



# The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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*"Strengthening  
Catholic Families."*

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From the desk of the State Deputy, Noel Aucoin



Greetings to you all. November, traditionally, is the time for Supreme's Mid-year State Deputies meeting. This year Orlando Florida was the host city for the meeting. Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson and the Supreme Officers, covered several main topics. First on the agenda was a startling report on the average age of current Brother Knights, throughout the order. It was apparent to all viewing the statistics that if we don't get younger Catholic men involved in our mission, we won't survive. We in Mississippi are already addressing this issue.

Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm, in Lizana, at St. Ann's, we will exemplify eight high school students from St. Patrick's. They will form the State's first high school round table. With the successful fruition of this project, we will be approaching other Catholic high schools throughout the state to try and expand the effort. Councils with high schools, in their vicinity, will be approached for assistance. Please be open to this project. The invitation is open to any Councils (in the area) needing to exemplify new candidates, to join us in Lizana.

The second breakout session was on the "Building the Domestic Church" and how the Columbian Award is being changed to reflect this initiative. We will cover this specific topic at the Mid-Winter meetings, scheduled for January 7<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach, January 8<sup>th</sup> in Vicksburg and January 14<sup>th</sup> in Starkville. As far as in general, if we implement the ideals set forth by the program, we should see younger Knights coming into our ranks. Brothers, gone are the days where one parent works and one stays home with the family. Young Catholic couples are both working and trying to raise their families. The expectation of Brother Knights making every scheduled meeting and event are no longer viable and we need to let prospective Knights know this. Today's young Catholic men are looking for programs that fulfill not only their spiritual and civic needs but ones that will include the family. Programs that will keep them all together on the weekends and not separated. Weekly demands on these young men may not allow him the opportunity to attend meetings and some events. Just let them know, up front, that we will take whatever time they are willing to give us.

The final breakout session of the weekend covered "Safe Environment Training". Brothers it is imperative, in these days and times, that specific Council and State Officers receive this training. Grand Knights and State Deputies and required to have the training. Council and State Youth Directors are required to have the training and submit to a background check.

It is important to note that if the Youth Directors do not have the background check they will be remove from the Supreme list of Directors and if a Council continues to allow the YD to perform his duties, the Council faces suspension from Supreme. Diocesan, Boy Scout or any other form of this training will not suffice. Please contact State Advocate, Mike Kassouf with any questions.

Thanksgiving has past and we are moving into the Advent and Christmas Season. I am very thankful for my fellow officers their efforts so far this year and thankful to all of you out there for your support hard work. During this Christmas season I want to issue you a State Deputy's Challenge. I challenge each Council, District Deputy and State Officer to bring in **one new Knight before Christmas**. I already have my new Brother Knight on the books. I know all of you can get one also. I'm only asking for one. Surely each Council, DD and State Officer can give me one. I guess we should starting getting the grills hot. Several Councils in the State have reached or are going to reach Star Council status. **Steak Dinners on the way.**

Be on the lookout for new initiatives and products. We started, in October, State Call-in Meetings. We had our trial runs with State Officers and District Deputies. One in October and one in November. Then, we rolled out the sessions to Grand knights, on November 16<sup>th</sup>. We held three call-in sessions, one for each region of the State. We had moderate success and will attempt to continue this effort after the Mid-winter meetings. The new Program Report Database was brought online. We have a couple of small issues to iron out but, all in all, this should be a super tool for Councils to keep up with their programs throughout the fraternal year.

Have a Blessed Christmas and Vivat Jesus,  
Noel

# Civil Rights and Religious Liberty

11/1/2016

Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori

A recent report by a U.S. commission calls into question people of faith and our first freedom



THE PASSAGE OF the Civil Rights Act of 1957 marked a turning point in the epic struggle for racial justice in the United States, and the U.S. Civil Rights Commission was established “as an independent, bipartisan, fact-finding federal agency.” The commission’s vitally important mission is to strengthen and develop civil rights legislation and policy and to investigate alleged discrimination “based on race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or in the administration of justice.”

Its members are appointed by the president of the United States, and past members have included Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, then president of the University of Notre Dame, and our own supreme knight, Carl Anderson.

The findings of this commission are not merely academic; they reflect and inform the national debate as well as policy and legislation. In its earliest years, for example, the commission found that

Some time ago, the commission announced that it was doing a study that would attempt to balance religious liberty with other perceived rights. That study was recently published under the title *Peaceful Coexistence: Reconciling Nondiscrimination Principles with Civil Liberties*. Unfortunately, this report and the chairman of the commission fail to strike a balance or point the way to peaceful coexistence. Instead, they undermine the constitutionally guaranteed and God-given gift of religious freedom.

## STIGMATIZING FAITH

*Peaceful Coexistence* purports to examine how the courts have handled requests for religious exemptions from generally applicable laws that are designed to prohibit discrimination. Should religious groups be granted exemptions from recent laws that allow for marriage between two people of the same sex? Should a church-run school with conscientious objections have the freedom not to hire a teacher in a same-sex relationship or a person who has undergone a transgender procedure?

The report concludes that religious organizations “use the pretext of religious doctrine to discriminate.” With this assertion, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission stigmatizes tens of millions of religious Americans, their communities and their faith-based institutions, and threatens the religious freedom of all our citizens. The chair of the commission, Martin Castro, went so far as to say, “The phrases ‘religious liberty’ and ‘religious freedom’ will stand for nothing except hypocrisy so long as they remain code words for discrimination, intolerance, racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, Christian supremacy or any form of intolerance.”

In essence, the chairman is claiming that Catholic, Evangelical, Orthodox Jewish, Mormon and Muslim communities are all comparable to fringe segregationists from the civil rights era. Such statements painting those who support religious freedom with the broad brush of bigotry are reckless and reveal a profound disregard for the religious foundation of the commission’s own work.

People of faith have often been the ones to carry the full promise of America to the most forgotten peripheries when other segments of society judged it too costly. Can we imagine the civil rights movement without Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Father Hesburgh and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel? In places like St. Louis and Washington, D.C., Catholic schools were integrated seven years before the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Jesus taught us to serve and not to count the cost. The one God, maker of heaven and earth, calls each and every person into being, loves us, and commands believers to love and show mercy to all. The idea of equality, which the chairman treats as a kind of talisman, is incomprehensible apart from the very faith that he seeks to cut off from mainstream society.

## **FREEDOM TO SERVE**

The Church's record is not perfect. We could have always done more. Nevertheless, Catholic priests, religious and laity serve our most struggling communities in places abandoned by a "throwaway culture" that has too often determined that quick profits matter more than communities. We are there offering education, health care, social services and hope, working to serve as the "field hospital" Pope Francis has called us to be. We advocate for the dignity of all persons, a dignity that includes a life free from violence and persecution and that includes fair access to good jobs and safe housing. Rest assured, if people of faith continue to be marginalized, it is the poor and the vulnerable who will suffer.

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Catholic social service workers, volunteers and pastors don't count the cost in financial terms or even in personal safety. However, we must count the cost to our own faith and morality. We do not seek to impose our morality on anyone, but neither can we sacrifice it in our own lives and work. The vast majority of those who speak up for religious liberty are merely asking for the freedom to serve others as our faith asks of us.

A tobacco control organization would not hire an advocate for smoking, and an animal rights group may wish to hire only vegetarians. In a similar way, we ask that the work of our institutions be carried out by people who believe in our mission and respect our Christian witness. A pluralistic and religiously diverse society should make room for people of faith, who are a source of American strength.

But the chairman's statement, suggesting that the U.S. Civil Rights Commission no longer sees the United States as a pluralistic society, may well be a harbinger of dire challenges to religious freedom.

Let us keep this in mind as we join with fellow citizens in shaping our nation's future. We respect those who disagree with what we teach. Can they respect us?

## Lumen Christi Award

***Iesus Christus Lux***, translated from the Latin means **Jesus Christ the Light**. The Lumen Christi Award is a national means of recognition that has been presented to outstanding members of the parishes and missions across the United States by the Catholic Extension since 1978.

The purpose of the annual award is to highlight an individual or group which has shown a special dedication to service in the diocese in which they are registered. These persons inspire those who observe them by their efforts to build faith, protect the innocent, inspire hope, and ignite change. The recipients of this award seriously live by the mantra, "Do not curse the darkness, but light a candle to dispel the fear."

To quote Ephesians 5:8, "For you were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." The very act of following The Light by a Lumen Christi Award recipient shows in religious and civic participation in the affairs and benefits of the community being served.

The 2016 awards for the Mississippi Diocese of Biloxi were presented at The Cathedral of the Nativity by Bishop Roger P. Morin, D.D. on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations for living your life in Jesus' Light.





**Lumen Christi Award recipient Council 6872**



Theodore H. Barze, Jr;  
St. Charles Borromeo Parish,  
Council 6872, Picayune

**Lumen Christi Award recipient Council 15155, Assembly 3007**



Jarrod Fetters, Holy Spirit Parish, Vancleave



Chris Fetters, Holy Spirit Parish, Vancleave

**Council 9094, Assembly 3007**



John & Terry Poelma, Sacred Heart Parish,  
D'iberville

## The Catholic Mass in the Extraordinary Form

The Catholic Mass in the Extraordinary Form was celebrated at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Oxford on October 18th. The Mass wasn't "extraordinary" as we usually define it, but was the Latin Mass as it is commonly known.

The Latin Mass has been practiced by the Roman Catholic Church for over 400 years. Prior to that time, various yet similar forms of the Mass were offered in Roman Catholic Churches throughout Europe. Pope Pius V at the Council of Trent (1545 - 1563) mandated a single form of the Mass be used throughout the world that we now call the Latin Mass. The Second Vatican Council (1962 - 1965) instituted a new, simplified liturgy that also substituted Latin for common language as well as restored a few traditional elements which had been lost over time. The Latin Mass, or the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, was still available for worship, however permission from a diocesan bishop was required to celebrate it. In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI announced that the Extraordinary Form of the Mass could be practiced by individual parishes without permission, in part to better connect Catholics to the historical traditions of the Church.

There are significant differences in form and practice a present day Catholic will see when attending the Mass in the Extraordinary Form. Upon entering the Church, congregants would be seen praying silently with no talking among parishioners. Women could have their head covered by lace kerchiefs or decorative scarfs and many parishioners would be praying the rosary or reading prayers from their Daily Missals.

As a bell rings, the priest enters the altar from the side and celebrates the Mass facing the Tabernacle containing the Consecrated Host. To the uninitiated, it would appear as if the priest is celebrating Mass with his back to the congregation, but in fact the priest is leading the congregation in prayer facing the Tabernacle. The priest recites prayers during the Mass in Latin. English is spoken only during the homily when the priest faces the congregation and addresses them from a pulpit.

Communion is distributed at a communion rail which separates the altar from the congregation or at a kneeling bench in front of the priest. Rather than receiving the sacred Host in the hand, which is common today, the Host is taken directly on the tongue. Worshipping the Extraordinary Form of the Mass was offered as a special event for the University of Mississippi Catholic Campus Ministry and RCIA students and parishioners at St. John the Evangelist. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Scott Thomas, pastor of St. Elizabeth and Immaculate Conception Catholic Churches in Clarksdale. Fr. Thomas serves as the State Chaplain for the Mississippi Knights of Columbus. Fr. Thomas was assisted by altar server Marshall Drew, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Mr. Drew trained specifically to respond in Latin to the prayers offered by Fr. Thomas.



St. John the Evangelist, Oxford, celebrated the Extraordinary Form of the Mass or The Traditional Latin Mass, on Tuesday evening, October 18th. Approximately 75 parishioners and students attended. Fr Scott Thomas, celebrant of the Mass and State Knights of Columbus Chaplain, is pastor of St. Elizabeth and Immaculate Conception in Clarksdale. He was assisted by altar server Marshall Drew, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth. Many of the participants were Knights of Columbus members from Council 10901, two of which are shown in the photograph and are identified there.

Photo . Communion at a Latin Mass is typically taken at a communion rail or on a kneeling bench. The sacred Host is received directly on the tongue. Father Scott Thomas, pastor, St. Elizabeth and Immaculate Conception Catholic Churches in Clarksdale, and State Knights of Columbus Chaplain, offers the host directly on the tongue to Dave Sherman, former Grand Knight of Council 10901. The current Deputy Grand Knight of Council 10901, Albert Ruiz, is directly behind him awaiting his turn to receive the sacred Host. The two Knights were part of the 75 participants at the Extraordinary Form of the Mass held at St. John the Evangelist, Oxford which attracted approximately 40 University students in addition to RCIA participants and parishioners. (Photo, Gene Buglewicz)

# Insurance News

## What Happens if You Live?

11/2/2016

### The security of long-term care insurance

Thanks to marvelous innovations in medical technology and advances in living and working conditions, many of us will enjoy long, prosperous lives. With average life expectancies on the rise, there's a lot to be grateful for and look forward to. But living longer also comes with added responsibilities that we must take seriously.

Typically, when thinking about insurance products, we think about "what ifs." For life insurance, we think: What if we die? For auto insurance, we think: What if we get in an accident? For medical insurance, we think: What if we get sick? For disability insurance, we think: What if we get injured?

But for long-term care, the question is different. It's not just what happens if something happens to us, but what if something doesn't happen? What happens if we live?

"So what?" you say. "I won't need long-term care." But the statistics tell a different story. Seventy percent of individuals over the age of 65 will need some type of long-term care service during their lifetime. And, just as you would imagine, paying out-of-pocket for long-term care is neither brief nor cheap. The average duration of long-term care needed per individual is three years, at an annual cost of \$83,000 for private nursing home care and \$60,000 for at-home nursing care.

Traditional and government medical insurance programs don't usually provide enough help, either. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, Medicare only pays long-term care services for a maximum of 100 days, and that's only if you meet certain criteria. Medicaid does pay for long-term care, but only if your income is below a certain level and you meet state requirements. As for employer-sponsored or private health insurance plans, they typically cover a limited range of services, similar to that provided by Medicare.<sup>1</sup>

Subsequently, many of us are left drawing from our own resources or our family's resources to cover long-term care costs. It can be an expensive proposition just when cash resources need to be preserved for retirement.

That's why long-term care insurance should be considered part of an overall sound insurance protection strategy, and that's why the Knights of Columbus is proud to offer long-term care insurance to our members and their eligible family members.

Simply put, long-term care insurance is designed to help cover the cost of your long-term medical needs.

Available in 3-year, 5-year, and 10-year benefit periods, our flexible plans come with a number of different options and ways for you to customize your long-term care coverage to help fit your unique needs and budget.

You choose a daily benefit amount that the policy provides and specify whether you want to be covered for care in an assisted-living facility or at home.

You may also elect to purchase a Compound Inflation Rider, which will increase your maximum lifetime benefit by 3 or 5 percent each year.

And, should you choose to apply for long-term care insurance with your spouse, each of you will receive a 30 percent discount through our Spousal Discount program.

There are many other factors and considerations that go into the crafting of a Knights of Columbus long-term care policy. Your dedicated Knights of Columbus agent can help explain your options.

Contact him today to help ensure that your family and your assets are protected from the unexpected and substantial cost of long-term care.

After all, you have always taken care of your family. You don't want to worry about what would happen to them if you could no longer take care of yourself.

***Long-Term Care insurance contracts contain certain exclusions, limitations, and other terms. Your contract and licensed Knights of Columbus field agent can provide you with complete details. The Knights of Columbus reserves the right to ask questions about your health and review your medical records. Benefits are subject to underwriting. Premiums may increase.***

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Clearinghouse for LTC Information, March 3, 2014.



**From Bryan V. Cassagne**  
**State Membership Director**

Brothers,

Your recruiting efforts have been paying off! We are still a bit behind where we should be but things are going much better. Keep the momentum, keep evangelizing and building our Order.

Please concentrate on December membership drives. Christmas is a great time of year to promote our family values. Tie your drive in with a Keep Christ in Christmas event or your Holiday Food Drive. Think about using a video ([kofc.org/recruit1](http://kofc.org/recruit1)) or pulpit talk that tells of your Council's success stories. Maybe present your Family of the Month and/or Knight of the Month. Check presentations also work very well. Show off your council's good works; anything that draws attention to your Council to make men want to join or make wives push their husbands to join.

Note: Please make sure form 100's are filled out properly. We have received many not filled out completely, missing dates or signatures. Ask your Worthy DD if you need help or call me.

Kiln Council 7087 is our first Star Council of the year and they have qualified for our Steak Dinner incentive, providing they maintain their numbers through the end of the fraternal year and get their reports in on time. Mc Comb Council 8054 is right behind them. We still have 25 councils that have shown no membership growth. We're better than this, come-on brothers!

Bryan V. Cassagne  
State Membership Director

## KC 9543 St. Francis of Assisi in Madison



Joe Lee, public relations director for KC 9543 at St. Francis of Assisi in Madison, presents Fr. Albeenreddy Vatti with a framed copy of a newspaper article about Fr. Vatti's trip to the Vatican in September to witness the canonization of Mother Teresa. Lee wrote the story for The Clarion Ledger.

## St. Francis of Assisi Council 9543, Madison Rosary and Memorial Mass



Rene Bodin serving Communion to Ken Pribyla,



Rene Bodin (granddaughter on his shoulder) and Father Jason Johnston, who led the Rosary and Mass that evening.



Grand Knight Michael Robinson and Allen Herrington lighting memory candles in honor of deceased Knights.

KC 9543 at St. Francis of Assisi in Madison held their annual Rosary and Memorial Mass to honor deceased Knights from our council, along with their widows and families. We lit a memory candle for each Knight who has passed away, and a widow or family member was asked to light the candle if they were present. Father Jason Johnston celebrated the Mass, which was followed by a church supper. This special parish event took place on November 2 at the home of parishioners Chris and Mary Manning.

## Council 15155, Holy Spirit Parish



Holy Spirit Parish Knights of Columbus Council 15155 donated three wheelchairs to the Singing River Health System Foundation. Receiving the gift was Executive Director Laura Sessum. The chairs will be refurbished and placed in their medical equipment closet for Patients in need.

L to R: Chris Feters-Treasurer; Scott Johnson-Past Grand Knight; Mike Rosas-Grand Knight; Laura Sessum- Singing River Health System Foundation; Jarrod Feters –Financial Secretary; Ed Fisher- 3rd Degree Knight

## Council 9094's annual Biloxi Veteran's Administration Hospital Fish Fry



Friday November 11, 2016, C. Mark Landry Assembly 3007 fried fish for over 200 veterans being housed at the Biloxi Veteran's Administration hospital. Members of the *Kitchen Krew* included Faithful Navigator, Walt Miller; State Community Director, Nick Martino and his wife Helen; State Culture of Life Couple, Mark and Lee Fontenot and State Deputy, Noel Aucoin. Assembly Chairman, for the event, was Sir Knight, Ed Guardenapo. Many Sir Knights and ladies volunteered to cook serve and clean up for the veterans. Several veterans were also assisted by members of the Ocean Springs High School ROTC.



## Council 7854 installed Council Officers



Front row L-R: Craig Harrell (3 yr Trustee), Jim Sharp (Chancellor), David Collins (Treasurer), Lloyd Everhardt (1 yr Trustee), Joe Mraz (Inside Guard), Fr. Thomas McGing (Chaplain)  
Back Row L-R: Mike Weisenberger (Recorder), Chris Halliwell (Deputy Grand Knight), Charles Collins (Financial Secretary), Steve Miller (Grand Knight), Bob (Buck) Butkowski (Advocate), Distict Deputy Charles Hahn, Not shown are Chuck Weiss (2 yr Trustee) and Henry Williams (Outside Guard)

## Council 7854



Excel Community and Learning Center in Morton, MS was the recipient of 2 boxes of the KC sponsored Coats for Kids program. Members from Holy savior Council 7854 presented the coats to Sister Eileen Hauswald and Sister Rita Goedken.  
L-R: Sister Eileen Hauswald, PGK Craig Harrell, GK Steve Miller, Council member Mike Kirby and Sister Rita Goedken

## Picayune Police Department



## Pearl River County Sheriff's Office



Knights of Columbus Council 6872 in Picayune made a \$1,000 donation to the Pearl River County Sheriff's Office and another \$1,000 donation to the Picayune Police Department. These donations will be used to buy new vest for Pearl Rivers finest.

## Assembly 2227 PICAYUNE, MS



Assembly 2227 hosted a Veterans Day Luncheon on November 9 and served about 60 Vets and family members. Red Beans and rice were served with salad and drinks to area Vets.



## Worthy Sir Knights from Bishop Gerow and Brunini Assemblies



Worthy Sir Knights from Bishop Gerow and Brunini Assemblies served as Honor Guard for St. Joe's Homecoming in Madison, MS.

L-R: Craig Harrell (Marshal District 5, Gerow), Johnny Biggert (PFN, Brunini), Sir Knights Allen Scott (Gerow), Rene Bodin (Brunini), Chris Callegan (Gerow), Steve Miller (Color Corp Commander, Gerow), Sir Knights Aad Delange (Brunini) and Dennis Antici (DD6, Brunini)

## Council # 11654 Youth Honored



On SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2016 during mass Fr. Bernard John Papania, Jr. presented 22 of the parish Altar Servers With Knights of Columbus Altar Server Award Certificates and Medals. Altar servers who were recognized are Faith Olsen, Mackenna Velazquez, Madison Velazquez, Madison Naramore, Elisabeth Reaux, Josh Reaux, Layla Renot, Lucy Renot, Gracie Renot, Katie Fuerst, Ryan McIlrath, Ethan Kelley, Noah Kelley, Aria Husley, Jessalyn Cain, Lee Cain, Bryant Renot, Tyler Renot, Meaghan Renot and Gabbie Meadow, Stephen Beckham and Mark Velazquez. Also attending was Anne-Marie Cain Altar Server Chairwoman and Bill Haas, The Knights of Columbus State of Mississippi Youth Director.

After mass, a breakfast was served by the Knights of Columbus Council #11564, in honor of all St. Francis Altar Servers, parishioners, friends and their family members. Event like this are so important to our parish and especially our youth. I would like to thank Anne-Marie Cain and the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring this great event, said Father [Berni] Bernard John Papania. It helps build a greater and stronger Catholic Community in a small parish. It also will bring in future Knights into the Knights of Columbus at a much younger age, as our council leads by example.