



St. Richard Council 15131

&

John Edward Tracy Assembly 3863

-Mississippi District-

FEBRUARY 2025 Newsletter



VERSION 2

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 at 6PM with 11 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.

Grand Knight report

- Pancake Breakfast on Feb 2 went well.
- Ushering for 10:30 Mass will be Feb 22.
- Reminder to all of State Convention to be held April 25-27. Please plan on attending and help solicit ads especially the \$40 single Knight option. See ads attached for details.
- Saturday Feb 22 at 11AM will be the Necrology Mass for all deceased members since the formation of the St Richard Council. It will be celebrated by Fr. Andrew Beaudoin with a luncheon to follow as all family members are invited (wives, children and girlfriends). Please start responding to George for a headcount.
- For any questions or matters concerning joining the Assembly 3863 4th Degree please contact Faithful Navigator George LaFontaine at Elizabeth11022020@gmail.com.

Financial reports:

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

Membership Committee:

- Motion was made and approved to extend membership to Mr. John Bethea III

Unfinished Business:

- Initial K of C shirts had arrived and all were distributed. We will need to order more camo work t-shirts. Any Knight needs a new polo please alert George for details.

New Business:

- A K of C Family lunch to be coupled with a Necrology service is planned for FEB 22, 2025. Fr Andrew has agreed to celebrate the Mass for us at 11AM Mass on FEB 22 Saturday.
- 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. All Councils/Assemblies involved especially St Richard will be solicited to help with the Ad Book Campaign for sponsors. The next Convention meeting will be FEB 16, 2025, TBD at 6PM. All are invited. We still need volunteers from all local Councils.
- Please consider coming to the Convention on Friday night and staying at the Hilton. Details for the Convention are located on the K of C-MS homepage. Friday night will be a party night with live music and dancing.
- If any member knows of any business whether their own or in the Jackson area that would be interested in taking out an ad to help support the effort. The rates for ads can be found in the ad attachment and instructions.
- G.K. George LaFontaine announced that he will be moving to Rhode Island to live with his son by the end of May 2025 due to ongoing health concerns. With his departure and several other retirements from positions in the Council and Assembly – Harold Hardin, Robert Munroe and Mike Hart - George will create a Nominating Committee. Further details to follow electronically.
- Motion was made and approved to appropriate no less than \$250 but no more than \$400 to support Angela Bethea on her mission trip to Honduras shortly. Since the meeting she has indicated she only needs about \$162. This amount has been communicated to Robert Munroe to remit.
- Five individual motions were made and approved to appropriate the following amounts to Mississippi State K of C for the respective funds:
 - \$200 to Mississippi Memorial Pro-Life Fund
 - \$200 to Ultrasound Fund
 - \$100 to the Military Chaplin Fund
 - \$250 to the Bishop Gerow Fund for seminarians
 - \$250 to the Bishop William Houck Fund for retired priest and religious
- Council 15131 will again support and provide breakfast meal for the Men's Prayer breakfast on the Monday of Holy Week April 14, at 7:30 following the Mass. This effort will be led by Mike Hart. Bishop Kopacz will be presiding. Please plan to attend the Mass or help in the kitchen if possible. Mark this date on your calendars.

No District Deputy Report

No Chaplain Report

Good of the Order:

- Pray for the healing of and comfort for Dave Fisher's daughter and their family.
- Pray for the healing of and comfort Fr. Mike O'Brien who suffered a stroke and brain bleed. He has since improved but may need surgery.
- Thanksgiving to Chris Champagne who has found employment and got married!!
- Discernment for Charles Caskey as he considers prostate treatment to follow.
- Prayers for John Gomez as he seeks new employment.
- Prayers for all suffering due to fires in California, the war in Ukraine and the Holy Land.
- Thanksgiving for the upcoming birth of Robert Munroe's seventh grandchild in July.

The meeting was adjourned by GK at approximately 6.43 pm after prayer and closing ceremony.

Assembly News

- The quarterly meeting was held Feb 10, 2024 at approximately 6:50 following the 6:00 Council meeting. The meeting was brief. Mike Hart presented a motion for three annual donations from the Assembly that were approved as follows:
 - \$100 – Military Chaplain's fund
 - \$100 – Bishop Gerow Fund
 - \$100 – Bishop Houck Fund
- The next bingo volunteer effort is scheduled for Mar 13, 2025, at 2pm at the VA Hospital on Woodrow Wilson Ave. 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.
- In conjunction with the Council 15131 a necrology Mass/service will be planned for K of C members deceased at St Richard Church. FN to work with Fr Andrew for a Mass. See details in Council notes.
- A Nominating Committee will be set up by FN George LaFontaine due to the departure of George to Rhode Island at the end of May and the retirement from position held by Mike Hart. Details to follow.

- For any questions or matters concerning the Assembly 3863 4th Degree please contact Faithful Navigator George LaFontaine at Elizabeth11022020@gmail.com.
- Assembly polo shirts can be ordered. They will be light gray with our Assembly name and Assembly logo. Cost is expected to be \$32 up to LG, \$34 for XLG and \$36 for XXXLG. Your name can be added also but not sure yet if at additional cost. The Faithful Navigator has ordered one for himself and will take a photo to share when it arrives with the Assembly if anyone else would like to procure a new one.

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