



Kentucky State Council Newsletter

ISSUE NO.

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MAY 2025



WE HAVE A POPE!

The full text of the first public homily of Pope Leo XIV, given at a Mass for the College of Cardinals in the Sistine Chapel May 9, 2025 can be found on page 3.

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2025 KOFC MEXICAN MARTYRS RELICS IN KENTUCKY

Kentucky is honored to have been able to have the opportunity for the KofC Mexican Martyrs “Reliquary” to tour parts of our state April 5 – April 11, 2025. The Reliquary contains relics of 6 members of the Knights of Columbus who were martyred during the persecution of Catholics in Mexico from 1926-1929. The Reliquary seeks to make known in the United States the testimony of these Knights of Columbus priest martyrs and all those who sacrificed their lives for their faith during the time of religious persecution in Mexico. In 2000, 25 Mexican martyrs were canonized by Pope John Paul II. Six were members of the Knights of Columbus. There were Spanish and English prayer cards and booklets for the KY Mexican Martyrs Relics tour available for attendees.

The tour took the reliquary to these parishes where the relics were venerated.

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church – Beaver Dam, KY

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church - Guthrie, KY

St. Helen's Catholic Church - Glasgow, KY

Cristo Rey Catholic Church - Florence, KY

St. Paul Catholic Church - Lexington, KY

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church - Louisville, KY

732 pilgrims visited 6 Parishes during 9 events. The State Deputy sends his Gratitude and Thanks to all who helped coordinate and participate in the events. Viva Cristo Rey!

So see many more full size photos, [please visit our website here](#).



HABEMUS PAPAM, WE HAVE A POPE!

(OSV News) — Full text of the first public homily of Pope Leo XIV, given at a Mass for the College of Cardinals in the Sistine Chapel May 9, 2025.

I begin with a word in English, and the rest is in Italian, but I want to repeat the words of the responsorial psalm: I will sing a new song to the Lord because he has done marvels. And indeed, not just with me, but with all of us, my brother cardinals, as we celebrate this morning, I invite you to recognize the marvels that

the Lord has done, the blessings that the Lord continues to pour out upon all of us. Through the ministry of Peter, you have called me to carry that cross and to be blessed with that mission, and I know I can rely on each and every one of you to walk with me as we continue as a church, as a community of friends of Jesus, as believers, to announce the Good News, to announce the Gospel.



“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Mt 16:16). In these words, Peter, asked by the Master, together with the other disciples, about his faith in him, expressed the patrimony that the Church, through the apostolic succession, has preserved, deepened and handed on for two thousand years.

Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God: the one Saviour, who alone reveals the face of the Father.

In him, God, in order to make himself close and accessible to men and women, revealed himself to us in the trusting eyes of a child, in the lively mind of a young person and in the mature features of a man (cf. *Gaudium et Spes*, 22), finally appearing to his disciples after the resurrection with his glorious body. He thus showed us a model of human holiness that we can all imitate, together with the promise of an eternal destiny that transcends all our limits and abilities.

Peter, in his response, understands both of these things: the gift of God and the path to follow in order to allow himself to be changed by that gift. They are two inseparable aspects of salvation entrusted to the Church to be proclaimed for the good of the human race. Indeed, they are entrusted to us, who were chosen by him before we were formed in our mothers' wombs (cf.

HABEMUS PAPAM CONT.

Jer 1:5), reborn in the waters of Baptism and, surpassing our limitations and with no merit of our own, brought here and sent forth from here, so that the Gospel might be proclaimed to every creature (cf. Mk 16:15).

In a particular way, God has called me by your election to succeed the Prince of the Apostles, and has entrusted this treasure to me so that, with his help, I may be its faithful administrator (cf. 1 Cor 4:2) for the sake of the entire mystical Body of the Church. He has done so in order that she may be ever more fully a city set on a hill (cf. Rev 21:10), an ark of salvation sailing through the waters of history and a beacon that illumines the dark nights of this world. And this, not so much through the magnificence of her structures or the grandeur of her buildings – like the monuments among which we find ourselves – but rather through the holiness of her members. For we are the people whom God has chosen as his own, so that we may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light (cf. 1 Pet 2:9).

Peter, however, makes his profession of faith in reply to a specific question: “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” (Mt 16:13). The question is not insignificant. It concerns an essential aspect of our ministry, namely, the world in which we live, with its limitations and its potential, its questions and its convictions.

“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” If we reflect on the scene we are considering, we might find two possible answers, which characterize two different attitudes.

First, there is the world’s response. Matthew tells us that this conversation between Jesus and his disciples takes place in the beautiful town of Caesarea Philippi, filled with luxurious palaces, set in a magnificent natural landscape at the foot of Mount Hermon, but also a place of cruel power plays and the scene of betrayals and infidelity. This setting speaks to us of a world that considers Jesus a completely insignificant person, at best someone with an unusual and striking way of speaking and acting. And so, once his presence becomes irksome because of his demands for honesty and his stern moral requirements, this “world” will not hesitate to reject and eliminate him.

Then there is the other possible response to Jesus’ question: that of ordinary people. For them, the Nazarene is not a charlatan, but an upright man, one who has courage, who speaks well and says the right things, like other great prophets in the history of Israel. That is why they follow him, at least for as long as they can do so without too much risk or inconvenience. Yet to them he is only a man, and therefore, in times of danger, during his passion, they too abandon him and depart disappointed.

What is striking about these two attitudes is their relevance today. They embody notions that we could easily find on the lips of many men and women in our own time, even if, while essentially identical, they are expressed in different language. Even today, there are many settings in which

HABEMUS PAPAM CONT.

the Christian faith is considered absurd, meant for the weak and unintelligent. Settings where other securities are preferred, like technology, money, success, power, or pleasure.

These are contexts where it is not easy to preach the Gospel and bear witness to its truth, where believers are mocked, opposed, despised or at best tolerated and pitied. Yet, precisely for this reason, they are the places where our missionary outreach is desperately needed. A lack of faith is often tragically accompanied by the loss of meaning in life, the neglect of mercy, appalling violations of human dignity, the crisis of the family and so many other wounds that afflict our society.

Today, too, there are many settings in which Jesus, although appreciated as a man, is reduced to a kind of charismatic leader or superman. This is true not only among non-believers but also among many baptized Christians, who thus end up living, at this level, in a state of practical atheism.

This is the world that has been entrusted to us, a world in which, as Pope Francis taught us so many times, we are called to bear witness to our joyful faith in Jesus the Saviour. Therefore, it is essential that we too repeat, with Peter: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Mt 16:16).

It is essential to do this, first of all, in our personal relationship with the Lord, in our commitment to a daily journey of conversion. Then, to do so as a Church, experiencing together our fidelity to the Lord and bringing the Good News to all (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 1). I say this first of all to myself, as the Successor of Peter, as I begin my mission as Bishop of Rome and, according to the well-known expression of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, am called to preside in charity over the universal Church (cf. *Letter to the Romans*, Prologue). Saint Ignatius, who was led in chains to this city, the place of his impending sacrifice, wrote to the Christians there: “Then I will truly be a disciple of Jesus Christ, when the world no longer sees my body” (*Letter to the Romans*, IV, 1). Ignatius was speaking about being devoured by wild beasts in the arena – and so it happened – but his words apply more generally to an indispensable commitment for all those in the Church who exercise a ministry of authority. It is to move aside so that Christ may remain, to make oneself small so that he may be known and glorified (cf. Jn 3:30), to spend oneself to the utmost so that all may have the opportunity to know and love him.

May God grant me this grace, today and always, through the loving intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church.



FUNDRAISING FOR SEMINARIANS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF THE MILITARY

GK David Berkemeier, from Council #3908 hand crafted a wine rack and donated it to Assembly #307 to raffle off as a fundraiser.

Assembly #307 then approached the State Deputy about donating the wine rack to the State Council as a way to raise money for the Archdiocese of the Military Seminarian Fund. At the State level the fundraiser would have a broader reach and could enhance the funds raised. The State Deputy assigned the management of the fundraiser to the State Advocate.

Tickets were sold from the midyear meeting to the State Convention for a raffle that included this hand-crafted wine rack, and was later enhanced to include 7 bottles of wine from Gabe Cabral.



A total of 65 chances were sold at \$5 a piece which raised \$325

The Ladies Luncheon solicited donations towards the fundraiser and raised \$845.

The State Advocate informed the men in attendance on Sunday's meeting of the Ladies generosity and passed baskets around, with the help of the State Warden, and collected another \$386 in cash.

This brought our total fundraising to \$1556 for the weekend.

Preferring to donate a round number the Advocate donated another \$44.

Grand total for the Archdiocese of there Military: \$1600

RECORD NUMBER OF MEN ATTEND MILITARY CHAPLAIN DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Below is a reprint of an article published 4/11/2025 on catholicvote.org

CV NEWS FEED // A discernment retreat for prospective military chaplains drew 37 candidates this year, the highest number of attendees in the retreat's history. The group included soldiers, cadets, civilians, and a religious brother.

As CatholicVote previously reported, the AMS is currently serving from a scarcity of chaplaincy vocations, as 25% of U.S. Armed Forces members are Catholic, but only 7% of chaplains are priests.

Each year, as part of its effort to relieve this shortage, the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) holds two retreats for potential chaplains: one in the fall on the East Coast and one in the spring on the West Coast, according to an emailed AMS press release.

In fall 2024, 10 seminarians became chaplains for AMS, CatholicVote reported.

This year, AMS held its spring discernment retreat April 3-6 at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California. Father Paul-Anthony Halladay, who recently became the vocations director for AMS, hosted the retreat.

"By all reports from our participants, it was indeed a success," Fr. Halladay said. "I have had conversations with some of those participants who have left the retreat even more certain of their calling to priesthood and chaplaincy. You could not ask for better results. The Holy Spirit was engaged, active and in all ways operative in the hearts, minds, and souls of all those who attended."

The retreat included 16 cadets and Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) members and 14 active duty members from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. There were also seven civilians and one Marian religious brother discerning the call. The men were from over 25 dioceses from the United States.

The AMS Archbishop Timothy Broglio also participated in the retreat and offered Mass for the men attending.

Current military chaplains gave talks on topics ranging from spiritual fatherhood to discernment. Some made speeches highlighting the heroism of Vietnam War hero Father Vincent R. Capodanno and Korean War hero Venerable Father Emil J. Kapaun.



EASTER 2025 MESSAGE

Sixty million years ago (give or take ten million years either way), a large asteroid struck the Earth somewhere near the Yucatan peninsula in modern day Mexico. The destructive force of the asteroid literally incinerated the Earth. Within seconds, massive tidal waves and many smaller versions of these tidal waves disrupted marine life the entire world over. Within just a few days the debris in the atmosphere blocked all light and ended all photosynthesis. Within a few weeks, 99.99% of a life was extinct.

Six years ago, the magnificent cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris was engulfed in a catastrophic fire that gutted its eight-hundred-year-old roof. As news spread it seemed as if the entire structure would collapse in the horrific way, we saw buildings collapse on September 11, 2001. We are learning now that the structure, while with some vulnerabilities, remains intact and money has been pledged from all over the world to restore this magnificent church, and earlier this year when it reopened, it was more beautiful than ever, restored beyond our imagination of what was even possible.

The "asteroid" takes many forms in our lives. In the instant moment following the crash, it seems as if all hope is lost. While the damage is still being assessed we are tempted to lose hope that there can be any path forward for us.

The crucifixion of Jesus had an impact greater than the primordial asteroid. The Earth was in a mysterious slumber while Jesus body remain entombed. When all hope seemed permanently lost, the women journeyed to the new tomb and found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. The catastrophe of Good Friday became the resurrection of Easter Sunday.

Recently, paleontologists have uncovered a priceless fossil record of the destructive asteroid. The layer of sediment, sixty million years later, is about the thickness of an ordinary notebook now stands as the boundary between The Age of Reptiles and The Age of Mammals. It turns out we owe our lives to that asteroid as we were among those that emerged from the rubble. So, it is with the Resurrection and so it is with the "asteroids" that haunt each of us.

Nothing is lost forever! Our souls endure! Blessed Easter to us all!

Rev. Gary Padgett



SPIRIT ATHLETICS BRAVECATS

The Spirit Athletics Bravecats, an Exceptional Abilities cheer team from Florence Kentucky, due to their performance in a recent competition in Louisville, have earned an invitation to compete on an International Level. The event will be held in Orlando, Florida in April.

When approached for assistance in a fund raiser, The Father Bealer Council # 3908 gave a resounding “YES”. On Sunday March 23rd the Home Company provided the Hall at no charge. Brother Knights and their family members helped in setting up the hall, food preparation, serving, and cleanup. Several items were provided for a “ticket drop” raffle. A split the pot raffle was also held.

The team members consist of athletes between six and sixty years of age with Intellectual or physical disabilities. This team is unique in that one father and his son are able to enjoy their love for their sport while both are on the floor. Another much loved member of the Bravecats is Journey, the Service Dog. Journey is trained to alert at the onset of a seizure. He also appears on stage during competition.



BRAVECATS CONT.

We are proud to say that, with our assistance and a monetary donation, the event helped the team to achieve their goal to cover expenses for the team. Good Luck Bravecats, bring home the gold.

Update: Since this article was originally submitted, the team competed at the First Invitational World Championship Competition in Orlando Florida on April 26th and brought home the Silver Medal. The Team is grateful for our support.

David Berkemeier

Grand Knight

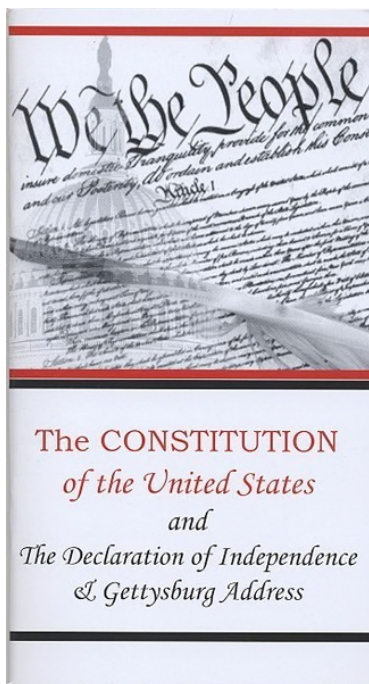


POCKET CONSTITUTIONS

Beginning in December, Monsignor Bouchet Assembly #308 in Louisville approached the pastor of Saint Edward in Louisville to speak about the constitution and hand out pocket constitutions that we purchased, asking only for a donation. Since then, we have gone to Saint Aloysius, Saint Benedict, and Saint Bridged and Saint James.

This program has been a real success and it has been well received by the parishioners. And we plan to continue doing this into the future.

Tim Gahlinger
Faithful Navigator



CALVARY CEMETERY CLEANUP

On Saturday, April 12, a dedicated group of 40 volunteers gathered at Calvary Cemetery to help beautify the grounds in preparation for Easter. Volunteers included members of Scout Troop #282 and Knights from Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Council #14372, who worked together to clear debris, rake leaves, and ensure the cemetery was a respectful and welcoming place for families and visitors during the holy season.

Following the cleanup, the Knights provided hot dogs and refreshments to thank everyone for their hard work and community spirit. The event was a meaningful collaboration that demonstrated the shared commitment of the Scouts and Knights to service, stewardship, and honoring the sacred spaces in our community.

Will Schnurr

Grand Knight



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Salute to Summer Games Needs Your Help

There is one month to go in the Knights of Columbus [Salute to Summer Games](#), and while we have made good progress lately we still need your Council's support to reach our goal. The Salute is the biggest fundraising campaign the Knights of Columbus participate in to support the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games. Once again, our goal is to raise \$12,000, or about \$1 for every Knight in the state. Currently we are at \$4,104 with one month to go until the State Summer Games, which will be held June 6-8 at Eastern Kentucky University.

There is still plenty of time for your Council to help us make it to the finish line.

Your Council and individual Knights can sign up on the Salute to Summer Games web site sokysalute.com, and raise money using the tools provided there. Or you can make a donation by sending a check to:

Special Olympics Kentucky

Attn: Salute to Summer Games

105 Lakeview Court

Frankfort, KY 40601

The Salute web site provides a great opportunity for Councils and individual Knights to easily help us support Special Olympics without disrupting existing Council fundraising or charitable activities.

At the Convention last week, we highlighted Paul Tatatada from Fr. Roy Detinger Council 390, who has raised \$1,500 so far this year to show how easy it is to use the fundraising tools on the Salute to Summer Games website.

Council donations will appear on the Kentucky Knights of Columbus page on the Salute Web site.

If you have any questions, contact Mark Buerger at mbuerger@soky.org.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONT.

Volunteers Still Needed for State Summer Games

The State Summer Games are the biggest event of the year for Special Olympics Kentucky and volunteers are still needed to help the Games run smoothly. Several Knights have already registered but there is plenty of room for more.

Whether you sign up for the softball throw, which Knights have run for more than 20 years, or you would prefer to work in any of more than two dozen other volunteer roles, your help will make the Summer Games a great experience for more than 1,300 Special Olympics athletes from across the state.

For more information about how you or your Council can volunteer, contact Michael Roy at mroy@soky.org. To register to volunteer, visit <https://soky.org/volunteernow/>.



STATE DEPUTY LUKE WILLIAMS



Our Holy Father Pope Francis has passed

We received the news on Easter Monday that Pope Francis had passed away. The air waves were filled with stories about his life on earth and that he had said his last message on Easter Morning. After our paying respects and offering prayers for the repose of his soul, we laid him to rest according to his wishes. The media and the world then turned to the Conclave and who would lead the Catholic Church next.

Habemus Papam-We have a Pope!

I was working on an agenda for a District Deputy meeting recently and for the Opening Prayer I had included a “Prayer for the Election of a New Pope” from the Roman Missal. After the Habemus Papam announcement was made on Thursday May 8, 2025 and Pope Leo the 14th was introduced to the world, I was scrambling for a prayer to open the DD meeting that offered prayers for our new holy father. It is truly an exciting time for all Catholics but especially for those in the United States since our new Holy Father was born here. I ask for your thoughts and prayers for Pope Leo the 14th.

Lord, source of eternal life and truth, give to your shepherd a spirit of courage and right judgment, a spirit of knowledge and love.

By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care, may he, as successor to the Apostle Peter and vicar of Christ, build your Church into a sacrament of unity, love, and peace for all the world.

Amen.

2025 KofC Mexican Martyrs Relics in Kentucky – April 5 – April 11

Kentucky is honored to have been able to have the opportunity for the KofC Mexican Martyrs “Reliquary” to tour parts of our state April 5 – April 11, 2025. The Reliquary contains

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relics of 6 Priests who were members of the Knights of Columbus. They were martyred during the persecution of Catholics in Mexico from 1926-1929. The Reliquary seeks to make known in the United States the testimony of these Knights of Columbus priest martyrs and all those who sacrificed their lives for their faith during the time of religious persecution in Mexico. In 2000, 25 Mexican martyrs were canonized by Pope John Paul II. Six were members of the Knights of Columbus. There were Spanish and English prayer cards and booklets for the KY Mexican Martyrs Relics tour available for attendees.

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St. Paul Catholic Church - Lexington, KY

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church - Louisville, KY

732 pilgrims visited 6 Parishes during 9 events. The State Deputy sends his Gratitude and Thanks to all who helped coordinate and participate in the events. Viva Cristo Rey!

Fraternal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Council Information Sheet

The State Council Executive Secretary Mike Rinehart has sent out the request for completion of the Council Information Sheet for the upcoming 2025-2026 Fraternal Year. Please ensure that your council completes this sheet and returns to his email, as soon as your Council Election of Officers is completed. This is especially needed if there is a new Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, or any new council information such as change of meeting location, meeting day or time or any other important information the State Council desperately needs to be able to contact your local Council. If you have any questions, please contact the Worthy Executive Secretary Mike at kykofces@gmail.com. This information is used to update the State Directory.

Council Status Report

Now is the time to be **Inspired** to finish the Councils progress toward earning the **Star Council Award** designation. I am very pleased with the successes our Kentucky Councils are experiencing this past fraternal year. 2/3rds of our Kentucky Jurisdiction Councils are active and have brought at least one new member into their ranks. Many Councils have received the word that they have completed all requirements necessary for the distinguished



WILLIAMS CONT.

“Star Council” designation. A large portion of the Kentucky councils are actively working on those last needed requirements so that they can be recognized as a Star Council. I assure you that all State Council members are focused on helping those who need or want to make a difference.

Family/Chaplain/Knight/Service Program Awards

Congratulations to the Kentucky State Council Award winners who were recognized at the May 3, 2025 State Convention Awards presentation at the afternoon session of the convention. Later at the Convention Banquet, each of the Faith, Family, Community and Life State Award Winners were recognized:

Faith – Advent Holy Hour, Council 11132 Madisonville

Family – Food for Family Project, Council 11132 Madisonville

Community – Brotherhood Banquet 60th Anniversary, Council 1455 Elizabethtown

Life – Bluegrass on Lake Beshear, Council 15181 Dawson Springs/Princeton/Eddyville

We were also blessed to have Fr. Christopher Kight Council 7847 Hopkinsville present to receive the Diocese of Owensboro Chaplain of the Year honor along with Fr. Damian J. Hils council 18284 Ft. Mitchell who was recognized as the Kentucky Blessed Michael McGivney Medal winner.

The Faith, Family, Community and Life State award winners along with KY Blessed Michael McGivney Medal recipient Fr. Hils are now being considered by the Supreme Council for International recognition. Those who are chosen as International recipients are to be recognized at the 143rd Supreme Convention to be held in Washington DC the first week of August.

Programs/Faith In Action –The Columbian Award shows anyone interested in joining your Council what you guys do. I advise the council program director or someone else that keeps track of the council programs, fill out an SP-7 and send to State Program Director Fred Meade (fsmeade@fuse.net) so he can review and make suggestions so there is a better chance the Supreme Office accepts the submission on the first try. Do it now while there is still time to submit again if necessary. You are allowed to include activities that “will be completed” between now and June 30th on the form. Any questions, contact SPD Fred Meade.

KofC Fraternal Benefits

There are 3 chances for Councils to fulfill their Founders Award requirement that is necessary for the Star Council designation.



WILLIAMS CONT.

Monday May 12, 2025, 8:00 PM “The Gift of a Lifetime”

Register at this link

[The Gift of a Lifetime - 1713377](#)

Wednesday May 22, 2025, 8:00 PM ET “Ten Tips for Managing Market Volatility”

Register at this link

[Ten Tips for Managing Market Volatility - 1713423](#)

Wednesday May 28, 2025 8:00PM ET “Investing for Beginners: Planning for Success”.

Register at this link

[Investing for Beginners: Planning for Success - 1713432](#)

Upcoming Important dates- May 1, 2025 – July 15, 2025 Calendar

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| *May 1-June, 2025 | Safe Environment training/Background check deadline |
| *May 1-June 15, 2025 | Election of Council Officers |
| *May 2-4, 2025 | 122 nd Annual Knights of Columbus - KY State Convention |
| *May 8, 2025 | District Deputy Training Part One : 8:00 PM |
| *May 8, 2025 | Zoom DD/SD Meeting @ 9:00 PM EST (<u>NOTE Date Change</u>) |
| *May 9, 2025 | FY2025-2026 Organizational Meeting Information Packets send out for registration and reservations |
| *May 11, 2025 | Mother's Day |
| *May 12, 2025 | Online Fraternal Benefit Event “The Gift of a Lifetime” 8:00PM ET |
| *May 12, 2025 | Zoom GK/SD Meeting @ 8:30 PM EST (Regular Scheduled) |
| *May 13, 2025 | Zoom State Officer Strategic Plan Meeting@8:00 PM EST |
| *May 14, 2025 | Grand Knight Training: Part Two @ 8:00PM ET |
| *May 20, 2025 | Completing Forms 185 and 365 @ 8:00 PM ET |
| *May 22, 2025 | Online Fraternal Benefit Event “Ten Tips for Managing Market Volatility” 8:00 pm ET |
| *May 24, 2025 | 4 th Degree Exemplification-Fancy Farm, KY |
| *May 25-June 21, 2025 | Silver Rose of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Kentucky |
| *May 26, 2025 | Memorial Day |
| *May 27, 2025 | Fraternal Year(FY) Transition Tips @ 10:00 PM ET |
| *May 28, 2025 | Online Fraternal Benefit Event “Investing for Beginners” 8:00PM ET |
| *May 29, 2025 | Ascension Thursday |
| *June 8, 2025 | Pentecost Sunday |
| *June 11, 2025 | Cutoff date to make OrgMtg Hotel reservation |



WILLIAMS CONT.

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| *June 21, 2025 | 4 th Degree Exemplification-St. Bridgid - Louisville |
| *June 27, 2025 | Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day |
| *June 10, 2025 | Online Spanish Fraternal Benefit Event (Details Coming Soon) |
| *July 11-12, 2025 | 2025 Organizational Meeting – Bowling Green, KY |

Special Olympics –

The 2025 Salute to Summer Games campaign for Special Olympics Kentucky is well underway. The website (sokysalute.com) is live and ready for Councils to help raise money to support the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games. Just as a reminder, the Kentucky Knights of Columbus Brotherhood have been vital supporters to raise money to support the upcoming Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games. Please consider giving you help with your time, talent or donations. Should you have questions about registering or setting up your Council team, please contact our Special Olympics Chairman Mark Buerger at 859-338-6075 or mbuerger@soky.org.

122nd Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention – May 2nd,3rd,4th, 2025

The Kentucky State Convention was held this year at the Capital Plaza Hotel in downtown Frankfort. Many thanks to our State Chaplain Fr. John List, all the State Officers, District Deputies, State Service Chair/Directors, Convention Chairman and Co-Chairman as well as others who had a hand, so this Convention was great!

I was honored to be elected by the Delegates to another year's term as your Kentucky State Deputy. I am thankful of your trust and pledge to continue to the best of my ability to lead the Jurisdiction forward in the FY 2025-2026.

We recognized all our Kentucky Brothers who passed away since last year's State Convention. We honored 67 Brothers who achieved 50 continuous years as a Knight, 5 Councils for their 10th Anniversary, 2 Councils for achieving 25 years and many other achievements by councils and individuals who are a part of the Knights of Columbus principles.

It was reported that the Kentucky Jurisdiction is currently made up of 98 councils divided into 26 Districts and that we currently have 12,539 members.

As The KY State Deputy, I stated that I want the Jurisdiction to focus on five key areas that I feel are fundamental to council health and the future of our Order: 1) Our Succession or "replacement" Plans, 2) Membership growth, 3.) Service Programs, 4)COR or Formation Programs, and our 5) Knights of Columbus Insurance Program.



WILLIAMS CONT.

All 5 of the strategies that were specifically pointed out by me had key elements we will be working towards in the next fraternal year.

I reminded all that we were 8 weeks away from the end of the current fraternal year and we are very close to successfully completing our current Strategic Plan goals, but we needed to remain active.

Knights of Columbus Kentucky Organization Meeting – 11-12, 2025 in Bowling Green

We are sending out Information packets this week for registration and hotel information for the FT2025-2026 KofC Kentucky State Council Organizational Meeting to be held at Holy Spirit Parish. We will begin on Friday evening with a KY Charities Board meeting, followed by a Holy Hour and end with Hospitality. On Saturday we will have our business meeting, we will attend Mass and have the Installation of State Officers and District Deputy's before we attend a Banquet being prepared by the Brothers of Fr. Ben Powers Council #1315. Please consider attending this event as we will have excellent materials to help with our learning, growth, programs, formation, and access to fraternal benefit advice.

"Building Better Disciples" to "He Leads Me in Right Paths"

Our moto this fraternal year has been "Building Better Disciples" in honor of the 2024 "Year of Prayer" designation by Pope Francis. Our next fraternal year's moto is "He leads me in right paths" in honor of the 2025 "Year of Hope" for pilgrims. This is to commemorate that 250 years ago, the first Catholic settlers came to Kentucky. By 1785, the Kentucky Holy Land was being settled by Catholics and some of the first Catholic churches and religious orders east of the Appalachian Mountains were being located here. I invite all to celebrate and embrace the rich Catholic History of Kentucky

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



STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST



“Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a Savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 3:20)

Wow! What a week it has been! As the Knights of Columbus of the Kentucky jurisdiction were completing their annual convention, the Cardinal-Electors of the Catholic Church were gathering to go into conclave for the election of the next successor to St. Peter (and not, as the Cardinal Secretary of the Vatican corrected, a successor to Pope Francis.) The Holy Spirit made short work of their deliberations, and the world was soon introduced to Robert Cardinal Prescot, heretofore to be known as Pope Leo XIV. While the world exuberantly proclaimed him as “the first American Pope”, a Brazilian laywoman in Rome noted correctly that, since Jorge Mario Bergoglio was from Argentina, the more correct description would be to say that Pope Leo was the first Pope from north America. On the other hand, since he has citizenship in the United States and Peru, perhaps we could say the he is the first North and South American Pope.

The April issue of Columbia featured the 125th anniversary of the Fourth Degree and its attendant celebration in St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York. The celebration (and the article) offered an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of patriotism, the virtue of the Fourth Degree, in the context of our Catholic faith. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly summarized what many (non-Catholics) poised at the end of the 19th century as an apparent contradiction of that context: “Could a Catholic really be a good citizen? Did not we, as Catholics, owe our allegiance to a foreign power- the pope – more than to our own country?”

LIST CONT.

Of course, the context of the time was further complicated by ethnic factors. As the specter of the first “War to end all wars” gripped Europe, many doubted the reliability of those with German heritage. (My own grandfather, son of German immigrants, served in World War 1.) But the most pernicious hurdle was (and still is) the simplistic jingoistic version of patriotism: “My country, right or wrong!”

Faith supplies the necessary corrective. Again, supreme knight Patrick Kelly: “The Church reminds us that patriotism is a duty that flows from a sense of gratitude—gratitude to God, gratitude to our family and gratitude to our nation for the gifts that have been given, the gifts that shape and sustain us: hearth and home, culture and community.” Notice that gratitude to God comes first. How else could the Fourth Degree be conferred beyond the bounds of our own nation, unless it rose above secular nationalism to the “truth that being a good Catholic means being a good citizen. And our countries are better off for it... This is our task... to protect the good of our nation [and] to build on that good, righting the wrongs that certainly exist in pursuit of an even better society.”

Here is where I see the election of Chicago-born Cardinal Prescot as Pope Leo as a potentially powerful inspiration for the Fourth Degree. Let the United States claim him as her own but let us also honor his investment of himself in the people of Peru. He stood up against the far-right adherents of President Fujimori and the far-left followers of the Shining Path. He has roots in the land of his birth, but he has born much fruit as a Peruvian pastor. Now, as the bridge-builder for the Church around the world, may he elevate our patriotic perspective to global goodwill.

Our supreme chaplain, as he often does, contributed a theological foundation: “Our true native land is heaven... We must love our country as it is, not as we may wish it to be.” Nevertheless, “This doesn’t mean we should be complacent or settle for the status quo. It only means we can’t defer love of country until everything is shipshape.”

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. John List
State Chaplain

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON



State Convention Wrap-up:

We gathered once again from May 2nd through May 4th in Frankfort for the 122nd KY Knights of Columbus State Convention. Our Supreme Representative this year was Matthew McGrath, IPSD of Connecticut. He was very complimentary of our convention proceedings, and the hospitality shown by those in attendance. He especially liked Mary Cahill's bourbon balls.

Speaking of hospitality, a big shout out to our hospitality couple Tommy & Megan. The Friday and Saturday evening events were well attended. I met several first-time convention attendees and their wives from all over the State. All said that they will be back next year.

Congratulations to the Program and State Deputy award winners. Thank you for all that you are doing to strengthen our Catholic men and their families.

Saturday evening mass was literally standing room only. Thanks to your generosity, over \$700 dollars was collected and will be given to Fr. John for use in his two parishes. Thank you, Fr. John, for a beautiful Mass and moving homily. We were honored to have Fr. Hils from NKY and Fr. Chris from WKY join us in the celebration of the Holy Mass.

JOHNSON CONT.

Congratulations to:

- Fr. Hils for being recognized as the winner of the Blessed Michael McGivney Medal. (Chaplain of the Year)
- Fr Chris for being chosen Chaplain of the year for the Owensboro Diocese
- And to Tom O'Hagan for receiving the 2025 State Deputy Medal.

One of the best parts of the weekend was seeing the friendships that are developing.

Immediate Past State Deputy's Report:

Brothers, the KY Jurisdiction has the potential to be one of the top jurisdiction in the Southeast Territory, yet for whatever reason, we choose not to exercise our potential. The State Deputy, State Officers, District Deputies, Past State Deputies can only do so much. You, the GKs, FSs, and Program Directors of those councils that haven't turned in their reports or recruited a new member must make up your mind that you & your council will be a driving force within the jurisdiction. It pains me to see that there are still councils that have not turned in their forms 365, 1295 1&2, 1728 and are not Safe Environment Compliant. I'm tired of hearing the excuse that "we don't do what we do for an award". In my mind, what that's really saying is that we don't want to be bothered by the rules and laws of the Order. We all took an oath to obey & uphold the rules & the laws of the Order. So, let's do it.

In Conclusion:

God has blessed each of us. He has asked us to build His Church. Through the vision of Fr. Michael J McGivney, He has given us the Knights of Columbus as an aid in serving Him by serving His people. Let's not fail Him.

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



STATE SECRETARY DICK BURNS



Brothers Knights,

Tempus Fugit!

The Fraternal Year is quickly coming to an end. I'm just back from our 122nd State Convention where the delegates afforded me the honor of continuing to serve as your State Secretary. I'm humbled by their confidence.

It was good to see Brothers from all over the state joining to conduct the business of the State. It was great to see old friends and make new ones. We only had delegates from 40 of our 98 councils. Try to make it next year – I guarantee you'll have a good time and learn about how the State operates as we celebrate our successes, conduct the business of the Jurisdiction, and enjoy the fraternity of our brotherhood.

Memento Mori!

Every year at the Convention, Past State Deputy Rick Arnold reads the Necrology, the list of Brothers who've passed since the last election. Sadly, there are over 170 names on the list. This year was even more somber as we prayed for the passing of Pope Francis. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

BURNS CONT.

Habemus Papam!

We are blessed that the conclave came to a quick selection of Pope Francis's successor to the Chair of St. Peter. I'm sure the Holy Spirit guided the Cardinal Electors into selecting the right man for the job, and he'll provide us the spiritual guidance and blessing that we need from him. And Pope Leo XIV is the first American Pope! Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has already pledged the ongoing support of the Knights, as we have our whole history!

Year End Checklist

We're well on our way to another strong year of Star Councils.

- 23 Councils have met their New Member Quota, with several more needing only 1 or 2 more.
- 8 of those have fulfilled Star Council requirements
 - o Council 1315 in Bowling Green
 - o Council 2282 in Brandenburg
 - o Council 5453 in Hebron
 - o Council 11132 in Madisonville
 - o Council 12923 in Campbellsville
 - o Council 13304 in La Grange
 - o Council 15181 in Dawson Springs/Eddyville/Princeton
 - o Council 15979 in Louisville

But... of the other 15:

- o 5 have not completed their Fraternal Benefits Event requirement yet. So easy to do, and you have the time and event availability to get there!
- o 1 has not submitted their Program Personnel Report Form 365
 - § Just a couple of minutes to do online, and so important that Supreme can give your Program leaders the information they need
- o 6 have not submitted their Annual Report of Fraternal Activity



BURNS CONT.

- § Again, it's so easy to do and important to maintain our income tax exempt status
- o None have submitted their Columbian Award application Form SP7
- o None are Safe Environment Training compliant
 - § It may take a couple of hours, but it's not hard
 - § It's critical to ensuring that we can work with and protect our Youth
 - § Yes, it's on top of any Diocesan training, but I've done both and the KofC training has much more useful information
- o 9 councils are behind on their Semi-annual Council Audits From 1295
 - § You need to stay current with these to maintain your Supreme bond on your Treasurer and Financial Secretary. Sadly, I've heard that there have been occasions when that was important to preserve Council Assets in case of financial malfeasance

I've heard that there are councils who don't complete the forms to earn credit for the hard work and good deeds that they do. Our State Chaplain Fr. John List talked about this and cited Matthew 5:15-16 ***No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*** Jesus emphasizes we, as believers, should live in such a way that our actions reflect the goodness of God, allowing others to witness and be drawn to Him. I encourage you put this into practice, and let your good works shine by documenting them.

It's Not Too Late!!

We've got plenty of time left to get those new members we still need, to submit our forms and bring light to the works we do to give glory to God. But there's always next year. Support your council leaders (of which I hope you are one!), whether they change from this year's election or continue to serve your council in their present roles, and make the 2025-2026 Fraternal Year a successful one!



BURNS CONT.

Celebrate!

Frankfort Council #1483 celebrates its **115th** Anniversary on May 9th! I appreciate the hard work of all the Brothers who have persevered over the years to keep this council running.

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

You can't make Star Council if you don't make your new member quota, which was lowered this year to make it more easily attainable. You can't keep your Council sustainable if you don't recruit.

23 Councils have not recruited a new member this year. That's the same number as last month. They may have had members die this year, and others withdrawn or transferred to affiliate status. It's a slow death.

Be Fishers of Men! Ask them, they will join. If you don't ask them, they won't join.

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 Secretary

State New Council Director

State Round Table Director



STATE TREASURER GARY DYKHUIS



Worthy Brothers,

Happy Derby Week!!

Hoping your favorite Horse won. If you were at the State Convention, you were able to watch it. Please keep a look out for Farmers and their machinery on the roads. Time for crops to be planted and it is time for Hay to be cut. It is time to Thank God for he has done for us.

Kentucky State Convention

Hope you had a Great time at the State Convention. It was Great to see old Friends and make new Friends. We celebrated this Fraternal Year's accomplishments. We still have two months to meet this year's Goals. A Big Thanks goes out to the State Deputy and the Convention Chairmen, Steve O' Bryan and Ed Quinn, for All their Hard Work. It was one of the Best Conventions ever. It good seeing you and all our Brothers and Families.

Council Elections

According to Section 128 of the Knights of Columbus Charter Constitution, council elections are to be held between May 1 and June 15th of each year. It will be time to submit **Form 185 "Report of Officers Chosen for the Year."** Nominations committees should start considering Council Officers for the upcoming Year. Please consider volunteering for a council position. Please consider being a District Deputy, please contact our State Deputy Luke Williams.

After Elections, Council Officer and Chairman information needs to be sent to the State Secretary for state records and the Executive Secretary for the state Directory.

DYKHUIS CONT.

Is your Council using 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, check on your neighbor, who might need your help.

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

Recruit and Retain

This is the Tenth month of the Fraternal Year; we need to recruit New Members and Families. In invite the new members that just complete RCIA, they make Great members. 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,

The State Convention was a great chance to see many of you again and share some of the great things Knights in the Ky Jurisdiction have accomplished over the past year. We also took care of important business, like elections of State officers and I am looking forward to serving again as Advocate in the coming Fraternal year.

We also wrapped up our fundraiser for the Seminarians in the Archdiocese of the Military and raised \$1600, thanks to all who participated in the raffle and especially for those who made donations.

Council Elections are coming up!

Your nomination committee should have identified candidates and provided that list of who will be your officers for the next fraternal year. Nominations from the floor are also allowed during elections. Don't wait till the election to speak to a capable brother knight about stepping up and taking an officer role.

Council Forms

You should have submitted most of your forms for this Fraternal year, and yet some councils still have forms missing at this point. GK and FS, as well as others, have access in the supreme portal – check there to make sure none of your forms show as missing. For your director positions there are some that are required for Youth Protection but others such as Membership Director must also be filled or Supreme will report your council as having not reported your 365. There is still time to submit those missing forms, let's get them in.

KUCHENBROD CONT.

You should submit your SP7 Columbian award form this month, including any projects you plan to complete later in this Fraternal year. Supreme can take some time to process, and if there is an issue you will want time to correct that and resubmit. If you have questions on properly reporting an item our State Program Director will be happy to review your form and provide insightful comments on any item that may need a bit of polish to pass Supreme on the first attempt.

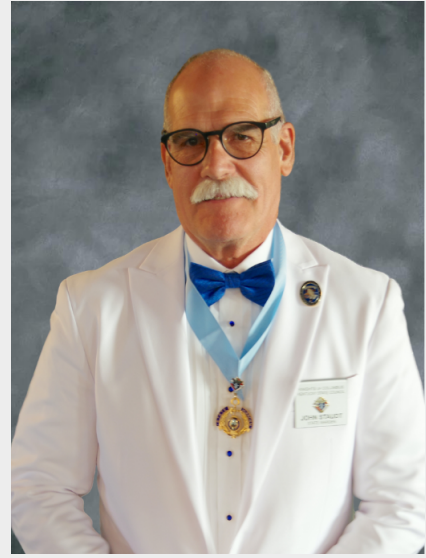
We need to achieve our “**Safe Environment Training**” goals. This means, Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director need to complete the training. If you have completed this training in the last three years, you are good to go. It is on line training and takes about an hour 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.

We are showing 32, (down from 35 last month), councils delinquent on their council Audit report (due every 6 months), without this your bond on the Financial Secretary will lapse – don’t leave him hanging, get it submitted!

**Vivat Jesus,
Mike Kuchenbrod
State Advocate**



STATE WARDEN JOHN STAUDT



Worthy Brothers,

Welcome to May; the month of Mother's Day and the Kentucky Derby!! I hope your families took part and enjoyed the Holy Week celebrations during Easter Week. It's a time of reflection and renewal for our family. I hope you and your families continue with your special moments and traditions during the Lenten and Easter season.

Our Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention, on May 2-4, 2025, was enjoyable and informative with an address from our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly. His address will be sent to your Grand Knight. I encourage you to observe our achievements both locally and globally. This year, our Supreme Representative was Matthew McGrath, Associate General Counsel and Immediate Past State Deputy of Connecticut. State Awards were handed out on Saturday afternoon. Awards for Faith, Community, Life, and Family Programs, diocese priests, and individuals were presented at the Saturday evening banquet. Congratulations to all councils and individuals who were recognized for their efforts and achievements.

During the elections, on Sunday, for State Officers at the Convention, I was re-elected to continue as your State Warden for another Fraternal Year. I am grateful for your confidence in me to continue as a K of C Kentucky State Officer in this capacity.

Our 2025 Basketball Slam results of the winners were communicated after the final basketball game. Congratulations to all the winners. A total of 1,770 paper tickets were sold and 730 unsold tickets. An additional 18 tickets were sold on-line for a total of 1,788 tickets sold. The

STAUDT CONT.

1,788 tickets were sold by 61 councils. The councils who sold the tickets will receive \$3.02 per ticket sold by their council. I want to thank all councils participating this year. 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. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

With any natural disaster, if you see or know someone or family who needs financial help as a result of severe weather or other natural disaster, the following link is for requesting funds: [State Charities Request](#)

Football Frenzy tickets will be available at the State Organizational Meeting on July 12, 2025, in Bowling Green, KY.

I appreciate all your councils do for the communities and people you serve, "Thank you".

**Vivat Jesus,
John Staudt
State Warden**



STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MIKE RINEHART



Brothers, it was great to see all of you who attended our State Convention May 2-4. I have emailed the 2025-2026 Council Information Sheet, to all the current Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and District Deputies.

Please complete the information sheet and email to me, as soon as you have your council elections.

This information is used to update the State Directory.
Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Vivat Jesus.
Mike Rinehart
KY Executive Secretary



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR TOM O'HAGAN



May is here, the State Convention has been completed, and we all have 2 months to reach the Star Council Award. There is time, but we cannot wait any longer. Check your E-Member list and complete a Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Exemplification ASAP.

Make certain that all requirements have been satisfied – Form 365 and 185 completed, SP7 submitted, SET Compliant, at least 2 FBEs have been attended, Form 1728 Fraternal Activity Survey, Form 1295 Semi-Annual audits.

The “State Membership Growth Incentive” Awards have been presented at the annual State Convention in May. Congratulations to all winning councils.

KY MEMBERSHIP GROWTH INCENTIVE – WINNERS!

200% Membership Growth of Quota: received a 1.75L bottle of Woodford Reserve Bourbon inscribed with the KofC logo.

Council – 2282, 13304, 15452, 15914, 18284

150% Membership Growth of Quota up to 199% received a Louisville Slugger baseball bat inscribed with the KofC logo.

Council - 702, 7847, 12774, 18126

100% Membership Growth of Quota up to 149% received a Wood 3-pc Oak set inscribed with KofC logo.

Council - 390, 1055, 11132, 12502, 12774, 12923, 12965, 14372, 14604, 15525, 15681, 16956, 17445, 18058

· Nearing 100% - 1315, 2046, 5453, 11470, 11591, 12354, 15181

O'HAGAN CONT.

- SET, Founders Awards - Council 390, 4665, 5634, 7847, 15525, 15841, 15931, 15979
- SET, McGivney, and Founders Awards - Councils 1055, 7847, 12923, 12965, 13304, 14604, 15914, 18126

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!

There is a new Supreme-sponsored Membership Growth Award
Supreme Fishers of Men – Banner Incentive

Details: This is a membership recruitment contest for councils. Councils that recruit 125% or more of their annual intake goal between March 1 and June 30 will win the incentive.

For example: If the annual intake goal (for McGivney Award) = 8 • 125% of 8 = 10.

Winning councils will select between a Blessed McGivney 'join us' banner or a Cor banner and a Cor startup kit. New and readmitted members only

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 2-piece Pen set with the KofC logo.

- D6, 8, 15, 18, 21, and 22 are 100% or above. Congratulations!

- Parish Outreach Drive – Packets have been distributed
- District Deputies are in the process of distributing pamphlets to councils in the Jurisdiction. WGKs, if you would like to participate, please contact your DD.
- We still have far too many '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, so 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
- Please note the following opportunities for you and your council. For those of you shooting for Star Council, the three FBEs being offered in May present a great opportunity to accomplish the FBE goal. Supreme may offer an FBE in June, but do not wait.



O'HAGAN CONT.

- o The first FBE offered in May will be on May 7th at 8:00 pm EST, titled '10 Tips for Managing Market Volatility'. There's a very high probability that a member or members within your council may be stressed over the market volatility that the US economy has been experiencing over the past several months. This is a great opportunity to learn to manage those fears.
- o The second FBE will be on May 12th at 8:00 pm EST, titled 'The Gift of a Lifetime'. This is another opportunity for your members to learn about "Extended Care Planning". As we grow older, our parents and siblings grow older too. This FBE is important to be educated on extended care. Share this with your members.
- o A third FBE will be on May 28th, at 8:00 pm EST, titled 'Investing for Beginners'. Just because you may be financially stable and have your retirement well in hand, don't assume everyone else does. Allow them to enlighten their investing knowledge.

Brothers, these webinars are open to members and non-members alike. forward this email to your membership. At least allow them to decide whether these events are worth an hour of their time. GKs arrange for your members, family and friends to attend. You can also forward to your members in the event they are unable to attend your event. One other suggestion...put it in your parish bulletin. You might be surprised at how many non-members sign up. The Knights of Columbus Advisor program as well as the Knights of Columbus Insurance are top rated.

We still have 2 months to reach Star District, Star Council, and Star Assembly

- 74 councils have welcomed new members. Congratulations! Where are the other 25 councils in Kentucky? Remember, you must ask them to join your council.

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.

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...



O'HAGAN CONT.

| | Actual v Quota MTD | Actual v Quota YTD |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| New Members | 48 v 40 = 120% | 387 v 490 = 79% |
| Councils With No YTD Adds | | 25 v 99 |
| Form 365 Not Submitted (99) | | 28 |
| Form 185 Not Submitted (99) | | 6 |
| Roundtable | 0 v 13 | 8 v 13 |
| Form 1728 | | 22 Delinquent |
| Form 1295 SA Audit (108) | | 34 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



DISTRICT MASTER CAMERON PECK



Brothers,

We have two exemplifications coming in the very near future. First, we have one in Fancy Farm, KY in less than two weeks. It will take place on May 24th. It is not too late to get in on this, but you need to act fast. If you want to go through as a candidate or observe as a 4th degree knight, please contact Secretary to the Master, Tim Gahlinger, at yosemitesam1@att.net ASAP.

The other exemplification will take place in Louisville, KY on June 21st. There is still plenty of time to get registered, but it will be here before you know it, so don't delay. Both of these exemplification will be using the new exemplification format that has not been done in Kentucky yet. Very exciting.

Registration forms and general information for both of these exemplifications can be found [here](#).

I would like to thank all the assemblies throughout the Kentucky Jurisdiction for continuing to foster a culture of patriotism for our members and our communities. Keep up the great work!

It was great seeing everyone at the State Convention last weekend and I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Vivat Jesus!
Cameron Peck, PSD
District Master

GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE



Knights of Columbus – Family Fraternal Benefits

As we roll through the first full month of spring, we celebrate Easter with thoughts of gratitude for the gift of new life. The Resurrection and thoughts of our Savior's sacrifice and triumph over death are fresh in our minds and hearts. The dreariness of winter and Lent fade away with May rains that seem to have their own scent. All nature seems to be in bloom. Trees barren not long ago are now budding and flowers begin to poke through the warming soil. For many, it's their favorite season of the year.

Along with everything else going on last month, was Autism Awareness month. The Autism Speaks website (www.autismspeaks.org) contains much more information that I can give you here. Autism has been more widely discussed and better understood in recent years. Although the TV show "The Good Doctor" portrays a doctor who has autism, those with autism spectrum disorder exhibit a broad range of characteristics. Many have much less functionality than the doctor portrayed on the show. I mention this because many of us know of someone who is on this autism spectrum. If diagnosed early in childhood and intervention began, those with autism may still live a relatively normal life. However, many with autism struggle and have other complicated medical or psychological issues and need much support during their lives.

SCHACHLE CONT.

That's where the ***Knights of Columbus Family Fraternal Benefits*** may be able to help. The Family Fraternal Benefits cover several situations. One benefit addresses the child who is older than 60 days and younger than 18 and is uninsurable according to our ordinary underwriting practices. Many children with autism as a primary or secondary diagnosis fall into this category...uninsurable. For those children, the Order has a special family fraternal benefit that allows the issuing of an ordinary permanent life insurance policy on this uninsurable child. Some members may be unaware of this benefit, but it's great news for any parent with a child who does not qualify for life insurance. There are some other qualifiers for the parents and any other children in the family, including that the father must be a member in good standing in his council.

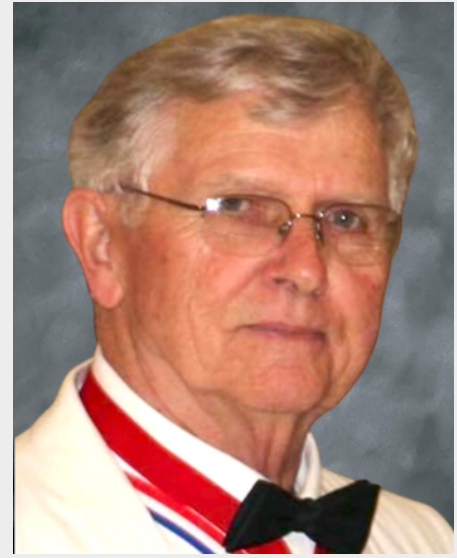
If you know of a Catholic family that may have a child with autism, has special needs, or any family with a child who is uninsurable, please reach out to your Field Agent. The member may be unaware of this benefit. A Field Agent will be happy to contact them to explain this valuable protection that is available. If you prefer, give them the Field Agent name, and contact information so that parents can contact him at their convenience. As always, there is never any requirement to purchase any product, but a consultation about this benefit may bring them some small comfort. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve our members. Enjoy your spring!

Vivat Jesus!

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

Tax benefits assume all premiums are timely paid and are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuer. Any policy loans will impact the tax benefits by reducing the policy's death benefit and cash values. Proceeds from life insurance policies may be subject to certain taxes based on individual circumstances. Tax laws vary by jurisdiction and may change over time. Knights of Columbus and its agents do not provide tax or legal advice and are not financial planners. Please consult with your financial, legal and tax advisors about your own particular circumstances. For costs and complete details of coverage, please contact your agent or the Knights of Columbus.

STATE HISTORIAN BILLY HANCOCK



KENTUCKY KNIGHTS DONATE \$149,650.70

*"The Passionist Nuns in Owensboro were elated when State Deputy Bernard Stottmann, Jr. and State Advocate Gene Roberts presented them a check for \$149,650.70 to help defray the cost of building the new St. Joseph Monastery. It took place during the awards presentation just after the banquet. Chairman Gene Roberts made the formal presentation "an enlarged check" to Sister Mary Agnes. Sister then addressed those in attendance with a very enlightening and enjoyable talk. We might mention accompanying Sister were **her two bodyguards**; Sisters Joseph Marie and Joseph Catherine. We then presented Sister Mary Agnes with a photo album of earlier meetings. George Schrode had a tee shirt made with one of the photos of all the Sisters which he displayed, and it was greeted with much enthusiasm. The Sister enjoyed it very much and expressed a desire to have one to be displayed at the new monastery. In retrospect this donation is the biggest we have ever made. It is a direct result of the good*

HANCOCK CONT.

leadership of Chairman Gene Roberts and the perseverance of his committee people (PSD Robert Hood and Phil Carr). However, we must recognize that this was a great team effort of Councils, Fourth Degree Assemblies and individual Knights and could not and would not have happened without the generosity of Mrs. Clary White who donated her farm to the State Council which was sold for \$100,000.00.”

[CHARITY, UNITY, FATHERLY AND PATRIOTISM]

Above is an extract from June 1995 Knights of Kentucky newspaper VOL. 28 No. 4.

Presentation of the donation to Sister Mary Agnes was at the 92nd State Convention, May 20-21, 1995, in Owensboro.

Thirty years has elapsed since this charitable event was recorded and published. Mrs. White's donation of her farm and subsequent sell by the Knights is the reason the Knights of Columbus Charities of Kentucky, Inc. was created. PSD Robert Hood spearheaded its creation and served as the first Chairman of the Board.

Four of the five Knights cited in the article are deceased. George Schrode was a State Deputy from 1966-1968. Robert Hood was State Deputy from 1990-1992. Bernie Stottmann served from 1994-1996. Gene Roberts had the helm from 2000-2002. Phil Carr is still with us. He succeeded Stottmann as State Deputy and served from 1996-1998.

HANCOCK CONT.

In addition to making the donation to help fund building the Monastery some Knights also contributed their time and talent to its construction. I wish I could recall the names of all of them but I can't. However, another big contributor that comes to mind is Charles "Squack" Jones. He served as State Deputy from 1998-2000.

This is only one example of Knights who did their duty and distinguished themselves to be elected a State Deputy.

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



Local Events

CALLING ALL KofC GOLFERS IN THE BLUEGRASS



For the second time in tournament history, the Annual Knights of Columbus International Amateur Golf Association (KCIAGA) tournament is coming to Northern Kentucky. The annual KCIAGA tournament is a sports event in which any amateur golfer who is a current Knights of Columbus member in good standing, regardless of domicile or golfing ability may participate. The tournament is designed to enhance fellowship and competition among members and to provide for social and fraternal association with our Brother Knights from all jurisdictions in the Order. Last year's tournament was held in Lincoln, Nebraska and hosted by Father Trayer Council #1126. The tournament was well attended with 55 golfers from ten states representing 29 different councils.

The 56th annual tournament is being hosted by Bishop Flaget Assembly #307 with proceeds benefiting Special Olympics of Northern Kentucky.

Location: Lassing Pointe Golf Club – 2266 Double Eagle Drive, Union, KY 41091

Date: June 10 – 12, 2025

Golf Participation Fee

June 10, 2025: Men's scramble entry fee \$65.00

June 11 – 12, 2025: 2-day men's tournament entry fee \$130.00

- Each golfer will be pre-flighted based on approved handicap
- Awards and cash prizes for top finishers in each flight

Event Details

| Monday June 9, 2025 | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| 4 pm | KCIAGA Director's Meeting | Holiday Inn Florence – Host Hotel |
| Tuesday June 10, 2025 | | |
| 9 am | Men's Scramble | Lassing Pointe GC |
| 9 am | Ladies Golf | Lassing Pointe GC |
| 4 pm | Mass | Immaculate Heart of Mary Church |
| 5 to 7 pm | Social | Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Undercroft |
| Wednesday June 11, 2025 | | |
| 9 am | 1 st Round Men's Tournament (Shotgun Start) | Lassing Pointe GC |
| 4 pm | Membership Meeting | Holiday Inn Florence – Host Hotel |
| Thursday June 12, 2025 | | |
| 9 am | 2 nd Round Men's Tournament (Shotgun Start) | Lassing Pointe GC |
| 12 pm | Ladies Luncheon & Activities | Bishop Ackerman #5453 Council Hall |
| 4 pm | Director's Meeting | Bishop Ackerman #5453 Council Hall |
| 6 pm | Awards Banquet | Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Undercroft |

Contact Us: Dustin Reed (859)866.2122 / dustin.reed5453@gmail.com or Don Ward (859)240.8464 / donward1777@gmail.com

CALENDAR

May

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| State Convention | 2-4 |
| 4th Degree Exemplification | 24 |

June

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 4th Degree Exemplification | 21 |
|----------------------------|----|

July

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| New Fraternal Year | 1 |
| Organizational Meeting | 11-12 |

August

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Supreme Convention | 5-7 |
|--------------------|-----|

KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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