



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

May, 2025

Upcoming Events

5/2-4 (Friday - Sunday) Virginia State Convention, Virginia Beach

5/5 (Monday) May Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30.

5/11 (Sunday) Mothers' Day.

5/24 (Saturday) Flag placement at St. Andrew's Cemetery 9:00. Olympic Park Pool opening (projected).

5/26 (Monday) Memorial Day; Mass at St. Andrew's Cemetery 11:00.

5/27 (Tuesday) May 4th Degree meeting. (Rescheduled due to Memorial Day) Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:15. Election of officers.

5/30-6/1 (Friday - Sunday) St. Elias Lebanese Festival

6/1 (Sunday) Ascension of the Lord

6/2 (Monday) June Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30. Election of officers.

6/3 (Tuesday) Clergy Night - OLPH

Grand Knight's Report

Brother Knights,



Thanks to the volunteer efforts of our membership, we planned and executed fish fry events each Friday during the Lenten season of 2025. So many of our brothers stepped up to assist with the planning, prep, cooking, serving, etc. required for each fish fry, and I would like to recognize the efforts of our chairman for this year, Paul Miller, who oversaw six successful events.

While the fish fry's have concluded, there are still a few months left in our fraternal year. We have several activities planned and there will no doubt be other activities requiring our council. Please continue to monitor your email for announcements and attend business meetings, including our next meeting Monday, 5/5, to stay informed. Thanks to all our brothers for what we have accomplished so far, and I look forward to working with you to close out another successful fraternal year.

Vivat Jesus,

James Valenzuela, Grand Knight



April Business Meeting Highlights

- The Grand Knight thanked Brothers who helped on the fish fry's. This is good fellowship as well as good publicity for the KofC.
- Three members were welcomed into the council: Russell Strosnider (Transfer Member), Dwight McKabney and Cesar Cubas (New Members).
- Lenten fish fry's have been successful; nearly 1500 meals have been served, and a profit of nearly \$14,000 is projected. Only one more to go!
- Five Seminarian grants have been dispatched. (See separate article, P3).
- The Field Agent encouraged members to reach out to update insurance information.
- The DD announced several upcoming events:
 - State Convention 5/2-4 Virginia Beach.
 - 4th Degree exemplification 5/17 in Virginia Beach
 - District Clergy Night at OLPH 6/3
 - St Elias Festival 5/30 - 6/1.
- Other upcoming events:
 - Olympic Park Pool opening planned for Saturday, 5/31.
 - KOVAR drives planned for 7/11-12 and 10/17-18 at Towne Square and Towers ABC stores. An additional weekend is planned for the Cave Spring ABC store in August.
 - Removal of the pool cover planned for Saturday 4/12.
- Two resolutions are proposed for consideration at the State Convention.
 - Proposal to withdraw KOVAR from the KofC Christopher Fund.
 - Rename ceremonials to "Fraternal Degree" and "Patriotic Degree".

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May Birthdays

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

John Clarke	May 7
Brian Duffy	May 8
Christopher Larsen Sr	May 9
Daniel Ballard	May 10
David Bowers	May 11
Eric Reichardt	May 11
Travis Schmitt	May 11
Alfonso Sardo	May 13
Robert Ward	May 14
John Poissant	May 15
Fred Najjum	May 16
James Manning	May 17
Joseph Nardone	May 22
Thomas Curling	May 23
John Biggio	May 24
Joseph Moses	May 24
Brian Carroll	May 25
Herman Turk Jr	May 26
Jean Saade	May 27
Keith Griswold	May 28
Vernon Jolley Jr	May 31

Memorial Day at St. Andrew's Cemetery

Once again this year, Knights will be placing flags on the graves of veterans at St. Andrew's Cemetery. We will meet at the maintenance building at 9:00 on Saturday, May 24 (coffee and donuts provided). Please plan to join this patriotic gesture in honor of our deceased veterans, many of whom were Brother Knights of Columbus.

Also, plan to attend the Memorial Day Mass on Monday, May 26 at 11:00 at the cemetery Columbarium Chapel. Refreshments will follow.

Roanoke Lebanese Festival

St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church will host the Roanoke Lebanese Festival again this year on Friday, May 30—Sunday, June 1. Enjoy delicious Lebanese food, Arabic music, Lebanese folk dancing, and kids activities. Admission and parking are free. Schedule of events is as follows:

Friday and Saturday 11:00 - 9:00 (food ends at 8:00)

Sunday 11:00 - 8:00 (food ends TBD)



Fish Fry's

This year's fish fry's at OLN have been very successful. Nearly 2500 meals were served at six events. These fundraisers provide most of the funds that the Council donates to charitable organizations and causes throughout the year. Profits are divided equally between the KofC and AOH. Preliminary financial results are as follows:



Total Income:	\$28,332
Total Expenses:	\$10,052
Total Profit:	\$18,280 (split between KofC and AOH)

Special thanks to the many Brother Knights and AOH members for making this year's fish fry's such a great success.

Seminarian Grants Presented

Following our usual annual tradition, grants of \$500 were presented to five seminarians. Through the Knights of Columbus Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), councils "adopt" seminarians and provide them with financial assistance and moral support. Councils receive a \$100 refund from Supreme for every \$500 donated. Recipients of this year's grants are:

- Graham Fassero Pontifical North American College, Rome
- Michael Anctil Pontifical North American College, Rome
- John Paul Shanahan St Jude, Christiansburg
- Brennen McCoy Basilica of St. Andrew, Roanoke
- Nadim Khalid Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary, Washington, DC

Saint of the Month

Paul VI, Pope

Giovanni Battista Montini was born in northern Italy in 1897 into a noble-class family. He was educated by Jesuits, and was a bright student. As a youth, he suffered from several chronic health issues. At age of 18, he entered the seminary and was ordained four years later.

Shortly after his priestly ordination, Father Montini was sent to Rome to study canon law and obtained his doctorate in canon law. He studied for the Vatican diplomatic corps and began his service as a diplomat in the papal household under Pope Pius XI. When Pope Pius XII was elected in 1939, Monsignor Montini worked with him daily, eventually acting as the pope's de facto personal secretary. In 1939, World War II broke out and Monsignor Montini assisted the pope in dealing with efforts to care for refugees. After World War II, he served in several prominent Vatican roles.

When Pope Pius XII died in 1958, Pope John XXIII was elected as his successor. The pope named Archbishop Montini as cardinal and appointed him to various Vatican posts. On October 11, 1962, Pope John XXIII formally opened the Second Vatican Council, but less than a year later he died. The pope's vision for the council was to bring the ancient faith of the Church into closer connection to the modern world.

After the death of Pope John XXIII, Cardinal Montini was elected pope on June 21, 1963. As pope, Paul VI presided over the remaining sessions of the Second Vatican Council. During the remainder of his papacy, he promoted world peace, social justice, ecumenism, and world unity.

Pope Saint Paul VI faced challenges from modernization. He sought to keep the ancient faith of the Church ever ancient while also

making it ever new and relevant to a world in need. He sought unity among Christians, peace among nations, and respect for the dignity of all.

Pope Paul VI died on August 6, 1978. He was beatified on October 19, 2014 and canonized on October 14, 2018 by Pope



Prayer Requests

Please keep Brother Knights, their family members, and friends of the Order in your prayers:

- Pope Francis - deceased.
- BK Leon Vinci - deceased.
- Vanessa Golden Cooper, sister of Msgr. Patrick Golden - deceased.
- Jane Wills, mother of BK Steve Wills - deceased.
- Jeanne Donnelly, widow of BK Ray Donnelly - deceased.
- Fr. Danny Cogut.
- BK Greg Benda and wife Linda Benda.
- Mother of DD Karl Kleinhenz.
- BK Juan Garcia's Aunt Milli.
- BK Paul Miller and his wife Amy.
- Mary Ann Valenzuela, mother of GK James Valenzuela. Uncle of GK James Valenzuela.
- Mother-in-law of BK Roger Vest.
- Dorothy Ann Dare, mother-in-law of BK Dan McBride.
- BK Joe Davis.

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@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.