



St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus Council 7355

info@kc7355.org

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

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER April 2026

GRAND KNIGHTS MESSAGE



Brother Knights,

What a tremendous and grace-filled month of March we have just completed. I want to personally thank each of you for the time, energy, and heart you poured into our council's work.

We successfully concluded our Lenten Meals, which continue to be a powerful witness of fellowship, sacrifice, and service to our parish community. Your dedication in preparing, serving, and supporting these meals reflects the very mission of our Council.

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt was once again a joyful success, bringing smiles to so many children and families. Events like this remind us that what we do matters—not just in service, but in building up our parish family.

I am especially proud of our council's commitment to life. Through our significant donations to local crisis pregnancy centers, we are living out our call to defend the dignity of every human life. This is meaningful, tangible charity at its best.

We also stood strong in support of the youth at St. Bernadette during their rally. Investing in our young people is investing in the future of our Church, and your presence and support did not go unnoticed.

As we move into April, I encourage all of you to participate in our major upcoming event: Relay for Life, where we join together to raise funds and awareness in the fight against cancer. This is an important opportunity for us to stand in solidarity with those who are suffering and to be a visible sign of hope in our community.

As part of that event, we will also gather to pray our Public Rosary at 1:00 PM at the Relay for Life. I strongly encourage your participation—there is no greater thing we can offer than prayer.

Finally, as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, I wish each of you and your families a blessed and joyous Easter. May the hope of the Risen Christ renew your hearts and strengthen your faith.

Thank you again for all you do. I am honored to serve as your Grand Knight.

Vivat Jesus!

Craig Portier - Grand Knight Council 7355



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Calendar of Events.....	2
Council 7355 News.....	2
Birthdays.....	3
Knight of the Month.....	3
Family of the Month.....	3
Council 7355 in Action.....	4
COR Corner.....	5
Council Officers.....	6
Honorary Life Members.....	6
Contact Us.....	6

SPECIAL INTEREST

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





CALENDAR OF EVENTS



April 2026

2	APR, THU	● All day	Maundy Thursday
3	APR, FRI	● All day	Good Friday
4	APR, SAT	● All day	Holy Saturday
5	APR, SUN	● All day	Easter Sunday
6	APR, MON	● All day	Easter Monday
7	APR, TUE	● 6:30 – 8pm	COR Formation Bishop Latino Hall 501 Kenney St. Houma, LA 70360
11	APR, SAT	● 1 – 2pm ● 3 – 4pm	Council/Assembly Public Rosary To Be Determined Relay for Life
14	APR, TUE	● 6:30 – 9pm	KC Council 7355 Monthly Meeting Bishop Latino Hall 501 Kenney St. Houma, LA 70360
21	APR, TUE	● 6:30 – 8pm	Father Vandebilt Assembly Monthly Meeting Bishop Latino Hall 501 Kenney St. Houma, LA 70360
28	APR, TUE	● 6:30 – 8:30pm	3rd Degree Exemplification Bishop Latino Hall 501 Kenney St. Houma, LA 70360

Council polo shirts are available for purchase. Please contact the Grand Knight Craig Portier at 985-985-637-7407 for more information.



Council 7355 News



Our next Father Vandebilt Assembly/Council 7355 Public Rosary will be held April 11th, 2026 at 1:00 PM at the Relay for Life at the Houma/Terrebonne Civic Center.

William Deroche and Shaylynn Dufrene were awarded the Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Award (CYLA) presented by Grand Knight Craig Portier.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER



LEROY BABIN	04-03
JANSEN CALLIS	04-03
SCOTTY PONTIFF	04-06
GREGORY WHITNEY	04-07
RICHARD BOURG	04-12
KEVIN BASCLE	04-13
JOHN BRENNAN	04-13
FERNAND VIAL SR	04-16
RYAN ORILLION	04-29
DAVID THERIOT	04-29
PHILIP WALL	04-29

2026	Knight of the Month	Family of the Month
January	Clark Labat	Joe and Sue Szush
February	John LeCompte	Buddy & Nadine Pinell
March	Randy Issacs	Ralph & Denise Mitchell

Far Right: Our March 2026 Council 7355 Knight of the Month is Randy Issacs.

Right: Please welcome the newest Brother Knights to Council 7355. Shown L to R is Alex Shabet, Grand Knight Craig Portier, and John Tran. Next time you see them please offer a warm welcome to these two new Knights.



Left: Council 7355 Grand Knight Craig Portier presented checks to representatives of Hope Restored and Crossroads Crisis Pregnancy Centers. With the Baby Bottle Campaign, The Yard Sign sales and additional matching funds from the Supreme Council, Council 7355 was able to donate over \$6000 to these centers as part of our Choose Life efforts.

Council 7355 Easter Egg Hunt



Council 7355 Lenten and Youth Conference Meals



COR CORNER



The world needs courageous men to witness to Jesus Christ.

COR exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ

Key Elements of Cor

COR consists of three key elements which must be present for every gathering: prayer, formation, and fraternity. The word 'cor' is Latin for heart and the root of the word courage. Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity all begin with the heart and direct the heart in relationship to God and each other. These three elements build and strengthen each other and help provide consistency.

Prayer

Formation

Fraternity

**Tuesday April 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM in
Bishop Latino Hall at St. Bernadette**

**Catholic Church
“INTO THE BREACH”**

Each participant will receive a workbook and a copy of Bishop Olmstead's Apostolic Exhortation which examines three primary questions : 1. What does it mean to be a Christian man? 2. How does a Catholic man love? 3. Why is fatherhood, fully understood, so crucial for every man?

Our next Council 7355 COR Formation Night will be Tuesday April 7, 2026 at 6:30 PM in Latino Hall at St. Bernadette. Please share this email with other KC Councils and remember COR is open to all men even those who are not members of the Knights of Columbus.

Cor Mission: To help focus men on Jesus by building Christ-centered brotherhood through a flexible framework of prayer, formation and fraternity.

Cor Vision: To aid in transforming the hearts of men through Christ-centered brotherhood. Rooted in prayer, formation and fraternity, men will be sharpened in faith and virtue as they cultivate authentic friendships with Christ and each other. We envision a future where Cor continuously helps sustain these men to lead their families, strengthen their parish communities and courageously evangelize the world as missionary disciples of Jesus.



Relay for Life - Saturday April 11 - 3PM

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

Website

www.kc7355.org

Email

info@kc7355.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/kofc7355/

Telephone

(985) 637-7407

Physical Address

409 Funderburk Ave.
Houma, LA 70364-1895

Newsletter Editor

Ralph Mitchell
info@kc7355.org

Honorary Lifetime Members

WHITNEY ARMOND JR.	ALLEN KRAMER SR.
DONALD BASCLE	CLARENCE LA FLEUR
WAYNE BENOIT	DARRYL LANDRY
RENE BERNADAS	LOUIS LANDRY JR.
JOSEPH BOSWORTH	GARY LANDRY
MABUNDA JOHN BWAMBALE	DALE LEBOUF
JAMES CHERRY SR.	HAROLD LERAY
ALLEN COLLINS JR.	ARTHUR LONG
JOSEPH CROCHET	ULYSE LOUVIERE
RICHARD DAIGLE	CHARLES LOVE
JOHN DANIGOLE SR.	JOHN MARCEAUX
JOHN DE LA BRETONNE	MICHAEL MARCEL
MICHAEL DELAUNE	DANNY MARTIN
DOYLE DETIVEAUX	ANDRE MELANCON
EUGENE DUDEK JR.	JOHN PELLEGRIN
JEROD DUET	DANIEL PORTIER
CLYDE DUPLANTIS	TIMOTHY PORTIER
KIRBY FALCON SR.	WILSON RHODES
DANIEL GAUDET	LOUIS ROBICHAUX
RODNEY GAUDET	SYDNEY ROBICHEAUX
JUAN HERNANDEZ	BOBBY TRAHAN
FORREST KORNDORFFER	FERNAND VIAL SR.
	GREGORY WHITNEY

Pray the Rosary!!

Officers and Directors

Grand Knight Craig Portier
Deputy Grand Knight Mark Duplantis
Chaplin Father Andre Melancon
Financial Secretary Maurice Evans
Treasurer Gerard Vedros
Advocate Ralph Mitchell Jr.
Warden Richard Daigle
Lector Bruce Benoit
Outside Guard Peter Fos
Inside Guard Edward Pinell
Trustee Andrew Vedros
Trustee George Swindel
Trustee Andre Benoit
Recorder Mark Bascle
Chancellor Al Hargis