



The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

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June 2021

“Our Freedoms”

By Deacon Bob Cox State Spiritual/Faith Director

Greetings my Brother Knights and families! Hope all are well and fully vaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated yet, go ahead and get it done. For you, for me. Pope Francis and Bishop Guglielmone have both given us permission to use any of the vaccines that are available. Just do it!

With the 4th. of July holiday approaching us in a few short weeks, I want to address this National Holiday. Independence Day is a National Holiday, commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States, on July 4, 1776, as adopted by the Continental Congress. As a side note, John Adams, one of the five to draft the formal statement justifying the break with England, believed that the correct date on which to celebrate Independence Day was July 2nd. That is the date that the Continental Congress voted in favor of the resolution for independence in a vote. It was on July 4th., that the Continental Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence. This day has been an official National/Federal Holiday since 1941. It is a potent symbol of the freedoms that we have in this country.

July 4th. will be here and will pass by, but the work of protecting our rights as American citizens remain vitally important. Let us, as Catholics and Knights of Columbus, speak joyfully of our faith to our friends and neighbors and family, and continue to pray for the protection of our religious liberty, as so many people have done during the Fortnight for Freedom that is normally celebrated from June 21st.-July 4th. throughout America. In this way, we can help uphold our religious freedom and proclaim the dignity of every person, then we can live in a peaceful state of mutual dependence with service to all.

My Brothers, I am asking for your prayers concerning our freedoms, especially our freedom of religious liberty. I invite you to join me in this prayer for religious liberty: "Almighty God, Father of all nations, for freedom you have set us free in Christ Jesus. (Gal 5:1) We praise and bless you for the gift of religious liberty, the foundation of human rights, justice, and the common good. Grant to our leaders the wisdom to protect and promote our liberties; by your grace may we have the courage to defend them, for ourselves and for all those who live in this blessed land. We ask this through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, our patroness, and in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen." (USCCB)

Happy Independence Day! Viva Cristo Rey!



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SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

June 2021

- 3 Feast of Corpus Christi
- 9- 13 State Deputy Meeting - New Haven, CT
- 25 - 27 DD Organizational Meeting & State Officers, District Deputies Installation - Florence

July 2021

- 24 Grand Knight Organizational Meeting - Florence,



From the State Deputy

Daniel Barton

Brother Knights,

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

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, let us take time to thank the generations of knights that have come before us. Although we may have never had the opportunity to meet them, we are still feeling the lasting impact that their leadership had on the Knights of Columbus within our state. These knights had a deep sense of heroic sacrifice and wanted their lives to mean something.

Today, as we come to the end of another fraternal year, let us look back on our time as a Council Officer or Director, a District Deputy, a State Director, or a State Officer. To date, fourteen councils throughout the state have had tremendous success with membership growth and have achieved the Fr McGivney Award, while an additional five councils are close to achieving this distinction. Furthermore, the councils within South Carolina have donated approximately \$714,000.00 and dedicated 133,000 hours of service to their local communities including 4,400 visits to the sick and bereaved. According to the Independent Sector, the estimated national value of each volunteer hour is \$27.20 per hour thus the total value of the Knights of Columbus service to South Carolina is in excess of \$3,600,000.00.

Yet, while some of the goals we may have set at the beginning of this fraternal year did not come to fruition, it is what happened along the way that matters most. We have all given of ourselves for the betterment of our brother knights, our parishes, and our local communities. As Pope St John Paul II said, "it is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, the will to follow an ideal". It is through the continued selflessness of giving of ourselves in service of others that we can find true meaning in our lives.

As we look forward to the upcoming fraternal year, let us all start, or continue to set SMART goals and dare to dream

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From the Vocations Director

Jim Weiskircher, Vocations Director

The clock is ticking on getting the paperwork in for this years RSVP program. Please take a few minutes to fill out the form and send it in. Remember that when you send it in the last two weeks of the fiscal year, that it will take 4-8 weeks to process it and to send the council a check.

This year has been a very strange year for vocations. We started the year with 10 seminarians entering the program. We have had the following 6 men request a leave of absence and must remain out of the program for at least 12 months. The following have been granted a leave of absence: Pedro Silva, Sebastian Barbosa-Garcia, Nicholas Shiver, Mario Aguilar, Enerson Hernandez, and Mauricio Moreno. We are very fortunate to have a seminarian leave the program because of his ordination. Father Rafael Ghattas was ordained on June 12th in the Cathedral in Charleston. I know that several of our councils have supported Deacon Rafael over the years and he would like to thank you for your years of support.

With 7 men leaving the program this year and 2-3 coming in, it will be important to check with me before committing to supporting a seminarian. When I first took over as vocation chair 12 years ago, I inherited a program that was broken. We had one popular seminarian in Rome that had 13 councils supporting him while others only had one. I will keep track of your support so that we can make sure that the seminarians that need the support the most are getting it. Thank you for your support of the seminarians this year. I know that with covid restrictions it was hard to raise funds. Your support is appreciated by the vocations office and seminarians.





Patriot's Corner

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



“Freedom lies in being bold.” – Robert Frost

Brothers:

As we think about picnics and fireworks, let's thank God for this amazing mix called America. Let us take a good look at what God has to say about our relationship with Him and with our country.

One of history's classic problems is the relationship between God and country. We find various views on this matter.

One day some religious leaders confronted Jesus. These were men who had wrestled philosophically with this problem. They had tried to solve the relationship between God and country. At that time, Palestine was an occupied country. The Jews were subject to the Roman Empire. The Romans ruled Palestine with a firm hand.

It was in this context, during Holy Week, that some of these men put Jesus on the spot. Jealous of His following among the people, they thrust at Him a statement followed by this question: “Teacher,” they said, “we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” (Matthew 22:16-17). How would you handle a trick question like that? Most tendencies would be to alert both the Pharisees and the Herodians to their errors. Jesus, in His penetrating way, did something much more creatively communicative. He met this age-old question, involving the relationship between God and country, head-on. He asked for a coin. They handed Him a denarius. He held it up before the men asking, “Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?” They responded, “Caesar's”. He said to them, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's” (Matthew 22:20-21).

When these men heard His answer, they were amazed. They were so amazed that they left Him. They went their separate ways.

What may on the surface look like an expedient answer, a clever compromise between two politically and religiously partisan groups, was much more than that. It reflects a divine truth which speaks to you the modern men and women who are analyzing our responsibilities to God and our country.

Jesus was saying that each of us has a dual citizenship. On the one hand, you live in a country with political leaders. You owe an allegiance to a government into which you pool your resources in a way which will provide safety, education, transportation, public utilities, a degree of social security, and

the many, other things that we provide for each other through government much more cheaply than we could provide for ourselves.

Jesus is saying that every one of us here has a responsibility to serve our country, the United States of America, and to serve our God. Are you rendering unto your country that which belongs to it? Are you giving to your God that which belongs only to Him?

What is a true Catholic patriot? A Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus.

A Christian patriot is one who has an “open-eyed allegiance” to his country. He can acknowledge his nation's wrongs. He will prize and protect what is good. He knows the difference between singing jingles about military conquests and those prayerful thoughts:

A Christian patriot has a healing love, acknowledging both his nation's strengths and weaknesses. He feels emotion for his nation. He is loyal.

Your job as a 4th degree Knight is to pray for your country. Pray that the right persons will get into leadership. Pray that the spirit of God will touch the lives of men and women, bringing about the moral and spiritual reform that is necessary if our nation is to remain even nominally Christian. When was last time you prayed for the President? It makes no difference what you think of him personally, you are instructed to uphold leaders in prayer.

When was the last time you prayed for your senators, your congresspersons, and the members of the Supreme Court? The Sir Knight is to do more than wave a flag and watch fireworks. He is to be a person of prayer who holds his nation up before the Lord.

Rendering, or giving unto God, means that you and I are to acknowledge His absolute sovereignty. Rendering, or giving unto God, means that you and I are to acknowledge His absolute love.

Rendering, or giving unto God, means that you and I are to enlist ourselves in His absolute service.

Jesus tells us that there need be no conflict between God and country. We have this dual citizenship. Where there is a conflict, our responsibility to God is our top priority.

When God and country come into conflict, our responsibility is to join the few, who were willing to sacrifice lives for obedience to Jesus Christ. As Christians, we live in that delicate place of dual citizenship, with our commitment to Jesus Christ having top priority.

Vivat Jesus!

Now is the time to rise to the challenge and take the Fourth Degree to the next level. May God bless the USA and may you have a happy Fourth of July. Vivat Jesus!

Thank you and God bless you this Year!

From the State Protocol

Chairman

Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM

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

Dress for Meetings

The presiding officer, in keeping with the dignity of his office, should be neatly and properly dressed. He should request that other officers do likewise to set the proper dress code for the membership to follow. All council or assembly officers should wear some form of identifying tag or name plate. Every effort should be made to visit with those who have not attended meetings for some time. In addition, new members and those who seem to feel uneasy should be approached by the officers and made to feel at home and welcome.

Relationship Between the District Deputy and the Grand Knight

District Deputies are the representatives of the Supreme Knight and the State Deputy, and as such, Grand Knights and Council officers should familiarize themselves with the respect due to the position the District Deputy holds. District Deputies should be neatly and properly dressed when attending meetings or functions. When a District Deputy visits a Council or attends a function in his district, he should always be seated in front, near the Grand Knight.

The District Deputy should notify the Grand Knight in his district, either through email or in writing and in advance (one week to ten days) when making an official visit so that all officers will be present with their books and records.

District Deputies should instruct the Grand Knight and warden, if necessary, on proper chamber setup for Council meetings. The District Deputy may also need to advise officers on the proper protocol for members during meetings.

The District Deputy should always be called upon to speak and all members should rise when he is introduced.



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big. However, do not be discouraged if we fall short of those hopes, dreams, and desires. That said, let us not miss out on the opportunity today of making an impact for future knights we may never meet. Let us all continue to make our lives a gift for others.

Finally, I ask that you give our incoming State Deputy, Paul V. Burchell, the same level of hospitality, time, and commitment as he and his leadership team leads our State Jurisdiction into a new century of service. For where there is a need, there is a knight.

May our founder, and brother, the Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Fraternally Yours,
Daniel



Andrew F. Jones

(803) 833-7478
andrew.f.jones@kofc.org
Charlotte/Rock Hill



Brandon Chambers

(843) 224-3022
brandon.chambers@kofc.org
Goose Creek



Shane Goheen

(843) 457-5757
shane.goheen@kofc.org
Myrtle Beach



Daniel Gomes

(864) 494-7891
daniel.gomes@kofc.org
Spartanburg



Paul Harrington

(843) 972-8678
paul.harrington@kofc.org
Mount Pleasant



Vince DeFelice

(864) 619-2544
vince.defelice@kofc.org
Greenville



Rob McColl

(843) 560-4721
Robert.mccoll@kofc.org
Summerville/Hilton Head



Robert D. Mack

(864) 325-5978
robert.mack@kofc.org
Mauldin/Columbia



Michael Bauer

(843) 254-0429
Michael.bauer@kofc.org
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General Agent
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| State Deputy | Daniel Barton..... | 843-367-1871 |
| State Chaplain | Fr. Robert F. Higgins | 843-249-2356 |
| Immediate Past State Deputy | Michael A. Allen, PSD..... | 803-397-7803 |
| State Secretary | Paul V. Burchell..... | 803-499-9395 |
| State Treasurer | Jeff Crouch..... | 864-430-0938 |
| State Advocate | Patrick A. Davis..... | 843-830-5939 |
| State Warden | Keith Kingren | 864-901-5692 |
| District Master | Michael A. Allen, PSD..... | 803-397-7803 |
| Vice Supreme Master | Tom Monahan, PSD | 803-648-9925 |
| General Insurance Agent..... | Robert Boni, Jr..... | 843-824-5632 |
| Supreme - RGD..... | David Tebo..... | 203-215-8379 |

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------|
| District No. 1 (5026, 7289, 10668, 12263)..... | Edward Kamenski..... | 843-705-9922 |
| District No. 2 (2207, 6847, 9672, 13713)..... | Christopher Hilditch | 803-436-2307 |
| District No. 3 (5086, 7122, 7531, 14892)..... | Thomas O'Donnell | 413-237-5769 |
| District No. 4 (3684, 7062, 9161)..... | Sherrill E. (Ed) Wilcox | 803-221-5934 |
| District No. 5 (6629,8502, 8900, 11910) | Joseph W Friend | 843-296-2574 |
| District No. 6 (6884, 8295, 9576)..... | Don Thurlow..... | 864-275-7141 |
| District No. 7 (6891, 11325, 12554, 15223)..... | Dr. Richard Swain | 573-465-2402 |
| District No. 8 (1668, 8182, 10819, 13112, 15960) | Jim Alford..... | 864-595-8640 |
| District No. 9 (704, 6250, 9475, 10334, 12472)..... | James W. Daugomah..... | 843-817-9655 |
| Dist No 10 (6756, 10066, 12268, 15611) | Claire (Buck) Buckley, Jr..... | 803-389-9004 |
| District No. 11 (3067, 8980, 11028) | Ronald Gilbert | 509-290-2405 |
| District 12 (5194, 8123, 8790, 10867)..... | Frank E. Love | 843-665-2265 |
| District 13 (6726, 6900, 11471, 11991)..... | Michael P. Cousino..... | 843-607-1007 |
| District 14 (6076, 9184, 9575, 12274, 12995, 15519) | Vacant | |
| District 15 (12366, 14475, 14765)..... | James Carswell | 516-851-3675 |
| District 16 (724, 6892, 7129, 16903)..... | Thomas C. Armel..... | 540-230-4281 |



STATE DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Membership Diector | Ron Stanley | 864-415-9417 |
| Ceremonials | Robert Rooney | 516-456-5738 |
| Program Director | Christopher Hilditch, DD #2..... | 803-316-6283 |
| Youth Director..... | Joseph Mule | 843-224-1948 |
| Community Director | Sherrill “Ed” Wilcox..... | 803-278-4013 |
| Family Director..... | Scott Schweitzer | 864-905-0906 |
| Membership Retention Chairman..... | Joe Balotti | 843-679-0967 |
| Online Membership Chairman..... | Keith Kingren | 864-962-5295 |
| Vocations Chairman | Jim Weiskircher..... | 864-706-0768 |
| Life Director..... | Chris Carter..... | 984-356-3716 |
| Spiritual/Faith Director..... | Rev. Mr. Robert Cox..... | 843-661-6057 |
| Public Relations | Donald Thurlow Jr..... | 864-275-7141 |
| Insurance Promotion Chairman | Robert Boni..... | 843-824-5632 |
| Audit Chairman..... | Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM | 843-553-2171 |
| Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities. | Michael A. Allen, PSD, DM | 803-397-7803 |
| Charities Board Chairman..... | Daniel Barton, SD..... | 843-367-1871 |
| State Convention Chairman | Paul Burchell..... | 803-983-5004 |
| Inter-Council Competition Chairman | Joe Balotti, FDD | 843-679-0967 |
| Hispanic Council Growth Coordinator..... | Enrique Bautista..... | 803-576-0224 |
| Awards/Report Forms | Patrick Davis..... | 843-830-5939 |
| Information Technology Director | Buck Buckley, DD #10 | 803-389-9004 |
| Newsletter/Bulletin Bulletin Editor | Stephen T. Dunlap, PSD | 843-224-7263 |
| SC Catholic Men’s Conference..... | Richard Gabriel..... | 843-797-6804 |
| New Council Development Chairman..... | Richard Gabriel..... | 843-797-6804 |
| Father McGivney Guild | James Nettles, PSD, FM | 843-830-9996 |
| Columbian Squires..... | Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM | 843-553-2171 |
| Faith In Action Director..... | Jim St. Clair | 803-968-5884 |
| Marian Hour Chairman/Silver Rose Chairman..... | Michael Mancari | 803-917-6444 |
| Protocol Chairman | Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM..... | 843-873-8581 |
| Disaster Response Coordinator..... | Greg Scheuer..... | 803-210-7272 |
| Ultrasound Initiative | Raymond Ireland..... | 864-329-0044 |
| Online Membership Chairman..... | Keith Kingren | 864-962-5295 |
| Insurance Promotion Chairman | Robert Boni, GA | 843-824-5632 |
| Athletic Events Chairman/..... | Eric Cannon | 803-479-5905 |
| Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest | Bob Poyer | 843-571-5941 |
| Free Throw Chairman/Soccer Challenge Chairman | Eric Cannon | 803-479-5905 |
| State Directory Chairman | Buck Buckley, DD #10 | 803-389-9004 |
| Special Olympics Chairman | Robert “Bob” Brohm | 864-367-9254 |
| Young Adult Outreach Chairman..... | Michael Cousino | 846-607-1007 |
| Helth Services Chairman | Justin Davis..... | 843-412-1588 |
| Round Table Chairman | Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM | 843-553-2171 |
| State Trainer | Richard Swain..... | 573-465-2402 |





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Financial Secretary -Ann Baucoe
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