

# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

September, 2025

## Upcoming Events

**9/1 (Monday)** Labor Day - season closing at Olympic Park Pool with grill event.

**9/2 (Tuesday)** September Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30 (rescheduled due to Labor Day holiday).

**9/7 (Sunday)** Basilica of St. Andrew parish picnic. 12:30.

**9/15 (Monday)** September Social Meeting.

**9/19 (Friday)** RCS Golf Tournament .

**9/21 (Sunday)** Lunch to be served at OLN 12:30.

**9/22 (Monday)** September 4th Degree meeting. Installation of Assembly officers . Dinner served at 6:30; meeting at 7:15

**9/28 (Sunday)** Our Lady of Nazareth fall festival (beer tent by KofC).

**9/29 (Monday)** 5th Monday regional social event - details TBA.

**10/6 (Monday)** September Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; Meeting at 7:30.

**10/17-18 (Friday-Saturday)** KOVAR.

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

## Grand Knight's Report



Worthy Brothers,

I can't tell you about October yet but September is a full month. It begins with Installation of Officers which will be held during the September Business Meeting. That will be **Tuesday** September 2. It is Tuesday because Labor Day is Monday. Dinner will be at 6:30, Wives and guests are invited. We will still have a short meeting afterwards. On the 15<sup>th</sup> we will have our social/officers meeting to get ready for the next two big events. The first event is on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be at Our Lady of Nazareth. Right to Life has a speaker coming after the 11:30 mass and we have been asked to provide lunch. Then on the 28<sup>th</sup> we will again be at Our Lady of Nazareth with the "Beer Tent". We are not planning on making any money on these events, but they are great opportunities to support the parish, advance the Rosary program, and recruit new members. Out of sight, out of mind. It is time we get seen. That is more events than we have had in a while, and I hope I can count on your support.

Vivat Jesus!

David Chopski, Grand Knight

# August Business Meeting Highlights

- Fr. George encouraged Brother Knights to attend St. Elias for the Assumption of Mary on 8/15. He also commented on a pending legal proceeding against him and his Diocese; he asked for our prayers.
- The Council welcomed transfer member Stephen Duklewski.
- The Grand Knight called the council's attention to a recent e-mail scam asking for gift cards.
- The Financial Secretary reminded members that the voucher authorization form is required for reimbursements.
- The Program Chairman announced the new Program Chairmen (See P6).
- The Trustees announced that the semianual audit has been completed and signed.
- The District Deputy announced the RCS Golf Tournament at Hanging Rock on 9/19. A donation of \$200 was approved for a hole sponsorship.
- The Council budget for 2025-26 was approved unanimously without changes.
- Upcoming events:
  - Assumption of Mary 8/15
  - Grill event at Olympic Park Pool 9/1.
  - 40 hour Adoration at Basilica of St. Andrew on 8/18-20.
  - RCS golf tournament 9/19.
  - KOVAR 10/17-18.
- The Lecturer expounded on the essence of the Catholic man; he announced that we will show the video series "Into the Breach" just prior to each month's business meeting.

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## September Birthdays

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

Donald Alouf	September 1
Rick Vitolo II	September 2
Michael Maurer	September 7
Robert Hermanns	September 8
Michael Kolnok Jr	September 9
Joe Thompson	September 13
Daniel Derringer	September 16
Robert Ellis	September 16
Larry Meadows	September 16
Beverly Hodgins	September 20
Shawn O'Neill	September 20
Stuart Stovall	September 21
John Rowland	September 22
Shawn Dunleavy	September 24
H Patrick Russell	September 24
David Alderman	September 25
Brian Ripple	September 27
Joseph Kosty	September 28
Albert Marraccini	September 28
Shawn Marshall	September 29
Nathan Stoehr	September 30

# Volunteer Opportunities at the Basilica of St. Andrew

Brothers,

Many hands make light work. The Basilica has two events planned that I am sure can benefit from some extra help. September 7<sup>th</sup> is the parish picnic. They are looking for help with cleanup. Then on the 18<sup>th</sup> thru the 20<sup>th</sup> the Basilica is having a 40-hour Adoration. Volunteers are needed to cover all the hours and monitor the door after hours. For more information contact Past Grand Knight James Valenzuela (301-806-3920).

Wherever you are and whatever you are doing you have the opportunity to proudly carry the name of our order. There are two additional opportunities at the Basilica of St Andrew that offer high visibility. The first is as a volunteer to serve in the Coffee & Donut ministry on Sunday mornings. No experience necessary! If you are interested in serving, please email Jeannie McIntyre at [jmcintyre@bofsa.org](mailto:jmcintyre@bofsa.org). The other is as a Basilica Host helping with Saturday guided tours. If you are interested send an e-mail to Larry Levy at [LLevy@bofsa.org](mailto:LLevy@bofsa.org). In either capacity, you have the opportunity to tell people who we are, what we do, and how to join the ranks of the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world, and do it while serving your parish and simply by being there. Remember: out of sight, out of mind. If they see us, they'll join us. Please consider stepping up to one of these opportunities.



# Labor Day Grill Event

On Labor Day, Monday September 1 (weather permitting) Olympic Park Pool will close for the season. We are planning an extended grill event from **1:00 until 7:00 PM (weather permitting)**. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats are served.

Pool membership is not required, and there is no charge for entry if you do not plan to swim. Come out and enjoy good food and fellowship, and bring a friend.

Because of the extended hours, additional help will be required. Please come on out and help if you can.



# Installation of Council Officers

Installation of council officers for Fraternal Year 2025-26 will be held at our regular September business meeting on Tuesday, September 2 (rescheduled due to the Labor Day holiday). Wives, friends, and family members are encouraged to attend. A brief business meeting will also be conducted following the installation.

Chef Donald Brown will be preparing a great meal of roast turkey with fixings. Come out and support Grand Knight Dave Chopski and our newly-elected officers and enjoy a great meal and fellowship.

Officers are requested to wear coat and tie; other members are requested to dress appropriately.

# Saint of the Month

## John Chrysostom

John was born in Antioch, Syria in 347, the son of a high-ranking military officer. His father died when he was very young, and he was raised as a Christian by his widowed mother. Although he studied law, he gave up his profession to study theology, ultimately becoming an ascetic hermit-monk in about 375. His lifestyle of self deprivation took its toll on his health, and he returned to Antioch. He became an ordained deacon in 381 and a priest in 386.

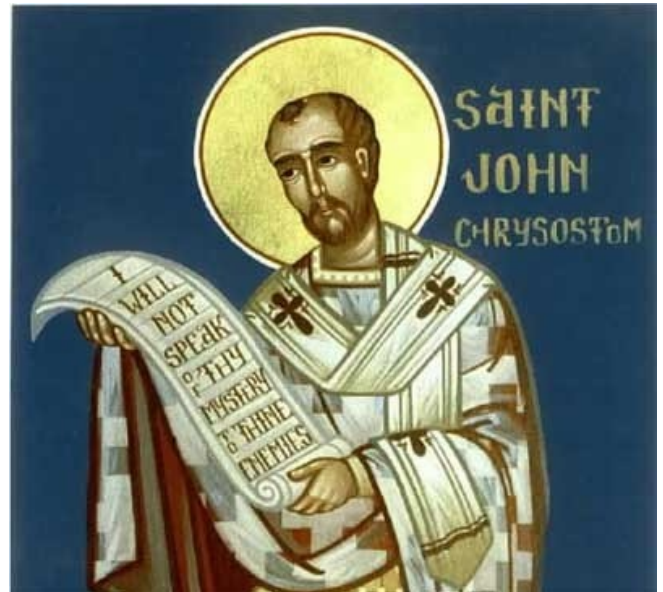
Over the next 12 years he established himself as a great preacher. John's preaching abilities earned him the surname "Chrysostom" (meaning "golden-mouthed"), and he is considered one of the greatest preachers in the history of Christianity. Over 800 of his homilies have been preserved. The most valuable of his works are his homilies on various books of the Bible. He emphasized charitable giving and was concerned with the spiritual and temporal needs of the poor. He spoke against abuse of wealth and personal property. The themes of his talks were practical, explaining the Bible's application to everyday life.

In 398 John was installed as Archbishop of Constantinople. He gained a large following among the people, but his teachings on the misuse of riches angered the wealthy and influential. His reforms of the clergy were also unpopular. But during his time as Archbishop, he also founded a number of hospitals in Constantinople.

In 403, John was condemned on a number of frivolous charges and banished from the city. John appealed his banishment but still

managed to communicate with his flock in Constantinople. He died in exile on September 14, 407.

John was canonized pre-congregation and declared Doctor of the Church in 1568 by Pope Pius V.



## Prayer Requests

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

- 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.
- BK Joe Moses.
- Dorothy Marshall, wife of BK Sean Marshall.
- Selma Moody, wife of BK Chuck Moody - deceased.
- Kathy Mortensen, wife of PSD and District Master Kelly Mortensen - deceased.



## Volunteer Opportunities at OLN

The first event is on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be at Our Lady of Nazareth. Right to Life has a speaker coming after the 11:30 mass and we have been asked to provide lunch.

Our Lady of Nazareth will celebrate their Fall Festival on Sunday, September 28 from 4:00 - 7:00. Plan to attend and enjoy food, fun, music, and fellowship. Knights will be hosting a beer tent. This is a great opportunity to show our visibility and do some recruiting. Come out if you can, and wear your Knight's gear.

## KOVAR 2025

The 2025 annual KOVAR drive is off to a great start: nearly \$3000 has been collected thus far. The August collection was postponed due to numerous conflicts. This year's campaign will conclude the weekend of October 17-18 at the Towers and Town Square ABC stores.

This is one of the major charitable works of the Knights of Columbus in Virginia and supports Virginians with intellectual disabilities. Please plan to help if you are able.



## Olympic Park Holdings Update

Olympic Park Holdings, Inc. is the entity that owns and operates the property used by Knights of Columbus Council 562: the pool, the clubhouse, and associated equipment and furnishings. The property is aging and in need of repairs and upgrades. The roof leaks, the kitchen and bathrooms need upgrading, and the HVAC system needs repairs.

In July, a letter was sent to all members of Council 562 requesting a one-time donation to fund needed upgrades to our council home. To date, \$7225 in donations have been received. Special thanks to those members who have made donations. If you have not had the opportunity already, please consider a donation to support this critical endeavor.

## Feast of the Assumption at St. Elias

Sir Knights from Roanoke Assembly 1167 provide an honor guard for the procession of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Elias on the occasion of the Feast of the Assumption on August 15.



## Roanoke Council 562 Officers 2025-26

Grand Knight	Dave Chopski	540-915-2819
Deputy Grand Knight	Donald Brown	540-520-3060
Chancellor	Juan Garcia	757-719-8753
Warden	Stephen Ratliff	540-774-4796
Financial Secretary	Brian Ripple	540-797-5823
Chaplain	Fr. George Zina	407-758-8855
Treasurer	Chuck Hatcher	540-314-3360
Recorder	Jan Hodnett	540-819-5456
Advocate	Nate Griffith	804-837-8874
Outside Guard	Jean Saade	540-355-0585
Inside Guard	Rod Hidusky	540-985-3195
Trustee, 3 Year	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Trustee, 2 Year	Clyde Moak	540-418-5148
Trustee, 1 Year	Bill Howard	540-798-3734

## Program Chairmen 2025-26

Program Director	Donald Brown	540-520-3060
Faith Director	Joe Kosty	540-685-2630
Family Director	Tim Heffron	540-904-2746
Community Director	Nate Griffith	804-837-8874
Life Director	Mark Johnson	540-467-2495
Membership Director	Jack Clarke	540-204-4984

## Corporation Board 2025-26

President	Roger Vest	540-520-8520
Vice President:	Brian Carroll	540-266-8598
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
Board Member	George Cuadrado	540-989-1758

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

### Grand Knight

Dave Chopski 540-915-2819

### 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.