



The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

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January 2021

“January Busyness”

By Deacon Bob Cox State Spiritual/Faith Director

Greetings my brother Knights and families! I pray God filled your Christmas with much happiness and love and that you said “thank you” to Him for the love He has shared with you (us), His Son!

The month of January is a very busy month indeed. On January 1, we celebrated the Solemnity of Mary; January 3, we celebrated the Epiphany; January 8, March for Life Dinner; January 9, March for Life to State Capital; January 10, we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus; January 18, National Holiday for Martin Luther King’s birthday; January 22, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. (On a personal note, January 11, Sue and I celebrated our 46th. Wedding Anniversary; January 26, Sue’s birthday; January 30, my 5th. Diaconate Anniversary.)

Now, because we celebrated the Baptism of Christ earlier this month, I would like to discuss baptisms a little bit. The Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist is a major event in the life of Jesus. Jesus came to John while he was baptizing people in the Jordan River. As soon as Jesus was baptized, as He came up out of the water, and the heavens were torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descended upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.” (Mark 1:11)

The Holy Spirit played an important part in the Baptism of Jesus. Remember what John said about Jesus, “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:8) Because of this act of love from God and the Holy Spirit, this love must have reassured Jesus that from that day forward He would not be alone in His effort to make God’s Kingdom a reality. All of this took place to reassure Christ’s followers that they belong

to a loving, caring Father, God.

For us in our baptism, let me remind you of the wonderful plan of God, Who, willed to sanctify the human soul and body through water. “God graciously bestows his abundant life through the sacrament of water on those who believe.” “Let us then raise our minds to Him, and with one heart pray that He may be pleased to pour out His grace from this (baptismal) font upon the chosen one(s) to be baptized.” (Order of Baptism for Children)

Brothers, it is so important that you influence your children to get their children baptized and to influence your fellow parishioners as well. Don’t leave it to chance. It is a way for you to evangelize within your church, and also a way to recruit new members! Of course, once these little ones, and children, and adults are baptized, you must remain vigilant and do your best to keep them coming to church. Too many people quit attending Mass after their child is baptized! The one unbelievable article that I recently read is that “over the last 3 decades, 60-70% of the baptized do not practice the faith!” (Our Sunday Visitor)

So, let us remember that the Sacrament of Baptism is the most important sacrament, as it is the gateway to the other sacraments. When baptized, we receive forgiveness of original sin and entry into the Church, the Body of Christ. It is a free gift that is given to us! Viva Cristo Rey!

SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

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
- Jan 29 National Pro-Life March - Washington, DC

February 2021

- TBD District Free Throw Championship
- 6 Grand Knights Mid-Winter Meeting* - Doors open at 8:30 AM - St. John Neumann School Gym Columbia, SC
- 6 State Charity Ball - St. John Neumann School Gym Columbia, SC
- 20 SC District Fourth Degree 83rd Exemplification - St Gregory the Great - Bluffton, SC

March 2021

- 6 SC Catholic Men’s Conference - Cardinal Newman School - Columbia, SC
- 14 State Free Throw Championship - Cardinal Newman School, Columbia SC (Tentative)

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From the State Deputy

Daniel Barton

Brother Knights,

Happy New Year! I hope this edition of the Palmetto Bulletin finds you and your family well.

Since the beginning of January, we have witnessed many Feast Days within the life of the Church. At the very outset, we dedicated the New Year to Mary on the Solemnity honoring her as Mother of God, and celebrated the Solemnity of the Epiphany, in which we rejoice with her, as her Son is adored by the three Wise Men.

In his Epiphany homily in 2009, Pope Benedict XVI said, “Epiphany, the ‘manifestation’ of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is a many-faceted mystery. The Latin tradition identifies it with the visit of the Magi to the Infant Jesus in Bethlehem. ... The Eastern tradition on the other hand gives priority to the moment of Jesus’ Baptism in the River Jordan when he manifested himself as the Only Begotten Son of the heavenly Father, consecrated by the Holy Spirit. John’s Gospel, however, also invites us to consider as an “epiphany” the wedding at Cana, during which, by changing the water into wine, Jesus ‘manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him’”.

This month, we also observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal holiday. One of my favorite talks of his was when he spoke about your life’s blueprint. In it, he stated that we all must have as a basic principle the determination to achieve excellence in our various fields of endeavor, a deep belief in our own dignity, and the eternal principles of self-worth.

In the days and months ahead, each of us will have to determine what our legacy, as a fraternal leader during a time of a worldwide pandemic will be. My brothers, our works of Charity cannot wait for the world to return to a new sense of normal. Instead, we must all decide what our individual and collective good works will be for the remainder of this fraternal year.

As fraternal leaders, I challenge each of you to achieve Star
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From the Vocations Director

Jim Weiskircher, Vocations Director

We have been very fortunate to have Father Matthew Gray as Vicar of Vocation. This fall, we had 10 new seminarians join the program. We have never had over 20 young men in the program in my 11 years as state vocation chair. He has done a great job. Sadly, Father Gray, who is in the Air Force Reserve, has been deployed. He will be missed. Monsignor Harris will be filling in for him while he is on active duty. He is the Vicar General, interim Vicar for Vocations as well as pastor, that has just lost his Parochial Vicar to fill in for a priest that died in the diocese. Please keep Monsignor Harris and Father Gray in your prayers.

Both Sebastian Barbosa-Garcia, in his 2nd year of Theology, and Nick Shiver, in his 1st year of Theology have asked for a leave of absence and will not be returning for the spring term. Please keep them in your prayers as well.

Remember that it is all of our jobs to help identify and encourage young people to consider a vocation to the clergy. We are a mission diocese because we must rely on priests from other dioceses and nations to serve our parishes. Thank you for your support of our seminarians.





Patriot's Corner

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



Brothers,

“Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves one another fulfills the law.

Love does no harm to a neighbor therefore love is the fulfillment of the law” Romans 13

In this ever-changing political landscape, it is tough to be part of a Catholic, Pro-life, Patriotic organization and not be a party supporter or at least a little partisan one way or the other.

When it comes to abortion however, neither side is blameless nor is either side the answer to the problem. Both sides have a lot of work to do to end this issue once and for all. On one side, Catholics must work even harder to continue the fight for the unborn and on the other side the Catholic must be a beacon of change and hope in a hostile environment.

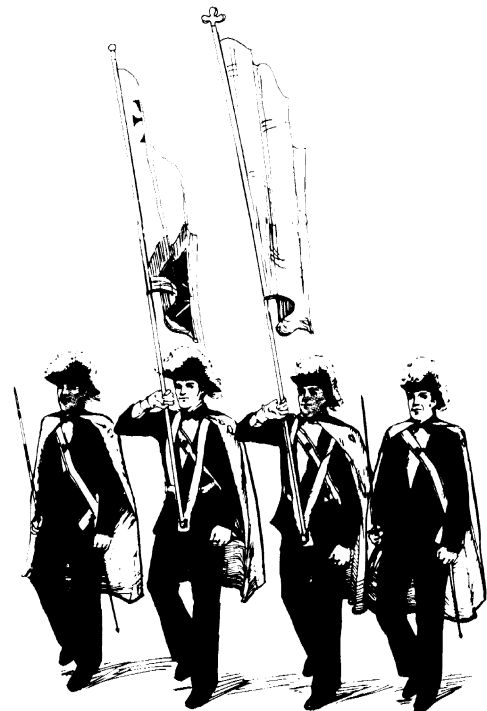
One such way is to attend and be active in the Proudly Pro-life weekend. The Rally that happened on January 9, 2021 marked the 47th anniversary of Roe V. Wade, the Supreme Court ruling making abortion legal in America. There was, once again, a strong showing of Knights and Catholics at the rally, although not as strong as in the past due to COVID restrictions, but strong none the less. This issue is not going away anytime soon and unborn babies across the world need the Knights of Columbus to stand up for them.

There are two things that I know about abortion: first is that it is simply murder, and secondly, it is a women’s rights issue. And as such it is only going to be stopped with the aid of The Most Blessed Woman. This year I am requesting all Knights to ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for us, because without divine intervention I do not believe we can get this done. So, use the most powerful weapon that you have in your spiritual arsenal--the Rosary of Mary--and say it often.

Let’s work together to make abortion a thing of the past.

Thank you and God bless you in this New Year!

Michael A. Allen, PSD, DM



From the State Protocol Chairman

Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM

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

Correspondence

With Council and Assembly installations coming up the following is provided as guidance for you to follow.

When corresponding with others, email is the most effective and efficient means of communication. However, e-mail may not be the most appropriate means of communication in all circumstances. Sometimes typed memos or letters, on letterhead, should be utilized and care should be taken to ensure that the letter writer uses proper letter writing techniques.

E-mails also need to be handled with care. Officers need to make certain that their e-mail address is appropriate along with the content contained within the e-mail. Sending an e-mail does not ensure delivery to the intended recipient. E-mail is cost effective and can be an easy way for councils or assemblies to communicate, but it is not a guarantee of participation at an event. E-mail, as with letters, need to be clearly stated and have the main points separated. Make certain that e-mails that contain confidential information are not broadcast to a large group. E-mails cannot replace the personal contact of a phone call or personal conversation.

Modern means of social communications provide members of the Knights of Columbus with powerful tools that can build up your council by promoting its charitable mission and by encouraging members to live out their Catholic faith. The term "social communications" refers to, among other things, the internet, the World Wide Web, and social media. The term "social media" includes blogs and microblogs, social networking sites, and picture and video sharing sites, such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Flickr, and YouTube.

Social communications should be used in a manner consistent with Catholic values and principles of the Order. Members who use social communications should carefully review and at all times observe the Order's Social Communications Guidelines and Policy, which can be found under the Social Communications tab on the Officer's Desk Reference located in the Officer's Online at www.kofc.org. The Guidelines and Policy apply to members and subordinate units of the Order when they choose to identify themselves as members of the Knights of Columbus or to discuss the work of the Knights of Columbus using social communications. Members should be aware that the Laws and official policies of the Knights of Columbus apply to fraternal social communications as they would in any other setting. The reputation of the Order depends upon how members conduct themselves, both online and in person. Accordingly, members using social commu-

nications should remember that they are expected to conduct themselves as Catholic gentlemen, which at a minimum requires that any material posted online respect human dignity and maintains a culture of respectful dialogue and friendship. Correspondence should be addressed to the individual, using his full, proper name (not his nickname), followed by his proper title, whether he be a Knight of Columbus, a Priest or a businessperson. If an individual has more than one title, the highest ranking title is always used. Names of civic and religious individuals are prefixed by such forms as *His Excellency*, *The Honorable*, *Reverend Father*, etc. Prefix titles of Mr., and Mrs. or Ms. Are omitted when the individual has another official title. If he has no title, Mr., Mrs., or Ms. Should always be used as a prefix to his or her name. When addressing an individual as an official of an organization, the name of the organization should always be shown on the next line.

In the event that you have a close working relationship with any officer, your letter need not be so formal. However you first must acknowledge the office he holds. The salutation would then be "Worthy Grand Knight and dear Brother Bill." The individual's full proper name and title are always shown on both the letter and the envelope.

Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM, Protocol Chairman

State Deputy continued from page 2

Council and at the same time, the State Council will strive for the Circle of Honor. This is by far the most effective way we can prove that we put our Faith into Action. That we truly care for the needy, the sick, the disadvantaged as well as the spiritual wellbeing of our fellow Catholic brothers and their families.

With 5 ½ months left in the fraternal year, each of us can make this a reality. Once you have discussed this with your council leadership, you must set out to finish this fraternal year in a strong fashion. This will take persistence and determination. This winning mindset of persistence and determination reminds me of another one of King's famous quotes "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

I truly wish the best for you and your Council, and if your District Deputy or State Officers can be of any assistance please let us know.

Fraternally Yours,
Daniel

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