



*"Strengthening
Catholic Families."*

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Council News

The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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From the desk of the State Deputy, Philip Jabour



Brother Knights,

We have lost Bishop Howze recently. He was the first Bishop of the Biloxi Diocese after it split off from the Jackson Diocese. He was also the first Black Bishop in the United States. Bishop Howze was 95 when he passed away. I had met him a couple of times, but I did not know him well. But I know he worked hard for the Catholics in Mississippi. May he rest in peace.

We also lost Field Agent Jody Knight. He worked in the Southern part of the Mississippi and went up to Hattiesburg and Laurel. I have known Jody for several years. He worked hard as a Field

Agent and went above and beyond to serve his brother Knights. Jody was a good man and a great Knight. I attended his funeral and the Church was packed. That was a reflection of how many lives he had touched over the years. My condolences to his family.

I got my Columbia Magazine this month. There was an article about us delivering our 1,000th ultrasound machine recently. We began the program 10 years ago. I was invited to a ribbon cutting in Oxford several months back. PSD Jim McCraw and I drove up for the ceremony. I was overwhelmed by the gratitude at the Oxford Pregnancy crisis center. The Knights and the Oxford Parish are heavily involved with the Center. Father Tonos supports it and was there for the ribbon cutting. These machines save lives. The Knights have done studies and when a pregnant woman sees her child on the screen, a large number of these women decide not to abort their child. These 1,000 machines have saved countless babies lives. Thanks to all the Knights that have worked to place these machines in Miss. We would like to place more. If you have an opportunity to place one, let Dennis Riecke know.

We did our Midwinter meetings in January. Thanks for coming. I enjoyed seeing everyone. And hopefully, we gave you good information to take back to your Council.

We are about 90 days out from our yearly State Convention. Please elect delegates and then go to the State website to list them. We also need you to go to the Necrology on the State website, to list any Knight from your Council that passed away since the last Convention. We honor our brother Knights that have passed away at the Saturday Mass. We use the online Necrology list to compile our list for the Saturday Mass. So even if you notified SS, Mike Kassouf when the Brother died, you still need to use the Necrology on the website. Mike will be sending out reminders for the Convention, shortly.

We have done a good job with membership through December, but we were a few short of our 6-month goal. Please keep working on this and bring in our new Brothers. Take advantage of Emembership. It works.

My first six months as State Deputy, has been a whirlwind. Thanks for all that have helped us make the Mississippi Jurisdiction among the best. Now we just need to work hard to finish strong. Thanks for all that you do for the Knights.

Vivat Jesus Philip

Philip Jabour

State Deputy

Mississippi Jurisdiction Knights of Columbus

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE

Dear Brother Knight:

There have been times in our country's past when uninformed or prejudiced people questioned whether Catholics could be good citizens or honest public servants. That's why Father McGivney chose the name "Columbus" for our Order — because the discoverer was the Catholic figure from American history most admired and accepted at the time. In fact, from our founding in 1882, until the election of Brother Knight John F. Kennedy in 1960, many still held that Catholics were unfit for public office. Throughout that time, the Knights of Columbus worked to counter such prejudice.

Sadly, it seems that in some quarters, this prejudice remains.ⁱ First, in 2017 a Notre Dame law professor was deemed unfit for a federal judgeship by a United States Senator who feared that "the dogma lives loudly within you." Now, two more senators have questioned a Brother Knight's fitness for the federal bench precisely because our Order holds firm to the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life and marriage.

Such attacks on the basis of our Catholic faith are hardly new. The Knights of Columbus was formed amid a period of anti-Catholic bigotry. We stood against that then, and we do so now. We have spoken out against persecution around the world for nearly a century. At the same time, here at home we stood against the Ku Klux Klan, including its attempts to ban Catholic education, and we published books on the black and Jewish contributions to American history decades before the Civil Rights movement. More recently, we stood with the Little Sisters of the Poor in their fight for religious liberty and have worked with both the Obama and Trump administrations — and both sides of the aisle in Congress — to help Christians, Yazidis and Shi'a Muslims targeted for genocide by ISIS.

From our very beginning, the Knights of Columbus has been an organization adhering to the teachings of the Catholic Church. As with the Church, our primary motivation in everything is Christ's great commandment, that we love God completely and our neighbor as ourselves.

As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church explains, "Jesus Christ reveals to us that 'God is love' and He teaches us that 'the fundamental law of human perfection, and consequently of the transformation of the world, is the new commandment of love.'"ⁱⁱ

This love impels us to our great charitable endeavors on behalf of those in need. From inner cities in the United States to refugee camps in the Middle East our Order's donations over the last decade — more than one billion dollars and hundreds of millions of hours in volunteer work — are the result of this faith.

These works of charity have practical impacts that transform lives as we help people here at home and around the world. Our charity helped typhoon victims in the Philippines rebuild their lives and livelihoods; it brought prosthetics and rehabilitation to thousands of Haitian youth after the earthquake there; it puts coats on poor, cold children in some of our country's most impoverished neighborhoods each winter; it gives wheelchairs to those who otherwise could not afford them in countries like Vietnam and Mexico; and it provides education, housing and medical care to AIDS orphans in Africa.

This love also motivates us to stand with the Church on the important issues of life and marriage, precisely because the Church's teaching reflects and is based on that love. We stand with our Church because we believe that what our faith teaches is consistent with reason, is timeless and transcends the changing sentiments of any particular time or place.

We do not stand alone.

In his first message to our international convention, Pope Francis asked "each Knight, and every Council, to bear witness to the authentic nature of marriage and the family, the sanctity and inviolable dignity of human life, and the beauty and truth of human sexuality."

And our positions on life are not new. My two predecessors as supreme knight spoke out forcefully to defend the rights of the unborn. In 1973, Supreme Knight John McDevitt wrote that *Roe v. Wade* was "a mortal blow to all who consider human life sacred." He urged the Order to "to initiate or increase efforts to offset the harmful effects of this lamentable decision."

My immediate predecessor, Virgil Dechant, said in 1977: "With some 1.2 million unborn babies being killed by abortion each year in the United States alone, we are confronted with an outrage against human life paralleled only by the ravages of a bloody war."

Simply put, our positions are now, and have always been, Catholic positions.

We must remember that Article VI of the U. S. Constitution forbids a religious test for public office, and the First Amendment guarantees our free exercise of religion, freedom of association and freedom of speech. Any suggestion that the Order's adherence to the beliefs of the Catholic Church makes a Brother Knight unfit for public office blatantly violates those constitutional guarantees.

Let us continue to express our love of God and neighbor by helping those in need and by standing with our Church, regardless of the popularity of doing so. Let us remember that our "Christian witness is to be considered a fundamental obligation."ⁱⁱⁱ

Let us also remember that, from our founding, we have embodied the truth that a good Catholic is a good citizen who shows civility and dignity even in the face of prejudice.

As we begin 2019, Dorian and I wish you a new year filled with the joy and wonders of His love. Thank you as well for all the many ways in which you have brought joy into the lives of millions around the world. May the inspiration of our founder prompt us to greater confidence in that love and encourage us to even greater works of charity.

Fraternally,
Carl A. Anderson

i See the excellent historical study by historian Philip Jenkins, *The New Anti-Catholicism: The Last Acceptable Prejudice*, (Oxford University Press, 2003).

ii Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, (Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2005), no. 54.

iii Ibid., no. 570.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY



"The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws. . . . God himself is the author of marriage. The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution despite the many variations it may have undergone through the centuries in different cultures, social structures, and spiritual attitudes. These differences should not cause us to forget its common and permanent characteristics. Although the dignity of this institution is not transparent everywhere with the same

clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life." (Catechism, 1603).

The Knights of Columbus considers marriage to be the basic building block of every society. Not only does marriage perfect the human love between spouses, it is also the only institution ordained to the procreation and education of children. For these reasons, marriage is recognized in the Church as a sacrament, established by God with its own purpose, shared between Christ and His Bride, the Church. Marriage, according to the Catechism of the Church, "strengthens two partner's indissoluble unity, and sanctifies them on the way to eternal life (1661)."

The Knights of Columbus thus believes marriage's fundamental nature is a life-long, indissoluble union between a man and a woman tending toward the fruitful communion of their persons. Marriage is not a mere instrument for the individual self to seek satisfaction in matters pertaining to sex and romance. It involves the total self-giving act of love, revealed to humanity in the form of the Crucified Christ, and inscribed into the nature of the human person as his fundamental and innate vocation. Only through "the personal willingness of the spouses to share their entire life-project, what they have and what they are," does marriage obtain its fulfillment and perfection (*Familiaris Consortio*, 19). Children, the precious gift of marriage, are the living reflection of this married love and a permanent sign of the conjugal unity shared between husband and wife. It is no exaggeration, then, to say that marriage is of its very nature responsible for the existence and perpetuation of the Church and of civilization.

With this in mind, the Knights of Columbus confidently supports public policies designed to strengthen marriage and families, and opposes those that disregard its fundamental nature. Our Order reiterates, alongside the Church and all the major cultures of the world, the truth that marriage is not just any human relationship. It is an indispensable institution established by the Creator with its own essential properties, purpose, and nature, and that civil laws are unable to alter.

Death of a Brother Knight

When a Brother Knight is deceased the Grand Knight or Financial Secretary need to take the following steps to ensure proper timely removal from the roster as well as notifying the correct individuals.

1. Notify the Council Field Agent whether the deceased had insurance with the Knights of Columbus or not.
2. Go to Member Management and input date of death and next of kin.
 - a. This will cause a letter of condolence from our Supreme Knight as well enter their name for a perpetual Daily Mass for the repose of their soul at St. Mary's in New Haven.
3. Send an email to the current State Secretary with name of deceased and next of kin and he will send a Sympathy card from the State Council. The mailing address for next of kin will be retrieved from the entry at the Necrology Report.
4. Go to the state website and enter the following into the Necrology Report ([coming soon](#)).
 - a. Person entering
 - b. Name of Deceased
 - c. Date of Death
 - d. Next of Kin Name
 - e. Next of Kin Address

Keep in mind

If date of death is not reported within two weeks do not enter in Member Management, the next of kin as this would be embarrassing but do enter the deceased date. Also, do not forward next of kin to State Secretary if over two weeks as he will not send a card.

Card sample below

Front, 3rd and back page – 2nd page is blank to write a personal message.



Direct any questions to current State Secretary Mike Kassouf.

2019 MARCH FOR LIFE: STILL STRONG AFTER 40 YEARS

1/18/2019

By Rose Wagner

KNIGHTS JOIN HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS FOR 46TH YEAR OF DEFENDING LIFE

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson joins Knights of Columbus

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson joins Knights of Columbus member John Moore, who walked from New Mexico to the march carrying a pair of wooden crosses. Joining them are college Knights.

WASHINGTON — Supreme Knight Carl Anderson stood before the throngs of people assembled on the mall in Washington D.C. for this year's 46th national March for Life and delivered a message four decades in the making.

"Some of us have been coming back for more than 40 years now," he said. "But the really great news is that you, the pro-life generation, aren't going to wait that long! You won't have to wait that long to win justice for the unborn and compassionate care for their mothers.

"Why? Because of the progress we've made in rebuilding a culture of life."

One example of this progress is the fact the Knights of Columbus recently placed its 1,000th ultrasound in a crisis pregnancy center. Ultrasounds are a proven way of reducing abortion because many women opt to keep their babies when they see the fetus on the ultrasound.

The Knights, meanwhile, proudly displayed their commitment at the march as well. There, tens of thousands of Knights of Columbus "Love Life, Choose Life" signs were among the sea of signs and banners, and interspersed in the crowd were hundreds of K of C hats and ear warmers, helping ward off the cold in the snow-covered capital.

The Friday, Jan. 18 event began with a rally sponsored by the March for Life Education and Defense Fund under the theme "unique from day one." Supreme Knight Anderson spoke at the rally shortly after the airing of a video thanking the Knights of Columbus for their funding of 1,000 life-saving ultrasound machines.

Citing a recent Marist Poll commissioned by the Knights of Columbus in 2018, he said that 3 out of 4 Americans want substantial restrictions on abortion.

College Knights during the march.

College Knights during the march.

"That's 9 out of 10 Republicans, almost 8 out of 10 Independents and 6 out of 10 Democrats," the supreme knight said. "Standing for life is not radical. Overturning abortion is the majority position."

This majority position is a sign that Roe v. Wade will be reversed, he explained.

"I promise you this: The day is not far off when you will return, not for a demonstration, but for a victory parade down Pennsylvania Ave.! Together on that day we will celebrate the victory for faith and science — for both compassionate care and common sense."

In a surprise appearance, Vice President Mike Pence and his wife, Karen, also addressed the rally.

"We gather because we stand for life. We gather because we stand for compassion," the vice president said. "From the White House to your house, life is winning in America once again."

Pence's remarks were followed by a video message from President Donald Trump, who affirmed that "every life has meaning and every life is worth defending" and that "every child is a sacred gift from God."

The message that every life has meaning is central to the March for Life, which can be traced to grassroots efforts in the 1970's. Two years before her death, March for Life Founder Nellie Gray remembered the K of C involvement in these grassroots efforts, saying, "I received a call from [some] Knights of Columbus. I didn't even know who they were, but they explained their stance against abortion and needed a place to meet to discuss plans for a march. That place was my living room."

Eileen Vogel of Women Concerned for the Unborn Child in Pennsylvania was in Gray's living room during that meeting with Knights. Supreme Knight Anderson with college Knights

Supreme Knight Anderson with college Knights attending the march.

"I remember saying that it didn't matter how many people showed up," Vogel said. "If there were only 10 of us, history would have to record that there was a voice of protest against the killing of innocent babies."

As evidenced by this year's marching crowd, the peaceful voice of protest is still strong, even after 46 years. After the rally, said to be the largest to date in the march's 40 year history, the crowd grew in size, reaching hundreds of thousands, according to EWTN reporters at the event.

The Knights of Columbus have been at the forefront of March for Life since the first march in 1974. Knights put their pro-life beliefs into action with countless other pro-life programs, including the Ultrasound Initiative, Pregnancy Center Support, Special Olympics, Masses for People with Special Needs and so much more. Each shows the world that every person deserves the chance to be loved, to be welcomed and to live to his or her full potential.

Want to be part of our global pro-life efforts? Join us by visiting kofc.org/joinus. In closing, Supreme Knight Anderson challenged the crowd to keep working to end abortion.

"When you get back home," he said, "get to it."



St Richard Council 15131

Jackson- St Richard Council 15131 responds quickly to Catholic Charities request for Help. On December 31st Catholic Charities contacted State Deputy Philip Jabour with a urgent request. They had a large number of infant and toddler boys and girls without jackets for the winter. Two weeks later, PGK Robert Munroe and PGK and State Advocate Guy Heying from Council 15131, along with State Deputy Philip Jabour, presented 75 coats and jackets to Catholic Charities, enough to cover all the needs along with a few extra.



L-R: PGK Robert Munroe, State Deputy Philip Jabour, Bishop Kopacz, State Advocate Guy Heying, and COO Catholic Charities John Lunardini

Silver Rose, Council 10901

Council 10901 participated in the international devotional and pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of North America in late September. James Reid, Trustee for the Council, coordinated with other Councils as well as the devotional which begins with recitation of the Rosary. At the conclusion of the program, the Silver Rose was packed in its special transport box, and staying within the custom of the Rose not remaining in one location for more than 24 hours, was given to Council Member Gene Buglewicz who was traveling to Clinton, MS, the next morning. There the Silver Rose was passed to Larry Moeller of Council 10216 who was taking the Rose to its next devotional location.

Interestingly, Larry Moeller and Gene Buglewicz were friends and neighbors from Vicksburg and had not seen each other for at least 10 years. Larry and his wife had moved to Flowood, MS and Gene and his wife had moved to Water Valley so they had not seen each other since that time. After spending a few minutes catching up on family and friends, Larry departed the parking lot to deliver the Silver Rose to his Council and Gene and his wife departed for Water Valley.

As the Silver Rose passes from Council to Council on its journey throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico, this scene is repeated over and over again as old friends from different Councils and bound by the Knights of Columbus and brotherhood, sometimes from different countries, meet to pass on a representation of our common faith and adoration of Our Lady of Guadalupe to commemorate the miracle of the Silver Rose. Council 10901 is proud to play a part in this international devotional to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Larry Moeller, from Council 10216, Flowood, receives the traveling case that carries the Silver Rose carried by Gene Buglewicz, Council 10901, Oxford. Council 10216 was having their devotional honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe later that afternoon. After Council 10216's devotional, a representative will again carry the Silver Rose to yet another Council for their devotional, and so on until the Silver Rose reaches the end of its journey at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey Mexico in early December.



The Silver Rose, the centerpiece of the international devotional and pilgrimage honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of North America.



James Reid, coordinator for the devotional in Council 10901, Oxford, begins the devotional with a recitation of the Rosary in the Knights of Columbus meeting room at St. John the Evangelist, Oxford..



Larry Moeller, from Council 10216, Flowood, receives the traveling case that carries the Silver Rose carried by Gene Buglewicz,

St. Mary council #9124 in Gautier

Our free throw contest was sponsored by St. Mary council #9124 in Gautier, Ms., on 19 Jan, 2019. The event was well attended and everyone had a good time. Looking forward to advancing the winners to next weeks District competition being held next Saturday 26 Jan., 2019 in the same location.



Phantom Award

St. Mary Catholic Church, Woolmarket, is fortunate to have dedicated Knights to support “getting things done” around the church and for the council. Two Knights in particular have well-served the parish and council. Council 9673 presented the “Phantom Award” to Financial Secretary Bill Fessler and Past Grand Knight John Cruso. When called, Bill and John are first to show-up and last to leave. At other times you may never see them but you realize they’ve been there by all the work that got done.



Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God, January 1, 2019

On New Year’s Day, the Knights of Columbus Council 9673 led a rosary before Mass, followed by a gumbo brunch. The council was uncertain of how many would attend. They guessed 30, cooked for 40, and had 95 attending. Several Knights contributed side dishes to complete the brunch.

“Everyone was served, down to the last drop of gumbo,” said Patrick Chubb. “When we ran short on rice, we used French bread.”

This tradition honoring our Holy Mother is certain to continue. It’s part of our council’s Faith and Family programs, and we urge other councils to do the same for their parish



Council #9124 St. Mary Gautier

The Knights of Columbus held its annual District Free Throw competition playoff today 26 Jan, 2019 sponsored by Council #9124 St. Mary Gautier and Council #5654 St. Al’s Ocean Springs. The winners below will move on to the Knights State competition 9 March, starting 9am at St Alphonse’s gym. If you need more information contact the local Knights of Columbus Grand Knight in your Church.



From L to R...Alyssa Sinopoli, Olivia Karcher, Abby Futch, George Zorn III, Nathan Rimmer, Aidan Thomas Furlan, Andrew Lowery, Will Karcher

Bishop R.O Gerow Council #1034

Attached are pictures of Bishop R.O Gerow Council #1034, Natchez working with the youth of St. Mary's and Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center in their annual Display. The Crosse are set up on the bluff Jan. 13th and there will be a Memorial Vigil Jan 22, 2019 at the Grand Hotel.



Knights of Columbus Council 10901

Knights of Columbus Council 10901 distributed 24 winter coats to representatives of the Child Protective Service, State of Mississippi case workers, in November. The coats were delivered to children under the care of foster parents by the Child Protective Service.

Coats for Kids is a national Knights of Columbus program begun in 2009 to provide winter coats to children whose parents could not afford them. Over 500,000 coats have been distributed to needy children in the US and Canada since the beginning of the program.

Funds are raised through Knights of Columbus fund-raisers and those funds used to purchase new coats. Local organizations are contacted to determine the need for coats for children they serve. The Knights have distributed coats to schools and other organizations such as the Child Protective Service since the initiation of the program. This year, Child Protective Services indicated a need for children's coats which were delivered to their office.

The 2018 Coats for Kids Program was under the direction of Jim Wilkinson, co-Director of the Community Committee of Council 10901 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Oxford.



From left to right, Jim Wilkinson, Co-Director of the Community Committee and organizer of the 2018 Coats for Kids Program, Jennifer Crandle, Lynette Williams and Courtney Hubbard of the Child Protective Service, Lafayette County, and Albert Ruiz, Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus Council 10901.

Council 10901 Oxford

For the past 11 years, Knights of Columbus Council 10901 has held its monthly Council Meetings on the second floor of the Administration Building on the campus of St. John the Evangelist, Oxford. With the expanding University of Mississippi student and Oxford/Lafayette County populations, it soon became obvious more room was necessary in the "new" Church constructed in 2010.

Construction on a new addition started in 2017, and using the basic footprint of the former Church, the Narthex was extended 17 feet, adding an additional 200 seats to the Church. Under the Narthex on the ground floor, two large meeting rooms were developed, one of which was designated as the Knights of Columbus Meeting Room.

The new meeting room is almost twice as large as the former meeting room and can seat approximately 30 Knights.

Council 10901 held its first meeting in the new facility on November 8th. Although there are some housekeeping changes that must be made, there were plenty of chairs and room to comfortably hold the 24 Knights who attended that first meeting.

Special guests were Father Scott Thomas, Pastor of Clarksdale St. Elizabeth, and Knights of Columbus Mississippi State Chaplain, and Jacob Eftink, the District Deputy and a member of Council 10901.

A bonus to this first evening was the initiation of the first two new Knights initiated in our new Council Room, Ryan Yates and Rogelio Vazquez both of Oxford.

Brother Knights visiting Oxford are welcome to attend our meetings the second Thursday of the month. Rosary starts at 7:15 p.m., with the business meeting starting at 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO 1. Grand Knight Albert Ruiz (right) gaveling the first meeting of the Knights of Columbus Council 10901 in their new meeting room in the new addition to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Special guests included Fr. Scott Thomas, Mississippi Knights of Columbus Chaplain and Pastor of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Clarksdale (center) and Jacob Eftink, District Deputy (left), sat at the head table with the Grand Knight.

PHOTO 2. Knights attending the first meeting of Knights of Columbus Council 10901's new meeting room on the first floor of the new addition to the St. John the Evangelist Church. Twenty-four Knights were in attendance for this first meeting.

PHOTO 3. Fr. Scott Thomas, State Chaplain and Pastor of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Clarksdale, congratulates the Knights on their new meeting room. Fr. Thomas emphasized the importance and beauty of the Knights' Degree ceremonies. (Photo, Gene Buglewicz)

PHOTO 4. As a bonus to the first meeting in the new meeting room was the initiation of two Knights into Council 10901. The Knights are (left to right) Rogelio Vazquez and Ryan Yates, both from Oxford. (Photo, Gene Buglewicz)