



# The Palmetto State Bulletin



The Newsletter of the South Carolina State Council

Volume 34, Issue 11

May 2023

## The Feast of Pentecost

By Deacon Bob Cox, Spiritual Advisor

Greetings my brother Knights and families! Congratulations to the new slate of State Officers for 2023-2024! I know State Deputy Elect Jeff Crouch will be a great leader for the State Council of South Carolina!

My Brother Knights, we celebrate Pentecost because it is the birth of the Church. It is the celebration of Jesus sending the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, to the Church, and to us, the baptized sons and daughters of the Church. This gift took place 50 days after Christ's Resurrection.

For Catholic Christians, celebrating Pentecost this weekend, it is a great day in the life of the Church. It is a great day at St. Ann Catholic Church too, with the priest and deacons wearing red vestments (worldwide), and it is suggested to our parish community to wear something red to Mass on Pentecost Sunday. With our church picnic immediately following the last Mass on Pentecost Sunday, it is recommended that the attendees of the picnic wear something red, whether it is a red shirt, red shorts/pants, or a red hat because red symbolizes the fire in our hearts and the presence of the Holy Spirit, not only at Mass, but at the parish picnic, too! This is a long-standing tradition at St. Ann's Church.

On the first Pentecost, in the Upper Room where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with the Twelve and appeared to them again on the first Easter evening, the doors were opened, and the Holy Spirit came in the form of wind and flame. "Like a strong driving wind, it filled the house. Then there appeared to them tongues of fire which parted and came to rest on each one of them and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles received their mission, to be strong and full of faith as they went out to evangelize. Because of the Holy Spirit, they had the courage to proclaim Christ and all His works, especially his teaching of mercy and love!

The Holy Spirit is still strong and alive in the Church today.

Just so, St. Paul tells us that the Holy Spirit is given to all of us at our Baptism and is strengthened for service to the Body of Christ in Confirmation.

When we invite the Holy Spirit into our hearts, we learn that the Holy Spirit can bring inner peace and healing, that we are enabled to forgive, enabled to be more faith filled and trust the Church, as He directs us to our Lord, Jesus. The Holy Spirit always graces us with the ability to pray fervently, trustingly, and appropriately. He teaches us how to communicate with God! The Holy Spirit takes us as we are and puts things in order and unifies our talents and directs us toward Jesus!

The Feast of Pentecost is not just about the past. For Catholics, it resonates within us from Baptism and Confirmation. We know it is a gift from Jesus, as it fulfills the promise of Easter. To find God, we need only to look within and receive the flame and fire of the Holy Spirit!

Our prayer this Pentecost and always, "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love."

Come join us at St. Ann and feel the real presence of the Spirit! Blessings, Deacon Bob Cox



## SCHEDULE OF STATE WIDE EVENTS

### April 2023

14-16 State Convention – Columbia, SC

### May 2023

20 Fourth Degree Exemplification – Pawleys Island, SC

### July 2023

8 – Columbus Hope Drive Workshop

14-16 – DD Organizational Meeting/State Installations

### August 2023

12 – Fourth Degree Exemplification – Charleston, SC

13 – Blessed Michael McGivney Mass – Charleston, SC

## Inside This Issue

"The Feast of Pentecost"	1
Schedule of State Wide Events	1
From the State Deputy	2
Columbus HOPE Foundation	2
Patriot's Corner	3
The Boni Agency	3
State Officers and District Deputies	7
State Directors and Committee Chairmen	8



## From the State Deputy

*Paul Burchell*

Greetings Brother Knights,  
Wow! What a wonderful convention we had this past month. A special thank you to our State Deputy-Elect Jeff Crouch and all those committee members who made it such a success from the welcoming event Friday evening to

the Awards Ceremony on Sunday.

A special thank you to our General Agent, Robert Boni, and his staff of dedicated Field Agents who made Friday evening's *Kick-off Event* such a success. Once again, Brother Mike Sibilia's culinary talents were on display as he provided a delicious BBQ buffet for all of us. It was a very festive event and music and dancing went on well into the evening. As I mentioned in my State of the Jurisdiction address, it is important to recognize our agents for their various contributions in not only providing protection for our Brother Knights and their families, but their total involvement in the fraternal side of our Order as well. They may be on the insurance side, but they are, first and foremost, Knights of Columbus.

We were extremely blessed to have the Most Reverend Jacques Fabre-Jeune, Bishop of Charleston as our Convention Honoree. His Excellency took time out of his busy schedule to spend the majority of the weekend with us. On Saturday afternoon he facilitated a question-and-answer session with the convention attendees (delegates, ladies, and guests). This was well received and those in attendance appreciated the opportunity to get his thoughts on various topics. His Excellency celebrated a beautiful Mass for us on Saturday evening assisted by Deacon Bob Cox. The ladies' lunch on Saturday featured Sheryl Escude, a volunteer with St. Clare's Home in the upstate who gave a wonderful presentation on the mission and success of the Home. Knights of Columbus baby bottles were placed on each table and a total of \$1174 was collected to help support this wonderful ministry. Additionally, as part of Supreme's *Pass the Hat* incentive, the home will be receiving an additional \$235.

One of the major highlights of our banquet on Saturday evening was the presentation of the State Blessed Michael McGivney Award to Father Sandy McDonald, Chaplain of Msgr. Martin C. Murphy Council 6847 and Pastor of St. John Neumann Parish in Northeast Columbia. In addition to a resolution recognizing his many accomplishments, Father Sandy was presented with a Blessed McGivney/Knights of Columbus Stole. We were very honored to have our Bishop available to assist with the presentation.

Our Supreme Guest for the Convention was Tim Saccoccia,

Vice President of Public Policy for the Knights of Columbus. We thoroughly enjoyed spending time with him and his wife, Melissa.

The awards ceremony on Sunday morning began with the Devine Mercy Chaplet led by Deacon Cox. Once again, we were privileged that our Bishop was able to be with us. A complete list of award winners appeared on page four in last month's edition of this newsletter.

It was indeed a very successful and wonderful convention and plans are well under way for our 103<sup>d</sup> annual meeting scheduled for April 5-7 at the Spartanburg Marriott. We look forward to having 100% of our councils represented. Brothers, it truly has been an **Outstanding** year, but it is not over yet. We still have another month and a half to go. Please keep the momentum going, sharing your story with others, and may Blessed Michael McGivney bless you and your families.

Vivat Jesu!  
Paul

## Columbus HOPE Foundation

*Mike Allen, PSD, FDM*

**“There is no greater disability in society than the inability to see a person as more.”**

***Robert M. Hensel***

Brothers,

The bond between the life and Intellectual Disabilities issues are so compelling that it is they are essentially inseparable. I have copied a small part of an article from the December 2020 issue of the **Atlantic** magazine that I hope you read with discerning eyes, and I hope also that you are as frightened about the future of civilization as I am. Especially a future where the Knights of Columbus aren't involved in what retired Bishop Guglielmone calls “evangelization in the secular workplace”. Denmark is one of the most progressive countries in the world and has a universal health system that everyone pays into, much like the model that America looks up to.

***Every few weeks or so, Grete Fält-Hansen gets a call from a stranger asking a question for the first time:***

***What is it like to raise a child with Down syndrome?***

Sometimes the caller is a pregnant woman, deciding whether to have an abortion. Sometimes a husband and wife are on the line, the two of them in agonizing disagreement. Once, Fält-Hansen remembers, it was a couple who had waited for their prenatal screening to come back normal before announcing the pregnancy to friends and family. “We wanted to wait,” they'd

**HOPE continued on page 4**

# Patriot's Corner

Daniel Barton, PSD  
Master, South Carolina District, DeSoto Province



Brothers,





Our next exemplification is less than 1 day away. The 90th South Carolina Exemplification will occur on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church in Pawleys Island, SC. It's still possible if you have a candidate who wants to take his Fourth Degree. Please get in touch with the District Secretary as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Any Assembly that has not yet submitted its Civic Award Application or "To Be A Patriot Award" Program needs to submit it as soon as possible to be eligible for the Star Assembly Award. While we do not do our programs to achieve an award, it is nice to recognize the hard work that our members do throughout the year. The forms take less than 20 minutes to complete.

Lastly, on April 21, 2023, Past State Deputy and Former Master Ronald George "Ronnie" Povero passed away peacefully, surrounded by family. During his tenure as State Deputy, two councils, the Reverend David J Schiller Council 11910 and Immaculate Conception 11991, were established, and as District Master, Mother Teresa Assembly 2655 was established. Besides the growth of the Order in South Carolina, Ronnie will forever be remembered for his kindness, willingness to serve his fellow brothers, and, most importantly, his mentorship and friendship. We ask that you keep his wife, Pauline, and the entire Povero family in your thoughts and prayers. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

May our founder and brother knight, the Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Fraternally Yours,  
Daniel

**Robert J Boni Jr. FICF, LUTCF,**  
*General Agent*

Office: 843-824-5632  
robert.boni@kofc.org

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

*Protecting Catholic families since 1882.*

## FAITH, FAMILY & FINANCIAL SECURITY

[Our Agency Web Site](http://kofcsc.org/The-Boni-Agency--Faith-Family-and-Financial-Security)  
<http://kofcsc.org/The-Boni-Agency--Faith-Family-and-Financial-Security>

[A Career Unlike Any Other](#)  
[Career Testimonials](#)  
**Pax Domini Sit Semper Vobiscum**




**Don't fumble your finances this season!**

*Contact your local field agent today so he can help you tackle your financial future with the strength of Knights of Columbus insurance behind you.*


Life insurance, annuities, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance products are offered through Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510 1-800-380-9995. For costs, terms, conditions, and complete details regarding these products, please contact your agent or the Knights of Columbus. Products may vary by state.

**LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES**



**Knights of Columbus**

Contact me today to learn more:  
**Robert J Boni Jr. FICF, LUTCF, FIC, RCF, LUTCF**  
General Agent  
843-824-5632  
robert.boni@kofc.org



© Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

HOPE continued from page 3

told their loved ones, “because if it had Down syndrome, we would have had an abortion.” They called Fält-Hansen after their daughter was born—with slanted eyes, a flattened nose, and, most unmistakable, the extra copy of chromosome 21 that defines Down syndrome. They were afraid their friends and family would now think they didn’t love their daughter—so heavy are the moral judgments that accompany wanting or not wanting to bring a child with a disability into the world.

All of these people get in touch with Fält-Hansen, a 54-year-old schoolteacher, because she heads Landsforeningen Downs Syndrom, or the National Down Syndrome Association, in Denmark, and because she herself has an 18-year-old son, Karl Emil, with Down syndrome. Karl Emil was diagnosed after he was born. She remembers how fragile he felt in her arms and how she worried about his health, but mostly, she remembers, “I thought he was so cute.” Two years after he was born, in 2004, Denmark became one of the first countries in the world to offer prenatal Down syndrome screening to every pregnant woman, regardless of age or other risk factors. Nearly all expecting mothers choose to take the test; of those who get a Down syndrome diagnosis, more than 95 percent choose to abort.

These parents come to Fält-Hansen because they are faced with a choice—one made possible by technology that peers at the DNA of unborn children. Down syndrome is frequently called the “canary in the coal mine” for selective reproduction. It was one of the first genetic conditions to be routinely screened for in utero, and it remains the most morally troubling because it is among the least severe. It is very much compatible with life—even a long, happy life.

Let’s not let this happen on our watch!  
Mike Allen, PSD, FDM  
President CHF



STATE OFFICERS

State Deputy.....	Paul V. Burchell.....	803-983-5004
State Chaplain.....	Fr. Robert F. Higgins.....	843-540-7676
Immediate Past State Deputy.....	Daniel Barton, PSD.....	843-367-1871
State Secretary.....	Jeff Crouch.....	864-430-0938
State Treasurer.....	Keith Kingren.....	864-901-5692
State Advocate.....	Tim Kenney.....	540-746-8924
State Warden.....	Sherrill E. (Ed) Wilcox.....	803-221-5934
District Master.....	Daniel Barton, PSD.....	843-367-1871
Vice Supreme Master.....	Tom Monahan, PSD.....	803-270-7478
General Insurance Agent.....	Robert Boni, Jr.....	843-824-5632
Supreme - RGD.....	David Tebo.....	203-215-8379

DISTRICT DEPUTIES

District No. 1 (5026, 7289, 10668, 12263).....	Richard R. Ronde.....	631-889-3026
District No. 2 (2207, 6847, 13713).....	Melton E. Cannon.....	803-479-5905
District No. 3 (5086, 7122, 7531, 14892, 17824).....	Thomas W. O’Donnell, Sr.....	413-237-5769
District No. 4 (3684, 7062).....	Sherrill E. Wilcox.....	803-221-5934
District No. 5 (6629,8502, 8900, 11910).....	Joseph W Friend.....	843-296-2574
District No. 6 (6884, 8295, 9576).....	Donald E. Thurlow, Jr.....	864-275-7141
District No. 7 (6891, 11325, 12554, 15223).....	Richard Swain, PhD.....	573-465-2402
District No. 8 (1668, 8182, 13112).....	William H. Larkiin.....	864-313-5066
District No. 9 (704, 6250, 6900, 17760).....	Paul F. Setti, Jr.....	843-813-2713
Dist No 10 (6756, 10066, 12268, 15611).....	Raymond J. Howard.....	716-982-2965
District No. 11 (3067, 8980, 11028).....	John H. Luse.....	843-421-3811
District 12 (5194, 8123, 8790, 10867).....	Vacant.....	
District 13 (6726, 11471, 11991).....	Jay Scott Friedman.....	443-243-2260
District 14 (6076, 9184, 9575, 12995).....	William E. Weiss, Jr.....	864-415-3422
District 15 (12366, 14475, 14765).....	James Carswell.....	516-851-3675
District 16 (724, 6892, 7129, 16903).....	Thomas C. Armel.....	540-230-4281
District 17 (10819, 12274, 15519, 15960).....	James O. Alford.....	864-595-0640
District 18 (9475, 10334, 12472).....	Joseph G. Nesbitt.....	843-297-9873



STATE DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership Director .....	Ron Stanley .....	864-415-9417
Ceremonials .....	Vacant	
Program Director .....	Anthony N. Zammarrelli .....	803-738-0862
Community Director .....	Ronald A Searl .....	864-915-0070
Family Director .....	Thomas A. Holahan .....	864-314-4444
Membership Retention Chairman .....	Michael A. Boncoddio .....	864-525-0876
Council Retention/Reactivation Chairman .....	Thomas M. Monahan, PGK, FM, VSM .....	803-270-7478
Online Membership Chairman .....	Michael P. Cousino .....	843-507-1007
College Council Growth Coordinator .....	Tim Kenney .....	540-746-8924
Vocations Chairman .....	Larry Papineau .....	843-696-2165
Life Director .....	Brian C. Greene .....	516-443-0625
Spiritual Director .....	Rev. Mr. Robert Cox .....	843-661-6057
Faith Director .....	Paul Pimental .....	864-423-6977
Public Relations .....	Donald Thurlow Jr .....	864-275-7141
Insurance Promotion Chairman .....	Robert Boni .....	843-824-5632
Audit Chairman .....	Richard E. Koehler, PSD, FM .....	843-553-2171
Campaign for People With Intellectual Disabilities .....	Michael A. Allen, PSD, DM .....	803-397-7803
Charities Board Chairman .....	Paul Burchell, SD .....	803-983-5004
State Convention Chairman .....	Jeffrey M. Crouch .....	864-430-0938
Hispanic Council Growth Coordinator .....	Guadalupe R. Jimenez .....	843-338-9632
Awards/Report Forms .....	Sherrill E. Wilcox .....	803-221-5934
Information Technology Director .....	Vacant	
Newsletter/Bulletin Editor .....	Stephen T. Dunlap, PSD .....	843-224-7263
SC Catholic Men's Conference .....	Richard Gabriel, PSD .....	843-797-6804
New Council Development Chairman .....	Vacant	
Father McGivney Guild .....	James Nettles, PSD, FM .....	843-830-9996
Protocol Chairman .....	Ronald G. Povero, PSD, FM .....	843-873-8581
Disaster Response Coordinator .....	Greg Scheuer .....	803-210-7272
Ultrasound Initiative .....	Raymond Ireland .....	864-329-0044
Athletic Events Chairman/ .....	Eric Cannon .....	803-479-5905
Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest .....	Pat Davis .....	843-830-5939
Free Throw Chairman/Soccer Challenge Chairman .....	Eric Cannon .....	803-479-5905
Soccer Challenge Chairman .....	Eric Cannon .....	803-479-5905
Special Olympics Chairman .....	Reulito P. Gonzalez .....	843-812-2974
Round Table Chairman .....	Vacant	
State Trainer .....	Richard Swain .....	573-465-2402
Pilgrim Icon/Silver Rose Chairman .....	Michael A. Mancari .....	803-445-0244





South Carolina State Council  
Columbiettes Officers

President ————— Caroline Paulhus  
Past President ————— Edith Vandemark  
Vice President ——— Nancy Kuffel  
Secretary ————— Lorraine Cato  
Financial Secretary -Ann Baucoe  
Treasurer ————— Sandra Hawkins  
Advocate ————— Joyce Recchia  
Sentinel ————— Sonja Wright

**Palmetto State Bulletin**  
**Knights of Columbus**  
**South Carolina State Council**

