



EAST COOPER KNIGHTS

MARCH, 2026 THE VOICE OF COUNCIL # 9475 VOLUME 39 NUMBER 3



GRAND KNIGHT REPORT - GK Bob Brennan

Brothers- As we reflect on our Christian beliefs during this season of Lent, let us reflect on our values as members of the Knights of Columbus:

These are our coming observations for this month – Well done to all who drove these items to a success.

UNITY:

- Preparing for the annual KofC #9475 Fish Fry March 13th and 27th.
- Stations of the Cross at each of our four parishes.
- Mepkin Abbey Mini retreats starting Feb 28th.

CHARITY:

- Diaper drive benefiting – Bundles of Joy and Birthright of Charleston. In addition, we will be presenting fund donations directly to these representatives at the March meeting.
- RSVP – 4 seminarians received a monitorial gift from our council this month. To help them on their way.

FRATERNITY:

- Collectively remembering family members who have recently been called to the house of our lord.
- Our Membership drives and being scheduled for March of this year at our four parishes.

I'll say more about these events at the council meeting. See you there.

Vivat Jesu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH 2026

Ultreya Meeting	03
COK Grace Hall — 7:00 PM	
Officers Meeting	05
COK Life Center— 6:30PM	
Nocturnal Adoration	05
Stella Maris — 8 PM Thur. to 8 AM Fri.	
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	06
COK — 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.	
Pro-Life/Rosary	07
COK — 7:30 AM	
Daylight Saving Time Begins	08
Knights of Columbus Fish Fry	13
Grace Hall — 5 PM to 7 PM	
4th Degree Exemplification	14
Corpus Christi Catholic Church (Lexington)	
St. Patrick's Day	17
Stations of the Cross w/Soup/Sandwiches/Bread	18
Stella Maris—have your soup and sandwich at Hall 6 PM. Stations start 6:15 PM	
Regular Business Meeting	19
St. Benedict's Parish Hall	
950 Darrell Creek Trail 29466	
Rosary: 6:00 PM	
Dinner: 6:30 PM	
Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Pray Vigil at Abortion Clinic	21
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM	
(Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.)	
1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	
Knights of Columbus Fish Fry	27
Grace Hall — 5 PM to 7 PM	
4th Degree Exemplification	28
Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church (Fort Mill)	
Palm Sunday	29
Cross Procession and Rosary	29
COK — 1:30 PM meet at COK parking lot and we will caravan to TBD parking lot then process back to the church. Rosary will be said in garden with giant rosary	



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



In the picture above are our six new Brother Knights, left to right are John Ross “JR” Wendler, James D. Melville, Jr. United States Ambassador (Ret.), Michael McAuliffe, James Peter Filan, Stephen Espinoza, and Mario Jose Chavezl. All took the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity February 19, 2026 and are now all 3rd. Degree Knights.

Congratulations to all six Brother Knights!!!



**Knight of the Month
February 2026
Bill Shoemaker**

Bill was born in 1939. He worked as an electrician for 41 years until retiring in 1999. Bill met his wife Penny, a nurse in Fairfax, Virginia, and they were married (both their second time) on June 4, 1988. In 2002, Bill and Penny moved to Mount Pleasant. Penny has seven children (five girls and two boys), and Bill has two girls. Together, they have fourteen grandchildren. Penny passed away July 2016

Bill joined the Knights Council 9475 in 2007, and attained his 4th degree in 2009. He held the office of Commander in Father Vincent R. Capodanno Assembly, #3243. He was the Grand Knight of Council 9475 year 2015 to 2016. He also volunteers his time to help with dinners.

Bill attends Stella Maris Church. Bill also serves as an usher Sundays at 8am mass, Bill is a member of the men's club, and is a lector.

Bill also volunteers with East Cooper Fixit and Meals on Wheels.

Congratulations Bill!!!



Left to right Family Director Mark McCabe just presented Bill Shoemaker center with Knight of the Month certificate and our Grand Knight Bob Brennan is presenting Bill with a Knights cup.



**Our Guest Speakers
From Family Hospice**

Our guest speakers from Family Hospice gave us a great understanding on what hospice can do for the individual and family in the time of need. Parts of the conversation got very touching for a lot of us. Family Hospice are always looking for volunteers:

Volunteer Roles Include

- Sit and share stories
- Visit fellow veterans
- Share music or play an instrument
- Help in the office
- Create keepsakes for families
- And more ... there's a role for everyone!

Do you have a special skill?

They're also looking for:

- Licensed massage therapists
- Certified pet therapists to bring joy
- Hair stylists or cosmetologists to help their patients feel more like themselves



In picture left to right Grand Knight Bob Brennan, Kerri Forsberg Volunteer Coordinator, Katie Scherer Medical Social Worker, Misty Craven Community Educator, and Mark McCabe our family director and coordinator of our guest speakers.

**COOKING AT THE FISHER HOUSE
FEBRUARY 26, 2026**



This wonderful group of chefs prepared a meal of BBQ pork chops, Mac& cheese, green beans, salad and home made cookies for Veteran families staying at the Fisher house Feb. 26th. Many thanks left to right Jim and Toni Seney, Warren Tawes, Don Campbell, behind Don is Mike McDermott, Patty and Bill Graves, Joe Ruskauff checkered shirt, and Jim Morini. What a delicious looking spread on the table.



**St. Benedict Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper
Sponsored by Our Council 9475**

Stations of the Cross and soup supper was sponsored by our council 9475 Feb. 27th. at St. Benedict. In the picture left to right are Father Mark, Brothers Scott Scherer, Derek McCoy, Joe Harkins Jr, Jim Mason and Mike McDermott at the pulpit.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mark and Cathy Berry
Bob and Martha Boackle
Gerard and Michelle Gaeta
Timothy and Sue Hensch
Brian and Darla Justice
Ryan and Courtney Kinowski
Charles and Susan Momeier



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Carlos Araiza
Leroy Ceresa
Paul Cheverie
Philip DiBlasi
Lawrence Elberfeld
Rev. Patrick Eyinla
Stephen Fallon
Matt Feltman

Gerard Gaeta
Michael Grizzle
Christopher Guzzetta
Andrew Horun
Joseph Houdek
William Martin
Grant Miller
Henry Miller
Dennis Murphy
Joseph Myers
Joseph Nesbitt

Nazario Paragano
Joseph Rosenberger
Piotr Tarala
Jon Tirpak
John Tortorici
Steven White
Neil Whitman



Honor & Heroes Classic Charity Golf Tournament

Supporting Lowcountry Veterans Home

March 25, 2026 9am at Dunes West GC

More info and registration at link below or scan QR code below

<https://lowcountryveterans.charityproud.org/EventRegistration/Index/25967>

Sponsorship or volunteering contact Michele at treasurer@lowcountryveteranshome.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS APRIL 2026

April Fools' Day _____	01
Holy Thursday _____	02
Officers Meeting _____	TBD
COK — Life Center — 6:30 PM.	
Good Friday _____	03
Holy Saturday _____	04
Pro-Life/Rosary _____	04
COK — 7:30 AM	
Easter Sunday _____	05
Ultreya Meeting _____	07
COK Grace Hall— 7:00 PM	
Regular Business Meeting _____	16
St. Benedict's Parish Hall 950 Darrell Creek Trail Rosary: 6:00 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Vigil at Abortion Clinic _____	18
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM (Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.) 1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	

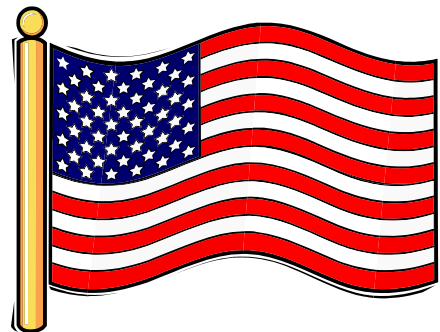
Knights of Columbus



**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. McInerney	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	Mark McCabe	914-216-2031
Culture of Life Directors	Joe Harkins Jr.	267-974-6534
	Robert Thetreault	860-836-5740
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



Knights of Columbus

East Cooper Council # 9475

4th Annual Fish Fry & Benefit



Scan for ticket purchase



March 13th and March 27th

**Tickets \$15.00 per Person, Children under 12 yrs. \$5.00
Available @ Door. Dine In or Carry Out.**

Time 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Christ Our King - In Grace Hall

Call Marion Wright 843-509-6512 or 843-270-3299

Monthly Meditation March, 2026

Walking with Christ: Deepening Our Faith This Lent

Brother Knights,

As we enter the month of March, we find ourselves walking the sacred path of Lent - a season given to us by the Church not as a burden, but as a grace. It is a time to return to the essentials: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year, our journey takes on even deeper meaning as we respond to our Bishop's call in the Via Fidelis - Year Two - Year of Catechesis: understand our faith.

Lent is not only about giving things up; it is about opening our hearts to truly understand what we believe. Too often, our faith can become routine. Lent invites us to slow down and rediscover its depth. As Knights, we are called not only to practice our faith but to know it - so that we can live it with conviction and share it with clarity.

To deepen our faith means making time for God in a deliberate way. Daily prayer, reading Scripture, and reflecting on the teachings of the Church - especially the Catechism - help us grow in understanding. When we know why we believe, our faith becomes stronger, more personal, and more alive. This is the foundation of a credible witness.

In our families, this call becomes very practical. We are leaders in our homes, and our example speaks louder than words. Praying together, attending Mass faithfully, and speaking openly about our faith form the next generation. When our children see us take Lent seriously, they learn that faith is not just something we say, but something we live.

In our communities, our witness must be visible. Acts of charity, service to those in need, and participation in parish life are powerful expressions of faith in action. Lent is a perfect time to step forward - whether through volunteering, supporting parish initiatives, or simply reaching out to someone who feels forgotten. Charity rooted in faith becomes a sign of Christ's presence in the world.

Lent also reminds us that transformation often comes through sacrifice. By embracing small acts of self-denial, we grow in discipline and freedom. These sacrifices, offered with love, unite us more closely with Christ and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

Brothers, this March let us take seriously the call to deepen our faith and strengthen our witness. Let us be men who know Christ, love Christ, and reflect Christ in our families and communities.

May this Lenten season renew us, and may our journey lead us closer to the heart of the Risen Lord.

In Christ,



Vivat Jesus!

Rev Libin Augustine CMI

Parochial Vicar, Christ Our King Catholic Church