



# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

March, 2024

## Upcoming Events

2/14 - 3/24 40 Days for Life

3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22 (Fridays) Fish fry's at OLN (Help needed) - see separate article, P3.

3/4 (Monday) March Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

3/10 (Sunday) "Jesus and the Eucharist" - Doors open 1:00.

3/25 (Monday) February 4th Degree meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

3/26 (Tuesday) Financial Seminar and Social OLPH Social Hall 6:30

3/31 (Sunday) Easter - Resurrection of the Lord

4/1 (Monday) April Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

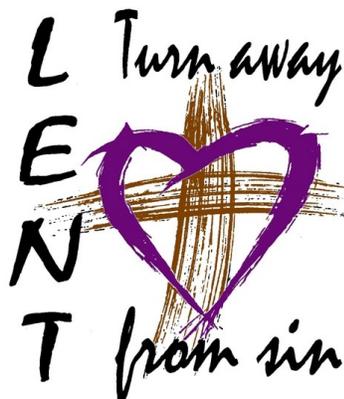
## Grand Knight's Report



Worthy Brother Knights,

I hope that you all are doing well this Lent. It has been a fast start to the year and we are now just a few weeks from Easter. During this time of reflection I wanted to reach out to all of you. There are so many of you that obviously value being a Knight that you continue to pay your dues year after year. Many of you have not graced the doors of our council home for years. What will it take to bring you back? What do you want to see from this council? What events do you want us to do? Do you want us to bring back anything in particular? Special Dinners? Dances? Any specific local charities or events you want us supporting? Please let me know. What can we do that will bring you out to be involved? Do you want us doing more at St Andrews? St Elias? OLN? I have heard of the past where the council hosted local teams in softball, bowling and golf. I even heard of annual picnics out in the city parks. What do you as Knights of this council want to see. Please send me your ideas and wants. Email me at [GK562@vakofc.org](mailto:GK562@vakofc.org) or drop a note to:

Continued, P2



# February Business Meeting Highlights

- The Chaplain reminded us that Lent Begins 2/14. This should be a time of prayer and reflection (talk to God and listen).
- Two upcoming events are announced at St. Elias:
  - St. Maron’s dinner on Saturday, 2/10.
  - Palm Sunday brunch - donations requested.
- The Grand Knight encouraged members to invite inactive Knights back to our meetings and activities.
- The Financial Secretary announced that 50 members have not paid their dues. He also thanked the Council for the donation to the Polar Plunge.
- “Jesus and the Eucharist” is ongoing. Next meeting is Sunday 2/11.
- The Super Bowl party will be held this upcoming Sunday 2/11.
- Fish Fry’s are coming soon: 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22. Donations to “basket of cheer” are encouraged.
- Virtual town hall meetings with candidates for state offices are being held 2/6 and 2/12. Watch parties at the Council Home.
- Scholarship applications are being accepted thru 3/31.
- Assembly 1167 conducted the annual “renewal of Promises” on Monday, 1/29.
- A \$200 donation to St. Elias for their Palm Sunday breakfast was referred to the charity committee.
- The Lecturer reported that Virginia Bishops oppose measures in the legislature to approve assisted suicide.

## GK Report (Continued from P1)

Grand Knight  
 PO Box 20974  
 Roanoke VA 24018

We want to see you all back involved with the council. Please let us know what you would like to do.

Vivat Jesus!  
 Clyde Moak,  
 Grand Knight Council 562



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# Lenten Fish Fry's



Once again this year, our council is holding a series of fish fry's at OLN. The first fish fry on February 23 was a great success. Four more fish fry's are scheduled for March 1, 8, 15, and 22. These fundraisers provide most of the funds that we donate to charitable organizations and causes throughout the year.

Donations for "Basket of Cheer" and grocery bags are being accepted. Help is needed, and signup sheets are in the clubroom.

## March Birthdays

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

Thomas O'Meara	March 2
Robert Van Kerckhove	March 2
J Stuart Bentley	March 3
William Asbell	March 5
Joseph Elligson	March 10
Tristan Thorum	March 10
Robert Jengo	March 14
Daniel Mc Bride	March 18
Jose Nunez	March 19
Dumitru Branisteanu	March 20
David Chopski	March 20
Phillip Montano	March 20
Keith Gatzke	March 21
Ted Leneski	March 22
Marc Patton	March 22
Steven Harnack	March 24
Roger Malouf	March 25
Easter Moses	March 25
Antonio Donato	March 28
Michael Schiavoni	March 29
Christopher Nelson	March 31

# Financial Seminar and Social

The Abbate Agency of the Knights of Columbus invites you, your wife, and your friends to an informative live presentation on Tuesday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Social Hall located at 314 Turner Road in Salem.

Salem Council #10015 will host the event for the District 33, which includes Roanoke Council #562, Salem Council #10015, and John C. Webb Council #12134.

Learn about insurance and other financial products from an organization that is aligned with your faith. See flier, P6 for additional information or to register via a URL or QR code.

## 40 Days for Life



Knowing that "with God, all things are possible," people of faith and conscience unite in 40 days of prayer and fasting. Christ told us some demons can only be driven out by prayer and fasting. The two go hand in hand. Prayer keeps us rooted in the fact that it is our desire to carry out God's will. Fasting is a sacrifice that helps us reach beyond our own limitations with God's help.

The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility in your community. It is a peaceful and educational presence. Those who are called to stand witness during this 24-hour-a-day presence send a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion.

# Saint of the Month

## Oscar Romero

Oscar Amulfo Romero y Galdamez was born in El Salvador in 1917. His father trained him as a carpenter, but he knew at an early age that he wanted to be a priest. At age 14, he left home to pursue his studies. He was ordained for the Diocese of San Salvador in 1942.

Oscar quickly became a well-known and popular priest. In 1962, he went to work for the bishops of El Salvador, and he was consecrated as Bishop of Santiago de Maria. Civil unrest was widespread in 1970's El Salvador. One day in 1975 soldiers raided a small town in his diocese and killed many innocent people. Bishop Romero spoke out about human rights and how the military was wrong in what they had done.

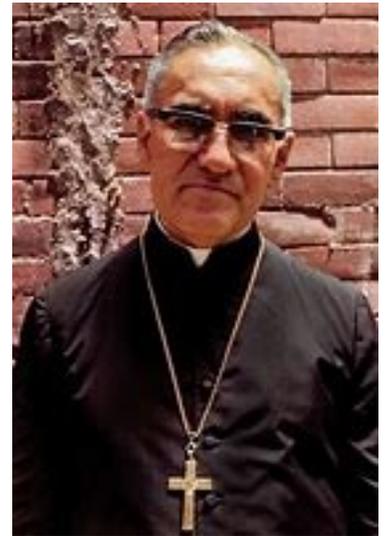
When Oscar became the Archbishop of San Salvador, the government had begun persecution of the church, arresting priests and killing protesters. The government killed a priest friend of the archbishop as a warning to him; Archbishop Romero excommunicated the murderers and inspired his followers to nonviolent protest. In response, the government increased persecution of the church, closing catholic schools; more priests and religious were tortured and killed.

Archbishop Romero became the chief target of the government's anger against the church. But he received considerable international support for his advocacy for human rights; in 1979, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

On March 24, 1980, Archbishop Romero was gunned down while celebrating mass. More than a quarter million Salvadorans attended his funeral, during which a bomb exploded and gunfire erupted on the crowd; more

people were killed. Many more Salvadorans were killed or just "disappeared" in succeeding years. Archbishop Romero was a fearless defender of the poor and suffering in his nation, and ultimately sacrificed his life for them.

In 2010, the government of El Salvador formally apologized for the assassination of Archbishop Romero. In 1997, Pope John Paul II opened the cause for canonization for Oscar Romero, declaring him "Servant of God". In February, 2015, Pope Francis declared him a martyr. He was beatified on May 23, 2013 and canonized on October 14, 2018. His feast day is March 24.



## Prayer Requests

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

- Jane Wills, mother of BK Steve Wills
- Donnie Ratliff, father of BK Stephen Ratliff
- Betsy Ratliff, mother of BK Stephen Ratliff
- BK Chris Sheets
- BK Pat Reidy
- Ceil Slough, widow of deceased BK George Slough
- Keith Vinci, brother of BK Leon Vinci.

# Knights of Columbus Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee of Knights Council # 562 recently announced the availability of the 2024 Sir Knight Albert H. Canfield Scholarships. Up to ten scholarships (\$1000.00 each) are now available for deserving students from the greater Roanoke area parishes served by Knights of Columbus Council #562.

In the past, students have attended training schools and colleges across Virginia and in other states, as well. Areas of study ranged from law to pre-med, to engineering, and more.

Next step:

Applications will be available shortly on the Council website. After the deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Scholarship Committee will review the submittals in order to complete this year's awards. 2024 recipients will then be announced.

**Remember to check each Website for specifics on eligibility, updates, and changes .**



# Upcoming Degree Ceremonials

Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity - TBA

Exemplification of Patriotism (4th Degree) April 13 (Saturday) St. Edward's Council, Richmond (note correction)



# Low Country Boil

Our Council will be hosting a Low country Boil Dinner at the Olympic Park Pool Pavilion the weekend of May 17-18 - save the date! A Southern Low country Boil consists of Shrimp, Smoked Sausage, Corn, Potatoes, and seasoning all boiled together then poured out for everyone to enjoy. This will be a fun time so save the date and more information will be coming in the future.

# Penny per Knight per Day

The Virginia State Council's PKD (Penny per Knight per Day) fund is an accumulation of donations from various groups across the state of Virginia, who support the Virginia Knights of Columbus State's Vocations program. It is based on the idea that the accumulation of many donations of one penny (\$.01) each day, or \$3.65 per year donated by an individual would provide enough income to support the respective vocations programs of both the Richmond and Arlington Dioceses, as well as the Archdiocese for the Military Services. For the past twenty some years, the State Council has given \$15,000.00 each to Richmond and Arlington Dioceses and \$10,000.00 to the Archdiocese for the Military Services to assist in their respective vocation's programs. The donations have been presented to the bishop(s) present at the Annual Virginia Knights of Columbus Convention or shortly thereafter. Donations may be mailed directly to the VA KofC State Secretary, Bob Jones at 4019 Rectortown Rd., Marshall, VA 23185 or handed to a recognized brother Knight within your parish, at any time during the year. Please ensure you indicate the donation is for PKD. Donations which are accumulated throughout the year from brother knights, parishioners, or other members of the community at various charitable events, are presented to Bob Jones at or prior to the annual meeting.



# Financial Seminar & Social

Join us for an informative live presentation from The Abbate Agency, Knights of Columbus. Learn about insurance and other financial products from an organization that is aligned with your faith. Social sponsored by Knights of Columbus District 33 Councils #562, #10015 and #12134. Hosted by Salem Council #10015.

*All are invited  
to better understand the benefits available to  
Catholics through the Knights of Columbus. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone  
to learn and to enjoy good company during the social! It is open to the entire community.*

The Abbate Agency, a consistently high performer for the Knights of Columbus and its members, offers the knowledge and experience to help you best leverage our insurance products<sup>1</sup> and fraternal benefits.

The Knights of Columbus has once again earned AM Best's A+ (Superior) Rating for Financial Strength\*. In addition, Knights of Columbus was designated by Forbes as one of "America's Best Insurance Companies"<sup>2</sup> and Standard & Poor's ranked us among the strongest life insurers financially in North America<sup>3</sup>.

\*As of December 2022

**Tuesday, March 26, 2024**  
event begins at **6:30 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Social Hall**  
**314 Turner Road, Salem VA 24351**

Register at <http://March26District33.abbatekofc.com>



No purchase necessary.



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

**The Abbate Agency**  
[www.abbatekofc.com](http://www.abbatekofc.com) – 866-868-1492

You will also learn about how Catholics now have an opportunity to work with Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors (KoCAA) through one of our **Financial Advisors.**<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Insurance products are offered through Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.

<sup>2</sup>Knights of Columbus ranked #22 in the permanent life insurance category on Forbes' 2024 America's Best Insurance Companies list. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across 7 insurance product categories.

<sup>3</sup>Standard & Poor's AM Best, Ranking North American Life Insurance Companies from Strongest to Weakest by S&P Global Ratings. As of January 25, 2023.

<sup>4</sup>Investments are offered through Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, information found on [www.kofcassetadvisors.org](http://www.kofcassetadvisors.org).

## 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	540-339-8657

**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**

**Roanoke Council 562 Home:**  
**3136 Harris Street, Roanoke, VA 24015**  
**Mail:**  
**PO Box 20974, Roanoke, VA 24018**

## 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.