



2021/2022 State Officers

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State Deputy Message



Ordinary Time

Hello Brother Knights,

Since my last newsletter, everyone has had an opportunity to attend a Mid-Winter meeting in their area and get the lay of the land from the State as to where their council stands and what is coming up to prepare for the State Convention.

Liturgically, February is a month in “Ordinary Time,” which started after the Epiphany of the Lord. I hope that each of you has developed a new perspective on your importance to the church and your community, and that you will use this month to prepare your councils for the upcoming State Convention, while preparing yourselves for the coming Lenten Season, which starts in March.

I further hope that the continuing threat of COVID hasn’t kept your Council from supporting your church and community, as our Blessed Father McGivney has asked of us. If you need help or have questions, we stand ready to assist you. You just need to ask.

In closing, I hope that you had a safe and joyous holiday. We need your strength and input to make things work. It is only through participating in council events that we can feel true fraternity with your fellow members.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus,

Roy Gamez
State Deputy Mississippi Jurisdiction



This is a speech given at one of the mid-winter meetings by State Deputy Executive Secretary Robert Barr:

I want to take a few minutes today to talk with you about a young man who went out of his comfort zone to help change the world a bit.

This story started many years ago, but in many ways it is a story that can be tied to any age. There are always those who look down on a group or person and because of their own issues try to make that person or group into a pariah in society.

In 1879, it was the waves of Catholics emigrating in from Europe that caught the eye of many. These immigrants often faced bigotry, exclusion, and uncharitable situations in American society. They often had to work in jobs that were dangerous and less desirable.

On August 12, 1852, Blessed Michael J. McGivney was born into such a family. He was the oldest in a family of thirteen, of which only seven would survive their childhood. He completed his primary education at thirteen and then worked in factories for a few years to help his family before he pursued his calling to the priesthood. Unfortunately, Father McGivney's father passed away while he was in the seminary, and he had to return home to support his family once again.





How many times in our own lives have we had tragedies or issues that came up that have kept us from moving forward and using our own personal talents to do more than the 9 to 5 standard of living? We all have our Comfort Zone. We feel we deserve it. We worked hard and now it is time for our self. But what is self? Are we allotted only a certain number breaths, actions, thoughts, per day?

Now Father McGivney's story could have ended when he returned to help support his family, but his calling was strong and with the help of the Bishop of Hartford, Connecticut he returned to complete his studies and was ordained on December 2, 1877. Once a Priest, Father McGivney realized that there were many in his congregation who had similar problems to what he experienced during his youth. Asking a group of men in his parish to step out of their comfort zones he help found the Widows and Orphans Fund that would later become the insurance program the Knights of Columbus enjoys today, but I doubt he stopped there. I am sure that he asked the women of the parish to help with projects, too.

We all have comfort zones and abilities. If we could all learn to expand our comfort zone to include more Faith, Family, Life, and Community actions in our daily lives, we would we do the work of Christ and maybe feel a little better about ourselves each day.

February 2022

State Deputy Calendar

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Fraternal Benefits Advisors

The holidays are behind us. Is your family prepared for the loss of a bread winner or a family member? Do you know who to notify or call for assistance? What bout understanding the benefits that may apply to your survivors? You have insurance for your home and car, and you should do the same for your income.



Your KC Fraternal Benefit advisors stand ready to assist you in developing a plan that will assist you in your time of need. They are also stand ready to help when the need arises. Call and set up an appointment to discuss your current or changing need. They are there to assist all of us.

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Alex.goff@kofc.org
13145 forts Lake Rd, Moss Point MS 39562
Field Agent (228) 219-8181



Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild

Are you a member of the McGivney Guild? If you are I say thank you for your membership. If you are not I can't help but wonder why. There is no cost to become a member and the sole function of the Guild is to serve as a source of information about the life, works and spirituality of our Founder.

Pope Francis approved a decree for a miracle attributed to his intercession, opening the way for Father McGivney beatification on Oct. 31, 2020. A second miracle, after the date of his Beatification, must be approved before he can be canonized as a saint of the Catholic Church.

Father McGivney died of pneumonia at the age of 38 during an outbreak of the Russian flu. So today, as you pray a rosary for your family or friends, consider inviting Blessed Father McGivney to pray the rosary with you. This method of praying is based on our Lady's promise that devotees of the Rosary will have for its intercessor the entire heavenly court.

Please consider becoming a member of the Blessed Michael McGivney guild and pray for a second miracle for use in his canonization as a saint. This is the link for joining the guild <https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/ssl-join-the-guild.html>

Family of the Month



All FOM reports to Supreme must be submitted by the 15th of each month to be eligible for their monthly drawings. Please remember that all Family of the Month submissions will only be accepted through online submissions made through the **Fraternal Programs Report Form (#10784)** beginning this fraternal year (**Tutorial video** link for training).

What to consider in the search for the "Family of the Month"?

- Is the family tight-knit? Does the family spend quality time together?
- Does the family attend weekly Mass together? Does the family pray together outside of Mass?
- Has the family made significant contributions to the parish and church community?
- Does the family serve as a model of Catholic family values?
- Does the family spend its time together interacting instead of in front of the television set?
- Six of 12 Families chosen can be non-KC member families. The other six must be KC.
- Family of the Year submission must be a KC Family.

Faith in Action Programs

Reports coming up:

- Semi-Annual Survey (1295-2) – February 15th
- Family of the Month (10787) – February 15th



State Convention Minutes Archive

Announcing the creation of the Robert Fratesi State Convention Minutes Archive

Past State Deputy Robert Fratesi, Council 2134 Greenville, faithfully preserved convention minute books over four decades. He transferred them to the State to post on the state website. He passed away in April 2019 so did not see the result of his diligent archival work. The Knights of Columbus of the Mississippi Jurisdiction will be forever grateful to Brother Fratesi for maintaining this record of our work.

The archive can be accessed here: <https://www.kofc-ms.org/convention/minutes.php> Access it from the front page of the state website using the "About Us/Archive" menu path. It currently contains minutes between 1971 and 2017. If you have hard copy or pdf versions of minutes not currently available in the archive that you'd like to donate, please let me know. You can contact me here: webmaster@kofc-ms.org or 601.259.7926

“Knights on Bikes”



CALLING ALL CATHOLIC BIKERS!

We're looking to increase the membership of our new Mississippi Knights on Bikes group! If you ride a motorcycle and are a member in good standing with your council we want you to join us! No annual dues, just a brotherhood of fellow Catholic men who like to ride!

Message me and I'll email a Membership Application!




Leonard Temple
leonard.temple@gmail.com



Look ahead

March 2022

State Deputy Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tues day	Wednesday	Thurs day	Friday	Saturday																																										
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Convention check list

- ☐ All form 100's submitted to Supreme
- ☐ All Per Capita Payments for State and Supreme are current
- ☐ Submit the SP-7 report

Convention Registration Site:

- ☐ Best Activity forms completed and submitted
- ☐ Best Vocations Project Form submitted
- ☐ Best Council write-up completed and submitted
- ☐ Family of the Year form completed and submitted
- ☐ Knight of the Year form completed and submitted
- ☐ Convention registration complete (including the Ladies' Luncheon!!)
- ☐ Convention Ad placed by Council/Assembly/Ladies Auxiliary/Squires Circle
- ☐ Delegate slips filled out, printed and sealed by the Financial Secretary
- ☐ Charitable Donations Submitted

Council Programs and Necrology Reporting:

- ☐ All programs recorded in the State Programs Report Database
- ☐ Necrology form filled out and submitted

Convention Officer Reports

- ☐ GK, DD, State Chairman and State Officer reports submitted to State Secretary stsecretary@kofc-ms.org

Star Council Requirements:

- Submit Annual Fraternal Survey (1728 Report)
- Submit Service Program Personnel (365 Report)
- Satisfy Columbian Award Requirements
 - 4 Programs in Faith; Family; Community; and Life
- Satisfy Father McGivney Award Requirements
 - Achieve Assigned Council Membership Growth Quota
- Satisfy Founder's Award Requirements
 - Achieve Assigned Insurance Quota or Participate in Two Fraternal Benefit Seminars (Form 11077)



Columbian Award (SP-7) Requirements:

- Four Programs in each of the Four Program Areas
- Featured Programs Still Count as Two Activities
 - **Faith:** RSVP; Holy Hour; Into the Breach; and Spiritual Reflection
 - **Family:** Food for Families; Family of the Month/Year: Family Fully Alive; and Family Prayer Night
 - **Community:** Coats for Kids; Wheelchair Mission; Habitat for Humanity; and Leave No Neighbor Behind
 - **Life:** March for Life; Special Olympics; Pregnancy Center Support; and Ultrasound
- Update Council's DB in the State's Activities DB

Father McGivney Award Membership Goals:

- Achieve Assigned Council Membership Growth Quota
 - Top Gun Councils have Achieved Double Growth
- State Membership Directors
 - Northern MS Dir. – Aaron Achord
 - Southern Membership Dir.- Charles Heim
- Online/In Person Degree Ceremonial Resources
 - <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/ceremonials.html?1tab=1tab1>
- Membership Drives
 - New Members; Former Member Reinstatement; RCIA Members, Graduating 18 Year Olds
- Retention Goals
 - Set up a Retention Team – GK & Trustees
- Round Table Development
 - Churches covered in the local area without a Council (Form 2630)

Founder's (Insurance) Award Requirements:

- Achieve Assigned Insurance Quota or Participate in Two Fraternal Benefit Seminars (Form 11077)

Fraternal Benefits Advisers

John Stice SticeAgencyMail@kofc.org MS State Ins. General Agent (205) 908-1253	Luke B. McClure Luke.Mcclure@Kofc.Org Asst. General Agent (228) 380-0604	Alex Goff Alex.goff@kofc.org 13145 Forts Lake Rd, Moss Point MS 39562 Field Agent (228) 219-8181
Marc Meaut Marc.Meaut@KofC.org 2316 Rue Beaux Chenes, Ocean Springs MS 39564-7562 Field Agent (228) 369-2289	Zachary Duplantis zachary.duplantis@kofc.org 1216 Arbor View Circle D'Iberville, MS 39540 Feld Agent (985) 688-8010	James Priddy James.Priddy@kofC.org 8781 Oakchase Cv, Walls MS 38680-9443 Field Agent (662) 781-8443
Henry Morgan Henry.Morgan@KofC.org 3013 Windwood Cir, Flowood MS 39232-7920 Field Agent (601) 214-1138		



Council Safe Environment Requirements:

ROLES	TRAINING	BACKGROUND CHECK	ARMATUS ADMINISTRATION
State Council			
State Deputy	✓		✓
State Advocate	✓		✓
State Program Director	✓		✓
State Youth Director	✓	✓	✓
State Family Director	✓	✓	✓
State Community Director	✓	✓	✓
State Squire Chairman	✓	✓	✓
Subordinate Council			
Grand Knight	✓		✓
Faithful Navigator	✓		
Program Director	✓		✓
Family Director	✓	✓	
Community Director	✓	✓	
Chief Counsellor	✓	✓	
Adult Counsellor	✓	✓	

State Program Award Levels:

- Honor Council
 - 5 Activities in each Program Area
- Superior Council
 - 8 Activities in Each Program Area
- Council of Excellence
 - 6 Activities in each Program Area + Achieve Membership Quota
- Distinguished Council
 - 6 Activities in each Program Area + Achieve Membership & Insurance Quotas
- Stellar Council
 - 8 Activities in each Program Area + achieve Top Gun & Insurance Quotas
- Top Gun Council
 - No Program Goals but must Meet Top Gun Membership Quota



State Awards Eligibility:

- Must be in Good Standing with Supreme and the State (No Outstanding Fees)
- All Necessary Reports Filed:
 - 185 *Report of Officers Chosen (30 June)
 - 365 *Service Program Personnel (1 Aug)
 - 1295 *Semi-Annual Audits (15 Aug & 15 Feb)
 - 1728 *Annual Fraternal Activities Report (31 Jan)
 - Year-End State Activities Report (31 Mar)
- Attend School of Columbianism
- Attend Mid-Winter Meeting
- Satisfy Safe Environment Requirements

State Convention Info:

All Convention Reporting and Registration information is provided on the State Website <https://www.kofc-ms.org/>

- Convention Registration
- Advertisement Requirements:
 - Cutoff Date; Format; POC for Questions (Ted Landers (901)237-3493)
- Hotel Reservations
- Charitable Donation Submissions
- Update Council Necrology Listings
- Submit Council SP-7 Programs Report



Knights in Action

More pictures from mid-winter meetings.

Batesville



Meridian



Biloxi



Knights in Action

Awards given at the mid-winter meetings.



Knights in Action



Father Harry Wade Council in Gulfport received the Star Council award



Chris Halliwell from Council 7854 in Clinton was selected as the top District Deputy for the 2020-2021 Fraternal Year



Assembly 554 provided Honor Guard for 35th annual MS Pro-Life Candlelight Prayer Vigil at the State Capital. They stood with Governor Tate Reeves.



Council 1522 and Our Lady of the Gulf in Bay St. Louis held their Walk for Life to honor their commitment to the dignity of human life! Students from their schools, Parishioners and 3 councils were represented.

Knights in Action



Crosses were placed by Natchez Council 1034 on the bluff. This is in support of pro-life and in preparation for a prayer service.



Tomasz Powroznik Ordination



Carlow Reunion 2022

Sir Knights from Council 4472 attending and participating in Honor Guard at Saint Ann's Church in Lakeshore for Bishop Kihneman and at Holy Trinity Church for the Irish Priest Annual Mass.





Good of the Order

- Please pray for Janice Daleke, wife of SK David Deleke from Assembly 2195, who is recovering from knee surgery. Also, their children and grandchildren had Covid.
- Please pray for Wesley Coker, brother of Don Coker from Council 7120. His leg had to be amputated due to infection related to diabetes.
- Larry Roberts who was a FDM, PGK, PFN, FDD, Former District Marshall, member of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Degree teams passed away.
- Please keep Brother Knight Neil Bolzenius, brother in law of Past State Deputy Richard Lieding, in your prayers. Neil fell off a ladder trying to clean a gutter and has suffered a traumatic brain injury. X-rays taken in the hospital also found an enlarged heart. All prayers are greatly appreciated.
- SK James Donnelly of Council 7120 and Assembly 2195 passed away. Before moving to Hernando. Br Jim was very active in Biloxi Diocese.
- Joseph J McQueen of Council 7211 passed away after hitting his head. Please keep Joe and his family in your prayers.
- Prayers for Bernard Chevalier of Council 11541 in Gulfport. He had been in the ICU.
- Pope Francis urges that we show our solidarity with the people of Ukraine by praying for peace among them.