



# THE LANCER



**“Strong in Faith and Service”**



**April 2026**

Volume 5, Issue 10

The Monthly Newsletter of St, John the Baptist  
Knights of Columbus Council 10232

1055 Hughes Rd.

Madison, AL 35758

<https://madison-kofc.org>

Serving St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish, Madison, AL

### **Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intention: For priests in crisis**

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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## GRAND KNIGHT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



### **Worthy Brothers, Ladies' Auxiliary Members, Family, and Friends!**

Thank you, thank you, thank you! This year's Lenten Fish Fry fundraiser effort was our best ever! We raised over \$8500 for our scholarship program! Thank you to our food prep and cooking crew, led by Sir Knight Carlos Fernandez. Thank you to the 25-30 Brother Knights who volunteered their time to help take dinner payments, man and replenish the serving line, walk around to recruit potential candidate members, and clean up the kitchen and hall afterwards. Thank you to SK Ed Arominski for spearheading the raffle and donating some great prizes to augment our fundraising effort. Thank you to the Ladies

Auxiliary for providing a wide variety of desserts. Thank you also to the Brother Knights and their families who came out to enjoy the tasty dinners. And thank you to all the St. John's parishioners and families who generously came out to support our annual scholarship program fundraiser during the Lenten Season that will benefit two graduating high school seniors, two graduating 9<sup>th</sup> Graders from St. John's School, and the Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund! You all helped make these weekly events during Lent enjoyable for all!

Please take note of the highlights in Council News area of this issue. We will conduct the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday following the 11:30 AM Mass. Our next bi-monthly blood drive will take place in the SJB School Gymnasium on 18 April. For the third year in a row, we're collaborating with St. John's Youth Ministry to sell Mother's Day floral baskets for spouses, mothers, and grandmothers. Applications for a College/Trade School scholarship are still open this month for high school seniors who will graduate this academic year. If you have a child or grandchild who will be graduating, please encourage them to apply. The deadline to apply is May 1<sup>st</sup>. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Seminarian Dinner will be held at Holy Spirit on 5 June. Finally, we have tickets for sale to a Trash Panda ballgame on 22 August, a Knights Night Out.

Congratulations to the Council's Knight of the Month for March, Sir Knight Bill Wolfe, and to the Council's Family of the Month for March, Sir Knight Mike & Nancy Jones! Please congratulate them when you see them.

Finally, as we proceed through Holy Week, the Easter Triduum, and the Octave of Easter, please take some time to reflect on the greatest sacrifice ever made for our salvation, the death and resurrection of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I wish you and your families a most holy and Blessed Easter!

**Vivat Jesus!**

**SK Craig Priebe**

**Grand Knight, Council 10232**

## DISTRICT 20 DEPUTY NEWS

**Worthy Brother Knights,**



**Star Council – Star District – Star Assembly**

As we enter the final quarter of our Fraternal Year, we complete 9 months of constant activity, and our thoughts turn to showing what we have achieved and earning a star for our Councils, District and Assembly!

The **Star Council Award** is the premier form of recognition of the excellence of local Knights of Columbus councils by the Supreme council of the order. Achievement of specific goals is recognized with 3 separate awards

- **Fr McGivney Award** for achievement of membership growth objective.
- **Founders Award** for promotion of Insurance and Member benefits
- **Columbian Award** – for completion of at least 16 programs, 4 in each of the categories of Faith, Family, Community and Life.

Achievement of these three awards, combined with administrative excellence results in the premier Star Council Award! In district 20, I am proud to congratulate **Council 10232** (St John's) on already completing all the requirements for **Star Council**.

Our 2 other Councils, 17519 (Mercy Parish) and 4080 (St Marry's) have only to complete the Founders Award with both having scheduled events in place in April. This would allow both of these Councils to achieve Star Council this year.

The above also means that District 20 will retain **Star District** status and even reach All Star District!

**Assembly 2420 Fr Patrick J Murphy Assembly 2420**

I now digress and add some comments on Assembly 2420. Our 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly draws membership from Councils 10232 & 17519 and is also a Star Assembly having met a specific set of Assembly goals focused on Patriotism, the fourth principle of our order. To maintain our status, we **need 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree knights** to take the opportunity **to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree** at an Exemplification on **June 6<sup>th</sup>** to be held at **St John's!** Use this link for full details [Assembly website](#)

*Blessed Michael McGivney – pray for us!*

*Vivat Jesus!*

**SK Joe Duffy, Alabama State Council District 20 Deputy**

## DEVOTION OF THE MONTH



The month of April is traditionally dedicated to devotion to Jesus in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. The Catholic Church teaches that the Blessed Sacrament is the real and living presence of Christ—His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—received into our souls with every reception of Holy Communion. Our Eucharistic Lord is the source and summit of our Christian life, the ultimate proof of His infinite love for us..

(Graphic and text copied from the Catholic Company’s “Morning Offering”)

# SUPREME CHAPLAIN'S CHALLENGE

## - APRIL 2026 -



Archbishop William  
E. Lori, S.T.D.

**“Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.” (Gospel for April 19, Lk 24:35)**

The disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. Jesus promised he would be with us always, and the Eucharist is his fulfillment of that promise. We encounter his presence most profoundly in the Eucharist, where he is truly present — body, blood, soul, and divinity — under the appearance of bread and wine. The disciples’ experience on the road to Emmaus was no ordinary meal, but an encounter with Christ, who invites us, too, to enter into communion with him through the Eucharist.

**Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month, I challenge you to remain in prayer and adoration for several minutes after Mass to grow in awareness of Christ’s true presence in the Eucharist.

**Questions for Reflection:**

Do you fully realize it is the true body and blood of Christ that you receive in the Eucharist? Do you habitually pray in thanksgiving after Communion for this immeasurable gift? Do you consistently participate in Mass on Sundays and holy days? Do you make an effort to attend more frequently, so that you might avail yourself of the graces of this great sacrament?

(copied from [kofc.org/monthlychallenge](http://kofc.org/monthlychallenge))

## *COUNCIL NEWS*

### *- CHARITY/UNITY/FRATERNITY EXEMPLIFICATION -*

On Sunday, 22 March, Ken McDonald was brought into the brotherhood of Knights at the 3rd Degree. Ken is one of the eight - 8 ! - prospects signed up during the Fish Fries. This is over and above the 18 new Knights already exemplified into our Council during the Fraternal Year.



Ken McDonald with Exemplification team, SK Carlos Fernandez, SK Jerry Brecher, SK James Cook, SK Lawrence Burke, SK Danny Garcia, DD SK Joe Duffy, SK Chris Pate, and SK Jim Lake

## ***COUNCIL NEWS***

### ***DUES FOR 2026 ARE NOW DUE!***

**\$40 Annual Dues** (Exempt are: Honorary, Honorary Life, Active Duty Military, Active First Responder, and those Brothers who joined within the last year.) Contact the Worthy Financial Secretary, SK Larry Burke, if you have any questions.

\* **\$30 Voluntary Refreshment fund** - provides for food and drink before meetings

\* **\$10 Voluntary Charity fund** - Charity committee will select a charity to support in the upcoming year

### ***You can pay your dues in one of three different ways!***

Online through the [Council Website](#) on the 'Members Only' page. (You'll need to enter your member number located on your membership card and your birthday in the MM/DD/YYYY format to access the Members Only page):

***or***

Pay by check (payable to: Knights of Columbus Council 10232) or cash to the Financial Secretary at any Council meeting

***or***

Mail a check (payable to: Knights of Columbus Council 10232) only—No cash--to:

**St. John the Baptist KofC Council #10232**

**Attn: Financial Secretary**

**1055 Hughes Road**

**Madison AL 35758**

***We still have some members who owe Dues for 2025 and a some who still owe for 2024!***

**COUNCIL NEWS**

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**SJB Soccer Field**  
**Open to All Youth**  
**Age 12 & Below**



**Sponsored by**  
**St. John the Baptist**  
**Knights of Columbus Council 10232**



# COUNCIL NEWS

- SK JOHN HORCH MEMORIAL BI-MONTHLY BLOOD DRIVE -



## St. John's Catholic Church Blood Drive

St. John's School Gymnasium

1057 Hughes Road

Madison, AL 35758

Saturday, April 18, 2026

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Scan this QR Code to make an appointment!

OR visit [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and use sponsor keyword "stjohnscatholic"

**Everyone who donates at this drive will be emailed a \$15 gift card to a merchant of their choice!**



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St. John the Baptist  
Knights of Columbus Council 10232



## ***COUNCIL NEWS***

***- MOTHER'S DAY FLORAL BASKET SALE -***

# **April Showers Bring May Mother's Day Flowers! Order Beautiful Plants for Mom!**

**Proceeds to benefit Youth Ministry Events,  
Retreats, and Conferences**

**Order after Mass on  
April 18-19 & April 25-26**

**Or Online at [St. John the Baptist Council #10232](#)**

**Pick up in Parish Basement  
May 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**



**Sponsored by  
St. John the Baptist  
Knights of Columbus Council 10232  
And  
St. John's Youth Ministry**



## COUNCIL NEWS

- SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS -



For full details and to download the application form, use the QR code or the url below:

<https://tinyurl.com/c6vmc8pv>

**Deadline for submission:**

**1 MAY 2026**

If you have a child or grandchild graduating from high school this year, encourage them to apply!



# COUNCIL NEWS

- SEMINARIAN DINNER -



**2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SEMINARIAN DINNER  
JUNE 5, 2026**

*Holy Spirit Church Huntsville*

*A Night to Celebrate our Seminarians,  
Promote Vocations, and Raise Funds for the  
Diocesan Seminarian Fund*

## **EVENT & RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE**

ONLINE:

[HTTPS://SEMINARIANDINNER.SQUARE.SITE](https://seminariandinner.square.site)

OR IN THE HOLY SPIRIT PARISH OFFICE

TICKET PRICE \$125

THE EVENT INCLUDES: SEATED PRIME-RIB DINNER, BAR,  
GUEST SPEAKER, AND ENTERTAINMENT  
INVITED GUESTS INCLUDE ALL SEMINARIANS, BISHOP  
STEVEN RAICA, AND MORE

ALL LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE  
RAFFLE ITEMS ARE ALSO NEEDED

**QUESTIONS, CONTACT KEVIN  
GORDON (EVENT CHAIR)**

**816-606-6811, KGORDON1775@GMAIL.COM**

## ***SPRING IS NEAR – CALLING ALL GOLFERS!***



**For all Council Brothers interested in putting together a team to play in some upcoming Golf Tournaments, please contact Sir Knight Ed Arominski at Email: [arominskie@bellsouth.net](mailto:arominskie@bellsouth.net) or text him at (678) 894-5096**

### **Upcoming Charity Golf Tournaments**

**Holy Spirit Golf Classic – Monday, April 13, 2026**

**JP II Falcon Classic – Monday, May 11, 2026**

**Most Merciful Jesus Tourney – June 2026 (Date TBD)**

## **COUNCIL NEWS**

**- TRASH PANDAS' BASEBALL GAME -**

**Council 10232 Knights Night Out  
at Toyota Field  
Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 PM  
Trash Pandas vs. Biloxi Shuckers**



**VS.**



**SAIC Suite 11 (1<sup>st</sup> Base Side)**  
*(Includes food & soft drinks; Adult beverages sold separately)*

**Assembly 2420 Color Guard  
Knights to unfurl US Flag in Center Field  
Fireworks after the game**

**Cost: \$55 (payable by cash, check to K of C  
Council 10232, or by CC/Debit on Square)**

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Faith*



### **6-7 March – First Friday Adoration & First Saturday Holy Hour**

On the 6th and 7th of March, 18 Brother Knights and family members took part in St. John's monthly First Friday Adoration period and First Saturday Holy Hour.

### **19 March – Monthly Rosary**

32 Knights participated in Council 10232's monthly recitation of the Rosary at the beginning of our monthly Fraternal COR Meeting. Knights meditated on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, led by SK Matt Kokkeler, the Council's Faith Program Director.



### **19 March – Into the Breach: Mission of the Family**

SK Carlos Fernandez, the Council's Evangelization and Faith Formation Director, led 32 Knights in viewing "Creating a Legacy of Faith", video from the K of C's Into the Breach: Mission of the Family video series, and then guided a lively discussion on how we can better lead out families in the current culture.

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Life*

### **14 March – Monthly Rally for Life Prayer Vigil**



We had a wonderful Prayer Vigil on 14 March 2026 at the closed abortion clinic on Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, AL. Attendance was slim - 4 Knights - but that did not stop the enthusiasm for life and prayer. We started with an Introduction dedicating the prayer vigil to all aborted babies, and for life at all stages. This was followed by the group singing "Holy, Holy, Holy", followed by recitation of the Rosary and Divine Chaplet. The Prayer vigil concluded with singing God Bless America and The Lord's Prayer.

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Family*

Council 10232 recognizes Sir Knight Bill Wolfe as the Knight of the Month for March 2026. Bill is a regular attendee at Council meetings and participates in Council activities. He used his knowledge of natural gas and pressurized systems to ensure the proper function of the fryers used for our Lenten Fish Fries. Congratulations, SK Bill Wolfe!

### KNIGHTS OF THE MONTH

February

**Sir Knight Bill Wolfe**

### FAMILY OF THE MONTH

February

**SK Mike & Nancy Jones**

Council 10232 recognizes Sir Knight Mike & Nancy Jones as the Family of the Month for March 2026. Mike and Nancy have supported the Council and our Parish, providing ceramic pottery and knit/crocheted blankets to fundraisers. Mike also volunteered his time to help during our Fish Fries. Congratulations, Mike & Nancy! Thank you and well done!

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Community*

### 20 February - 27 March - Lenten Fish Fries

The Council conducted one of its largest fundraising activities of the year with six fish fries conducted on each Friday during Lent. Over 50 Knights and Youth representatives cooked and served over 4800 pounds of fish, french fries, and hush puppies, as well as baked fish, macaroni and cheese, green beans, grilled cheese sandwiches, and cole slaw, serving over 1300 meals. The Council raised over \$8500 after expenses for our scholarship program! This will enable us to award scholarships to two graduating high school seniors who plan to continue their education at an accredited institution and two graduating 8<sup>th</sup> Graders from St. John's School who plan to attend Catholic high school. The proceeds will also enable us to make a significant donation to the Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund. Many thanks to SK Carlos Fernandez for managing the fry operation, SK Jerome L Villarreal for spearheading the conversion of the fryers and gas delivery system, SK Stephen Broussard for managing the kitchen operation, SK Ed Arominski who generously donated the raffle prizes and managed the sale of raffle tickets to augment our fundraising effort, Brother Knight Eli Mitchell for providing musical entertainment, the Ladies Auxiliary for providing the desserts, as well as the Knights who, week after week, set up the Parish Hall, served meals, cleaned and returned the kitchen and hall to its normal setup.

# FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Community*

20 February - 27 March - Lenten Fish Fry Photos



# FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS – *Community*

20 February - 27 March - Lenten Fish Fry Photos



# Fr. Patrick J. Murphy Assembly 2420



**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A 4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE KNIGHT?  
CONTACT FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR DANNY GARCIA  
([dgarcia@stjohnbchurch.org](mailto:dgarcia@stjohnbchurch.org))**

**Save the dates for the following Color Corps Activities:**

**Upcoming 4th Degree Exemplifications**

**16 June 2026 - St Johns Baptist Church, Madison**

**Honor Guard Calls**

**2 April 2026 - Holy Thursday St John the Baptist**



4th Degree Exemplification, 14 Jun 25, Madison, Alabama (Color Guard Team with New Sir Knights & Dignitaries)

**TO JOIN THE RANKS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE COLOR CORPS PROGRAM CONTACT COLOR CORPS COMMANDER CARLOS FERNANDEZ ([cafernandez679@gmail.com](mailto:cafernandez679@gmail.com)) OR FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR DANNY GARCIA ([dgarcia@stjohnbchurch.org](mailto:dgarcia@stjohnbchurch.org))**



Become an Honor Guard for Funeral Masses and Visitations



Become an Honor Guard for special Masses and events.



Become a Color Guard for Civic and Public Events

## *Ladies' Auxiliary Monthly Message*



The Ladies Auxiliary had a very fruitful Lenten. For 6 weeks they provided a spectacular dessert table with a great selection of cakes, cookies and fruit. I would like to thank all who contributed desserts, helped set up, cut cakes, filled fruit cups and helped clear up. Special thanks to Isabella Mitchell who was a great help each week.

On March 20th we had our annual St. Joseph's Day table. The members brought bread, dried pasta and flowers to decorate the table. The bread was donated to the Downtown Rescue Mission and the pasta went to Cenacolo.

We also had another fundraiser selling Butter Braids. This was also very successful thanks to the hard work and organization of April Brockson who coordinated with the suppliers throughout our selling period. Once again thanks to all who helped with this.

I wish all of you a happy Easter

*Mary Duffy*

Ladies Auxiliary President



## *Upcoming Events – April & May 2026*

### **APRIL 2026**

**Apr 2: Holy Thursday**

**Apr 3: Good Friday**

**Apr 4: Easter Vigil**

**Apr 4: Soccer Field Partitioning for Easter Egg Hunt (10-11:30 AM)**

**Apr 5: Easter Sunday Parking Support 9:00 AM Mass**

**Apr 5: Easter Sunday Parking Support 11:30 AM Mass**

**Apr 5: Easter Egg Hunt**

**Apr 11: Monthly Prayer Rally for Life**

**Apr 12: 3rd Degree Exemphication (3:00 PM)**

**Apr 13: VA Veterans Health Clinic Coffee Service (8-10 AM)**

**Apr 16: Council #10232 Business Mtg and Rosary, Knights Rm (6:30 Soc Hr; 7:30 Mtg)**

**Apr 17: SJB Gym Set-up for Blood Drive (7:30-8:30 PM)**

**Apr 18: SK John Horch Memorial Bi-Monthly Blood Drive (9 AM-2 PM)**

**Apr 21: MCSD Friends Bowl Support (8 AM-1 PM)**

**Apr 28: JP II HS New Family Orientation Cookout Support (5:30-7:00 PM)**

### **MAY 2026**

**May 1-3: Alabama State Council Annual Convention & Awards Banquet**

**May 1: First Friday Adoration**

**May 2: First Saturday Mass (8:30 AM) & Holy Hour (9:10-10:10 AM)**

**May 7: Council Business Meeting**

**May 9: Monthly Prayer Rally for Life**

**May 10: Mothers Day**

**May 14: Ascension of the Lord**

**May 16: Armed Forces Day**

**May 17: Baccalaureate Breakfast Support (Tentative - 8:00-11:30 AM)**

**May 21 Fraternal COR Meeting**

**May 22-23: Metal-4-Mothers Recycling Drive (Tentative)**

**May 24: Pentecost**

**May 25: Memorial Day**

**LIFE    COMMUNITY    FAITH    FAMILY    COUNCIL/ASSEMBLY/PARISH**

## *Prayer Requests*

- For Pope Leo XIV
- For our sponsored Parish and Diocesan Seminarians, Collins Hess and Transitional Deacon John Paul Stepnowski as they continue their studies and priestly formation
- For Brother David Williams and family as David, Diaconate candidate for the Diocese of Birmingham, continues his formation
- For SK Brian Mitchell, Brother Mike Schovel, and Brother Kraig Tersigni and their families as they continue their discernment through the Aspirancy Phase of becoming Permanent Deacons
- For SK Ron Belz
- For SK Charles Bundschu
- For SK Bob Ellerbrock
- For SK Mike Mitchell
- For SK Ronnie Rickabaugh
- For all souls in Purgatory
- For all who are affected by the ongoing shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security by the Federal Government
- For an end to abortion in the USA
- For the protection of prayer warriors everywhere who pray for the respect for life
- For more vocations in our Diocese to the priesthood and religious orders
- For peace and an end to hostilities in Israel, Gaza, the Ukraine. and Iran
- For peace and wisdom of our National, State, and Civic leaders.

# OFFICERS FOR FRATERNAL YEAR 2025-26

<b>Alabama State Council</b>	
State Deputy	Bill Mores
State Chaplain	Rev. Vernon Hugley
State Secretary	Pat Jackson
State Treasurer	Brian Lagasse
State Advocate	John Bares
State Warden	Andre Patterson
Immediate Past State Deputy	Danny Garcia
<b>Alabama State District 20 Officers</b>	
District Deputy	Joe Duffy
District Warden	Greg Stefanovic
<b>St. John The Baptist Council #10232</b>	
Grand Knight	Craig Priebe
Deputy Grand Knight	James (Jim) Lake
Chaplain	Rev. Bryan Lowe
Chancellor	John Mee
Financial Secretary	Lawrence Burke
Recorder	Stephen Moeller
Treasurer	Joseph (Joe) McCarty
Advocate	Tom Quartarone
Warden	Chris Pate
Lecturer	Matt Kokkeler
Inside Guard	Michael Plummer
Outside Guard	James Cook
One-Year Trustee	Jerome Villarreal
Two-Year Trustee	Anwarul (Andy) Haq
Three-Year Trustee	Carlos Fernandez
<b>Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary</b>	
President	Mary Duffy
Vice President	Angela Bender
Secretary	Jacky Walsh
Treasurer	Jane Williams