



**THE ANCHOR**  
 RICHARD C. MADDEN COUNCIL #6629  
 CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY, PATRIOTISM  
 April 2025



KofC6629.org



Grand Knight  
Tim McAuliffe



Chaplain  
Fr. Raymond Carlo



Brothers, what a great event we had last Saturday night with our first responders dinner. If you haven't check out the Summerville journal scene do so. John has some pics in the Anchor. I wanted to say thanks to all of you who volunteered for the event!!I was proud to see our mission still going, keeping our community first.

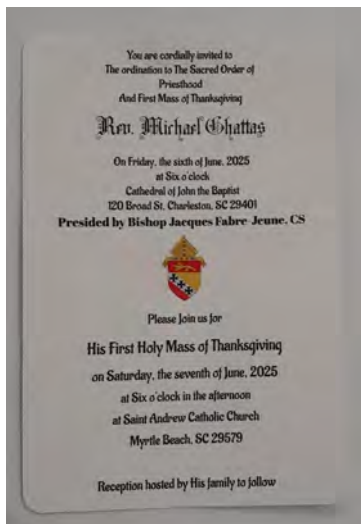
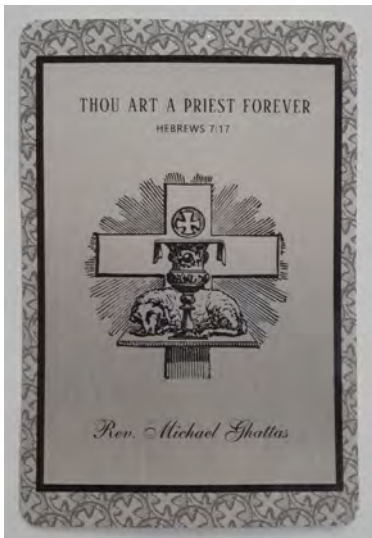
On another note the fraternal year is ending soon and if you should like to be an office please see at the end of April's council meeting.

Vivat Jesu  
Tim  
GK Council 6629

Dear brother Knights,  
 I hope you are all having a good Lent! This 40 day journey is a truly wonderful opportunity to grow spiritually. And we have the support of all Catholics all over the world who are walking the same path with us! Lent began as a 40 day retreat for those within the early church who were preparing for baptism. One of the early popes made the decision that the 40 day retreat had such a good effect on the catechumens that now we all will do it!

I think the Catholic Church truly SHINES every year during Holy Week! The Catholic Church stops its regular routine and tries with special emphasis to WALK THE WAY WITH JESUS. We begin on Palm Sunday when we recall His triumphant entrance into the holy city of Jerusalem. At the beginning of the Mass we proclaim the added "Palm Gospel." We also prayerfully read the Passion Narrative in different voices to bring it alive.

Then we begin what is called the holiest days of the year, the Pascal Triduum, when we celebrate the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. This event is the center of human history! At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, we celebrate the great gift of the Eucharist. We reenact Jesus' washing of the feet of his apostles during the Last Supper. It ends with a Eucharistic procession, taking the Eucharist out of the tabernacle and into a place of repose until midnight. This recalls Christ's walk to the Garden of Gethsemane where in His agony He sweat blood. People come and go praying in this impromptu chapel.



**(continued)**

There is no Mass throughout the Catholic Church, funeral or otherwise, until the Easter celebration at the Easter Vigil to recall when Christ died and was taken from us.

Then on Good Friday, we celebrate the liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3pm which according to the Gospels is the hour when Jesus died on the cross for us. We read the account of the Passion from John's Gospel in different voices, we venerate the cross and we receive communion. Also, we have Stations of the Cross in the evening.

On Holy Saturday, we celebrate the Easter Vigil beginning after sunset. This beautiful and greatest Mass of the year centers on the Easter candle. We have the beautiful Easter Proclamation called the Exultet (Rejoice) in Latin. We have a selection of readings, recalling, how everything from the creation of the world lead up to the resurrection of Jesus. It is a time to bring the converts into the church and celebrate the sacraments Baptism and Confirmation. This year we again have a large group of adults and teens, 40 people who will join the Church and celebrate the sacraments.

At all the Easter Masses, we profess our baptismal promises and are sprinkled with holy water symbolizing our baptism. The whole process of spiritual growth that began on Ash Wednesday culminates when we profess our promises of baptism over again at the Easter Mass. It is the conclusion of the conversion process that began on Ash Wednesday!

The whole church and every parish all over the world walks the way with Jesus during Holy Week! It is a magnificent expression of faith, and of trying to take these days seriously in order to enter more deeply into the salvation that the Lord won for us!

May all of us walk that way with Jesus on Holy Week this year and so be more filled with the new life and joy of Easter!

God bless! Father Ray

**Investment Advisor** Brothers, Are you on track to reach your financial goals? Are you unsure how to begin setting those goals? As your agent, I'm dedicated to helping you find the right insurance solutions, no matter your stage of life. Whether you are in your working years with young kids, living paycheck to paycheck, or knocking on the door of retirement, I'm excited to help you protect what matters most and build financial security with insurance-based solutions tailored to meet your priorities. The first thing to consider is whether your family would be financially taken care of if something happened to you. Would they struggle to meet the mortgage payments or to pay off other debts? Term life insurance can be an affordable option to give you protection in case of the unexpected. You'll also have the option to convert to a permanent plan in the future without additional underwriting. Terms and conditions may apply. Second, start preparing for retirement, no matter how far away it may seem. The Knights of Columbus offers annuity solutions to help provide you with retirement income you can't outlive, guaranteed. Finally, disability income insurance. For many men, regardless of their phase in life, protecting their income is their greatest financial need. What would you do if you were no longer able to work? Don't overlook how disability income insurance may be able to help you. I understand that your financial needs are not just unique but change over time. I'm here to help you find the right solutions today and to walk with you as your insurance needs evolve. If you have any questions, please come chat with me and we can schedule a time to meet. Thank you

Yours in Christ  
Brandon chambers  
843-224-3022



### **Council 6629 Calendar Raffle**

The Annual Calendar Raffle fund raiser has kicked off. You can help your council raise money for the charitable work we do by purchasing and selling tickets. Tickets can be obtained at each monthly meeting, before and after mass or by contacting me at 412-334-4992. We are still looking for volunteers to help sell tickets before and after each weekend mass and during the fish fries at Madden Hall. Call or text or sign up to volunteer at the monthly meetings.

Vivat Jesu!  
Br. Mike Slezak

### **Financial Secretary** Hello Brothers,

Hope you are all having a great Lenten journey and looking forward to Easter Sunday. Our council remains IN GOOD STANDING with Supreme and State Councils. I submitted our application Form SP-7 for Columbia Award (included in this edition of the Anchor). The Grant's issued to nonprofits from Fraternal Year 24-25 Calendar Raffle and Fraternal Year 23-24 Golf Tournament allowed us to meet a minimum of 4 points in each category of Faith, Family, Community and Life. Star Council is still dependent on meeting Membership and Fraternal Benefit Webinar quotes.

We will also be establishing the Budget for next Fraternal Year (FY) soon. If you would like to recommend a program/event for FY 25-26, please complete a Request for Budget application and email it to me or provide a hard copy. All Request for Budget applications must be submitted by June 3, 2025.

Vivat Jesu  
Bill Williamson FS  
[williamsonbill184@gmail.com](mailto:williamsonbill184@gmail.com)

# Columbian Award Application

Due by June 30th

Council Number: 6629 Jurisdiction: SC 20 24 - 20 25

## FAITH PROGRAMS: RSVP, Into the Breach, Spiritual Reflection, Holy Hour, Pilgrim Icon Program, Building the Domestic Church Kiosk, Rosary Program, Sacramental Gifts

1. Program Name: RSVP Program Description: Council sponsored 1 seminarian throughout the year  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
2. Program Name: Holy Hour Program Description: Knights attend Eucharistic Adoration for a minimum of 1 hour each Friday  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
3. Program Name: Rosary Program Program Description: Council prays the Rosary as a group each month that contains 5 Sundays  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
4. Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Program Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

## FAMILY PROGRAMS: Food for Families, Family of the Month/Year, Family Fully Alive, Family Prayer Night, Keep Christ in Christmas, Family Week, Consecration to the Holy Family, Good Friday Family Promotion

1. Program Name: Food for Families Program Description: Council collected 3000 lbs of nonperishable food items and donated \$500 to Parish Food Pantry  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
2. Program Name: Keep Christ in Christmas Program Description: Council sponsored a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest for parish children  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
3. Program Name: Grants to Non-Profits from Raffle Fund raiser Program Description: Council provided grants of \$1000 each to Expanding the Table and Meals on Wheels  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)
4. Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Program Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)



**COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Disaster Preparedness, Free Throw Championship, Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest, Soccer Challenge, Hockey Challenge, Helping Hands**

1. Program Name: Coats for Kids Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council purchased and distributed 6 boxes of winter coats to needy children in the community

2. Program Name: Habitat for Humanity Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Knights participated in house builds but did not meet program requirements

3. Program Name: Mepkin Abbey yearly maintenance Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Knights volunteered over 3 days to perform building and ground maintenance at Mepkin Abbey

4. Program Name: Grants to Non-Profits from Raffle Fund raiser Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council provided grants of \$1000 each to St. Vincent de Paul and HELP of Summerville

**LIFE PROGRAMS: Pregnancy Center Support, March for Life, Special Olympics, Ultrasound Program, ASAP, Christian Refugee Relief, Silver Rose, Mass for People with Special Needs, Novena for Life**

1. Program Name: ASAP Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council collected \$8200 in Baby Bottle drive and provided grants of \$4100 to 2 pregnancy centers

2. Program Name: March for Life Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council participated in local March for Life Prayer Chain

3. Program Name: Special Olympics Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council provided a grant of \$2000 to Special Olympics Area 6 in South Carolina

4. Program Name: Grants to Non-Profits from Raffle Fund raiser Featured Program?  YES  NO  
(Selecting yes indicates you have fulfilled all featured program minimum requirements.)

Program Description: Council provided a grant of \$1000 to Coastal Ctr Parents/Guardians Association (special needs)

Signed: Bill Williamson 5114023 Financial Secretary 03/17/2025

SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO: fraternalmission@kofc.org • SEND COPIES TO: State Deputy, District Deputy, Council File



## Sick and Bereavement Part I

For those we pray: O Lord. Hear our prayer!

Philip Belken

Diana Bogart

Joe Bratton

Zhareen Bulallacao

Stephanie Campbell

Marc Davis

Kevin Fitzgerald

Pope Francis

Gantt Family

Barbara Grim

PSD Joe Gubeli

Deacon Kurt Herbst

Deacon Ron Kolonich

Judith McCarty

PGK Helen & Jose Mireles

PSD Bob, Nancy, Becky & Angela Mussat

Maddie Musselman

Ernie Nacco

Anita Nole

Robert Nowik

Kristen Phillips

Kathleen Pitiak

Pete Priem

Heinz Regenscheit

Christopher Riso

Greg Saylor

Ken Sharrett

Jerry Stout

Arlene Swartz

Sue Tileston

Tim Walters

Dennis Wells

Gary Wilcox

## **Sick and Bereavement Part II**

- † Leonard Astfalk
- † Betty Abdon (wife of Br. Simeon)
- † Doug Aitken (Dick Gotheridge's brother in law)
- † Sandra Baker (Br. Joseph's spouse)
- † Richard Barrineau
- † Gladys Bates
- † George Beckett
- † Albert Bellacicco
  
- † Evelyn & Don Bloomer (PGK Tom's Mother and Father)
- † Fr. Larry Bower
- † Dominic Bria (former council member)
- † James Coldwell
- † Bambi Conrad (Br. James spouse)
- † Peter Cyprian Jr. (Br. Ronny's grandfather)
- † Robert Correll
- † Carol & Steve Dunlap PSD
- † Patrick Dunlap
- † John Dupont (Charter Member and PGK)
- † Ed Elder and Josie Elder
- † Howard (Jerry) and Robin Ellis
- † JW Garvin, PGK
- † Susan Gotheridge
- † Flo Grundy (widow of late PGK Chuck)
- † Mary Ann Heagerty (Br. Daniel's wife)
- † Lisa Helms (Br. Paul's wife)
- † James R. Hughes (Br. James Hughes father)
- † John and Laura Kersting
- † Adrien Lussier
- † Shirin Kopfmüller
- † Chuck Lichtenberger, PGK
  
- † Bonnie Levenhagen, Br. John's wife
- † Connie Mc David (Br. Tom's wife)
- † Mary Ann Moore (Br. Dennis' mother)
- † Roger Meunier
- † Lorraine Mineweaser (Bernie's spouse)
- † Rita Mineweaser (Bernie's sister)
- † Joe Noll
- † Patrick O'Rourke
- † Peter O'Sullivan
- † John Passarileo, PGK
- † Joe Bert Peck
- † Robert S. Pitiak,
- † Angelo Prospero
- † Ronald Povero, PSD
- † Dotti Roberts and Len Roberts
- † Robert Rybicki
- † Fred Seebode
- † Greg Seltzer, PGK
- † Travis Seltzer (Br. Greg's son)
- † Jan Shaw (Br. Al's spouse)
- † Betty Unwin (PGK Dave's Widow)
- † Rita Urko (Br. Paul's mother)
- † Joyce Vega (widowed spouse of PGK Dave)
- † Sharon Walsh and Jack Walsh
- † Rodney Ward (SJB Music Director)
- † James Wilson (James Hughes' Father In law)
- † Epifanio Zamora
- † Our Deceased members
- † All Deceased Men and Women Who Served in the Armed Forces

## **Prayer for the Unborn**

O God, who has given us the gift of life, we ask you today to bless all unborn babies. Watch over them as they grow and develop in their mothers' womb., that they may be born healthy and happy and be welcomed with tender love and deep joy. In a special way, we ask you to bless those babies who are unwanted and may never be born. Welcome them into your loving embrace that they find their love in you. Bless and guide all pregnant women, they might respect and cherish the gift of life growing within them. May they accept their child as an irreplaceable gift from you, Amen.





## Member Birthdays

### April

Name	Birthday
Robert C Oppenheimer	04-01
James J Raymer	04-01
Jordan L Haven	04-02
Robert J Magera	04-03
Robert J Mussat	04-04
Stanley B Burt	04-08
Daniel M Hogan	04-08
Shawn M Flanagan	04-11
Michael P Boisvert	04-12
Herbert A Ladson	04-12
Mr Ralph B Comp	04-13
Robert R Carreau	04-14
John M Guido	04-16
Timothy F Miller	04-17
Leonard L Potvin	04-18
Elbert L Davis Jr	04-19

**April**

Name	Birthday	
Francis J Shortino	04-19	
Bill A Williamson	04-21	
Jeffrey W Crowell	04-26	
Harry R Behm	04-27	
		<b>Total: 20</b>



## Years of Service

April

Name	First Degree Date/ Re-entry Date	Years of Service
Theodore T Musselman	04-01-1981	44
Mr Kevin M Carroll	04-01-1991	34
Marvin J Johnson	04-01-1991	34
Anthony J Brasberger Jr	04-17-1997	28
Michael F Alden	04-02-1998	27
Patrick E Bise	04-14-1998	27
Donald F Cullen	04-13-2009	16
Frederick W Schalek	04-14-2009	16
Leo F Caballero	04-07-2013	12
Joseph E Magera	04-29-2014	11
Christian P Waters	04-29-2014	11
Ryan P Shannon	04-14-2015	10

April

Name	First Degree Date/ Re-entry Date	Years of Service
Eddie W Huddleston	04-15-2015	10
Anthony Porcellini Jr	04-22-2015	10
Robert M Auriemma	04-11-2018	7
Charles H Grim Jr	04-03-2022	3
Nathan P Hobbs	04-03-2022	3
Kevin F Trenga	04-03-2022	3
David L Hopkins	04-04-2022	3
John R Collier	04-11-2023	2
Veston Brock	04-14-2024	1
Austin W Fore	04-14-2024	1
Brett D Gurda	04-14-2024	1

Prior to the March Council Meeting, Lisa Morrelli President of the Parents/Guardian Association of the Coastal Center explained that provide 24/7 care to adults with special needs. They are one of five such facilities in the state. The local facility currently cares for 139 residents with additional space for a total of 145.



Following the briefing from Lisa, GK Tim and PGK Tom Bloomer presented Lisa and co-worker Kalen Milford with a donation of \$2,000.00 from the special needs fund generated by last year's golf tournament.



One of the groups that our council supports with donations from the State Raffle is the Women's Kairos Prison Ministry of SC.

*"Your financial and prayerful support of the Kairos Inside Program allows volunteers to establish a Christian Community "Inside" the prison by the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. This is a four day program of talks, discussions, chapel meditations, music, laughter, tears and love. Currently, there are about 700 women incarcerated at Camille Griffin Graham Correctional Institution in Columbia, SC.*

*Team Formation Meetings are essential to prepare the Kairos volunteers who will be going into the prison. Thirty two Christian women met for four training sessions from January 18th thru March 8th to prepare them for the various roles they'll be fulfilling on the inside.*

*These day long training sessions were held at Madden Hall." Sharon Starzyk, inside leader for Kairos 65*



**Fish Fry** We have held two fish fries at the recently remodeled Madden Hall. Brother Knights served 190 dinners, some were take out while others dined in. Thanks to Tita Bulalacao, Denise Cyprian, Conni McAnnar, Ellen Mongone, Elaine Norowski, Sharon Starzyk and Tori Walters for providing very tasty deserts.





Workers included: Simeon Abdon, Bob Auremma, Joe Baker, Bert Bulalacao, Dennise Cyprian, Kevin Fitzgerald, John Haynes, David Hopkins, Rob McCannar, James Miller. Chris Mongone, Ellen Mongone, Tim Morrison Denny Nacco, Becky Nuzzi, Tony Nuzzi, Frank O'Dowd, John O'Rourke, Fran Prumatico, Angela Smith, Tim Smith, John Starzyk, Steve Tyzsko Dennis Wells, and Bill Williamson. Youth Group volunteers included Anatstasha Griffith, Nicholas Griffith, Cole Gundermann, Elyna Maldonado, Owen Maldonado, Special shout out to PGK Tom Bloomer for putting this together. Well done!

Our council was extremely busy starting on Friday, 7 March with the Fish Fry then Saturday the 8th with a Habitat For Humanity Project and a Mepkin Abbey work project that lasted into the following week.

**Habitat** Brother Knights gathered at 459 Reneau in Summerville for a work detail. Activities included cleaning out the drain ditch on the property line and cut tress in the ditch. Workeers included Nathan Hobbs, Noash Hobbs, Brad Jones, Doug Nowik and Sal Patti.

**Mepkin Abbey** The Knights had great representation at the four day Mepkin Abbey work project. Along with students from the University of Louisville and Carroll University (Wisconsin), the group cleared the stream area and varnished the bridge to the Meditation Garden of Truth & Reconciliation and totally cleaned the largest chicken coop on the premises. FYI, when the Monks were selling eggs, this coop housed 20,000 chickens and overall there were 70,000 chickens at Mepkin. Over the workdays 3,700 pounds of metal were cleared and sorted which generated over \$1,700 for the Abbey. Special shoutout to Bert Bulalacao for coordinating our Knights team as well as Hank Chardos who has coordinated this effort for years and will now be devoting all his time to Birthright of Charlotte which he founded.









Workers included, Leo Albano- St. Benedict's Council Mt. Pleasant, Jim Allison- St. Benedict Council Mt. Pleasant, Bob Auriemma, Ed Blinco, Justin Bond Family of 4 St. Therese Parish, Tony Brasberger, Bert Bulalacao. Bob Fintak-Mt. Pleasant Council, Dave & Jan Grabacki, Tony Herlihy- St. Benedict's Parish Council Mt. Pl, Mike Kestler, Bill Maldonado, Tony Nuzzi, John O'Rourke, Al Shaw, Alison Trenga-wife of Bro. Kevin, Steve Tyszko, James Veraldi. Special shout out for Bert Bulalacao who was instrumental in getting things organized.



**First Responders Awards Banquet** On Saturday March 22nd, our council held the annual Patrick O'Brien Awards Banquet at the Faith Sellars Senior Citizens Center in Summer-ville. Honoring those people who place service before self , the banquet recognized members of Summerville EMS, Summerville Police, Dorchester EMS, and Dorchester County Sheriff's Department and Dispatcher of the year. In addition to honorees and families being present, City and County Council Center members were also there. The local NBC affiliate TV station captured the festivities including an interview with PGK Rodney Profit.



Center Director, Ms. LaQuinta West



Before the awards were presented, guests were treated to a catered buffet.



The event began with the posting of the colors by the honor guard from the Faithful Assembly 1900.





Summerville Fire Fighter of the Year—  
Connor Warren

Summerville Police Officer of the Year—  
Sgt Richard Johnson



Dorchester County Deputy of the year—Lt Ryan Post and Sgt. Londie Richardson



Dorchester County Telecommunicator of the Year-Amy Suggs



Dorchester County Firefighter of the Year-Kyler Dawe



Summerville Dispatcher of the Year - Karen Frederick



The Captain Of Detention Center accepting The Dorchester Detention Deputy of the Year Award for LaQcetta Brown



Dorchester County Paramedic of the Year—Derrick Washington

## The Honorees



Special recognition goes to Anita Crowell. For more than twenty years she has helped decorate the tables of the First Responders Awards Banquets. Her hard work adds an ambiance to the festivities honoring those who chose to run to danger to protect us. God Bless Anita.





Albert Bellacicco SUMMERVILLE - It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Albert (Al) Bellacicco, 95, of Summerville, husband of Elaine Bellacicco. He passed away Thursday, March 20, 2025 at the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran's Hospital. Albert was born December 12, 1929 in Highland, NY to Mary and John Bellacicco, who immigrated to the United States from Italy in 1906. He enlisted in the US Air Force in 1950 and served 30 years retiring as a Chief Master Sergeant. He enjoyed gardening, reading, and playing games with his family. He was an active member of St. John the Beloved Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He was the Scout Master for the local Boy Scout troop. In addition to his wife of 71 years, Al is survived by his four sons and three daughters. Al had nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers. A Memorial Service will be held Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 10:30 am at St. John the Beloved Catholic Church in Summerville, SC. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Mepkin Abbey in Monks Corner, SC in his memory is greatly appreciated.



DIRECTORY—Fraternal Year 2024--2025

OFFICERS

Chaplain—Fr Raymond Carlo	(843)873-0631	fray@sjbsummerville.org
Chaplain emeritus MSgr E. Christopher Lathem		
Grand Knight –Tim McAuliffe (Julie)	(826) 205-7384	Goorange045@gmail.com
Deputy Grand Knight—Jordon Haven (Carolina)	(913)530-5972	Jordanhaven@gmail.com
Chancellor-Vincent P.Belken	(843)906-9879	vbelken@gmail.com
Advocate –Nathan P Hobbs	(843)327-9240	NATHAN_HOBBS_1@YAHOO.COM
Financial Secretary-Bill Williamson (Donnitta)	(843) 998-5991	williamsonbill184@gmail.com
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Warden– Gary Wilcox	(717) 858-3450	lowcountrywillie@gmail.com
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Outside Guard– Scotty Pierotti	(843)991-4932	scottpierotti@yahoo.com
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Trustee 2nd year-Chris Mongone (Ellen)	(267) 481-5014	cmongone@gmail.com
Trustee1st year-Tom Bloomer,PGK (Mary)	(850)529-4282	bloomer@ymail.com
District Deputy-Chris Beumel		beumelc@sprintmail.com
State Deputy-Jeffrey M. Crouch	(864)430-0938	Jeffrey.crouch7@gmail.com
Insurance Agent-Brandon Chambers	(843)224-3022	Brandon.chambers@KofC.org

SERVICE PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Program Director-Rick Brisson (Terry)	(843) 729-3748	RICK@SJBSUMMERVILLE.ORG
Faith Director-Eriberto Bulalacao( Tita )	(843)324-0388	sampaguita110@yahoo.com
Vocations Chairman-Edward Blinco (Kathy)	(919)522-7788	BLINCO@EARTHLINK.NET
Life Director– John M. Starzyk (Sharon)	(951)295-7267	Colstarzyk@aol.com
Health Service - John M. Starzyk (Sharon)	(951)295-7267	Colstarzyk@aol.com
Public Relations-Tom Bloomer (PGK) (Mary)	(850)529-4282	bloomert@ymail.com
Family Director– John Edward Starzyk (Becky)	(775) 343-2741	
Membership Director –Rodney Profit (Annette)	(843)514-4936	rprofit65@gmail.com
Retention Chairman- Rodney Profit (Annette)	(843) 514-4936	rprofit65@gmail.com
Insurance Promotion- Rodney Profit (Annette)	(843) 514-4936	rprofit65@gmail.com
Church Director-Kevin Fitzgerald (Cindy)	(860)877-9511	kfitzgerald@snet.net
Columbus Hope Chairman –Patrick Dermody	(843)851-1181	hawkeye1983@spectrum.net
Degree Team Captain–Dennis Wells (Nancy)	(843)324-3271	bigd2u2.0@gmail.com
Sick&Bereavement-John M. Starzyk (Sharon)	(951)295-7267	Colstarzyk@aol.com
State Charities-Vincent Belken	(843)906-9879	vbelken@gmail.com
Web-Master –Timothy Walters	(843)327-5683	timothyw1@att.net
Council Historian-		Unassigned

CLUB #6629 OFFICERS

President - Tim Smith (Angela)	(854)202-3674	TSmith@outlook.com
Vice PresidentRob McAnnar (Conni)	(843)819-7741	Rmcannar@gmail.com
Treasurer—Dennis Nacco, PGK	(843)819-1588	damphoneguy01@aol.com
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Member at Large-Eddie Huddleston (Sandra)	(605)391-3403	Eddie Huddleston@Yahoo.com
Member at Large-Bill Williamson (Donnitta)	(843)998-5991	williamsonbill184@gmail.com
Member at Large - Chris Mongone (Ellen)	(267)481-3040	cmongone@gmail.com
Refreshment Manager—Greg Saylor	(843) 871-1816	saylorcats@aol.com



# The Patriot Post

*Knights of Columbus  
Fourth Degree  
Msgr. Richard C. Madden Assembly 1900  
28 Sumter Ave, Summerville, SC 29483*

**April 2025**

## ASSEMBLY 1900 OFFICERS FOR FRATERNAL YEAR 2023-2024

Faithful Friar Fr. Raymond Carlo	
Faithful Friar Emeritus Msgr Chet Moczydlowski	
Faithful Navigator	SK Paul Urko
Faithful Captain	SK Rodney Profit
Faithful Pilot	SK Jim Miller
Faithful Comptroller	SK Jerry Stout
Faithful Scribe	SK Frank O'Dowd
Faithful Purser	SK Tim Smith
Faithful Inner Sentinel	SK Pete Priem
Faithful Outer Sentinel	SK Dennis Wells
Faithful Admiral	SK Rob McAnnar
Faithful Trustee	SK Bob Mussat

### **104<sup>th</sup> SC Knights of Columbus State Convention**

**Friday, May 2 thru Sunday, May 4, 2025**

**ONLINE Convention Information, Registration, Hotel Reservations, Directions**

**[www.kofcsc.org/upcoming-Events](http://www.kofcsc.org/upcoming-Events)**

**Convention Hotel:**

Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center 670 Verdae Blvd. Greenville, SC 29607

864-676-9090

Knights of Columbus Group Rate

Reservations by April 11, 2025

**Convention Registration by April 11, 2025**

**Feature Unveiling:**

**New Revised Fourth Degree Exemplification**

**“Families will have the opportunity to witness this sacred tradition, hear the profound lessons of patriotism and civic responsibility, and celebrate the knighting of their fathers, brothers and sons.” *Michael Allen SC District Master***

**WE NEED PATRIOTS!**

**125 New Sir Knights for the Order’s 125th Anniversary Year!**

**Saturday May 3, 2025**

“Candidate Registration 11:30 AM

Candidates Assemble 12:30 PM

Exemplification of Patriotism 1:30PM

Convention Banquet 7:00 PM

**Exemplification Fee**

- Candidates who are registered for Convention \$45
- Candidates attending exemplification only \$45
- Candidates who wish to attend dinner \$90
- Anyone else attending dinner that is not registered for convention \$70

**Fees payable to: K of C SC State Council**

**Mail to:**

**Jeff Crouch**

**6 Leacroft Dr**

**Greenville, SC 29615**

**Eligibility requirements for candidates**

- Third Degree Knight of Columbus with **current membership card.**

## **Uniform Guidelines** for Candidates/Sir Knights:

The preferred attire for candidates is the current Fourth Degree uniform. **An appropriate alternative** is a dark suit with a conservative tie or a dress uniform for military members, law enforcement or fire-fighters without a firearm. It would be inappropriate for law enforcement Officers to open carry a firearm at the Exemplification. Candidates may no longer wear a tuxedo for the exemplification. Social Baldrics are no longer issued to new Sir Knights, nor should the Social baldric be worn with the official uniform, a suit, or any attire other than a tuxedo. Members admitted prior to June 30, 2024, may continue to use the social baldric when wearing a tuxedo. Tuxedo and social baldric for these Sir Knights is permitted at this event.” *Jeff Crouch SC State Deputy*

My Third degree Brother Knights of Council 6629 “are you ready to take that next step to full Knighthood in our honored Order?”

All Sir Knights of Assembly 1900 welcome you to “not only deepen the understanding of our principle of Patriotism but to reignite also your call to civil duty.” “Join us as we continue our legacy of faith, patriotism and service.” *Michael Allen PSD, SC District Master*

Questions? Need more information, forms or assistance completing Exemplification registration? We are ready to serve!

Vivat Jesu!

Paul Urko

Faithful Navigator

Assembly 1900

843-822-1463

### [American Flags for-sale](#)



Please contact an Assembly Officer to purchase a flag

# CLUB 6629

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## 2025



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Investment Committee Chairman: *Dennis Wells*, [bigd2u2.0@gmail.com](mailto:bigd2u2.0@gmail.com), (843) 324-3271

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## April 2025

- An annual review of the By-Laws was completed by me, the President, and signed March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. No changes were submitted nor made.
- The Club's first quarterly meeting for 2025 was conducted March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Attendance was about the norm; approximately 12 members in total were present.
- There was discussion on what to do with the Investment funds. I urge everyone, as members of Club 6629, to come to the meetings and let your voice be heard if you have any ideas. Once presented, they will be brought before our Club's Investment Committee Chairman and his committee.
- Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Legion Hall.


# April 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1--O/D Mtg 6PM --Council Mtg 7PM both @ the Legion Hall	2	3	4- Fish Fry POC: PGK Tom Bloomer	5-Collections for St. Carole's food pantry Golf Tournament 
6-Collections for St. Carole's food pantry	7	8	9	10	11-- Fish Fry POC: PGK Tom Bloomer	12
13	14	15	16	17 	18 	19
20 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## May 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	6-Collections for St. Carole's food pantry
6-Collections for St. Carole's food pantry	5	1--O/D Mtg 6PM --Council Mtg 7PM both @ the Legion Hall	7	8	9	10
11-ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home 	12	13	14	15	16	17-ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home
18-Armed Forces Day & Church Picnic ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home 	19	20	21	22	23	24
25-ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home	26 	27	28	29	30	31-Ministry Fair ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home

## June 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1-Ministry Fair ASAP Drive for St. Clare's	2	3--O/D Mtg 6PM --Council Mtg 7PM both @ the Legion Hall	4	5	6	7-Collections for St. Carole's food pantry ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home
8 Collections for St. Carole's food pantry ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home	9	10	11	12	13	14-ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home 
15- ASAP Drive for St. Clare's Home 	16	17-Club 6629 Meeting 6PM@Legion Hall	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Budget meeting 6:00 pm Legion Hall	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## Joseph O'Callahan

Joseph Timothy O'Callahan was born on May 14, 1905 to Cornelius and Alice (Casey) O'Callahan; he was one of 6 children. He grew up in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston MA. Shortly after graduating from Boston College High School in 1922, he joined the Jesuit Order. He spent the next 13 years in Jesuit formation at St. Andrew's College in Poughkeepsie, NY, where he received a B.A. in 1925 and a M.A. in 1929, specializing in Mathematics and Physics, along with Religious Philosophy. He was ordained a Jesuit priest in 1934.

From 1929 to 1937 O'Callahan was a Professor of Mathematics, Philosophy and Physics at Boston College. He spent one year as a Professor of Philosophy at Weston Jesuit School of Theology (1937-8) and then he served as Director of the Mathematics Department at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester MA from 1938 to 1940.

In 1940, with the War raging in Europe, Father O'Callahan shocked his colleagues by enlisting in the Navy Reserves. He was 36 years old, far more academic than athletic, near-sighted with a bad case of claustrophobia and high blood pressure. He told his friends that "he wanted to comfort the kids who would be going to war". One friend reasoned, "Let somebody younger help those boys. You can't even open your umbrella". Nevertheless, he was appointed a Lieutenant (junior grade) in the Chaplain Corps of the U.S. Navy Reserve on August 7, 1940 and assigned to the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL.

His first assignment at sea was on the USS Ranger. He participated in Operation Torch, the April 1942 amphibious conquest of French Morocco; and in Operation Leader, the October 1943 raid on German shipping in Norwegian waters. He later served at Naval Air Stations in Alameda, CA, and Pearl Harbor, HI. Throughout his Navy assignments, Father O'Callahan advanced progressively in rank.

prayed over them Essex-Class aircraft carrier commissioned in January 1943. It was deployed in the Pacific Fleet patrolling the South China Sea. The Franklin was part of a Task Force assigned to locate and destroy enemy vessels that were scattered throughout the inland waters around Japan. At that time U.S. planes totally dominated the skies; this was a mop-up exercise.

March 19<sup>th</sup> (1945) began like most days: before each flight of planes left the carrier, Father O'Callahan would visit the various pilot ready rooms, praying with the men and giving them general absolution.

The Franklin was only about 50 miles off the coast of Japan, near the City of Kobe. The previous day, U.S. pilots did not locate the enemy ships until just before dark. Today they would strike them. The first wave of planes left the Franklin about 5:30 AM and the second wave of planes was ready on the flight deck, fueled and loaded with rockets and bombs. Shortly after 7 am, a lone Japanese Kamikaze dive bomber broke through the cloud cover and made a low-level run at the Franklin, dropping 2 550 lb. bombs on the Franklin's flight deck, slightly forward of the ship's "island". Both bombs tore through the flight deck to the hangar deck below, where there were 22 more planes being readied: 16 were fully-fueled and 5 were fully armed. The Kamikaze's bombs set off massive explosions and fires on both decks.



The 31 planes on the flight deck were immediately engulfed in flames, and their ordinance began exploding. The aircraft fuselages melted and rivers of burning fuel from the flight deck ran down into the hangar deck. The hangar deck became an inferno of exploding gas tanks and ammunition. Fortunately, armor plating shielded the ships innards – in particular the boilers and steering plant - from destruction.

Of the 3,400 sailors on board the Franklin, about 1,000 were seriously burned, horribly injured or killed instantly. Close to 1,000 more sailors were thrown or jumped into the water. The blasts killed the damage-control team and many key officers and disabled much of the fire-fighting equipment. For the next 5 hours dozens of secondary explosions continued as ammunition “cooked off”.

Nearby ships rushed to the burning carrier, picking up the crew members in the water. Two of the ships placed their own hulls against the Franklin to allow more of her crew to escape. Yet hundreds of sailors remained on the Franklin, valiantly trying to save the ship.

Chaplain O’Callahan was in a Ward Room eating French toast. Although wounded in the leg by one of the explosions, he put on his helmet with a large white cross and made his way through fire and smoke up to the flight deck, which was 90% engulfed in flames and slanted (13-degree starboard list). There were burned, mangled and bleeding bodies strewn everywhere. O’Callahan administered Last Rites to the dying and comforted and prayed over the wounded.

Realizing that the ship was dead in the water and many key officers were dead or trapped, Chaplain O’Callahan began to organize the survivors into fire-fighting hose crews and rescue teams. He noticed flames near the anti-aircraft gun turrets and led officers and crewmen to form a line to carry the hot bombs and shells to the edge of the deck and throw them overboard before they could explode. Meanwhile a 1,000 lb. bomb was rolling around the flight deck. Father O’Callahan organized a team to secure the bomb and let technicians defuse it so it could be rolled overboard.

O’Callahan recruited a damage control party and led it down into the hangar deck, which was filled with smoke, fire and exploding ordinance. The ordinance was too hot and heavy to be moved up to the flight deck and thrown overboard, so the sailors hosed down the main ammunition magazines to cool them down and prevent them from exploding,

By 7:30 AM, Rear Admiral Davison, the Commander of the Franklin’s Task Group, left the Bridge and transferred to a destroyer, concluding that the Franklin was lost. He recommended that Franklin Captain Gehres do the same. By 9:30 AM the ammunition for the Franklin’s aft 5-inch anti-aircraft guns exploded. “Whole aircraft engines with propellers attached, debris of all description, including pieces of human bodies, were flung high in the air and descended on the area like hail on a roof,” said flight deck officer, Commander Steven Jurika.

An eyewitness later recalled: “He (Father O’Callahan) seemed to be everywhere, handling hoses, organizing fire-fighting and rescue parties, helping to carry hot bombs and shells to the edge of the deck, and doing everything he could to save our ship”. The ship’s Captain, Leslie Gehres, watched from the Bridge. He later testified that Chaplain O’Callahan was “the bravest man I ever saw”.

By 10 AM, the engine and steering rooms were so hot that the men working there had to flee their stations. The Franklin was dead in the water only 50 miles from the shores of Japan. Then 6 more live 1000 lb. bombs were rolling around the flight deck. Hose crews cooled the bombs so they could be defused and pushed overboard.

Despite the deaths and damage, the Captain and remaining crew fought to save the Franklin. The heavy cruiser Pittsburgh was able to attach a towline to the Franklin a little after 1 PM. By sunset the fires had been beaten back or extinguished and crewmen were able to return to the boiler room. By 10 PM, one of the boilers was lit and running. The Franklin's engines began slowly turning and the tow speed increased to 6 knots. Additional boilers were brought on line and by 12:30 PM the next afternoon, the tow line was dropped and the Franklin was moving under its own power. During the night the Franklin was able to increase its speed to 18 knots and the crew got the gyro compasses, search radar, phones and some of the carrier's guns working again.

As conditions aboard the ship improved, the enlisted men and officers were left with the grisly task of disposing of the dead bodies. O'Callahan and Protestant Chaplain Gatlin held a brief prayer service for each man before they were buried at sea, a task which took several days to complete. The damaged Franklin was attacked several times by enemy planes, but avoided more damage thanks to effective Navy air support and a little luck, The Franklin finally made it to Pearl Harbor. A total of 807 men had been killed and 487 wounded on the Franklin.

Chaplain O'Callahan was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander in July 1945. He was awarded a Navy Silver Cross, but he declined it, stating that the publicity he received was exaggerated. He said, "Any priest in like circumstances should do and would do what I did." But President Truman learned about Father O'Callahan's heroism and upgraded the Award to the Congressional Medal of Honor. O'Callahan tried to decline that Medal also, but President Truman convinced Father O'Callahan to receive it. The Presentation was made at the White House on January 23, 1946. Father O'Callahan was the first Navy Chaplain to receive the Medal of Honor.

Franklin crew member Lieutenant (junior grade) Donald A. Gray also received the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was trapped below deck with some 300 crew men. As an engineer, he knew the layout of the ship and groped his way through several dark, smoke and debris-filled corridors until he discovered an escape route. He made three trips back to the trapped men and led every one of the 300 men to safety.

When Father O'Callahan was released from active duty in November 1946, he returned to Holy Cross College as a Professor of Philosophy. He retired from the Naval Reserves in 1953 as a Captain. Later an illness made him an invalid. Father O'Callahan died on March 18, 1964 and is buried in the Jesuit cemetery on the Holy Cross campus.

On July 21, 1965, the USS O'Callahan, a Destroyer Escort vessel, was christened by Sister Rose Marie O'Callahan, Father Joseph's younger sister.

Two movies depict Father O’Callahan’s heroics aboard the USS Franklin: “The Ship That Would Not Die” released in 1945 and narrated by Gene Kelly; and “Battle Stations” released in 1956 narrated by James Cagney. Father O’Callahan also published a best-selling memoir in 1956 called “I was Chaplain on the Franklin”.

In addition to belonging to a select group of Medal of Honor recipients, Father O’Callahan was a member of many leading scientific societies, including the American Physical Society, the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association, the American Statistical Society, the Association of Mathematical Statistics, the Association of Jesuit Scientists and the Jesuit Philosophical Society.