



# The Knight Watch

The Monthly Newsletter of Our Lady of the Lake Council 9240, Mandeville, LA  
 Chartered March 6, 1986  
 Dr. Rich Jeffries, Grand Knight  
**IN GOD WE TRUST - UNITED WE STAND GOD BLESS AMERICA**

Volume 39: Issue # 12

## Calendar of Events – December 2025

- December 1 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Exemplification 5:30 PM (HFH)
- December 1, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)
- December 5 Councils Deadline to submit Essay Contest Winners to Diocesan Administrator
- December 6 Men's Morning of Reflection
- December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- December 8 Officers Business Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)
- December 10 Deadline – Councils Judge Keep Christ in Christmas Posters
- December 11th and 12th: Pickup and Deliver Christmas Poinsettias to spouses of deceased Knights.
- December 13 Christmas Shopping Spree at Covington Walmart 8 AM – need 35 volunteers
- December 13, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, Wreaths Across America at 11 AM (SELA Cemetery)
- December 15 General Meeting (HFH, Dinner 6:30 PM, Rosary 7:10, Meeting 7:30)
- December 21 Special Blessings Mass (Special Needs) – 3:00 PM Church (St. Benedicts)
- December 21 Christmas Poster Contest (Deadline to submit winning poster to Diocesan Admin)
- December 25 CHRISTMAS
- December 31 Deadline – Councils submit Winning Keep Christ in Christmas Posters to DA



December Birthstone: Turquoise  
 December Birth Flowers: Holly & Daffodil

Brother Knight	Birth Month	Birth Date
Otis Mitchell	December	3
James Donahue	December	4
Michael Dupont	December	6
Cyrus Vernaci	December	6
Tim Daniel	December	7
Manuel Broussard	December	13
Russell Gaubert	December	13
Raymond Lepine	December	16
Troy Bourgeois	December	19
Dennis Jordan	December	20
Craig Cancienne	December	21
Jim Lark	December	21
Timothy O Keefe	December	22
Brian Callahan	December	23
James Senac	December	27

And to our Lady Knights that have a December Birthday, we wish you a Happy and Joyous Birthday!





**Dr. Rich Jeffries**

985-768-2315

jeffriesr1957@gmail.com

**My Brother Knights of Council 9240.**

Well, this is my fifth Knight Watch message. In October we continued to focus on Evangelization through ACTS and TMIY, and on completing the Annual Golf tournament held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2025. Which raised approximately \$14,000. We also held the annual baby bottle campaign to support the Crissis Pregnancy Center. Which raised a record of over \$ 17,500 in contributions. We also had the annual fall Rosary on the Lake Front on 8 October, which was extremely well attended. For our October membership drive, we distributed membership recruitment cards in conjunction with the Baby Bottles. The result is year to date we have 7 new members and only need an additional 7 to meet Star Council requirements.

Another thing we as the council are doing is updating the 1997 version of the Council 9240 By-Laws to better align our efforts with the updated Supreme Guidelines. The officer's review of the update is in progress and as soon as the recommended changes are made, we will be sending it out for review and comment by the full council. This will be followed by a vote of the full council on adopting the updated By-Laws. Once approved the Bi-Laws will be sent to Mark Carver, the State Advocate for review. Once his changes are implemented, then it is sent to the Supreme Advocate for approval. The Bi-Laws were distributed for review at the November General Council Meeting, and we see a lot of activity focused on improving the current draft.

As Grand Knight, moving forward in, December, January and February and over the remainder of my term, we will continue to focus on the core values of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree members to ensure we are aligned with our core values: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. As I continue to grow into the job as Grand Knight, I will make a strong push for Evangelization and Faith Formation activities to align the Council with Supreme priorities as a focus area in addition to our core values.

We have an opportunity to better align our activities to the Churches Core Values: Each of these values are given as practical examples during the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree exemplification

**Charity:** The Church defines Charity as Charity is patient, is kind; charity does not envy, is not pretentious, is not puffed up, is not ambitious, is not self-seeking, is not provoked; thinks no evil, does not rejoice over wickedness, but rejoices with the truth, bears with all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Cor. 13:4-7). To have Charity is to love God above all things for Himself and be ready to renounce all created things rather than offend Him by serious sin. (Matt. 22:36-40)

**Unity:** The Church Defines Unity – Unity in the church refers to the harmony and oneness among its members in faith and purpose. It is often rooted in scripture, emphasizing love and fellowship among believers (e.g., Ephesians 4:3).

**Fraternity:** The church defines Fraternity - Fraternity is rooted in the belief that all humans are created in the image of God. It emphasizes the importance of community and solidarity among individuals. The Church teaches that fraternity transcends social, economic, and cultural barriers. It calls for mutual respect, support, and love among all members of society.

Over the next three months we have many activities planned that will show the council 's Dedication to Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

In December we will be holding our annual **Christmas Shopping Spree on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 08:00 at the Covington Super Walmart.** This event allows us to provide a Christmas for many individuals who otherwise would not be having a Christmas. This our big charitable event of the year.

In January, we will be holding the Annual Wives of Deceased Knights Banquet on the 18<sup>th</sup> following the Noon Mass in the OLL Cafeteria This year the wives have asked to celebrate with a dance and social event. On January 31<sup>st</sup> we will be holding the annual trivia night fund raiser with proceeds going to the Women's Shelter in Hammond. Each of these events are reflective of Unity as defined by the church and Fraternity where we are focused on stepping up and supporting our deceased Knights families once they have passed and in supporting the Unity of church and respect for our sisters in Christ.

In February, we begin our annual Fish Fry Fund Raisers in support of Lent and the church doctrine as Easter approaches. These Fish Fries are a key part of supporting the community of the church and building relationships within Mandeville and the OLL Family. There are components of Charity, Unity and Fraternity throughout the Fish Fry events and it is a great opportunity for new and old Knights to build Unity and Fraternity within the council. Please join us as we make another Lentil Season special for OLL.

I am honored to be your new GK, and I look forward to the challenges of guiding our Council 9240 during my term. I would like to thank all of you for the fantastic turnout for the Baby Bottle Campaign, the OLL Fair, the Eucharistic Procession and the fence building event at the Lady of Divine Providence Convent in Covington. As always, everyone stepped up, and we made these things happen.

Coming up for us:

### **December 2025**

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December 1, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)

December 5 Councils Deadline to submit Essay Contest Winners to Diocesan Administrator

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### **January 2026**

January 1 – Happy New Year!

January 2 – Men's Morning of Reflection

January 4 - Feast of the Epiphany

January 5 – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)

January 10-11 and 17-18 – KofC State Bowling Tournament in Homa. LA

January 12 – Officers Business Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)

January 16-24 – 9 Days of Life Novena (via Zoom) Zoom information to follow  
January 18 – Reception Honoring Spouses of Deceased Knights (OLL Cafeteria, after Noon Mass)  
January 18 – Special Blessings Mass (Special Needs) – 3:00 PM Church (OLL)  
January 19 – Quarterly Knight’s Mass 5:15 Mass – Wear Your Knight’s Shirt!  
January 19 – General Meeting (HFH, Dinner 6:30 PM, Rosary 7:10, Meeting 7:30)  
January 25 – CYLA application due from students to Council  
January 24 – Mandeville Stands for Life, Life Chain Event (1:00– 2:00 pm) Hwy 190 Corridor Post Office to Causeway.  
January 24 – Grand Knights Day, Catholic Life Center, South Lafayette.LA (GK, Membership/Program Directors & Fin. Sec. to Attend)  
January 24 – State Gumbo Cook-off, Lafayette, L  
January 30 – Trivia Night – OLL Chotin Center – 7:00 PM (Doors open at 6:30)

**February 2026**

February 2 – 4 th Degree Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)  
February 7 – Men’s Morning of Reflection  
February 9 – Officers Business Meeting – 6:30 PM (HFH)  
February 14 – Valentine’s Day!  
February 15 – Special Blessings Mass (Special Needs) –3:00 PM Church (MQoP)  
February 16 – General Meeting (HFH, Dinner 6:30 PM, Rosary 7:10, Meeting 7:30)  
February 17 th – Mardi Gras  
February 18 th – Ash Wednesday  
February 20 th – KC Fish Fry - FF1  
February 27 th – KC Fish Fry - FF2  
February 28 th – 4th Degree Exemplification – Alexandria, LA

All these things we do are a credit to the collective effort of all Council members who volunteer their time as we go about performing acts of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. I look forward to the following year, and it is an honor to be your Grand Knight

*I am so truly blessed to be around such outstanding and Godly men!*  
Vivat Jesus!  
Rich Jeffries, GK

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**DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT**  
**Steve Maloney**

[steve.m.maloney@att.net](mailto:steve.m.maloney@att.net)

**Exemplification Team** – On Monday, December 1, beginning at 5:30 PM, we will welcome three new Brother Knights!

**Courtney Busch, Jr.**

**Aaron Noelke**

**Anthony DiMaria**

Thanks to F/N Brian Callahan for allowing this Exemplification to be conducted prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree meeting and for us to join in the meal. Candidates and Presenters should arrive for 5:30 with the ceremony beginning at 5:45.

**Officers' Meeting** - Our monthly Officers' Meeting is held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 8 beginning at **6 PM** in HFH. *If a Brother Knight(s) has a recommendation for charitable work or donation to be made by Council 9240, the first step is to present your suggestion at the Officers' meeting.*

**Council 9240  
Northshore Food Bank Driver List**

Month	Date	Year	Driver 1	Driver 2
December	1	2025	John Lodge	Paul Broussard
December	15	2025	Steve Maloney	
January	5	2026	John Lodge	Paul Broussard
January	19	2026	Miles Becnel	
February	2	2026	John Lodge	Paul Broussard
February	16	2026	Steve Maloney	
March	2	2026	Henry Ber	
March	16	2026	Miles Becnel	
April	6	2026	Steve Maloney	
April	20	2026	Miles Becnel	
May	4	2026	Henry Ber	
May	18	2026	Steve Maloney	

VJ,  
Steve

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**Faith in Action**

**Life Program**

Brother Knights,

Dec. 21 Special Blessings Mass (Special Needs) – 3:00 PM Church (St. Benedicts host)

**Jan. 16-24 9 Days of Life Novena (via Zoom) Zoom information to follow**

Jan. 18 Special Blessings Mass (Special Needs) – 3:00 PM Church (OLL Council 9240 host)

**Jan. 24 Mandeville Stands for Life, Life Chain Event (1:00– 2:00 pm) Hwy 190 Corridor Post Office to Causeway.**

Vivat Jesus!

**Julio Aviles, Life Director**

**Family Program**

Dec. 5 Deadline – Submit Essay Contest Winners to Diocesan Administrator

Dec. 10 Deadline – Councils Judge Keep Christ in Christmas Posters

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Vivat Jesus!

**Tommy Vervaecke, Family Director**

## Community

Dec. 11 & 12 Pickup & Deliver Christmas Poinsettias to spouses of deceased Knights.

Vivat Jesus!

**Robert Jackson, Community Director**

## Faith

Vivat Jesus!

**Dwight Johnston, Faith Director**

## Communication

Do you have pictures from our events? Send them to **Brother Mark Faust** ([mhfaust@bellsouth.net](mailto:mhfaust@bellsouth.net))

Vivat Jesus!

**Mark Faust, Communication**

## Retention

We are in need of Brother Knights as Mentors for our new Brother Knights. We need your help!

Vivat Jesus!

**Ronnie Marks, Retention**

## Christmas Shopping Spree and The Wives of Deceased Knights Banquet

***The Christmas Shopping Spree will be at Walmart SC in Covington, Saturday, Dec. 13 @ 8AM***

***We still need volunteers for this very worthy gift giving event!***

The Wives of Deceased Knights Banquet will be held on **Sunday, January 18, 2026.**

Vivat Jesus!

**Craig Wiles, Christmas Shopping Spree and The Wives of Deceased Knights Banquet**

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## Growing In Faith

### Synopsis of the Faith Principle of Charity in Catholicism

**Coadjutor Archbishop James Checchio** emphasizes the principle of **Charity** as a fundamental expression of Christian love and service within the Catholic Church. Central to Catholic belief, Charity transcends mere emotional sentiment; it is a profound commitment to loving others as Christ loves us.

#### The Nature of Charity

According to Catholic teachings, Charity is not just about giving; it embodies the **Corporal Works of Mercy**, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and showing kindness to those in need. Archbishop Checchio advocates for a practical application of Charity, urging the faithful to incorporate these teachings into their daily lives. This commitment manifests in actions that uplift and support individuals, regardless of their circumstances, thereby reflecting the dignity of every human life which the Church holds sacred.

## Social Justice and Charity

Archbishop Checchio links Charity with the Church's broader commitment to social justice. He encourages the faithful to engage with local communities through Catholic Charities and parish initiatives, which aim to address systemic issues like poverty and inequality. By fostering a spirit of **solidarity**, the Archbishop believes that the Church can effectively respond to modern challenges. He emphasizes that while individual acts of charity are vital, there is also a call to advocate for societal changes that protect the marginalized and uphold human rights.

## Conclusion

In summary, the principle of Charity in Catholic teaching, as articulated by **Archbishop Checchio**, is a living expression of faith that prioritizes love, compassion, and social responsibility. By embracing Charity, Catholics not only fulfill their religious obligations but also contribute meaningfully to building a just and equitable society.

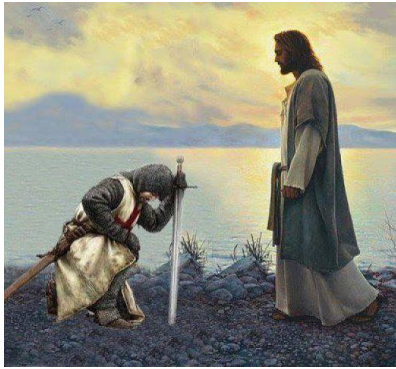
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### Insurance Message

**General Agent David Barnes, FIC, CLTC** is scheduled to join our January 2026 general meeting on January 29, 2026

*Insurance products offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510*

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Prayer List for 11/17/2025

### Repose of the Souls of

Johnny Albano For our deceased Brother Knights and their families.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the merch of God, rest in peace. Amen**

### Prayers for individual health and special intentions

Pope Leo XIV	Fr. Doug Bush	Fr. Cory Ford
GK Dr. Rich Jeffries	Teresa Jeffries	Becky Maloney
Melissa Wallace	Clara Becnel	Serita Senac
Gilda & Cleve Fair	Christian Jeffries	Sandra Umholtz
Cindy & Craig Toomey	Guy Goodwyne	Al Bowman
Ozzie Duhon	J.D. Duhon	Delaney Stanworth
Ron George	Wendy George	Enrique Rivera
Georgianna Azoury	Blanca Diaz	G.G. Gough
Carolyn McTee	Gayle Cohen	Lori Wehner
Robbie Howard	Courtney Busch, Sr.	Eli Prejean
Shelley Adams	Jean Paul Duhon	Karen Messa
Jackie Azoury	Candice Azoury	

## **Prayers for special intentions**

For the Holy Father, Bishops, Priest, Deacons and Religious

For vocations, that our young people will have the generosity necessary to follow God's call and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation. O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will.

For the end of Abortion, the souls of the lost children, and the softening of the hearts and the souls of the mothers, that they will understand the gift of life.

For our military and first responders, please help us to remember the sacrifices of our military and first responders.

For our nation, that we will turn back to God and our founding principle that all men are created equal.

For the Our Lady of the Lake Parish family.

For Knights of Columbus worldwide.