



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

December, 2023

Upcoming Events

12/4 (Monday) December Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

12/8 (Friday) Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation).

12/10 (Sunday) "Jesus and the Eucharist" - Roanoke Council Home 1:30. Doors open at 1:00.

12/25 (Monday) Christmas Day; Nativity of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation).

12/27 (Tuesday) December 4th Degree Assembly Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30. (Rescheduled due to Christmas holiday).

1/1/2024 (Monday) New Year's Day; Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation). Council Home open at 4:00 for NCAA National Semifinals (Rose Bowl and Sugar Bowl).

1/2/2024 (Tuesday) January Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30. (Rescheduled due to New Year's holiday.)

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

Grand Knight's Report



Worthy Brother Knights,

Merry Christmas!!! My notes this week are short and all I ask is for you to say Merry Christmas to those you meet. Please help spread the reason for the season and not just say Happy Holidays. These days people are scared to upset others so only those who don't mind upsetting others get to set the tone. So join me in being a troublemaker (that I know you are) and say "Merry Christmas!"

Vivat Jesus!

Clyde Moak,

Grand Knight Council 562



November Business Meeting Highlights

- The Chaplain reported that he had cancelled his trip to Lebanon; he offered prayers for the faithful Departed.
- The Grand Knight reported that St Andrew's has been named a Minor Basilica; a special Mass will be offered on Sunday, 12/3 at 11:00
- Three members have achieved Honorary status: Stephen Clements - Honorary; Kevin Conlan - Honorary Life; Fr. George Zina - Honorary Life.
- Two new e-members were welcomed: Chris Ragone, Matthew Sunil.
- "Jesus and the Eucharist" sessions start Sunday 11/12 (see separate article)
- Keep Christ in Christmas campaign will start soon. Please help out as you are able.
- The Deputy Grand Knight reported that a potluck brunch will be held Saturday, 12/2 at 10:00 at the Council Home.
- The District Deputy reminded members that Election Day is on Tuesday, 11/7 (tomorrow) and Veterans' Day will be celebrated on Friday, 11/10.
- The Budget for FY 2023-24 was approved with minor amendments.
- The Council approved \$100 each for Thanksgiving baskets for each of the three parishes.
- Help is needed for food pickup on Thursdays for the Christian Soldiers Food Bank.
- A "grab and go" chili dinner is planned for January. Fish Frys are being planned for Lent.
- RAM House is in need of donated clothing, especially coats.
- Pressure treated lumber is being sought for repair on picnic tables at the pool.
- An increase of \$10 in Council dues was proposed in order to balance the Council budget (see separate article P3

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Christmas Food and Coat Drive

Brothers, we will be hosting a food drive from Thursday, Dec 14 – Sat Dec 16. The hall will be open from 6-8 Thursday and Friday and 10 – 4 on Saturday to accept donations (food or monetary). All proceeds will be given to St Francis Food Pantry at RAM House.

Coats are also needed at RAM House to support the homeless persons in the Roanoke community. Gently used men's or women's coats can be donated at our meeting times or during the food drive collection times.

Thank you for supporting the needy in our community.



Keep Christ in Christmas

Our annual “Keep Christ in Christmas - send religious Christmas cards” campaign is underway. Proceeds from the sale of Christmas cards help to support college scholarships and support for seminarians.

Please plan to assist in this year’s campaign by spending a few minutes after the Mass that you normally attend. If you are not scheduled to do sales, consider supporting the program thru the purchase of Christmas cards. The schedule for this year’s campaign will continue thru the weekend of December 9-10.

St. Andrew’s: Contact Chuck Hatcher at 540-314-3360 or hatcherchuck7@gmail.com.

OLN: Contact Rich Whitney at 443-465-7742 or richw1492@yahoo.com.

St Elias: Contact Deebie Wadell at 540-562-0012.



Resolution to Increase Council Dues by \$10

Whereas, Article 1, Section 3 of the Roanoke Council #562 Bylaws states that the annual dues of members shall be \$50,

And Whereas, operational costs have increased for the council,

Whereas, the Virginia State Council is increasing state per capita from \$4 to \$7 per member effective July 1, 2024.

And Whereas, annual dues no longer cover operational costs due to the increase,

And Whereas, monies from fundraisers are being used to cover the difference,

Be It Resolved that Roanoke Council #562 will increase its annual dues by \$10 to \$60 per member effective with the 2024 billing cycle so that the council can use more fundraiser monies for charitable purposes.

Jesus and the Eucharist

The Roanoke Council is conducting a series “Jesus and the Eucharist” as part of the National Eucharistic Revival. The series will explore the story of salvation as told through Scripture, fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus, and lived out in the Church and the Sacraments - especially the Eucharist. Sessions will be held each second Sunday afternoon at the council home at 1:30 for seven sessions. Doors will open at 1:00 and hors d’oeuvres will be provided.



Thanksgiving Dinner Donations

Thank you Brothers for all the donations that we asked for at the last minute. Because of you, we were able to feed 4 families that included over 15 children. Below is a picture of what each family got (apple pie not shown but included!) Thanks to you all.



Hall Open for NCAA Football Championships

We will be open the Council Home for potluck on January 1st and 8th for the NCAA football semifinal and final championship games. Doors will open at 4pm on the 1st for the Rose Bowl (Alabama vs. Michigan) and the Sugar Bowl (Texas vs. Washington). Then we will open at 6:30 on January 8th for the national championship game. See you all then!!

Rose Bowl - January 1, 2024 5:00 PM



vs.



Sugar Bowl - January 1, 2024 8:45 PM



vs.



Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception is a Catholic dogma that states that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way (with a human father), was conceived without original sin. It does not refer to Christ's conception, nor does it imply that Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit" in the way that Jesus was. Mary was preserved from original sin by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of God's sanctifying grace.

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception evolved over several centuries of the early and medieval church. It was formalized by Pope Pius IX on December 8, 1854, in the bull *Ineffabilis Deus* that the doctrine was revealed by God and hence was to be firmly believed as such by all Catholics.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is celebrated on December 8 and is a Holy Day of Obligation.



Upcoming Degree Ceremonials

Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity - TBA



Exemplification of Patriotism (4th Degree) May 4 (Saturday) Charlottesville.



Saint of the Month

Stephen

Stephen was a Hellenistic Jew who lived in Jerusalem during the time of Jesus' time on earth. Nothing is known of his early life; all we know about Saint Stephen comes from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapters 6–7. He is best known as the eldest of the church's first deacons and the first Christian martyr.

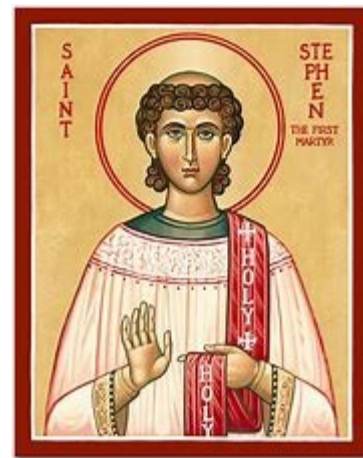
During Jesus' earthly ministry, His followers became a close-knit community. After Jesus ascended into Heaven, the Apostles remained in Jerusalem and deepened their communal life. The Apostles and their followers ate together, celebrated the Eucharist, and shared their financial resources. Because the (original 12) Apostles chose to devote themselves to prayer and the preaching of the Word, they asked the community to select "seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom" (Acts 6:3). The Apostles then appointed them to the task of overseeing the daily needs of the followers. They were "Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism" (Acts 6:5).

As a deacon, Stephen preached the Word of God and performed many miracles. Various Hellenistic Jews even debated him in public, "but they could not withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he spoke" (Acts 6:10). This so agitated them that they dragged him before the Sanhedrin, just as they had done to Jesus. The charges brought against Stephen were that he spoke against the Temple and the Law of Moses. Stephen presented a lengthy speech before the Sanhedrin (Acts 7:1–53, where he reinterpreted the Old Testament in the light of Christ. He was among the first followers of Christ to clearly unite the Old Testament with the unfolding New Testament.

The criticism of traditional Jewish belief and practice in Stephen's speech is very strong - he says God does not live in a dwelling "made by human hands", referring to the Temple.

The members of the Sanhedrin were so enraged that they dragged Stephen out of the city and had him stoned to death. Once they dragged him out and began stoning him, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit" and "Lord, do not hold this sin against them" (Acts 7:59–60). One of those present at Saint Stephen's martyrdom was the Pharisee Saul, who became great Apostle Paul. After his conversion, Saint Paul built upon the teaching of Saint Stephen.

Stephen was canonized pre-congregation; his Feast Day is December 26. He is the patron saint of deacons, altar servers, stonemasons and casket makers.



Prayer Requests

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

- Jane Wills, mother of BK Steve Wills
- Sharon Vest, wife of BK Roger Vest
- Donnie Ratliff, father of BK Steven Ratliff
- BK Chris Sheets
- Ceil Slough, widow of BK George Slough
- BK George Cuadrado
- Kurt Wright - deceased

Field Agent's Report

Tax Advantages of Life Insurance

Are you frustrated on receiving year-end 1099 forms and having to pay taxes on CDs or other taxable investments? Although the primary purpose of life insurance is the death benefit to your beneficiaries, whole life (or cash building) life insurance policies typically have certain tax advantages that may be appealing.

1. **Cash Value Life policies may pay dividends, which aren't taxable.**

Dividends are considered a return of premium. You can take these dividends as a check, apply them to reduce or eventually pay the entire premium, invest them to the cash value portion of the policy to continue to grow, or apply them to increase the face amount of your coverage.

2. **The cash value grows without taxation.**

Cash value insurance builds cash value inside the policy as you pay premiums. Since you pay the premiums with after-tax dollars, the buildup of the cash value is allowed to grow tax deferred.

3. **You can access the cash value of the policy at any age, at any time, and for any reason.**

Compare that advantage to the penalty of "borrowing" YOUR MONEY from plans such as your 401(k) or IRA if you're under age 59½ and possible penalties if the money is not paid back by a certain time.

4. **Typical of all insurance policies, the lump sum death benefit is likely paid out to your beneficiaries income tax free.**

Life insurance inheritances can be substantial – and may go a long way toward making fi-

nancial reality better for your loved ones, possibly for generations to come. Taking away the government's tax bite can be a big advantage for your beneficiaries.

The many types of life insurance available today make it easier to help protect loved ones while achieving other financial goals. For more information, contact Jack Clarke at 540-204-4984 or Jack.Clarke@KofC.org

December Birthdays

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

Raymond Biggio	December 3
John Sheridan	December 5
Kevin Oddo	December 6
Robert Poole	December 7
Charles Hatcher	December 8
David Cummings	December 11
Jason Frick	December 11
Philip Jornlin	December 11
Richard Waddell	December 11
Francis Casola	December 12
Alexander Nelson II	December 16
Joseph Colosimo Jr	December 17
Casimir Dadak	December 17
Daniel Austin Jr	December 18
Charles Blevins	December 20
Theodore Wierzbic	December 21
Jan Hodnett	December 22
Michael Slenski	December 27
Denzel Williams Sr	December 27
Mark Moss	December 28
Nicholas Waddell	December 28
Jeffrey Zangari	December 28
Matthew O'Herron	December 31

Roanoke Council 562 Officers 2023-24

Grand Knight	Clyde Moak	540-418-5148
Dep. Grand Knight	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Chancellor	Dan McBride	540-389-5903
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
Outside Guard	Chris Johnson	540-589-3567
Inside Guard	Tom Huck	540-597-2121
Trustee, 3 Year	Bill Howard	540-989-9399
Trustee, 2 Year	Rich Whitney	443-465-7742
Trustee, 1 Year	Roger Vest	540-520-8520

Chairmen 2023-24

Program Director	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Faith	Open	
Family	Open	
Community	Open	
Life	Open	
Vocations	Open	
Retention	Open	
Public Relations	Open	

Corporation Board 2023-24

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:	Pat Reidy	540-725-8206
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	540-989-7840

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

Grand Knight
Clyde Moak **540-418-5148**
Financial Secretary
Brian Ripple **540-797-5823**
Fraternal Benefits
Jack Clarke **540-204-4984**
Jack.Clarke@KOFc.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.