



St. Richard Council 15131

&

John Edward Tracy Assembly 3863

-Mississippi District-

May 2024 Newsletter



Knight's Prayer

Our Lady, Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our Order. Keep us true to our pledge, to extend the kingship of thy divine son on earth. Through Thine intercession, win for us the grace, ever to exemplify in our public and private lives, the virtues that should characterize those especially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court. Make us always aware that as your Knights, we are constantly observed, our faith judged, and our Order appreciated. Accept, O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion, of Thy Servants, the Knights of Columbus.

Council News

- Next pancake breakfast will be Aug 2024.
- Next ushering will be 10:30 AM Mass on June 16, 2024. Please wear your red polo shirt.
- Next Council meeting will be June 23, 2024 at 6:00PM. (to avoid Father's Day June 16)
- Election of Officers. The proposed slate of officers for the 2024-2025 Council Year was sent out to all members by the Nominating Committee last month. Other nominations were called for, but hearing none, the same were duly and constitutionally elected to their respective positions:
 - Grand Knight – George LaFontaine
 - Duty Grand Knight – Steve Cochran
 - Chancellor – John Gomez
 - Financial Secretary – Harold Hardin
 - Treasurer – Robert Munroe
 - Recorder – Kyle Jones
 - Advocate – Louis Clifford
 - Warden – Dave Forlenza
 - Inner Guard – Dave Fisher
 - Outer Guard – Frank Tuminello
 - Trustee, 1st Year – Chris Champagne
 - Trustee, 2nd Year – Charles Caskey
 - Trustee, 3rd Year – Al Goodman
- Job Descriptions can be found at KofC.org or contact your Grand Knight.

Financial reports were submitted from the Financial Treasurer Harold Hardin and Treasurer Robert Munroe.

New Business:

- Fr Joe is hosting a volunteer appreciation dinner on June 6th at Hamil's at 5:30PM. Contact Chris Champagne as RSVP is required. Chris cannot attend and George LaFontaine will take his place.
- National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is occurring May 17th through June 16th and the ST Juan Diego Route will be passing through Mississippi in the Diocese of Biloxi. It will be passing through Waveland through Ocean Springs to Mobile, AL on June 10th – 14th. Details can be found at <https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/>.
- Pro-Life Mississippi hosted a Mississippi Life Summit the weekend of May 17th – 18th at the Mississippi Trade Mart Building. Individual tickets were \$40 each and included lunch each day.
- Mike Hart gave a report on replacing the food warmer in the kitchen of Foley Hall. Chris Champagne will approach Fr Joe about splitting the cost. Motion was made to appropriate \$1,500 if necessary. As per the by-laws, said motion was tabled to be held over to the June meeting for a vote and more specifics on the replacement model.
- Motion was made to provide John Malanchak with \$100 to support his new planting work with Fr Dall at the CMCC prison ministry.
- State Deputy Guy Heying requested for Council 15131 to provide lunch and supper for the State Organizational Meeting and Installation of Officers on June 29th at St Richard Parish. State will reimburse the Council for all expenses. Motion was made and approved to support the same.

No unfinished business

No District Deputy Report

Good of the Order

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 after prayer and closing ceremony.

Assembly News

- Next Quarterly meeting will be held Aug 11, 2024 at 6:30 following the 6:00 Council meeting.

- Next VA Bingo event to be Jun 14, 2024 at 2pm at the VA Hospital on Woodrow Wilson Ave. Contact George LaFontaine if interested in volunteering. We meet in the lobby around 1:30PM and the bingo concludes around 3:PM. This is a joint effort of St Paul/St Jude and St Richard Assemblies.
- Flag planting will occur Saturday morning May 25, 2024 at Crestview Memorial Cemetery on the Star Road in Brandon. Plan on arriving by 9:30AM rain or shine. We will be planting at a minimum 141 flags. Bring family, kids and grandchildren.
- A spaghetti takeout dinner has been proposed as a fundraiser. FN George LaFontaine will run this by Fr Tonos soon for approval and setting a date. TBD.
- In conjunction with the Council 15131 a necrology Mass/service will be planned for K of C members deceased at St Richard Church. The Council and Assembly will run this by Fr Tonos for approval and to set a date. TBD.
- Following emails dated Feb 11 and April 14 to the process of nominations for Assembly positions occurred. A refresher was issued April 14. Request was made for volunteers to accept positions or for current to decline positions. As neither occurred the current slate of officers were duly and constitutionally elected to their respective positions for 2024-2025.
 - Faithful Navigator – George LaFontaine
 - Faithful Comptroller – Harold Hardin
 - Faithful Friar - unassigned
 - Faithful Captain – Chris Champagne
 - Faithful Admiral – Carroll Louis Clifford
 - Faithful Purser – Michal J Hart
 - Faithful Pilot – Steve B Cochran
 - Faithful Scribe – John R Gomez
 - Inner Sentinel – Michal Furini
 - Outer Sentinel – Gregory Hampton
 - Trustee 1st Year – Guy J Heying
 - Trustee 2nd Year – Robert C Munroe
 - Trustee 3rd Year – Charles Casky

- Justin Coursin and Dave Forlenza attended an Exemplification Ceremony April 6, 2024 in Meridian, MS. FN George LaFontaine also attend to support them and serve in the Honor Guard. Congratulations to both gentlemen!!
- Sponsored by Assembly 3863 John Malanchak and assisted by George LaFontaine a garden at the VA Hospital in Jackson has been established and is monitored by John Malanchak with regular Friday visits. John continues to educate the residents and staff on the progress of the garden and maintenance. Photos are attached to this email of the initial event and growth progress.
- The final 4th degree exemplification (Patriotic Degree) for the fraternal year is being hosted by Holy Savior Council 7854 / Bishop R. O. Gerow Assembly 554 in Clinton, Mississippi on Saturday June 8, 2024, at 2 pm. Any St Richard 3rd Degree Knight not yet a 4th Degree Knight are encouraged to reach out to George LaFontaine for further details. Becoming 4th Degree does not require acquiring the uniform. The uniform is for any 4th degree member who chooses to join the Honor Guard/Color Guard team for public events.

- For any questions or matters concerning the Assembly 4th Degree please contact Faithful Navigator George LaFontaine at Elizabeth11022020@gmail.com.

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney **Founder of the Knights of Columbus**

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please report all favors received: The Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326.

2023-2024 Council Officers

Grand Knight	Chris Champagne
Deputy Grand Knight	George La Fontaine
Chancellor	John Gomez
Financial Secretary	Harold Hardin
Treasurer	Robert Munroe
Recorder	Kyle Jones
Advocate	Louis Clifford
Warden	Greg Hampton
Inside Guard	Dave Fisher
Outside Guard	Frank Tuminello
Trustee – First Year	Charles Caskey
Trustee – First Year	Al Goodman
Trustee – Third Year	Steve Cochran
Lecturer	TBA (appointed by Grand Knight)

2023-2024 Assembly Officers

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Faithful Captain	Chris Champagne
Faith Admiral	Louis Clifford
Faithful Comptroller	Harold Hardin
Faithful Purser	Mike Hart
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