



Kentucky State Council Newsletter

ISSUE NO.

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JANUARY 2025



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Assembly 2753 in Hopkinsville conducted its annual warm clothing drive for local veterans in Christian County. We had an angel tree within St Peter & Paul Catholic Church and our parishioners donated 50 coats, 50 blankets, hats, gloves, and scarves. We also received \$695 in cash for our Operation Stay Warm Program.

Story continued on page 5.

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COATS FOR KIDS

From December 12th to December 23rd, Council 7847, from Hopkinsville, presented coats for kids to four different organizations. Angel tree program through Sts Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Sts Peter and Paul Thrift store, Joy Closet, which manages foster kids/families, and Sanctuary Inc, which is a domestic violence shelter.

I have attached a photo from each of those presentations.

Bruce Wilcox

Grand Knight



BUSY CHRISTMAS SEASON

Bishop Mulloy Council 1301 had a busy Christmas. A generous member donated "Keep Christ in Christmas" yard signs which we gave to all four of our parishes. At our Christmas party, we asked members to donate diapers which we gave to Care Net. As always, we displayed our sponsorship sign of the nativity displayed on the public square. Jesus is placed in the manger on Christmas Day.

Deacon Bill Theis



OPERATION STAY WARM

Assembly 2753 in Hopkinsville conducted its annual warm clothing drive for local veterans in Christian County. We had an angel tree within St Peter & Paul Catholic Church and our parishioners donated 50 coats, 50 blankets, hats, gloves, and scarves. We also received \$695 in cash for our Operation Stay Warm Program. A local bank, United Southern (USB) donated \$100 and 10 jackets. The Hopkinsville Water Environment Association (HWEA) donated \$250. 100% of the donations will provide assistance, food, and warm clothing to our Armed Forces Veterans.

Assembly 2753 is extremely proud of our Operation Stay Warm Program and will continue to give to our Veterans as needed.

Merry Christmas and God Bless America and its active and retired military!

Tom O'Hagan
Faithful Comptroller



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Council 7847 in Hopkinsville had a very busy Sunday, December 15th. First, we hosted a Breakfast with Santa for members of Sts Peter and Paul Catholic church, which saw approximately 50 kids and their parents partake in the breakfast as well as getting their picture taken with Santa.

Later that evening we had our annual Christmas party that included several brother knight's and their spouses, and also included a couple of widows of brother knight's. We enjoyed a social hour, dinner, and finished the evening with a dirty Santa gift exchange.

Bruce Wilcox
Grand Knight



WEDNESDAY'S CHILD

I want to thank everyone who helped in making this years Wednesday's Child Christmas Program a tremendous success again this year. This was the 22nd year of the annual event. Thanks, to all the Knights of Columbus councils across the state who donated time, money or both to making Christmas for so many children so much better. Brother Knight Clyde Hayes started the Wednesday's Child Christmas Program 22 years ago so these kids could have what they wanted for Christmas, and he worked tirelessly towards that goal. Clyde was taken from us in 2018 but his legacy is still going strong thanks to individuals like yourself. We had the annual Christmas Pizza Party December 4th at the Main Event for the kids where the kids enjoyed all the games, all the pizza they wanted and of course Santa passing out the presents. Again, Thank You for all your support. We presented a check at the Wednesday's Child Telethon on WLKY-TV December 9th in the amount of \$12,500.00.

Steve Arnold
District Deputy



PUBLIC BIBLE READING

A tradition in Hardinsburg, KY is a “Public Bible reading” on the courthouse square in downtown Hardinsburg starting at midnight on New Year’s Eve. Different “teams” from all the local churches are invited to participate and are organized in to “watches” to read the Bible starting with the Book of Genesis, and ending with the Book of Revelation. The reading occurs around the clock on Main Street near the front of the courthouse in a heated trailer constructed for this purpose. The readings are broadcast on a loud speaker onsite as well as partially broadcast on the local radio station. It takes most of 4 days to complete the Bible reading. Pictured above is Grand Knight Chris Brumfield of Hardinsburg Council 2499. Chris is from St Romuald Parish in Hardinsburg and is working one of the “graveyard watches” for this event.

Tom Aull



Special Olympics

Schedule Set for 2025 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 2024 Councils raised more than \$8,000 for Special Olympics Kentucky in Plunges in Lexington, Louisville and Lake Cumberland. With four Polar Plunges across the state, plus the opportunity to raise money for our athletes at the Cincinnati Polar Plunge, 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 25 –Cincinnati at The Banks](#)

[February 8 – Lexington at Texas Roadhouse on Richmond Rd.](#)

[February 22 – Louisville at Main Event](#)

[March 1 – Western Kentucky at Kentucky Dam Village](#)

[March 8 – 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.

Jan. 26-28 – State Winter Games; Perfect North Slopes;

Lawrenceburg Ind. – Ski Partners, Timers, Course Officials

Feb. 2-3 – Region 1 Basketball Tournament; Bowling Green Parks

and Recreation; Bowling Green – Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees

Feb. 2-3 – Region 3 Basketball Tournament; Bluegrass SportsPlex;

Elizabethtown - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees

Feb. 22 – Region 2 Basketball Tournament; All About Sports;

Florence - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees

March 8-9 – State Basketball Tournament; MidAmerica Sports Complex - Scorekeepers, Scoreboard Operators, PA Announcers, Referees



Special Olympics cont.

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 mbuerger@soky.org or 859-338-6075.



STATE DEPUTY LUKE WILLIAMS



Happy New Year We have just finished 6 months of regular, virtual, telephone and other types of meetings, activities and communications, and some of us have had great success and others are struggling. Historically in Kentucky, Knights of Columbus council activities, membership recruitment and actions always ramp up the last 6 months until we reach the end of the Fraternal Year on June 30th. I am confident that it is not too late for your council to take the steps to achieve the distinction of a “Star Council Status” which is the badge of honor that shows you are “active”. This will ensure that your council will continue its good works for your parishes, and communities. 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...**So, are you ready to start the 2nd half of this Knights of Columbus Fraternal Year?**

2024 Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Council Midyear Meeting

The State Council 2024 Midyear Meeting had an excellent turnout in Elizabethtown the first weekend in December. We reviewed our Strategic Plan action items status. We heard from many presenters whose goal was to present us with access to the tools we need to serve our Church, Communities and our Country by adhering to our principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity that so many Men are longing for in today's world. Thank you to all who attended. The slide presentations were sent to District Deputies, Council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, and others who play an active role in leadership of the Kentucky Knights of Columbus organization. If you are interested, let me know and I will make sure you get the resources presented.

WILLIAMS CONT.

2025 Basketball Slam Sweepstakes

I hope that all councils will participate in the Basketball Slam fundraiser 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.

2025 Sacred Heart Pilgrim Icon Program – 4-Kentucky Dioceses

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus select a Catholic icon featuring an image that is particularly edifying to Knights and their communities. This year the KY jurisdiction has received Four (one for each Diocese) Sacred Heart of Jesus icons which travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Commonwealth. It is the aim of this program to continue to foster greater devotion to the Sacred Heart among Knights and their communities. More than 191,000 council and parish prayer services with some 23 million participants have been held since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979. Planning this program is currently being held by the State Council but I ask that you Go to the “Pilgrim Icon Program Guide Sheet #10682 link [10682 Pilgrim Icon Program GS](#) to get details on what the prayer program will look like. Your District Deputy or other State or Local Council representative will be coordinating the Icon travel from Parish to Parish and the Icon should be ready to schedule starting in February. The Sacred Heart Holy Hour Booklet (#5050) [Sacred Heart Holy Hour](#) can be used for a prayer service with or without exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayer Cards (#11520) can be ordered through Supplies Online via Officers Online.



WILLIAMS CONT.

Upcoming Important dates- January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025 Calendar

*1st Thursday of every Month	Zoom DD/SD Meeting @ 9:00 PM EST
*2nd Monday of every Month	Zoom GK/SD Meeting @ 8:30 PM EST
*January, 2025	Councils order Church Drive kits for March
*January, 2025	District Meetings with DD and other GK's in District
*January 29, 2025	Regional Fraternal Benefit Night at Christ the King in Lexington.
*February 8, 2025	Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky 8:30-4 pm Mass with Bishop at Cathedral at 4:30 is optional Sign up at https://kycatholic.com/
*February 12, 2025	Kentucky March for Life – Frankfort-State Capital Register at https://kentuckymarchforlife.org/
*February 15, 2025	Awards/State Per Capita/State Convention Stuff
*March, 2025	Councils have Church Drive
*March 5, 2025	Ash Wednesday
*March 15, 2025	State Award Submissions due to Program Director
*March 29, 2025	Founders Day – Have a Membership Drive on 3/30/25
*May 2-4, 2025	122nd Annual Knights of Columbus - KY State Convention

2025 Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention

The State Convention is May 2nd, 3rd, & 4th, 2025 at the Capital Plaza in Frankfort. The State Secretary office will be sending delegate certification documents soon 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 May.

Membership Growth Initiatives

*I encourage all Brothers to “Invite Every Catholic Man in Kentucky” to become a Knight of Columbus member.

WILLIAMS CONT.

*Please start planning and hold a Church Drive in memory of Our Founder – Fr. Michael McGivney on March 30, 2024.

*I am asking all 99 Councils in KY be at least 75% or better of your membership growth goal by March 31, 2025

*I look forward to giving out awards at the 2025 State Convention to those District Deputies and Councils who will achieve the KY Membership Growth Incentive goals.

Programs/Faith In Action

*The Kentucky March for Life in Frankfort is February 12, 2025 at the State Capital.

Special Olympics, please review the link for a March for Life Brochure (#10620)

[10620 March for Life GS](#)

*Columbian Award Review - REVIEW COUNCIL ACTIVITIES NOW – Any Questions, ask State Program Director Fred Meade.

COR Initiative in Kentucky - Bishops have been explained COR by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly at the recent USCCB Fall Plenary Assembly Public Session. He has also sent a personal letter to all 4 of the Kentucky Bishops and presented them materials on COR and asking them to contact the State Deputy if the implementation of COR seems like something that would serve the Bishops' pastoral priorities. I have passed the message on to our District Deputies and Grand Knights that we will need to help our parish priests understand what COR is and how the Knights of Columbus can help the parish if they decide to use the resources available for small group meetings. I encourage ALL parishes to check out the COR resources available.

KofC Fraternal Benefits

Our Brother Knights of Columbus Insurance Agents are here for you and your family. I urge you to contact your agent to discuss your benefits as a Knight. One of Fr. McGivney's main goals was to ensure that your family was protected if something happened. Please visit this link to see the updated Members Benefits available as a Knight of Columbus. [2773 Member Benefits Insert](#)

Renewing Glory: The Restoration of St. Peter's Baldacchino Video Link I am attaching the link about the St. Peter's Baldacchino restoration project that was supported by the Knights

WILLIAMS CONT.

of Columbus. This video is a very beautiful project that was completed in time for the opening of the Jubilee Holy Door on Christmas Eve. I hope you enjoy it!

[Renewing Glory: The Restoration of St. Peter's Baldacchino](#)

Closing Thoughts...

Thank you to all Brother Knights and their families who continually participate in all the functions of our order and especially the Charity of your time, talents or money.

As a reminder, per the Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Council By-Laws Section 15. "All resolutions, petitions, recommendations of changes and amendments of the by-laws shall be submitted, in writing, to the State Advocate by March 15". If you have any questions, contact State Advocate Mike Kuchenbrod.

Remember that Safe Environment Compliance must be up to date by May 1st for a Council to be eligible for Star Council recognition.

I am **ACTIVELY** encouraging all Councils to submit their Faith In Action Projects (due on 3/31) or Candidates this year for State Awards (Due on 3/15) which are forwarded to Supreme to be considered as an International Winner.

Here is a list of the Single Service Program Awards. Due to State Program Director by 3/31/25

1. Faith,
2. Community,
3. Family and
4. Life program projects conducted between April 1, 2024 & March 31, 2025

Here is a list of the State Awards due to State Program Director by 3/15/25

1. State Deputy Unity Award,
2. Dentinger Lifetime Service Award,
3. Knight of the Year Award,
4. State Blessed Michael McGivney Award (formally Chaplain of the Year Award) and,
5. Family of the Year Award.

WILLIAMS CONT.

For Award descriptions and details, look at pages 3-12 of the FY2024-2025 Program Guidebook or speak with State Program Director Fred Meade fsmeade@fuse.net

FY24-25 Program Guide Link [Program Overview and Guide](#)

I know that a lot of Councils have projects or folks that deserve to be recognized. All it takes is someone to describe the project or actions on paper, include pictures and send to the State Program Director Fred Meade or the State Deputy by the date listed in the State Program Guide.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible throughout this year. I hope you will contact me with any questions so I can be of service.

**Vivat Jesus,
Luke Williams
KY State Deputy**



STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST



**“THIS WILL BE A SIGN FOR YOU:
YOU WILL FIND AN INFANT WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES
AND LYING IN A MANGER.” (LUKE 2:12)**

I couldn't help but think of this passage when I heard the story in the news about the homeless woman in Louisville being chased down by a policeman to give her a ticket for vagrancy while she was in the process of giving birth under an overpass! I can only imagine one of Herod's henchmen saying, "Sorry, Mary, this stable is not zoned for birthing; it imperils public safety." Or, "Too bad, Joseph, that there's no room in the inn; y'all just need to keep on moving to the next town. Maybe you'll find a room in some establishment further down the road."

Now I understand the officer in question was "just doing his job" and a further news follow-up credited that an ambulance was called, and the woman was taken to a hospital. But the whole incident makes me question the whole rationale (or is it rationalizing?) behind the so-called Safer Kentucky Act. Who is made safer by making homelessness illegal? I suppose I might find such a legal effort rational, perhaps even humane, if it included funding for affordable housing or at least financial support for shelters for the homeless. Maybe I missed that in the reports on the law...

Nor does Matthew's account of the Nativity, though placed in a house (Matthew 2:11), give me much comfort when it describes Herod's reaction to the Magi's report that there was a newborn king in town: "He ordered the massacre of all the boys two years old and under" (Matt. 2:16). I'm sure Herod would argue that it was a necessary measure to ensure political stability.

Perhaps I'm taking the Gospel too seriously, or maybe some will say I'm "comparing apples and oranges". A woman under an overpass in the twentieth century is nothing like Mary and Joseph

LIST CONT.

in the first century! Still, it makes me wonder about the state of the moral conscience of our society today. What is or should be the responsibility of our public institutions to those in need? Pope Francis devotes several paragraphs (#186-192) in Fratelli tutti to “The Exercise of Political Love”, in which he credits politicians as “doers, builders with ambitious goals, possessed of a broad, realistic and pragmatic gaze that looks beyond their own borders. Their biggest concern should not be about a drop in the polls, but about finding effective solutions to ‘the phenomenon of social and economic exclusion, with its baneful consequences...’” I can only pray that his vision will be heard.

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. John List
State Chaplain



IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON



Happy New Year Brother Knights!

Wishing you and your families a Happy and Prosperous New Year! While 2024 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 2025 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. More and more people are coming back to the church. Many of our Catholic Schools continue to see an increase of students. Natural disasters will continue to occur and people from near and far will continue to rush to help their neighbors.

The Right to Life Movement and those that work to promote the Sanctity of Life in all stages, have made great end roads over this past year. 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

JOHNSON CONT.

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

Immediate Past State Deputy's Report:

I continue to see 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 too 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.

The first half of the Fraternal Year is over and yet we still have many councils that 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 yet, 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 that joined the Knights of Columbus did so with 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.

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 Former Membership Director Fr. Phil DeVous.

**Take Care & God Bless,
Tom Johnson
Immediate Past State Deputy**



STATE SECRETARY DICK BURNS



Brothers Knights,

Celebrations!

Congratulations to:

- Knottsville Council 16125 celebrates its 10th Anniversary on January 14th
- St. Christopher Council 12623 in Radcliff celebrates its 25th anniversary on January 16th
- And a very hearty Well Done! to Frankfort Council 1483 who celebrate their 115th anniversary on January 9th.

I'm sure they'll all have many more years of service ahead of them.

Tempus Fugit!

Christmastide has come and gone (the Burns family still having their tree up notwithstanding!). I hope it was a blessed time for you and your families. We missed a White Christmas, but we spent the end of the season snowed in.

Happy New Year to all, and I hope that Advent and Christmas paved the way for a Jubilee Year of growth in faith and love of the Lord for all!

Membership

Through the first half of the fraternal year, 41 councils are still on the Membership Director's "naughty list" for not having recruited a single new member yet. We're falling further behind the State's Quota for the year. 50% of the way in, we're only at 38% of our Quota. That puts us 51st out of 75 jurisdictions worldwide.

BURNS CONT.

Yes, you have to meet quota in order to qualify for Star Council, a lofty and worthy goal. And yes, we need to recruit new members, especially younger members, to keep our councils healthy and sustainable. But the overriding driver in giving every Catholic Man an opportunity to join the Knights of Columbus is to help them grow in their faith, to better serve their families, their parishes and their communities, and to help them protect their families.

They won't get that opportunity unless you ask them. Be "Fishers of Men". Think about why you joined the Knights. Someone asked you, and I hope you're glad they did. I still remember the Brother who asked me, Richard Galindo in Council 6234 in Nassau Bay, Texas, and I'm grateful that he did.

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!

Council per Capita Billing

I'm preparing the Council per Capita Billing Statements, and they should be e-mailed to the councils soon. Please send your check in promptly. If they aren't received by April 13th, your Council will not have voting rights at the State Convention in Frankfort on Derby Day.

**Vivat Jesus,
Dick Burns
State Secretary**

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



STATE TREASURER GARY DYKHUIS



Worthy Brothers,

Happy and Blessed New Year!!

The second half of the Knights of Columbus Fraternal year, are you ready? Council leaders should be assessing where your council is, and where they want to be. How are you going to get there? This is the questions that yourself, not as a Judgement but as an opportunity to improve. It is time help our Parishes and our Communities by promoting ourselves by our principles, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

What is your Plan for the next six months? Do you have events scheduled? Have your leaders met with your Pastor, this last month? Are you doing a planning meeting? Is your Council using the Faith in Action Guidebook? Are your Council Leaders attending the webinars by Supreme?

With this New Year, we need to set Goals that we need to be accomplished. One goal is to be a Star Council, where is your council at? Has your Council started to discuss COR in your Parish.

If your council is struggling and is in the need for help, please contact any of the state officers, your District Deputy. We are just a phone call away, but you need to ask.

Please stay safe during the storms, help your neighbor who might need your help.

DYKHUIS CONT.

Remember that for all your hard work you done this last month, please have someone in your file a **Fraternal Programs Report form #10784**.

2025 Basketball Slam Sweepstakes

Basketball Slam Tickets were handed out at the Mid-Year Meeting, a Great Fund raiser for the State Charities Disaster fund. If you need tickets, check with you Grand Knight. Great Money as prizes.

January History

During the American Revolution, George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the First national flag in America.

Recruit and Retain

This is the seventh month of the Fraternal Year; we need to recruit New Members and Families. Use you iPhone, and search for “Join Kofc” and 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. Ask the young man, that is a High School Senior, in your Parish, to consider becoming a Knight.

Please remember, there are three ways to have 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.

May you have a Blessed New Year!

Father McGivney, Pray for Us,

Have a Blessed Day!

Vivat Jesus!!

Gary Dykhuis

State Treasurer

STATE ADVOCATE MIKE KUCHENBROD



Worthy Brothers,

Happy New Year!

I hope your year is off to a good start and that everyone is both surviving this winter storm and helping out others in your council and parish communities.

Resolutions!

I am not talking about those new years resolutions to exercise, etc., this is the time of year to be preparing resolutions for the State Convention and voting on them at your council meeting in order to submit them to the state. Many councils will not have something to submit, but if you do I will need the council approved resolution submitted to me by March 1st so that they can be reviewed and considered at the State Convention in May.

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.

KUCHENBROD CONT.

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.

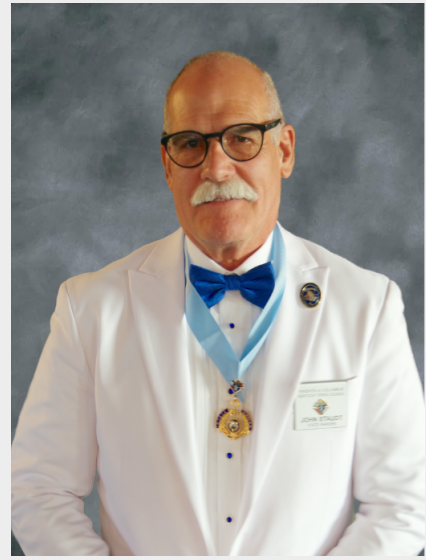
Gather that information for the **Fraternal Survey, the 1728** will be due in January and your Financial Secretary will need that info to fill out the form with any accuracy. This form not only helps us capture the scope of efforts by our Knights but also helps us comply with requirements from the US Government to maintain our tax-exempt status so get that data in.

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. If you have completed this training in the last three years, you are good to go. It is on line training and takes about an hour to complete. Don't let this be a stumbling block to achieving Star Council or a possible opening to liability should some adverse event occur during a council program, assist your members and get fully Safe Environment trained.

**Vivat Jesus,
Mike Kuchenbrod
State Advocate**



STATE WARDEN JOHN STAUDT



Worthy Brothers,

Welcome to the new year. I hope you and your family and friends had a very merry and blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year celebration.

As I wrote in the December newsletter, I like to read the inspiring articles from our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly and our Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop William Lori in the Columbia magazine. The December Columbia is no different with humility, hope and light versus darkness being the theme during the Advent and Christmas season. This is a theme we all should carry with us we navigate the new year into the Jubilee Year of Hope.

Our Basketball Slam sales are in full swing. All councils who wished to participate have their tickets. The 2,500 tickets were distributed at the Mid-Year Meeting on December 7th. The sale of the 2024-2025 Basketball Slam Sweepstake tickets is the only fundraiser for the Kentucky Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program. The funding for this program will assist in the implementation of resource and distribution centers, first responder support and staging, points of distribution, emergency volunteer personnel support for shelters and food distribution, and parish preparation support. All sold ticket stubs and checks, with unsold tickets, are to be turned-in to me by the deadline of March 8, 2025. Self-addressed envelopes are part of the

STAUDT CONT.

distributed Basketball Slam packets. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Plan on having a Basketball Free Throw Contest for 9 – 14 year old boys and girls. It is easy during the height of the basketball season. Typically, January is the council's contest, February the District and Regional and finally the State competition in March. Details of running the contest can be found in the Basketball Free Throw Contest Kit. The kit can be ordered from Supreme by your council's Financial Secretary. Contact Free Throw Chairman, George Hayes at george.h.hayes@gmail.com with any questions you may have.

Enjoy the remainder of the Christmas season with your family and friends, and have a prosperous new year.

**Vivat Jesus,
John Staudt
State Warden**



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR TOM O'HAGAN



Brothers, we have completed the 1st Half of this Fraternal Year. Unfortunately, we did not reach the 50% membership growth target, which would have reduced our overall quota by 2.5%. We still have 6 months to reach Star District, Star Council, and the State Membership Growth Incentives.

- 56 councils have welcomed 198 new members. Congratulations! Where are the other 43 councils in Kentucky? Remember you must ask them to join your council.
- Stay focused on attaining Star Council. Complete SET compliance, attend the FBEs that are available or request your field agent to attend a meeting so he can explain the fantastic benefits available to us.

KY MEMBERSHIP GROWTH INCENTIVE

Incentives for 2024 – 2025 Fraternal Year

Everybody deserves a little reward for doing a good job. We hope you will find a reward that is marginally worthy of your work to grow the Jurisdiction and the Order and to get more Catholic Men involved in our charitable good work.

We have a couple of incentives to reward those great advocates for the Knights of Columbus who work all year long. Let's celebrate those members and even those non-members who constantly help more Catholic Men participate in Catholic charity and work for the betterment of the Church.

District Deputies

Every District Deputy who earns the Star District Award for the Fraternal Year 2024-25 in addition to the Supreme award will receive a 7X9 Portfolio and 2pc Pen set with the KofC logo.

O'HAGAN CONT.

- **D18 = 107.1% Congratulations!**
- **D2, 6, 8, 21, 22 all are above 70% Congratulations!**

Council – July 1st thru March 31st

Award to be presented at the 2025 State Convention to the Grand Knight

Those councils that reach:

- **200% Membership Growth of Quota** or better will receive a liter bottle of Woodford Reserve Bourbon inscribed with KofC logo.
 - 200% - 15452
 - **150% Membership Growth of Quota** up to 199% will receive a mounted Louisville Slugger baseball bat inscribed with the KofC logo.
 - 150+% - 2282, 15914, and 18126
 - **100% Membership Growth of Quota** up to 149% will receive a Wood 3-pc Oak set inscribed with KofC logo.
 - 100% - 702, 1055, 12965, 18058, and 18284
- **Council 390, 707, 4665, 5634, 7847, 12923, 13304, 14604, 15525, 15841, 15931, 15979 have reached SET, Founders Awards - CONGRATULATIONS!**
 - **Councils 12965, 15914, and 18126 have reached SET, McGivney, and Founders Awards - CONGRATULATIONS!**
 - GKs have you scheduled your Council Church Membership Drive? – Order Church Drive Kits - how-to-order-delta-church-drive-kit.pdf (kofc.org)
 - There are approximately 95 'Assigned' candidates/prospects that want to be in your council. Please review your council list, contact these E-Members, and invite them to your next CUF Exemplification. We are not growing fast enough. We are not conducting CUF Exemplifications fast or often enough. Each council should be scheduling a CUF monthly. They want to help your council succeed, contact them.
 - Is your council using the State Council Recruitment Card? Your membership team should be handing them out to every prospective man. They are easy to use and effective. Use your Phone and Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY. Be sure to add your Council number to the front of the card to avoid the dreaded 'Unassigned' prospect list
 - Be Fishers of Men! – Watch the Training Webinar

Meaningful programs keep our brothers engaged and active and meaningful programs also entice new men and their families to want to join our esteemed Order.



O’HAGAN CONT.

As Fishers of Men, let’s prioritize asking a Catholic man to join the Order today. Some of you know this, some may not, but research tells us that 7.5 million Catholic men would join the Knights of Columbus if asked. It is now time to ask...

	Actual v Quota MTD	Actual v Quota YTD
New Members	24 v 42	198 v 498
Councils With No YTD Adds		44 v 99
Form 365 Not Submitted (99)		32
Form 185 Not Submitted (99)		10
Roundtable	0 v 13	5 v 13
Form 1295 SA Audit (108)		28 Delinquent

The Knights of Columbus offer every man the chance to live his faith and be an example for others to follow. We owe it to all Catholic men to provide them with this opportunity—the opportunity to be a better Catholic, a better man, a better husband, father, grandfather, brother or son, and friend.

Vivat Jesus!
 Tom O’Hagan
 KY State Membership Director

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 2025 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.

SCHACHLE CONT.

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

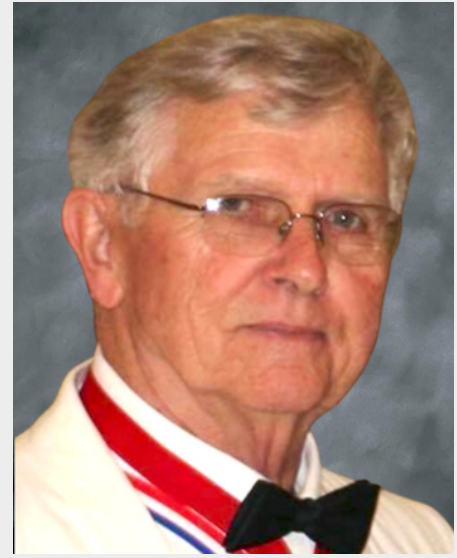
I can't go from being a couch potato to running six miles a day...but I could start by walking a mile each day as an achievable step in that direction. I can't starve myself trying to lose weight...but I could cut out snacks between meals as a start. Again, an achievable step. I might want to read more, 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 a Field Agent to update the information on your family's financial needs analysis. (Or maybe you need to complete a financial needs analysis.) He will help you see where you stand. Your financial health is critical to your family's future security. A Field Agent is charged to meet with all his members each year. He can look at your goals and aspirations and make sure you're on track to keep your family appropriately protected. You can expect a call from a Field Agent to arrange a meeting to see what course of action would be best for you and your family.

Happy New Year,

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

STATE HISTORIAN BILLY HANCOCK



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EMBLEM

The emblem of the Order dates from the second Supreme Council meeting May 12, 1883, when it was designed by James T. Mullen, who was then Supreme Knight.

A quick glance at the emblem indicates a shield mounted upon the Formee Cross. The shield is that associated with a medieval Knight. The Formee Cross is the representation of a traditionally artistic design of the Cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the Order.

Mounted on the shield are three objects: a fasces standing vertically, and, crossed behind it, an anchor and a dagger or short sword. The fasces from Roman days are symbolic of authority which must exist in any tightly-bonded and efficiently operating organization. The anchor is the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order, while the short sword or dagger was the weapon of the Knight when engaged upon an errand of mercy. Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action, and with the letters K. of C., it proclaims this specific form of activity.

The red, white and blue in the background of the shield and the foreground of the Cross of Malta are the colors of our country. As such, red is the symbol of hope, of calm tranquility under God and of confidence in the protection of our country. White is the symbol of nobility of purpose, of purity of aim and of crucible- tried ideals to be carried out.

HANCOCK CONT.

But there is another symbolism of color in red, white and blue This is the ecclesiastical symbolism in which red become the reflection of the drips of Christ's redemptive blood shed upon Calvary, and of the martyr's blood shed in defense of the faith.



Red then is the symbol of Faith, of belief in Christ, in the Redemption and in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. White is the color of the Eucharistic Host, pledge of God Eucharistic presence among men, of the infinite love God has for man and the overwhelming affection

HANCOCK CONT.

which the God-man has for each individual. White then is the symbol of Christ-like Charity. Blue is the color of Our Lady's mantle, in which she wrapped her beloved Son, through Whom came salvation to a sinful world. Blue is then the symbol of Hope.

The symbolism of the Emblem of the Order is an extract from the Official Knights of Columbus Emblems and Council Jewels booklet number 1910. Wear it with pride.

We are few days into a new year and on the 20th, we usher in a retread president. Let us pray he will live up to his campaign promises and make America great again!



**Submitted for the January 2025 Newsletter by:
Billy R. Hancock, PSD
State Historian**

Local Events

Archdiocese Of Louisville Annual Mass for Life



January 18, 2025, 10:00 AM
St. Gabriel Church
5505 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY



Join Archbishop Shelton and more than 150 parishes, schools and organizations as we celebrate and stand witness to the dignity and sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death!

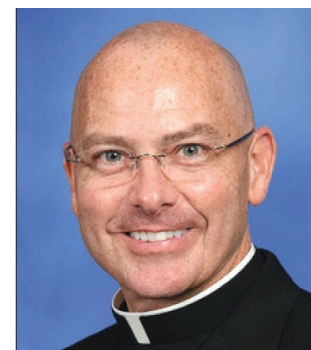


To register your organization to be recognized at the event, contact Celesta Arnold at celesta.arnold58@gmail.com or (502) 439-6276.

Special Guests:

The St. Martin de Porres Swahili Choir

All Are Welcome!



Featured Homilist
Father Jeff Nicolas

Local Events



Valentine's Day
DANCE

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Friday, February 14th
6 pm ~ 10pm

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Cocktails 6-7 ~ Dinner 7-8
Live Band "Hot Dancin" 8-10

\$100 per couple
Fundraiser benefitting Hope House

Sts. Peter & Paul ~ Hopkinsville
Meredith Hall

Sponsored by:
Knights of Columbus 7847

CALENDAR

January

KY March for Life 23

March

Founders Day 29

May

State Convention 2-4

KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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www.facebook.com/kentuckyknights/