



EAST COOPER KNIGHTS

OCTOBER, 2026 THE VOICE OF COUNCIL # 9475 VOLUME 39 NUMBER 10



Grand Knight's Message

One of our Council's Goals for this year is to "Grow Involvement and Activity".

The objective is to "Broaden the overall involvement of Members and increase Council activities. Do more with more brothers participating."

To achieve this, we must "Increase the means to produce new members." This includes:

- Conducting multiple membership drives per parish.
- Scheduling Exemplifications every other month, five times per year.
- Use media sources to drive membership:
 - ◊ Weekly parish bulletins with the QR sign-up code.
 - ◊ Council 9475 website.
- Our council Brothers asking non-members to become Knights.

We must do all of these to grow our Council effectively, but I feel that the most powerful one is our Council Brothers asking non-members to become Knights. This is what all of us should be doing and is how we can evangelize our faith.

My dad was a dedicated member of the Knight of Columbus, and a Sir Knight of the 4th degree. Growing up, I remember him dressing up in the regalia with the fancy chapeau hat and participating in many events. Even with my dad as a great role model, it strikes me now to think that I never joined the Knights until nine years ago when we moved to Mount Pleasant. Mostly this is my fault, but during all those previous years as an adult, I was only approached one time and invited to become a Knight.

At the September Council meeting, Brother Brandon Chambers, Field Agent and Council 17760 member, gave us an inspiring talk about the new Culture of Invitation membership drives. Let's all reflect upon Brandon's message and consider how we can make it a part of our daily lives and look for opportunities to invite men into our Catholic Fraternal Order of Christ followers.

Vivat Jesus,
Kurt Denner
Council 9475 Grand Knight

CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER 2026

Officers Planning Meeting	01
COK—Life Center — 6:00 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration	01
Stella Maris — 8PM Thu. to 8AM. Fri.	
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	02
COK — 7:30 AM. Fri. to 6:00 PM. ending with Benediction	
Pro-Life/Rosary	03
COK — 7:30 AM	
Ultreya Meeting	06
COK Grace Hall — 7:00 PM	
Columbus Day	12
Council Meeting	15
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	17
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM (Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.) 1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	
Harbor Cruise	24
See flyer page 3 for a fun, fun event information.	
Halloween	31



Grand Knight's Report

- Dear Brothers, Council 9475 has several important events planned in the next couple of months:
 - ◊ Church membership drives are planned at Christ Our King and Saint Benedicts in the month of September. Brothers Scott Migli and Joe Nesbit are leading these efforts.
 - ◊ Our first charity event, a Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Thursday, September 24 at Christ Our King. Brother Mark Lazo is leading this fun event.
 - ◊ We will conduct a Pray for Life in Unity on October 17 at Planned Parenthood. Life Director, Brother Joe Harkins Jr. is coordinating and needs all hours covered.
 - ◊ The Harbor Cruise is scheduled for October 24 and is being led by Brother Neil Whitman. Get your tickets soon as this annual event always sells out.
 - ◊ I encourage all Council 9475 Brothers to participant, volunteer and enjoy these events and help make them huge successes.
- I also want to recognize and thank some of our members for their efforts:
 - ◊ Thank for to Brother Ron Davis for another wonderful meal at the September Council meeting.
 - ◊ Thank you to Brother Marion Wright for stepping up into the Community Director role.
 - ◊ Thanks to Brother Scott Migli for agreeing to become the Faith Director.
 - ◊ Thank you to Brother Mario Jose Chavezl joining the Leadership Team as Family Director.
 - ◊ Thanks to Brother Robert Brennan for signing up as the Evangelization and Faith Formation Director to lead the development of Cor for our Council
 - ◊ I also want to thank all Council Officers and Directors for your support, guidance and commitment.
 - ◊ Please continue the good work, and I encourage all Council Brothers to step up this year and find ways to contribute to our Council.
- The final item is the budget and By-Laws. The budget was approved during the August Council meeting, and during the September meeting, the Worthy Advocate, Ben Wyse read a resolution for the changes to the By-Laws. The By-Laws, Resolution and a summary of changes will be sent to the Council via email and posted on the website for all Council Brothers to review. The new By-Laws will be voted on at the October 15, 2026, Council meeting.

Worthy Grand Knight,
Kurt Denner

**Family of the Month
September 2026
Jim and Susan Welsch**

Jim was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He graduated from St. Louis University High School, the top Jesuit high school in the country, and then from the United States Naval Academy. He retired from the Navy after 27 years, 25 of them as a nuclear submariner. He joined the Knights in 2011, and soon completed his 4th degree. He has been involved with many council activities, was Chairman of the Golf Tournament for four years and is presently council Treasurer.

Susan grew up in Decatur, Illinois, and graduated from St. Louis University. During her quite a few years as a Navy wife, she completed Masters in History and in Library Science. She became a professional librarian and eventually the Records Department Manager for the City of Charleston.

Jim and Susan are active members of Christ Our King parish. Susan was a choir member for 30 years, was a member of the Lazarus committee, serves as coordinator of the parish chapter of the Theresians, and is Secretary of the COK Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. As an SVDP member she routinely interacts with less fortunate members of the community to help provide financial assistance to those in need. Jim serves as an usher and lector, as the Lector Coordinator, as a member of the Building and Grounds Committee and as the facilities lead on the Pastoral Council.

Jim and Susan have been married for 57 years and have one daughter, Sarah. They have six grandchildren, ages 2 through 15. Having lived all over during his Navy career, they settled on Mt. Pleasant and COK in 1994.



Above left to right our Lector Mark McCabe just presented Jim and Susan Welsch center our Family of the Month for September 2026 with a certificate and our Grand Knight Kurt Denner presented Jim with a Knights cup.

**Knight of the Month
September 2026
Vincent Pinnaro**

Vince grew up in West Babylon, Long Island While in High School & College, on weekends and during summer break, Vince worked in a local deli with John Denning, the Grand Knight of the local KofC council, it was GK John that convinced him to join the Knights; and in 1982, Vince celebrated his exemplification becoming a 3rd degree member, (member number 2492459).

Vince attended Stony Brook University from 1982-1986, obtaining his bachelor of science degree in biochemistry. While there he met his future wife, Iris and in 1989 they were married.

In 1992 the Lord blessed Vince and Iris with a daughter, Lauren, and in 1999, a son Brendan. In 2014, the family moved from NY to Summerville. Lauren put her culinary talents to work, holding positions at Peninsula Grill, Grill 225 and is currently working as a chef at The Country Club of Charleston. Brendan, who graduated early from Cane Bay High School decided that college was not for him. He has pursued a career as an auto mechanic. He currently works in Bluffton for Chevrolet. Brendan married his wife Sarah in 2020 and has two girls, Vanessa, 5 and Bianca, 9 months.

Vince has held a variety of jobs including: a high school chemistry teacher, chemist for HP toners, teacher of analytical chemistry to environmental health and safety departments of many Fortune 500 companies.

In 2000 he joined P&G Pharmaceuticals, representing their medication line to medical students, residents and board-certified physicians. Since then, Vince has held positions with various other pharmaceutical companies. Currently he is with Nestle Health Science.

Having taken a hiatus during his children's upbringing, though instilling in them our Catholic religion, Vince, with the support of JP Saleeby, a professional colleague and friend, rejoined the Knights of Columbus brotherhood as a 4th degree Sir Knight at the East Cooper Assembly and Council.

In addition to the Knights of Columbus, Vince is also the Commander of the Knights Templar Priory of Charleston. Vince felt it was important to give back to the community and working with both Catholic and Christian brotherhoods, he is able to work with many religious denominations to provide aid to those less fortunate.



Above left to right Lector Mark McCabe just presented our Knight of the Month for September 2026 Vince Pinnaro with a certificate and our Grand Knight Kurt Denner presented Vince with a Knights cup.

Our Guest Speaker
Brandon Chambers

Brandon has been a Knight of Columbus now for 22 years having joined council 6726 in Goose Creek/Hanahan in 2004, during that time period he became a Grand Knight for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 and a District Deputy for District 13 from 2010-2014. He did a final tour as Grand Knight for 2014-2015. He was blessed to have been named the South Carolina State Council golden Knight of the year in 2019 and later became the State Membership director for 2 years under Past State Deputy Jeffrey Crouch. In 2021 he also helped form the St Finbar council 17760 at the Cathedral. And currently serves as the State Warden.

In 2017 he became a Field Agent with the Boni Agency and has been an agent for 9 years. He's achieved the Supreme Knights Club for performance every year as an agent and became a certified Financial Advisor in 2023.

In 2021 he alongside his wife Michele and Lupe Jimenez helped create the parish outreach initiative to help invite all men at every mass to become Knights of Columbus and the program has now become an official Knights of Columbus program practiced in every jurisdiction worldwide. This program helped South Carolina to set 3 consecutive years of record growth, the order in itself has seen the highest rate of growth since World War I and Brandon was the top recruiting agent for the last 3 years and the overall top recruiter in the Knights of Columbus as a whole in 2025.

He is married to his wife of 6 years Michele and they have two sons Joseph who is 4 attending St. Johns Catholic School and son Jacob who is currently 2 and are active parishioners of the Cathedral Parish.

Brandon's presentation of how to invite a practicing catholic over the age of 18 into the Knights of Columbus was very interesting and proven to be very productive.



Left in the picture is our speaker Brandon Chambers who just received a Knights cup from our Grand Knight Kurt Denner in appreciation for his presentation and spending the evening with our Council 9475.

**If you missed our spaghetti dinner
Thursday Sept. 24, 2026
you missed a great event**



Getting ready for the spaghetti dinner wrapping fork, spoon, and knife are left to right Craig Pugh, Susan and Jim Welsch, and Jim Morini.



Having fun in the hallway setting up for home bound meals are Sue Ciucci, Doris Wright, Marie Donnelly chairman of the home bound meals and Fran Franzone.



Getting serious now putting the home bound dinners together. Left to right Jane Kenzik, Fran Franzone, Doris Wright and Sue Welsch.



Outside are our spaghetti cookers and heaters left to right. Richard Garcia, Tom Dolecki, Greg Raven, Bob Thetereault, and Jon Tirpak. All smiling the steam is coming off the pot.

Spaghetti dinner continues



Managing our soft drink table are left Manning Bolchoz and his son Patrick. Both with great smiles and glad to help.



This is our other refreshment table manned by left Joe Harkins Sr. and Bill Shoemaker. Both are ready for customers.



Our spaghetti dinner chairman Mark Lazo checking the oven for warmed meatballs with Vince Terranova checking time, and Craig Pugh supervising.



Serving the meals behind the warming station are left to right Jerry Barnett, our Grand Knight Kurt Denner, and Greg Raven. Standing in front is customer waiting on a full plate.

Spaghetti dinner continues



Above is our guest enjoying their spaghetti dinner.



The missing man table. See explanation below.

Missing Man Table

The table that stands before you is a place of honor.

In setting this table, we acknowledge those missing from our celebrations and we remember them.

The tablecloth is white, symbolizing the purity of their motives when answering the call to duty.

The single red rose, in a vase, is there as a reminder of the lives of each of the missing.

The red ribbon tied around the vase shows our continued determination to account for the missing.

A slice of lemon on the bread plate is to remind us of the bitter fate of those captured.

A pinch of salt represents the tears shed for the fallen and those who mourn their loss.

The flame of the candle represents the hope that we have for their safe return home
or for the repose of their souls.

The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to those lost from our country,
which was founded as “One Nation Under God.” A phrase to which our great Order successfully
lobbied President Dwight D. Eisenhower to add to our Pledge of Allegiance in 1954.

An inverted glass symbolizes their inability to share in the day’s toast.

The chair stands empty to express their absence.

WE honor those missing and those who await their return. We honor those who have fallen
and those who mourn their loss. We honor those who served our Order and our great Nations.

(SAVE THE DATE)

THE KofC HARBOR CRUISE IS BACK AGAIN

Come join us for this fun, fun, fun filled event

All are welcome so bring your friends and neighbors

We sail Saturday October 24th, 2026 - Board @ 6:30 pm Cruise from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

Note: (New location marina) Seabreeze Marina, 50 Immigration Street, Charleston 29403

Onboard the beautiful **Charleston Princess**

Three decks, including seated dining, bow and aft observation decks and dance floor



\$110 per couple - \$55 single

Includes

Music by Eddie Lukow - back by popular demand.

Appetizers, light dinner, dessert,
soft drinks, water, beer & wine served by on board staff.

Cash bar available for mixed drinks and cocktails.

For tickets E-mail

Neil Whitman

ngwhitman@yahoo.com

843-270-9834 - please leave a message on my voicemail

To pay online scan this QR code. Enter \$0 in the tip request box.



<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/harbor-cruise--2026>

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*Gary and Patricia Cademartori
David and Darlene Creaturo
John and Maryann Czarnecki
Ron and Debra Davis
Stephen and Joan Fallon*

*Thomas and Elisabeth Gibbons
Gregory and Stasi Gormley
John Jr. and Siobhan Maize
Mark and Beth McCabe
Michael and Debra Merwin
Benjamin and Katie Minister
Clarence and Mary Murphy*

*Edward and Kathleen Murry
John and Monica Mutter
Larry & Karen Plumb
Henry and Martha Rogers
Robert and Denise Thetreault
John and Lynn Tortorici
Neil and Melinda Whitman*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Deacon Kevin Campbell
Daniel Corcoran Jr.
Carl Counasse
Steve Evangelista
Victor Giancola
Edward Graham*

*William Graves
Lloyd Hahn
Paul Harrington
Steve Kemp Jr.
Chris Kerrigan
Michael Lawrie
Tom Libhardt
Gregory Loss
John Mahoney*

*David McLaughlin
Scott Migli
Clarence Murphy
Mark Stadtmueller
James Tralka
Marion Wright*



Date night!

Nothing formal just an opportunity for everyone to have a night out and deepen our faith.

ADORE HIM: HE IS HERE is a new docudrama that invites you to enter the very presence of God. Through cinematic reenactments that span salvation history and intimate modern-day interviews from around the world, this film explores the transforming power of meeting the Creator of the Universe face to face. From encountering the Ark of the Covenant as it traveled across the wilderness to bumping into Jesus as he taught in the marketplace, this story builds to a culmination in the Eucharist, and today millions are finding out how much God truly loves them as they adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He is here

Adore Him: He is Here, is playing at Regal Palmetto Grande Cinemas in Mount Pleasant from Sunday, Oct 4 – Thursday, Oct 8. Ticket link is below.

<https://www.atomtickets.com/movies/adore-him-he-is-here/418053>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
NOVEMBER 2026

Daylight Saving Time Ends	01
All Saints Day	01
All Soul's Day	02
Election Day	03
Ultreya Meeting	03
Christ Our King in Grace Hall 7:00 PM	
Nocturnal Adoration	05
Stella Maris — 8:00 PM to 8:00 AM	
Officers Planning Meeting	05
COK — Life Center — 6:00 PM	
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	06
COK — 7:30 AM. Fri. to 6:00 PM	
Pro-Life/Rosary	07
COK — 7:30 AM	
Veterans Day	11
Council Meeting	19
St. Benedict's Parish Hall	
Rosary: 6:00 PM	
Dinner: 6:30 PM	
Meeting: 7:15 PM	
Prayer Vigil at Abortion Facility	21
West Ashley Abortion Facility 8:00 AM	
(Corner of Hwy 61 & Fuseler Rd.)	
1312 Ashley River Rd., Charleston, SC 29407	
Feast of Christ the King	22
Thanksgiving	26
Christmas Wreaths arrive	27

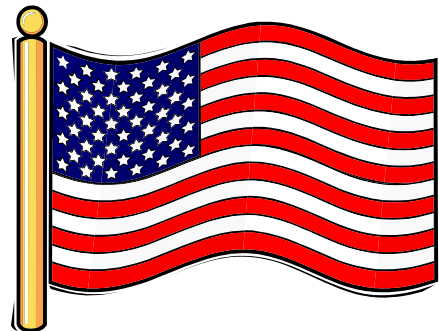
COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chaplain	Rev. Libin Augustine	843-884-5587
Grand Knight	Kurt Denner	843-323-0981
Deputy Grand Knight	Jim Veraldi	973-945-5770
Chancellor	Scott Migli	202-329-5579
Financial Secretary	Jeff Pulaski	843-813-1732
Recorder	Derek McCoy	719-200-3041
Warden	Mark McCabe	914-216-2031
Treasurer	Jim Welsch	843-849-1979
Lecturer	Mark McCabe	914-216-2031
Advocate	Ben Wyse	214-616-3260
Inside Guard	Carter Brand	843-468-0050
Outside Guard	Steve Fallon	401-266-1695
3 Yr. Trustee	Bob Brennan	315-729-8652
2 Yr. Trustee	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-729-5602
1 Yr. Trustee	Don Campbell	843-471-1085
Program Director	Jim Veraldi	973-945-5770
Church Directors	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 Director	Deacon Kevin Campbell	843-729-5602
Community Director	Marion Wright	843-509-6512
Public Relations/Website	Neil Whitman	843-270-9834
Family Director	Mario J. Chavezi	843-321-5887
Life Director	Joe Harkins Jr.	267-974-6534
Membership Director	Scott Migli	202-329-5579
Faith Director	Scott Migli	202-329-5579
Evangelizations and Faith		
Formation Director	Robert Brennan	315-729-8652
Retention Director	Steve Fallon	401-266-1695
Fraternal Benefits Promotion	Paul Harrington	706-338-7924
Columbus Hope director	Bill Shoemaker	843-884-1378
Meals Director	Ron Davis	843-437-2030
Newsletter	Tom Franzone	843-729-7734
State Chaplain	Rev. Robert Higgins	843-249-2356
State Deputy	Patrick Noone	704-534-2890
District Deputy	Matt Feltman	513-374-1994
Field Agent	Paul Harrington	706-338-7924
SC State Secretary	Joe Nesbitt	843-297-9873
Supreme Fraternal Services		203-772-2130

Knights of Columbus



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



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Monthly Meditation October, 2026

October: The Rosary, the Common Good, and Our Call to Serve

Brother Knights,

October is traditionally dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**, a prayer that invites us to walk with Mary through the mysteries of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. The Rosary is more than a devotion we recite. It is a school of discipleship that teaches us to contemplate Christ, listen to God, and place our lives at the service of others.

As Knights of Columbus, October gives us a fitting opportunity to connect our Catholic faith with our vocation to serve the **common good**. Our faith is never meant to remain private. The love we receive from Christ should lead us outward, toward our families, our parish, our neighbors, and our wider community.

When we pray the Rosary, we place before God the needs of the people around us. We pray for our families, those who are suffering, the poor and vulnerable, our priests and religious, and all those entrusted with public responsibility. But prayer should also lead to action. Having prayed for others, we ask ourselves: *What is Christ asking me to do for them?*

The common good begins with recognizing the dignity of every human person. As Knights, our principles of **Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism** call us to put this belief into practice. Serving the common good can take many forms: helping a family in need, supporting a parish ministry, visiting someone who is lonely, defending the dignity of human life, mentoring young people, or simply being present when a neighbor needs help.

October also invites us to remember that Mary always leads us to Jesus. At Cana, she noticed a need and brought it to her Son. Her example teaches us to notice the needs around us and respond with compassion. The Rosary therefore becomes not only a prayer of contemplation but also a prayer that forms our hearts for service.

As we continue our mission as Knights, let us make the Rosary part of our homes and our council life. Perhaps we can encourage our families to pray the Rosary during the month.

May Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary and Queen of the Knights, teach us to contemplate Christ, love our neighbors, and work faithfully for the good of our families and communities.

Brother Knights, let us pray together, serve together, and build a community where the love of Christ can be seen through our actions.



Vivat Jesus!

Rev Libin Augustine CMI

Parochial Vicar, Christ Our King Catholic Church