



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

February, 2025

Upcoming Events

2/1 (Saturday) Southwest Region Caucus for VA State Officer candidates. Roanoke Council Home 1:00 - 4:00.

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

2/8 (Saturday) St Maron's dinner at St Elias 6:00.

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

2/22 (Saturday) 4th Degree Exemplification St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY

2/24 (Monday) February 4th Degree meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:15.

3/1 (Saturday) Virginia State quarterly meeting, St. Mary's Richmond.

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

3/5 (Wednesday) Ash Wednesday - Lent begins.

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

Grand Knight's Report



Brother Knights,

I attended the mass, celebrated by the bishop, on Pro-Life Day, 1/29/2025. In his homily, Bishop Knestout observed that we are called to share the Good News of the Gospel with all those we meet without any expectation of the outcome. This was especially true for all of us gathered that day as we went to meet with our representatives to encourage voting in a manner that advances Pro-Life concerns. This of course echoes our State Deputy's theme of "Have Faith and Fear Not" as we put our trust in the Lord in all our activities. Let us continue to offer, without anxiety or expectation, the witness of Catholic gentlemen dedicated to our order's principles of Charity, Unity Fraternity and Patriotism that is so desperately needed in the culture.

Vivat Jesus,
James Valenzuela, Grand Knight



January Business Meeting Highlights

- The January business meeting was re-scheduled to 1/13 and held by Zoom due to inclement weather.
- The Grand Knight reported that there are challenges for the remainder of the fraternal year. He thanked the members for what we have done and what we will do.
- The council welcomed transfer member Byron Whitt from Bristol.
- The Financial Secretary reported that dues are due January 15. He mentioned that Thanksgiving and food drive donations have been distributed. Honorariums for the priests have also been distributed.
- Eight candidates were welcomed into the order at the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on December 8.
- Upcoming events (see also P1):
 - 1/22: Holy Hour for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children - 6:00 p.m. at the Basilica of St. Andrew
 - Thursdays starting 1/16: Weekly Fish Fry Planning Meeting - 6:00 p.m. at the council home
 - 1/29: Virginia Pro-Life Day - 8:00 a.m. in Richmond. Register at <https://vaprolifeday.org/>. A bus will leave from the Basilica of St. Andrew at 5:00 a.m.
 - 2/1: Southwest Regional Caucus - 12:00 p.m. at the council home
 - 2/8: St. Maron's Dinner - 6:00 p.m. at St. Elias. For tickets and takeout, call 540-562-0012 by February 1.
- The Field Agent reported that a special needs seminar is upcoming. He also reminded members to update beneficiaries on all policies and annuities.

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February Birthdays

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

Kevin Legge	February 2
Christopher Moak	February 3
Jamie Elliott	February 4
Daniel Lofaro	February 4
Gustavo Esperanza	February 5
Randal Gatzke	February 5
Valentino Sartini	February 5
Stephen Wills	February 7
Paul Miller	February 8
George Cuadrado	February 12
Jack Liddy	February 12
Roy Zangari	February 13
Christopher Lazzuri	February 15
Gregory Benda	February 23
Donald Brown	February 24
Bradley Mcdivitt	February 26

SW Regional Caucus

The Southwest Region will hold a caucus on February 1 for the purpose of meeting and interviewing the Brother Knights who wish to serve as state officers for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. The caucus will start at 1:00 p.m. and should end by 4:00 p.m. or earlier. Due to the large geographical area, you can attend in person or virtually.

The in-person location will be at the Roanoke Council Home located at 3136 Harris Street, Roanoke VA 24018. Doors will open at 12:00 and a no-charge pizza lunch will be served at 12:15. Please RSVP to PSD Brian Ripple at VAKnight562@Gmail.com if you plan to attend in person, so we purchase enough pizza and drinks.

Following is the Zoom meeting link for those who will attend virtually - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/77325674790>

Again, please RSVP if you're attending in person, so the Roanoke Council can purchase enough pizza and drinks for everyone.

St. Maron's Dinner

St. Elias Maronite Church is holding its St. Maron's Dinner at the church on Saturday, February 8, at 6:00 p.m. The dinner includes a dance performance.

Entree choices are lamb & rice w/almonds (\$38), chicken & rice (\$33), or a kids meal with a smaller portion of chicken (\$15). All meals include kibbeh, spinach feta rolls, tabbouleh salad, hummus & pita bread, and Lebanese sweets. Takeout is available.

For tickets and takeout, call 540-562-0012 by February 1.

Fish Fry's

Once again this year, our council will be holding a series of fish fry's at OLN with the AOH. The fish fry's are scheduled for all the Fridays in Lent.

These fundraisers provide most of the funds that we donate to charitable organizations and causes throughout the year.

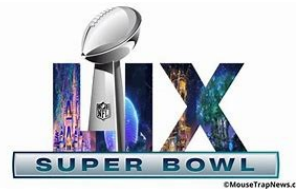
Donations for "Basket of Cheer" and paper grocery bags are being accepted. Help is needed, and signup sheets are in the club-room.

Planning meetings are held every Thursday at 6:00.



Super Bowl LIX

A watch party is being planned for the Super Bowl on Sunday, February 9. The Kansas City Chiefs face the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LIX.



As in past years, we will hold a chili cook-off and a pot-luck dinner in conjunction with the event. Please plan to join us for food, fellowship, and some great football. Watch for additional details in upcoming communications.



Saint of the Month

Ansgar, Bishop

Much of what we know about St. Ansgar's life is from a biography by St. Rimbert, a younger companion. Ansgar was born into a noble Germanic family in modern-day France. When he was very young, his mother died and his father sent him to live at the Benedictine Monastery of Corbie, where he received his early education. Initially he didn't take his studies or faith very seriously, but one night he had a vision of the Blessed Mother which re-shaped his life. In his teenage years, he had a second vision, calling him to martyrdom.

At the age of twenty-one, Ansgar, professed as a Benedictine monk; he was sent to modern-day Germany as a missionary to bring the Gospel to Scandinavia. In 831, Ansgar was named Archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen, a new diocese in northern Germany tasked with sending missionaries into what is modern-day Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. For the next thirty-five years, Bishop Ansgar worked tirelessly to evangelize the pagans in the north. He built churches, hospitals, schools, and monasteries and endured wars, invasions, and the confiscation and destruction of his churches by the Vikings. He devotedly reached out to the poor, and lived a holy life according to his monastic rule.

In the thirty-fourth year of his episcopacy, at the age of 64, Bishop Ansgar suffered from an intestinal infection. Throughout that illness, he often quoted Job who said, "We accept good things from God; should we not accept evil?" (Job 2:10). Before his death, he made arrangements for the proper administration of his diocese and missions. He died on February 3, 865 and was buried in Bremen. He was canonized by Pope Nicholas I shortly after his death. Ansgar was later declared "Patron of Scandinavia".



Prayer Requests

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

- BK Chris Sheets - deceased.
- BK Joe Thompson - deceased.
- Donnie Ratliff, father of BK Stephen Ratliff - deceased.
- Jane Wills, mother of BK Steve Wills.
- Charles Howard, brother of BK Bill Howard.
- Michael Ochalek
- BK Greg Benda and wife Linda Benda.
- Michelle Clarke, wife 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 of GK James Valenzuela.
- Mother-in-law of BK Roger Vest.
- Shiela Cuadrado, wife of BK George Cuadrado.
- Victims of California wildfires.

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.