



# The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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From the desk of the State Deputy, Noel Aucoin

*"Strengthening  
Catholic Families."*

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Brothers,

Greetings to you all. WOW!! What a great convention. The Convention Committee **rocked** it. District Deputy, David Seymour and Past State Deputy, Larry Tabor were co-chairmen of the event and deserve a ton of the credit for the weekend. They will admit that they had plenty of help and support from the entire convention committee. Richard Greenwald, State Convention Coordinator/Assistant to the State Secretary, did his usual outstanding job organizing delegates and much more. There was one more group that

made this convention such a success and that group is you, my brothers and ladies, the convention goers. Thanks goes out to each and every one of you. The Mississippi Fraternal Year has come to an end but the Supreme Fraternal still has two more months and I would love to go out with a bang. The challenge to achieve Circle of Honor for the State, three times in a row is still makeable. At the time of this article, we have 9 councils qualified for Star Council and 5 more that have reached membership goals but need insurance help. We have another 5 to 10 councils with a legitimate shot of reaching that status. We only need 15. I think it's doable. We need 85 new members to reach our intake, net and net/net goals. That is less than 1 member per Council, per month. That seems doable especially now that online membership is available for Mississippi. In fact, we already have our first online member. A brother has joined the order in the Columbus, MS area. This should be an invaluable tool for recruitment. If you were not able to attend the online membership training session, during the convention, then please contact your District Deputy or State Warden, Guy Heying for information. The website for candidates to join is: [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus). We have reached our New Council Development goal with the establishment of Fr. Herbert Mullin Council 16992 in Biloxi. Welcome to the Jurisdiction. We are very close to our Round Table Goal. If you have not filled out your Roundtable Form for the year, please do. Brothers, it is a steep hill to climb but WE CAN DO IT!! Don't give up don't ever give up!!

Finally let me take time to express my thanks to a bulwark of Knighthood in the State of Mississippi. For as long as I can remember, Brother Don Cox has chaired the Bishop R.O. Gerow fund for Priest Education. Don and his lovely wife Carol have been responsible for soliciting, collecting and the bookkeeping of hundreds of thousands of dollars over many years. Don has traveled throughout the State educating all of us on the importance of the fund. Because of his health, Don is stepping down as Chairman after this year. The State Officers and I have instituted a new award this year. The State Deputy's Award. This award is intended to be a lifetime achievement award. It is awarded at the total discretion of the State Deputy and may or may not be awarded each year. Each new State Deputy will decide whether or not to award one that fraternal year. I am pleased to announce that Don and Carol Cox are the recipients of the inaugural Mississippi State Deputy's Award. Congratulations!! Well deserved. Thank you for a lifetime of service to State and the Order. God Bless,

Vivat Jesus,  
Noel

# **FIVE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE TALKING TO YOUR INSURANCE AGENT**

5/1/2018

Our agents can advise you on what insurance policies are best for you and your family — that's why they're so helpful. Still, you might be hesitant to sit down with your agent for various reasons. Here are a few things to keep in mind the next time you sit down with a K of C agent to alleviate all your fears.

1. What should a family expect when sitting down with a K of C agent?

A family should expect to visit with a professional and intelligent representative of the Knights of Columbus who is going to bring a great deal of value to their family.

2. What would they discuss?

The agents will start by discussing the history and current events of the Knights of Columbus, then transition into discussing what is going on in the member's life, and then finally educate the member on how we may be able to better their situation financially.

3. Why is this meeting important?

A member's life can change in an instant, and everyone should always be prepared for the unthinkable to happen so their family is okay.

4. Why should families meet regularly with their agent?

Life is always changing. New jobs, new houses, etc. All these things change the financial needs of a family.

5. Why should families choose K of C Insurance?

Personal service is a lost art in our world today. But our agents are not just business men, they are brother Knights and your well-being is their business 24/7. This type of service is so important when you need help the most.

Special thanks to General Agent Kevin Pierce of Edmond (Okla.) Council 6477, who shared these five tips with us.

Contact him at [kevin.pierce@kofc.org](mailto:kevin.pierce@kofc.org). For more tips about K of C Insurance, visit [kofc.org/insurance](http://kofc.org/insurance).

Did You Know?

1 in 4 of today's 20-year-olds will be disabled before they turn 67.

Are you prepared if it happens to you? Visit with your agent today to discuss how Knights of Columbus disability income insurance can let you earn an income when you can't work due to a disability.

Find your agent at [kofc.org/findagent](http://kofc.org/findagent).

## **IS YOUR PAYCHECK PROTECTED?**

5/7/2018

Most people see work as something that will always be there. We live our lives expecting to wake up, go to work, and complete our tasks throughout the day to provide for our families. Work, and the financial stability that it provides, is often taken for granted. What if one day you wake up and you are no longer able to go to work, through no fault of your own? Accidents and illness can affect anyone, at any stage in their career. How will you react to unforeseeable adversity? Do you have a plan in place if you are no longer able to perform your duty?

The Knights of Columbus can help you put this plan in place and prepare for unexpected life events.

Retirement is often planned, but disability is not. Chance favors no man. Too often people say "that will never happen to me" or "I will cross that bridge if it comes." There is no bridge that carries you over the void from gainful employment to disability unless you start planning today.

Disability insurance is often dismissed by working men and women because they think their jobs are fairly safe. Their lives are fairly healthy. Disability — they say — is simply something they will never experience.

The statistics tell a different story.

A staggering 1 in 4 of today's 20-year-olds will become disabled before reaching the age of 67. The nature of the job is irrelevant. According to the Social Security Administration, 95 percent of all disabling illnesses and accidents happen outside of the workplace.\*

Consider a typical male, age 35, nonsmoker, who works at an office job with some outdoor responsibilities and leads a very healthy lifestyle. He has a 28 percent chance of being injured or becoming ill and unable to work for three months or longer prior to retirement.\*\*

If this happens to you, not someone else, will you have a bridge to carry you and your family?

If your illness or injury is among the 95 percent that happen outside of work, workers' compensation will be of no assistance to you. 7 in 10 employed Americans say they would feel the financial pinch in a month or less without their paycheck.\*\*\* What if your last paycheck really is your last paycheck?

There is a solution, however.

Your membership in the Knights of Columbus gives you and your eligible family members exclusive access to disability income insurance that can help safeguard your paycheck. With Knights of Columbus Disability Income Insurance, you can ensure you and your family are provided for in the event of unexpected loss of work.

Our disability income insurance is designed to be flexible so that, working with your brother Knight field agent, you can customize it to fit your needs. You choose the monthly benefit amount that's right for you, the elimination period that makes the most sense, and the maximum benefit period for your policy.

By purchasing a disability income insurance policy from the Knights of Columbus, you have the added security of knowing that you are doing business with a Catholic company that makes sure its investments do not violate Church teaching and which has been repeatedly recognized as a "World's Most Ethical" company.\*\*\*\*

You owe it to yourself and to your family to make sure that your financial future is secure, regardless of what happens. Don't be caught off guard by surprises. Be on guard and be prepared.

Contact your local agent today to learn more about the coverage available to you. To find your local agent, visit [kofc.org/findagent](http://kofc.org/findagent).

\* "Social Security Fact Sheet," United States Social Security Administration, accessed April 5, 2018, [www.ssa.gov/news/press/factsheets/basicfact-alt.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/news/press/factsheets/basicfact-alt.pdf)

\*\* "What's Your PDQ?" Council for Disability Awareness, accessed April 5, 2018, [www.whatsmypdq.org](http://www.whatsmypdq.org)

\*\*\* "What do You Know about Disability Insurance?" Life Happens, accessed April 5, 2018, [www.lifehappens.org](http://www.lifehappens.org)

\*\*\*\* "K of C: Most Ethical," February 12, 2018, [www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/most-ethical-companies.html](http://www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/most-ethical-companies.html)

## BEYOND DISSENT

5/1/2018

### Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

#### THE MISSION OF EVANGELIZATION REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO THE CHURCH'S IDENTITY TODAY

FIFTY YEARS AGO, Blessed Pope Paul VI issued *Humanae Vitae*. In this prophetic encyclical, the Holy Father taught that artificial birth control is not permitted because it breaks the bond between two inseparable and God-given aspects of marital love: its capacity to express the exclusive and total love of husband and wife for each other and its capacity to beget new life. The document unleashed a firestorm of criticism for maintaining a teaching allegedly made obsolete by the advent of “the pill.” The pope’s warnings that the pervasive practice of contraception would open the door to promiscuity, abortion and the breakdown of the family went unheeded. Only a small percentage accepted this teaching, and many still dissent.

In 1975, Paul VI issued another landmark document, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (On Evangelization in the Modern World). In it, he tapped into the deepest root of the Second Vatican Council, which his predecessor, St. John XXIII, had convoked to proclaim Christ anew “as the center of history and of life.”

Drawing together the teaching of the council, Paul VI described evangelization as the Church’s core identity and mission. In short, the Church “exists in order to evangelize” (14). This mission is directed both toward people who have not yet heard the Good News and those who no longer practice their faith. Pope Paul called on all members of the Church, not just clergy and religious, to open their hearts more widely to the Lord and to actively share the faith with the searching and the straying alike. At the heart of the Second Vatican Council and the pontificates that have followed is the call to proclaim Christ in our time, so that people may open their hearts to the Lord and find salvation from their sins and the path to holiness in his Church.

FROM VATICAN II UNTIL TODAY Following his predecessors, St. John Paul II called for a “new evangelization” — not new in content, for “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Heb 13:8) — but new “in its ardor, methods, and expression.” He reaffirmed the Church’s mission to proclaim the Gospel, stressing the obligation of the Church to evangelize those whose faith had grown dim and to reevangelize nations where the faith is fading. St. John Paul II said no one is exempt from the duty of proclaiming the Gospel, and laypeople are the prime agents of the new evangelization.

Pope Benedict XVI likewise promoted the new evangelization. He called for “re-proposing” the Gospel in places where many no longer practice the faith and where new forms of secularism have taken hold. Pope Benedict, like those before him, emphasized that evangelization entails an opening of the heart. It involves becoming agents of the Holy Spirit, helping people have a profound experience of Jesus and his love — a love that opens them to the Word of God, the sacraments, virtuous living and ultimately their vocation to holiness.

Evangelization is also clearly central to the pontificate of Pope Francis, who penned *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). He speaks of the urgency of this mission and calls each one of us and our parishes and church institutions to “missionary conversion” (30). He challenges bishops and priests to take the lead in creating dioceses and parishes that are on fire with the mission of spreading the Gospel. He challenges religious women and men “to wake up the world” by their witness to the kingdom of God. And he challenges laypeople to engage robustly in this mission in their families and daily work.

#### A NEW PENTECOST

What has been the response of the Church to this call for a new evangelization? One survey published in 2005 asked various Christian congregations whether spreading the faith is a high priority. In conservative Protestant congregations, some 75 percent answered in the affirmative; 57 percent of African-American congregations agreed. Among U.S. Catholic parishes, only 6 percent did — not exactly an enthusiastic embrace of the central thrust of the Second Vatican Council or the teaching of recent popes. Their warnings go unheeded as the number of practicing Catholics declines. This constitutes a kind of “soft” dissent, not so much from a specific teaching but rather from the Lord’s missionary mandate and from the Church’s very identity and mission. Relatively few Catholics reject outright the call to spread the Gospel; it’s more that they decline to participate, often because they themselves have not been evangelized and adequately catechized.

This month, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles. Their hearts and minds were opened so that they truly grasped who Jesus is, what he taught and what he did to save us. And they received the wisdom, strength and courage to go forth and spread the Gospel as the Lord had commanded. Their wholehearted witness to Jesus and their courageous preaching brought extraordinary results.

Let us unite in praying earnestly for a new Pentecost in our day. And the Knights of Columbus, as the world’s largest Catholic lay organization, can and should lead the way in bearing witness to and spreading the Gospel. In the power of the Spirit, let us open our hearts to Jesus, fully live his Gospel — including those teachings that are countercultural — and speak of him in love to others, so as to win them for Christ and his Church.



One of the fitting conclusions to the 144 State Convention was the awarding of the Assembly Family of the Year to Bill and Carolyn O'Connor of Assembly 554. Their years of dedication, service and excellence was officially recognized. Pictured below is Bill and Carolyn with FN, Dave Fisher.

### Family of the Month

Again I would like to congratulate the (3) Families that Supreme picked for March family of the month.

Robert Flagg, Council 1583  
David Gruseck, Council 7974  
William Horne, Council 14051

Thanks for these Councils that took the time to turn in a family.

802, 848, 898, 1244, 1583\*, 2180, 4472, 4898, 5654, 7854, 79748  
8038, 8054, 9543, 9124, 10443, 11995, 14051\*, 15155.

As I say each month if you have turned in a family, and your council is not listed please send me the name of the family.

Carl Brochard

State Family Director  
broch57@bellsouth.net

### Sav-A-Life of the Pearl River Area in Picayune held its annual March for Life on Saturday, April 28.

One photo shows Fr. Alwin (Exemplified in Jan. 2018 & new Chaplin of Council 6872) and two other Brothers from same council. Over 100 Marched.



## **Council 848, Jackson**

**PGK Charlie Sims, Council 848 Jackson, presents \$1,000 to Kim Thomason of Catholic Charities for the 2018 Nissan Rogue Fundraiser. Monies were donated by the members of Council 848**



## **"40 Cans for Lent"**

Another successful "40 Cans for Lent" Community Project for 2018 says Charlie Sims, Program Chairman. Council 848, Jackson, collected canned goods each Sunday after Mass at The Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle during Lent for a total of 1,224 pounds. This was delivered to Mississippi Food Network who distributes over a million pounds of food to 56 Mississippi Counties each month supplying soup kitchens and providing disaster relief.



Pictured are Mike & Lisa Gill, Noel Machost and his daughters Madison & Anna, and Charlie Sims.



## **Meridian's Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802 Hosts 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplifications**

*(DD4 David Viger (PGK))*

On Saturday, May 5, 2018, Meridian's Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802 hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> (Formation) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (Knighthood) Degree Exemplifications at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Meridian. The Honorees for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree were Father Matthew Simmons and Father Jose' De Jesus Sanchez, Pastor and Associate Pastor, of the Meridian Catholic Community. The Honoree for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree was Deacon Nick Adam (soon to be Father Nick!).

Brothers Lindsay "Gabe" Gabriel, Gary Dove and Marty McCann (Council 802) and Jon Graham, Noah Graham and Austin Espino (Council 7854) received honors in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Brother Charles Frazier (Council 802) also received honors in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.

The Council 802 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Team, led by Brother Tom Zettler (PSD), did a tremendous job during the Exemplification and earned their formal certification as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Team for District #4 of the Mississippi Jurisdiction. 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Team members included: Brothers Tom Zettler (Team Leader and PSD), DD 4 Dave Viger (PGK), DGK Joe Hosch (PGK), Frank Polizzi (PGK), John Maloney Sr. (PGK), Howard McCarty, Rick Norman, Bob Leo (PGK), P.J. Carter (PGK) Larry Birzer, Dewayne Klutz and Frank Sharp.

Brother Peter Sukanek (PSD and State Ceremonial Chairman) was the Conferring Officer for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplification assisted by Worthy District Master Jerry Schmuck (PSD), DD4 Dave Viger (PGK), Frank Polizzi (PGK) and Howard McCarty.

Brothers Ed Shamp and John Bennett (PGK) prepared a delicious meal that was shared by all during a break in-between the two Exemplifications.

State Dignitaries present observing the Exemplifications included: WSS Philip Jabour (SD-elect), WST Mike "Where Was The Toothbrush Invented" Kassouf (SS-elect), WI-PSD Jim McCraw and DD #5 Craig Harrell.



**Meridian 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Team and newest 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Knights**  
Front (L-R): Frank Polizzi (PGK), Howard McCarty, DD4 Dave Viger (PGK), Bob Leo (PGK), Tom Zettler (PSD), Joe Hosh (PGK). Back (L-R) John Maloney Sr. (PGK), WFN Sal Moreno, Gary Dove, Austin Espino, Noah Graham, Jon Graham, Charles Frazier, Marty McCann, Lindsay "Gabe" Ga-

## Pictures from the 144th Mississippi Knights of Columbus State Convention

### Registration



### 4th Degree Meeting



### Friday Evening Social





Saturday Meetings



Saturday Formal Dinner

