



# The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

Volume 32 Issue 5

November 2020

## Advent Season

By Deacon Bob Cox, State Spiritual/Faith Director

Greetings my Brother Knights and families! As Thanksgiving Day is fast approaching, let us give a prayer of thanksgiving: “Almighty God, of all mercies, Father, we, your unworthy servants, give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men. We praise you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. But, above all, we thank you for your infinite love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And we pray, give us a due sense of all your mercies, that our hearts may be truly thankful, and that we may declare your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives. Amen.” (The Catholic Prayer Book)

After the celebration of Thanksgiving, we can look forward to the Season of Advent. This is the Liturgical Season that leads us up to Christmas and consists of four weeks, starting in 2020 on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. For the Church, Advent is the season of the expectancy of the Messiah and anticipating the Second Coming of Jesus Christ at the end of time. Because of that, Advent is a liturgical season that directs our heart and mind to anticipate the two comings of Jesus.

As you recall, the usual colors for Advent are violet/purple and rose/pink. Purple is worn on the first, second and fourth Sundays of Advent and rose is normally worn on the third Sunday of Advent (although purple is allowed), also recognized as *Gaudete Sunday* (the Sunday of rejoicing).

A popular devotion during Advent is the use of an Advent Wreath (a.k.a. as an Advent Crown). The wreath is a Christian tradition that is a symbol of the passage of the four weeks of Advent leading up to the birth of Christ. The wreath and

candles are symbols that are connected to the Christmas season. The color of the vestments that the deacon and priest wear on the Sundays of Advent, correspond with the color of the candle to be lit on the wreath. The wreath can be made of various evergreens, is a symbol of the circle of life. This roundness or circle of the wreath points out that there is no beginning or end, as it indicates to us the everlasting life found in our Lord Jesus, the endless life after death that we will have with God and the immortality of our own souls.

Since Advent is a time to jump start and enkindle our faith in our Lord Jesus, the Advent Wreath and its accompanying prayers gives us a systematic plan of action to prepare for the birth of our Savior. Also, the use of the Advent Wreath along with its tradition, helps us to remain vigilant in our homes and not lose the true meaning of Christmas.

I am leaving you, my Brothers, with this Advent prayer so that you can bless your own family Advent Wreath(s): “Lord, our God, let Your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Jesus’ promise to bring us salvation and may His grace be abundantly given to us. Amen.” Viva Cristo Rey!

## SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

### October 2020

- TBD District Soccer Challenge
- 23-25 Diocese of Charleston, Catholic Camporee  
Batesburg, SC

### November 2020

- 1 Holy Day of Obligation - All Saints’ Day
- 14 State Soccer Challenge - St John Neuman  
School soccer field (Tentative)
- 21 SC District Fourth Degree 82nd Exemplification  
(no banquet, social distancing, candidates and  
Sir Knights only) - St Andrew Catholic Church  
- Myrtle Beach, SC

### December 2020

- 8 Holy Day of Obligation - The Immaculate  
Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary
- 11 - 13 District Deputies Mid-Year Meeting\* - Westin  
Hotel & Resort, Hilton Head, SC

### January 2021

- TBD Council Free Throw Championship
- 1 Holy Day of Obligation - Solemnity of  
Mary, Mother of God
- 8 - 9 Proudly Pro-Life Weekend - Columbia, SC

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## From the State Deputy

*Daniel Barton*

Brother Knights,

I hope this edition of the Palmetto Bulletin finds you and your family well.

I would like to personally thank so many of you for the hospitality you and your councils have personally shown the state officers and their wives / mother as we finally have been able to travel the state over the past several months. Please know that we are grateful for your kindness.

Now that election day is past us, we must all be patient and await the outcome of various challenges and mandatory recounts that are underway. That said, we are definitely in challenging times especially as we face continued coronavirus restrictions and social unrest within society in general. The divisiveness we see on the nightly news boils down to what we perceive our American values are. While our two major political parties talk about values they sometimes fall short in identifying them. I state this not to become political, but rather to remind each of us as Catholic American Citizens that we have a tremendous responsibility. We must be effective Catholic American Citizens fulfilling our duties in society, in making sound and moral decisions, in keeping the course during seen and unforeseen circumstances that life might throw at us, and to daily bear our own cross.

This is the rich example that we were given by the founder, Fr Michael McGivney, whose beatification was on October 31, 2020. As his heirs, it is up to us to pass along his vision to future generations of knights. However, the success or failure within the South Carolina Jurisdiction, and within your own council will depend upon how we do our duty of living up to our principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism in our daily lives. Furthermore, it will greatly depend upon how well each of us faithfully serves our Church. By working with our local Pastor to aid him in building up Catholic family life and strengthening parish life.

However, in order to do this, we must continue to grow our membership. The stark reality is that unfortunately, this past year, we lost more brother knights than we have brought in so far this fraternal year. This reminds me of the perpetual watchword of our Order "Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori"

## From the Vocations Director

*Jim Weiskircher, Vocations Director*

Earlier this month, our financial secretary met a lady after Mass who has a 13 year-old son who is interested in exploring religious vocations. She wanted to know if the Knights had any programs that could help. He referred her to me. With covid-19 restrictions in place at many parishes, he could not serve on the altar as an altar boy. Sadly, we do not have a Squires Circle at our parish. I explained that we did not have a program with the Knights for promoting vocations until they reached college.

I told her that I have a 31 year old son that was in the seminary with the Adorno Fathers for 6.5 years and is in the process of switching over to the diocesan seminarian program. When Bishop Guglielmone first became our Bishop, I had a meeting with him. I asked him what do you do if you have a son that is interested in becoming a priest. He had told me that we should give him every opportunity to grow in his faith.

I reached out to the vicar of vocations for the diocese, Father Matthew Gray. His suggestion was to have her son become an altar boy if he is not already one after the covid-19 restrictions are lifted and to speak to our pastor. The diocesan vocation office has sent a Melchizedek Project packet to every parish last month and encouraged the creation of discernment groups in the parish. "The best way to encourage vocations is to create a culture of vocations where the joy of the priesthood/religious life is openly encouraged and opportunities are created for youth to discuss and ask questions of the Priest/ Youth Minister, etc..."

He continued "If Father or the Youth Minister chooses not to use the Melchizedek Project, which is FREE, then vocations should be discussed at least once a month within the youth group and a Priest should regularly visit. Additionally, whenever someone thinks that a young man/woman might have a vocation, they should encourage him or her by asking if they ever thought about it. If so, then they should talk to their parish priest about it." You can view information on the Melchizedek Project at

<https://www.melchizedekproject.com/>

Another resource that I found that was helpful for parents is at this link

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/tools-parents.>

All of us are called to encourage vocations wherever possible and to be able to point young people and parents in the right direction.

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### Patriot's Corner

Michael A. Allen, PSD  
Master, South Carolina  
District, DeSoto



“Experience is what you get when you don’t get what you want.”

**-Ancient Proverb**

Brothers,

Regardless of how the election turns out, I thought this would be one of the toughest bulletin articles that I would ever have to write. I realize that no matter what I write politically, about half of you will vehemently disagree with me and about half of you will just as strongly support me, there’s very little middle ground when abortion, religion and politics are involved. If 2020 has done anything it has taught me that I am not in control. Wherever you fall on the political spectrum, no matter which side of the aisle you sit on; **God’s got this!**

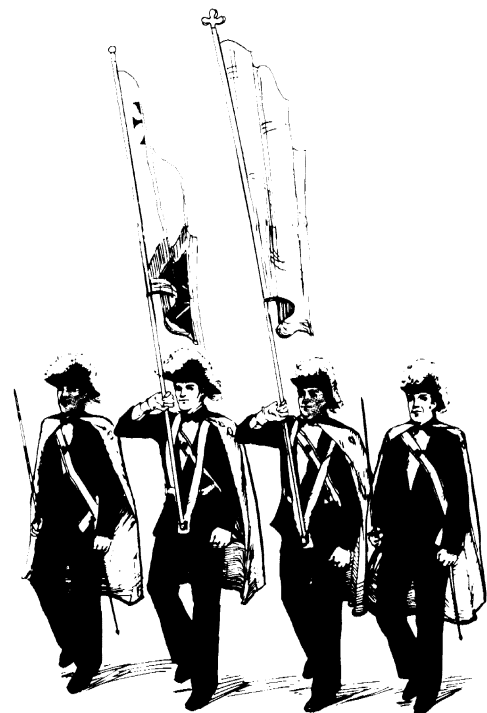
The Gospels from the past few weeks have been from St. Matthew, especially the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter. Here St. Matthew tells us that God’s timing is perfect and ours is not. God’s plan is perfect and ours is not. He makes it extremely clear that we are to stay awake, keep our lamps full of oil, our wicks trimmed and keep our wedding garments on because we know not the day or hour.

Brothers, the day and the hour **are** coming, and we must remain vigilant. There is no better way to stay awake with full lamps than to be a part of a fraternity whose number one focus is patriotism and vigilance. I want to invite each of you reading this bulletin to join or invite someone you care about to join the 4<sup>th</sup> degree of the Knights of Columbus. It’s an adventure that you will never forget.

Anyone that is interested can become a Sir Knight just by filling out a short form, paying a registration fee of \$70 and attending the Exemplification at St. Andrew’s Church on November 21, 2020.

See your Faithful Navigator or your Grand Knight for more details or contact me directly.

Vivat Jesus,  
Mike  
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## From the State Protocol Chairman

*Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM*

Worthy Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators and Members of the State Council:

### **COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY MEETINGS**

The Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator must conduct their meetings in accordance with the Charter, Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus, supplemented by your council's or assembly's by-laws and according to parliamentary procedure. The standard reference on the subject of procedure is Robert's Rules of Order. The order of business for conducting a council or assembly meeting is outlined in *The Method of Conducting Council Meetings* (#10318) and *The Method of Conducting Assembly Meetings* (10325), both available from [knightsgear.com](http://knightsgear.com). Presiding officers should control all meetings so that they follow the set agenda by limiting any sidebar discussion.

When a member wishes to speak, he does so by rising from his seat, addressing the chair by saying "Worthy Grand Knight" or "Worthy Faithful Navigator" and renders the salute. (Representing the tree of the Cross, the member makes a vertical motion, with his arm and vertically opened hand, from top to bottom. The presiding officer recognizes the speaker by announcing his name and rendering the salute in return. (Representing the arm of the Cross, the presiding officer makes a horizontal motion, with his arm and horizontally open hand, from left to right).

The presiding officer should at all times refer to and address the officers by their proper title. He is thus setting a good example for all members to follow.

All members who are not officers should be recognized by name as "Brother ....." or "Sir Knight....." All questions or comments must be directed to the chair (the presiding officer), for example "Worthy Grand Knight or Worthy Faithful Navigator may I ask the previous speaker to explain....." The presiding officer always speaks in the third person such as "The chair rules that....." Or "Your Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator reports that....."

Members should speak of the chair in the third person: "Worthy Grand Knight or Worthy Faithful Navigator will the chair please explain the effect of the pending motion?"

### State Deputy continued from page 2

which means "Time files, Remember death." While it is vitally important to prepare for our death spiritually, we must also look to the wellbeing of our councils as well. As a fraternal leader, ask yourself, what would happen to your council programs and the charities your council supports if the 10 to 20 most active members of your council were gone tomorrow due to death, illness, or relocation to another city or state.

As a fraternal leader, you must always be mindful of the overall wellbeing of your council. Therefore, let me ask, have you consistently invited a fellow Catholic gentleman to consider becoming a Knight of Columbus? If so, have all of your council officers and directors done the same? If not, why? We understand that Covid has limited our ability to meet and socialize as we used to prior to mid-March; however, we must not let this stop us dead in our tracks. We can not sit back, we must stay engaged albeit differently than we used to. As fraternal leaders, we must accept responsibility and make a positive impact for the good.

Therefore, inspired by the example of Fr Michael J McGivney, let us march onward with a renewed sense of purpose.

Blessed Fr Michael J McGivney, pray for us.

Fraternally Yours,

Daniel Barton



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