



The Magnolia Knight



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Mississippi Knights of Columbus
Editor- Noel Aucoin

A Word from our 4th Degree Master



State Deputy Larry Tabor

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Exemplifications
Wednesday, 26 April 1st,
7pm Degree Council 10499
Ocean Springs
- Saturday, 6 May 1st, 2nd, 3rd,
Degree Council 9673
Woolmarket
- Saturday, 10 June 1st, 2nd,
3rd, Degree Council 848
Jackson *CORRECTION*
- ◆ State Convention
Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 28,
29, 30 April Tupelo

Worthy State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, and fellow Knights of the Mississippi Jurisdiction:

Good morning all: I know it is early. But then I rise early especially during Holy Week. This morning my soul and my heart turn to the Paschal Mysteries of this special week. Today is Holy Thursday, that day of the Last Supper. In my early days as a child I recall sitting in Church and listening to our parish Priest telling the story of the Last Supper, I recall wondering why Christ Jesus went to the Upper Room and before the entire world, proclaimed His life and Death.

This morning I think of all of you. I think, how blessed is my family called the Knights of Columbus. I know how grateful I am for all of you who bless each other with your daily prayers, your daily attendance at Mass. You concern for all of us.

It is a few minutes before 4 am. I am watching the Chrism Mass on EWTN live from Rome with Benedict XVI. That is why I am up so early. It is indeed a Holy Week. Today, my soul rejoices in the Lord. If you want to know why, it is truly simple, I love Him. I also know that all of you love Him.

In the early hours of the morning I reflect on both the goodness of life and the sadness of life. I reflect on all that has happened during this past year. So much is good, is wonderful, some is sad, we all know about

the effects of the horrible storms called Katrina and Rita. But I reflect on the goodness of people. The blessings they have brought to so many not only here on the gulf coast but throughout the Country.

I see the storms buffeting our country. The tornadoes that sweep throughout the plain States, the misery they cause. But then I also see the Risen Christ and I know, deep within my heart, that His love is greater than any destruction nature can cause. This morning my prayers are for all of you. I live the Paschal Mystery every day of my life. My faith is renewed because of the love and prayers I feel from all of you.

On this day, and all the days of my life, I will raise you up to Almighty God in my daily prayers. We are a strong family, a family of brothers and sisters who rightfully claim to be the Strong Right Arm of the Church. Let that be your joy today on Holy Thursday. This is the day of the Eucharist. We begin the Paschal Mystery. Today as I do every day, my prayer is that you are blessed, you are safe, and you are within the Loving Arms of our Savior. God bless you all and may you all have a most blessed and joyful Easter.

Love and blessings
Paul

From State Deputy Larry Tabor

Many of you may know Larry is on a job assignment this week. I have communicated with him and he sends his gratitude for a job well done on the convention prep. He wants everyone to prepare for a fun time, but also be prepared to roll up your sleeves and accomplish plenty of meaningful work at the business sessions. He urges everyone to try and be on time for each session.

Invite Your Priest and Deacons

Brothers,
Please send a message out, especially to all Grand Knights and District Deputies. It would be a great help if each would contact the Priests and Deacons in their councils and get a list of the Priests and Deacons planning to attend the Tupelo Convention. We need this information, to do Mass planning. Ask any priest or deacon to bring his own alb and white stole. Thanks so much!

Deacon Larry Campbell

Sacred Heart D'Iberville to Hold Easter Mass

Sacred Heart Church in D'Iberville was devastated, on August 29, 2005, like many other Churches along the Gulf Coast. Have received over eight foot of water in the Church and elementary school, rendered them unusable. But through the overwhelming generosity of the local Baptist and Methodist communities, Fr. Bob Higginbotham was able to hold Saturday and Sunday Masses and even keep the elementary school going. These unprecedented acts of Christianity, by the local Baptist and Methodist Church leaders, has not been publicized enough and deserves one more mention here.

Many other acts of generosity and kindness have allowed the Parishioners of Sacred Heart the opportunity to look forward to Easter Sunday Mass in their own Church. There were the volunteers who reworked the electrical and air conditioning systems, the people who dedicated their time to patch and clean and buff the floors. The Tabernacle is being cleaned and re-worked by (a devout Methodist) the father of GK Roger Fetters, Mr. Rex Fetters. But we still needed one more thing, chairs. So I sent out a plea and boy did you guys respond. I got calls and emails from all over the state. The two closest and most easily accessible, were chairs from the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum and from the National Guard Base in Gulfport. Both of these options were submitted to me from Brother Knights. We took BOTH options (we needed plenty of chairs). All in all, we picked-up and moved close to 800 chairs. It would be nice to see all of them filled on Easter Sunday

Thank You All

Noel Aucoin

State Public Relations Chairman



DD Art Dunn, GK Roger Fetters, Inside Guard Stephen Dunn and MK Editor unload chairs for Easter Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart

Coloring Contest sponsored by the Sir Knight Eugene T. Hicks Assembly

Matthew Cornish, a second grader in St. Joseph Parish, Starkville, was one of the winners in the Coloring Contest sponsored by the Sir Knight Eugene T. Hicks Assembly of Starkville/West Point/Columbus. Other winners included Scott McIntyre, a first grader in Immaculate Conception Parish, West Point; Christian Donoho, a second grader in Annunciation Parish, Columbus; and Augustine Elliott, a third grader in Immaculate Conception Parish, West Point.

Each of the winners received a U. S. Savings bond with a face value of \$50.

The official entry for this year's coloring contest consisted of a drawing of Christopher Columbus standing on board his ship, the Santa Maria, as he sighted land in the Caribbean. He is standing at the rail, with a telescope in his hand, and another of his ships sailing nearby. The sails of the Santa Maria are emblazoned with the cross of Christ, signifying that Columbus believed that God was protecting him on the mission.



Matthew Cornish, coloring contest winner

Submitted By,
Dr. Brian T. Engelland

Bishop Gerow Assembly as it leads the St. Patrick Day's Parade



District Marshal, Sir Knight Bill O'Connor, lead's the Color Guard of the Bishop Gerow Assembly as it leads the St. Patrick Day's Parade in Jackson".

The Coast will sorely miss Mr. Joe

Joe Niezgoda has resigned as Chief Counselor for Ocean Springs Squire Circle No. 2854. He and his wife, Barbara, will be relocating to Hattiesburg. "Mr. Joe," as he is affectionately known, has served in that capacity for 15 years. He has been awarded "Counselor of the Year" and "Knight of the Year" for his service to our Order and jurisdiction. Mr. Joe stands as an inspiration to us who have had the pleasure to be associated with him, and is the epitome of what a Knights of Columbus member should be. Last night the Circle and Council, presented him with a beautiful Crucifix and statue of Jesus. May God bless him and his wife, and we wish them well in all their future endeavors.

*Respectfully Submitted
Mike Gilly*

4th Degree in Brandon

Dear Brother Knights:

Seventeen candidates became Sir Knights in the Fourth Degree in Brandon, hosted by the St. Paul Council, 10216, on Saturday, April 8, 2006. The exemplification was performed by the Hank Kajdan Degree Team. Hank Kadjan is the only living Sir Knight who has a Fourth Degree Team named after him.

There were two honorees for the event, both recently returned from Iraq, Colonel Jesse Roy Robinson, and Patrick Kyle Quinn. Honors were noted during the superb dinner cooked and served by the St. Paul Knights, their spouses, and children. Patrick Quinn could not be there.

The Colonel, pictured (to the right) with his spouse and Dr. Paul, spoke about a second war that the spouses and families left behind must endure when a soldier goes off to war. He described with passion the valor those left behind must show and the difficulties they face. He spoke of dropping backpacks, weapons, and armor, and getting down on knees to pray before entering battle, expressing with certainty his belief that those prayers miraculously saved many lives. Finally, the Colonel asked us to "wrap our arms" around those soldiers we see coming home and let them know that we appreciate what they did for us. The Fourth Degree is about patriotism, which is itself a form of charity on a very high level. Sir Knights know their responsibility to serve their country and church, not only in battle, but here at home in ways they never thought

possible, through the programs of the Assembly. If you are not a Sir Knight, take a look; be a part of something really important.



The picture on the back row from left to right are Martin Bisek, State Membership Director, Jim McGraw, DD, Tom Chady, PSD, Rich Lieding, IPSD, Joe Jones, DD, and on the front row (L to R) are Pat Bisson, FN of Bishop Brunini Assembly, Hank Kadjan, our namesake, and Larry Roberts, Team Captain.



REFLECTIONS OF OUR STATE CHAPLAIN

Dear Brother Knights,

God's blessing and grace on you all. Below you will find a series of quotes given over the ages that speak of the brotherhood of men. I hope one or more of them speak to your heart with both the consolation of your Christian vocation and the challenge to live as an active member of the brotherhood of man in and through the Knights of Columbus.

If God is thy Father, man is thy brother. Lamartine

We must love men before they will seem worthy of our love. William Shakespeare

Our doctrine of equality and liberty and humanity comes from our belief in the brotherhood of man, through the fatherhood of God. President Calvin Coolidge

The race of mankind would perish did they cease to aid each other. We cannot exist without mutual help. All therefore that need aid have a right to ask it from their fellow-men; and no one who has the power of granting can refuse it without guilt. Sir Walter Scott

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. John Donne

Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. St Peter (1 Peter 2:17 RSV CE)

For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother" – Jesus (Matt 12:50 RSV CE)

It has been a challenging year for so many Mississippians and no few Knights of Columbus. I have heard it said the God's presence in hurricane Katrina will be measured by our response to the needs created. We have seen the brotherhood of man in action; we have seen Christianity in action. It is time for us to check ourselves, evaluate our response and look to the future.

I hope and pray this past year has been a time of grace for you; whether through suffering and survival or by good fortune and thanksgiving, and I ask that this Easter season brings a fresh indwelling of the Holy Spirits and a renewed commitment to Christ to each and every Knight.

Fr. Michael O'Connor
State Chaplain

Hospitality Rooms

At this year's convention in Tupelo, councils, assemblies or districts may have their own hospitality room. This is different from the last couple of years, when there were just one or two big hospitality rooms. At the present time there are 4 or 5 individual hospitality rooms/suites still available. If any council, assembly, or district wants one of these, please contact Pick Noble immediately. All rooms/suites not arranged with Pick Noble, before Monday, April 17th will be returned to the Ramada Inn.

Deacon Larry Campbell

Motor Cycle Raffle

Brothers,

I can mail books of tickets to you if you need them. It cost 4.20 to mail 75 books.

As I had mentioned previously, I can print the names and up to 2 phone numbers on the tickets to go in the drum for the drawing with my computer.

I have been receiving checks with the name, phone number and number of tickets to be printed through the mail.

I have been confined to my chair or bed until the Cardiologist clears me for back surgery. The neurosurgeon thinks surgery could be within the week.

My choice to remain mobile was a wheel chair or a walker. I am trying to navigate with the walker at this time.

It is highly unlikely I will be going to convention as a result.

I am working on getting someone to go my place.

Please request that councils turn in the money as soon as possible to me at the below address:

Warren A Reso

88377 Diamondhead Drive East

Diamondhead, MS 39525

Please convert the cash to a check from your Council prior to mailing. Do not send cash thru the mail. Make Checks payable to Knights of Columbus or Diocese of Biloxi or Priest Education Fund. I also have to know what Council the money is coming from. Let me know if I have to print tickets with names and phone numbers and how many of each.