



St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus Council 7355

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St. Bernadette Soubirous Catholic Church 409 Funderburk Ave. Houma, LA 70364

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER April 2024

GRAND KNIGHTS MESSAGE

Brothers in Christ,

To the Dedicated Brothers of Knights of Columbus Council 7355,

Words cannot express our deepest gratitude for the incredible support you've shown our community throughout this Lenten season. Your unwavering commitment to our shared values truly shines through in all that you do.

Firstly, we are incredibly grateful for the delicious and well-organized 6 Lenten meals. These gatherings fostered a spirit of togetherness and fellowship during a special time of year.

Secondly, your decision to renew the scholarship program for college students is truly inspiring. Your generosity will have a lasting impact on the lives of deserving young people pursuing their dreams.

Thirdly, the sizeable donation you made to build better facilities at St. Bernadette Church is a testament to your dedication to our place of worship. This contribution will undoubtedly enrich the lives of countless parishioners for years to come.

Furthermore, your dedication in meeting all our council milestones and membership quotas is commendable. It demonstrates your commitment to strengthening the Knights of Columbus within our community.

Finally, join us on April 6th at the annual Relay for Life at the Houma Civic Center. Council 7355 has always been a big supporter of this event and we will have a tent again this year. Set up is about 2PM and the event starts at 3PM..

Thank you, Brothers, for your unwavering dedication, generosity, and spirit of service. You are a true pillar of strength for our community.

In Faith and Gratitude,

Craig Portier -Grand Knight

Vivat Jesus!



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SPECIAL INTEREST

- Grand Knight's Message
- Update on Council Activities
- Upcoming Events
- For the Good of the Order



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



April 2024

- 6th Relay for Life - Houma Civic Center - 3PM
- 9th Council 7355 Monthly Meeting - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center - Rosary 6:30 PM
- 16th Assembly 2322 Monthly Meeting - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center
- 23rd 3rd Degree Exemplification Ceremony - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center

May 2024

- 14th Council 7355 Monthly Meeting - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center - Rosary 6:30 PM
- 21st Assembly 2322 Monthly Meeting - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center
- 27th Memorial Day
- 28th 3rd Degree Exemplification Ceremony - 7:00 PM in the Father O'Brien Center

RAPHAEL SONGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by St. Bernadette KC 7355 and KC Ladies Auxiliary

The St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus Council 7355 and the KC Ladies Auxiliary of Houma LA will issue (2) scholarships per year to College or College bound students with the total sum of \$ 500 each. Two payments of \$250 each will be paid to each successful applicant. The first payment will be made in the fall semester and the second payment will be made in the spring semester. (Proof that the successful applicant is still enrolled in school and a copy of previous semester GPA are required to receive the second payment). The minimum GPA for the previous semester is a 2.5 GPA.

The Scholarship is awarded based on:

CHARACTER, SCHOLARSHIP AND PURPOSE.

To obtain a copy of the application and for more information, visit the Council 7355 website at:

www.stbernadettekofccouncil7355.com



FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER



LEROY BABIN	04-03
JANSEN CALLIS	04-03
EDWARD EVANS JR	04-05
GREGORY WHITNEY	04-07
STEVE MICHEL	04-09
RICHARD BOURG	04-12
KEVIN BASCLE	04-13
JOHN BRENNAN	04-13
FERNAND VIAL SR	04-16
MICHAEL LEOEUF	04-28
RYAN ORILLION	04-29
DAVID THERIOT	04-29
PHILIP WALL	04-29

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

2024

January

Gerard Vedros

February

Dale Hebert

March

Mark Duplantis

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

2024

January

Steve & Theresa Becnel

February

Ralph & Denise Mitchell

March

Al & Gretchen Hargis



Please remember in your prayers those who are ill or in need of prayer.

UNDERSTANDING COUNCIL OFFICER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each year the council elects and appoints new men to take on leadership roles within the council. Sometimes these roles are well-defined while other times the role may be expanded based on that individual's talents or interests. The following text offers an approach that may be helpful for existing councils looking to expand the responsibilities of their existing officers. This month we will focus on the Elected Positions.

Grand Knight

The grand knight is the council's chief executive officer. He is responsible for setting council goals and ensuring that all officers fulfill their duties in reaching these objectives. He presides over all meetings; appoints program and committee directors as needed; fills officer roles in the event of vacancies; countersigns checks and orders for payment; and oversees the council's degree team. Ideally, the grand knight should be a junior so that as a senior he can serve as a mentor for the next grand knight. The grand knight must complete the Safe Environment training.

Deputy Grand Knight

The deputy grand knight serves as the grand knight's right-hand man and fills in for the grand knight when he is not present. Some deputy grand knights serve as their council's program director. Ultimately, he assists the grand knight in leading the council and reaching council objectives. In some councils, the deputy grand knight role might be used to groom a possible grand knight candidate for the following year. Finally, the deputy grand knight may serve as a liaison between the council and other groups that share similar interest (i.e. Newman Club, pro-life club, etc.).

Chancellor

The chancellor assists both the grand and deputy grand knights in the leading of the council by engaging and strengthening the council's membership. His primary responsibilities include recruiting and retaining members and to this end he should set up events that display the values and principles of the Knights of Columbus. The chancellor should participate in the council's degree team and should serve on both the Admission and Retention committees.

Treasurer

The treasurer is responsible for managing the council funds, whether in bank or school accounts. He receives money from the financial secretary and deposits funds into council accounts. He is also responsible for paying all council expenses. He also balances and verifies the ledger and keeps the updated budget approved by the council.

Advocate

The advocate acts as council parliamentarian. He should be knowledgeable in Robert's Rules of Order and Methods of Conducting a Council Meeting (#1937). He may seek legal assistance from the state advocate, should issues arise. The advocate should be able to take on additional responsibilities as the council deems necessary.

Recorder

The recorder has the responsibility of recording all meetings and events held by the council. He should record minutes, conversations and other information helpful to the council and prepare them to be distributed to the membership in a timely manner. Additionally, he should help with council event notifications, council meeting reminders, and assist with council social media responsibilities.

Warden

The warden is responsible for the property owned by the council. He is also in charge of setting up meetings and leads both the inside and outside guards. Many college councils utilize the warden and guards as custodians of the campus ministry property which may include raking leaves, shoveling snow and assisting with interior maintenance.

Inside/Outside Guards

The inside and outside guards carry out tasks given to them by the grand knight and follow the warden's orders. They are responsible for checking membership cards and allowing entrance to meetings. Councils should consider appointing additional inside and outside guards, especially among promising freshmen, as this provides early leadership opportunities.

Trustees (3)

The trustees advise the grand knight, supervise the council's financial matters, and conduct the semiannual audits. Usually the immediate past grand knight will serve as a trustee. Some college councils utilize alumni members and/or university faculty members as the other two trustees to provide additional oversight and support.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Who are the Knights of Columbus?

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.7 million members. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people.

What are the benefits in becoming a brother of the Knights of Columbus?

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you and your family enjoy many benefits, including 12 free issues annually of the Columbia magazine, the world's largest Catholic family magazine, eligibility to join the Knights of Columbus top-ranked life insurance program, and many more family and personal benefits

How do I become a brother of the Knights of Columbus?

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practicing Catholic men in union with the Holy See, who are at least 18 years old. A practicing Catholic is one who lives up to the Commandments of God and the precepts of the Church. Application blanks are available from any member of the Knights of Columbus.



CONTACT US

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Honorary Lifetime Members

WHITNEY ARMOND JR.

NATHAN AUCOIN

DONALD BASCLE

WAYNE BENOIT

RENE BERNADAS

JOSEPH BOSWORTH

MABUNDA JOHN BWAMBALE

STEPHEN CASTILLE

JAMES CHERRY SR.

ALLEN COLLINS JR.

JOSEPH CROCHET

RICHARD DAIGLE

JOHN DANIGOLE SR.

JOHN DE LA BRETONNE

DOYLE DETIVEAUX

EUGENE DUDEK JR.

JEROD DUET

CLYDE DUPLANTIS

KIRBY FALCON SR.

DANIEL GAUDET

RODNEY GAUDET

JUAN HERNANDEZ

FORREST KORNDORFFER

ALLEN KRAMER SR.

CLARENCE LA FLEUR

DARRYL LANDRY

LOUIS LANDRY JR.

GARY LANDRY

HAROLD LERAY

ARTHUR LONG

ULYSE LOUVIERE

CHARLES LOVE

JOHN MARCEAUX

MICHAEL MARCEL

DANNY MARTIN

ANDRE MELANCON

JOHN PELLEGRIN

TIMOTHY PORTIER

WILSON RHODES

SYDNEY ROBICHEAUX

FERNAND VIAL SR.

GREGORY WHITNEY

Officers and Directors

Grand Knight Craig Portier

Deputy Grand Knight James Cherry

Chaplin Father Andre Melancon

Financial Secretary Maurice Evans

Treasurer Gerard Vedros

Advocate Ralph Mitchell

Warden Richard Daigle

Lector Gerald Michel

Outside Guard Marvin Redmond

Inside Guard Edward Pinell

1 Year Trustee Andrew Vedros

2 Year Trustee Woody Louviere

3 Year Trustee Mark Duplantis

Recorder Mark Bascle

Chancellor Al Hargis