KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER





On October 31st, Council #1487 in Ashland participated in the Church's annual Trunk or Treat for the kids of the parish. Fun was had by all.



STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

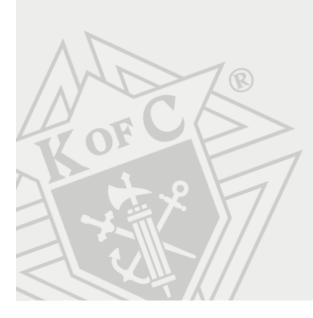
Tempus Fugit - Memento Mori...Time Flies - Remember Death. Those are the Watchwords of our Order. Those Watchwords don't just apply to you or I, they apply to our councils, The Knights of Columbus, our Catholic Church and even our beloved country. Brothers, we have entered the second half of our Fraternal Year. Some councils have had a great first half, some are running as usual, and some are struggling to survive. Your future and that of your councils depend on you. We will celebrate new councils, anguish over lost councils and be thankful for the councils that continue to move forward and help strengthen our Catholic men and their families. We have a responsibility to recruit and evangelize. We have a responsibility to be "Good and Faithful Servants". Thank you for all that you do!



Tom Johnson SD

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KY State Council Newsletter

Chief Editor Cameron Peck PSD, FDM

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Contributions

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NEW BROTHER KNIGHTS

"Congratulations to the Brothers of Msgr. Hugh O'Sullivan council 2046 in Whitesville on exemplifying 4 new brothers knights at their January 4th council meeting". Through the combined efforts of the council's Chaplain and parish priest, Fr. Brian Roby of St Mary of the Woods Church, and the council leadership, they were able to identify 10 men that are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus. Several were online members that have joined the council, and several joined using the form 100. Father has asked that instead of a regular meeting in February that the men of the council spend an hour in prayerful Adoration.

The remaining candidates will be exemplified at the council's March 7th meeting. Thank you Father and thank you men of Council 2046. You're on your way to Star Council!

Submitted by,

Tom Johnson

KY State Deputy

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Schedule Set for 2024 Polar Plunges

The schedule is now set for the Coolest Fundraiser in Kentucky – the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Kentucky. Several Councils across Kentucky have participated in the Polar Plunge over the years. In 2023 Councils raised almost \$10,000 for Special Olympics Kentucky in Plunges in Lexington, Louisville and Lake Cumberland. With five Polar



Plunges across the state, there is one within a reasonable drive from your Council. For more information or to sign up, visit the site for the Plunge nearest you.

January 27 – Greater Cincinnati at The Banks

- February 17 Lexington at Texas Roadhouse on Richmond Rd.
- February 24 Louisville at Main Event
- March 2 Western Kentucky at Kentucky Dam Village
- March 9 Lake Cumberland at Lee's Ford Resort Marina

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering is a great way to get your Council or individual Knights involved in Special Olympics. There are several opportunities coming up just after the new year. Many don't require any special skill or certification.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONT.

Jan. 21-23 – State Winter Games; Perfect North Slopes; Lawrenceburg Ind. – Ski Partners, Timers, Course Officials Feb. 3 – Region 1 Basketball Tournament; Bowling Green Parks and Recreation; Bowling Green -Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees Feb. 3-4 - Region 3 Basketball Tournament; Bluegrass SportsPlex; Elizabethtown - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard **Operators**, PA Announcers, Referees Feb. 17 - Region 2 Basketball Tournament; All About Sports; Florence - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees March 9-10 – State Basketball Tournament: MidAmerica Sports Complex - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees



Still Time to Report Volunteer Hours and Contributions to Supreme

If you did either volunteer or make a contribution to Special Olympics this year PLEASE have someone from your council fill out Form 10784. Filling out this form lets Supreme know our involvement with Special Olympics throughout the year and has a bearing on the amount of the donation Supreme makes to Special Olympics Kentucky that is generally presented during the annual State Convention.

If you have any question about what needs to be reported please contact Mark Buerger at <u>mbuerger@soky.org</u> or 859-338-6075.



STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON

Happy New Year Brother Knights!

Wishing you and your families a Happy and Prosperous New Year! While 2023 is now in the books make sure to take a moment and reflect on the events that have taken place over the past year.

And while we may not know what 2024 will bring, we do know that there will be both expected and unexpected events that will impact our daily lives. Some will be good, and some will be bad. Let us prepare ourselves for both by giving thanks to God for all that He has done for us and to ask for God's mercy and blessing when we stumble and fall.

I believe in God Our Father, and I believe in His Son Our Lord Jesus Christ. I see glimmers of Hope all around us. The pandemic is now history, and more and more people are coming back to the church. Natural disasters will continue to occur and people from near and afar will continue to rush to help their neighbors.

There has been an increase in the number of pro-lifers speaking out against the sin of "Abortion". Hopefully we will see an end to this sin against God and humanity. But unfortunately, abortion is still around, and States are passing their own laws regarding

JOHNSON CONT.

the legitimacy of abortion. Let us continue to prayer for an end of this scourge on our beloved United States of America.

State Deputy's Report:

I continue to see the councils' struggle. Why you may ask...the reasons are quite simple, a lack of active members and a lack of men willing to step up to lead. Brothers, this tale is all to familiar. You may even see it happening within your own council. If your council is struggling, please contact your DD or a State Officer. We want to help.

To date 4 councils have met or exceeded their membership goals while 43 councils have not recruited a single member. Why I ask, could it be that we are too self-centered to ask a Catholic man to join our ranks, or could it be that we don't believe we have anything to offer a man. If the latter is true, then we're too complacent to step out of our comfort zone and really see what the Knights of Columbus is all about. If you had any idea of what you hold in your hands, you would be begging for more. God has blessed you and your family by allowing you to be a part of the greatest Catholic Men's Organization in the World founded by a Saint. I realize that Fr. McGivney hasn't been proclaimed a Saint by the Vatican, but I can assure you that those folks that have prayed to Fr. McGivney and received a miracle think he's a saint.

Each of you joined the Knights of Columbus did so by your own free will and each of you that stepped up to a leadership role did so on your own free will. Joining an organization doesn't mean you can sit back and let others do all the work. As a member of an organization, you have a responsibility to help that organization grow and become fruitful. It's time to Step Into The Breach and help your council.

JOHNSON CONT.

Your councils should be gearing up for the upcoming activities over the next several months.

January 1st-31st Local Council Free Throw events January 13th - Pro-life mass at St Gabriel in Louisville January 14th – Clergy Appreciate Dinner in Louisville January 23rd – Right to Life March in Frankfort.

February 1st- 29th District and Regional Free Throw events February 3rd – Feast of St Blaise February 14th - Ash Wednesday February 16th - 1st Fish Fry for many councils.

March 15th is the last day to submit a resolution for consideration at the State Convention in April

These are just a few that quickly come to mind. I'm sure there are many more.

Now is the time to strengthen our faith through prayer and fasting. If you haven't spent an hour alone with God in a while, I suggest that you make time to visit with Him during Adoration at your local church. I used to think that praying to God off and on during my normal day was enough until I started attending Adoration. That hour alone is much different. Let your mind wonder. Talk to God! Tell Him what's on your mind. He's listening. You may not think so at first but after a while you'll begin to see His Hand at work.

JOHNSON CONT.

And don't forget to pray the Rosary. If your council is not praying the Rosary before your monthly council meeting suggest to your brother Knights that they do so. As Knights, we pledged our allegiance to Mary and promised to pray the Rosary as often as we could.

AND Remember...Recruitment is not about quotas or incentives – Recruitment is Evangelizing and Evangelizing is Recruitment.

.....Credit given to Membership Director Fr. Phil DeVous.

Take Care & God Bless, Tom Johnson State Deputy



STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST

As John the Baptist watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God."

(from the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time)

The Christmas season is shortened by a Sunday this year. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is relegated to the Monday after Epiphany. However, the Gospel for the following Sunday infers the event with the mention above of the witness given by John the Baptist. (John's gospel does not recount the event, per se, but John [the Baptist] references it as a past event and, as noted above, explains its meaning.) The testimony given by John, ultimately in his blood, raises for me the question: what is the quality of my witness?

The temptation of an early return to "Ordinary Time" is to relapse into a "back to the grind" mentality. By the way, "ordinary" refers to the use of numbered Sundays, not to an unfortunate equivalence much less encouragement of mediocrity. If anything, having just celebrated the mystery of the Incarnation, not to mention the manifestation of salvation for the Gentiles, we should be super-fueled to imitate the example of John the Baptist and, like Andrew in John's gospel, consider whom we might invite to come and encounter Jesus. I can think of two ways we might make such an invitation: to invite a fellow parishioner to become a member of the Knights of Columbus and/or to participate in a parish Cor program. They are not mutually exclusive.

FR. JOHN CONT.

What? Your council has not initiated a Cor ad Cor faith enrichment program in your parish? As the saying goes, "There's no time like the present." And speaking of time, one of the reasons that the Christmas season was abbreviated was because Easter comes very early this year. (There's only so many Sundays in a year.) In fact, Lent begins on February 14. What a wonderful gift of love it would be for your parish to start a Cor program for Lent! You have a little over a month to meet with your pastor, get the materials together and invite the men of your parish. Dave LeDonne (DLedonne83@gmail.com) can walk you through the particulars, and I would be happy to contact your pastor to give encouragement.

Vivat Jesus! Fr. John List State Chaplain



STATE SECRETARY LUKE WILLIAMS

Happy New Year

Are you ready to start the 2nd half of the KofC Fraternal Year? Council leaders should take this opportunity to assess where the Council is, where they want it to be, and how to get there. Here are a few questions to ask yourselves not as a judgement but as many opportunities to improve our councils and help our Parishes and Communities by promoting ourselves using our core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Are the council leadership positions filled? Are Council leaders reading Fraternal Leaders Advisories? Does the Council have events scheduled for the next 6 months. Has Council leaders met with the Pastor in the last month? Are all leaders attending any planning meetings? Are members attending Council meetings? Are leaders familiar with the Faith in Action Guidebook? Are leaders familiar with Supreme and State Training materials? Have leaders attended any monthly webinars hosted by Supreme? Are leaders familiar with the new Exemplification ceremony? Is the Financial Secretary using online tools for member management and member billing?

Your District Deputy, State Council Officers, State Directors, and State Chairmen want to help if you want to make a difference, all you must do is ask...

What's Happening this Month?

I hope that you and your families had a Very Merry Christmas season and are already experiencing a Happy New Year! Here are items that should be on all Councils and District Deputies checklist to consider and/or complete for the upcoming Months.

- Ask someone to join your council.
- Continue to submit a Fraternal Programs Report Form (#10784) to Supreme for every program your council does.

WILLIAMS CONT.

- Make plans for your group to attend the January 23, 2024," Kentucky March for Life & Love them Both Rally" in Frankfort! Goto <u>kentuckymarchforlife.org</u> for the agenda, event locations and details. Don't wait to make plans to attend!
- Conduct the Council Free Throw Championship. Reach out to your District Deputy for Local, District, Regional, and State Free Throw Championship details.
- Support upcoming Special Olympics programs such as the Polar Plunge. Please fill out form #10784 (replaces #4584) for Special Olympics and turn in before 1/31 even if your council has no events or members participating in State or Local events. Volunteer Hours are part of the calculation for the donation the State Special Olympics receives annually from the Supreme Council. The more Special Olympic forms turned into Supreme means more funds from Supreme to help support our KY Special Olympics programs.
- Plan for programs to be conducted in February, March, and April. Programs such as Founder's Day Celebration, Day of Prayer for the Unborn Child, Council Membership Drive, Food for Families – Lent, a Spiritual Reflection program for Lent, and a Good Friday Family promotion should be planned now.
- Submit the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) by January 31st.
- Semiannual Council Audit (form #1295 is due 2/15)
- Work on a State Council Program Award submittal form #STSP for award consideration which is Due to State Deputy by April 1st, 2024. If you have a program that will be held between April 1st and June 30th, fill out the STSP form and send in for consideration.

KY State Per Capita Billing -

- The State Secretary will use the most recent Supreme Council MONTHLY SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP STATUS report that is dated January 1, 2024, to assess the annual per capita tax for each KY local council.
- The State Secretary will exempt council members who are a Permanent Deacon, Inactive Insurance, Honorary Life, and Disabled Members as identified by the Council's Supreme Membership Roster when determining this annual KY State per capita tax.
- The State Secretary will create a per capita bill that charges \$6.50 per Associate & Insurance member, \$2.50 per Honorary Member, or "no charge" to Inactive, Disabled,

WILLIAMS CONT.

Honorary Life (Priests are Honorary Life members) or Permanent Deacons (Deacons are exempt from State per capita in Kentucky).

- There are only two special exemptions from the annual KY State per capita billing.
 - 1. New Councils are exempt from the State Per Capita Billing. This is effective for their first year only.
 - 2. Per KY State Council bylaws... "Such per capita assessment when levied shall continue in force and effect unless and until reduced or increased by action of the State Council".
- The State Per Capita Bill is emailed to both the Council Grand Knight and the Financial Secretary of each Council in KY. Checks are to be made out to "Kentucky State Council" and mailed with the completed bottom 1/3 of the bill to the State Secretary.
- The assessment must be paid by <u>April 10</u> to avoid being denied representation at State Convention.
- If a council's contact information needs to be updated, this is the time that process can/will be done and any new information will be passed on to the KY State Executive Secretary who handles the KY State Directory.

2024 Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention

The State Convention is April 26th, 27th, & 28th, 2024 at the Capital Plaza in Frankfort. As I said in last month's newsletter, this is **3 weeks earlier** than prior conventions that were held in May. The State Secretary office will be sending delegate certification documents in February to the councils to be filled out and sent back in. Please go ahead and recruit and elect your Council Delegates for the upcoming convention. I am looking forward to seeing you there in April.

2024 Basketball Slam Sweepstakes

I hope that all councils will participate in the Basketball Slam fund raiser to help continue to fund the State Charities Disaster Fund. Please sell some of your Councils allotment of Basketball Slam tickets to help the Disaster Fund. If you have any questions, please contact your Grand Knight.

National Eucharistic Congress – July 17-21, 2024 Indianapolis, IN

The event schedule can be found at https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/

WILLIAMS CONT.

As part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, the Southern route called "The St. Juan Diego Route" will be starting in Brownsville, Texas on May 17th. The path for this southern pilgrimage route will pass through the Archdiocese of Louisville on its way to Indianapolis in early July on the 5th. More details about the pilgrimage will be shared as they become available. If you want to learn more or sign up to receive updates about this southern route, go to www.eucharisticpilgrimmage.org

I encourage all Brothers to ask someone if they would consider being a Knight.

Vivat Jesus, Luke Williams KY State Secretary



STATE TREASURER DICK BURNS

Brothers Knights,

Merry Christmas! And Happy New Year!

Emmanuel – God is With Us! I hope you and yours had a wonderful Holiday and continue to Keep Christ in Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter, and more Ordinary Time. As we enter the New Year, I hope you take the time to reflect on our many blessings we've received from God this past year.

I'm sure most all of you join me in knowing that our families, especially our wives, for those of us blessed to have one, are our greatest blessing. I know Suzanne is mine. We started dating when I was 16 and she was 15, and almost 5 years later we were married. She's been my best supporter, sounding board, thought provoker, and most of all my best friend. I wouldn't be who I am or where I am if it wasn't for her. December 30th was our 51st Anniversary. We were both under the weather and didn't do much in the way of celebration, but no matter what happens we always have each other and we're still happy together. God is good!

My daughter shopped online and bought me a nice KofC wristwatch for a Christmas present. Old school (like me) and not like anything they're showing on Knights Gear now. It's even got a PGK emblem on the wristband. I guess a lot of stuff you buy online used to belong to a dead person. The seller failed to disclose that it had been engraved. When you turn it over, it reads "Love, Linda 1999". It would appear that I'm wearing Linda's late husband's watch. I hope I do him honor when I wear it!

BURNS CONT.

Recruit! and Retain! (or else...)

A strong **Congratulations!** to Msgr. Willett Council 7847 in Hopkinsville, St. Mildred Council 14128 in Somerset, and Fr. Stephen Badin Council 18126 in Shelbyville! They join Councils 5453 in Hebron, 12965 in Oak Grove, and 15063 in Pikeville in already exceeding 100% of their membership quota. It can be done, and these councils are well on their way to achieving Star Council status!

And a **Well Done!** to Annunciation/Guadalupe Council 1955 and Fr. Jerome Stern Council 16956 in Middlesboro for recruiting their first new members of the Fraternal Year! That still leaves over 40 active Councils that haven't recruited a new member this year, though.

Whether or not your Council has a church drive, you can and should be asking Catholic men to join the order and take advantage of being a member of the Knights of Columbus. I'm sure you know men at church who aren't members and who could benefit from it (hint: every Catholic man will benefit from being a Knight!).

Why are we not recruiting? I can't answer that. We need to step out of our comfort zone and just ask! The worst that can happen is he says thanks, but no thanks. That's all it takes – "Ask them, they will come"! Why did you join the Knights? In my case. I was in a real slump in my faith life and felt the need to surround myself with good Catholic men. I got that and much more. I use that story to invite other men to join us. You CAN do the same. As our State Membership Director Fr. Phil DeVous so eloquently put it "Recruiting is evangelizing, and evangelizing is recruiting"!

If we don't invite others to join, our councils will slowly die. We've got several in that shape right now.

BURNS CONT.

Use online membership to get new members that benefit, and get them into the Order quickly. Hold frequent new Exemplifications to get them into your Council quickly, and then get them involved in one of your programs right away to help keep them interested and help you retain them.

If each Knight asks 4 men a year to join the Order, and only one of them says yes, you'll still double the size of your council. If you don't ask, you don't grow!

Vivat Jesus! Dick Burns State Treasurer

Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2:18



STATE ADVOCATE GARY DYKHUIS

Worthy Brothers, Happy and Blessed New Year!!

It is time as I have sent each Grand Knight a Memo for considering a submission, review, and formal voting of Resolutions, at the upcoming Kentucky State convention in April, 2024. I have asked that all Resolutions be submitted by February 1st. Please submit them to the State Advocate, with copies to the State Deputy and State Secretary. At the State convention, delegates assigned to the Resolutions committee will review them and make recommendations to all the Delegates at the Business Meeting. Each Resolution will be opened for discussion and voted on. The Resolutions that deal with matters beyond our Jurisdiction will be submitted to the Supreme Advocate for consideration at the Supreme Convention.

Council Forms

It is that time again for the **Form 1295 Semiannual Council Audit Report**. This is for the period ending December 31st. this report is Due February 15th. It is also IRS For 990 time again.

As of this Newsletter, there are still 5 councils that have not submitted **Form 185 "Report of Officers Chosen for the year."** There are also 34 Councils that have not submitted a Form 365, "Service Program Personnel Report."

Form 1726, the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity is due on January 31, this is a very important, also. Make sure each member has a chance to report these activities.

Safe Environment Training

Please watch for the invitation from Praesidium Academy to meet the Safe Environment Training for those who need to complete this training. Please make sure that you have completed and submitted Form 365, and if you have missed the e-mail and are past the time limit, resubmit the 365. If you have completed this training in the last 2 years, the training is

DYKHUIS CONT.

good for three years. It's a new year Kentucky's Safe Environment Training." We need to achieve our "Safe Environment Training" goals. This means, Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director need to complete the training. This is on line training and takes about an hour to complete. The Councils that sponsor youth events like Free Throw Competitions, Soccer Challenge, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster, eta. "Safe Environment Training" (SET) is a must. You must have at least two SET Knights at these events (one must have a background check). If you cannot meet this requirement, you should not conduct this event. The same requirement is for youth helping you in your events (Fish fries, pancake breakfast, chicken cooks).

Recruit and Retain

We are in a New Fraternal Year; we have five months to recruit New Members and Families in our Kentucky Knights of Columbus order. This is a Great Time to invite those High School Seniors and First Year College Students to a meeting. A Great time to use a "Into the Breach Video." This is a Gift that needs to be offered to each Catholic man and his Family. There still is **FREE MEMBERSHIP**. for a New Member and he can join on his iPhone, cell phone by going to www.KofC.Org. The new Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY. The new Young Members and Families have the Best Ideas and know some of best practices. Make sure you are checking your "Prospect Report" for new online members, call them and invite them to your council meeting.

Please remember, Supreme has the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on line or you can read the ceremony, the best way is to hold an Exemplification after a Sunday MASS. You can invite the congregation to be a part. This is a Great way to have a New Third-Degree member, with some Great New Ideas and can help with our projects the Council has. Please welcome former members to come back to the order. Ask any Affiliate Member to come back.

Vivat Jesus, Gary Dykhuis State Advocate



STATE WARDEN MIKE KUCHENBROD

Worthy Brothers,

Blessed and Happy New year

Hopefully you and your Family had a Blessed Christmas. As we start a new Calendar New Year, please remember all the Great Goals that you have accomplished. Hopefully you have you set new Goals for this year. Maybe a more normal Brotherhood and families. Getting Brothers and families back in Church and back to doing the Great Activities that you are known for.

January is when we report the fraternal survey, start adding those hours up and help your Financial Secretary finish the report on time. The data is important both for tracking the efforts of the order and our charity status.

Round table reports: if you have not submitted your round table report for those additional parishes you support, please get those in. Supreme shows us with only 7 in the state, which I believe is only 4 councils reporting at this point. I know there were issues with the KofC portal at the beginning of the fraternal year but we still need those completed. They aid both in identifying if a council is supporting a parish and also possible new council opportunities. We have a requirement for circle of honor there as well.

Basketball Slam Tickets!!! The 2024 Basketball Slam tickets have been distributed. This is the Fundraiser for Disaster Relief. This past year we collected a lot of Funds for various weather events and that is where funds from this Fundraiser are used, not only in Kentucky, but other Jurisdictions. Please remember for every two tickets bought, you receive a third ticket on-line, making your odds better.

KUCHENBROD CONT.

Again, councils that sell 25 tickets qualify for the State Deputy Award. If you need more tickets, please let me know and I will mail them. If you are done selling and have tickets left over, let me know so that we can make those available to another council. That council may be in your District and the DD could probably make that happen (saving you postage).

Please make checks payable to "Kentucky Knights of Columbus State Charities". Please Do Not Send Cash. I will need Tickets sold, unsold and Checks by March 8, 2024. You can check results at www.basketballsweeps.com, starting April 10, 2024 after the tournament is over.

State Charity Recipients – Recipients of Grants from the Kentucky Knights of Columbus Charity are not restricted to Catholics or religious based needs. The Charity is financially sound, and councils and individuals are encouraged to submit for a grant for a worthy cause.

You can find the grant request information in the program guide on pages 39-40 which is available at <u>http://kykofc.wpengine.com/programs/overview-and-guide/</u>.

Vivat Jesus, Mike Kuchenbrod State Warden



DISTRICT MASTER JOE CARTER

Bonne année! Frohes neues Jahr! Felix sit annus novus! Feliz año nuevo!

No matter how we say, "Happy New Year," as Knights of Columbus, an organization committed to charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, this is not a phrase uttered to give someone a squishy feel-good sensation, it is a genuine blessing for love and the best for those we care about. It is an expression of our recommitment to those ideals for which we originally joined the Order.

Some people develop lists of "resolutions." We recommit. There is a difference. Resolutions are aims to follow some course of action that revolves around things we know we should do anyway. A commitment is a willingness to give your time and energy to something that you believe in. It is a positive call to action about something you want to do, rather than something you do not necessarily want to do but feel that you "should."

Are you fully committed? Following is the Yardstick:

We are committed to **Charity**. We clearly understand that when we care for someone in need, we do the will of Christ. Jesus told us this himself:

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me . . . I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:34-36, 40).

CARTER CONT.

We are committed to Unity. Both with Christ and with each other. Our unity with Christ lays in Jesus' command to:

"...remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me" (John 15:4).

Paul summed up our commitment to each other:

"Then make my joy complete by being likeminded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind" (Philippians 2:2).

We are committed to **Fraternalism**. Said differently, we are committed to teamwork. Working together to accomplish a specific goal. We can find no better example of fraternalism than the Apostles. Twelve men of diverse backgrounds, skills, and vocations. Jesus' twelve-man team was an example of men working together despite their diversity. One was a tax collector, several were fishers, one was politically active and known as "the Zealot." Yet, they changed the entire world.

We are committed to **Patriotism**. We are patriotic Catholics. The word "patriotism has different nuances of meaning, and different people use the word in diverse ways. However, we refer to the simple meaning of patriotic: "loving one's country." It is appropriate for a Catholic being patriotic. In accordance with **(Romans 13:1-7)** we are to be subject to the governing authorities and to honor them because it is God who placed them in authority over us. As Christians, we are under obligation to God to be model citizens, subject to the governing authorities over us by obeying laws, paying taxes, etc. However, our responsibilities are primarily to be obedient to God. In America, a constitutional republic where individual citizens can change and influence government by voting or by being politically involved when appropriate and in appropriate ways, part of being a good citizen is voting and having whatever positive influence we can on government. In addition, as members of the Knights of Columbus, we have an obligation to care for those that served American in patriotic way. That includes veterans who are well off, but especially those that are having trouble.

CARTER CONT.

How did you do?

Are you fully committed?

Many of you will answer the questions positively. But there are some of you that will find yourselves short. To be fully committed you must earn the Patriotic Degree. You can easily do so by attending a Patriotic Degree Exemplification. There is an exemplification being planned for Louisville during February, and one planned for Northern Kentucky on March 2nd. I will be talking to Faithful Navigators in the Southern portion of the State to see if one can be scheduled for that area in May.

These are our commitments for the new year. They are *firm* decisions to do something. Commitment leads to Action.

If you have any questions about the Patriotic Degree, or if you need me to send you a digital Form 4 that you can complete on your computer, call me on my cell phone (702) 277-9122.

"Commitment means staying loyal to what you said you were going to do long after the mood you said it in has left you." -Anonymous

Fraternally, Joe Carter District Master



GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE

Happy New Year from Knights of Columbus Insurance

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a joyous and merry Christmas.

All of us start the new year afresh. We make resolutions. Let's plan now to look back at the end of 2024 and be able to say, "I kept those resolutions to improve myself, to improve my relationship with my family and friends, and my relationship with God!" An improved prayer life is the goal of many. I know I've made that resolution almost every year. Some years I do better than others.

But here are few things I've found about making resolutions that helped me.

First, I don't want to make a resolution that is not possible to keep. I've got to be realistic. I can't go to an extreme. For example, to improve my prayer life, I can't go from praying for 15 minutes in the morning to reading a chapter of the Bible, attending daily Mass, reciting the rosary, and saying the Liturgy of the Hours each day. For me, that's too much of a jump. I'm going to follow that for a day or two and then something will get me off track. Myself, I need to take baby steps. Maybe start with saying the rosary each day. I've got to make my resolution achievable.

The same is true of all those other resolutions we make.

I can't go from being a couch potato to running six miles a day...but I could start by walking a mile each day as an achievable step in that direction.

SCHACHLE CONT.

I can't starve myself trying to lose weight...but I could cut out snacks between meals as a start. Again, an achievable step.

I might want to read more, so I can start by reading a chapter a day in a book.

You get the idea. The resolution must be reasonable, achievable, and specific.

Now here is one resolution that is reasonable, achievable, and specific: Resolve to meet with your K of C Field Agent to update the information on your family's financial needs analysis. (Or maybe you need to complete a financial needs analysis.) Let's see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. As a K of C Field Agent, they are charged to meet with each member each year. Your Field Agent can look at your goals and aspirations and make sure you're on track to keep your family appropriately protected. You can expect that he will contact you soon to see if an appointment should be our next step.

Vivat Jesus!

Dan Schachle Dan Schachle, FICF, PGK Knights of Columbus, General Agent (615) 589-8848 Daniel.Schachle@KofC.org





STATE HISTORIAN BILLY HANCOCK

Council Charters

Worthy Grand Knights and District Deputies, I would like your help to complete a 2023 initiative. Namely to complete the pictorial archival of the Council charters. Over a period of three different reminders, each time additional Councils submitted digital pictures of their charter. This is the fourth reminder. There are 109 councils listed on the spreadsheet. To date, only fifty-eight Councils have responded. I forwarded the spreadsheet to Program Director Fred Meade so he can credit twenty-five points toward the State Deputy Award to these Councils. For those Councils that have not sent in their photograph, there is still fifteen point available. If there is a blank space next to your Council number, please send a photograph to me at cieflat.com.

My thanks to the Grand Knights and District Deputies for their cooperation in this initiative.

Submitted for the January 2024 Newsletter by: Billy R. Hancock, PSD State Historian

Council	Charter	Council	Charter	Council	Charter
	Image		Image		Image
	Submitted		Submitted		Submitted
390		5634	Х	13304	Х
702		6101	Х	13917	Х
762	Х	6317		14128	Х
817	Х	6368		14130	Х
1004	Х	6743		14234	Х

HANCOCK CONT.

Council	Charter	Council	Charter	Council	Charter
	Image		Image		Image
	Submitted		Submitted		Submitted
1055	Х	6897	Х	14290	Х
1264	Х	7029		14372	Х
1290		7387	Х	14471	Х
1301		7831		14604	Х
1315		7847	Х	14728	
1320	Х	8145		14993	Х
1361		10263		15063	
1367	Х	10682		15181	Х
1377	Х	10725	Х	15211	Х
1418	Х	10962	Х	15452	Х
1455	Х	10987		15484	
1483		10988	Х	15525	Х
1487		11132	Х	15613	
1764		11181		15681	
1955		11191		15699	Х
2046		11453		15707	
2208		11470	Х	15841	Х
2282	Х	11591		15914	Х
2459		11972		15931	Х
2499	Х	12354	Х	15979	
2761		12502		16125	
3379	Х	12562		16179	Х
3908	Х	12623	Х	16206	
4089		12774	Х	16232	
4270	Х	12852	Х	16424	Х
4473		12923	Х	16956	
4665	Х	12965	Х	17234	
5070		13053	X	17247	Х
5071		13196		17445	
5220		13304	Х	17606	Х
5453	Х			18058	Х
				18126	
				18284	

PRO-LIFE EVENTS

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE MEMORIAL MASS

JANUARY 13TH @ 6:30PM



CELEBRANT Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre

JOIN US AS WE STAND WITNESS TO THE SANCTITY OF LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH

More than 150 churches, schools and organizations have come together annually to promote the right for life for all human beings. Will your church, school or organization be represented?

> Please email or call Celesta Arnold at celesta.arnold58@gmail.com or 502-493-6276 to register your organization. Please include the name of the organization, and, if applicable, the name of the representative for the Rose Ceremony.

SAINT GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

5505 BARDSTOWN RD LOUISVILLE, KY 40291

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CALENDAR

January March for Life	23
March Founder's Day	29
April State convention	26-28



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