



<http://www.gakofc.org>

*The Christopher  
Columbus Navigator*



VIVAT JESUS

Georgia State Council  
Knights of Columbus



#### OFFICERS: 2017-2018

State Deputy Mark Corrigan  
912-547-3800  
[state.deputy@gakofc.org](mailto:state.deputy@gakofc.org)

State Chaplain  
Very Reverend Douglas Clark  
912-663-5488  
[dclark5735@gmail.com](mailto:dclark5735@gmail.com)

Associate State Chaplain  
Very Reverend Ray Levreault  
229-349-0467  
[rlevo@hotmail.com](mailto:rlevo@hotmail.com)

State Secretary Mark Hofmann  
770-504-0557  
[state.secretary@gakofc.org](mailto:state.secretary@gakofc.org)

State Treasurer Jim Clifford  
404-210-5277  
[state.treasurer@gakofc.org](mailto:state.treasurer@gakofc.org)

State Advocate T.J. McCaustland  
678-342-7157  
[state.Advocate@gakofc.org](mailto:state.Advocate@gakofc.org)

State Warden Brian Sartain  
912-882-0601  
[state.warden@gakofc.org](mailto:state.warden@gakofc.org)

Immediate Past State Deputy  
Mark McMullen  
403-310-1830  
[ipsd@gakofc.org](mailto:ipsd@gakofc.org)

Executive Secretary Ron Rigby  
404-313-5208  
[ronrigby@comcast.net](mailto:ronrigby@comcast.net)

District Master Stan Rapiiewicz  
770-888-2423  
[srapp1@att.net](mailto:srapp1@att.net)

#### DIRECTORS 2017-18

PROGRAMS-Kevin York  
770-860-8163  
[kevin.york.kofc@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.york.kofc@gmail.com)

CHURCH-James Caldwell  
678-488-6890  
[joeyorio@yahoo.com](mailto:joeyorio@yahoo.com)

FAMILY-Paul Tanguay  
910-489-4422  
[paultanguay67@yahoo.com](mailto:paultanguay67@yahoo.com)

COMMUNITY-Tom Frizzi  
678-300-4617  
[telfrz@comcast.net](mailto:telfrz@comcast.net)

COUNCIL-Adam Wrublewski  
770-977-4812  
[awrublewski@yahoo.com](mailto:awrublewski@yahoo.com)

YOUTH-Bob Langstine  
470-345-7032  
[rlangstine@outlook.com](mailto:rlangstine@outlook.com)

CULTURE OF LIFE-John Luranc  
706-265-7262  
[luranc@aol.com](mailto:luranc@aol.com)

MEMBERSHIP-Rich Parcels  
404-984-8484  
[raparcels@yahoo.com](mailto:raparcels@yahoo.com)

New Council Development- Tom Frizzi  
678-300-4617  
[telfrz@comcast.net](mailto:telfrz@comcast.net)

Retention - Charlie Crawford  
678-982-4699  
[CaCrawford@bellsouth.net](mailto:CaCrawford@bellsouth.net)

### 3rd Quarter 2017 -2018 Fraternal Year Georgia State Council Newsletter

#### FROM THE STATE DEPUTY MARK CORRIGAN



Brother Knights;

As we approach the end of our Lenten journey and prepare for the celebration of Christ's resurrection, it's a good time for us to reflect on how we prepare for this blessed event. The Scripture story is not just about the journey of Jesus, but also about our journey and how we navigate through life celebrating the message. It is about bringing hope and peace to a world greatly in need of such gifts. The message is not only about God's power to raise Jesus from the dead, but a call for us to make good use of God's power within us.

The Easter season invites us to look deep within our own lives, as we are called to live a Spirit-filled life through the power of the Resurrection. The Knights of Columbus offer Catholic men the vehicle to draw on that power and reveal the spirit of Easter through us.

To bring this closer to home, this season is also time to prepare for our Jurisdictions annual meeting. Our Convention Committee is diligently working to make this year's meeting and convention one of our best yet. Make plans to attend soon as the rooms go quickly. Come enjoy the fellowship of reconnecting with other knights around the state. Additionally, come down to enjoy the eclectic charm of our Hostess City, Savannah. All arrangements can be made on our web site <http://www.gakofc.org>.

Our Magazine Editors, Jim Clifford (State Treasurer) and Brian Sartain (State Warden) have compiled articles that will hopefully spark some interest in our history and our future. Brian is soliciting ads from all our councils and assemblies as well as our loyal advertisers. Make sure your Council and Assembly places their ad soon. Space is limited. If you know of anyone that might be interested in placing an ad in our Magazine, please contact Brian at [state.warden@gakofc.org](mailto:state.warden@gakofc.org). Remember, our magazine has a potential to reach a national audience.

In closing may this Easter season enable us to choose God's plan and work to make it a reality and to choose life for ourselves and for generations yet to come. Help us make the Knights of Columbus a new light that shines in our minds and hearts, directing us toward a new way of thinking, and solving problems in such a way as to bring life to our community and State. Let us aspire to pattern our lives in the name of the Venerable servant of God, Father Michael J. McGivney. May the hope and energy of Easter fill our minds and hearts as we welcome the life-giving presence of God who guides and sustains us at every step of the way. Easter Blessings!

Let's show the Order what the GA Knights can do

VIVAT JESUS,

*Mark Corrigan*

Georgia Council - State Deputy

**"Be the Prayer that Changes the World."**

## From Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson



### THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS COMMITTED TO CATHOLIC VALUES AND LEADING BY EXAMPLE

LAST MONTH, I shared some thoughts on the tremendous growth of the Knights of Columbus Insurance program since the year 2000: Our insurance in force has grown from \$40 billion to nearly \$110 billion, and our assets under management are up from \$8.5 billion to nearly \$25 billion.

We can all be proud of this long-term, superior performance that, year after year, extends greater financial protection to the families of our brother Knights.

I am also especially proud that once again this year we were selected as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute.

We are one of only 135 companies named from 23 countries — and we are one of only three honorees in the life insurance category.

This is the fifth consecutive year that the Knights of Columbus has been so honored.

This designation recognizes that the Knights of Columbus continues to show "exemplary leadership" in such areas as "improving culture, leading authentically and committing to transparency."

At the Knights of Columbus, we share the Ethisphere Institute's commitment to "continually raising the standards of corporate behavior" and to "values-based leadership."

And I am particularly grateful to have personally been named by Ethisphere as one of the "100 Most Influential People in Business Ethics" in 2014 and 2015.

As I have often said, we will not sacrifice our ethics in order to chase profits. On the contrary, we believe a values-based, ethical strategy in both marketing and investments is the best way to achieve sustainability and to remain competitive in a free-market economy.

We are proud that the Knights of Columbus way of doing business is both ethical and successful. We maintain a decades-long tradition of superior performance in operations and on the balance sheet.

Our designation by the Ethisphere Institute came soon after the release of the 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer, which found that the United States is enduring the worst collapse in trust ever recorded in the 18-year history of the survey.

Most significantly, the survey found a 30-point decline in trust in government. The trust index ranked the United States lowest of all the 28 nations surveyed.

The report stated: "In a year marked by turbulence at home and abroad, trust in institutions in the United States crashed, posting the steepest, most dramatic decline the Trust Barometer has ever measured."

It continued, "It is no exaggeration to state that the U.S. has reached a point of crisis that should provoke every leader, in government, business, or civil sector, into urgent action. Inertia is not an option, and neither is silence. The public's confidence in the traditional structures of American leadership is now fully undermined and has been replaced with a strong sense of fear, uncertainty and disillusionment."

Its conclusion was perhaps most interesting: "Today, business and NGOs are viewed equally as the institutions holding the most hope for our respondents."

This places a very special responsibility upon the Knights of Columbus as the greatest Catholic business and fraternal organization in the world. And it is a challenge that we will not turn away from.

We will continue in our mission to maintain a strong, successful business model based upon an ethics of fraternity. And we will continue to promote our values of charity, unity and fraternity as the best foundation to rebuild trust in our social and governmental institutions.

In fact, working to return these values to the center of our national life may be one of the most patriotic actions we can take today.

Some may say that the values we cherish are becoming increasingly outdated. I would ask them to remember the words of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.: "It is always the right time to do the right thing."

Today, we have a unique opportunity to bring our Catholic values into both the marketplace and the public square.

Vivat Jesus!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl A. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Carl A. Anderson  
Supreme Knight

Anderson, Carl A. (3/1/2018) AN ETHICS OF FRATERNITY [http://www.kofc.org/un/en/columbia/supreme\\_knight/fromthesk\\_20180301.html](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/columbia/supreme_knight/fromthesk_20180301.html)

## Meet our New Madison Council 16870

New Council 16870, Madison

This new council came into being through the efforts of its pastor, Fr. Randy Mattox. He came from St. Pius X Church in Conyers and contacted the Knights of Columbus to start a council. In July 2017, Tom Frizzi, Director of New Council Development, responded to set up a table with recruitment materials in the social hall after masses. He contacted myself and State Advocate T.J. McCaustland to assist with sign ups. We continued weekly with the Form 100 and email contacts for several weeks. At every mass, Fr. Randy made an announcement that the Knights of Columbus were in the narthex and expressed his desire to have a local council. Council 13808 from Greensboro and Council 11340 from Covington made a special trip to do First Degree ceremonies in the social hall. Finally, at an initial council meeting in October, they elected officers from 25 members. This February 17, 2018, five of those men will take the Fourth-Degree exemplification.

They voted to honor a local Georgia priest Fr. Peter Whalen to be their namesake.

*Wally Marcis*

Wally Marcis  
DD23



## New Georgia State Council Website and EMAIL System

In January, The Georgia State Council launched the updated website. The website includes many new features and updates that will make access to information much easier for anyone who visits the website. Some highlights include:

- \* New Rotator section in the middle of the screen with the latest news and award announcements.
- \* Interactive calendar with important dates for Degrees, events, and happenings
- \* Detailed Contacts for all Officers, Program Directors, Councils, and Assemblies
- \* Join area updated with access to online membership for possible candidates
- \* Links to all 3rd and 4th degree events
- \* History page that tells our past
- \* Convention Registrations

Please take a moment and access the new website and leave some feedback. [www.gakofc.org](http://www.gakofc.org)



In January, after much hard work and feedback from all the Officers and District Deputies, a new email system was rolled out for the State. The new Email system from GSUITE has allowed the State Council to increase users who will have access to include all State Officers, Program Directors, District Deputies, Georgia Charities of GA board members, Grand Knights, and Financial Secretaries for each council. With the new GSUITE email system in place, the state has equipped the users with many new tools and resources to increase the speed and accuracy of information distribution. We are currently at 38% activation of users on the new suite so if you have not completed your setup, please do so as soon as possible. DO NOT MISS any important information. Help contact [state.webmaster@gakofc.org](mailto:state.webmaster@gakofc.org)

### 2017-2018 Convention Registration

The 2017-2018 Convention registration is now open and taking orders. The registration can be accessed by going to: <http://www.gakofc.org/events/convention>

The registration this year is a 3 step process:

- Complete the registration by clicking the Registration Link.
- Complete the ID Badge Portion by clicking the ID Badge Link
- Complete the Hotel Registration by click the Hotel Link

Just a reminder to MAKE SURE that after you elect your council delegates for this year's state meeting, you remember to send your signed and sealed certificates to our worthy Executive Secretary, Ron Rigby. You can download the certificate template from our convention link.

FS. Remember to seal the signed certificate with the council seal prior to mailing. Without the Council Seal, the certificate is NOT VALID. Also, without the sealed certificate, our Treasurer cannot issue a delegate check to defray the cost of the convention/meeting.

## From the State Historian

### James T. Vocelle



James T. Vocelle at his desk in 1953  
(State Archives of Florida)

The nearly 116-year history of the Georgia State Council is full of some very impressive men. All Knight leaders are dedicated and skilled, but some reach such a high level that it defines not only their service as a Knight of Columbus, it defines their lives. James T. Vocelle is one such Knight.

Vocelle was born in St. Marys in 1897. He was a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Georgian, a descendant of Acadians, French speaking Catholic Canadians that were banished from Canada in 1755 when they refused to renounce their faith. Acadians wandered throughout what would become the United States and the Caribbean. Vocelle's people first went to Domingue, now Haiti, before moving to Charleston, South Carolina, then to St. Marys. Later, in writing about his family, Vocelle wrote that his mother was a descendant of Robert Bruce, the 14<sup>th</sup> century Scottish king. His father was once the Sheriff of Camden County, Georgia.

Vocelle was educated in a one room schoolhouse in St. Marys. He was an excellent student and quite attached to his home area. Among his many other lifetime accomplishments, he wrote three books: History of Camden County; Georgia: Reminiscences of Old St. Mary's; and The Triumph of the Acadians, two of these published while he was a teenager. Vocelle earned a law degree from the Atlanta Law School at the age of 19 and had brief military service during World War I. When he returned to St. Marys he worked as a lawyer, was the editor of the Southeast Georgian and he married school teacher Mary Delina Schmidt.

As a lawyer he was known as the champion of the downtrodden. When the poor and mostly black workers of the area paper mills needed legal representation James T. Vocelle frequently stood up for them. His support of black citizens and his Catholic religion would soon make him a target of those who could not tolerate such things.

Vocelle joined the Knights of Columbus as a young man, remaining a member of the Order for the rest of his life. We do not currently have much detail of his actions as a Knight in Georgia, but we do know that in May 1921 James T. Vocelle was elected Georgia State Advocate at the age of 23, serving for two years. In the same year, Vocelle was named the Vice President of Georgia Catholic Laymen's Association for Southern Georgia Missions.

James T. Vocelle was a politically active young man. A life-long Democrat, he was elected to his first of two terms in the Georgia House of Delegates in 1921. He was the youngest and only Catholic representative in the state. In January 1923, Georgia Governor Thomas W. Hardwick appointed Vocelle Chairman of the Georgia Canal and Waterway Commission, the first of many governmental bodies he would run in his life.

Vocelle's political star was on the rise. After two terms in the Georgia House, he set his sights higher and won the Democrat nomination to the Georgia Senate from Camden County. This was unacceptable to some, especially the cowardly Ku Klux Klan. The Klan began a concerted effort to prevent Vocelle from becoming Georgia's youngest and only Catholic Senator. At one point during the campaign, Vocelle and his wife huddled on the floor of their bedroom during a terrifying night while KKK riders took shots at their home. On another occasion, Vocelle's cousin stopped KKK members on their way to firebomb Vocelle's house. (Forty years later, Vocelle's son would abandon a campaign for Congress on Florida after the KKK burned a cross on his front lawn.) Despite the terror, Vocelle persevered and won the election. Unfortunately, the Georgia Senate bowed to pressure of anti-Catholic bigotry and refused to allow him to take that seat.

The experience of the election proved too much for Vocelle. He decided that there was no future for a man such as him in Georgia. He took his young and growing family far from Georgia, moving to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Later he said, "I decided that the small town in which I was born and reared didn't have the future for raising a large family. However moving away from St. Marys was one of the hardest things I ever did because five generations of my people are buried there." This was a great loss for Georgia. One can only imagine what James T. Vocelle might have accomplished for his state and Church had he stayed in Georgia.

Vocelle did not remain in Santa Fe long. In 1924 he returned east, this time settling in Vero Beach, Florida where he remained to raise a family and serve his community for nearly the next 70 years. Vocelle was one of two lawyers in Vero Beach. They teamed to establish the first law firm in the area. He immediately jumped into the politics of the area by becoming a leader in the cause to establish the new county of Indian River with Vero Beach as the county seat. Today, he is considered to be one of the founders of Indian River County, Florida. He became the city and county attorney, positions he held for nearly 30 years. He used his influence to bring federal money into the area to build a county courthouse.

While working steadily over the next six decades as a lawyer, Vocelle was a regular advisor to a series of Florida governors and very active participant in several Catholic organizations. Shortly after his arrival in Florida, the KKK made its presence known with actions meant to intimidate Vocelle and any other Catholics that wanted to participate in the civic and religious life of the area. But this time Vocelle would not retreat. "No one is going to intimidate me," he said. "I intend to stay."

In 1929 Vocelle became the first Secretary of the Florida Laymen's Catholic Truth Society, part of an international society that started in Brooklyn, New York and patterned after Georgia's Catholic Laymen's Association. In 1931 he was elected President of the Florida Affiliated Exchange Clubs, a business organization. In 1935 he was the main speaker at the opening meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Holy Name Society of Diocese of St. Augustine, Florida, attended by approximately 500 people. Later the same year he was named Chairman of the Indian River County Democrat Committee where he earned the nickname "Mr. Democrat," a moniker that stayed with him for life.

He never let his business interfere with his faith. One incident is remembered from 1937. When Vocelle learned that the Florida Bar Association planned to hold meetings during the last few days of Holy Week, he vigorously protested. The Bar quickly rescheduled the meeting and thanked Vocelle for alerting them to their error in judgement.

During the 1940s and 1950s Vocelle advised five Florida governors. In 1941 Vocelle was appointed as Secretary of the state Parole Board. Four years later the governor appointed him as chairman of the state Beverage Commission where he successfully battled organized crime's effort to control the liquor market in the state. In 1953 Vocelle became the chairman of the state Industrial Commission (now the Florida Department of Labor). He held that position for eight years.

He received many honors along the way. In 1951 he attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Holy Name Society in Detroit. During that convention 60,000 people attended the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at Briggs Stadium and 110,000 participated in a parade. During that convention, the Holy Name Society bestowed its highest honor for laymen on James T. Vocelle, the Vercelli Medal, named for Blessed John of Vercelli, the founder of the society in 1274.

In 1956 the Florida region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews awarded him its Silver Brotherhood Medallion for promoting religious and racial tolerance and respect. In 1984, Florida Governor Bob Graham designated November 29 "Jim Vocelle Day" and Indian River County declared "Jim Vocelle Week." President Reagan sent Vocelle a letter of congratulations on the occasion. When told that he was being so honored, Vocelle said, "I am just an ordinary citizen and lawyer. Whatever talents I possess, the Lord gave me." That same year the Florida Bar honored his sixty years as a lawyer.

James Vocelle returned to Georgia occasionally. Whenever he did, his activities were chronicled in the Georgia Bulletin. One such visit was in 1958 when he delivered the keynote speech at the 19<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Savannah Diocese Council of Catholic Women.

In 1992, James T. Vocelle died on Thanksgiving Day at the age of 95. Today, the Indian River County Courthouse is the site of the James T. Vocelle Law Library with a handsome portrait hanging outside to remind all that he was once a driving force in that area. James T. Vocelle lived saying that the Knights of Columbus is a force for good in the world. While it is true that he lived most of his life and did most of his good work outside Georgia, he never lost touch with his roots. Now, 26 years after his passing, we should take pride in and be inspired by James T. Vocelle, a Georgia Knight of Columbus.





**Saturday, March 3 9:00am** Macon Regional Free Throw Challenge  
**Saturday, March 10 8:30am** Admission (1st) and Formation (2nd) Degrees- St Joseph's Council #6514  
 9:00am Exemplification of the Knighthood (Third) Degree  
**Sunday, March 11 4:00pm** Exemplification of the Second Degree--  
 -March 11, 2018 at St. James Church Social Hall  
**Saturday, March 17 9:00am** Exemplification of the Knighthood (Third) Degree  
**Saturday, March 24 9:30am** Exemplification of the Knighthood (Third) Degree  
 2:00pm Attract with Fraternal Programs  
**Sunday, March 25 11:00am** Exemplification of the Formation Degree (2nd Degree)  
 12:30pm Exemplification of the Knighthood Degree (3d Degree)  
**Sunday, April 1** Easter Sunday  
**Tuesday, April 3** The Episcopal Ordination of The Most Reverend Joel M. Konzen, S.M.  
**Saturday, April 7 8:30am** Forth Degree Wilmington Island  
**Saturday, April 21** All day 2018 Convention Registration Price Increase  
**Sunday, May 13** Running of The Silver Rose  
**Tuesday, May 15** All day Tax Forms Due for Tax Year Ending December 31  
**Friday, May 18 9:00am** Annual St Stephen the Martyr Charity Golf Tournament  
 9:00am Convention Golf Tournament- Sponsored by Council 10579  
**Saturday, May 19** 2017-2018 State Convention  
**Sunday, May 20** 2017-2018 State Convention  
**Monday, May 28** Memorial Day  
**Sunday, June 17** Father's Day  
**Wednesday, July 4,** 2018 Independence Day

Links to these and other events are available on Calendar located on [www.gakofc.org](http://www.gakofc.org)

## A Special Thank You Message



My Brother's the Knights of Columbus,

Every year I am amazed at how much you do for us here at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit. From Knights helping us park cars for all of our events to the financial support you send us. Every gift you give us is a blessing that we brother Monks do not forget.

This year, several councils through the state of Georgia sold our monastery

products after mass and at special events in an effort to raise money to support us during the Christmas season. With all of your hard work brothers, you were able to sell \$197,000 dollars worth of our products.

What can be said but THANK YOU. You have truly been a blessing to all of the brothers here at the Monastery. Thank you ALL again for your support.

*Augustine Myslinski*

Abbot Augustine Myslinski, OCSO  
 Monastery of The Holy Spirit.

**From the Desk of the Reverend Raymond G. Levreault - Associate State Chaplain**



"My brother Knights and all, it is with Easter Joy that I write these words. Christ has risen, Alleluia! When I think of the post-resurrection gospel accounts of Jesus, what I find most often is that in many ways, I can often find myself in the story. What I mean is just think of the let down the disciples felt as they watched what they thought was the next King of Israel being put to death, a horrible, shameful death. Their hopes and dreams shattered and time wasted so they thought. But along, by some miracle, grace, love and mercy comes the risen Lord. He comes to show us that there is always HOPE in the words of Jesus.

Once we come to know, love and serve Him, then there is no turning back to the former ways of life as did the disciples. Let us as Knights of Columbus not be disappointed by what may seem the failures or difficulties of this life but let us see in them a way to trust more in God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. "God's got this" seems to be one of my more favorite sayings lately, make it yours too and be blessed knowing that God always wins!

Vivat Jesus!

*Fr. Raymond Levreault*

Associate State Chaplain



Thank you to Chas Ratliff for putting together the materials and letter for our State Newsletter.

For a donation of \$24, you can put A FRONTLINE FAITH Player in the hands of one of our service members. The Georgia State Council of the Knights of Columbus is leading the efforts to help.

The FRONTLINE FAITH Project distribute compact MP3 players, preloaded with Catholic content, to members of our Armed Forces currently deployed or preparing for deployment.

-The FRONTLINE FAITH players provide nearly 7 hours of spiritual content, especially as it pertains to military service.

-The FRONTLINE FAITH Players include a Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services; a "Warrior Rosary," conceived by Lynda McFarland, the wife of a career military man, using the Sorrowful Mysteries and recited by the auxiliary bishops.

While FRONTLINE FAITH is a Catholic initiative, this is an ecumenical endeavor. The MP3 players are given free of charge to every Soldier, Airman, Sailor, Guardsman, and Marine who wishes to receive one as a powerful tool for evangelizing our Catholic faith.

If you wish to donate a player to a loved one who is currently serving in our Armed Forces, please provide the recipient's name, branch of service, and APO/FPO mailing address.

"Be the prayer that changes the World".

Vivat Jesus

Tim McCarthy, FDD  
 Frontline Faith Director,  
 KofC VAVS Representative  
 Augusta and CSRA  
[tmac3534@gmail.com](mailto:tmac3534@gmail.com)

\*\*\*To make a donation please contact us at:\*\*

FRONTLINE FAITH PROJECT  
 Columbian Charities of Georgia  
 1102 Craddock Way  
 Macon, GA 31210  
 Or make an online donation at [www.gakofc.org](http://www.gakofc.org).

# R.S.V.P.



Knights of Columbus  
Georgia State Council  
RSVP Overview

*A Letter to all Brothers from Mike Vanairsdale R.S.V.P. Director:*

Brothers All-

My name is Mike Vanairsdale. I am the immediate past Georgia Knights of Columbus (K of C) District 19 Deputy, and am currently the Georgia K of C Military Coordinator and the Georgia K of C Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) Director. I look forward to working in both of these areas.

Since I came to this position of RSVP Director on July 1 I have received requests from several Councils to support seminarians. In addition, in mid-August I received from the Atlanta Archdiocese and Savannah Diocese Vocations Coordinators the list of new seminarians, the list of seminarians that have left the seminary, and the list of seminarians ordained. We have a combined total of 81 men in seminary this year.

Subsequently, of the 15 new seminarians in Atlanta I have arranged sponsorship for 6 men with Councils, and in Savannah arranged sponsorship for 1 of 4 new seminarians.

What I need help with now is to insure sponsorship for the remaining 13 seminarians that do not have a sponsoring Council. I am asking all Councils to consider sponsoring one or more of our great Georgia Seminarians.

My second mission is to provide a degree of equity in the sponsorship of individual seminarians; for example, most Councils give \$500 to each of their sponsored seminarian, but some Councils provide \$2000 to their sponsored seminarian and all donations are wonderful, so some seminarians are more needy than others. In fact, one of our seminarians has informed me that he neither needs nor wants monetary support this year.

In conclusion, if you wish to support a new seminarian, wish to replace a seminarian that was either ordained or left the seminary, please contact me at your earliest convenience. If you are sponsoring a seminarian now, please contact me with the amount you are providing to each of your seminarians.

This is a wonderful charitable opportunity for the Knights, please step up and support one of our great seminarians.

Thanks for all you do.

*Mike Vanairsdale*

Mike Vanairsdale  
[mvanairsdale@gmail.com](mailto:mvanairsdale@gmail.com), 404 643-5852  
Vivat Jesus

"Vocations to the ministerial priesthood and to the consecrated life can only flourish in a spiritual soil that is well cultivated."  
(Pope Benedict XVI to the 45th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, April 13, 2008)

Through the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) the Knights of Columbus has cultivated this spiritual soil for more than 30 years. While the order has a number of vocations programs, RSVP is the primary program through which councils, assemblies and circles provide financial and moral support to men and women preparing for the priesthood or religious life, and every council, assembly and circle is encouraged to participate. RSVP allows councils, assemblies and Squires circles "adopt" one or more seminarians or postulants and provide them with financial assistance and moral support.

Money provided by RSVP is used by seminarians, and those in religious formation, for tuition and books, car insurance and maintenance, travel during vacations, emergency expenditures and other living expenses. Knights provide more than financial support though; members write letters to students, sponsor dinners for them, invite them to join the council and, most importantly, pray for vocations. Qualifying councils and assemblies receive a \$100 refund for every \$500 donated. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported.

## Eligibility

- Seminarians who have been accepted by a diocese and are currently in their spirituality year.
- Seminarians attending major seminary in preparation for priestly ordination.
- Seminarians in their pastoral year
- Seminarians attending minor seminaries
- Seminarians who belong to a religious institute and are currently in formation for the priesthood (seminarians often called "Brother" even though they will eventually be ordained as priests)
- Men and women who are novices or postulants in religious orders or communities.

## Persons not eligible for RSVP funds are:

- Priests or religious seeking assistance for continuing education
- Religious brothers not studying for priesthood
- Candidates for the permanent diaconate



Joe Martinez Jr., FICF, LUTCF, CFFM, PGK  
General Agent  
1718 Peachtree St NW Suite 260  
Atlanta, GA 30309  
Office: (404) 474-2846  
[jmartinezagency@mail2@kofc.org](mailto:jmartinezagency@mail2@kofc.org)



## Caring for Our Own

The Knights of Columbus isn't just an insurance company. It's a brotherhood, and so we do things differently. If we were just another insurance company, you'd be nothing more than customers –or potential customers –who only add value based on the products you purchase. But you're not. You're brothers, and so are we. After all, Father McGivney founded the Knights 135 years ago so that we could help each other. So we offer you products and services unique to our industry because we care deeply about you and your families, and your wellbeing. For starters, we extend to each of our members an Accidental Death benefit for free, just by virtue of their membership in the Knights of Columbus. The program –which is only available in insurance jurisdictions –provides a benefit of \$1,000 - \$2,500 upon the accidental death of any member or his spouse (subject to certain age restrictions).

The program was launched at the 113th Supreme Council Meeting in 1994, and has continued to the present day, providing more than \$12.5 million in benefits.

In addition to the Accidental Death benefit, the Knights of Columbus offer a number of free services to our members and their families. First and foremost, we agents are committed to providing survivor assistance to widows and families left behind after the loss of a loved one. Most commercial agents would fill out the necessary paperwork and move on, but not Knights of Columbus agents. We will stand by you and help you contact your attorney to sort out the will, help you make funeral arrangements, help you notify and coordinate with the council, help resolve any financial matters, help you file any claims (including claims with companies other than the Knights of Columbus), and will help file for survivor benefits or Veteran's benefits, if necessary.

Secondarily, we offer two additional services to help Knights' families plan. The first is Profiles & Forecaster, a comprehensive and complimentary industry tool that helps you evaluate your family's financial situation, and to determine what insurance protection –if any –may be needed. The second, the Knights of Columbus Personal Planning Workbook, will help you record your final wishes and important information (including accounts, passwords, funeral arrangements, etc.) for your survivors. Both of these services are free.

To our insurance members,\* we offer two additional programs: the Family Fraternal Benefit Program, and the Orphan Fraternal Benefit Program. The Family Fraternal Benefit Program offers two distinct benefits. The first offers insurance eligibility to uninsurable children. Through the Program, a member can purchase a \$5,000 life insurance policy for an otherwise uninsurable child at standard rates before the child is 61 days old, or at a rated premium if before the child's 18th birthday. A member can also purchase a \$5,000 policy for a mentally impaired child at standard rates, between the ages of 3 and 18 years old.

The Program also offers death benefit coverage to members who have lost an infant child less than 61 days after birth, or who have lost an unborn child in a stillbirth, after the 20th week. (The Order affirms that life begins at conception. In this instance, the benefit requires a certified death certificate for the stillborn child, hence the 20-week rule.)

The second fraternal benefit program available to insured members is the Orphan Fraternal Benefit Program. This extensive program also provides two benefits. The first is an \$80 monthly benefit for each eligible orphan, until their 19th birthday. The second is a scholarship program, which grants eligible orphans up to \$1,750 per year for a four-year period. In a letter addressing the programs, our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson noted that "These benefits augment the tradition of fraternity established by Father McGivney, namely, that the Order cares for its own; it expands upon a basic reason for which he founded the Order: 'of rendering pecuniary aid to its members, their families, and beneficiaries of members and their families.'" They are part of what makes us unique.

So get to know all of our fraternal benefits, and the ways in which you may benefit from them.

Contact me today to learn more.

\*To be eligible for both the Family Fraternal Benefit Program, and the Orphan Fraternal Benefit Program, the member must be in good standing, and either he or his wife must be insured under a Knights of Columbus certificate requiring an annual premium of at least \$150, or providing at least \$5,000 in permanent life insurance coverage. Eligibility for the Orphan Fraternal Benefit Program is also contingent on the child being covered by an individual Knights of Columbus certificate.

*Joe Martinez Jr.*

Joe Martinez Jr., FICF, LUTCF, CFFM, PGK  
General Agent  
1718 Peachtree St NW Suite 260  
Atlanta, GA 30309  
Office: (404) 474-2846  
[jmartinezagency@mail2@kofc.org](mailto:jmartinezagency@mail2@kofc.org)



## New Georgia Martyrs website goes live

The Dioceses of Savannah has posted a new bilingual website telling the story of the Georgia Martyrs, five Franciscan friars who were martyred on Georgia's barrier islands in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The site, [www.thegeorgiamartyrs.org](http://www.thegeorgiamartyrs.org), went live February 13 and is designed to promote the Cause of the Georgia Martyrs, which is before the Congregation for the Causes of Saints at the Roman Curia.

Besides presenting the Cause for the Beatification of the Georgia Martyrs, the site features a prayer for the Cause, a link to report favors received through the intercession of the martyrs, a link to Join the Cause, and Children's Resources. The new site highlights the little known history of the settlement of Spanish missions along the eastern coast of Florida and Georgia in the sixteenth century.

In 1597 there were five missions in Coastal Georgia where Franciscan friars preached the Gospel to the Gule natives, living peacefully with the native population.

An uprising by the heir to a Gule chiefdom over the friars' condemnation of native customs, including polygamy, led to the martyrdom of Friars Pedro de Corpa, Blas Rodríguez, Antonio de Badajoz, Miguel de Añon, and Francisco de Veráscola.

The Cause for their beatification was opened by Bishop Raymond W. Lessard in 1984. Bishop J. Kevin Boland sent documentation of the Cause to the Congregation for the Causes for Saints in Rome in 2007.

Bishop Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv. will visit the Congregation as well as the Office of Friars Minor Conventual in September to check on advancement of the Cause and to report on devotion to the Cause in the United States.

Bishop Hartmayer has asked for the frequent recitation of the new Martyrs' Prayer listed on the website.

## GET INVOLVED

IDEAS From fellow Councils in GA.

### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Winners

Two posters from St. Oliver Plunkett Council 13440 have won in the annual Georgia State Council's contest. Cecilia Monticello was awarded Second Place in the Age 5-7 Division, and Lorenzo Morissette was awarded First Place in the Age 8-11 Division.

Our program has successfully grown the past two years by working closely with our Parish Religious Education Department who has encouraged participation by their students. Participation has gone from 28 in 2016 contest to 58 in 2017.

Once the Council winner are chosen, we have a ceremony at our 9:30 children's Mass to introduce the winners and present the awards. The Council winners were sent through the District Deputy on to the State competition. This was truly a team effort with our Pastor, youth directors, and Council members involvement and assistance.

The pictures enclosed are of Roger Bacik, Council 13440 Contest Chairman, Tim Hoffmann District Deputy #10, and the two winners.

Roger Bacik, Council 13440

hiddenpro@comcast.net



### Terence Cardinal Cooke Council's 35th Christmas Dinner

A fun time was had by all who attended Terence Cardinal Cooke Council's 35th Christmas dinner at St. Teresa of Avilla Catholic Parish, of Grovetown on the evening of December 2nd. The festivity was attended by 75 Knights, Spouses, and Dates. The evening included a catered meal, with desserts and salads provided by the Ladies Auxiliary in a lovely setting decorated by several ladies from the auxiliary. Singing and music was led by the Parish Choir Director, who is a member of the auxiliary. Fifty-five individuals participated in a very lively "Dirty Santa" gift exchange and a "Kodak Moment" back-drop was set-up for couples to make Christmas memories.

There was a good turn-out of Past Grand Knights in attendance, which always helps to encourage newer members! Pictured is from L-R, GK Carlo Bracci; Immediate PGK McKinley Curtis; The council's second grand night, PGK Richard Reynolds; FDD/PGK Don DeClue; PGK John Vigna, and PGK Ken Simmons. In attendance, but not pictured was current District Deputy 24 and PGK Bob Hoppel. The council was chartered 35 years passed, on 6 November 1983.





# GET INVOLVED

IDEAS From fellow Councils in GA.

## Council 7923 helps the Sisters at the Visitation Monastery

Our council 7923 were asked to help the Sisters at the Visitation Monastery to clear out their basement with over a decade of accumulation of materials, boxes, etc. There were 22 Knights that helped that Saturday morning which took a second Saturday morning totaling 2 open top dumpsters, several pick up trucks and endless smiles. The nuns supplied us with coffee and donuts to fuel the Knights efforts.

Mark Davis  
Grand Knight  
Council 7923



## Charity in Action Builds Council Visibility

"When people ask what the Knights do, I never lead with a program. I usually say, "We do three things: We help people; we change lives; and we save lives."

- Mark McMullen, former Georgia State Deputy and now Senior VP of the Membership and Fraternal Mission Department at K&C HQ

Starting off the new year:  
How do we help save lives?

On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court decisions, Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton, legalized abortion in America. The following guidelines are from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (no. 373):

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) as a particular day of prayer and penance for abortion, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children."

Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Atlanta were asked to join others across the country in performing works of penance, which may consist of any of the following:

Prayer  
Works of Mercy  
Service of Neighbor  
Voluntary Self-Denial  
Sacrifices



Some of us were able to attend the Mass of the Unborn with the principal Celebrant, our Archbishop of Atlanta, the Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory. It's been at The Cathedral of Christ the King on this day for the last 29 years. It took on greater meaning especially after seeing scenes and hearing the coarse language on TV by the counter group opposed to our pleas to stop abortions on demand. The Mass was well attended and several Councils were present.

Vivat  
Jesus  
Jim MacInnis  
DGK, Council 14122



## DO YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR FUTURE ARTICLES?

If You have ideas or wish to share some information about your Council, please send those articles to [news@gakofc.org](mailto:news@gakofc.org)