



The Meridian Knight

May 2020



Council Officers

Chaplain - Fr Augustine Pallimattam

Grand Knight - Dave Viger

Deputy Grand Knight- Bob Connor

Financial Secretary - Richard Norman

Chancellor - Robert (Bob) Leo , PGK

Treasurer - David Stephens

Advocate - Roland Stewart

Recorder - Frank Polizzi, PGK

Lecturer - John Bennett, PGK

Warden - Ed Shamp

Inside Guard - Frank Sharp

Outside Guard - Mark Hampson

Trustees

Patrick J (PJ) Carter, PGK

John Harwell, PGK

Mouise Richards, PGK

*The Main Principles of
Our Order are*

Charity

Unity

Fraternity

Patriotism

Newsletter Editor

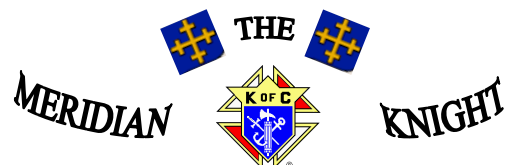
George Walston



THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS



PROTECTING FAMILIES
FOR GENERATIONS



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

**Chaplain
Fr. Augustine
Pallimattam**



(Editors' Note: Due to the continuation of the COVID-19 virus, I am repeating most of Father Augustine's April article because it is still relevant)

Greetings, to my Brother Knights. It is my prayer and wish that this message finds you in good health and at peace during this very unfortunate time in our world. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially our brothers and sisters who are being affected physically, emotionally, and spiritually by the corona virus. The corona virus has had an immeasurable impact on all of us. Our daily routines and how we live our lives has had a drastic change over the past few weeks. Our government leaders and health care providers are doing their best to institute the necessary measures to avoid the spread of the disease. I implore you to be diligent in following the guidance and directions they provide to keep you and your loved ones as safe as possible.

As we go forward, if you experience feelings of helplessness or anxiety of what tomorrow holds, take time to do what we know will help. Pray! If you find yourself with more free time, spend it in prayer. Through prayer we can focus on being positive, we can avoid unnecessary anxiety, and we can redirect

our apprehensions and preoccupation of this pandemic toward a renewed confidence that we are in our Father's hands and He shall protect us now and always. Remember, also, to continue praying for those who work in the hospitals. This is one of those special times when our doctors, nurses, medical staff, and volunteers need us to lift them up in our prayers.

We are at your service. Call us, if you have any questions. Let us be united in prayer. Let us fight together.

Forever in my prayers,

Father Augustine Palimattam
Chaplain/Pastor

(Please pray this prayer at the time of communion during the live streaming of the Mass)

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in
the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and
unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

May Birthdays

1st Daniel Pittman **2nd** Rick Norman **3rd** Steve Duncan & Phillip Jenkins **7th** David Rauenhhorst

13th Otto Storr **15th** Fr. Augustine Palimattam **17th** Bob Degitz **24th** Lindsey Gabriel

25th Dr. James Purdy **27th** Phillip Worland **29th** Chad Lint **31st** Joseph Birzer

Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage

<http://www.kofc802.org>

**Grand Knight
Faithful Navigator
David Viger**



(Editor's Note: The Grand Knight report is continued through Page 6 of this Newsletter)
Brothers,

As we continue to suffer through this pandemic, I pray that each of you and your families are doing as well as you can!

"Congratulations!" to PGK John Bennett for his selection as our March Knight of the Month and to The Berryhill Family who was selected as our Family of the Month.

"Congratulations!" to our new Brother Knights and those who advanced to 3rd Degree during the online Exemplification held Thursday, April 16th. I look forward to a family get together at the hall for a "proper" welcome and congratulations soon!

New Members: David Viger Jr. and Anthony Pritchard.

1st Degree advancing to 3rd - Shane Brewer; Edwar Stuardo Hernandez; Michael H

Holcomb Jr; Steven Huczel; John J Killen III; Patrick R Perry; Jordan Zettler; Lucas W Thomas; and, John-Paul A Falardeau.

2nd Degree advancing to 3rd - Charles R Frazier and Charles L Lavene.

Observing - Darrell Hover; PGK Bob Leo, PGK Frank Polizzi and myself.

Additional Online Exemplifications. The Supreme Council continues to host online exemplification ceremonies while social distancing rules are in effect. Please promote these Exemplifications to the greatest extent practical.

The procedure to follow is very simple. Identify eligible candidates for admission or advancement and speak with them to see if they are interested. If they are, let me (Grand Knight) know and I will send them an electronic invitation to participate.

There are four (4) online ceremonies planned for **Thursday, May 7th** to allow candidates and/or observers to choose a ceremony that best fits his schedule. If a first choice is closed out due to capacity limitations, another time slot that still has openings can be considered. The ceremony schedule for **Thursday, May 7th** is: **6:00am; 1:00pm; 6:00 pm and 9:00pm** – all times are Central Daylight Time .

Virtual 4th Degree Exemplification. A Bienville Province Virtual 4th Degree Exemplification is being planned for Sunday, May 10th, time to be determined. So far, we do not have any candidates planning to participate.

Note: Candidates for *admission* must first be approved by our Council (or Assembly) so, time is critical if they want to participate in any of the above ceremonies.

Mass via Facebook Live. Thank you to those who have given me feedback on the broadcasts, especially where improvement is needed. Yes – there is room for improvement....**lots of it!** Hopefully, with some "tweaks" and equipment "upgrades" the audio will be much better this week! Time will tell! Weekend Masses will continue to be broadcast on our Facebook page Saturday evening at 5pm and Sunday mornings at 11am. Sunday morning mass will also air on myTOK Comcast channel 2 and over-the-air on channel 11-2.

May Rosary. May is Rosary Month. Historically, a member of our Council has led the Rosary before weekend Masses at St. Patrick and St. Joseph throughout the month of May. We will this year as well, albeit at the conclusion of Mass. In a recent letter, Pope Francis encouraged all of us to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home, together as a family. He also provided two prayers to recite at the conclusion of the Rosary (see below). Many of you join in our **Catholic Community of Meridian Phone-Rosary, Monday thru Friday at 4:45pm** by calling: **(769) 206-1927**. While Father has chosen not to extend the length of our call-in to pray these prayers together, please, consider including them in your prayers at home.

State Convention. Our State Convention is now scheduled to be held via telephone conference on Sunday, May 17th. PGK John Harwell and I are the Primary Delegates and plan to participate in the Convention. PGKs Bob Leo and Bill Nix are our Alternate Delegates. The convention is only scheduled for two (2) hours, with election of State Officers for next Fraternal Year being one of the primary goals to be accomplished. We will provide a synopsis of the event as soon as practical after it concludes.

**Grand Knight
Faithful Navigator
David Viger**



Blood Drives:

Our Council will join together with Vitalant and Rush Hospital for a Community Blood Drive on **Thursday, May 21st, 12:30-6:00pm** at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Our goal for this drive is to collect at least 40 units of blood. Rush Health Services has the lead for advertising this drive but, please help spread the word. Please refer to page 7 of this Newsletter for more Information about this drive.

If your current condition allows you to donate blood, please consider making an appointment to donate. See links below for additional information.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding COVID-19 and Donating Blood – <https://www.vitalant.org/COVID-FAQs>

Fast Track Health Questionnaire – It takes only about 10 minutes to answer the yes/no health history questions. Fast Track will save you about 20 minutes at the blood drive or blood center.

<https://www.vitalant.org/health>

Schedule an Appointment. <https://bloodhero.com/index.cfm?group=op&expand=930802&z=39307>

If you have any questions regarding blood donations or, if you want to schedule an appointment by phone, please call: 877-827-4376.

We are also tentatively scheduled to host the Donor Island Blood Drive, **Thursday, June 18th**, which has historically been hosted at the Dulaney Center.

Additionally, I'm working with our Vitalant Recruiter/John Pace to establish a "blood bank" for our Council. A "blood bank" allows us to "bank" units collected at drives we sponsor for up to one (1) year. Then, "if" a Brother Knight, a family member or friend of the Knights is in need of blood, we can allocate units to them and they will not be charged. I anticipate our "bank" will be approved and in place before our first blood drive.

"Thank you!" to all of our Officers who served this Fraternal Year and to those who have agreed to be considered for next year! The proposed **Slate of Officers for Fraternal Year 2020-2021** is:

Grand Knight	–	William (Bill) Nix, PGK
Deputy Grand Knight	–	Robert (Bob) Connor
Chancellor	–	Robert (Bob) Leo, PGK
Treasurer	–	David Stephens
Advocate	–	Roland Stewart
Recorder	–	Frank Polizzi, PGK
Warden	–	Ed Shamp
Inside Guard	–	Frank Sharp
Outside Guard	–	Mark Hampson
1-Year Trustee	–	Mouise Richards, PGK
2-Year Trustee	–	Patrick J (PJ) Carter, PGK
3-Year Trustee	–	John Harwell, PGK

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

**Grand Knight
Faithful Navigator
David Viger**



Robert C Degitz – 54 years May 23rd, James T Record – 52 years May 1st
 PGK John L Bennett – 35 years May 1st Jason R Pressly – 30 years May 11th
 Frederick E Heimann – 29 years May 1st, Robert J Butkus – 26 years May 1st
 Vincio E Gutierrez – 26 years May 1st, Kent R Bowen – 25 years May 7th
 David W Henson – 24 years May 14th, Scottie L Rowland – 11 years May 11th
 James P Cranmore – 10 years May 23rd, James M Dawson – 10 years May 23rd
 Joseph M Ratliff – 10 years May 23rd, David I Doorenbos – 9 years May 31st
 James C Griffen – 9 years May 31st, Clarence Richard Moody – 9 years May 31st
 Lindon J Ratliff – 9 years May 31st, Fr. Augustine Palimattam – 8 years May 29th
 Harry R Routt – 8 years May 29th, Gregory W Stephens – 8 years May 29th
 John C Brown – 7 years May 19th, Damon A Mesecher – 7 years May 19th

**On behalf of Council 802, "Thank You!" for your service to the Order and to
the Catholic Community!**

May 2020 Prayers from Pope Francis

First Prayer

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey
 as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you,
 Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus'
 suffering, and persevered in your faith. "Protectress of the Roman people",
 you know our needs, and we know that you will provide,
 so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return
 after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
 to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
 and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering,
 and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross,
 to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection,
 O Holy Mother of God;
 Do not despise our petitions
 in our necessities,
 but deliver us always
 from every danger,
 O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

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

Second Prayer

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

David Viger, Grand Knight



MERIDIAN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE FOR RUSH HOSPITAL

THURSDAY, MAY 21
12:30 - 6:00 PM

K OF C HALL
2217 HWY 19 NORTH
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI



The blood collection process is safe. Vitalant staff follow rigorous safety and disinfection protocols at its blood drives. Government agencies are advising people to avoid "gatherings". Blood drives are not gatherings but essential healthcare activities. Not having enough blood to meet basic patient needs causes another public health crisis.

If you are healthy, we strongly urge you to give blood at this drive. PARTICIPATING IN THIS BLOOD DRIVE DOES NOT VIOLATE THE GOVERNOR'S SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER. SOCIAL DISTANCING IS MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS.

For more information or to schedule a donation,
call 877.827.4376 or visit us at vitalant.org
Find us @vitalant:   

vitalant 

Congratulations to the Following Honorees



March Knight of the Month
John Bennett



Family of the Month
Paula & Rick Berryhill



Knight of the Quarter
Ending in March
Fr. Augustine Palimattam



Council 802 Knight of the
Year 2020-2021
Bob Connor



Council 802 Family of the
Year 2020-2021
Danny & Rory Santiago



Assembly 1251 Sir Knight
of the Year 2019-2020
Robert (Bob) Connor



Assembly 1251 Family
Of the Year 2019-2020
John & Nelda Bennett



Culture of Life
Darrell Hover



Brother Knights

In the midst of COVID-19 and not being able to visit with you at our meetings, I am taking this opportunity to remind you to wish all of our mothers a Happy Mother's Day. I will also take this opportunity to wish each of you a nice Memorial Day. This is a day on which those who died in active military service are remembered. Please keep our military service men and women and their families in your prayers and thank them for their service and sacrifices.

At the time I am writing this article it is reported over 207,000 deaths worldwide and 53,922 of these deaths are in the United States. Please pray for the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal the sick and those who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know God's protection and peace.

Pray for the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know God's peace, as they work together to achieve peace on earth.

Unbelievably, the Jackson Women's Health Association abortion facility remains open in defiance of Governor Tate Reed's explicit request for a temporary ban on elective surgery. The abortion industry is putting Mississippi lives at increased risk of exposure to the Coronavirus as they continue to see many out-of-state clients, especially from Louisiana. Our faithful sidewalk volunteers are attempting to pray, serve and maintain social distancing, all at the same time. Please keep them in your prayers.

As previously expected, Pro-Life Mississippi has rescheduled the Spring Banquet and Silent Auction until Thursday, August 6, 2020. Please save the date and plan to attend.

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

Darrell, Culture of Life

Dep Grand Knight
Bob Connor



Brother Knights,

I hope this finds all of you and your families doing well. If anyone knows of any member of St. Patrick, St. Joseph or the Knights of Columbus or Knights of Peter Claver, who needs help, please let us know. At times like this we have to take care of each other and do whatever we can to help. My phone number is 601-483-3447. Many thanks to our chaplain, Father Augustine, Sister Marilyn, John Harwell, Richard and Aileen Semmes, Wayne McGinnis, Ida Tomlin, Scott Owen, and GK David Viger for bringing the Easter services into our homes via cable TV and Facebook. Hopefully we will be able to get back to normal soon, but in the meantime, stay safe.

Vivat Jesus,
Bob Connor,
Deputy Grand Knight

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

Membership David Stephens



Brother Knights,

It is my pleasure to say Congratulations and Welcome to Brothers David M. Viger, Jr. and Anthony Pritchard who were exemplified on April 16th. They are the first from our Council (Msgr. John J Burns, Council 802) to participate in the first ever National Online Ceremonial Degree. Also, we had 11 other members (1st and 2nd Degrees) of our Council to participate in the Online Exemplification (very happy my son, Shane Brewer, was one of 1st Degree participants) – all successfully advanced to 3rd Degree members of Order/Council. Again, Congratulations to these Brother Knights and thank you for taking these steps to advance to the 3rd Degree! “Membership is truly a team effort!” We are always “in search of” new members.

Please allow me to take the privilege of thanking a few of our Brother Knights who have stepped up to help Fr. Augustine with Mass, prayers and other religious programs and activities during this time of living with COVID-19 Coronavirus: Thank you Brothers David Viger, Sr., John Harwell, Richard Semmes, Bob Connor, Tom Zettler and others I have probably missed. Of course, thank you to the Parish Staff and the Catholic Community who stepped up to assist in any way they could, especially

with prayers. Let us all Stay Prayerful. Stay Strong and Stay Safe!

Exemplifications in May:

(Ed. Note: See the Grand Knight's report on Page 3 for details on future Exemplifications)

Please continue to reach out to potential Knights to join us.

Vivat Jesus!
Fraternally,
David T. Stephens,
Membership Director
Treasurer

Youth John Harwell



Though normal youth activities are not occurring, we have several initiatives ongoing for our youth.

They include a weekly nationwide program called PROJECTYM LIVE. It is from 7-8P every Sunday evening and includes music, talks, games, prayer and more. The link to join in to watch and listen is about 6:55 PM each Sunday: ProjectYM.com/watch. Parents are invited as well.

During April, a number of youth wrote homemade cards to our home-bound, assisted living and nursing home parishioners/families/friends. This outreach proved very successful and we are going to do a second round in May. The youth who participated in April included Bella, Molly and Allan Waguespack, Helena Rutledge, Noah McCaffrey, Hayden, Guy and William Dickerson, Morgan Horstman, Lily Zettler, Alec McIlwain, Brianna Riordan and Miller Hodge. Our Cross Contest winner was Alec McIlwain and he will be receiving a gift card.

The Youth are also participating in helping to lead the afternoon phone-in Rosary and specifically are leading it every Thursday afternoon. The following youth have lead the Rosary and have done so very prayerfully: Megan Heggie, Alec McIlwain, Miller Hodge, Hannah Grace and Emily Hannington,

Bella Waguespack, Zane and Wes Pritchard, Edwar Hernandez, Kirstie Graves, Macarena and Alana Frias, Austin Dungan and Noah McCaffrey. I am proud of all these youth for involving themselves in different aspects of our faith.

On the school front, St. Patrick School launched a Distance Learning curriculum on March 23rd and the students and teachers have performed very well during this time and learning has continued. Our Principal Mrs. Montse Frias and the teachers/staff have worked very tirelessly to support our students/parents/families in a varied number of ways to ensure that our children are still learning. Thank you to our Council for the continued strong support we give our school.

My prayers go out to all of our Brother Knights, spouses, widows, families and friends during this time of difficulty and uncertainty. However, we are a people of Faith, Hope and LOVE and we will persevere as long as we lean on God for help.

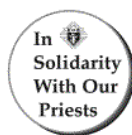
John Harwell
Youth Director
1 COR 12:4-7



May 2020



Please continue to pray for vocations. We need more priests



Meridian Knights of Columbus Homepage

<http://www.kofc802.org>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Abortion Kills the Innocent 	Please continue to Pray the Rosary for an end to abortion in our time 	<u>Please wish A Happy Birthday to all whose names appear on Page 2 of this newsletter</u> 			1	2 Mass at 5pm on Facebook Live
3 Mass at 11am on Facebook Live & WTOK TOK2	4	5	6 Bingo is suspended until further notice 	 7 No Adoration	8	9 Mass at 5pm on Facebook Live
10 Mass at 11am on Facebook Live & WTOK TOK2	11	12	13 Bingo is suspended until further notice 	 14 No Adoration	15	16 Mass at 5pm on Facebook Live
17 Mass at 11am on Facebook Live & WTOK TOK2 State Convention via Phone Conference	18	19	20 Bingo is suspended until further notice 	 21 No Adoration	22	23 Mass at 5pm on Facebook Live
24 Mass at 11am on Facebook Live & WTOK TOK2	25	26	27 Bingo is suspended until further notice 	 28 No Adoration	29	30 Mass at 5pm on Facebook Live
31 Mass at 11am on Facebook Live & WTOK TOK2						