



January 2017



Congratulations to the Following Honorees



**November Knight of the Month
Kenneth (Ken) Woodward**

**November Family of the Month
The Adrian & Dave Viger Family**

**Knight of the Quarter
July, August, September
Rick Norman**

**Council 802 Knight of the Year 2016
Howard McCarty**

**Council 802 Family of the Year 2016
Liberty and Salvador (Sal) Moreno**



**Assembly 1251
Sir Knight of the Year 2016
Salvador (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

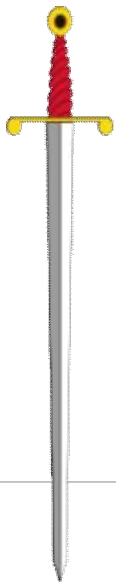
Recorder
Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer
John Bennett, PGK

Warden
Howard McCarty

Inside Guard
Frank Sharp

Outside Guard
David Stephens



Trustees

Patrick J Carter PGK
John Maloney Sr PGK
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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<http://www.kofc802.org>



Grand Knight
David Viger



Brothers Knights,

Let me start by welcoming Aaron Dougherty and James Snowden to our Council. They, along with Skye Cooley from the Starkville Council made their 1st Degree on December 20th, and, as usual, our Degree Team did an OUTSTANDING job!

Well, another year full of accomplishments has passed and another begins, full of challenges! Challenges for all of us! I am confident that together, we will be able to meet those. The New Year brings to a close the first half of our Fraternal Year. I would like to thank all of you who worked hard and dedicated your time supporting our Council! However, as we start 2017, I ask for help. Our Council needs both a Youth and a Family Program Director. I'm sure you know, Youth and Family activities don't "just happen." They need to be planned and organized. What say you? Can you help? Will you help? If so, please let me know.

The following are some of the upcoming events this January:

- Our 2nd (Formation) Degree Team will begin practicing on 2nd and 5th Tuesday's at 6:00pm. We have volunteers for all of the speaking parts, however; if you are interested in a part as well, we will get one for you.

- We will lead the Rosary before all weekend Masses during the month of January. Brother Sal Moreno has a sign-up sheet and there are still a couple of spots that need to be filled. Please contact Sal if you can help!

- Starkville will host the Mid-Winter Meeting, Saturday, January 14, 2017 beginning at 11:30am. All Council Officers and Program Directors are encouraged to attend.

- January is March for Life month! Pro-Life Mississippi Annual Candlelight Prayer Vigil will be at the State Capitol Building First Floor Rotunda on January 21, 2017 at 6:00pm. Please consider attending this most solemn event. If there are enough people interested in attending, we will reserve a bus to provide transportation.

In closing, Adrian and I wish you and your Family a New Year filled with Blessings!

Vivat Jesus!
Dave Viger, GK



January Birthdays



1st John Killen, III & Dr. Ramon Luina **2nd** Derek Zuchowski **5th** Tau Iosia **7th** Kent Bowen, Jr.

11th Eric Ross **12th** Justin Bates **13th** Raymond Hill **14th** Richard Harris **15th** David Jeter & Frank Polizzi

16th John McCaskill **20th** John Harwell, Mike Lee, & Tyler Oakes **22nd** Robert Butkus **24th** Ed Thomas

25th Rufus McCarra **26th** Tripp Ward **28th** Jason Caballero **31st** Pete Nause

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Chaplain
Fr. Matthew Simmons



As we begin January and, hence, another year on the civil calendar, we find ourselves still in the Christmas season of the liturgy. Does the Christmas season end after twelve days with the Feast of the Epiphany? The Ordo, which you will find in the sacristy of each Church, says that the Christmas season ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. An older liturgical tradition includes the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2 in the Christmas season. Like so much of the rest of the traditional story of Christmas, the gospel account of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple is taken from the second chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke. This feast is also the traditional time of blessing candles in the Church and so is also known as Candlemas.

As the dark season of the year continues, but also as the daylight grows, we celebrate yet another of the liturgical feasts in which the imagery of light is particularly important. As a spiritual preparation this month, I would suggest praying the Cantic of Simeon which is found in verses 29-32 of the second chapter of Luke. It is usually said at bedtime. On Epiphany, we collect diapers in infant sizes for the Center for Pregnancy Choices. That would be a fitting corporal work for the month of January as we remember Jesus as an infant.

Fr. Matthew

Church
Sal Moreno



I hope you all had a Happy and Blessed Christmas and have a Happy New Year. It is amazing to realize that we are going into another year full of fun, a lot of works and of course fellowship whenever we can. Having said that, let me start by reminding everyone that we are kicking off the new year by saying the Rosary 30 minutes before every weekend mass in all three churches (St. Patrick, St. Joseph, and St. Joseph of Cupertino) I have the sign in sheet on the KC hall bulletin board, and yes we have a few more spots that need to be filled.

Also, the way I understand it, we will be given the Marian Hour of Prayer Icon on or around January 15th and will keep it for about 2 weeks. I will check with Fr. Matthew and see if we can have a Marian Hour of Prayer Service on Sunday, January 22nd right after the 3:00 pm Spanish Mass. I will follow up on this as soon as I find out some definite dates. As a closing remark... I would like to thank those who have helped me during the last year. Thank you for being a friend and a brother knight... you made my job so much easier. Please continue to lend me a helping hand.

Sal Moreno
Church Program
salmoreno@comcast.net
601-681-6111



Community
Roland Stewart



Please join us on January 26th for our monthly visit to the residents at East Mississippi State Hospital Nursing Home. We meet at the KC Hall at 6:10pm and go out to the Nursing Home together. If you have never joined us in this most worthwhile endeavor, you have missed out on feeling really, really, good.

Roland Stewart, Chairman

Please continue to pray for vocations.
We need more priests



Family Chairman



(Editor's Note) You will notice that we have no Family Chairman at this time. If our council is to continue to be the best in the State of Mississippi, it is imperative that we have all of our Chairmanships staffed. Please try to find it in your heart to volunteer for this important position in our council. It is time for some of you newer/younger members to step forward and take on some of the responsibilities that us "old" guys have been doing for years.

George Walston, Ed.



Bingo Bob Leo



I trust everyone had a very Merry Christmas and will enjoy a very prosperous New Year. I'm in the middle of applying for our new bingo license. We are required to renew our license every 3 years. It use to be every year. I guess the State Gaming Commission thought it was too much work to go through every year. It's a report about 50 pages long and it takes me quite a while to put it together. They want to know everything, except what we had for lunch.

Our bingo program is progressing very well. Our attendance is staying about the same, however, we did experience a couple of weeks before the Christmas holiday, a big influx of customers I think this was due to customers trying to get some extra money to buy Christmas gifts.

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas turkeys. I am going to try to do this on an annual basis for the volunteers who come out to work on our bingo program. Years ago the council had adopted this program, but for some reason it faded out, probably because bingo wasn't making the profits it is today. The same holds true even to this day, because, if we don't make money we can't do it, but we will try. On that note I would like to thank Brother Knights, Frank Sharp, and Roland Stewart for helping me with getting the turkeys to the hall and storing them.

Let us pray that the Good Lord continues to look over all the workers who donate their time and energy to help make our bingo program the success that it has become, in 2017, as in 2016. Thank you all for the work that you do.

Bob Leo
Bingo Manager



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 that attend please bring a side item or dessert to our Super Bowl Party. Beverages will be available at normal charges. Moreover, we will have our football pool divided by the quarters and a percentage going to priest education.

On February 11th we will plan to have our Sweetheart's Night at the hall after the 5pm Mass. I will be asking for help with this event. We also will have our auction for Knights for Day, on that evening. You can send me an email or text, tiosia@yahoo.com, 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 (text)



**Special on Youth from
Dave Klutz, DSK**



Ed. Note: Again, we have a position for a newer/younger member to step forward and do. Deputy Grand Knight David Klutz has been doubling up in this position for quite a while now. It is a shame that we can't get all of our Chairmanships filled. It is time to fish or cut bait. If you want us to stay the best council in the State of Mississippi, then let the Grand Knight hear from you.

Our youth group had three big events in the month of December. The first was the completion of our Youth Essay Contest. I was very disappointed that we only had 1 entry this year. I asked all Knights to find one youth and challenge them to get them to do it. Well, that didn't happen. Cassandra Klutz was our only entry and she won the first prize for our council. She will now compete at the state and hopefully national level for more prizes. Good luck, Cassandra. If you see her, make sure you congratulate her and encourage her to do it again next year. Also, start thinking about who you will ask next year. You might be surprised with the right direction we can get a lot more involvement in this project.

Our second event was sponsored by Adrian Viger (this is some of the reason they won Family of the Month). Adrian gathered youth throughout our school and parish prior to the December 17th Mass. We had quite a few Knights attend. Thanks Tyler, Larry, John, David, Stephen, and Rick. A special thanks to David (our bus driver). Did I mention that this is part of the reason they won Family of the Month? We practiced Christmas songs then attended church together. After church we went to two nursing homes and sang to them in three different locations and while walking down the hall. We all had a blast. We finished the night at El Norte and had a great gift give away. My gingerbread house is sadly almost gone, but it was very tasty. Ask Sister if she has finished her puzzle yet? Better yet, ask Father Matthew about his gift? That was a close one, right Father!

Our last event was our annual trip to the hospital with Santa to visit kids in the hospital on Christmas Eve. I was happy, but a little sad, when we found out that neither hospital had any kids. So after we ate lunch we decided to go anyways and see who we could find. We didn't even get into the hospital good, before Santa was spotted. One little girl was so happy to see Santa. Then into the emergency room where one little boy wasn't very happy with us until he saw Santa with a stuffed animal. Tears stopped immediately. :) We walked along the hospital floors and spotted a few more kids who were visiting parents or friends. All got a chance to talk to Santa and get a stuffed animal. Many smiles were made by both kids and parents. Thanks as always to Santa (Bob Leo) for coming along. Also thanks to Tyler, Dewayne, Larry, James, and my family for coming.

David Klutz



**Seminarians Corner
Nick Adam**



Brother Knights,

I was filled with gratitude this Christmas as I got to spend lots of time with many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, brothers, and sisters, and I was also so happy to get to see many of you over my holidays.

I am getting ready to return to the seminary with another semester on the horizon. This semester I will have the opportunity to take my first practicums, these are classes where I will finally start learning the hows and not only the whys!

Of course, this is all in preparation for the ministry I will be asked to exercise once I am ordained a deacon on March 17th, and I am so looking forward to sharing that celebration with all of you. I have been reflecting this Christmas about the gifts that I have received from the Lord, and the church in Meridian is certainly one of the greatest!

Happy New Year and God bless!

Nick

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



Pro Life
Darrell Hober



Brother Knights

I hope everyone had a very joyful Christmas. A few upcoming events for the New Year include:

- The annual Candlelight Vigil on Saturday January 21, 2017 at 6 pm at the State Capitol, High Street First Floor Rotunda in Jackson, MS. Please contact Doug Lane at 601-956-8636 for additional information. Please consider this to be your invitation to attend this most solemn event. Prayer is the foundation on which all of our pro-life endeavors should be built. Mississippi still has one abortion clinic in the entire state. We need to close the door.
- The next internationally coordinated 40 Days for Life campaign runs from March 1 - April 9, 2017.
- Walk for Life will be held in Jackson on June 10th, 2017. I would love to see our youth groups get involved.

I pray you will have a very Happy New Year. God bless each of you. Have a great day every day. LIFE IS A GIFT.

Darrell, Pro-Life



Extra from
John Harwell
on Dues



Our Financial Secretary, Rick Norman, will or may have already mailed out our 2017 dues statements. If you pay before March 31st it is \$20 for those members over 26 years of age but under 65 years of age who live in town; \$12 for out of town members; \$10 for students, active duty military, policemen, and those under the age of 26. Council 802 doesn't charge those members age 65 or older.

Do you realize what a bargain this is? If you and/or your family only attend one function during the year you have already gotten your money's worth. Of course we have dozens of activities, programs, dinners, picnics, etc. throughout the course of the year that easily makes this a worthwhile investment. Going back in history, in 1903, when our council was chartered (the first in the state of Mississippi), dues were \$1.75 per quarter for a total of \$7.00 a year. That was a large sum of money in those days. If our dues had increased with the rate of inflation over the last 114 years our dues should now be about \$175 a year. What a bargain we get!

Please do not procrastinate, get your dues payment back into Rick promptly. It is easily the best money you will spend this year! By the way, after March 31st \$20 becomes \$30, \$12 becomes \$18, and \$10 goes to \$15. So, you can see that you are receiving a 33% discount by paying early. So, do (due) not be late!!

John Harwell, FN



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





Fourth Degree John Harwell, FN



Happy New Year greetings to all!!!!

First, a big thank you to our Honor Guard, who again this year participated in the Lady of Guadeloupe Celebration Mass on December 11th. Specifically, the following: Roland Stewart, Dewayne Klutz, Sal Moreno, Larry Birzer, PJ Carter, PGK, David Viger, GK, Bob Connor, Howard McCarty, Richard Moody and Commander Bob Leo PFN. Your presence always adds a tremendous amount to the service/program.

As a reminder, our 4th Degree Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, January 7th, at the KC Hall, starting about 6:30pm. The RSVP was January 1st, so if you see this before then and want to come, please RSVP me ASAP by email at jdharwell4@comcast.net or call/text me at 601 513 5456. The party is open to 4th Degree members and their spouses, companions or guests. Lots of good food, some giveaways and dancing are in store. Yes, I said "DANCING". Frank is bringing his set-up out to the hall, so after we eat plan on shaking a leg or shining a belt buckle (as SK John Bennett, PGK has been known to say). In any case, we are looking forward to a fun evening of food, fellowship, and dancing!!!

Finally, thank you to all our Sir Knights and families that support our programs/ceremonies/activities and I hope you each had a Merry Christmas and that your New Year will start off with joy in your hearts!!!!

Faithful Navigator
John Harwell
1 COR 12 4-7



Membership
David Stephens



Brother Knights,

Happy New Year!!! May the year 2017 be filled with Great Health, Happiness, and a Deeper Faith/Trust in GOD for all of us (and our families). And, again, thank the LORD for all the Blessings for all the Blessings shared with us. We held an Admissions (1st) Degree Exemplification on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 and made official three new members (James Snowden, Sky Cooley, and Aaron Dougherty – Congratulations and Welcome to our new brothers). A Big Thank You to our Degree Team – Great Job! “Membership is truly a team effort!”

Exemplifications in January:

- 1st (Admissions) Degree – Tuesday, January 17th, 6:30 p.m., Meridian, MS
- 4th (Fourth) Degree – Saturday, January 21st, 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Southaven, MS
- 3rd (Knighthood) Degree – Saturday, January 29th, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Ocean Springs

All you 2nd and 3rd Degree Knights, please contact GK David Viger or Faithful Navigator, John Harwell and let them know 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! Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Fraternally,
David T. Stephens,
Membership Director

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<http://www.kofc802.org>



Deputy Grand Knight Dave Klutz



Quickly name as many movies and TV shows as you can in the past 20 years that portray the Catholic Church, her priests and religious, or her faithful followers in a positive light. How many could you think of? Need more time? Okay take a few minutes..I will wait.

How about now?

How many did you name? Not too many I bet? That's because, sadly, so few actually exist. The Catholic Church is painted more negatively and mocked more freely by the media than any other religion or denomination of Christianity. Priest and nuns are painted in broad negative strokes, casting shadows of mistrust and mockery upon their heroic sacrifices. Lay Catholics are normally painted as being mental simpletons who cannot think for themselves and are under the "oppressive mind control" of the evil Church hierarchy. Occasionally, you might see a likeable Catholic, but they normally end up being overzealous or "enlightened" (meaning that they know better than the Church).

There are many reasons we could point to for these sad realities. Some Catholics who have left the church are in need of healing and we need to pray for them and invite them back home. Others function out of total ignorance of what the Church is really about and what She really teaches. We need to reach out to them in humility and love and educate them. Still others are intimidated by the Church's honesty and don't like the Church forcing them to take a difficult look at their own lives.

A few years back there was a survey conducted by the Center for Media and Public Affairs in Washington DC. It was a survey of the top 100 media executives in the US. These 100 people controlled most of what we read, hear, and see on a daily basis. They have the final say in what the general public does and does not see. The following bullet points are facts drawn out of the survey they answered:

- **93% seldom or never go to religious services**
- **97% support abortion**
- **80% don't view homosexual acts as wrong**
- **51% don't regard adultery as wrong**

This survey alludes to a general trend in some very powerful positions. Some of the most fundamental truths that Catholics defend are not only called into question, but are denounced by very influential people. As a Catholic, you have an opportunity to spread God's truth. The power is yours. What you choose to watch, listen to, and spend your money on is your right. Speak out against people or media that slander your faith. I told you all this to point out a show on ABC called the "Real O'Neals". Our Supreme Knight has asked all Knights to ask ABC to cancel the show. Why? Because in the first two-episodes alone, there were 93 separate visual or verbal reminders that this was a show making fun of Catholics, and 8 admissions of Catholic sins. It was just renewed for another season even though its ratings are low. In fact, several shows with much better ratings were cancelled. Could it be because ABC has an axe to grind with the Catholic Church? We know the producer does. He has repeatedly said many evil things about the Church that I will not repeat, but feel free to google it. You would be surprised and very disappointed. So please respond to our Supreme Knight's request and email ABC and ask them to cancel this very anti-Catholic show.

Dave Klutz, DGK

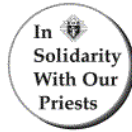


January 2017



Please continue to pray for vocations.

We need more priests



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p>  <p>Happy New Year 2017</p>	2	<p>3</p>  <p>Business Meeting 7:30pm</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>Bingo 6 PM</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</p>	6	<p>7</p> <p>Rosary before Mass at St. Patrick</p> <p>4th Degree Party at KC Hall 6:30pm</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Rosary before 8:30 & 11:00 o'clock Masses at St. Joseph & St. Patrick</p>	9	<p>10</p>  <p>2nd Degree Team Practice 6pm</p> <p>No Meeting tonight</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>Bingo 6 PM</p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Adoration KofC 12 Noon to 8PM</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>Mid Winter Meeting Starkville 11:30am</p> <p>Rosary before 5pm Mass at St. Patrick</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Rosary before 8:30 & 11:00 o'clock Masses at St. Joseph & St. Patrick</p>	16	<p>17</p>  <p>1st Degree Exemplification Tonight 6:30 If Candidates are Available</p> <p>Business Meeting Follows at 7:30pm</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Bingo 6 PM</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>4th Degree in Southaven 11 am</p> <p>Pro Life Candlelight Vigil State Capitol 6:00pm</p>
<p>22</p> <p>???Marian Hour of Prayer at St Joseph after 3pm Mass?????</p> <p>Rosary before 8:30 & 11:00 o'clock Masses at</p>	23	<p>24</p>  <p>4th Degree Meeting 7:30</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>Bingo 6 PM</p>	<p>26</p>  <p>EMSH Visitation 6:10pm</p> <p>Adoration 12 Noon to 8PM</p>	27	<p>February Newsletter Deadline</p>
<p>29</p> <p>3rd Degree Ocean Springs 11am</p> <p>Rosary before 8:30 & 11:00 o'clock Masses at St. Joseph & St.</p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>2nd Degree Team Practice 6pm</p>	 <p>Abortion Kills the Innocent</p>	 <p>Please continue to pray the Rosary for an end to Abortion in our lifetime</p>	 <p>Please wish a Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 3 of this newsletter</p>	