



St. Richard Council 15131

&

John Edward Tracy Assembly 3863

-Mississippi District-

AUGUST 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

The meeting was called to order by GK George LaFontaine 6PM with 13 members present in attendance. A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to approve the same was made and approved.

Financial reports:

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

New Business:

- Pancake Breakfasts will resume starting Sept 8. We hope to have a formal sign created to advertise the breakfasts in the weekends prior and moving forward to encourage attendance by the parish.
- Knights who Usher should be at the upcoming 10:30AM Mass on Aug 18. Please wear your red polo shirt or a plain red polo shirt. If unable to attend, you need to please find a replacement.
- GK George LaFontaine is in the process of negotiating an order for new red polos and working t-shirts with Harrell Printwear LLC. Once the quote is received it will be presented to the Council and Assembly for initial orders and to have a supply available for new members in 2024-2025. Council polos will be red and Assembly polo shirts will be gray. A work t-shirt will be offered also which may double for the runner's shirts for the K of C convention 2025. The work t-shirt will be a camouflage motif with blue in it versus all brownish. Knights of Columbus will be on the back of it.

- Robert Munroe made a motion which was seconded and approved to appropriate \$500 for E J Martin via the Refund Support Vacations Program (RSVP) for the balance of 2024 A separate motion was duly made and approved to appropriate \$500 for his second semester 2025 to be disbursed in a similar fashion. A similar motion was made by Mike Hart to continue our ongoing support for Grayson Foley in the same fashion.
- Discussion was had over the ongoing situation with the warmer in the kitchen. Mike Hart updated all present that the costs for even a used warmer were perhaps prohibitive. TBD
- Guy Heying brought up the need for insurance coverage for both Council and Assembly members and activities. FS Harold Hardin who is also the Faithful Comptroller for the Assembly will look into Assembly coverage which would be the same \$2.20 per member as the Council.
- Steve Cochran brought up the volunteer effort to support the St Richard Parish Chili Fest to be held Oct 6, 2024. So far 4 members have volunteered to participate as Team K of C. Please consider joining this parish effort. Contact Steve Cochran for further details.
- A membership drive for new K of C members from St Richard will be held in October 2024 timeframe and led by Steve Cochran who is our DGK and Membership Director. Steve and the GK will discuss with Fr Tonos for a weekend to speak at all masses and set up a station for after mass discussions with potential new members. Please reach out to family and friends in the meantime to consider membership in the Knights of Columbus.
- K of C 121st Convention 2025 will be upon us the last full week in April 2025 to be held at the Jackson Hilton on County Line Road. Louis Clifford is our Chairperson and George LaFontaine our Deputy Chairperson. All Councils involved especially St Richard will be solicited to help with the Ad Book Campaign for sponsors. Further details will be discussed at our Sept Council meeting.

Unfinished Business

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District Deputy Report

No Report as Nat Zummo was not present at the meeting.

Good of the Order:

- Several requests were made for Knights and their extended families

Meeting was adjourned by PGK at approximately 7:15pm after prayer and closing ceremony.

Assembly News

- Next Quarterly meeting will be held Nov 11, 2024 at approximately 6:30 following the 6:00 Council meeting.
- The next bingo volunteer effort is scheduled for Sept 12, 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 3PM. This is a joint effort of St Paul/St Jude and St Richard Assemblies.
- A spaghetti takeout dinner has been proposed by the FN as a fundraiser. FN George LaFontaine will run this by Fr Tonos soon for approval and setting a date. TBD. This may also be a joint effort of Council 15131 and Assembly 2863. Proceeds will go toward joint Council/Assemblies supported efforts.
- In conjunction with the Council 15131 a necrology Mass/service will be planned for K of C members deceased at St Richard Church. Fr Joe recommends we merge our memorial with the parish necrology on All Soul's Day in 2025.
- Sponsored by Assembly 3863 John Malanchak created a garden environment at the request of the VA Hospital in Jackson with regular Tuesday and Friday visits. George LaFontaine assists on many Tuesdays. John continues to educate the residents and staff on the progress of the garden and maintenance. Photos were attached to prior emails of the initial event and growth progress. John is now planning a flower arrangement effort using Ball glass jars for the VA clients to decorate. John may need \$\$ to support the effort. When available the FN will reach out to the Assembly via email with costs for approval if it exceeds \$99. Volunteers will be appreciated.
- The 4th Degree Bienville Province Annual meeting will be held Sept 21, 2024 at St Francis Parish Family Life Center. The itinerary will be forthcoming. As the host state this year we encourage a huge turnout of all Worthy Knights. Color and Honor Guards will be needed. Please mark your calendars in advance. All Fourth degree Knights are invited to attend. Email FN George LaFontaine for details and meals.
- Discussion was initiated into the possibility of updating the Assembly name currently John Edward Tracy Assembly 3863 to St Richard of Chicester Assembly 3863. Consensus was to leave it as is.
- Veterans Day will be Nov 11, 2024. Flag planting at Crestview Memorial Cemetery in Brandon, MS with at least 141 veterans would be the venue for our Assembly. TBD
- Guy Heying brought up the need for insurance coverage for both Council and Assembly members and activities. FS Harold Hardin who is also the Faithful Comptroller for the Assembly will look into Assembly coverage which would be the same \$2.20 per member as the Council.
- 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.

2024-2025 Council Officers

Grand Knight	George LaFontaine
Deputy Grand Knight	Steve Cochran
Chancellor	John Rommel Gomez
Financial Secretary	Harold Hardin
Treasurer	Robert C Munroe
Recorder	Nathan Kyle Jones
Advocate	Carroll Louis Clifford IV
Warden	David Forlenza JR
Inside Guard	Dave J Fisher
Outside Guard	Frank T Tuminello
Trustee – First Year	Al W Goodman, JR
Trustee – Second Year	Charles Caskey
Trustee – Third Year	Christopher L Champagne
Lecturer	TBA (appointed by Grand Knight)

2024-2025 Assembly Officers

Faithful Navigator	George LaFontaine
Faithful Captain	Chris Champagne
Faith Admiral	Louis Clifford
Faithful Comptroller	Harold Hardin
Faithful Purser	Mike Hart
Faithful Pilot	Steven Cochran
Faithful Scribe	John Gomez
Inner Sentinel	Michael Furini
Outer Sentinel	Greg Hampton
Trustee – 1 st year	Charles Caskey
Trustee – 2 nd year	Robert Munroe
Trustee – 3 rd year	Guy Heying