



# 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 40: Issue # 2

## Calendar of Events - February 2026

- Jan 30 - Feb 1 - K of C State Retreat
- Feb. 2 - 4th Degree Meeting - 6:30 PM (HFH)
- Feb. 2 - Northshore Food Bank Delivery  
Driver: John Lodge & Paul Broussard
- Feb. 7 - Deadline for Councils to submit CYLA application to CYLA Chariman
- Feb. 7 - Men's Morning of Reflection
- Feb. 9 - Officers Business Mtg. - 6:00 PM (HFH)
- Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day!
- Feb. 15 - Special Blessings Mass - 3:00 PM  
OLL Church - MQoP host
- Feb. 16 - Council 9240 General Meeting (HFH)  
(Dinner 6:30, Rosary 7:10, Meeting 7:30)
- Feb. 16 - Northshore Food Bank Delivery  
Driver: Steve Maloney
- Feb. 17 - Mardi Gras!
- Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 20 - K of C Lenten Fish Fry # 1
- Feb. 21 - State Cornhole Tournament - St. Ann  
4940 Meadowdale St. Met., LA - 9 AM
- Feb. 26 - March 1 - Men's ACTS Retreat
- Feb. 27 - K of C Lenten Fish Fry # 2



psst...  
lent starts tomorrow.  
enjoy your fat tuesday,  
but not too much.



February Birthstone - Amethyst  
February Birth Flowers - Violet

Brother Knight	Month	Birthday
Earl Galle	February	1
Steven Gourgues	February	2
Joseph Myers	February	2
Thomas Berner	February	3
Howard Vollenweider	February	5
Miles Becnel	February	9
Steve Gutierrez	February	9
Erwin Olexa	February	9
Courtney Busch	February	12
John Schembre	February	12
Julio Aviles	February	13
Henry Ber	February	14
Francis Helluin	February	17
Lewis Nolan	February	18
Ignacio Rosales	February	20
Ryne Davis	February	21
Mark Faust	February	21
Lawrence Grundmann	February	21
Edward Pribyl	February	22
Ryan Mitchell	February	24
Paul Broussard	February	27





**Dr. Rich Jeffries**

985-768 - 2315

Email: jeffries1957@gmail.com

**My Brother Knights of Council 9240.**

I have been the Grand Knight for Six Months. In January we focused on Charity and Fraternity with the Spouses of Deceased Knight Banquet on January 18th and with the Trivia Night scheduled for the 30th of January 2026 in the Chautin Center. The proceeds from Trivia Night will go to Lynnhaven Women's One-Year Discipleship and Recovery Program. Additionally, we continued our focus on Evangelization through TMIY, and we are starting efforts to support the ACTS Team. We have also restarted painting of the Rectory and HFH for the stairs and decking. The parish Maintenance Staff replaced all the rotting wood, and we can now get back to work. We should be able to finish it all in 4-6 days of painting for a few hours each day.

In February we will start our next Membership Drive in conjunction with the six Fish Fry Events starting on 20 February. We will have manned recruitment tables and moving loops showing photos of all the events we host each year to help highlight all the good works we do in the community. Our goal is for each of us to ask two new members to join and give them a card to give them instructions on how to join, which is still free for the new members. One of the goals I remain focused on is to build a group of new members who will lead Council 9240 in the future.

On January 19th we voted to approve our draft BI-Laws, and they were forwarded to the state Advocate for review. The State returned our draft BI-Laws and told us to submit only the Supreme BI-Laws template for approval by Supreme. The additional details in our draft BI-Laws can be approved as a local council resolution to supplement the Supreme approved BI-Laws. So, we will maintain all the hard work we put into the BI-Laws, but in a slightly different format. I will submit the Supreme template dated the 20th of January 2026 as soon as possible and we will draft the resolution for review and approval in February or March 2026.

Coming up for us:

In March we will continue to do Fish Fries and prepare for Lent and the Easter season. In April we will be holding the Clergy Appreciation Dinner and a BBQ at Saint Josephs Seminary, the Lake Front Rosary and several veteran events at the Louisiana Veteran's home and the Southeast Louisiana National Cemetery.

Please come out and support these events.

As Grand Knight, moving forward in February and March and April and over the remainder of my term, I want to continue to focus on recruiting new members and on the core values of 3rd 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.

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)

## Major Events upcoming –

- ❖ **Trivia Night!** Friday, Jan. 30 – *Hosted by Vanna Decker!*
  - Chotin Center - Doors open @ 6:30 PM – Game starts @ 7:00 PM
  - Cost = \$ 20.00 per person
  - Volunteers are needed for working the event and for cleanup after the event.
- ❖ **Lenten Fish Fry!**
  - Dates: 02/20, 02/27, 03/06, 03/13, 03/20, 03/27 – 5 PM – 7:30
  - **Volunteers needed:**
    - Cooks starting @ 3 PM
    - Servers starting @ 4:30 PM
    - Front tables: Ticket sales, Raffle tables, Membership tables starting @ 4:30 PM

**Officers’ Meeting** - Our monthly Officers’ Meeting is held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Monday, February 9, 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.*

Awesome job by our **Gumbo Cookout Team** – Brothers **Bill Renton, Robert Jackson, Craig Wiles** and **Tom Biggio**. The team cooked up a **DELICIOUS** pot of gumbo at Grand Knights Day, that should have been 1<sup>st</sup> place. *The Refs blew another call!* (Just sayin)



### Northshore Food Bank Driver List

Month	Date	Year	Driver 1	Driver 2
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	
June	1	2026	John Lodge	Paul Broussard
June	15	2026	Miles Becnel	

Vivat Jesus!  
Steve

# Faith in Action

## Life Program

Brother Knights,

Thanks to everyone that joined the 9-Day Novena for Life and the Mandeville Stands for Life events! We had a great turnout for both events and the weather held off until the end of the Mandeville Stands event. Please continue to pray 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.

Feb. 15 – Special Blessings Mass – 3 PM OLL Church – MQoP will host

March 15 – Special Blessings Mass – 3 PM OLL Church – St. Peter will host

April 19 – Special Blessings Mass – 3 PM OLL Church – Most Holy Trinity will host

Vivat Jesus!

**Julio Aviles, Life Director**

## Family Program

Brother Knights,

On Tuesday, 01/27, we presented gift cards to the 6 participants in the 2025 Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest. Additionally, Matt Algero and F/N Brian Callahan presented gift cards to the 3 winners in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Patriotic Essay contest.



Coming in April! KC Samaritan Center Food Drive – details to follow.

Vivat Jesus!

**Tommy Vervaecke, Family Director**

## Community

Coming in April! – Easter Lillies delivered to the SoDKs. Details to follow.

Vivat Jesus!

**Robert Jackson, Community Director**

## Faith

Brothers,

At our January 19<sup>th</sup> general meeting, we presented \$ 500 checks to the two NDS Seminarians that we sponsor. Worthy GK Dr. Rich presented checks to Deacon Ky (Joseph) Bui and D1 (Discipleship 1) seminarian Jake Guterrez. Deacon Bui will be ordained a priest this June.

March 17 – Lunch for the OLL staff

Coming in April – Cookout for the Seminarians at the Abbey. Details to follow.

Vivat Jesus!

**Dwight Johnston, Faith Director**

## Communication

Do you have pictures from our events? Send them to *Brother Mark Faust* 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 Reception Honoring Spouses of Deceased Knights (SoDK) was held on **Sunday, January 18, 2026**. It was a fantastic event with over 60 attendees, including 11 spouses. The opportunity to socialize, share stories, and even dance with the spouses was truly priceless.

Vivat Jesus!

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



**Banquet for Spouses of Deceased Knights**

On Sunday, January 18, the Knights of Columbus honored the spouses and families of deceased Knights. More than 60 attended, including 11 spouses, making for a truly meaningful gathering. Lagniappe provided a delicious gumbo meal, and guests enjoyed live entertainment from Brett Bostwick and his grandson. The opportunity to socialize, share stories, and even dance with the spouses was truly priceless. Many thanks to the Knights and Lady Knights who shared the gift of time for this special evening. Special thanks to **Brother Knight Craig Wiles** and **Lady Knight Lori Wiles** for organizing this event.



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## Growing In Faith

### The Lenten Journey

From the Introduction by Bishop Robert Barron (Lenten Gospel Reflections, © 2026 by Word on Fire Catholic Ministries)

*Lent is a season for refocusing on the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we will be ready to embrace the good news of the Resurrection.*

*Why this emphasis on suffering? Because Christ saved us through an act of suffering. He bore in his own person the weight of our sin and died for us on the cross, where suffering and love coincided.*

*And the Church is the Body of Christ, which participates in Christ. Therefore, we shouldn't be surprised that we will be called upon to suffer out of love. In the economy of grace, God may use our suffering to bear the burden of another member of the Body of Christ, just as one system can take up the work of another, or organ can support another.*

*So as we begin with Ash Wednesday, let us resolve to focus on Christ's suffering, and to unite our own suffering – through fasting, prayer, almsgiving, and reflection on the Stations of the Cross – with the suffering members of the Church. It is not the destination but the journey that will ultimately transform us.*

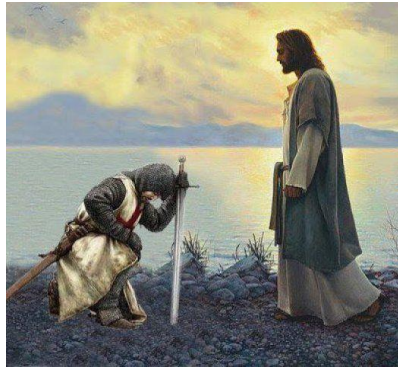
*Peace,  
Bishop Robert Barron*

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## Insurance Message

**General Agent David Barnes**, FIC, CLTC is scheduled to join our January 2026 general meeting on March 16, 2026  
*Insurance products offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510*

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Prayer List for 01/19/2026

### **Repose of the Souls of**

For our deceased Brother Knights and their families.

**Margaret Schmidt Donald Heintz Betty Brown Sidney Conzelmann (5 yrs old) Stephen Bougeois  
Justin Miller & Family Florence Callahan**

**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 mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen**

### **Prayers for individual health and special intentions**

Pope Leo XIV	Fr. Doug Busch	Fr. Cory Ford
GK Dr. Rich Jeffries	Teresa Jeffries	Lori Wehner
Cindy & Craig Toomey	Pete	Gary Wilkerson, Jr.
Kenneth Moore	Sandra Gremillion	Barbara Bruhn
Micah	All those suffering from cancer	Caroly Fluitt
Baby Wesley Maxwell	Guy Goodwyne	Gay Goodwyne
Donna Uli	Leslie Patterson	Brittany Chompagno
John Oliveier		

### **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.