



EAST COOPER KNIGHTS

DECEMBER, 2023 THE VOICE OF COUNCIL # 9475 VOLUME 36 NUMBER 12



GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

I was getting ready to put up our Christmas lights Saturday after Thanksgiving, but I had this nagging feeling I was forgetting something. Then I remembered, it's wreath sales time! This is one of the several important fund raisers our Council does every year and our thanks and appreciation go to Tom and Fran Franzone for all the preparation they do to get the wreaths ready for sale. The wreath sales means Christmas is just around the bend. We celebrate the birth of our Lord with two events, first is our float in the annual Mount Pleasant Christmas parade that signifies "Keep Christ in Christmas" being led by Josh Hulen. The second is the Council Christmas party that Mark McCabe is planning for all of us to enjoy a wonderful celebration. This year, we extended an invitation to Council 704 to join us in our celebration so we look forward to sharing cheer and good will to our Brother Council.

Looking back on the year so far, we are fortunate to welcome new Council members and for the outstanding speakers; The Bishop of Charleston, the Beach Company CFO, Bill Desciak, and David Seay who provided interesting and entertaining presentations at our Council meetings. My thanks to Kurt Denner and Deacon Kevin for their efforts in securing quality speakers. And we can't forget the Neil Whitman's work in organizing the social event of the year - the annual harbor cruise. I'd also like to recognize Jim Welsch and Jeff Pulaski for their time and expertise in all the behind the scenes work on Council finances! Looking forward, we have a lot of fun and community work ahead in the coming months. Following up Our Council's donation to "Coats for Kids" are contributions to our parishes, Seminarians, and Catholic charities. We look forward to the upcoming Oyster roast in January, fish fry's in March, and Easter celebrations on March 31st.

On behalf of our Council leadership, we wish all our Brothers and families a holy and memorable Christmas!

Merry Christmas
Don

Grand Knight
Council 9475

CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER 2023

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament _____	01
COK — 7:30 AM. Fri. to 7:00 AM. Sat.	
Pro-Life/Rosary _____	02
COK or Grace Hall (TBD)— 7:30 AM	
Ultreya Meeting _____	05
COK Grace Hall 7:30 PM	
Officer's Meeting _____	07
COK-Life Center- 6:30 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration _____	07
Stella Maris - 8PM to 8AM	
Immaculate Conception _____	08
Decorate float for Mt. Pleasant Christmas Parade _____	09
11 AM in COK grounds yard. Please donate one set of lights for the Float.	
Mt. Pleasant Christmas Parade _____	10
Parade starts 5:30 PM	
Regular Business Meeting _____	14
St. Benedict's Parish Hall 950 Darrell Creek Trail Rosary : 6:00 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Knights of Columbus Christmas Party _____	16
Christ Our King - Beach House, 1122 Russell Dr. Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. 6:30 PM—Till. Bring a side dish or dessert.	
Prayer Vigil at Abortion Facility _____	16
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM (Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.) 1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	
Christmas Day _____	25
Feast of the Holy Family _____	31
New Year's Eve _____	31



**EXEMPLIFICATION
OF
CHARITY, UNITY, AND FRATERNITY**



The exemplification was held before our Regular Meeting in the nave of St. Benedict's Church November 16, 2023.

In the picture left to right our District Deputy Joe Nesbitt, new Brother Knight Joseph Houdek and our Exemplification Presiding Officer Matt Feltman.

**Congratulations becoming a 3rd degree Knight
and
welcome to council 9475!!!**

**Our Guest Speaker
David Seay**



Coach David gave us an outstanding talk on our own definition of success and win at life that his book he wrote #HUSTLE 4 EVER is about. David presented every Knight at the meet with a copy of his book.

In the picture left our Grand Knight Don Campbell is presenting Coach David Seay with a Knights cup as a thank you for coming out and giving us a talk on his book # Hustle 4 EVER.

**Knight of the Month
November 2023
Mark McCabe**

Mark McCabe is a Third Degree Knight. He is from New Rochelle, New York where he was born and raised. His Father, a WW II Navy veteran attended Iona College (now Iona University) on the GI Bill. He eventually became the Registrar at Iona College. His Mother and Father were devout Catholics heavily involved in the PreCana movement. Iona College invited his Mother to lecture the Men of Iona about Marriage in the late 1960's. She eventually got a Master's in Theology from Manhattan College and became a full time Theology Professor at Iona teaching the Judeo Christian Tradition and Electives in Marriage and Death and Dying.

Mark met his wife of 41 years while at Iona (she attended The College of New Rochelle) and they settled in New Rochelle and raised four beautiful children there. Mark and Beth found Mt. Pleasant while their daughter Emily attended the College of Charleston from 2009-2013. They moved here during the Pandemic in July 2020.

Mark is still working full time as an Institutional Municipal Bond Salesperson from his home. He was looking for a way to share all the good things in his life and a good friend from Iona introduced him to the Knights of Columbus. He came to believe the Knights and their Good Works would be a good place to give back and to Honor God.



Left to right our family director Kurt Denner just presented Brother Knight Mark McCabe with Knight of the Month certificate and right our Grand Knight Don Campbell is presenting Mark with a Knights cup.

Congratulations Mark!!!

**Our Knight of the Month
For October 2023 was
Mark Lazo.**



Mark wasn't able to attend the October meeting but was able to attend this one. Our Family of the Quarter director Kurt Denner left presented Mark center with his Knight of the Month certificate and Grand Knight Don Campbell is presenting Mark with a Knights cup.



In the picture above Grand Knight Don Campbell is presenting Brother Knight Bob Fintak with his Honorary Life Membership card. To receive this card you must attain the age of 65 and be a member of the Order 25 consecutive years.

Congratulations Bob!!!

Council 9475 continues to support family programs. On Friday, November 10 we delivered to ECCO our donation of children's winter coats in support of our Coats For Kids program.



In picture left are Jeff Pulaski our Financial Secretary and Deacon Kevin Campbell our Deputy Grand Knight displaying samples of coats our council donated to ECCO.

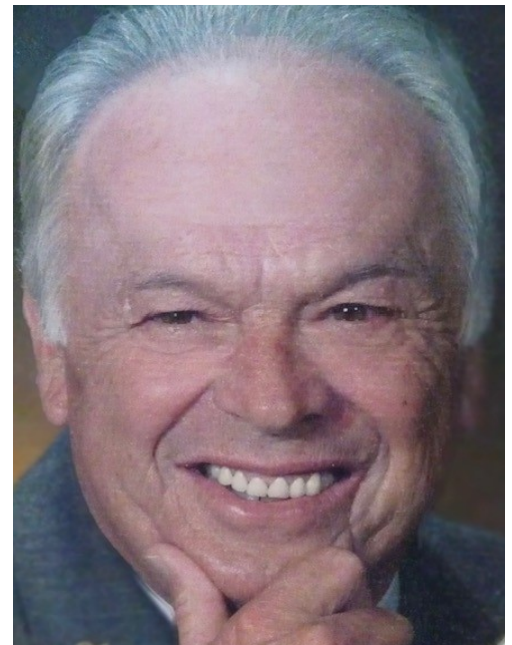
Do You Know

Marion was born in Charleston in 1943, and attended Murray Vocational High School. He met his wife Doris here in Charleston and two years later in 1965 they were married in St. Peter's Church in Columbia, SC. As newlyweds, they spent their first two years living in North Charleston where Marion worked for General Asbestos Rubber Co. They then moved to Mt. Pleasant where Marion joined the police force, serving for seven years under Police Chief Chuck Dawley. In 1973, he entered the food and beverage industry by opening The Mouse Trap. The night life got old, and after five years he left to work on the waterfront for the International Longshoremen Assoc. (ILA), where he worked for 28 years from 1978 to 2006. Marion also owned a diner on Hwy 41 at the Wando Bridge for 18 years, which was very successful thanks to customers/brother knights like Tom Franzone, Jerry Barnett and Ron Davis.

Marion and Doris have two children and five grandchildren--son Quenton works for SPAWAR in North Charleston, and daughter Gwendolyn lives in Naperville, IL.

Marion joined the Knights in 1987, as a Charter Member helping to establish Council 9475 under Rev. Herbert Conner S.J. He is a 4th degree Knight.

Marion attends Christ Our King parish, where he serves as a greeter, gift bearer, helps with the annual parish picnic, parish dinner, school picnic, and ice cream social. Marion is also one of the founders of Boy Scout Troop 470 at Christ Our King.



Marion with a great smile.

Our 2023 Christmas Wreath Sales Fund Raiser Underway



150 red wreath bows made and ready in frog waiting for wreaths to be delivered on Friday, Nov. 24.



Wreath arrived and wives of Knights and Lady friends of Fran's, our hard working Elves are decorating wreaths. Front left around table Jean deGruly, Angie Artigues, Fran Franzone, Jane Kenzik, Doris Wright, Marilyn Groble, and Eliza Artigues. We are blessed to have all these ladies help.



Above is about 100 of the completed decorated wreaths ready to be delivered to our sales tent.



Above are wreaths delivered to our sales tent and we are ready for sales.



In the picture left are the Brother Knights that erected the tent above for our wreath sale in the rain, now taking a coffee break. Left to right are Tom Franzone, Jeff Pulaski, Joe Harkins Jr., Marion Wright, and Jerry Gimbert.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*Michael & Kathleen Eovino
Anthony & Phyllis Francin
Jackey & Lauren Frye
Richard & Mary Garcia
Daniel & Tina Jost
Michael & Eileen Joyce
Mark & Debbie Lazo
William Lewis
Gregory & Carol Loss
James & Eileen Morini
Joseph & Dawn Myers
Francis & Kristen O'Neil
Greg & Kathy Raven
Stephen & Ann Raynor
James & Evelyn Wasson*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Robert Brennan
Michael Carter
Michael Clarkin
Jeffrey DeCapua
David DiPietro
Charles Drouillard
Robert Fintak
Joseph Frick
Patrick Hunkler
Michael Joyce
Deacon Brian Justice
Thomas Kenzik
Gene Knisley
Frederick Koch
Brenden Lo
Daniel McKay
Martin McNulty
Larry Miller
Benjamin Minister
Michael O'Connor
Ed O'Donnoghue
Patrick O'Hara
Juan Ramirez
MG Michael Regner
Matthew Ridenour
Leo Russo
William Shoemaker
Matthew Story
Marco Vasquez
James Wasson
James Welsch*



Stand –Up for Life

**Adoption
not
Abortion**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
JANUARY 2024

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God _____	01
Ultreya Meeting _____	02
COK Grace Hall 7:30 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration _____	04
Stella Maris –8PM to 8AM	
Officers Meeting _____	04
COK Life Center—6:30 PM	
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament _____	TBD
COK — 7:30 AM. Fri. to 7:00 AM. Sat.	
Pro-Life/Rosary _____	06
COK — 7:30 am	
KofC Annual Oyster Roast _____	13
Gold Bug Island - 6:30PM to 9:00PM	
Martin Luther King Day _____	15
Regular Business Meeting _____	18
St. Benedict's Parish Hall	
950 Darrell Creek Trail	
Rosary: 6:00 PM	
Dinner: 6:30 PM	
Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Prayer Vigil at Abortion Facility _____	20
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM	
(Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.)	
1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	

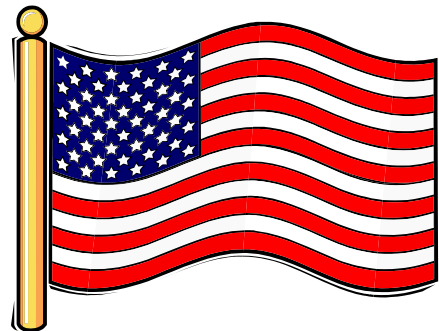
COUNCIL OFFICERS

Co-Chaplain	Rev. Robert A. Spencer	843-884-5587
Co-Chaplain	Rev. Msgr. Lawrence B. McNerny	843-883-3109
Co-Chaplain	Rev. Gregory West	843-471-2121
Spiritual Director	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-729-5602
Grand Knight	Don Campbell	843-471-1085
Deputy Grand Knight	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-884-6317
Chancellor	Kurt Denner	843-323-0981
Financial Secretary	Jeff Pulaski	843-813-1732
Recorder	Derek McCoy	719-200-3041
Warden	Carlos Araiza	480-352-7679
Treasurer	Jim Welsch	843-849-1979
Lecturer	Ron Davis	843-856-4950
Advocate	Bob Brennan	315-729-8652
Inside Guard	Marion Wright	843-509-6512
Outside Guard	Mark McCabe	914-216-2031
3 Yr. Trustee	Matt Feltman	513-374-1994
2 Yr. Trustee	Joe Nesbitt	843-297-9873
1 Yr. Trustee	Tom Siwarski	610-213-5226
Program Director	Tom A. Franzone	843-729-7734
Church Director	Tom A. Franzone -COK	843-729-7734
	Jon Tirpak - SM	843-480-5784
	Joseph Nesbitt - SB	843-297-9873
	Leo Albano - SC of A	843-216-1710
	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-884-6317
Vocations Chairman	Bill Shoemaker	843-884-1378
Community Director	D. J. Thatcher	843-513-0214
Health Services	Bobby Geberth	845-282-5546
Council Director	Neil Whitman	843-270-9834
Public Relations	Kurt Denner	843-323-0981
Family Director	Joe Harkins Jr.	267-974-6534
Culture of Life Director	Mike Flato	843-973-1409
Youth Director	Joe Harkins	843-881-5768
Membership Director	Kevin Cunnane	843-216-5354
Admission Chairman	Joseph Scheirman	843-737-1642
Recruitment Committee	Carlos Araiza - SB	480-352-7679
	Marion Wright - COK	843-884-0140
	Robert Brennan-SC of A	315-729-8652
Retention Chairman	Robert Fintak	803-917-1530
Insurance Promotion	Paul Harrington	706-338-7924
Columbus Hope Chairman	Bill Shoemaker	843-884-1378
Newsletter	Tom Franzone	843-729-7734
State Chaplain	Rev. Robert Higgins	843-249-2356
State Deputy	Jeffrey Crouch	864-430-0938
District Deputy	Joe Nesbitt	843-297-9873
Insurance Agent	Paul Harrington	706-338-7924
Supreme Fraternal Services		203-772-2130

Knights of Columbus



A catholic fraternal organization dedicated to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Mediation on Challenges to Our Faith
gn15:1-6; 21: 1-3; Ps 105:1-6; Heb 11:8,11-12,17-19; Lk 2:22-40

We are challenged to sustain and increase our faith in God which gives us a special blessing: the peace, joy and happiness that only God can give. Faith in God is our complete trust that no matter what we have going on, God will get us through it, in his time and in his way.

Let's begin by asking ourselves: where are we with God's peace, joy and happiness? Do we have it? Could we use more?

In the Book of Genesis, Abraham is having a crisis of faith. He actually gets mad at God. We have all been in situations where we might get mad at God because of something that is going on with us: we failed a test, we get fired or demoted from a job, a loved one is ill or dies. This reading tells us we can get mad with God. He can take it. It also teaches us that we need to be patient when we ask God for something. His time is not our time.

Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were very old when God promised them a child. As time went on without a child, Abraham angrily complained to God but Abraham finally decided to put his faith in God. In his time and in his way, God delivered on his promise: Sarah became pregnant and Isaac was born. They were filled with the peace, joy and happiness because of their faith in God.

In Psalm 105, we are told that the Lord remembers his promise to us, and that those who seek the Lord will rejoice. God promises that he will get us through every situation, but in his time and in his way. We may be in for some very difficult times in 2024 but if we have complete trust in God, and we live our lives as we should, we will ultimately rejoice because we will be blessed with God's peace, even in the worst of times.

The Letter to the Hebrews recalls the challenges to Abraham's faith in God. Because God found him worthy of these challenges, St. Paul presents him as a model for all believers. The most severe challenge was when he was asked by an angel to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, to God. Despite serious misgivings, Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his son to God until an Angel told him not to do so.

We need a faith like Abraham in our God, who fulfills promises, who does the seemingly impossible at times. We only need to think about some of the miracles in our lives.

In the Gospel of Luke, we see the faith of Mary, Joseph, Anna, and Simeon in God. Mary and Joseph are devout Jews who, in faithful observance of the old Jewish law, present Jesus to be blessed at the Temple. They meet Simeon who was very old and looking forward to death. God had told him that he must first see the Messiah before he dies. Simeon, inspired by the Holy Spirit, proclaims that Jesus is the one. His faith in God is rewarded when he experiences the joy and happiness to now die in peace. He predicts problems for the holy family but this faith-filled family remains calm as their trust in God is complete. This is where we need to be. When difficulties come, and they will come, we need to remain calm, trusting in God. It pleases the devil when problems disturb a family's peace, joy and happiness.

This humble family is faithful to their Jewish traditions. After fulfilling the requirements of the old Jewish law, they return to their home where Jesus grew, became strong, and was filled with wisdom. The favor of God was upon him. This Holy Family had the peace only God can give. Although they would suffer serious problems, including the death of Joseph, and the passion and death of Jesus, they never lost their faith that God would get them through these problems. Their faith was ultimately rewarded with Jesus' resurrection and Mary's assumption into Heaven.

How do we increase our faith in God? We can do so by increasing our personal prayer time, receiving the Sacraments as often as we can, and surrounding ourselves with good Christian friends. What can we take from this Meditation? During 2024, we will all experience problems, some more serious than others. We will be challenged to keep our faith, to trust that God will get us through every situation, in his time and in his way. Our families need to support and encourage each other to keep their faith in God during difficult times. Our faith will give us God's peace, joy and happiness, even when we are going through problems.

Let 2024 be our year for faith in God.



Deacon Kevin Campbell