



2021/2022 State Officers

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State Deputy Message



Happy Mardi Gras Brother Knights and welcome to Lent,

Hopefully your Council has had a productive Fraternal Year thus far. After the throws of last year's Pandemic and the shutdown, it has been a long and hard road to coming back online with our church community and family programs and activities.

February was a month of preparations with consecration to the Holy Family, our love ones, and one self. March on the other hand is traditionally a time dedicated to St. Joseph and the Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting and Alms giving.

With that is mind, how is your Council doing in preparations for this year's Convention? Has your Council submitted its Charitable Donation, which is a great opportunity for Alms giving? Have you submitted your list of Delegates; paid your Per Capita; documented your programs on the State Website; updated the State's Necrology Database with deceased members for the past year; etc.?

March is also our opportunity to support the church's requirement to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent through our local Fish Fry events. I hope that you have great success in your programs.

March is full of great opportunities for Prayers. We start with Ash Wednesday on the 2nd; followed by St. Patrick's Day on the 17th, St. Joseph's Day on the 19th concluding with the Annunciation on the 25th to just name a few.

In closing, I am grateful for what each of you has accomplished thus far this past year, but like Robert Frost's poem of old, we have many more programs to go before the Fraternal Year ends. 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.

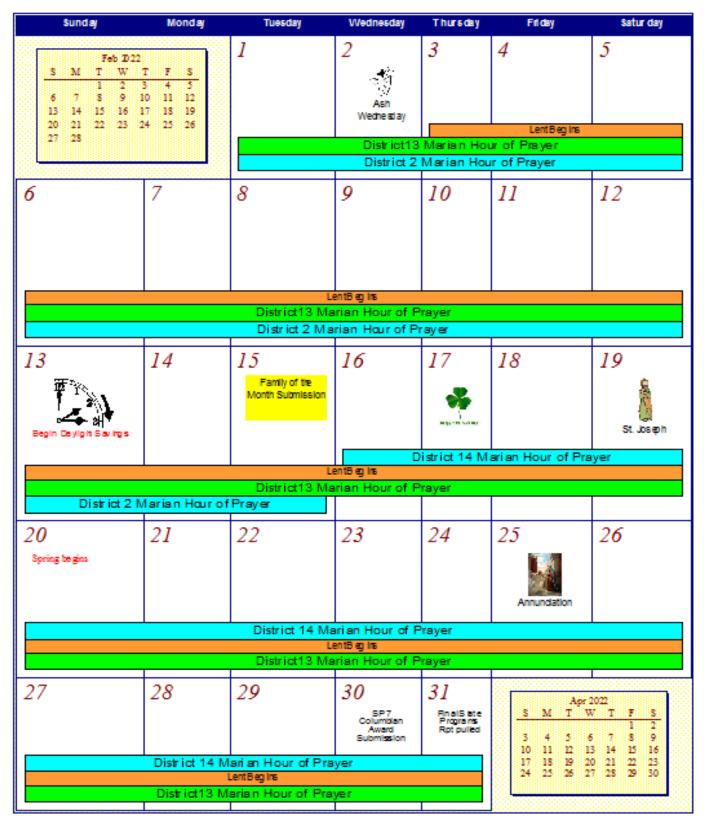
God Bless and Vivat Jesus,

Roy Gamez State Deputy Mississippi Jurisdiction



March 2022

State Deputy Calendar





Fraternal Benefits Advisors

Worthy Brothers,

March arrives and Lent begins on the very next day, March 2. We all know that Lent is the time of preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with Holy Thursday. In order to prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection we are to exercise self-control and self-denial by fasting. We are encouraged to encounter Christ in the reading of Scripture and we are to serve others by the giving of alms.

When I was a kid, the "go to" self-denial was giving up chocolate...made those chocolate Easter bunnies most tasty! I think a lot of us are creatures of habit when it comes to self-denial. We continue on the same path, "giving up" the same things each year. Although self-denial is important as a practice, I've gotten a little older and a bit more introspective. I try to think of positive things to do rather than what I want to give up. Here are some of the things on a personal level that I'm going to try: Devote some time each day to reading Scripture. I'm not going to read whole books or commit to something I can't achieve, but for 10 minutes each day I'm going to read the Good Book. I think reading scripture every day is good habit to nurture.

Rather than "giving up" I'm going to try to "give away." It doesn't help anyone...other than me...if I give up chocolate again this year. But if I give away to the poor, that can have a positive effect on me and on someone else. God has blessed me with so many material blessings I can afford to part with some. And that includes money. I'm determined to be more generous this Lent.

As men of faith, let's take advantage of some of the program offerings during Lent. Some of these programs are done diocesan-wide, some at the local parish level, and councils may have special programs for prayer and reflection. If you are able, perhaps you can lead or help lead a program at your council. I know for me, being involved with other men of faith strengthens me.

As we prepare spiritually for this new liturgical season of Lent, don't forget the temporal. Tempus fugit, memento mori! I am honored to carry on our blessed founder's vision of protecting Catholic families.

Vivat Jesus! Luke B. McClure Asst. General Agent for Mississippi

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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 <u>https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/ssl-join-the-guild.html</u>



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:

- Fraternal Activities Reporting (1728) January 31st
- Semi-Annual Survey (1295-2) February 15th
- Family of the Month (10787) March 15th
- SP-7 Columbian Award Submission to Supreme March 30th
- Final State Programs Report Pulled from Sate Website March 31st
- 990 IRS Reporting April 15th



Attention Grand Knights and Ladies Auxiliary Presidents

Action Needed:

Effective 2/28/22 payment for Convention Meals must be made by check. The pay by credit/debit card option has been removed.

When a user completes registration for the Convention using the state website they will click the "Pay by Check" button. Print out the registration and mail it with your check to the host council contact and address shown on the form. Keep a copy of the registration for your records. YOUR MEAL REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL THE HOST COUNCIL RECEIVES YOUR CHECK. To ensure you have a seat, and to avoid confusion at the convention registration desk, register using the state website and mail your check soon.

Note that there is a button to print out a registration form in pdf format. This is different than the process described above. The host council strongly encourages you to use the online registration tool rather than the pdf to enter your registration and meal choices because it ensures your registration choices are exactly as you entered them.

Background:

The last time Mississippi processed credit cards through Paypal was for the 2019 Convention. I have become aware of enhanced security procedures Paypal has put in place since that time. Several recently identified complications with using Paypal to process payments have made it prudent to remove the credit card option. Payments made on or before 2/28/22 for the 2022 Convention using a credit card through Paypal have been processed correctly. Paypal's changes require that Mississippi KofC review its procedures for handling credit cards. Look for the credit card option to return for the 2023 State Convention.



Worthies,

Some assemblies are still sending copies of reports to FVSM Michael Porter. Please remove FVSM Michael Porter (<u>mjpknight9282@aol.com</u>) from your email distribution pertaining to 4th Degree reports, etc.

As I've stated several times, Pete Parrish (<u>peteparrish1984@gmail.com</u>) is the newly appointed VSM since September 1st, 2021. VSM Pete is who you should be sending copies of your reports to and not FVSM Mike.

Remember to also visit the state website at <u>Mississippi Knights of Columbus</u>, under Patriotic Degree where you will find the email addresses of who to send your reports to.

When reports are sent to the FVSM, he in turn has to forward them to the VSM and myself which is something he should not have to be doing.

Your consideration into this matter is required so address it promptly!

Thank you.

Fraternally,

Craig S. Harrell District Master of Mississippi Bienville Province



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: <u>https://www.kofc-ms.org/convention/minutes.php</u> 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: <u>webmaster@kofc-ms.org</u> 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

April 2022

State Deputy Calendar





Knights in Action

Council 14051/Assembly 3081 had a lot going on.



Sir Knight Pedro "Pete" Reyes passed away. Honor Guard stood guard at his Visitation, Funeral Mass, and Brother Knights served as pallbearers.

He will be greatly missed.









District Marshall Leonard Temple sharing Pope Francis' Synod with students at Queen of Peace Catholic Church.



More events from Council 14051/Assembly 3081.







Council 14051 held a combined Exemplification welcoming their newest member, Israel Wilson, while also honoring Sir Knight Pete Wilson. They ended the night with a spaghetti dinner.







Last but not least, they held a Superbowl Boston Butt BBQ fundraiser. All proceeds went to Olive Branch Food Bank.



Knights in Action (continued)



As a wrap up for Catholic Schools Week, Council 802 held a Free Throw Contest. Pictured are the Knights who assisted and many of the students at St. Patrick Catholic School who participated.

Council 899 in Vicksburg also held a Free Throw Competition.







Council 7854 in Clinton hosted a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest at Holy Savior Catholic Church. Children in the religious education program participated by submitting posters for judging. The Council submitted gift cards to 1st and 2nd place finishers. All who participated received a certificate of thanks.



Vicksburg March for Life

On Saturday, February 12th, Vicksburg Council 898 held their 12th annual March for Life. The March began at St. Aloysius High School and ended at the Monument for Life at the Vicksburg City Cemetery. The monument was constructed by the council in the mid 1990's on a parcel purchased from the city at the corner of Sky Farm and Lover's Lane. Twenty marchers left St. Aloysius at 11:30 with Bishop Kopacz joining them. Upon arrival at the monument, the Knights prayed the Rosary with the marchers



Marchers heading to the Monument for Life



Bishop Kopacz with the marchers



Marchers entering the Vicksburg City Cemetery



Praying the Rosary



Marchers around the Monument



Fr Robert Dore & Bishop Kopacz at the Monument



The Reinhart Schroeder Council 9409 of the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of Fatima held an Altar Server Appreciation and recognition meal for the 54 Altar Servers from our parish. There were 35 servers from Our Lady of Fatima School grades three through six. There were three servers from Biloxi High School and two from Saint Patrick High School. There were four servers from the Philippine community and nine servers from the Hispanic community and one added high school graduate. There were also proud parents and siblings as well as members of the Knights for a total of 73 people.





Knights from Council 4472 praying at the Monument of the Unborn





- Pray for Sir Knight Robert Wilson of Council 7120 and Assembly 2195. He is dealing with some health issues.
- Continue to pray for FN Matt Hatch as he recovers from surgery.
- Long time Knight Dave Sherman of Council 10901 in Oxford passed away. Please keep Dave and his family in your prayers.
- SK Pedro "Pete" Reyes of Council 14051 and Assembly 3081 in Olive Branch has passed away after a long illness. Please keep his wife Dot and family in your prayers.
- SK Irvin Reeves "Buster" Tipton of Tillatoba passed away. He was a life member of the Knights of Columbus in Donaldson, LA. Buster is the father of Michael Tipton, a member of Council 10443 and Assembly 2916 in Grenada. Please keep Mike and all the family in your prayers.
- PSD Danny Lechner's sister, June Lechner Skinner, passed away this morning after a long bout with brain cancer. Please keep June and her family in your prayers. May her soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.
- Please pray for Thomas Ray, the son of David Ray DGK of Council 10901, who was attacked by dogs. He was airlifted to the hospital.
- Please remember DD Jimmie Smith in your prayers. He had a heart attack and had to have stints put in. After being released from the hospital, he had chest pains and had to be taken back. Please keep Jimmy and his family in your prayers.

PATRIOTIC DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION Saturday April 2nd, 2022 HONORING: Sir Knight Rodney J. Sandoz

Hosted By:

St. Thomas the Apostle Council 4898/ Fr. John P. O'Conner Assembly 1719 St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church 720 Beach Blvd E Long Beach, MS 39560



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

11:00 - 12:15 P.M.— Registration
12:30 - 12:50 P.M.— Candidate preparation
1:00 - 3:00 P.M.— Exemplification
4:00 P.M. — Mass
5:15 P.M. — Social
6:00 P.M — Banquet and Presentation of Certificates





Candidate Fee

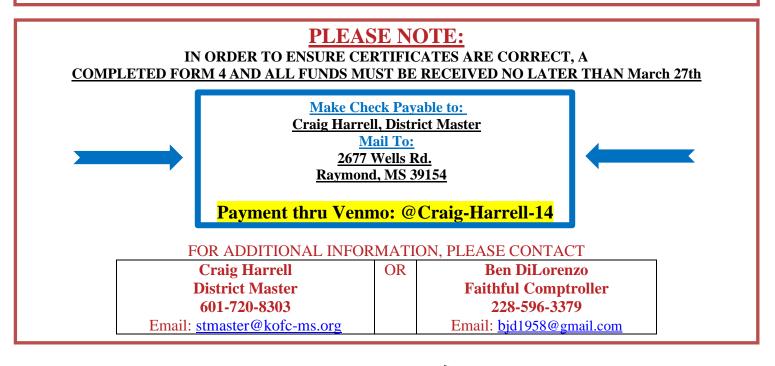
\$70 (with banquet ticket) or **\$50** (without banquet ticket)

Candidate Fee includes:

- 4th Degree Social Baldric
- 4th Degree Membership Pin
- Certificate
- One Banquet Ticket (\$20)

Additional Banquet Tickets

• \$25 for guests and other attendees





Dress Code: Candidates as described below:

Dark Blue, Grey, or Black business suit, white dress shirt with lay down collar (no collar buttons); tie; dark socks; and dress shoes.



Dress Code Exceptions (for candidates) Military—Dress Uniform Police and Firemen—Formal Dress Uniforms Priests—Regular Clerical Dress Seminarians—Dark Suit and Tie or Seminarian Collar with Black Suit

Dress Code for Others 4th Degree Members/Observers

- New uniform.
- Black tuxedo with social baldric
- Dark suit with tie and social baldric

Honor Guard

New uniform.

Color Guard Flag Bears

New uniform, no Swords

Color Guard Escorts

- New uniform.
- Black tuxedo, social baldric, no gloves, no swords







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- Honoring our Veterans at Memorial Day celebrations

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