



Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus - January 2026

From the State Deputy



Kenny Gonzales

Before I get started, let me take this time to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

My first few months as State Deputy have been a blur at times, but also a real pleasure. I made my first trip to New Haven, Connecticut in June for my installation as your Mississippi State Deputy. It has truly been non-stop since then.

We had the Installation of our State Officers and District Deputies, and I want to thank them all for what they have done to make Mississippi successful. I mean that truly - we have some of the folks at Supreme looking at Mississippi in a different light.

We are making progress in Membership and in our Programs. Just remember, they do go hand-in-hand. You can't be a successful council without both. Speaking of Membership, I'd like to thank our Membership Director Dave Fisher for all his tireless efforts in trying to get Mississippi back to Circle of Honor. That means we have made our goal for the year.

Mid-Winter Meetings

South:

Saturday, January 17
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sacred Heart, Hattiesburg

North/Central:

Saturday, January 24
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
St. Peter, Grenada

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I know a lot of you hate talking about Membership, but it truly is necessary. New members bring new blood, new ideas, new workers for your programs and most of all, new ideas. We have to grow our councils, so that we don't get old and die out.

Also remember, one of our main goals is to serve the Catholic Church. Make sure your programs are faith and family related and use them to recruit new members and their families. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the January Mid-Year Meetings. Let's keep up the good work and keep on making Mississippi special.

Vivat Jesus



**We form
families
in faith.**



**Knights of
Columbus**



From the State Membership Director

Many of the District Deputies attended the State Organizational Meeting on the weekend of December 6, and brought back some meaningful information on the condition of the Jurisdiction to their councils. Two goals were presented:

- * The immediate goal was to achieve 50% membership by December 31, 2025. We are currently at approximately at 40.2% In order to achieve our 50% we need a minimum of 36 new members to sign up through the E-Membership app.
- * The long-term goal is to achieve the Circle of Honor {COH}. The Jurisdiction hasn't earned this status in 3 administrations. Obviously, we need to attain 100% membership, 206 new members.

As you can see, we have a lot of work to do to accomplish this percentage. If we lose ground in 2025, it is added to the 2026 number. As a workmate once said at a program review meeting: "Gentlemen, we are dancing in the mud." With our experiences with Yazoo clay, no explanation is needed.

We do have a small life-line: the Pending Application report contains the names of 23 candidates who had filled out the application but had not responded to Supreme's confirmation email. District 15 has sent emails to Supreme on 2 candidates, and Districts 7 and 2 are aggressively searching out additional candidates.

Where the Membership Outreach program (church drive) has been utilized, it has been successful. Granted we're not seeing numbers in the double digits like other states, but we're not other states. It's showing effort and that's all one can ask. What about asking the Pastor if you could have a few minutes after Mass to talk K of C programs? Have each Program Chairman briefly discuss

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his program and a few positive impacts that come from it.

The Constitution requires bringing in at least two new members per year, one in October and one in March. That's a minimum, so ideally you should be doing one per quarter. Programs are a great way to gain recruits, seeing the council in action. Do you have your best "socializer" mixing with the crowd, or do you just set up a table and watch young men walk by? They probably think you're selling cards.

Finally, how many councils have a functioning Membership Chairman? Not just on paper, but truly dedicated to the job. Do you Grand Knights give him time in the meeting, or, do you accept "no report"? Do you District Deputies get in the mix and help guide council membership chairs?

When we joined the Order, we all signed up for the job of recruiting, even the State Officers. The direction now is that any member with the word **State** in his title is charged to get one new member - and if one, then why not two!

Brothers, I feel deeply about the Order, and the Mississippi Jurisdiction. I know the vast majority of you feel the same way. We're all frustrated. But, I'm here to tell you, we are not alone in this quest. Our Supreme Regional Growth Director is available for anything help we may need. I talk to him frequently and he is our biggest cheerleader at Supreme. Without a doubt our SD Kenny Gonzales will turn boulders to get us help.

I'm not the Grinch, and I do believe in Santa, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy. So please have a very, very happy, holy, and safe Christmas and New Year. Do your best plus one.

In Fraternity,

SK Dave Fisher
Membership Director

From the State Secretary



Reports needed!

I am in the process of putting together the minute book for the 2024-2025 fraternal year. To do that effectively, I need material.

Charles Hahn

Who should submit a report? All district deputies should submit reports to report on what has been done in their districts for the 2024-5 fraternal year. Who else?

Grand Knights should submit reports on what their councils have accomplished in the year. Who else?

State directors and committee chairs should submit reports on activities in their respective areas. State officers have already submitted their reports.

I would like to have all reports by February 1st, 2026, so I have time to assemble the minute book.

On state liability insurance: Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries whose councils participate in the state liability insurance program, will notice a charge for insurance on their per capita bills. This is a half year charge. Lockton, the company that provides the liability insurance, moved their billing date from August 1st, to February 1st. There will be no insurance charge on the next July per capita bill.

If you have any questions, please contact me at stsecretary@kofc-ms.org.



SOWER'S CORNER – JAN 2026

MS Evangelization & Faith Formation (EFF) News

SEE GRAND KNIGHTS MESSAGE ON NEXT PAGE
Guidance on Council EFF Leadership

UPDATED COR CONTENT\FORMATION [Click Here for PDF with Links](#)
INTECESSORY PRAYERS [Click Here for PDF](#)

The Great Commission of Jesus - MT 28:18-20

Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Council's Wanting to Start Cor

PHASE 1

1. Grand Knight:
 - a. Appoint Council EFF Director
 - b. Meet with Council and present “WHY COR” [Click Here](#) & “WHAT IS COR” [Click Here](#)
2. Grand Knight & Council EFF Director meet with Pastor & gain approval to:
 - a. Implement Cor for men of the parish
 - b. Partner with existing men’s group
 - c. Advertise Cor in the bulletin
3. Council EFF Director:
 - a. Build Council EFF Team (3+ men)
 - b. With GK assistance, meet with Council for buy in and invitation

(See www.kofc.org/cor for additional info)

Council's Having Cor Gatherings

1. Grand Knight:
 - a. Submit Council EFF Director contact information to mak@emac-llc.com
 - b. Ensure EFF Director gains access to FORMED content & provides required feedback to Supreme
2. Council EFF Director:
 - a. Establish budget & obtain Council approval for funding Cor refreshments, etc.
 - b. KEEP IT SIMPLE
 - c. Use State EFF Team to help Train EFF Team to help lead Cor Gatherings, etc.
 - d. Coordinate with Program Director
 - e. Consider using KofC Faith Programs & CIS for Cor formation content
 - f. Develop strategy & implement communication\marketing program to GROW INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES

The word 'cor' is Latin for heart and the root of the word courage.

Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity all begin with the heart and direct the heart in relationship to God and each other.

Cor exists to strengthen and inform Catholic men in faith and virtue, as missionary disciples and to draw them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity.

SOWER'S CORNER - JAN 2026

Page 2

Grand Knights Message Guidance on Council EFF Leadership

Worthy Grand Knight:

Your Council Evangelization and Faith Formation (CEFF) Director needs to form a Team to help him accomplish the tasks shown below. Your CEFF Director does not have to be the most spiritual Knight in your Council. As can be seen from below, leading, planning, organizing, delegating, and communicating are necessary skills for this role. Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you to a candidate in your Council and INVITE him to serve. You probably have more Knights that will say YES to the invitation than you realize.

[Council EFF Director Role Description Click Here](#)

1. Appointed by the Grand Knight & reports to the Grand Knight
2. Facilitates the planning, structure and hosting of all *Cor* gatherings
3. Ensures adequate preparation for each *Cor* gathering including reserving space, communicating timing\content and ensuring excellent execution of every event.
4. Encouraged to build an EFF team to help with all aspects to support *Cor* gatherings
5. Promotes and communicates directives, opportunities and goals of State Council concerning evangelization and faith formation
6. Collaborates and consults these initiatives with:
 - a. The Pastor and/or Council Chaplain
 - b. The Council Membership and Program Directors
 - c. The State Director of EFF
7. Assists council leadership with this strategic planning.
8. Along with the Grand Knight, the CEFF Director should coordinate and communicate with any existing parish ministries, particularly men's ministries in such a way that fosters collaboration and the possibility of a hybrid experience achieving the aims and goals of both groups.

Please submit the Council EFF Director Form, <https://info.kofc.org/EFF-Onboarding-LP.html>

Please ensure submit your CEFF Director submits the [Quarterly Report](#) & [Cor Testimonies](#)

Our Supreme leadership has many resources to share with your Council EFF Director.

Please contact me so that I can help you in any way. I will come and help your EFF Director run his first *Cor* gathering.

Contact State EFF Director Mak Kersanac, 228-216-2442, mak@emac-llc.com with any questions.

I will come to your Council to help your EFF Director start YOUR *Cor* Gatherings



From the State Program Director
Programs News & Update
Jan. 2026

Worthy Brother Knights,

We hope you and your families had a fruitful & joyous Advent Season and Christmas.

Thank you for everything you do for your Council, Parish and community. I know you are doing many programs and ask that you update your [Facebook pages or send in articles and pictures of your activities so that we can post them in the Magnolia Knight.](#)

OUR GOAL AS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS TO LEAD OUR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES IN FAITH AND SERVICE THROUGH OUR LOCAL COUNCIL'S PROGRAMS

THE FOUR FAITH IN ACTION CATEGORIES ARE LISTED BELOW
(A more complete review of programs will be provided in upcoming midwinter meetings)

Faith Programs: To strengthen men and their families in the Catholic faith.

Family Programs: Enhance the bonds of families in our parishes by providing programs for families by families.

Community Programs: Serving others in our communities exemplifies our Charity principle.

Life Programs: Defending the dignity of each human being at every stage of life.

RECENT PROGRAMS COMPLETED

(See Photos)

FAITH: Rosary\Holy Hour\ASAP/Pregnancy Center Support\RSVP\Into the Breach\Pilgram Icon

FAMILY: Family of the Month\Food for Families\Keep Christ in Christmas\Consecration to Holy Family

COMMUNITY: Coats for Kids

LIFE: Silver Rose

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

FAITH: Rosary\Holy Hour\RSVP\Pilgram Icon

FAMILY: Family of the Month\Good Friday Family Promotion

COMMUNITY: Coats for Kids\Global Wheelchair\Habitat for Humanity

LIFE: March for Life\Novena for Life\Ultrasound Program\Special Olympics\Silver Rose

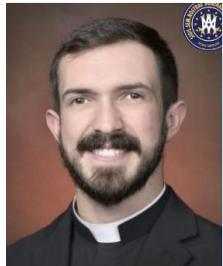
From the State Faith Director

Faith News & Programs Update Jan. 2026

2025 Biloxi\Jackson Diocese Ordinations

Priestly Ordination

Bishop Louis Kihneman III ordained **Deacon Adam Frey** to the Priesthood on Saturday, May 24, at the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. **Father Adam Frey** serves as a Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Victories (OLV) in Pascagoula.



Transitional Diaconate Ordination

Will Foggo was ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle. **Bishop Joseph R. Kopacz** ordained Foggo, marking the final stage of formation before his anticipated priestly ordination on May 16, 2026.

Permanent Diaconate Ordination



SK Charles Walden, Council 16433 / Assembly 3937, St Clare, Waveland, MS

Bill Oster, Council 10499, St. Elizabeth Seaton, Ocean Springs, MS

SK Felix Diaz, Council 15382 / Assembly 562, St Thomas Aquinas, Hattiesburg, MS

SK Robert Maynard, Council 15382 / Assembly 562, St Thomas Aquinas, Hattiesburg, MS

SK Eric Denmark, Council 1605 / Assembly 561, St. Joseph the Worker, Moss Point, MS

SK Roy Leonard, Council 2180 / Assembly 563, Immaculate Conception, Laurel, MS

Gil Diaz, San Fernando de la Carolina Council 6580, Puerto Rico

Paul (PJ) Necaise, Council 1522, Our Lady of the Gulf, Bay St Louis, MS

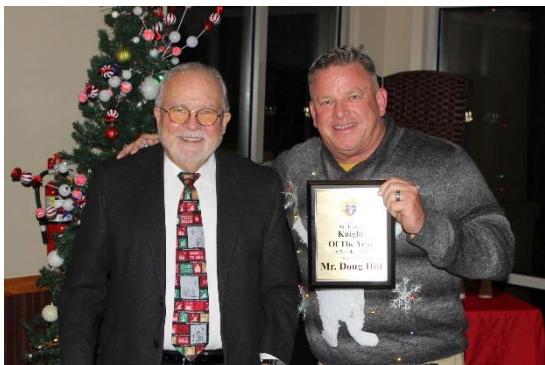
Calvin Authement (deacon mentor), Council 1908, Sacred Heart, Hattiesburg, MS

Mike Harris, (deacon mentor), Council 1522, Our Lady of the Gulf, Bay St Louis, MS

SK David Hebert, Council 11995 / Assembly 3625, Most Holy Trinity, Pass Christian, MS

SK Jim Ballantine, Council 11995 / Assembly 3625, Most Holy Trinity, Pass Christian, MS

SK Michael Martin (not pictured), Past Grand Knight, Council 9124 / Assembly 561, Sacred Heart, Pascagoula, MS



Council #11541



Councils# 1583 & #11541 - Silver Rose



THE LENT & EASTER SEASON IS APPROACHING

Lent is a period of deep reflection as we prepare for the most sacred celebration, Easter. [CLICK HERE](#) for On Demand *Council Preparations for Lent & Easter* webinar

Explore the tools and resources available to help you and your council have an impactful Lent and Easter.

IMPORTANT DATES (SEE 2025-2026 FRATERNAL PLANNER)

Form 1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity is due by Jan 31, 2026

Consider using Form 1728a, *Individual Member Worksheet* to help track community service volunteer hours throughout the year

HAS YOUR COUNCIL UPDATED YOUR PLANS FOR THE 2ND HALF OF THE YEAR?

Now is a great time for reviewing\updated your Council's plans for finishing the year strong.

The Goal of Faith Programs is to strengthen a Knight's Faith Formation
CONSIDER COR FOR FAITH FORMATION

The following activities are excellent Faith Programs to consider:

- Imitating Saint Juan Diego (**NEW**)
- Building the Domestic Church Kiosk
- Holy Hour **
- Rosary Devotion **
- Eucharist Processions
- Seminarian Support (RSVP)
- Into the Breach (stay tuned for new release in early 2026) **
- Sacramental Gifts
- Spiritual Reflection **
- Pilgrim Icon – SACRED HEART OF JESUS

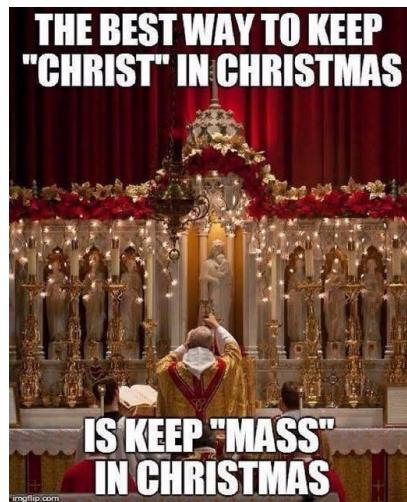


** Suitable for COR Content

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Council #1583



Council #2180



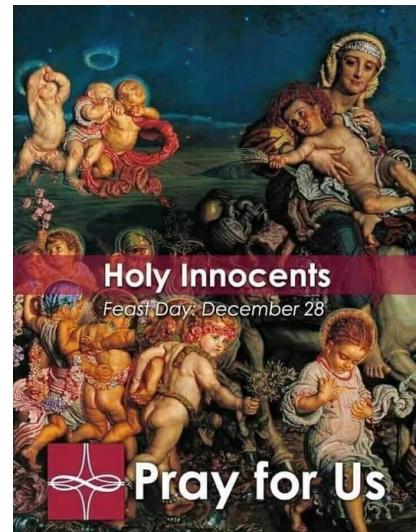
Council #802



Council #7120



Council #14051



Council #6872



Council #7087 with Asgard Motorcycle Club

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Council #6765



Council #1605



Council #558



Council #12331

Council #1522



Upcoming Events - January 24

PATRIOTIC DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

Saturday January 24, 2026

HONORING:
Sir Knight Robert Purifoy
Faithful Pilot

Hosted By:
Father Greogory Bezy - Assembly 2195
Hernando Desoto – Council 7120
Christ the King Catholic Church
785 Church Rd W. Southaven MS 38671



Knights of Columbus
**FOURTH
D E G R E E**
Patriotic degree of the Order.



Upcoming Events - January 24



EVENT SCHEDULE

11:00 am - 12:00 pm — Candidate Registration
11:30 am - 12:15 pm — Light Lunch
12:30 - 12:50 pm — Candidate Preparation
1:00 - 3:00 pm — Exemplification
3:00 pm — Presentation of Certificates / Group Photo
4:00 pm — Mass
5:30 pm - Banquet



Candidate Fee

**\$75.00 with banquet
\$50.00 without banquet**

Candidate Fee includes:

- 4th Degree Membership Pin
- Certificate

Guest and Visitors Banquet fee \$25.00

FORM 4 and Payment:

A COMPLETED FORM 4 AND FEE MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN Jan 11, 2026.

Make Check Payable to:
William Clark, District Master

Mail To:
3604 Dale Lane
Moss Point, MS 39563



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

**William Clark
District Master
228-990-0390
Email:
kocbclark@gmail.com**

OR

**DJ Godwin
Faithful Navigator
901-896-6973
Email:
djgodwin2416@gmail.com**

Upcoming Events - January 25

CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF BILOXI ANNUAL

WALK FOR LIFE & ROSARY RALLY

January 25, 2026

2:00 - 5:00 PM

NATIVITY CATHEDRAL --> BILOXI LIGHTHOUSE

Catholic Dioces

MARCH FO

Join us for a rosary, Mass, our annual *Walk for Life*, and a Prolife Rally with Adoration and speakers. Your presence is a powerful witness to the dignity of every human life and a reminder that prayer is the catalyst that changes hearts.

Upcoming Events - Feb. 1



Knights of
Columbus®

Free Throw Championship & Basketball Exhibition



Featuring students, seminarians, and priests!



Sunday, Feb. 1

2 - 4 pm

Saint James Gym

366 Cowan Rd., Gulfport

For more info: www.saintjamescc.com/kc11541

Upcoming Events - March 7

PATRIOTIC DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION
Saturday March 7, 2026

HONORING:

Sir Knight Harrison J. “Pete” Duet, Jr.

Hosted By:

Fr. Michael A. Leane - Assembly 2227
Oscar J. Gelpi – Council 6872
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
1000 Fifth Ave, Picayune MS 39466



Knights of Columbus
FOURTH
D E G R E E
Patriotic degree of the Order.



Upcoming Events - March 7

EVENT SCHEDULE



11:00 am - 12:00 pm — Candidate Registration
11:30 am - 12:15 pm — Light Lunch
12:30 - 12:50 pm — Candidate Preparation
1:00 - 3:00 pm — Exemplification
3:00 pm — Presentation of Certificates / Group Photo
4:00 pm — Mass
5:30 pm - Banquet



Candidate Fee

**\$75.00 with banquet
\$50.00 without banquet**

Candidate Fee includes:

- 4th Degree Membership Pin
- Certificate

Guest and Visitors Banquet fee \$25.00

FORM 4 and Payment:

A COMPLETED FORM 4 AND FEE MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN Feb 21, 2026.

Make Check Payable to:
William Clark, District Master
Mail To:
3604 Dale Lane
Moss Point, MS 39563



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

William Clark District Master 228-990-0390 Email: kocbclark@gmail.com	OR	Frank J. Arnona, Jr. Faithful Navigator 985-774-5578 frankarnonajr@gmail.com Alternate FS/FC Richert Mahony richertmahony@gmail.com 601-569-6989
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More Details - Exemplifications

Dress Code: Candidates as described below:

Dark Blue, Grey, or Black business suit, white dress shirt with lay down collar (no collar buttons); tie; dark socks; and dress shoes.



Dress Code Exceptions (for candidates)

Military—Dress Uniform
Police and Firemen—Formal Dress Uniforms
Priests—Regular Clerical Dress
Seminarians—Dark Suit and Tie or Seminarian Collar with Black Suit

Dress Code for Others

4th Degree Members/Observers

- New uniform.
- Dark suit with tie and social baldric

Honor Guard

- New uniform w/sword

Color Guard Flag Bears

- New uniform, Service Baldric / no Swords

Color Guard Escorts

- New uniform w/Swords

Family/Friends

Business Dress for both men and women

NO TUXEDOS



More Details - Exemplifications

PLEASE PRINT



**FOURTH DEGREE MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENT
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
A SOCIETY OF CATHOLIC MEN**

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112

 A SOCIETY OF CATHOLIC MEN email: (1)		MEMBERSHIP NUMBER (2) <input checked="" type="radio"/> NEW MEMBER <input type="radio"/> RESTORATION <input type="radio"/> TRANSFER <input type="radio"/> HONORARY MEMBERSHIP <input type="radio"/> HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP <input type="radio"/> DATA CHANGE <input type="radio"/> SUSPENSION <input type="radio"/> DEATH					
LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL		TITLE	
STREET		CITY		ST / PROV		POSTAL CODE / COUNTRY	
HOME PHONE (3)		DATE OF BIRTH		MARITAL STATUS		1ST DEGREE DATE (4)	COUNCIL NO.
CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY?		BY BIRTH OR NATURALIZATION?		IF NATURALIZATION HAVE FINAL PAPERS BEEN RECEIVED?		YES	NO
IF YOU WERE PREVIOUSLY INITIATED IN THE FOURTH DEGREE, GIVE: INITIATION DATE OF (5)		TERMINATION		ASSEMBLY NUMBER		CITY	ST/PROV.
REASON FOR TERMINATION		ASSEMBLY		NUMBER		CITY ST/PROV.	
PARISH (6)		NEW OR PRESENT		(10)		(11)	
I THEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I AM A PRACTICAL CATHOLIC IN COMMUNION WITH THE HOLY SEE		FORMER		(12)			
(7)		I CERTIFY THAT THE APPLICANT IS A THIRD DEGREE MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING IN (13) (14)					
SIGNATURE OF PARISH PRIEST DATE (8)		COUNCIL NO. LOCATION (15)					
(9) SIGNATURE OF PARISH PRIEST ASSEMBLY		DATE SIGNATURE OF FINANCIAL SECRETARY (16) (17)					
FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR		RECEIVED FEES OF \$ _____ DATE _____ APPLICANT INITIATED AT _____ DATE _____					
FAITHFUL COMPTROLLER		DATE _____					

Guide for Completing online Form 4

Follow this guide to assure your Form 4 in completely filled out

1. Email address must be here
2. Candidates' member Number
3. Home or Cell Phone number (must have a contact number or email.)
4. 1st degree date can be found on Council Roster by GK, FS, FN, or FC.
5. 4th degree returning after being Terminated or joining again
6. Parish where Candidate goes to church
7. Candidates Signature and Date
8. Proposer signature and Assembly
9. Proposer's Membership number
10. Assembly Joining
11. City and State
12. Transferring member or Reinstating Assembly, City and State
13. Candidate's Council Number
14. Councils Location
15. Financial Secretaries Signature and date
16. Faithful Navigator Signature and Date
17. Faithful Comptroller Signature and Date.

The Form 4 must be completed or it will be sent back unless the Phone number and email are complete.