



EAST COOPER KNIGHTS

JULY, 2025 THE VOICE OF COUNCIL # 9475 VOLUME 38 NUMBER 7



GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

My fellow brother Knights, both presently active and those who have a passive attachment. I am pleased and honored to take over the office of your Grand Knight for Council #9475. I find that the past officers, led by our now PGK Deacon Kevin Campbell, did an extremely good job in providing me with a template for success in keeping Catholic men together and promoting strong family values.

Last year's events such as the harbor cruise, Christmas party, Fish Fry's, spaghetti dinners and Oyster roasts are already in the planning stages and we look forward to enhancing their outcomes again this year. They add a much needed community development to our Catholic faith community.

We also look forward to promoting our Catholic values through achievement programs such as COK free throw contest, BE American History contest, and camp rise above cookout. These programs allow us to reach down to our youth which will turn out to be our future.

Let us remind ourselves that we are a "PEOPLE" organization. We have no other product than our faith-based community and its development.

As we proceed forward, we are reminded that A Devoted Knight eagerly defends the faith:

"Not with vindictive rhetoric" but with the respectful civil discourse of patriotic gentlemen exemplifying virtues essential for the vitality of the republic.

St Francis of Assisi is quoted as saying:

"While we have the time, let's do some good"

Vivat Jesus

GK Bob Brennan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS **JULY 2025**

Ultreya Meeting	01
COK Grace Hall — 7:00 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration	03
Stella Maris—8 PM Thur. to 8 AM Fri.	
Independence Day	04
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	04
COK —Canceled this month.	
Pro-Life/Rosary	05
COK—7:30 AM	
Officers Meeting	12
COK—Life Center, Grace Hall 10AM. to 1PM	
Regular Business Meeting	17
St. Benedict's Parish Hall	
950 Darrell Creek Trail 29466	
Rosary: 6:00 PM	
Dinner: 6:30 PM	
Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Prayer Vigil at Abortion Facility	19
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM	
(Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.)	
1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	
Camp Rise Above	21
At Wanamaker Park asking for volunteers to	
cook for the kids at camp. Contact Don	
Campbell - campbelldec@me.com	



INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL 9475 OFFICERS

Following are the 2025 — 2026 Council Officers

Grand Knight _____	Bob Brennan
Deputy Grand Knight _____	Kurt Denner
Chancellor _____	Mark McCabe
Recorder _____	Derek McCoy
Warden _____	Jim Veraldi
Treasurer _____	Jim Welsch
Advocate _____	Scott Migli
Inside Guard _____	Joe Scheirman
Outside Guard _____	Marion Wright
1st Year Trustee _____	Matt Feltman
2nd Year Trustee _____	Don Campbell
3rd Year Trustee _____	Deacon Kevin Campbell

Appointed Officers:

Co-Chaplain _____	Rev. Robert A. Spencer
Co-Chaplain _____	Msgr. Laurence B. McInerney
Spiritual Director _____	Rev. Fabin Augustine
Lecture _____	Ronald J. Davis
Financial Secretary _____	Jeff Pulaski



Retiring Grand Knight Deacon Kevin Campbell at the podium is opening the Installation, and turning the gavel over to District Deputy Joe Nesbitt, in maroon jacket next to Father Spencer, to install the new officers.



Father Spencer is saying the opening prayer and District Deputy Joe Nesbitt is standing at podium

Installation Council 9475 continues



Father Spencer is in the process of blessing the jewels on the table that will be presented to the installed officers.



New officers being sworn in, with their right hand raised, by District Deputy Joe Nesbitt standing at podium.



Above are the new Officers standing in shape of the cross after receiving their jewel. The shape of the cross is to show their dedication to God.



Our new Grand Knight Bob Brennan made a few remarks thanking the outgoing Officers for a great job they did and made a few comments on the plans for the coming year.

INSTALLATION OF ASSEMBLY 3243 OFFICERS

Following are the 2025 —2026 Assembly Officers

For Faithful Friar	Rev. Robert Spencer
For Faithful Navigator_____	SK Kurt Denner
For Faithful Captain_____	SK Derek McCoy
For Faithful Pilot_____	SK Joe Ruskauff
For Faithful Admiral_____	SK Joe Nesbitt
For Faithful Scribe_____	SK Bob Thetreault
For Faithful Purser_____	SK Don Campbell
For Faithful Comptroller_____	SK Jim Welsch
For Faithful Inner Sentinel_____	SK Joe Scheirman
For Faithful Outer Sentinel_____	SK Bill Shoemaker
For Faithful First Year Trustee_____	SK Bob Brennan
For Faithful Second Year Trustee_____	SK Jim Morini
For Faithful Third Year Trustee_____	SK Matt Feltman
For Faithful Commander	SK Bob Brennan



Faithful Navigator Kurt Denner opens installation before turning gavel over to the District Master.



The gavel now turned over to he District Master Michael Allen and his Regional Marshall Frank Strunk standing at the table with the Assembly jewels.

Assembly Installation continues



Faithful Friar Father Spencer is saying the opening prayer as the District Master and Regional Marshall listen.



Faithful Friar Father Spencer is blessing the Assembly jewels the Sir Knights will wear.



Sir Knights standing with their right hand raised being sworn in.



Faithful Friar Father Spencer being the first to receive is jewel placing jewel around Fathers neck is Regional Marshall Frank Strunk.

Assembly Installation continues



New Officers Sir Knights stand with their wife, if she's attending, after receiving their Jewel.



Our second term Faithful Navigator Sir Knight Kurt Denner is thanking outgoing Officers and mentioning objectives for the coming year, before closing Installation.



After the Installation on behalf of the Forth Degree Past Faithful Navigator Joe Scheirman presented Faithful Friar Father Spencer with a incased American Flag for his military and years being a priest combined being 40 years.



Our Faithful Friar Father Spencer holding the incased flag with a great smile of appreciation.

Installation continues



Here I'd say Father Spencer, Fran Franzone, and Jeff Pulaski were hanging close to the desserts



We had lots of food and desserts. Looks like Father Spencer is getting serious moving in on the chocolate cake, with Debbie Pulaski and Fran Franzone on his right and left side.



There was a nice turn out, and plenty to eat, and everyone had a good time.



During the Installation banquet our new Grand Knight standing right Bob Brennan presented our outgoing Grand Knight Deacon Kevin Campbell with a Past Grand Knights pin. Bob is showing it on Deacon Kevin lapel.

Installation continues

Knight of the Year June 2025 Bob Fintak

Bob grew up in Western New York, just south of Buffalo. He married his wife Sue (high school sweetheart) in 1972 and will be celebrating their 53rd wedding anniversary May 20, 2025. Bob attended the University of Buffalo and earned his BS and MBA. He was a member of the US Army Reserves from 1971 – 1977.

He worked as a software engineer and then transitioned to Logistics Management working for a Medical products manufacturer in Buffalo. The family moved to Lexington SC in 1996 and then to Mt Pleasant in 2014. In Lexington he was an operations manager for a startup company then he returned to his roots doing IT quality management work for Computer Sciences Corporation.

Bob and Sue have 3 great kids, David (living in the Denver) who is a Retina Specialist, Stephen (living in Atlanta) who is an architect, and Stacey (living here in Mt Pleasant) who works for MUSC as a Physician Assistant. They have 8 grandchildren.

Bob and Sue are active members of St. Benedict parish, Bob is a Lector and Eucharistic Minister at 8am mass; he has been a member of the Knights since 1999.

Congratulations Bob!!!



At the Installation banquet Kurt Denner left our Family Director presented Bob Fintak center with the Knight of the Year certificate and our Past Grand Knight Deacon Kevin Campbell is in picture as well.

Family of the Month and Year June 2025 Robert and Denise Thetreat

Bob and Denise were born in Chicopee, Massachusetts. They were introduced by friends in 2002 and wed in 2003. After their wedding, they purchased a home in Ellington, CT and lived there for 10 years. In 2013, Bob's job took them to Mint Hill, NC and in 2019 they relocated to Mount Pleasant. They are parishioners at St. Benedict Catholic Church.

Bob has worked in the financial services industry for 38 years and is retiring from MassMutual in July. Denise was an interior designer and is also retired. Denise's daughter Melissa lives with her husband Derek and her daughter Millie in Somers, CT.

Bob and Denise enjoy the Lowcountry food scene and enjoy attending local theatre, movies, and concerts. They have 2 miniature schnauzers named Gus & Paul who keep them entertained. They enjoy visiting their granddaughter Millie as often as possible. They are looking forward to retirement.

Congratulations Bob and Denise!!!



Left Kurt Denner presented Denise and Bob Thetreat at our Installation banquet with the Family of the Year certificate. Past Grand Knight Deacon Kevin Campbell is in picture as well.

**Knight of the Month
June 2025
James Ball**

Jim was born & raised just outside the City Limits of Baltimore. His parents were Catholic, his older sister and he went to Catholic Schools 1st grade thru 12th. Jim graduated from the University of Maryland in 1973.

He took a position with Sea-Land Service - the first Container Shipping Company in Jacksonville, where he met his wife, Connie and he were married in 1978.

Jim was transferred to New Orleans, Ft Lauderdale & Charleston, (in 1987).

Jim and Connie are blessed with 2 Children - Brendan & Colleen - who have had the good sense to remain in the Charleston area, much to their delight!

Connie & Jim enjoy their Snee Farm neighborhood and hope it to be their forever home.

Congratulations Jim!!!



Jim and Connie Ball weren't able to attend our Installation to receive his Knight of the Month certificate for June. Here is a great picture of them with waterfalls behind them.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*James and Jessica Buzzelli
Anthony and Alma Certa
Daniel and Kim Clerici
Carl and Maureen Counasse
John Jr. and Deborah Danko
John and Laura Dunne
Matt and Cindy Feltman
Thomas M. and Regina Franzone
Jeffrey and Natalie Garrett
Wilson and Julie Gautreaux
Keith and Donna Keohane
Christopher and Patty Litts
Tim and Meghan Lynch
David and Lora McLaughlin
Michael and Mary Sottle Regner
Joey and Amy Seymour
John and JoAnn Stadtmueller
Vincent and Eva Ullo
Richard and Carol Williams*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Gerald Baty
Gerald Bresnihan
William Brown
Thomas Brown
Marion Bull
Brian Byrne
Kevin M. Campbell
John Czarnecki
Kurt Denner
Terrence Dunne
Adrian Serge Evangelista
Anthony Francin
Thomas A. Franzone
John Gallagher
James Gatto
Matthew Kiefer
Thomas Knisley, Jr.
Todd Kravchuk
William Kunding, Jr.
Melvin Lands
Eugene Lesinski
John Maize, Sr.
Mike McGinty
James Morini
Paul O'Rourke
Frank Osage
Paul Reale
Paul Salemi
Joey Seymour
Donald Thatcher
Ernie Torres
Jay Tronco
Michael Vasko
Henry Wolf
Timothy Yoder*



**At the South Carolina Knights of Columbus Organization Meeting
On
June 29, 2025**



Our Council's Past Grand Knight of 9475 and Past Faithful Navigator of Assembly 3243 Matt Feltman left was installed as District 18, District Deputy. Right our former District Deputy Joe Nesbitt was installed as State Treasurer.

Congratulations Matt and Joe!!!

**Brother Knights
Our 16th Annual Golf Tournament
June 30, 2025 to benefit
St. Clare's Home Charleston**



Here are some of the worker bees resting after hanging most of the advertising signs. Way out in left field is Jim Veraldi hanging last sign. Standing inspecting the job is our chairman Bob Fintak. The rest relaxing are left to right Jack Czarnecki, Sue Fintak, Jim welsch, Bill Shoemaker, and not in picture Jeff Pulaski, Tom Franzone, Carlos Ariza, Martin McNulty, Jon Tirpak, Joe Harkins Jr., Keith Keohane, Robert Pyle, Scott Migli and Carter Brand.



Things are starting to happen golfers are arriving and signing up at the check-in table. Then get a nice sandwich chips and beverage.



It's putting contest time. Don Campbell chairman of the putting contest is measuring the closet to the hole with help from Jack Czarnecki.



The winner of the putting contest is Scott Labarowski. Closest to the hole at 19 inches. Don Campbell right is presenting Scott with a \$50.00 gift card.

Golf tournament continues



Our golf chairman Bob Fintak giving last minute contest instructions just before shotgun send off. The golf pro is standing-by.



The golfers are on their way. The shotgun send off has started.

2025 Knights of Columbus											
Sheppard Bailey Shuler Hiley	64	Myers Funk DeWolf Tortorici	69	Handwritten: Woodson Handwritten: Doyle LiBeau TERRANOVA	X	Minkins Baier Gancitano Potter	67	DiTullo Lisville Mims Mauldin	57	Dornetto Clinton Carter Ankersen	82
Brand Brand Hinton Brand	59	Dipietro Laabs McCullough Brunson	64	Dickson Donald Young Kuchinski	59	Robertson Haskler Carroll Snider		Porter Hay Sherman Stelnick	76	Thompson Fressilli Stewart Labarowski	63
Costelli Brown Christophier Seese	64	O'Connor Bond Fallon Fallon		Matthews Marchewka Guyan Wilson	62	Campbell Campbell Campbell Campbell	66	Burris Truluck Gooding Bissey Budds	74	Stiles Erithum Kozman Curry	65
Karkowski Crawford Keohane Keohane	62	Hamer Mahaffey Mahaffey Lazo	58	Weyer Ivarone IV Ivarone III Kundinger	63	Kadri Pugh Froehlich Schryver	60 82	Goodman Doyle Handwritten: McElroy Handwritten: Cunningham	58	Mick Denner Sams Pyle	69
Seares Dante Hinson Carroll	55	Yaeger Hauser Carroll Butler	61	Veraldi Cibelli Ford Sturgess	63	Slezak Thompson Derosiers Seney	59	Lange Knapinski Coyne Mitchum	65	CLOSEST TO THE PIN #1 G. Seese #2 J. Hauser LONGEST DRIVE #1 LADIES M. Brand MEN G. Seese	

The score board is up the players have returned to the club house with their scored cards and above are the results.

Golf tournament continues



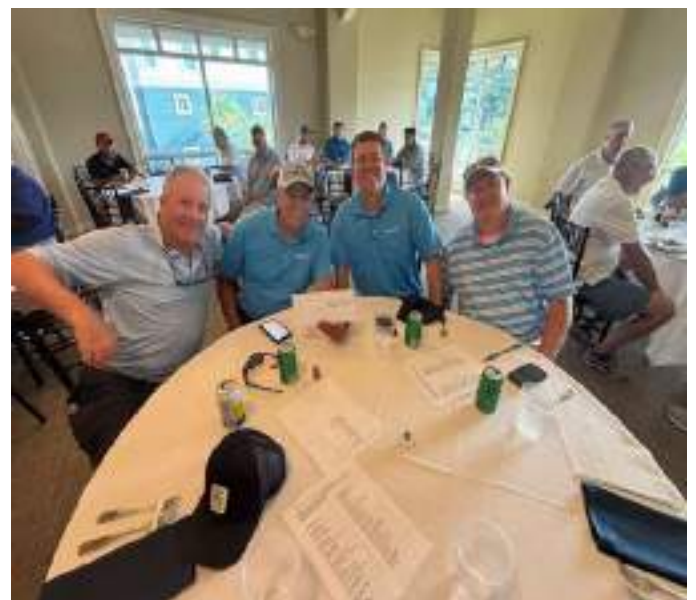
What a great buffet dinner, barbecue, brisket, mac & cheese, red rice, coleslaw, salad, plus bread and refreshments not in picture.



First place winners Charlie Sears, Joel Dante, Bradley Hinson and Michael Carroll. Three of them left before all the scores were turned in. The team received a round of golf at Snee Farm Country club.



Second place winners left to right are Michael DelVecchia, Don Ditullo, Ryan Mims, and Mark Mauldin



Third place winners left to right Steve Gretkowski, Mark Lazo, Stephen Mahaffey, and Frankie Hamer. They won a round for 4 at Rivertown Country Club.

A great time was had by all!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST 2025

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament_____01	
COK —After 7:00 AM Mass Fri. to 7:00 AM	
Sat. ending with Benediction.	
Pro-Life/Rosary_____02	
COK — 7:30 AM	
Ultrya Meeting_____05	
COK Grace Hall —7:00 PM	
Officers Meeting_____07	
COK—Life Center —6:30 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration_____07	
Stella Maris — 8 PM Thur. to 8 AM. Fri.	
Regular Business Meeting_____14	
.St. Benedict's Parish Hall	
950 Darrell Creek Trail 29466	
Rosary: 6:00PM	
Dinner: 6:30PM	
Meeting: 7:15PM	
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary_____15	
Holy Day of Obligation	
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	

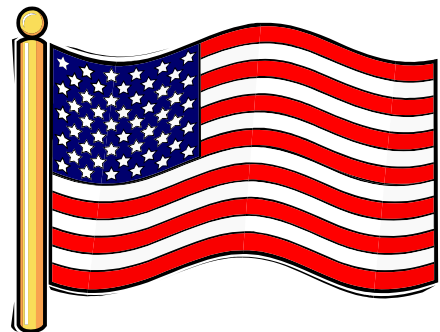
Knights of Columbus



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

COUNCIL OFFICERS ??????????

Co-Chaplain	Rev. Robert A. Spencer	843-884-5587
Co-Chaplain	Rev. Msgr. Lawrence B. McInerny	843-883-3109
Spiritual Director	Rev. Libin Augustine	843-884-5587
Grand Knight	Bob Brennan	315-729-8652
Deputy Grand Knight	Kurt Denner	843-323-0981
Chancellor	Mark McCabe	914-216-2031
Financial Secretary	Jeff Pulaski	843-813-1732
Recorder	Derek McCoy	719-200-3041
Warden	Jim Veraldi	973-945-5770
Treasurer	Jim Welsch	843-849-1979
Lecturer	Ron Davis	843-856-4950
Advocate	Scott Migli	202-329-5579
Inside Guard	Joe Scheiman	843-737-1642
Outside Guard	Marion Wright	843-509-6512
3 Yr. Trustee	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-729-5602
2 Yr. Trustee	Don Campbell	843-471-1085
1 Yr. Trustee	Matt Feltman	513-374-1994
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
Vocations Chairman	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-729-5602
Community Director	Bill Shoemaker	843-884-1378
Health Services	D. J. Thatcher	843-513-0214
Public Relations	Neil Whitman	843-270-9834
Family Director	Kurt Denner	843-323-0981
Culture of Life Director	Joe Harkins Jr.	267-974-6534
Youth Director	Mike Flato	843-973-1409
Admission Chairman	Kevin Cunnane	843-216-5354
Membership Director	Joe Harkins	843-881-5768
Recruitment Committee	Joseph Scheirman	843-737-1642
	Carlos Araiza - SB	480-352-7679
	Marion Wright - COK	843-509-6512
	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	Scott Friedman	443-243-2260
District Deputy	Matt Feltman	513-374-1994
Insurance Agent	Paul Harrington	706-338-7924
Supreme Fraternal Services		203-772-2130



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Monthly Meditation July 2025

Living Our Freedom in Christ

Brother Knights,

As we enter the month of July, our thoughts often turn to the celebration of independence and freedom. In the United States, July 4th marks our national freedom, a gift won through sacrifice, courage, and unity. As Knights and Catholic men, we are reminded that our deepest and truest freedom is found not in politics or national identity, but in Christ Himself.

St. Paul reminds us in Galatians 5:1, “For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.” This freedom is not a license to do whatever we please, but a calling to live for what is good, holy, and true. As followers of Christ, our freedom is a gift to be used in service—to our families, our Church, and our neighbors.

This July, let us reflect on how we are using our freedom in Christ. Are we choosing love over selfishness? Are we living our vocation with fidelity and sacrifice? As Knights, we are called to lead lives of virtue and mission. Freedom must lead to service, not self-centeredness. Our Order’s founding principles—charity, unity, and fraternity—are a daily expression of this freedom lived well.

Let us also remember that true freedom is rooted in truth. In a world where truth is often distorted or ignored, we are called to be witnesses to the Gospel. As Knights, we are defenders of life, family, faith, and dignity. We must be men of courage who stand for what is right, even when it is unpopular.

July is also the month we honor Our Lady under the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (July 16). She reminds us to trust in God’s providence and to remain faithful in prayer. Let us ask her intercession to help us remain faithful sons of the Church and courageous men of God.

I encourage you to take time this month to renew your spiritual life. Make time for daily prayer, attend Mass more frequently, and seek opportunities for acts of service. Let your freedom in Christ shine through your witness.

May God bless you and your families abundantly this month. And may our beloved Order continue to grow in holiness and mission.



Vivat Jesus!

Rev Libin Augustine CMI

Parochial Vicar, Christ Our King Catholic Church



Reverend Vincent Robert Capodanno Sir Knights

March 2025 Virtue of Patriotism Assembly 3243 Volume 1 Number 7



Assembly 3243 Highlights for June, 2025

How Flag Day Became A National Holiday

Flag Day became a nationally recognized holiday in 1916. However, the story of Flag Day started much earlier and includes one of the most unlikely cast of characters to step onto the national stage.

According to tradition, the city of Hartford, Conn. began this patriotic custom on June 14, 1861, after native son Victor Morris urged his community to celebrate the 84th anniversary of the adoption of the American flag with a special day of remembrance.

Public support for Flag Day picked up steam in 1885, when B.J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher from Fredonia, Wis., mobilized his students to celebrate "Flag Birthday" on June 14. Cigrand later championed for establishing a national flag holiday when he became editor-in-chief of American Standard magazine.

George Balch, a kindergarten teacher from New York City, brought Flag Day to the children of his school in 1889. Interest in this event became so popular that the State Board of Education of New York soon adopted its variation of Flag Day.

Across the state border, Colonel J. Granville Leach, a noted historian for the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the Revolution, worked diligently to establish a similar Flag Day event in Philadelphia. On June 14, 1893, school children assembled at Independence Square, where they honored the Stars and Stripes by waving small flags and singing patriotic songs.

Not to be outdone, the American Flag Day Association organized the first general public school celebration of Flag Day in Chicago, Ill. More than 300,00 students participated in this event on June 14, 1894.

It was when Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane delivered a stirring Flag Day speech in 1914 that the nation began to recognize the significance of this event.

All these efforts finally paid off in 1916 when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation establishing June 14 as Flag Day. In 1937, Pennsylvania became the first state to make Flag Day a legal holiday.

President Harry Truman later signed an Act of Congress in 1949, officially designating June 14 as National Flag Day. President Donald Trump, who was born on Flag Day (June 14, 1946), expanded the celebration in 2017 by proclaiming Flag Day and Flag Week.

Across the country, numerous cities and towns have made Flag Day an annual patriotic celebration, replete with parades, picnics, essay contests and fireworks. Fairfield, Wash., Appleton, Wis. and Quincy, Mass. each lay claim for the nation's longest-running Flag Day parade while Three Oaks, Mich. maintains that it has the largest Flag Day parade in the country.

With a surge of patriotism and a steady increase in flag sales, Flag Day should continue to be a highly revered American holiday for a long time to come.

Sir Knights from Assembly 3243 retired the American Flag from the USS Yorktown and raised a new flag on June 14, 2025. This was the 15th year in a row the Assembly has performed this duty. Rob Fowler, from WCBD-TV gave the keynote speech.



Capodanno Corner

- All Sir Knights of Assembly 3243 are encouraged to join The Father Capodanno Guild at www.capodannoguild.org.
- He had a ship named after him, the USS Capodanno (FF-1093). It was decommissioned on 7/30/1993 after 20 years of service.