



*"Strengthening
Catholic Families."*

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Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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March 2016

From Our State Deputy, Jim McCraw



Gifts Of March

The Gifts of March are a handshake, a hug, a warm smile and a kind word. Share them freely at mass, the grocery store, a council meeting and your home. Each gift validates another person. We all need to know someone cares. Our families need to know this just as much as a stranger.

As you go about making a difference, be open to inviting another Catholic man to become a Knight. Expand our potential by allowing him this gift of a lifetime. Don't miss an opportunity to reach out by checking up on a brother you haven't seen lately. By nurturing the non-fruit bearing plant this year, it may bear again.

State Convention is almost here! I certainly hope you're all reviewing your program activities and reports to see where you need to focus before March 31. Look at the Membership and Insurance totals for your council to see how many you will need to qualify for state goals. Don't forget your GK & DD annual reports.

Submit the names of your delegates and alternates to the State. Be sure all of your members and wives know the convention details so they can register and celebrate a historic time in Natchez. Don't overlook the Ladies Luncheon!!!

Two very important items are the Necrology and Convention Ads. On Saturday April 23, we gather for the Memorial Mass for Deceased Members. Please don't leave anyone out. All convention forms are on www.kofc-ms.org.

Important elections are coming up. VOTE!!

Poll workers are always needed. Party affiliation is not a factor. Conduct parish and community voter registration drives. This public service is also a community activity. *The Knights of Columbus does not endorse candidates.* We do promote Catholic positions within the parish as provided by the USCCB.

Campaign Workers. No problem with you personally working for a candidate. However, you must not wear KC shirts, name tags or other KC identifiers while working on their behalf. This same policy on KC attire applies to poll workers.

At each meeting I remind you that we are all prideful men who seldom ask for prayers or aid. I also ask that we include each of you and your special intentions in our prayers and I ask that you pray for me and for our state leaders.

Vivat Jesus My Brothers!

Jim

New Hope Village

New Hope Village (NHV) located in Holly Springs, MS is a safe haven for those in transition after losing their homes, due to a variety of circumstances. Families are allowed to live in the housing while they get back on their feet. NHV was spared the devastation left by the tornado that affected so many lives on December 23rd. Over two hundred homes were destroyed in the area forcing people to search tirelessly for places to stay. New Hope Village is just such a place. However, largely due to a lack of funding several of the cottages at NHV have become in disrepair. These cottages need to be completely renovated to accommodate families in need and we need your help.

The Knights of Columbus and the Queen of Peace Men's Club are proud to be active sponsors of New Hope Village. We have committed to demo the interior of two cottages and completely renovate them within 30 days. The cottages have water damage & mold issues from leaks, drafty & rotten windows & doors, broken & warped cabinets & countertops, worn out fixtures & furniture with damaged walls. These cottages are basically uninhabitable. As you can see in the photo's we have spent to last two weekends working on the cottages demoing the interior and weatherproofing the exterior.

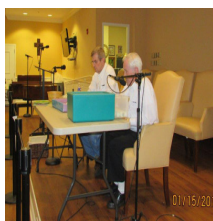
As Grand Knight of Council 14051, I am appealing to individuals, families, businesses, church groups and my brother Knights of Columbus to help in this endeavor. Through your donations of time, money, materials, appliances and household fixtures we can share our blessings and complete this project. I ask that we count the blessings in our lives and consider being the hands and face of Christ as we share Gods love through charity and compassion for His children in need. I will be posting a construction schedule including materials, fixtures and appliances needed to complete the project. Your prayers and donations are appreciated. You can make online donations at: www.gofundme.com/KofC-NHV or by mailing in your donations to:

K of C Council 14051
Attn: Jeff Bell
Queen of Peace Catholic Church
8455 Germantown Rd.
Germantown, TN 38654



Council 9543 Madison Hosts Fundraiser

Friday, January 15 Council 9543 in Madison held a “Beer, Brats, and Bingo” event at St Catherine’s Village for the residents there. Council members and their families came together to cook and serve brats, and call bingo, with everyone having a great time. Shirley Marshall, Events Director for St Catherines, said the residents were still talking about how much fun everyone had at the Knights event.



Council 6872 Picayune Hosts ARC Dance 2016

Welcome to the Mardi Gras!

Council 6872 in Picayune host the ARC of Pearl River County Mardi Gras Dance.

One of the pictures is of the ARC officers accepting a check from Council member, Brian Cassange. in the amount of \$2,232. The Council also donated \$992 to St. Francis Bridgeway Apartments.



Corporate Communion and Fellowship

Council 7854 held a Corporate Communion at vigil mass and went to Cock of the Walk to enjoy good food and fellowship afterwards .



LTC Is an Important Piece of the Puzzle

There are many financial consultants and retirement authorities who emphasize the need for a long-term care (LTC) product for estate preservation and family protection. While many commercial life insurance companies have gotten out of the long-term care business, the Knights of Columbus considers LTC a very important piece of the family protection puzzle. The Order has been actively offering our members this product for nearly 15 years without a premium increase on current policyholders. Members who wisely purchased an LTC plan from the Knights in 2000 are still paying the same premiums today. Even better, our LTC coverage is backed by the full strength of the Order, which remains rooted in our strong Catholic values. Talk about stability when it counts.

If we have not spoken about your need for LTC coverage in your family portfolio, please take some time out of your schedule to meet with us.

Remember, long-term care policies are underwritten based on your health, and you most likely will never be any healthier than you are today.

The best way to learn about our products is by arranging an appointment with us at your home or our office. We can custom design an insurance program to meet your family's current needs, help you plan for the future, or simply explain the many fraternal benefits that come with membership. In addition, we can explain the benefits you may be offered through your employer and help you determine exactly what those benefits mean to your family. We are here to serve you!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Benji Borrelli, FIC
Serving Mississippi Gulf Coast
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Rene Davidson, LUTCF
Serving Mississippi Gulf Coast
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Council 7854 Clinton Cooks For Youth Social

Members from Holy Savior Council 7854 prepare dinner for the Youth Social with mission Priest Fr. Mike McAndrew.

L-R: Jim Sharp, Matt Weisenberger, Allen Scott, Chris Halliwell .



Picayune Council 6872 Supports Perpetual Adoration

Council 6872 helps St. Charles Borromeo celebrate 22 years of Perpetual Adoration. Picayune council shown helping prepare breakfast items.





2nd Half Council Incentive

From January 1st to June 30th, 2016

Reward your council for its collective hard work and obtain valuable articles to improve Camaraderie & Teamwork!

- Recruit 12 members between January 1st and June 30th, 2016 and your council will receive **20,000 VIP* points**
- Recruit 12 members between January 1st and March 31th, 2016 and your council will receive **30,000 VIP* points**

*VIP points can be redeemed for any article available on Knightsgear.com and by filling out the order form which is available at this link:

<https://www.knightsgear.com/Content/Images/Uploaded/new-vip-order-form.pdf>

The conversion rate is approximately 1,000 VIP points = \$6.00

Grenada St. Peter Rosary Walk

On October 7, feast day of Our Lady of Holy Rosary, 2015 was the celebration of the completion & dedication of the rosary walk at St Peter's Catholic Church in Grenada, MS.

The groundbreaking started just 3 weeks before by KOC members & parishioners of all ages meeting with shovels and garden tools to begin the process of digging holes where the stones would be laid in the ground to form a rosary.

The idea came from someone just talking about a rosary walk from other locations. Our parish had recently knocked down an older building therefore the lot was empty. "I knew there was a reason God wanted me to get the bricks when the old cab was knocked down. I just didn't know why until someone mentioned the rosary walk. That was the first item that came to mind of materials", said Christy Strong. The bricks were used as the decades of the rosary. To differentiate the decades, concrete was colored & poured into the middle of the four bricks that formed a square. The mysteries are made from a concrete mold of a rose then was painted & sealed. The rosary walk begins with a concrete cross shaped & the profile of Jesus in the center for the apostles creed.

The church came together to finish the design with several others giving ideas of how to complete the look of the rosary walk. A statue of the Blessed Mother was added to the middle. She sits in a broken bird bath with flowers planted at her base & the bird bath sits on a wrought iron stand. KOC Walter Lim designed landscaping timbers to form layers that are filled with pea gravel underneath the stand for the Blessed Mother.

KOC member, Billy Griffin built an arbor for the entrance & also donated a concrete bench for persons wanting a place to sit during meditation.

Solar lights were hung on a surrounding fence & building to give light at night. Also, the Blessed Mother has her own solar spotlight.

The rosary walk has been used several times by the CCD to say the rosary at the rosary walk. Children & youth take turns by standing on the stone & reciting the prayer that their stone represents. During the afternoon meetings, candles are placed on each stone and lit after the prayer is said for the particular stone.

In the future for Lent & when weather is warmer, we are looking forward to reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet using the rosary walk to go with our year of mercy.

This project was a work of unity and a labor of love of our parish during the absence of a priest since the death of our former pastor, Fr. Ruane.





MISSISSIPPI STAR RECRUITER FEBRUARY

Council	Location	Star Recruiter	Council	Location	Star Recruiter
1034	Natchez	Daniel Miller	9543	Madison	Michael Barrett
1908	Hattiesburg	David Atteberry	9958	Lizana	Thomas Moran
1908	Hattiesburg	Robert Hall	10043	Grenada	Lee Munstenteiger
7854	Clinton	Craig Harrell	10901	Oxford	Matthew Zerangue
9543	Madison	Ken North	10901	Oxford	David Barkett

The above Brother Knights have qualified for the drawing – Congratulations!

Recruit a member and receive a Mississippi Star Recruiter Pin.

Each new recruiter is entered into a drawing.

Drawings – October 1st, January 9th, April 1st, July 1st 2016.

Winner Receives Hotel and Registration fee's free for the next State Convention for him and his wife. Prize is not transferable. Entry names are taken from the form 100's that are emailed to the State Membership Director at membership@kofc-ms.org.

Knights in Shining Armor Program

The Knights in Shining Armor Award is awarded for service to the Order with distinction. It is given to those men that exemplify what it means to be a Knight of Columbus.

The concept of the "Shining Armor Award" program is to get new members active in the many facets of our Council as early as possible, assist in maintaining that activity, and also honor them as a valued member of our Council.

To qualify for the "Shining Armor Award", during their first year of membership new Knights must:

- Be involved in at least 3 Council Service programs
- Attend at least 3 Council business meetings
- Receive their second and third degrees
- Meet with our Council's insurance representative (purchase not mandatory)
- Recruit at least one new member

To help members keep track of their progress toward attaining the award, special qualification cards are available from the Grand Knight. As an achievement is accomplished, the Grand Knight will sign off on it.

MISSISSIPPI'S NEWEST KNIGHTS

JOINING IN JANUARY 2016

Council		New Knight		Council		New Knight	
1244	Biloxi	David	Illich	7120	Southaven	JoFrances	Marquez
1244	Biloxi	Charles	Smith	10499	Ocean Springs	Wesley	Winnterstein
4472	Pass Christian	Yousef	Nasrallah	10499	Ocean Springs	Steven	Sloan
4472	Pass Christian	Jacob	Bishop	11995	Pass Christian	Leo	Smyth
6765	Starkville	Chris	Furhmann	11995	Pass Christian	Andrew	Niolet
6765	Starkville	Roger	Pryor				

JOINING IN FEBRUARY 2016

Council		New Knight		Council		New Knight	
1034	Natchez	Peter	Sherman	9543	Madison	Kenneth	Craft
1908	Hattiesburg	Eugene	Christen	9958	Lizana	John	Davis
1908	Hattiesburg	William	Lindler	10443	Grenada	Pablo	Diaz
7854	Clinton	Mark	Steele	10901	Oxford	Larry	Ray
9543	Madison	Corey	Griffin	10901	Oxford	James	Wilkinson



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE GENTLEMEN FOR JOINING THE RANKS OF KNIGHTHOOD AS FOLLOWERS OF THE GREAT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Council 7854 Rehabs Church Bathroom Floor

Members from Holy Savior Council 7854 strip and wax the bathroom floors in the church.

IMG 0640 L-R: Arnie Senger, Chris Halliwell, Chuck Weiss and Bill O'Connor.



“Let us take the call of both Father McGivney and Pope Francis to heart and live out charity to our neighbor, in unity with our Church and our Holy Father, and in the spirit of Fraternity.”

Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight

Clinton Council 7854 Hosts First Degree

Holy Savior Council 7854 hosted an Admissions Degree (1st) in honor of Charles Collins, Council Financial Secretary, on Thursday Feb 18th in the Parish Center. Pictured are the 4 new members with the Degree Team.

Front Row L-R: Patrick Weisenberger (St. Richards), Randy Steele (Holy Savior), Patrick Deliman (St. Richards), Gregory Hampton St. Richards)
Back Row L-R: Chuck Weiss, Steve Miller, District Deputy Charles Hahn, Jim Sharp, Craig Harrell, Chris Halliwell and State Master Bill O'Connor.



Blue Mass And Special Olympics

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund says that we lose an average of one officer every 60 hours to a Line of Duty Death (LODD). The first known LODD happened in 1791, with more than 20,000 officers lost since in the U.S. In 2015 we lost 124 law enforcement officers in the U.S. (42 by firearms) with five of them being from Mississippi.

Every day they button up their uniform shirt they know it could be for the last time. They do it knowing we cannot live without them. There is no better way to recognize their service and sacrifice than by hosting a "Blue Mass". In doing so you show them how much you appreciate them and give the kind of exposure money can't buy for your Council.

This is one of my favorite programs of the year. Consider that most of these individuals are Protestant and this will give them a different view of our Church/Order than they have had before. We also feed them after Mass in our Parish Hall which gives us a chance to spend time with them. While they are eating we give out door prizes we collected from businesses around the area. We also give out awards we call "Community Spirit Awards" to a member of each department for service on and off the job.

The U.S. Fire Administration lists 91 Firefighter LODD in 2014. Fifty-six of them were from Volunteer Departments so don't forget them. A large number of these deaths are from heart attacks due to stress and over exertion.

Do your part to show the love for these Heroes. Plan your Blue Mass today! I'd be glad to help.

Also, don't forget EMS. All first responders should be invited.

Special Olympics- We have received very few Partnership Profile Reports from you. Please get them in now. They are very important, even if you did nothing.

Bryan V. Cassagne
Community Director
601-466-3460

Starkville Council Hosts First Degree



District 4 held a Formation Degree on Sunday February 14th at St Joseph Church in Starkville with 18 First Degree members advancing. From 6765 in Starkville, Brett Bailey, Michael Becher, David Buys, Craig Capano, Christian Hymel, Daniel Krizak, Michael Nadorff and Roger Pryor. From 10901 Oxford Ron Knapp. From 7974 Columbus Rene Machado, Mike Canellare, William Jones, William Adams, and Peter Tortorici. From 8848 Tupelo Nestor Juarez-Navarro, Marco Lopez Velazquez. From 10901 Oxford Ron Knapp. From 13471 Philadelphia Larry Veazey.

Starkville Council 6765 Provides Vestments To Parish Priest



Starkville Council 6765 presented a Knights of Columbus Chasuble & Stole set to Fr Lenin during their February 11 meeting.

Pie Mike



Any Council that recruits 5 new Members in the months of January or February gets a chance for a drawing to throw a pie in the face of State Membership Director at the State Convention in Natchez. If Council brings in 5 new Members in both months Council gets two chances in drawing!

Pie throw to take place Friday after awards ceremony.

Keep Calm and Focus on Membership Recruitment

Programs Deadline Approaches

As the State Convention in Natchez quickly approaches (April 22-24), so does the deadline for program report submittals. All Program reports are due and must be submitted to programs@kofc-ms.org no later than March 20, 2016, to be considered for Program Awards

for this Fraternal State Year. The following reports are needed to be considered for these awards:
State Activities Report Year End

Best Program Reports: Church, Community, Council, Culture of Life, Youth, Family, and Vocations

Best Council, Knight of the Year, and Family of the Year.

All reports forms are available on the State Website: www.kofc-ms.org.

Below, is the progress reported to date from each of the councils around the state as of February 22nd. This information will be updated regularly and posted on the State Website through March 20th allowing each council to check their status on programs.

Mark Dye									
District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
1	8760	Holly Springs	4	5	7	4	4	5	Honor
1	8848	Tupelo	11	8	6	7	4	5	Honor
1	8912	Corinth	12	11	5	2	7	7	
1	10901	Oxford	7	9	6	3	5	5	

Denny Fink									
District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
2	2969	Clarksdale							
2	7120	Southaven							
2	13502	Batesville							
2	14351	Oliver Branch							

Bernie Brown									
District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
3	2134	Greenville	6	7	8	1	4	5	
3	2945	Leand	5	3	4	0	2	2	
3	5267	Greenwood							
3	5556	Cleveland							
3	9234	Indianola							
3	10443	Grenada	10	4	4	1	3	4	

Daniel Setaro									
District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
4	802	Meridian	11	10	8	6	7	10	Distinguished
4	6765	Starkville							
4	7974	Columbus							
4	13471	Philadelphia	2	5	4	2	4	2	

Charles Hahn

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
5	848	Jackson	11	10	7	3	9	5	
5	929	Vicksburg	6	8	7	0	2	8	
5	7854	Clinton	12	9	8	7	7	4	Honor
5	8085	Jackson	5	5	3	0	3	0	
5	15131	Jackson	14	6	9	9	2	8	Distinguished

Dennis Antici

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
6	8038	Pearl							
6	8543	Macisor							
6	10216	Blancor	5	5	3	3	2	8	
6	11934	Gluckstadt							

Luis Ybarra

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
7	1034	Natchez							
7	7915	Brookhaven	9	4	3	3	5	2	
7	8054	McComb							
7	11956	Tylertown							

Sherwood Beckham Jr

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
8	1908	Hattiesburg	3	5	3	1	0	3	
8	2180	Laurel	8	9	9	5	3	6	
8	11904	Lucedale	7	2	5	0	2	3	
8	11654	Wiggins	12	7	6	1	4	4	
8	15382	Hattiesburg	9	14	10	11	9	9	Stellar

Charles Heintz

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
9	1522	Bay St. Louis							
9	7087	Kiln	10	10	4	6	7	7	Honor
9	8058	Uzuma	2	1	1	0	0	2	
9	11995	Pass Christian							
9	12331	Dedeaux	8	11	7	7	7	6	Distinguished

Raul "Roy" Gamez

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
10	1583	Gulfport	10	13	5	5	7	8	Excellence
10	4472	Pass Christian	11	14	9	11	9	11	Stellar
10	4898	Long Beach	7	9	3	5	2	7	
10	7910	Gulfport							
10	11541	Gulfport							
10	12271	Gulfport	6	2	4	2	2	1	

Mark Fontenot

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
11	1244	Biloxi							
11	9094	D'Iberville	6	8	5	4	4	3	
11	9409	Biloxi							
11	9673	Woolmarket	6	5	5	2	3	3	

Joseph Goellner, Sr

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
12	1605	Pascagoula							
12	5654	Ocean Springs	9	12	7	10	9	6	Distinguished
12	9124	Gautier	6	6	6	6	11	7	Distinguished
12	10499	Ocean Springs	11	7	4	4	6	3	
12	12166	Pascagoula	3	1	3	0	2	0	
12	15155	Vardave							

Stradford Goins

District	Council	Location	Church	Council	Community	Culture of Life	Family	Youth	Award Level**
13	6592	Bassfield							
13	6872	Picayune							
13	7211	Lumberton							
13	15121	Poplarville							

** Award level does not consider Membership and Insurance Quotas. Please review these quota requirements to determine award level

Color Chart:		No Report	4 or More Reported
		Numbers Reported	8 or More Reported

2nd degree Clinton, MS 02/25/16



2nd Degree, Clinton MS 02/25/16



Our Spiritual Worship

(In the coming months the seminarians studying for the two Dioceses of Mississippi will be sharing their reflections as they continue on the road to priesthood.)

Aaron Williams is a native of Jackson and attended St. Joseph High School in Madison. He is a 3rd Degree member of Council 848 in Jackson and is currently in his second year of Theology studies for the Diocese of Jackson. He studies at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

For the past two years, I have had the privilege of attending the summer session of the Liturgical Institute in Mundelein, IL in order to pursue a Masters of Arts in Liturgy (MAL) following the summer of 2018—the same year, God-willing, I will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Jackson. To be able to study the sacred liturgy along-side my normal coursework in seminary has afforded me the great opportunity to see how the ancient and beautiful rites of the Church flow from and embody the teachings, spirituality, and history of the Church. Often I find myself saying, “If people only knew this thing or that, it would certainly change how they approach the Mass.” Therefore, I was immediately delighted, when I was approached to write this article, about the possibility of sharing some of these thoughts with my brother knights. Albeit, I am only able to share a few thoughts, thus I have chosen to write about two rites which are often not understood yet are full of meaning: the sprinkling with holy water, and the offertory.

At some Masses, especially during the Easter season, the priest begins the liturgy by passing through the church and sprinkling the faithful with holy water. It is a practice which, regrettably, has fallen into disuse in most parishes, but is a serious rite and one that I would strongly encourage priests to make use of from time to time, especially at key moments of the liturgical year.

The rite has two meanings. The first is that recalls our baptism, just as we each recall our Baptism by taking holy water at the door of the church when we come to Mass. However, in the sprinkling rite, the whole congregation is sprinkled together—not individually. In Baptism we are not simply incorporated into a personal relationship with Christ, but are brought into the communal body of the Church as a member of the Mystical Body of Christ. It is fitting, therefore, that we are sprinkled together from time to time, and not limit this symbol to personal use.

Likewise, the rite symbolizes Christ’s cleansing of our souls from sin. In the Old Covenant, the Jewish priests were instructed to take a branch of hyssop and sprinkle the people and the altar of sacrifice with the blood of sacrificed animals for the forgiveness of sins. Christ, however, gives us living water to cleanse our soul. Thus, when we are sprinkled with holy water, we can say with the psalmist, “You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I shall be cleansed; you will wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow” (Psalm 51:7).

The Offertory is a significant point of the Mass for the lay faithful because it is rich in symbolism of their daily lives, which can be helpful for prayer. The reforms brought by the Second Vatican Council restored the practice wherein the members of the faithful present the offerings of bread, wine, and water to the priest to be offered to the Lord in the Eucharist. These items are significant and deserve our consideration. Bread symbolizes the toil we put into our daily work. Those long hours of work during the week are worthy of offering to the Lord. Thus, the bread (and, indeed our monetary offerings) remind us that the work we do in order to support ourselves and our family is pleasing to the Lord and we should offer it entirely to him.

Wine has historically been seen as a symbol of divinity. It takes time and patience to make wine and, once it is fermented, there is a precious nature about it. It is fitting that Our Lord chose wine as the sign of his Blood because of this double meaning of divinity and value. In Rome, it is tradition to use golden-hued wines for communion to further this symbolism of Christ’s Blood being both divine and precious, though there are certainly other meanings which can be applied to red wines. The wine brought forth at Mass is thus a symbol of those good things, especially our prayers, which we have to offer to the Lord, so that it may be perfected in him.

Finally, water is an earthy element. Bread and wine require labor to produce a finished product, but water is unaltered. In this way, water is a symbol of our humanity and with it all our sins and failings. Yes, our sins must also be offered to the Lord. Incidentally, when the water is poured into the chalice by the priest or deacon, it completely dissipates into the wine, just as Christ’s blood totally washes away our sins.

Thus, all three of these elements, both the physical elements we offer, and the spiritual offerings we call to mind, are offered to the Lord in the Eucharist and transformed, at the word of the priest and by the power of the Holy Spirit, into the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Just as God took on human flesh to redeem us in his Son, so too does he take our offerings and joins them to his sacrifice on the cross. And, what is the result? We receive back from the Lord something that has been transformed—made entirely new: the Body of his glorified Son for our own food. It is for this reason that I often find it fitting for the choir alone to take up some piece of music which aids in our own meditation as we consider carefully what we have to offer to the Lord during the offertory of the Mass.

There is so much more I want write, but I hope these two points will suffice for your consideration now. May the Lord richly bless all the knights in their great ministry to the Church. Vivat Jesus!

Aaron M. Williams



Persecution Of Christians In The Middle East

Christians in the Middle East continue to suffer, and in order to help them further, we need to do our part in convincing the U.S. Government to officially designate their persecution as genocide. Already many of our brother Knights have helped us give generously to humanitarian relief for those affected, with more than \$8 million dollars raised. These funds have provided assistance in the form of food, clothing, shelter, general relief, education, religious instruction, medical care and much more.

Pope Francis has called what is happening to Christians in the Middle East “genocide.” The European Parliament has done the same, as have prominent voices such as the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and Genocide Watch. This is not a partisan issue. Presidential candidates and elected leaders of both American political parties have said Middle Eastern Christians are facing genocide. But despite the evidence that these individuals and institutions have found compelling, the U.S. State Department has still not made such a designation. Experts indicate such a designation could help those who are suffering so much by opening up for them certain legal protections and options that might otherwise be unavailable.

Please take two minutes to join Supreme Knight Carl Anderson as well as Catholic bishops, Christian religious leaders and other advocates in signing the petition at StopTheChristianGenocide.org.
Sincerely,

of Columbus
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, CT 06510
(203) 752-4000

Starkville Council Hosts Knighting Degree



Conferring Officer Peter Sukanek and Warden George Read with Presenter of the Fraternal Charge Jerry Shmuck advanced 18 Brother Knights to Full Knighthood on Saturday February 27 at St Joseph Church in Starkville. Host District Deputy was Danny Setaro and Host Grand Knight was Tomasz Haupt of the Fr John P Egan Council 6765. Past State Deputy Tom Zettler was the Honoree for Knighting Degree who was also in attendance from Council 802 in Meridian. Council 802 Meridian - Rev. Jose De'Jesus Sanchez, Richard Harris, Kenneth Napierkowski, Richard Norman, Joe Price, Patrick Quito and David Rauenhorstm. Council 6765 Starkville - David Buys, Craig Capano, Daniel Krizak and Samuel Rust. Council 7974 Columbus - William Adams, Michael Cancellare, William Jones and Rene Machado. Council 8848 Tupelo - Noel Garcia and Steven Sevier. Council 8912 Corinth – William Garth.

Holy Family Icon Visits West Point Parish



At mass on Monday, Feb. 29, Rev. Father Basani used the Holy Family booklet readings and delivered a moving and very appropriate homily regarding family values and actions! Pictured around the Holy Family icon above: from left to right: District Deputy Danny Setaro, Kathy Knighton, Debbie Dichiara and Father Basani.

Bishop Gerow Countdown To The Convention

The Knights of Columbus State Convention is less than 2 months away. It is time to finalize your fundraisers to meet the donation date of April 15th. Donations, of course, will also be accepted at convention. The transmittals for donations were distributed previously and are also available on the web site under church activities.

Brothers, let's show our support for our seminarians, the priests for the future by being 100% from all councils and assemblies.

Don Cox
Chairman
Bishop R.O. Gerow Program

St. Richard Council 15131 Hosts Free Throw Competition

St Richard Council 15131 held their first Free Throw Competition Chaired by ther Rusty Haydel. Youngsters from both the parish and community competed for certificates and the overall age bracket winner plaque.

Participating were Council 15131 brothers, Rusty Haydel, Andre de Gruy, Victor Grey-Lewis, Louis Clifford, John Wren, Gregory Hampton, Robert Munroe, and Mike Hart.

Council 898 Vicksburg Holds March For Life

Council 898 held its 6th annual March for Life in Vicksburg, on Saturday March 5th. The March began at St. Aloysius High School and ended at the Right to Life monument at Cedar Hill Cemetery. The Right to Life Monument was erected by Council 898 several years ago. Twenty three marchers participated this year including four from Council 7854 in Clinton. Members of Assembly 558 carried the American and Papal flags with members of the Bishop Gerow Assembly acting a color guard. Once at the monument the marchers prayed the Holy Rosary to the Blessed Virgin Mary using the Joyful Mysteries.



2015 2016
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For newsletter submissions
please send to
magnoliaknight@kofc-ms.org

In Service To One, In Service To All.

Programs At-A-Glance

ORDER MATERIAL

- **March For Life (Canada)**

PROMOTE ACTIVITY

CONDUCT ACTIVITY

- **40 CANS FOR LENT**
- **ORDERWIDE CHARITABLE SERVICE OUTREACH WEEK**
- **ORDERWIDE FIRST DEGREE WEEK**
- **ORDERWIDE CHURCH DRIVE**
- **MARCH FOR LIFE (PHILLIPINES)**