rd Degree Exemplification in Starkville 10am/2pm
28	29			 <i>Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 11</i>	 Abortion Kills the Innocent	 <i>Please continue to pray the Rosary to end Abortion in our lifetime</i>