



Knights News

Knights of Columbus Council 544
Cathedral of the Incarnation
Nashville, TN



Grand Knight's Report

SK Dave Johnson, Grand Knight
615-585-3675, davejohnson2@comcast.net

Greetings Brothers,

As our fraternal year draws to a close, we continue building momentum for next year. I am proud to say that we have met all our obligations to the Knights supreme and State organizations. Additionally, we met each of our programming, membership and insurance goals for the year qualifying us for Star Council. Past Grand Knight Bisell had the vision to achieve this in 2015. He took it personally watching all the other councils receive recognition for their efforts. It made him ask, why not us? We do all those things! He mentioned his goal of being a Star Council to us and it was received with lukewarm enthusiasm. I had my own doubts and little interest at first. I gradually arrived at his way of thinking at the following 2016 State convention. I saw the same awards and the same lack of recognition for the incredible activities and results our council achieved. I had the same thoughts. We're doing all these things. Why not us? With just a little focus in a few key areas and some extra documentation, that can be us. Quite frankly, that should be us! Bisell, let's do it. Let's go for Star Council!

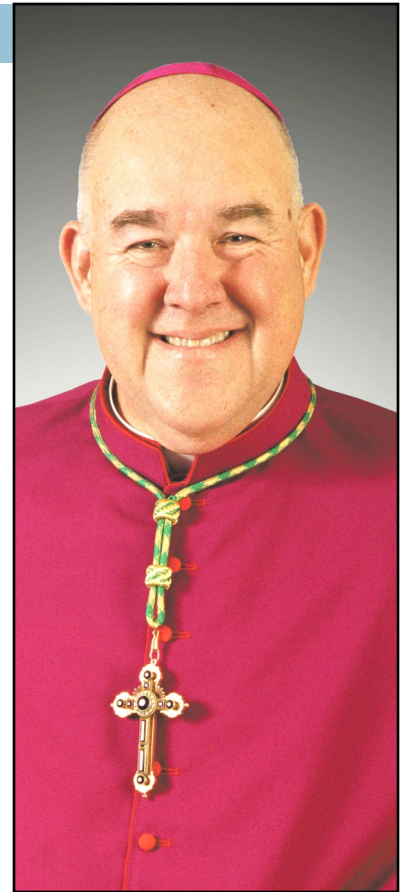
The brilliance of this award is the motivation and structure it provides to do all the right things.

1. Select Capable Officers suited for the tasks at hand
2. Plan an active slate of Fraternal Activities
3. Help the church, community, council, culture of life, families and youth with planned and documented activities
4. Set and achieve membership goals fostering council and order growth
5. Set and achieve insurance goals in order to protect our families
6. Remain in good standing with our state and Supreme organizations

Additionally, by measuring and documenting our performance, we know just how well we are doing; and also, how we can improve. The council has completely bought in and we have collectively made it happen. Congratulations Gentlemen!

In conclusion, it is my privilege to serve you guys. I am thrilled to take on another year as Grand Knight. Knowing that we have nearly the exact same team in place fills me with confidence that we can maintain our momentum and continue our excellence this coming fraternal year. Serving 544 is truly one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Being part of a team of such fun and talented folks has been a shot in the arm for me personally, professionally and spiritually.

Vivat Jesus!
Dave



May / June,
Issue 6

Inside this issue

Grand Knight's Report	1
Upcoming Dates	2
Awards	2
Membership Report	2
New Officers.....	3
Hope Clinic	3
Program Personnel.....	4
Bishop Choby Obituary.....	4
Herbers Donation Update	5
General Agent Report.....	6
Prayer Intentions.....	6

Highlights

- Grand Knight's Report
- New Officers
- Bishop Choby Obituary

Membership Report

Terry Doherty, Membership Director

Once again we are pleased to welcome two new wonderful members to the ranks of counsel 544 this past month: Mr. Barney Zeng and Mr. Alonso Calderon. Both of these gentlemen underwent their Admission Degree on May 27th at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. Just prior to joining the Knights, they had completed their RCIA classes and were welcomed as full members of our Catholic faith during the Easter Vigil this past April. It is so great to see that men completing the RCIA are seeing the Knights of Columbus as the next logical step in their faith journey and their search for good ministry. As Dave Lacey witnessed to the members of the RCIA class, joining the Knights is a great way to connect to the parish and do just that! Both Barney and Alonso are very enthusiastic about the Knights and we look forward to getting to know them much better very soon.

By the time this letter gets out, we will likely also have a few more new members that will join us the second week of June, one being a good friend of mine. This will hopefully put us over the goal of 11 that we need for Star Counsel status. So many of the members of this counsel have contributed to recruiting these men during this fraternal year, and we hope to keep the momentum going.

In addition to new members, we may also be welcoming Mr. Michael Russell who is a Knight at counsel 3763 in Madison. Due to work related issues, he plans on transferring to our counsel and may even be at our next business meeting. Let's do a good job welcoming him as well.

Upcoming Dates

Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the Month
7:00PM, Rm 305, St Albert Hall

Programming Meetings

4th Sunday of the Month
9:30AM, Rm 303, St Albert Hall

Next Programming Meeting

June 25th, 9:30 AM
Room 301, St Albert Hall

Next Council Meeting

July 12th, 7 PM
Room 305, St Albert Hall

Parish Blood Drive

June 25, 9:15 AM—1:15 PM
Fleming Center

Fraternal Night at the Sounds

June 29th, 7:05 PM
First Tennessee Park

Monthly Awards

Knight of the Month - Stephen Regan

Stephen has served as a highly successful Knights of Columbus Insurance Representative for quite a while now. He recently moved to Nashville and taken on a new territory and now serves as our local agent. Stephen was immediately active in reaching out to our membership and engaging in all our activities. It was not long after his move here that he approached me and shared how much he liked us and said he wanted to join 544. This is high praise and a true compliment coming from someone who has done and continues to do so much for our order at such a wide variety of councils. Stephen has jumped in with both feet and shows up nearly every time we have an activity. He has already helped protect several of our families and has led a few new guys to our membership rolls. His great enthusiasm and many talents are a fantastic addition to the council. Most of all, having such a fun brother knight around all the time adds substantially to everything we do.



Family of the Month - Ed Stack Family

Ed and Sally are some of the most solid and dependable folks you will ever meet. Big smiles, sharp wits and capable leadership emanate from these two. If there is something important happening at the Cathedral, they are nearly always playing a role. I love the fact that Ed has served as CEO of the largest psychiatric hospital organization but isn't too proud to come and serve BBQ sandwiches at the parish fundraiser. No job too great. No job too small. The thing that Ed does absolutely the best, is exactly what Sally tells him to do! Sally leads, participates in and promotes many of the parish nurse activities. From blood drives, to parish health screenings, to CPR training Sally and her posse actively seek ways to serve. One of the big ones she plays a key role in every year is the Knights of Columbus State of TN Charity program of the year; the Parthenon towers party. My very brief summary here only scratches the surface of what the Stacks have done for our parish, diocese, and the entire Catholic Church. We are so blessed to have the Stack family as part of our family!

2017 - 2018 Elections

Congratulations to our new and returning officers for the 2017—2018 Fraternal Year. Please keep your leadership team in your prayers as we begin a new fraternal year.

Grand Knight Dave Johnson

Deputy Grand Knight Chris Beal

Chancellor Ken Duncan

Treasurer Roman Pohlid

Warden Roy Silveira

Financial Secretary Chris Crane

Advocate Frank Steiner

Recorder Stuart Littleton

Inside Guard Stuart Littleton

Outside Guard Andy Gamble

3 Yr Trustee Bisell McWilliams

2 Yr Trustee Mark O'Neill

1 Yr Trustee John Mitchell

Hope Clinic Service Project

Roy Silveira, Culture of Life Chair

Several knights - Dave Johnson, Andrew Lay, Barney and Roy Silveira got together to help the Hope Clinic put up a fence and to paint a room. The room had some water damage and mold, while the fence needed to be put up as people were trying to take a short cut across their yard which had resulted in several people slipping. I want to give special thanks to Barney, who joined us right after his first degree. Also to Andrew who decided to include this event for his birthday weekend.



Council Officers

Grand Knight

Dave Johnson

davejohnson2@comcast.net

615-585-3675

Deputy Grand Knight

Chris Beal

the5beals@gmail.com

615-767-3711

Financial Secretary

Chris Crane

christopher.e.crane@gmail.com

617-869-6345

Chancellor

Ken Duncan

kenrduncan@att.net

615-238-1582

Recorder

Stuart Littleton

Treasurer

Roman Pohlid

Advocate

Frank Steiner

Warden

Roy Silveira

Inside Guard

Stuart Littleton

Outside Guard

Andy Gamble

One Year Trustee

John Mitchell

Two Year Trustee

Mark O'Neill

Three Year Trustee

Bisell McWilliams

Program Personnel

Program Director

DGK Chris Beal

Church Director & Vocations Chair

Tom Costa

Community Director

Chad Wilhelm

San Gennaro Coordinator

Chad Wilhelm

Council Director

Andrew Lay

Family Director

Mark O'Neill

Youth Director

Stuart Littleton

Boy Scout Leader

Dave Lavell

Culture of Life Director

Roy Silveira

Choose Life Sign

Stuart Littleton

Membership Director

Terry Doherty

Committee Members

Tom Costa

Tony Roberts

Ian Turnbull

Retention Chair

Ken Thomas

Committee Members

Trustees of Council 544

Webmaster &

Newsletter Editor

Bisell McWilliams

Bishop David Choby

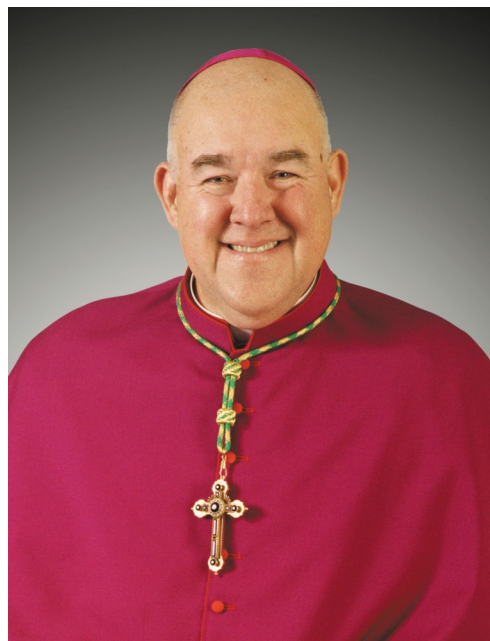
*Rick Musacchio, Director of Communications,
Diocese of Nashville*

The Most Reverend David R. Choby, the Bishop of Nashville, died Saturday night at Saint Thomas West Hospital where he was undergoing treatment for injuries that he sustained in a fall at his home on February 7.

In the fall he suffered a cut on the back of his head and damage to his vertebrae. He was taken by ambulance to Skyline Medical Center for initial treatment and later transferred to Saint Thomas West Hospital, where his regular doctors practice.

The bishop underwent a series of tests to determine the extent of the injury to his back when a serious infection developed. He was successfully treated for that infection, and had a surgical procedure in preparation for an operation to repair the broken vertebrae which took place on May 12.

Following his spinal operation to repair the vertebrae, Bishop Choby made steady neurologic progress, but the blood infections persisted. Soon after the surgery, he was able to get out of his bed for the first time since the fall, and was eventually able to sit in a chair for long periods of time.



On June 1, Bishop Choby's doctors performed a procedure to remove his pacemaker and internal defibrillator along with their leads because of recurring blood infections. His physician team expected the procedure to be beneficial in both the short and long term, and continued to treat the infection.

Complications of the infection resulted in his death at about 10 p.m. on June 3.

Bishop Choby was born in Nashville and baptized in the Cathedral of Incarnation where he was ordained a bishop. He was the son of Raymond and Rita Choby, both deceased. He is survived by his only sibling, Diane C. Dyche of Fort Worth, Texas. He attended Catholic schools growing up, graduating from Father Ryan High School in 1965.

After spending one year at Aquinas College in Nashville, he entered the seminary at St.

Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa. He also studied at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., before being ordained as a priest on Sept. 6, 1974 by Bishop Joseph A. Durick at St. Henry Church in Nashville.

He served a number of assignments in the Diocese of Nashville. He was associate pastor at St. Joseph Parish, Madison, administrator of St. Ann Parish, and spent three years in residence at Christ the King Parish while working at the diocesan tribunal. From 1989 until his ordination as bishop, he served as pastor of St. John Vianney Parish in Gallatin, where was active in the community and in the local ministerial association.

Bishop Choby held a Canon Law degree from the University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome and worked at the diocesan tribunal throughout most of his priesthood. He was on the faculty of The Pontifical College Josephinum, a seminary in Columbus, Ohio between 1984 and 1989. He served on the seminary's board. He served two five-year terms on the diocese's Presbyteral Council and College of Consultors.

Bishop Choby was elected as diocesan administrator for the Diocese of Nashville by the diocesan College of Consultors in 2004 after Bishop Kmiec was installed as the Bishop of Buffalo. Bishop Choby was installed fourteen months later as the 11th bishop of Nashville on Feb. 27, 2006. He was only the second priest of the diocese's 169-year history to become its bishop; the others have all come from outside the diocese.

He is the first bishop of Nashville to die while in office since Bishop Alphonse J. Smith in 1935.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bishop Choby, for his family and friends, and for the people of the Diocese of Nashville.



Follow-Up on Support for Herbers Family

Michael J McCusker, State Treasurer

Dear Tennessee Brothers:

This Bcc email goes out to all the individual Brothers and Councils that stepped forward to help the family of our late Brother James Herbers of Council 9317 who passed away last October. Due to your efforts, the State Council was able to send a check in the amount of \$5,495 to Mrs. Amy Herbers last week. The money will be used to help her daughters, Ashley and Erin, to continue their education at St. Benedict High School in Cordova, Tennessee. Thank you for helping to keep Brother James' dream alive of having his daughters received a K-12 Roman Catholic education. Please share the attached letter with your Councils.

Vivat Jesus,
MRM

Dear Amy,

At the State Council's Midyear Meeting in Nashville this past January, the need for assisting Ashley & Erin with their St. Benedict's education was addressed, and councils across the State were asked to consider donating. The enclosed check for \$5,495 represents donations made by councils and individual brothers from across the state of Tennessee.

From Memphis to the Tri-Cities, upper west Tennessee to Chattanooga, Nashville, Knoxville and many other small towns across the Volunteer State, James' brothers answered the call to do our small part in helping you meet the demands of this challenging, tragic time. These efforts are representative of Venerable Servant of God Father Michael J. McGivney's vision for forming the Knights of Columbus in 1882, in order to meet the needs of the families of fallen brothers.

Today and in the many days to come, the Tennessee Knights of Columbus turn to Father McGivney, and ask him to intercede on your behalf, continually asking Our Lord to watch over you during these difficult days.

Vivat Jesus,

Michael R. McCusker
State Secretary - Elect

Field Agent's Report

SK Stephen Regan, FICF

THE LAUGHING BANKER

I entered the manager's office of my neighborhood bank and made this proposal:

"Mr. Bank Manager, there is a piece of vacant land in my area that I'm interested in buying. It is well-suited, the town is developing in its direction, and I am virtually certain that its value will rise. I've thought the matter out carefully from every angle and I've come to the conclusion that the land would be a very good buy."

"There are several reasons why I prefer the prospective capital gains of a vacant lot to the current cash income I could have by buying another type of property, such as an apartment building."

"For example, I don't particularly need a supplementary income at the moment, because these are the best earning years of my life."

"Also, the extra income that I would receive from income-producing property would, in any case, be cut considerably by the income tax I would have to pay."

"For these reasons, I think that the purchase of this land is a good-buy – provided I can be sure that its value will increase over the years, enough to represent a good return on the investment I make."

"Since I don't want to lose money on this enterprise, I'd like to make an agreement with you and your bank that will protect me financially and give me security and peace of mind."

"The purchase price of the land is \$28,000. If I buy it at that price, I want to have a written guarantee from your bank to protect me on several points." Specifically:

- "I want your guarantee that the property will be worth \$100,000 in 35 years (at which time I'll be age 65) and that the bank will buy it from me at that price."
- "I'm prepared to accept a reasonable shrinkage in its immediate value if I decide to sell within the next few years; such shrinkage is to be expected in the case of a long-term investment such as this. However, I want – this early-sale clause notwithstanding – the guarantee that, each year, the land will have a market value proportionate to the \$100,000 it will be worth in 35 years, and that the bank will buy it back from me at that value at any time I wish."
- "In the event of my death, whenever this occurs (in three days, three months, or three years), I want your guarantee that the bank will pay to my heirs the full \$100,000 that the land will be worth in 35 years."

- "I want your bank (in the event of my death) to absorb any capital gains tax that would be chargeable, so that my heirs will receive the \$100,000 without paying any income tax."
- "I want the bank to consent to be trustee and to administer (without charge) the proceeds from the sale of this land, either for my heirs in the event of my death or for myself if I so desire, and I want the bank to guarantee the principal and interest."
- "I want the bank to absorb maintenance costs and any taxes that could be levied against the land during the years I am the owner."
- "I want the bank to give me the privilege of buying this lot in installments over a period of 20 years, if I should decide to do so, rather than paying the \$28,000 in cash. In this way, I would make 20 level annual payments at about 6 percent interest, so that each annual payment would be about \$2,200."
- "Finally, in the event of my death before the end of the 20-year period, I want the bank to cancel the remaining payments and deliver the \$100,000 ultimate value guaranteed by the bank to my heirs."

"Mr. Manager, if the bank accepts these conditions, I will buy that piece of land. What do you think?"

The bank manager laughed. Then he told me that he didn't think a financial institution could comply with my wishes under such conditions.

Yet, as you probably guessed by now, all I did was describe a \$100,000 permanent life insurance policy. It is a policy that can be purchased with a single premium or over a 20 year period. Life insurance is one of the best contracts ever conceived. It is what you offer your clients.

--original story by Benjamin N. (Woody) Woodson, CLU, Life Trustee of LUTC and re-printed from Managers Magazine.



SK Stephen Regan, FICF
Field Agent
102 Hwy 70 East, Suite 1
Dickson, TN 37055
(Cell) 423-653-5618
stephen.regan@kofc.org

Fourth Degree Opportunities

The only remaining Middle Tennessee opportunity to take the Patriotic (Fourth) Degree this fraternal year is November 4th, 2017 in Clarksville. The next Nashville ceremony is April 14th, 2018. Contact GK Dave or Membership Director Terry if you would like to participate.



Prayer Requests

- **For the Repose of the soul of Bishop David Choby**
- **For Fr Michael O. Johnston as he assumes the duties of Administrator of the Diocese of Nashville**
- **For the Holy Father's intentions**