



# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

**Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter**

**January, 2025**

## Upcoming Events

**12/30 (Monday)** December 4th Degree meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:15.

**1/1 (Wednesday)** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; Holy Day of Obligation.

**1/6 (Monday)** January Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

**1/10-12 (Fri-Sun)** State KofC Mid-year Meeting, Fredericksburg

**1/20 (Monday)** College Football Championship watch party (tentative) - details TBA.

**1/22 (Wednesday)** District meeting by Zoom

**1/24 (Friday)** National March for Life - Washington, DC

**1/27 (Monday)** January 4th Degree meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:15.

**1/29 (Wednesday)** Virginia Pro-Life Day Morning of Advocacy - Richmond

**2/3 (Monday)** February Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

**2/9 (Sunday)** Super Bowl watch party. Further details TBA.

Please also refer to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RoanokeKnights/> for additional

## Grand Knight's Report



Brother Knights,

Happy New Year! The National March for Life (<https://marchforlife.org/>) is Friday, January 24, 2025, and the Virginia Pro-Life Day Morning of Advocacy (<https://vaprolifeday.org/>) is Wednesday January 29, 2025. Please consider attending these events to continue supporting the effort to build a Culture of Life in the United States.

Vivat Jesus,  
James Valenzuela, Grand Knight



# December Business Meeting Highlights

- The Grand Knight reported that the end of 2024 (half way thru the fraternal year) was very successful. Several important projects completed, several more planned for upcoming months. We are encouraged by the response to our two KOVAR drives.
- The council welcomed transfer member Chuck Gramerski
- Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity will be held at the Basilica of St. Andrew on Friday, 12/6.
- Watch parties are planned for College Football Championship (1/20) and Super Bowl (2/9).
- The Field agent reported this is a good time to purchase annuities - interest rates are high now and are expected to come down.
- Thanksgiving baskets as well as \$100 were donated to each of the parishes.
- Council 562 co-sponsored a float with RCS for the Roanoke and Salem Christmas parades.
- Christmas cards were sent to each of the priests, as well as \$50 gift cards for each.
- Don Brown agreed to be the new chef for council meetings. Thanks to Rich Whitney for his service.
- The Notre Dame Alumni have rented the hall for a watch party of the ND playoff game on Friday, 12/20.
- The Lecturer reflected on the real meaning of Advent. This is a time for spiritual anticipation. We are encouraged to keep our focus on the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, to avoid secular distractions, and to spread the Gospel message of joy, peace and love.

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## Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity

The Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity was held at the Basilica of St. Andrew on Friday, December 6. State Deputy Bob Jones, State Secretary Trey Hart, and General Agent Derek Brown were in attendance. Eight candidates were welcomed into our order.



## Keep Christ in Christmas

Our annual Keep Christ in Christmas campaign had another successful year. Thanks to the volunteers who made this a success:

Basilica of St. Andrew: David Bowers, Mike Herron, Paul Yengst, Jr., Rick Vitolo, Jr. and Brian Ripple

Our Lady of Nazareth: Dave Chopski, Stephen Ratliff, Bob Carrigan, Bob Hermanns

St. Elias: Deebie Wadell

Over 1200 spiritual messages were sent as a result of this year's campaign. Total sales amounted to \$1586.

## Knights and Roanoke Catholic Co-sponsor Float.

Brother Knights assisted students from Roanoke Catholic School in building and transporting a float for the Roanoke Christmas parade on Friday, December 13. The theme of this year's float was "Keep Christ in Christmas".



## January Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following Brother Knights with birthdays in January:

Roddy Hiduskey	January 3
Frank Orozco	January 3
John Thibeault	January 3
Chester Kalinoski	January 4
Jeffrey Stump	January 4
Sam Alexander	January 8
Robert Carignan Sr	January 9
Karl Kleinhenz	January 9
Frederick Dunn Jr	January 10
Patrick McNulty	January 10
Thomas Cadden	January 12
Gary Griswold	January 13
Thomas Huck	January 13
Richard McGarry	January 14
Michael Ochalek	January 14
John Zacharias	January 15
Derek Laliberte	January 16
Thomas Clark Sr	January 19
Noah DeWeese	January 19
Roger Vest	January 19
Bruce DeWeese	January 20
Tim Shelton	January 20
Steven Boisvert	January 22
Frank Leonardo	January 24
Johan Lazaga	January 25
Mark Huff	January 29
Edward Malinowski Jr	January 29
Ralph Migliarese Jr	January 29
Chuma Osuorah	January 30

## Football Watch Parties

Watch parties are being planned for the College Championship game on Monday, January 20 and Super Bowl LIV on Sunday, February 9. Please plan to join us for food, fellowship, and some great football. Watch for additional details in upcoming communications.

# Saint of the Month

## Francis de Sales

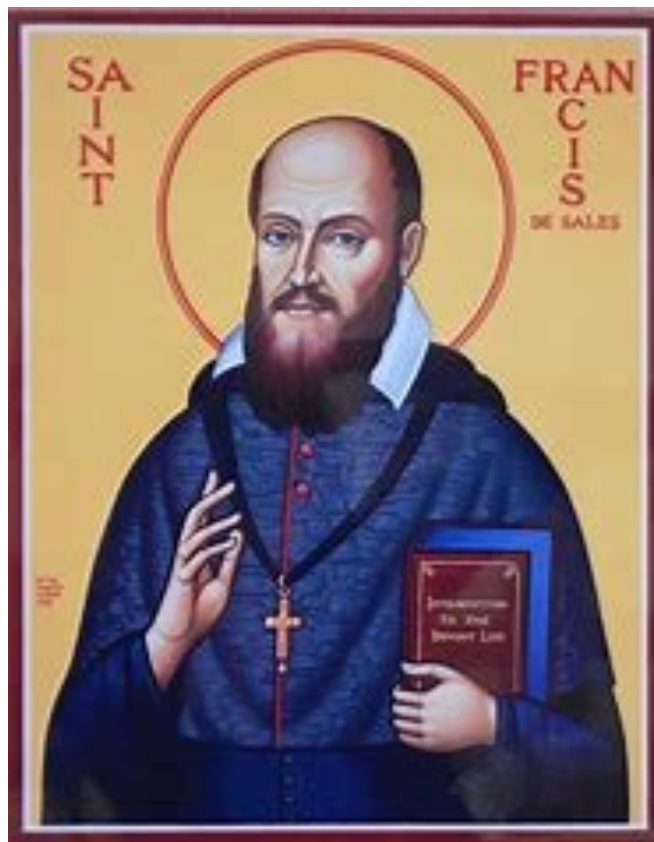
Francis de Sales was born in 1567 in France into a noble family. He was educated early close to home, then at a Jesuit-run college in Paris. After obtaining his baccalaureate degree in 1584, Francis continued to study theology in Paris as he grew in his own practice of the Faith. He earned two more masters' degrees, followed by a doctorate in law in Padua, Italy, in 1591. He was ordained a priest in 1593.

As Francis was receiving his education, the doctrine of Calvinism was taking root throughout Europe, causing many Catholics to break away from the Faith. Francis was elected provost of the Diocese of Geneva, then a center for the Calvinists. Francis set out to convert them by preaching and distributing little pamphlets he wrote to explain true Catholic doctrine. He was installed as Bishop of Geneva in 1602. While administering his diocese he continued to preach, hear confessions, and catechize the children. His gentle character was a great asset in winning souls.

Francis was a prolific writer. In addition to his two well-known books, the *Introduction to the Devout Life* and *A Treatise on the Love of God*. In addition to his spiritual works, his writings include controversies against Calvinists, letters, sermons, and documents on diocesan administration. He is known for gentle spirit; many of his writings are addressed to lay people. He wants to make them understand that they too are called to be saints. For this, he has been called the "Gentleman Saint."

In December, 1622 Bishop de Sales suffered a stroke and died on December 28. De Sales was beatified in 1661 by Pope Alexander VII, who then canonized him in 1665. De Sales

was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1877.



## Prayer Requests

Please keep Brother Knights and their family members in your prayers:

- BK Don Feick - deceased
- Joan Alouf, wife of BK Fred Alouf - deceased
- Jane Wills, mother of BK Steve Wills.
- BK Greg Benda and wife Linda Benda
- Michelle Clarke, wife of FA Jack Clarke and mother of FA Jack Clarke
- Mother of DD Karl Kleinhenz
- BK Juan Garcia's Aunt Milli
- BK Paul Miller and his wife Amy
- BK Leon Vinci
- Mother and uncles of GK James Valenzuela.

## Roanoke Council 562 Officers 2024-25

Grand Knight	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Deputy Grand Knight	Dave Chopski	540-915-2819
Chancellor	Chris Johnson	540-589-3567
Warden	Stephen Ratliff	540-774-4796
Financial Secretary	Brian Ripple	540-797-5823
Chaplain	Fr. George Zina	407-758-8855
Treasurer	Val Bernys	540-798-3128
Recorder	Jan Hodnett	540-819-5456
Advocate	Nate Griffith	804-837-8874
Lecturer	Juan Garcia	757-719-8753
Outside Guard	Jean Saade	540-355-0585
Inside Guard	Tom Huck	540-597-2121
Trustee, 3 Year	Clyde Moak	540-418-5148
Trustee, 2 Year	Bill Howard	540-989-9399
Trustee, 1 Year	Rich Whitney	443-465-7742

## Corporation Board 2024-25

President	Roger Vest	540-520-8520
Vice President:	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Treasurer:	Jan Hodnett	540-819-5456
Board Member:	Val Bernys	540-989-9282
Board Member:	Clyde Moak	540-418-5148
Board Member	Bill Howard	540-989-9399
Board Member:	Dan McBride	540-389-5903
Board Member:	Paul Miller	540-339-8657

**In case of illness, need, or death, please notify one of the following:**

**Grand Knight**

**James Valenzuela 301-806-3920**

**Financial Secretary**

**Brian Ripple 540-797-5823**

**Fraternal Benefits**

**Jack Clarke 540-204-4984**

**Jack.Clarke@KOFK.ORG**

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### **Disclaimer**

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Roanoke Council 562 or the Knights of Columbus.