



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

April, 2026

Upcoming Events

4/5 (Sunday) Easter, Resurrection of the Lord.

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

4/20 (Monday) April social/ planning Meeting. Details TBA.

4/22 (Wednesday) Virginia March for Life - Richmond.

4/27 (Monday) April 4th Degree Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; meeting at 7:15.

5/1-3 (Fri-Sun) Virginia Annual State Convention. Hyatt Regency, Dulles.

5/4 (Monday) May Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; Meeting at 7:15.

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



Grand Knight's Report



Worthy Brothers,

As you read this we will have completed the six Friday Fish Frys of the Lenten season. By far this is the biggest undertaking our Council attempts. To the Brothers who came out and helped: To the Brothers who sacrificed Thursdays to make cole-slaw, Fridays for set-up, serving, and clean-up, and those Brothers who took on the dirty job of cleaning the deep fat fryers on Saturday morning, I say **THANK YOU.**

You Brothers exemplified what Knighthood really is: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. I don't have an actual number but suffice it to say that we raised a lot of money for Charitable causes. The way we exemplified Unity and Fraternity made me proud to be the Grand Knight.

The year is not over. If you are looking for something you've never tried, the Virginia Right to Life March in Richmond is April 22. It's an up and back bus trip. There's a lunch and training you can register for to learn more about opposing the Extreme Abortion Amendment.

It's also that time of the year we have to start selecting candidates for Council Offices. In the

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March Business Meeting Highlights

- The Chaplain recalled that Lent is busy with feasts - St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, Annunciation. It is also a time for quiet reflection and a season for spiritual healing.
- The Grand Knight reported on the fish fry's as one big event, supporting the charitable works of our council. Profit for the first two weeks is \$6000. This event also requires unity and fraternity, and promotes the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
- The Grand Knight also called attention to the extreme abortion amendment to the Virginia constitution.
- The Council welcomed new members Vince Basile and Tim Carr.
- The Faithful Navigator reported that the Bi-annual meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14. The next exemplification will be held in Richmond on Saturday, April 11.
- The District Deputy reported that the spring State quarterly meeting will be held Saturday, March 7 at the Hyatt Regency Dulles Airport.
- Letters of thanks were received from the Roanoke Rescue Mission and Madonna House.
- A motion for \$500 to support the St. Elias Palm Sunday pancake breakfast was approved.
- BK Jan Hodnett has achieved Honorary Life Membership and he was presented with his Honorary Life Membership card.
- BK Steve Wilkinson was named Knight of the Month.



(GK Report - Continued from P1)

words of Travis Manion, and I hope you Google that name, "If not me, then who?" If you're not sure, let's talk about it. You can make the difference.

Brothers, it's always time to recruit. Remember, it is not on numbers alone that we rely. We want good, solid men we can rely on; Men of faith, purpose, and character. If you see one, recruit him. If you don't know how, see me and I'll show you how easy it is.

Hopefully you saw the headline in the Catholic Virginian about the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage coming to Roanoke in June. You need to read that. There are events you can register for.

The State Convention is coming up. For more information on that go to the Virginia State Website, VAKofC.org.

Hope to see you at the Monday meeting.
Happy Easter

Vivat Jesus,
Dave Chopski, Grand Knight

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Virginia March for Life

This year's state March for Life takes place Wednesday April 22 at the state capitol. In light of the abortion amendment to the Virginia Constitution scheduled to appear on the November ballot, there is no more vital time for pro-lifers to gather together and make our voices heard.

Consequently, a bus trip has been arranged so we in the Roanoke Valley can join others from around the Commonwealth in demonstrating for life. The bus will depart from the Basilica of St. Andrew the morning of the 22nd @ 7:15 am sharp (loading starts at 6:45), take us directly to Capitol Square for the march, and return to Roanoke at approximately 5:00 pm. Cost is \$15 per person, \$25 per couple or \$40 for a family of four. Please make checks payable to Basilica of St. Andrew with "Bus Trip RVA" on the memo line. You must be 18 or older to ride alone - no unaccompanied minors allowed. Also, bring lunch.

There is a Signup Genius link here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944A4A629A7FA7-46749406-virginia#/>

The signup can also be accessed through St. Andrews' events page: <https://basilicaofstandrew.org/events-news-1>

Any questions, please contact Mark Johnson at mjhsc84@gmail.com or Aimee Valenzuela of the Basilica of St. Andrew @ avalenzuela@bofsa.org.

In Memoriam

BK Joe Moses

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

Lenten Fish Fry's



The six Lenten fish fry's were held on Fridays 2/20 thru 3/28 with great success. A lot of help was needed, and response of the Council membership was outstanding. Many thanks to Brother Knights and their families for making these events a success.

Patriotic Degree April 25

An Exemplification of the Patriotic Degree has been scheduled for April 25th. This is an excellent opportunity for our Brother Knights who have not yet taken this important step in their journey to full Knighthood. The event will be held in Lynchburg at Saint Thomas More, making it a little more convenient for our councils to participate.

Brothers, if you want to belong to the Fourth Degree this is an excellent opportunity. We can car pool from the Council Home. For more information contact District Deputy Karl Kleinhenz (DD33@VaKofC.org).

April Birthdays

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

Peter Engl	April 1
Douglas Vinci	April 1
Dennis Carr	April 3
Terrence Hauck	April 4
Rev. James O'Reilly	April 5
Daryl Doyle	April 8
Daniel Zipfel	April 8
Michael Downs	April 9
Frank Santoroski	April 9
James Chewning Jr	April 11
Ronald Pritchard Sr	April 13
William Howard	April 15
Nathaniel Griffith	April 16
Richard Vitolo	April 17
Thomas Mcgrath	April 24
Pedro Escamilla	April 29

Saint of the Month

Pius V, Pope

Pius V, born Antonio Ghislieri, came from a poor family in northern Italy. He was a shepherd until the age of 14, when he became a Dominican friar. He was ordained a priest in 1528, he was sent by his order to Pavia, where he lectured for sixteen years. At Parma he advanced thirty propositions in support of the papacy and against Protestantism. In 1556 he was made Bishop of Sutri by Pope Paul IV and was selected as inquisitor of the faith in Milan and Lombardy. In 1557 he was made a cardinal and named inquisitor general for all Christendom. After Pope Pius IV died, Cardinal Ghislieri was elected Pope on January 8, 1566 and took the name Pius V. His pontificate saw him deal with internal reform of the Church, the spread of Protestant doctrines in the West, and Turkish armies advancing from the East.

As pope, Pius saw his main objective as the continuation of the massive program of reform for the Church, in particular the full implementation of the decrees of the Council of Trent. He published the Roman Catechism, the revised Roman Breviary, and the Roman Missal; he also declared Thomas Aquinas a Doctor of the Church, commanded a new edition of the works of Thomas Aquinas. The decrees of Trent were published throughout all Catholic lands, including Europe, Asia, Africa, and the New World, and the pontiff insisted on their strict adherence. In 1571, Pius created the Congregation of the Index to give strength to the Church's resistance to Protestant and heretical writings, and he used the Inquisition to prevent any Protestant ideas from gaining a foothold in Italy. In dealing with the threat of the Ottoman Turks who were advancing steadily across the Mediterranean, Pius organized a formidable alliance between Venice and Spain, culminating in the Battle of Lepanto, which was a complete and

shattering triumph over the Turks. The day of the victory was declared the Feast Day of Our Lady of Victory in recognition of Our Lady's intercession in answer to the saying of the Rosary all over Catholic Europe. Pius also spurred the reforms of the Church by example. He insisted upon wearing his coarse Dominican robes, even beneath the magnificent vestments worn by the popes, and was wholeheartedly devoted to the religious life.

Later generations recognized his considerable contributions to the Catholic Reformation. Pope Clement beatified him on May 1, 1672, and Pope Clement XI canonized him on May 22, 1712.



Prayer Requests

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

- Fr. Tom Collins
- BK Paul Miller and his wife Amy.
- John Pallard, uncle of BK James Valenzuela.
- BK Rich Whitney
- BK George Cuadrado
- Chris Sullivan, widow of BK Jim Sullivan
- BK Bob Carignan
- Ellen Carroll, wife of BK Brian Carroll

Knights of Columbus Scholarships

Scholarships provided by Roanoke Council 562 Roanoke Council 562 offers the Albert H. Canfield Scholarships. Applicants, to be considered, must be a member of Council 562, the wife of a member, or the legally recognized child or grandchild of a member provided that the member is in good standing, or if deceased, was in good standing at the time of death. Applications will be considered based on past academic performance, financial need, and a demonstrated dedication to service in the community and/or church. **All applications must be received by May 1st** and must be accompanied by a copy of the applicant's most recent transcript. Applications received after the cut-off date or applications received incomplete **will not be considered**. Applications can be found on the Council's website at : <http://www.kofc562.net/canfield/>

Scholarships through the Virginia State Council The Virginia Council of the Knights of Columbus provides the Father Bader Scholarship. The program offers need-based scholarships for Knights, children, wives, widows, and grandchildren. Information can be found at <https://vakofc.org/programs/father-bader-scholarship/> and applications are accepted from Jan 1 – March 31.



Field Agent's Report

Trying to achieve financial strength and stability can feel overwhelming, especially when life is already full.

This month, I want to share a simpler way to think about it: holistic financial wellness. You can work toward this goal by developing an overall financial strategy and determining how Knights of Columbus products can be a part of that foundation.

A good place to start is protecting your family through life insurance. Term life coverage can help with temporary needs, while whole life coverage can last your entire lifetime and build guaranteed cash value over time.

Next, let's think about retirement. Whether it's years away or right around the corner, having a strategy for income in retirement matters. The Knights of Columbus offers solutions that can be part of an overall plan you feel confident about.

It's also important to prepare for the unexpected. Thinking ahead about how your family would handle an extended care need or a disruption in income due to disability is part of protecting what you have worked hard to build. The Knights has products to help ensure your family's life will not be financially disrupted in either case.

Attaining financial wellness doesn't need to feel overwhelming. You can start right away by simply using our life insurance calculator at www.kofc.org/calculator. With a few key details, it will help you assess your insurance needs. Contact Jack Clark with any questions.

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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	540-512-4583
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	Rich Whitney	443-465-7742
Life Director	Mark Johnson	540-467-2495
Membership Director	Jack Clarke	540-204-4984

Olympic Park Holdings 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:	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**

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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.