



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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2017-2018 State Deputy's Report

Your Excellencies, Worthy State Chaplain, Reverend Fathers, Worthy Supreme Representative, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Past State Deputies, Worthy District Deputies, Brother Knights all as come down to the last couple of months of my final term I pause to reflect over the last two years. Time has flown by and I can truly say that, so far, we have had two highly productive fraternal years. Our second trip to New Haven, in June, was so much more enjoyable and

informative. Patty and I were much more relaxed knew fully what the expectations were. Our familiarity with the process took nothing away from the awe one feels when standing in the basement of St. Mary's church the site of the very first Knights of Columbus meeting. It is hard to put into words, the feeling that comes over you. We followed that trip with a highly successful Supreme Convention in St. Louis Mo. Pride overwhelmed us as we accepted the Circle of Honor award for the second year in a row. Mississippi is now being noticed, fully, in New Haven.

When we first started this journey my slogan was "It IS about the numbers". I explained to you that it wasn't about the "quota numbers" but it was about evangelization numbers. Evangelizing as many 18 year old Catholic men as we possibly could recruit and if that lead to quotas and awards then so be it and my Brothers you answered. I challenged to accomplish something that had never been done before, in Mississippi. Circle of Honor two years in a row by two different State Deputies and you responded. I challenged you to another first. Circle of Honor three years in a row and my Brothers we have a hill to climb but I think we can do it. We have lowered the average age of Knights in Mississippi significantly. Your acceptance and assistance with the high school/college recruitment program has made this possible. We formed two new Councils one in each of my terms. Fr. Peter Quinn Council, 16763 in Hattiesburg and Fr. Herbert Mullin Council, 16992 in Biloxi. Thanks goes out to the Pastors of those Parishes, Immediate Past State Deputy, Jim McCraw, State Membership Director Bryan Cassagne, District Deputies, Dr. Bill Jarrett, David Seymour and the Brother Knights of these two Councils for making this happen. We have seen three new ultrasound machine placed. One in Picayune, one in Oxford, in Vicksburg and we are currently working on plans for a fourth in Columbus. All in all it's been a extremely rewarding two years. The only regret I have, my Brothers, is that due to my job and family health issues I couldn't visit as many of your Councils as would have liked. I thank the rest of the State Officers and District Master, Jerry Schmuck, PSD for picking up the slack for me.

As we move closer to my final month, I take a look down the table at the Brother Knights that will be leading the State in the near future. State Secretary Philip Jabour: there is no more compassionate Knight in the Mississippi Jurisdiction and if elected he will govern as such. State Treasurer Mike Kassouf: there no more procedurally knowledgeable Knight in Mississippi and

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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.

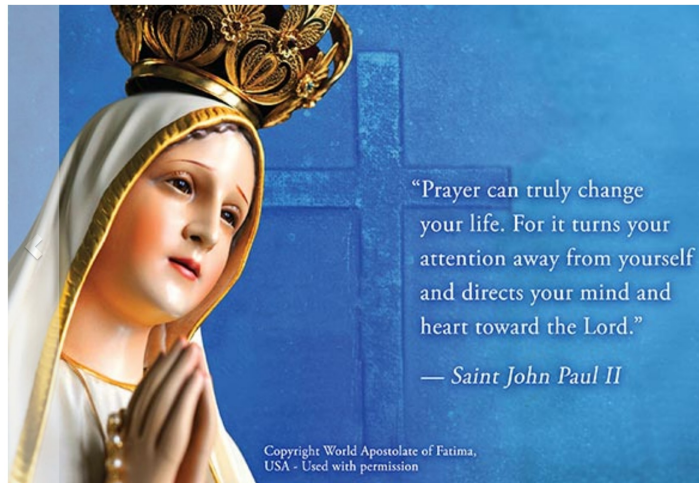
Evangelization is also clearly central to the pontificate of Pope Francis, who penned *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). He speaks of the urgency of this mission and calls each one of us and our parishes and church institutions to “missionary conversion” (30). He challenges bishops and priests 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.



FAMILY ROSARY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

As a part of the Building the Domestic Church initiative, we are happy to announce that the 5th Sunday Rosary Program will now be known as the Family Rosary program.

The Family Rosary Program, encourages councils to schedule rosary prayer services on any day of the week, at any time of the year, with the pastor's permission. When planning a Rosary prayer service councils should personally invite each family of the parish, and offer each attending family a copy of Catholic Information Service's *A Scriptural Rosary for the Family* (#319). Encourage families to read it and learn how their faith can be strengthened through a devotion to Our Lady, while praying at home regularly as a family.

Resources are available as part of the Family Rosary Program, including a Family Rosary Kit (#SR-Kit), which includes 25 finger rosaries, brochures on praying the rosary and copies of the Scriptural Rosary for the Family (#319), along with a promotional poster to help draw more parishioners to the event. Participants may also use their own rosaries, and Knights are encouraged to use the rosaries that they received during their First Degree. Councils interested in ordering additional rosaries or rosary rings, and booklets- are encouraged to visit knightsgear.com

Action Steps

To organize a successful Family Rosary program in your parish, the council should:

Order the Knights of Columbus Family Rosary program Kit (#SR-Kit) using the order form. You can also use the order form in the forms section of the website, or call the Department of Fraternal Mission at 203-752-4270.

Contact your local pastor to obtain permission to conduct a Rosary service following Mass.

Provide a sign-up sheet in the parish bulletin board for parishioners to sign up to participate in the rosary service. This will allow you to determine the interest level.

Build public interest. Use the sample press release that is on the website as a sample, to present it to the newspapers and the radio stations in your community. When sending the press release use your council letterhead. Deliver or send it, along with clip art logos, to the editors of both.

Report your activities to the Supreme Council with the Family Rosary Report form (#10243), and the Columbian Award Application (SP-7).

FOURTH DEGREE PROGRAMS



The Knights of Columbus has established a new scholarship program to help fund the education of seminarians preparing to become Catholic chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The program will distribute \$1 million in scholarship money to the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, over a period of five

years at a rate of \$200,000 per year. These funds, in turn, will help produce a new generation of much-needed Catholic chaplains to minister to U.S. military personnel and their families. Fundraising for the Orderwide project will be led by the Fourth Degree, the patriotic degree of the Knights.

The idea for the scholarship developed during Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson's recent visit to the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. While watching flight-qualifier tests with an assistant secretary of the U.S. Navy, the supreme knight had the opportunity to think about Catholics in uniform and the hardship they face of having to go weeks — and sometimes months — without being able to attend Mass or receive spiritual guidance from a priest.

"It can be very difficult for Catholic members of the armed forces when they're on forward deployments," Anderson said. "The U.S. military archdiocese, which supplies Catholic chaplains, estimates that it needs 800 priests to fully serve all of the Catholic men and women in uniform today, but they are only able to supply 280 — barely a third of the number needed."

The military chaplain scholarship aims to provide a solution to this problem. According to Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, the scholarship money will be dedicated to the archdiocese's "Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program," which was initiated to recruit priestly vocations for the military for the benefit of the armed forces as well as participating dioceses and religious orders throughout the country. Through this program, the military archdiocese contracts with each participating diocese to fund 50 percent of the cost of a seminarian's five-year education — typically \$12,500 per year. In return, the candidate agrees that, following ordination and three years of service at a parish, he will commit to serve as a military chaplain under the auspices of the military archdiocese for a minimum of three to five years.

So far, the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program has seen impressive results. Since its inception, the initiative has garnered an increase in co-sponsored seminarians, from seven in 2008 to 30 in 2010.

"These results, while extraordinary, place a large financial burden on the archdiocese, which annually generates only enough funds — 95 percent from donations — to cover its operating costs," said Archbishop Broglio, who joined the Order in 2007 while serving as the apostolic nuncio of the Dominican Republic. "The archdiocese has no funds on hand to meet the long-term contractual commitments of the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, especially if, as it is hoped, the numbers continue to grow."

Through this new scholarship, the Order, too, hopes to ensure the future development of the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program.

"Thanks to the generosity of the Knights of Columbus, this military chaplain scholarship will help fill this need for years to come," Broglio added. "The Knights of Columbus, over many years, has been most generous in providing much-needed financial support to this archdiocese.... [This] is but the latest instance of the organization's generosity. For that, I am most grateful."

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will be a great sounding board for the State Deputy. State Advocate Raul "Roy" Gamez: with Roy's military background, he fears no task and will work diligently to improve our State. State Warden, Guy Heying: his organizational skills are hard to match and his willingness to play "Devil's Advocate" will prove invaluable to this leadership team. As far as electing a new State Officer, I have all the confidence in the world that you, my Brother Knights, will continue to choose the proper man for the job.

My most worthy Brothers let me leave you with one last idea. It is my concept of evangelization. Many of you may not agree with me and that's ok. I have heard many times over the years that we should recruit only quality Knights. I ask you, My Brothers, are quality Knights recruited or are they developed? When the great Christopher Columbus brought the missionaries to the new world, were they looking for quality Christians or did they evangelize all that would accept the word and then develop them into quality Christians. I submit to you, my Brothers, that we evangelize all that are willing to accept the Knights challenge of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism then develop them into quality Knights. In my opinion and this is only my opinion, the job of the Admissions Committee is not to cull out the lesser Knights but to inform each and every candidate of what will be expected of them as a Knight.

In closing I would like to thank Bishops Kihneman and Kopacz for their full support of the Knights. Thanks to State Chaplain, Fr. Scott Thomas and Auxiliary State Chaplain Fr. Adam Urbaniak for their prayers and support. Thanks goes out to our Supreme MPC's Joe Ramirez and Dave Tebo, your coaching has been invaluable. Thanks to all the Past State Deputies especially Larry Tabor, Danny Lechner, Jerry Schmuck and Jim McCraw for your mentorship. Thank you to my fellow State Officers (Jim, Philip, Mike, Roy & Guy), Directors (Bryan & Kenny), Chairmen and especially the District Deputies. You have made it a pleasure. A big thank you to all the Grand Knights and Brother Knights that made the past two years possible. A special thanks to my original Council 9094, D'Iberville, my adopted Council 1244, Biloxi and my new Council 16992, Biloxi for your special support. Last but not least thank you to my family and lovely wife, Patty. Our wives sacrifice a great deal for us and we owe them, big time.

VIVAT JESUS!!

Respectfully submitted



State Deputy

New Council formed in Biloxi

March 29th 2018 marks the Charter Date for the Fr. Herbert Mullin Council #16992 in St. Michael's Parish, Biloxi. It also happens to be Knights of Columbus, Founder's Day. The Council was formed, primarily, with Brother Knights from Council 1244 in Biloxi and Council 9094 in D'Iberville. There are also Knights transferring from Councils 5654 and 10499 in Ocean Springs. Eight new Knights also joined the order to help form the new Council. Pictured above (L to R) are Interim Grand Knight of Council 16992, Jimmy Smith, State Deputy (and member of 16992), Noel Aucoin and Grand Knight, David Hill. Thursday night, May 17th Grand Knight Hill presented Smith & Aucoin with a full set of Council jewels. This will save the new Council over \$200. This is nothing new for Council 1244. They are responsible for forming many gulf coast councils during their years of existence. Thank you to GK Hill, Financial Secretary, Jerry Rose and the rest of the Council for the generous donation.



Warriors to Lourdes



It is very easy to lose faith or suffer both physically and spiritually, but the healing we have enjoyed, both during our trip to Lourdes and since returning, is something that I wish we could share with all of our fellow service members, particularly those in suffering. — Jonathan A., Marine Corps, Warrior Pilgrim 2017 (Photo credit: Tamino Petelinsek)

Dear Brother Knight,

More than 200 active duty and veteran military personnel are journeying to France this week as part of the annual [Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage](#), organized by the [Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA](#), and supported by the Knights of Columbus. This event, held in conjunction with the annual International Military Pilgrimage, will draw tens of thousands of troops, veterans and others from around the world to the famous shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We welcome you to be a part of this experience, from the Candlelight Vigil to the Marian Procession to the video testimonials shared by those whose attendance has been made possible in no small part by the generous contributions of our Knights.

Be sure to visit our [official website](#) daily and follow hashtag **#WarriorstoLourdes** on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) channels.

For a glimpse into the week to come, check out the latest video in our Everyday Heroes series, Warrior for Christ.



1st Sgt. Sompaul Vorapanich of the U.S. Army Special Force became a Knight during his deployment in Afghanistan and this year helps lead our pilgrims in Lourdes. [Warrior for Christ](#) shares his personal testimony to the power of prayer and brotherhood.

Additional [details](#) and information on [donating](#) are both available at the WTL 2018 [official pilgrimage site](#).

Family of the Month

I would like to congratulate the (3) Families that were picked by Supreme for the Month of April 2018.

Randal Jansen Council 848

Mark Mc Millan Council 4898

Kelvin Schulz Council 16433

Thanks to the (20) Councils that took the time to submit a Family.

802, 848*, 898, 1244, 1583, 2180, 2134, 4472, 4898*, 5654, 8038, 8054, 9094, 9124, 9543, 10443, 11995, 14051, 15155, 16433*,

As always if your Council is not listed please let me know, if you turned in a Family with the name of the Family.

If you have not been turning in a Family please try and start, it only takes 5 minutes after Your Pastor or the council give you a name.

Carl Brochard
Mississippi KC family Director
broch57@bellsouth.net

Council 8285, St. Therese Jackson

Council 8285, St. Therese Jackson, presented key ring tape measures emblazoned with "Women of Faith Give without Measure" to women of the parish after masses May 12-13. Brothers Giovanni Altamirano (pic 1) and Ruben Delgado (pic 2) helped with the project.



Giovanni Altamirano



Ruben Delgado

Meridian's Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802 Hosts 2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplifications (DD4 David Viger (PGK))

On Saturday, May 5, 2018, Meridian's Msgr. John J. Burns Council 802 hosted 2nd (Formation) and 3rd (Knighthood) Degree Exemplifications at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Meridian. The Honorees for the 2nd Degree were Father Matthew Simmons and Father Jose' De Jesus Sanchez, Pastor and Associate Pastor, of the Meridian Catholic Community. The Honoree for the 3rd 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 2nd and 3rd Degree. Brother Charles Frazier (Council 802) also received honors in the 2nd Degree.

The Council 802 2nd Degree Team, led by Brother Tom Zettler (PSD), did a tremendous job during the Exemplification and earned their formal certification as a 2nd Degree Team for District #4 of the Mississippi Jurisdiction. 2nd 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 3rd 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 2nd Degree Team and newest 2nd Degree Knights
Front (L-R): Frank Polizzi (PGK), Howard McCarty, DD4 Dave Viger (PGK), Bob Leo (PGK), Tom Zettler (PSD), Joe Hosch (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" Gabriel, Larry Birzer, Dewayne Klutz and Frank Sharp

Council 10901, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Members of Knights of Columbus Council 10901, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Oxford, presented red roses to all mothers on Mother's Day as they left Mass on Sunday, May 13th. A tradition that honors the contributions and faithfulness of our mothers to their Church, Parish, family and community, the Knights have annually participated in this traditional celebration by presenting the flowers.

The tradition of a special day for mothers is carried out in many different traditions throughout the world. Mother's Day, as it is usually called, is also celebrated on different days throughout the calendar year. In the United States, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

Regardless the date or country, Mother's Day celebrations reflect a country's religious and/or cultural views, and recognizes the important function of motherhood. All remembrances and traditions have one thing in common: giving honor and thanks to the Mother as the most important person in everyone's lives.



Tara Luber, Director of the Parish School of Religion, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Oxford (right) receives a red rose from Peter Sukanek (left), a former Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council 10901 at St. John who now serves on the Council's Board of Directors. Knights of Columbus Councils take part in this annual event throughout the United States which carries on a centuries old tradition to honor Mothers on a special day. (Photo, Gene Buglewicz)

Special Olympics Mississippi (SOMS).



State Deputy Noel Aucoin presents a check to the Executive Director of Special Olympics Mississippi Monica Daniels from money raised by the People With Intellectual Disabilities drive

St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery in Saltillo, MS

Sir Knights (L-R) Marcel Crudele, Joe Torrent, and Mark Dye place US Flags on Veterans graves at St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery in Saltillo, MS for Memorial Day 2018. All three are Veterans themselves and are members of Father Clarence J. Meyer Assembly 2131, Tupelo, MS. Photo was taken by FN Steve Sevier.



St. Alphonsus Assembly 2059



On May 12, St. Alphonsus Assembly hosted a 4th degree exemplification for 7 new Sir Knights, including a priest. Congratulations to the new Knights

St Richard Men's Club & Council 15131

St Richard Men's Club held their 10th annual Flight for Life 5 K to raise money for our school, on May 5th. Council 15131 was on hand to cook and serve hots as well as to participate.

Council 15131 Warden, and sponsor, Chris Champagne won the silver medal in the Male 45-49 age group. Good job brother.



St. Richard Council 15131 held a admission degree on 5-17-18.



Picture L-R Backrow-- Dave Fisher FN #554, Louis Clifford DGK, Raymond Spratley, Chris Lombard.
L-R Frontrow-- Harold Hardin FS, Dickens Fournet newest member, Robert Munroe GK, Chris Lombard.

Special Olympics at Keesler Air Force Base.

On May 11, Sir Knights from multiple assemblies gathered during the opening ceremonies to honor the athletes for the Special Olympics of Mississippi held at Keesler Air Force Base Mississippi.

