



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Roanoke Council #562 Newsletter

August, 2026

Upcoming Events

8/3 (Monday) August Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; Meeting at 7:30.

8/5 (Wednesday) Virginia Catholic Conference lecture. Basilica of St. Andrew 6:00 (see P8).

8/3-6 (Monday-Thursday) Supreme Convention - Denver

8/13 (Thursday) Feast Day of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney.

8/15 (Saturday) Assumption of Mary (Obligation abrogated this year).

8/17 (Monday) August Council Social Meeting - installation of council officers. Dinner served at 6:30; Meeting at 7:30.

8/23 (Sunday) Virtual Rosary 7:00PM

8/24 (Monday) August 4th Degree Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; meeting at 7:15.

8/29 (Saturday) 4th Degree Exemplification - Petersburg.

9/8 (Tuesday) September Council Business Meeting. Dinner served at 6:30; Meeting at 7:30. (rescheduled due to Labor Day).

Grand Knight's Report



Worthy Brothers, here we go again. A new Fraternal year. I hope you've had an opportunity to look over this year's budget which we will vote on at the Business meeting. The income part is just an estimate, and the Charity part is just a way to pre approve some items that we support each year. Items not pre-approved in the budget can be brought up in a business meeting, and if under \$500, the item will not have to be announced in the newsletter. Just as a reminder, motions from the floor should be discussed with the Grand Knight or Trustees before the meeting and included as part of the agenda.

With July, the council is off to a good start. The Salem RidgeYaks game was a lot of fun. Hopefully the next time we try this we won't have the smoke from the Canadian wildfires. The season ends September 6th so there's time for another family outing at the ball park.

We also supported the Our Lady of Nazareth Yard Sale that had the proceeds going to support Right to Life projects in the Roanoke Valley. Thank you to Mark Johnson, Tim Carr, and Dan Nunn for selling the coffee and donuts. Because of their efforts our Council showed its support for Life. The Knights were there.

(Continued, P2)

(GK Report - Continued from P1)

Our Council's Food Drive is also going on headed by Brian Carroll. If you haven't donated, you still can, Just bring your non perishable food items to the Council Home on meeting night. You can also drop donations off at the Olympic Park Swimming Pool. The shelves at St. Francis House are still far from full.

Lastly, again thanks to the efforts of our Brother knight, Brian Carroll, the Council Home received a thorough cleaning. The place hasn't smelled this good for a long time. Brother Knights interested in renting the Hall for a private or family event should contact Brian.

Just as a reminder the 144th Annual Knights of Columbus Convention is being held in Denver Colorado Aug 4th to the 6th. Our Financial Secretary and Past State Deputy Brian Ripple will be attendance. This is something that's important to all of us. As Knights we sometimes forget that we belong to an Order recognized by the Vatican and our founder is only one approved miracle away from Sainthood. When you think of Orders, naturally you think about Franciscans, Dominicans, Salesians, and Carmelites. But if you want to see how the Catholic Church views Our Order, just tune in to EWTN on Tuesday August 4th at 12:30 to see the opening Mass for the 144th Annual Convention. Last year there were 10 Cardinals, 40 Bishops and Archbishops, and 90 concelebrating Priests and a recorded message from Pope Leo himself. I don't think any of the other orders can top that and it really is something to see. I hope you can get the chance to tune in. It really is inspiring.

Hope to see you Monday the 3rd for the August Business Meeting.

Vivat Jesus,

Dave Chopski, Grand Knight

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Wednesday Grill Nights

Every Wednesday during the summer months (weather permitting) is grill night at Olympic Park Pool.

Grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats are available from 5:00 until 7:00 PM.

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.

Olympic Park Pool closes on Labor Day weekend (September 5-7) so take this opportunity soon as summer winds down.

Help is needed for this endeavor. Please come on out and help if you are able.



August Birthdays

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

Walter Lee IV	August 1
Edward Aesy	August 3
Matthew Skelton	August 7
Ronald Kleba	August 8
Francis Otto	August 11
Frank Cummings	August 13
Brian Brindle	August 14
Ronald Mc Ginn	August 15
Gerry Waddell	August 17
Stephen Clements	August 18
Michael Herron	August 20
Peter Radjou	August 26
Mark Noell	August 27
J Scott Sexton	August 28
Patrick Crowe	August 31
James Johnson	August 31

Installation of Council Officers

Installation of Council officers for Fraternal Year 2026-27 will be conducted on Monday, August 17 (our regular social meeting night). Doors open at 6:00, dinner will be served at 6:30, and the installation will be conducted at 7:30. Wives, family, and friends are invited to attend.

Please plan to come out and support our council officers for the new fraternal year.

In Memoriam

- BK Raymond Dunbar

*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.*

July Business Meeting Highlights

- The chaplain asked BK's to thank God for preserving our country and providing our land of opportunity for 250 years (thru good and bad). He also announced the feast of St. Charbel on Sunday, July 19.
- The Grand Knight announced that we would be ordering council shirts (watch email). Other upcoming events:
 - Salem Ridge Yaks baseball 7/17 (Friday).
 - Installation of council officers 8/14 (Friday).
 - World Cup watch party/potluck 7/18-19
 - OLN garage sale (KofC to serve refreshments) 7/24-25 (Fri-Sat).
 - Blue Ridge Women's' Center to solicit funds for ultrasound (upcoming).
 - Watch email for the proposed budget, which will be considered at the August meeting.
- Fain White will be entering seminary in Florida this fall. He is conducting a raffle of stained glass items to help raise funds.
- A resolution was adopted to increase the number of Canfield Scholarship recipients to 12 for the current year (only).
- 4th Degree:
 - Installation of assembly officers 7/27 (Monday).
 - Next exemplification 8/29 (Saturday).
- The Lecturer reflected on the 125-year history of Council 562. In the eyes of many, members have been committed to service and have been a beacon of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.



Saint of the Month

Dominic Guzman

Dominic Guzman was born in 1170 in the Kingdom of Castile, present-day Spain, to noble parents. Dominic was educated in Palencia, and he concentrated on theology and the arts. He spent six years studying theology and four the arts. He was widely acclaimed as an exemplary student by his professors. Dominic was also deeply devoted to the poor. On one occasion, he sold all he had to alleviate the suffering of those affected by a plague. Twice, he attempted to sell himself into slavery to assist those held captive by their Muslim captors. Father Dominic lived a life of deep prayer and gave great witness to others through his holy life.

In 1194, Dominic joined a Benedictine order, the Canons Regular in Osma. He became the superior, or prior of the chapter in 1201. In 1203 he joined his bishop, Diego de Acebo on a trip to Denmark. During their travels, they became aware of two grave needs within the Church. First, they discovered many people in northern Europe who had yet to hear the Gospel's saving message. Second, they encountered a heretical group in southern France called the Cathars, who followed a form of the Albigensian Heresy. Father Dominic and Bishop Diego worked tirelessly to rescue souls from the Albigensian heresy. After Bishop Diego died, Father Dominic founded a convent in Prouille.

In 1216, Pope Honorius III gave formal consent to the formation of the Order of Preachers, also known as the Dominicans. In the next few years, new members joined the Dominican order in great numbers. Other houses were founded in Paris, Madrid, and Bologna.

The Dominican order is dedicated to preaching, teaching, and combating heresy. Dominicans, include friars, nuns,

active sisters, and lay associates in addition to priests. According to Dominican tradition, Fr. Dominic received a rosary directly from the Blessed Mother. Whether the legend is true or not, the Dominicans are credited with popularizing the Marian Rosary.

In the years following Dominic's death in 1221, the order continued to expand. By the mid-1200s, hundreds of Dominican houses had sprung up across Europe and even in other parts of the world.

Fr. Dominic Guzman was canonized in 1234 by Pope Gregory IX. He is the patron saint of astronomers, the Dominican Republic, and the innocent who are falsely accused of crimes. His feast day is August 8.



Prayer Requests

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

- Betsy Ratliff, mother of BK Stephen Ratliff.
- Sharon Vest, wife of BK Roger Vest.
- PSD Bill Howard.
- Susan Shannon-Haar, mother of BK Ben Haar.

Fr. Michael McGivney

Michael Joseph McGivney was born on August 12, 1852, in Waterbury, Connecticut, to Irish immigrant parents, Patrick and Mary McGivney. He was the eldest of 13 children, six of whom died in infancy or childhood. His father worked in a brass mill, and Michael left school at the age of 13 to help support his family by working in the same industry. Despite these challenges, he pursued his education and entered the Séminaire de Saint-Hyacinthe in Quebec, Canada, at the age of 16. He later studied at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland, and was ordained a priest on December 22, 1877..

Fr. McGivney recognized the struggles faced by immigrant families, particularly the financial hardships that arose from the untimely death of a wage earner. In 1882, he founded the Knights of Columbus at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut, to provide a mutual aid society for Catholic men and their families. The organization aimed to promote charity, unity, and fraternity, assisting widows and orphans in times of need. Under his leadership, the Knights of Columbus grew rapidly and became the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world.

Fr. McGivney died from pneumonia on August 14, 1890, at the age of 38. His funeral was one of the largest in Waterbury's history, reflecting the deep respect and affection the community had for him. He was buried in Waterbury but later reinterred at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, where he had founded the Knights of Columbus.

The cause for his canonization began in 1996, and he was declared "Venerable" by Pope Benedict XVI in 2008. On October 31, 2020, he was beatified by Pope Francis, recognizing his "heroic virtue" and the miracle attributed to his intercession, which involved the healing of a child. His feast day is celebrated on August 13, the day between his birthday and the anniversary of his death. Fr. Michael McGivney's life and work continue to inspire many, and his legacy lives on through the Knights of Columbus, which remains dedicated to serving the Church and community.



Council Shirt Order

Brothers, the order for Council Shirts and badges is fast approaching, We will be submitting the order on Tuesday August 4th. No money is needed now - you can pay when you pick up the items. Detailed information is on P6. Any questions, feel free to contact Grand Knight Dave Chopski. The cost is \$28.00 for a shirt and \$12.00 for a name Badge. The name badges can be over the pocket or over the pocket with a magnet so you can wear if it you don't have a pocket. With the shirts, you do not have to order Blue if you prefer another color. Just place you order before August 4th, You will get ample opportunities to wear the shirt.

Canfield Scholarships 2026



SK Alfred Canfield

scholarship recipients have been announced for 2026. As per resolution approved at the July meeting, an additional two scholarships were approved for this year only. Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients:

Kelsey Hurst	Francesca Lazzuri
Luke Stovall	Mario Saade
Maribel Saade	Keriann Kleinhenz
Carson Baker	Hannah Vitolo
Mary Rose Lazzuri	Emma Joy Vitolo
Nathaniel Moak	Joshua W Lewis



Thanks to our ultra-fine flat back RacerMesh, this polo has unparalleled breathability for superior cooling. PosiCharge technology locks in color and keeps logos crisp-making this value-priced essential a fan favorite all season long.

- 3.8-ounce, 100% polyester flat back mesh with PosiCharge technology
- Tag-free label
- Moisture-wicking
- Flat knit collar
- Taped neck
- 3-button placket with dyed-to-match buttons
- Set-in, open hem sleeves

CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Machine wash cold with like colors, only no-chlorine bleach when needed, tumble dry low, do not use softener, remove promptly, cool iron if needed, do not dry clean.

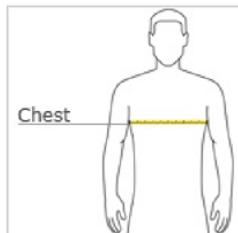


front



back

HOW TO MEASURE



CHEST WIDTH

Measure under the arm and around the fullest part of the chest with arms down, keeping tape horizontal.

SIZE CHART

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Chest	32-34	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49	50-53	54-57

COLOR INFORMATION



Black
PMS NTR BLACK
C



Dark Forest
Green
PMS 567C



Dawn Blue
PMS 2160C



Gold
PMS 1235C



Graphite Grey
PMS 432C



Grey Heather
PMS COOL GRAY
PMS 504C
10C



Maroon
PMS 504C



Neon Green
PMS 802 C



Pond Blue
PMS 7461C



Pond Blue
Heather
PMS 7689C



Purple
PMS 7672C



Silver
PMS 429C



True Navy
PMS 533C



True Navy
Heather
PMS 533C



True Red
PMS 200C



True Royal
PMS 7686C



True Royal
Heather
PMS 7683C



White

Field Agent's Report

Brothers,

Every August, Knights from across the country and world gather to celebrate our Order's recent successes and look forward to what's next. This year is no exception.

I want to congratulate you on your outstanding efforts that give us reason to celebrate. We recently heard the latest, Order-wide numbers shared at the 144th Supreme Convention in Denver. Know that your council helped make that success possible. Congratulations!

I believe we are making Blessed Michael McGivney proud. We celebrate his feast day on August 13, so this month is a fitting time to ask his continued intercession for our work. In founding the Knights of Columbus, Father McGivney created a way to help men stay close to the Lord, to each other, and to help them and their families secure a financial future. He knew this was a way to strengthen families and protect them when they're at their most vulnerable. Your council continues that legacy with every program you put on, every dollar you donate.

But you also continue it when you choose financial products and services with the

Knights. That's a concrete way you help make possible not just the Knights' local impact here in our community, but our impact around the world.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Clarke at 540-204-4984 or jack.clarke@kofc.org your local agent to schedule a time to meet.

Thank you and Vivat Jesus!

Jack Clarke, Assistant General Agent



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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
Retirement Annuities • Disability Income Insurance

Protecting Catholic families since 1882

Political Activism

Worthy Brothers,

The Knights of Columbus is NOT politically active. We do not support candidates or political parties. But we do not sit idly by when issues concerning the Church or Church teachings are being considered. We are after all, Catholic Men and Knights of Columbus, both of which call us to be good citizens. To this end we must be informed of the issues.

This November, two constitutional amendments will be on the ballot. On WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5th, from 6-7pm, Daniel Caruso, the Executive Director of the Virginia Catholic Conference, will be speaking at the BASILICA OF ST. ANDREW.

See the attached flyers on PP9-10. Please come out and bring a friend. Never forget those words attributed to Edmund Burke. "All that is necessary for Evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing". Let's come out on August 5th and learn what we can do.

Vivat Jesus,
Dave Chopski
Grand Knight



Join us to learn more about the
Abortion amendment vote, advocacy tools,
and the next legislative session

WITH : DANIEL CARUSO,
J.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VIRGINIA CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE



WEDNESDAY
05 August 2026
6PM-7PM

Basilica of St Andrew
Social Hall Heavy appetizers will be served.

Stay up to date on our website:
<https://basilicaofstandrew.org/respect-life-ministry>

VOTE NO

NOVEMBER 3RD

STOP THE EXTREME ABORTION AMENDMENT



If passed, it would establish a radical, so-called “fundamental right” to abortion in the Virginia Constitution.

ABORTION IS A FUNDAMENTAL TRAGEDY NOT A “FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT”

The amendment is **dangerously vague** and creates risky loopholes for unregulated abortions at any time, **even up until birth**, by **unlicensed abortion providers**, threatening the health of mothers and healthy babies.

The amendment lets the government remove the right of parents to be included in healthcare decisions with their children, **creating family division and conflict**.

THIS IS AN EXTREME, RISKY AND DEADLY AMENDMENT

Virginia’s current laws already protect healthcare for miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, and serious complications. This amendment adds nothing to women’s rights to protect their health. In fact, it puts women’s health and safety at risk.

For additional information and resources to help stop the Extreme Abortion Amendment, visit vacatholic.org/Amendment or scan the QR code.



Knights Support OLN Yard Sale



Dan Nunn, Tim Carr, and Mark Johnson supporting at the Our Lady of Nazareth Yard Sale, with sale of coffee and donuts to customers lined up outside. All proceeds will benefit Right to Life projects in the Roanoke Valley.

Open House at Blue Ridge Women's Center

The next Blue Ridge Women's Center open house is August 10 at noon. Anyone wanting an appointment can contact:

Lynette

Mull @lynnettem@blueridgewoman.org or

Mark Johnson @ mjhsc84@gmail.com .

Blue Ridge Women's Center (BRWC) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) pregnancy center in Roanoke, VA, dedicated to providing compassionate, confidential, and non-judgmental care to women facing unplanned pregnancies

Food Drive Continues

Brothers, the Food Drive to assist the St. Francis House Food Pantry is still ongoing. Brother Brian Carroll is coordinating this event with the goal of collecting 1500 pounds of food. I'm sorry to say we have not reached our goal, but we will with your support. Non-perishable items can be brought to the Council Home on meeting nights or dropped off at the Olympic Park Swimming Pool during regular hours.

If you're wondering what to bring, you can never go wrong with peanut butter. Other items needed are Items currently needed are canned meats, canned tuna, canned fruits, canned spaghetti sauces, canned beans, canned vegetables, rice and pasta, and boxed meal kits.

Always remember that feeding the hungry **IS a corporal work of mercy** and one in which we can all participate. Please be generous. Monetary donations can also be made either directly or by using the following link:

[cccofva.org/donate now/sfh](https://cccofva.org/donate%20now/sfh).



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	Daniel Nunn	757 672 9799
Outside Guard	Jean Saade	540-355-0585
Inside Guard	Rod Hidusky	540-985-3195
Trustee, 3 Year	Bill Howard	540-798-3734
Trustee, 2 Year	James Valenzuela	301-806-3920
Trustee, 1 Year	Clyde Moak	540-418-5148

Program Chairmen 2025-26

Program Director	Donald Brown	540-520-3060
Faith Director	Joe Kosty	540-685-2630
Family Director	Juan Garcia	757-719-8753
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:	Paul Miller	540-339-8657
Board Member	George Cuadrado	540-989-1758
: Board Member	Donald Brown	540-520-3060

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.