

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

St. James Council 7450
Concord, NC

December 2021

Charity * Unity *
Fraternity * Patriotism

2021-2022 Officers

Worthy Grand Knight

Joseph Amodeo, Sr.

Worthy Chaplain

Fr. Jerome Chavarria, C.Ss.R.

Worthy Deputy Grand Knight

Jeff Mathews

Worthy Chancellor

Joe Ernst

Worthy Recorder

Al Servicky

Worthy Financial Secretary

Bob Wheeler

Worthy Treasurer

Joe Andruzzi

Worthy Advocate

Dennis DeVito

Worthy Warden

Gustavo Gallo

Worthy Inside Guard

Barry Bertolette

Worthy Outside Guard

Bobby Klimas Jr

Worthy Lecturer

Matthew Telera

Worthy Trustees

Gerard McElroy, Charles Anzalone, John Green,

Service Programs

Program Director

Gustavo Gallo 704-491-0876

Council Director

Dennis DeVito 516-607-7955

Communication Director

Ken Parker 704-796-8296

Faith Director

Gustavo Gallo 704-491-0876

Community Director

Bias Esparza 980-621-8454

Health Services Director

Barry Bertolette 704-960-0985

Family Director

Tim Chase (608)695-6678

Life Director

Joe Andruzzi 704-796-0075

Membership

Joe Ernst 314-368-2853

Retention

Jeff Mathews 704-890-4237

Bereavement

Ken Woodhall 631-327-0487

Council 7450 Meeting Tuesday December 14, 2021



Knights Blood Drive

Next drive is Sunday, March 6th. Come give the gift of life! Tell your friends and neighbors, all are welcome! 29 units were donated in December.



LAMB charitable Giving Days at **Garofola's**



Wednesday, December 22nd, 4-9 PM.

The Knights of Columbus places a special importance on honoring the Blessed Mother. Every



man who joins a K of C council receives a rosary and is encouraged to **seek Mary's**

intercession by praying it regularly. In addition, many join Council 7450, 6:00 PM as we lead the

rosary before the Monday night Novena on the 2nd Monday of the month. Pope Francis launched a rosary [marathon](#) at the beginning of May, encouraging the faithful around the world to pray daily for an end to the pandemic. And there is no better time to honor the Blessed Mother.



Thank you to all who helped with the

Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Council 7450 will hold a Spiritual Day of Reflection on Saturday January 22nd in Geiger Hall. Knights and their Spouse are encouraged to attend this rewarding event. It will be from 8 AM until 1 PM. Lunch will be served, Brother Knights Deacon Todd LaBonte and Gustavo Gallo will facilitate.



Please volunteer for one of our standing committees for service programs. See the committee names to the right. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED if we are to help in our parish and community!. **"In service to one, In service to all"**



Next Knights Breakfast December 19

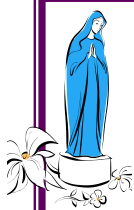
Please come and help us serve the parish. Bring the family and friends and enjoy the best breakfast in town for the price!

Santa will be there!

WILL YOU?



Knights of Faith



Knights have always been dedicated to Our Lady. Pray the **Rosary daily..... Select your intention . Pray as a family or by yourself. Attend the Monday Novena, Rosary 6:30**

In Memory of Knights Mass for departed Brothers:
All deceased:

Saturday, 12/11 2021 - 5 p.m.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament occurs EVERY Monday between 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM in the Church. What a wonderful gift you can give to yourself to spend time with Jesus!



Hermanos, Espero que todo esté bien para ustedes y sus familias ...

** Tenga en cuenta nuestros próximos eventos y actividades y un breve informe sobre los eventos más recientes:

- Plan de asistencia para socios navideños del Consejo n. ° 7450: nuestro Consejo normalmente realiza donaciones a organizaciones benéficas con las que nos asociamos y con las que ayudamos anualmente. Este año, decidimos darles a nuestros Hermanos la oportunidad de donar fondos personalmente a través de nuestro Consejo una vez más para ayudar a nuestras organizaciones asociadas en todo lo que podamos, especialmente en este momento desafiante en el que nos encontramos.

Los siguientes socios / organizaciones benéficas fueron amablemente apoyados por las donaciones y el patrocinio de nuestro Consejo: Miravia, Cabarrus Cty Children's Home, Salvation Army Homeless Shelter, Michael J. Memorial Foundation Fund / Mikes 'Bikes, St. James Parish y nuestros párrocos, LAMB (Cabarrus Cty Special Ed.), Abrigos para veteranos, Big Brothers / Big Sisters (Cabarrus Cty), Holy Angels, Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital (donación de mantas para niños), Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM)

- Desayuno del Consejo # 7450 - 21 de noviembre - ¡nuestros feligreses se unieron a nosotros para otro desayuno del Consejo exitoso! Además, nuestros Hermanos y Columbiettes ayudaron, ¡gran camaradería! ¡Agradecemos a todos los que se unieron a nosotros y esperamos nuestro próximo Desayuno del Consejo el 19 de diciembre! ¡Por favor, guarde la fecha y únase a nosotros!

- Council # 7450 Blood Drive - nos gustaría agradecer a todos los que donaron e hicieron que nuestra campaña de donación de sangre del 5 de diciembre fuera un éxito. Tuvimos 32 presentes con 29 pintas productivas recolectadas. Nuestra próxima campaña es el 6 de marzo de 2022. Gracias al hermano George por coordinar nuestra campaña ya los hermanos Joe y Gary que ayudaron.

- Colecta Anual de Alimentos para el Día de Acción de Gracias del Consejo: nuestro consejo llevó a cabo otra colecta de alimentos para el Día de Acción de Gracias con éxito. Un gran agradecimiento a nuestros generosos feligreses y hermanos por sus donaciones, a nuestros hermanos por su tiempo en recolectar y distribuir la comida a los feligreses y la comunidad. Gracias al hermano John por coordinar.

- Día de Reflexión Espiritual del Concilio - 22 de enero - Los hermanos Gustavo y el Diácono Todd se presentarán para nuestro Día de Reflexión Espiritual (programa de servicio de fe) con nuestros cónyuges o seres queridos. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

- Campaña móvil de alimentos del Consejo / Parroquia CCM: se recibió una carta de agradecimiento de CCM en la Campaña móvil de alimentos del 28 de octubre que organizamos y patrocinamos. Ayudamos humildemente a más de 400 personas en nuestra comunidad en esta respectiva colecta de alimentos ...

- Ejemplificación del Concilio - Felicitaciones a nuestros hermanos que participaron en la Ejemplificación del Concilio el 4 de diciembre. Tuvimos 3 Hermanos que completaron la ejemplificación. ¡Bienvenido a nuestra familia del consejo! Gracias a los equipos de ejemplificación y membresía.

- Big Brothers / Big Sisters (condado de Cabarrus): nuestro Consejo trabajará con esta valiosa organización como un futuro socio para continuar nuestro alcance comunitario en este aspecto y en muchas otras formas.

- Programa "Abrigos para veteranos": se recibió una carta de agradecimiento por nuestra donación a este valioso programa.

Nota: todos los eventos / actividades del Concilio están sujetos a cambios debido a / en conjunto con las condiciones cambiantes de la comunidad ...

Hermanos, gracias a todos ustedes por ser parte de nuestra Familia del Consejo y hacer su parte para hacer que nuestro Consejo sea lo mejor posible. Por favor, siéntase libre de contactarme en cualquier momento. Espero que ustedes y sus familias tengan una Navidad y un Año Nuevo bendecidos, seguros y saludables.

Dios bendiga a ti y a tu familia.

Respetuosamente,

Joe Amodeo, GK K of C # 7450 # 845-234-8631



Brothers,

I hope all is well with you and your families...

****Please note our upcoming events and activities and a brief report on the most recent events:**

- Council # 7450 Christmas Partner Assistance Plan- Our Council typically donates to charitable organizations that we partner with and assist annually. This year, we decided to give our Brothers the opportunity to personally donate funds through our Council once again to assist our partner organizations any way we can, especially in this challenging time we are in.

The following partners/charities were graciously supported by our Council's donations & sponsorship: Miravia, Cabarrus Cty Children's Home, Salvation Army Homeless Shelter, Michael J. Memorial Foundation Fund / Mikes' Bikes, St. James Parish & our parish priests, LAMB (Cabarrus Cty Special Ed.), Coats for Veterans, Big Brothers/Big Sisters (Cabarrus Cty), Holy Angels, Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital (donation for blankets for children), Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM)

- Council # 7450 Breakfast- Nov. 21- our parishioners joined us for another successful Council Breakfast! Also, our Brothers and Columbiettes assisted- great comradery! We thank all who joined us & look forward to our next Council Breakfast on December 19th ! Please save the date & join us!

- Council # 7450 Blood Drive- We thank all that donated and made our Dec 5th blood drive successful. We had 32 present with 29 productive pints collected. Our next drive is March 6, 2022. Thanks to Brother George for coordinating our Drive and for Brothers Joe & Gary that assisted.

- Council Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive- our Council held another successful Thanksgiving Food Drive. A big thank you to our generous parishioners & Brothers for their donations, our Brothers for their time in collecting and distributing the food to parishioners and community. Thanks to Brother John for coordinating.

- Council Spiritual Reflection Day- Jan. 22- Brothers Gustavo and Deacon Todd will be presenting for our Spiritual Reflection Day (Faith service program) with our spouses or significant others. All are welcome!

- Council / Parish CCM Mobile Food Drive- a letter of appreciation was received from CCM on the Oct. 28 Mobile Food Drive we hosted and sponsored. We humbly helped over 400 people in our community in this respective Food Drive...

- Council Exemplification - Congratulations to our brothers that participated in the Council Exemplification on Dec. 4- we had 3 Brothers that completed the exemplification. Welcome to our Council Family! Thanks to the Exemplification & Membership Teams.

- Big Brothers / Big Sisters (Cabarrus County)- our Council will be working with this worthwhile organization as a future partner in our Community Outreach in this aspect and in many other ways.

- Coats for Veterans" Program- a letter of appreciation was received for our donation to this program.

Note: all Council events/activities are subject to change due to / in conjunction with changing community conditions...

Brothers, Thank you to all of you for being a part of our Council Family and doing your part to make our Council the best it can be. Please feel free to contact me anytime.

I hope that you and your families have a blessed, safe, and healthy Christmas and New Year.

God Bless you and your families.

Respectfully,

Joe Amodeo

GK K of C # 7450

845-234-8631



December—Why December 25



“Although the date of Christ’s birth is not given to us in Scripture, there is documented evidence that December 25 was already of some significance to Christians prior to A.D. 354.

It’s that time of year again when many Christians encounter claims that pagan deities predating Jesus Christ were born on December 25. In popular films, Internet videos, and other media you can find long lists of gods who were supposedly born on the same day.

This idea is not limited to unbelievers. I have heard many Christians claim that the date of Christmas was intended to provide an alternative to pagan celebrations. In some ways it has become a pious legend. On the other hand, some Fundamentalist denominations refuse to celebrate Christmas for this reason.

Of all the deities of whom people make this claim, only three can be found to come close: Saturn, Sol Invictus (Unconquered Sun), and Mithras.

Saturnalia

Saturnalia was the feast dedicated to the Roman god Saturn. Established around 220 B.C., this feast was originally celebrated on December 17. Eventually the feast was extended to last an entire week, ending on December 23. The supposed connection to Christmas is based on the proximity of the two festivals to each other.

This can be found repeatedly on the Internet. In his article *Saturnalia: The Reason We Celebrate Christmas in December*, columnist Mark Whittington explains:

It has been suggested that Christians in the 4th Century assigned December 25th as Christ’s birthday (and hence Christmas) because pagans already observed this day as a holiday. In this way the problem of eliminating an already popular holiday would be sidestepped, thus making the Christianizing of the population easier.

If the suggestion were correct, one would expect to find at least a single reference by early Christians to support it. Instead we find scores of quotations from Church Fathers indicating a desire to distance themselves from pagan religions.

Sol Invictus and Mithras

The feast of Sol Invictus was the attempt by the Roman emperor Aurelian to reform the cult of Sol, the Roman sun god, and to reintroduce it to his people, inaugurating Sol’s temple and holding games for the first time in A.D. 274. Not only was this festival not annual, it also cannot be historically documented as having been established on December 25 by Aurelian (cf. Steven Hijmans, *Sol Invictus, The Winter Solstice, and the Origins of Christmas*, Mouseion, Series III, vol. 3, pp. 377-398).

According to inscriptions on candle votives and other ancient works of art, there is a link between Mithras and Sol Invictus. In some cases it appears the Mithraists believed that Mithras and Sol were two different manifestations of the same god. In others they appear to be two

gods united as one. These connections are difficult to understand given our limited knowledge of the Mithraic belief system, but they are important because they help to explain why skeptics claim the birthday of Mithras was celebrated on December 25.

A manuscript known as the *Chronography of 354* shows the birth of Sol Invictus being celebrated on December 25. Given the fact that the Mithraists equated their god with Sol in one way or another, it is understandable that they may have appropriated the date as their own. The problem for the skeptic is that no evidence exists to suggest that Aurelian was a Mithraist, or that he even had Mithraism in mind when he instituted the feast of Sol Invictus. The connection of Mithra to December 25 is only coincidental.

The deathblow to both the Mithras and Sol Invictus parallels is that the *Chronography of 354* is the earliest mention of any pagan god being celebrated on December 25. The celebration of the birth of Christ by Christians is also mentioned on the calendar as having been celebrated on that day, which diminishes the likelihood that the pagan feast came first. At the very least, it negates the claim that it can be proved from the historical record that any December 25 pagan festival predates the Christian tradition.

The Reason for Choosing December 25

Although the date of Christ’s birth is not given to us in Scripture, there is documented evidence that December 25 was already of some significance to Christians prior to A.D. 354. One example can be found in the writings of Hippolytus of Rome, who explains in his *Commentary on the book of Daniel* (c. A.D. 204) that the Lord’s birth was believed to have occurred on that day:

For the first advent of our Lord in the flesh, when he was born in Bethlehem, was December 25th, Wednesday, while Augustus was in his forty-second year, but from Adam, five thousand and five hundred years. He suffered in the thirty-third year, March 25th, Friday, the eighteenth year of Tiberius Caesar, while Rufus and Roubellion were Consuls.

The reference to Adam can be understood in light of another of Hippolytus’ writings, the *Chronicon*, where he explains that Jesus was born nine months after the anniversary of Creation. According to his calculations, the world was created on the vernal equinox, March 25, which would mean Jesus was born nine months later, on December 25.

Nineteenth-century liturgical scholar Louis Duchesne explains that “towards the end of the third century the custom of celebrating the birthday of Christ had spread throughout the whole Church, but that it was not observed everywhere on the same day” (*Christian Wor-*

ship, Its Origin and Evolution: a study of the Latin liturgy up to the time of Charlemagne, p. 260). In the West, the birth of Christ was celebrated on December 25, and in the East on January 6.

Duchesne writes “one is inclined to believe that the Roman Church made choice of the 25th of December in order to enter into rivalry with Mithraism. This reason, however, leaves unexplained the choice of the 6th of January” (*ibid.*, p. 261). His solution, therefore, was that the date of Christ’s birth was decided by using as a starting point the same day on which he was believed to have died. This would explain the discrepancies between the celebrations in the East and West. Given the great aversion on the part of some Christians to anything pagan, the logical conclusion here is that one celebration has nothing to do with the other. In his book, *Spirit of the Liturgy*, Pope Benedict XVI explains:

The claim used to be made that December 25 developed in opposition to the Mithras myth, or as a Christian response to the cult of the unconquered sun promoted by Roman emperors in the third century in their efforts to establish a new imperial religion. However, these old theories can no longer be sustained. The decisive factor was the connection of creation and Cross, of creation and Christ’s conception (p. 105-107).

While these explanations of how December 25 came to be the date of Christmas are all plausible, we know one thing for sure: The evidence that this day held a special significance to Christians predates the proof of a supposed celebration of Sol Invictus or other pagan deities on that day.

That the Christians chose a date so close to the winter solstice is also not proof that this was done to mimic pagan festivals. The various pagan religions all had festivals spanning the calendar. Whatever month the early Christians might have otherwise chosen would still place Christmas near some pagan celebration, and oppositional theorists would still be making the same claims.

The solstice was important to everyone for agricultural reasons in the same way water is important to the survival of human beings, and so we see rituals involving water showing up in various religions. That doesn’t prove that one borrowed the idea or theme from another.

-Jon Sorenson, Catholic Answers





PERSON

WE ARE IN PRAYER

<u>FOR</u>	<u>RELATION</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>DATE ADDED</u>
Val Demarco	Brother Knight	Passed away	12/2020
John Fox	Brother Knight	Passed away	2/2021
Bill Suhy	Brother Knight	Passed away	2/2021
Tim Chase	Brother Knight	Illness	9.2021
S/K Jeff Mathews	Brother Knight	Illness	10/2021
Connie Bertollette	Wife of Brother Barry	Illness	10/21
Amy Bertollette	Daughter of Brother Barry	Cancer	10/2021
Kristen Bray	Columbiette	Illness	10/2021
Don Belofski	Brother Don	Illness	9/2017
Keven Casey	Brother Knight	Illness	9/2021
Linda Cawa	Wife-Brother Knight	Illness	8/2020
Sal Cawa	Brother Knight	Illness	8/2020
Clivia Chin	Sister-in-law -Bob Wheeler	Illness	3/2021
Mark Cormier	Son-Ted Cormier	Illness	6/2020
George Coyle	Brother Knight	Illness	
David Crispi	Brother Ken Johnson req.	Illness	
Richard Glass	Brother Knight	Detached Retina	
Ellen Guttridge	Wife-Bill Guttridge	Illness	7/2016
Vic Haugen	Brother Knight	Illness	3/2021
Karen Hopper	Sister of Brother John Green	Cancer	8/2016
Jan Johnson	Wife-Ken Johnson	Illness	3/2020
Beverly Kachmarik	Wife-S/K Bob Kachmarik	Cancer	5/2018
Mrs. McEachern	Mother of S/K Eddie	Illness	5/2021
S/K Eddie McEachern	Brother Knight	Illness	3/2020
Doug McEachern	Brother of S/K Eddie	Surgery	5/2021
Ron Mikesh	Brother Knight	Parkinsons	8/2016
Lake Speed (family)	Family of Brother Knight	Illness	3/3021
Bill Waterson	Brother Knight	Cancer	3/2017
Michelle Belofski	Br. Don Belofski Daughter	Illness	3/2021
Hyacinth Wheeler	Wife of Bro. Bob	Illness	5/2021
Regina Morris	Daughter of Bro Art Eberhardt	Heart Attack	7/2021
Mike Connor		illness	10/2021
Oppressed Christians			Supreme
All Affected by COVID-19			



December 2021



A Savior is Born

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Donate to St. James		Officers Meeting Guadalupe Hall	Feast of The Immaculate Conception			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Donate to LAMB	Knights lead Rosary 6:00 PM	Business Meeting - Guadalupe Hall				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Knights Breakfast HELP 7-12:30			Eat for LAMB - Garofola's 4-9 PM		Christmas Eve	CHRISTMAS DAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Donate to LAMB					New Years Eve	New Years Day
31						

Council 7450 graciously thanks these establishments for their support of OPERATION L.A.M.B. Charitable Giving Days. Brothers, Please support them by dine-in or order take out from our generous sponsors!



- El Amigo Restaurant specializes in authentic Mexican cuisine. Enjoy all of your traditional favorites prepared by our friendly staff, just the way you like it. We are proud to serve the finest Mexican food in the area. We look forward to serving you delicious Mexican Cuisine. OPERATING HOURS:
- Sunday to Thursday 11:00am to 10:00pm. Friday & Saturday 11:00am to 10:30pm .
- ADDRESS: 1776 SOUTH CANNON BLVD, Kannapolis, NC. 28083
- TELEPHONE:(704) 938-1111



Relaxed Atmosphere and Daily Specials

If you had a late day at the office and don't feel like cooking for the family, just bring them here! We'll take good care of you and no one will leave hungry! 744 Cabarrus Ave W, Concord, NC 28027



Trigger your taste buds with irresistible food that will leave you asking for more. If you're searching for delicious Italian food in Concord, NC, look no further than Garofola's Italiano.

3655 Concord Pkwy S
Concord, NC 28027 704-795-7437



Parkway House on Union...Family Restaurant serving Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

834 Union St. S, Concord, NC 28025



Rosarios Pizzeria is dedicated to the quality of our food. We prepare our dough daily and acquire the freshest and finest ingredients. Our pizzas are made on stone brick ovens. 5303 Poplar Tent Rd. Concord, NC 28027



**Merry Christmas
And Happy New Year**



To all Brother Knights and your families

**Thank You for all you do to support
The Church, Your Families, The Knights, and Community**



Knights In Action



Thanksgiving Food Drive



Exemplification