



Kentucky State Council Newsletter

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CROSSES FOR THE UNBORN

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CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE OF WESTERN KENTUCKY

Worthy Grand Knight,

It was so exciting to see the annual Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky return in February 2025 for the first time since the Covid shutdown. The spirit of fellowship among the men of our diocese was truly inspiring, and we are so grateful for the strong support of the Men's Conference by the Knights of Columbus over the years—both in your attendance and in your encouragement of Catholic men to grow in faith and leadership.

However, the planning committee did incur some unexpected increases in expenses, particularly from inflation and higher facility costs (compared to the last conference before Covid).

As we look ahead to planning the 2026 Men's Conference, (Sat, Feb 21st, 2026) we are committed to keeping the event affordable and accessible to as many men as possible throughout the Diocese of Owensboro and beyond, but we also would like to build up our base of operating funds to keep the Men's Conference sustainable for the next several years.

To make this possible, we are asking local Knights of Columbus councils to prayerfully consider making a financial contribution to help offset the costs of the conference. Your generosity ensures that men from all walks of life can participate in this day of faith formation, fraternity, and spiritual growth.

We deeply value the mission of the Knights of Columbus in building up Catholic families, parishes, and communities. Your investment in the Men's Conference aligns with the mission of the KCs to strengthen husbands, fathers, and sons in their vocation as disciples of Jesus Christ—work that benefits the entire Church.

If your council would like to support the conference, please send contributions to:

CMCWK
600 Locust St
Owensboro, KY 42301

Should you have any questions, feel free to visit our website www.kycatholic.com or Email: cmcw@kycatholic.com

Thank you again for your witness and support. We look forward to again seeing many Knights at the next Men's Conference and continuing this great tradition together.

Fraternally in Christ,
Men's Conference Board of Directors
Mike Sullivan, President
John Kurtz, Vice President
Randy Clemens, Treasurer
Jerry Kuntz, Secretary
Fr. Jason McClure, Spiritual Mentor
Kevin Schwartz
Ray Purk
Robert Edge
Bill Weikel

POLAR PLUNGE

Mary Queen of the holy Rosary Council 14372 Knights polar plunge was a success! We raised over \$2,300. Thanks to all that supporting special Olympics KY! By the way, at the time of the plunge, the temperature outside was 19 degrees. Polar plunge indeed!

Will Schnurr

Past Grand Knight



NEWMAN CENTER AWARDS

On January 14th I met with council 15452 Newman Center and presented them their 2024-2025 Awards.

Past Grand Knight Chris Ballard received the Program Director Award and Current Grand Knight Andrew Blair accepted the councils membership award for over 300% achieved!

Tommy Johnson

District Deputy



CROSSES FOR THE UNBORN

On January 17, 2026, Knights of Columbus, Council 7847 installed a powerful memorial of 50 white crosses to serve as a solemn tribute to the unborn. This display acts as a visual reminder of the staggering reality that over one million abortions are performed annually in the United States. By transforming an abstract statistic into a physical presence, the Council seeks to honor the sanctity of every human life and provide a prayerful witness to the community, reminding all who pass by that every life is a unique gift from God.

This initiative is rooted in the Knights' core principle of Charity and their unwavering commitment to building a Culture of Life. The rows of crosses are intended to spark reflection and education, highlighting the urgent need to protect the most vulnerable members of society. Through this display, Council 7847 stands in solidarity with the pro-life movement, mourning the lives lost to abortion while calling for a renewed dedication to defending the dignity of the human person from the moment of conception.

Richard Hornbeak

Financial Secretary



INTERACTIVE ROSARY

Brother Cal Pfeiffer, pictured right, presents the “Interactive Rosary” website he developed and launched, to the St. Edward the Confessor Council 15841 in January. It’s easily accessed via a unique QR code or link;



www.InteractiveRosary.com, which

can reside on a cell phone home-screen and shared. Cal said, “it is a powerful tool to help build our relationship with Jesus Christ through our Blessed Mother’s gift of the Rosary, the Story of Her Son. I designed it to educate, inspire, and guide users to be an engaging online experience in the beautiful Christian tradition of praying the Rosary.

Blending faith with modern interactivity, the site offers step-by-step

instruction, videos in 9 languages, messages from Mary, Her promises, references to Her apparitions and miracles.”


Cal and wife, Nicki, freely give this labor of love and envision the Rosary being prayed throughout the world; hopefully going viral on social media. They encourage us to forward,

download, print, copy, and distribute the link via the QR code and believe “the Blessed Mother will surely be pleased and thankful.” Feel free to contact Cal directly at: CalJPfeiffer@cs.com


Interactive Rosary Guide

“Dear children! I’m calling you to pray the Rosary which should be your commitment, prayed, by you with joy.”

Message from the Blessed Mother in Medjugorja,
June 12, 1986



To:
Pray, Listen
& Learn
Scan ⇨



English & Spanish
Italian and French are available as well
www.InteractiveRosary.com
Support@interactiverosary.com

~ submitted by Brian Gregory, PD

COUNCIL 11470 KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Over the Christmas holiday Council 11470 sponsored the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. This contest was held for 4th and 6th graders at St. John Catholic School. The students are asked to use their artistic skills to design a poster that best represents the slogan "Keep Christ in Christmas". The Posters were then Judged by fellow Knight Jack and his wife Jan Bennings for faithfulness to the slogan and artistic creativity.



The winners for the year 2025 were:

2nd place 4th Grade Lizzie Dunlap

1st place 4th Grade Sophia Davis

2nd place 6th Grade Alyssa Conrad

1st place 6th Grade Anna Cunningham

Thanks to all who took part in this effort especially Teachers Debbie Pendleton and April Cunningham.

James Drummond

Faith Director

COUNCIL 11470 CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

St John St Francis Council 11470 in Georgetown held their annual Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay contest this past November. St John School teacher Colleen Reinhart asked her eighth grade class to write an essay on the topic of "Out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why?"

The class all researched Church history and chose their three favorite popes, with lots of good reasons for their choices

Fellow Knights Don Dixon and Oscar Chavarria read and judged each of the essays and selected the winners.



The winners were:

2nd Place **Olive Porter** Daughter of Fellow Knight Sam Porter
1st Place **Samuel Mayer** Son of Fellow Knight Brent Mayer

James Drummond
Faith Director

STATE CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizen Essay Contest once again inspired thoughtful participation this year, with entries submitted by students in grades 8 and 9 (the contest is open to grades 8–12). Below are the Kentucky state-level winners and their essays. Their essays will be forwarded to Supreme for national-level judging. Congratulations to each of these students, and best of luck as they move forward.

8th Grade Winner - Reagan Wathen

Popes are the leaders of the Catholic Church. They are the mentors, teachers, and pontiffs of this massive faith, and some may even say the most important leader of the world. To be called a pope is the highest title in the Catholic religion, but where do popes originate from? The first pope was Simon Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. In Matthew 16:18 it describes how this came to be. It says, "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." Ever since this holy event there have been 267 legendary popes, and many more to come.

Out of all of these popes, I believe that Pope Benedict XVI is the most interesting. Benedict's real name was Joseph Ratzinger. He was born April 16, 1927 in Marktl, Germany. As a young boy, Joseph dreamed of becoming a priest, and he would "play" Mass as a child. At age 24, Joseph was ordained a priest in Bavaria, Germany. He established himself as a highly regarded theologian by age 31, and he later even became a professor. He also was the prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. On April 19, 2005, Joseph became the pope at age 78. He chose the name Benedict XVI in honor of Benedict XV and Benedict of Nursia. Throughout his time as pope, Benedict strengthened the relationship between the Catholic Church and art, promoted the use of Latin, and reintroduced papal vestments. Sadly in 2013, with his health declining, he had to resign. So on February 28, Pope Benedict XVI resigned. This was a very shocking event, especially because he was the first pope to do it in over 600 years! Following his resignation, he chose to go under a new title of "Pope Emeritus". After living a life of prayer and great intelligence, Benedict died on December 31, 2022 from cardiogenic shock at age 86.

Another influential pope that is one of my favorites is Pope Francis. Francis was born December 17, 1936 in Flores, Buenos Aires. His original name was Jorge Mario Bergolio, and as a young man he worked in a food smoldering plant, and even as a janitor. He was ordained a priest

ESSAY CONTEST CONT.

on December 13, 1969 just a few days before his 33rd birthday. Throughout his priesthood, Jorge served as a pastor and educator, with a focus on the poor. He also was appointed the Jesuit provincial superior in Argentina from 1973 to 1979, along with becoming Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. On March 13, 2013 Jorge was elected pope at age 76. He chose the name Pope Francis in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi because he was a man of peace and brotherhood. As pope, Francis addressed issues like poverty, climate change, and social justice. He was called the "Peoples Pope" for his closeness to the common people. On April 21, 2025 Francis sadly passed away, just a day after Easter. His time as pope will stay with me forever.

The final pope that I find very holy is Pope John Paul II. His full name was Karol Józef Wojtyła, and he was born May 18, 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. As a child, he was sadly orphaned by the Nazi's occupation. On November 1, 1946, Karol became a priest. After World War II he completed his education getting two doctorates in theology, and became a professor as well. He later became auxiliary bishop of Krakow in 1958, until he became the Archbishop of Krakow in 1964. After years of hard work and prayer, he became pope on October 16, 1978, becoming the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. As pope he traveled to 129 countries, helped end communist rule, and even survived an assassination attempt. He forgave his attacker, and I see that as a very kind act. After 26 years, John's time as pope ended on April 2, 2005. The Catholic faith is led by some of the most caring, holy, and humble people in the world. They are brave and forgiving examples of Jesus and his mercy and love, and I really look up to them. These three and countless others have continued to shape our faith and the world every day with their leadership.

9th Grade Winner - Megan Underwood

Three Famous Popes Who Shaped the Catholic Church.

The 3 of the most well known popes are Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. They are my favorite popes because each of them showed different strengths John Paul I showed courage, Benedict XVI showed wisdom, and Francis shows kindness and humility. These qualities have helped guide the Church and inspire people all over the world.

ESSAY CONTEST CONT.

Pope Francis: The People's Pope

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Argentina, became pope in 2013 and led the Catholic Church until his death in 2025. He was the first pope from South America and was known around the world for his kindness, humility, and dedication to helping others. I admire Pope Francis because he truly connected with everyday people. He lived simply, rode in regular cars, and even paid his own bills sometimes. He never acted like he was above anyone else, and that made people respect him even more.

Pope Francis often spoke about helping the poor, protecting the environment, and spreading kindness. He reminded everyone that faith isn't just about going to church-it's about caring for others and making the world a better place. He encouraged young people to get involved in their communities and to live with compassion. Even after his passing, his message of love and humility continues to inspire people everywhere. I think he was a great example of what it means to live a humble and caring life.

Pope John Paul II: The Brave Reformer

Pope John Paul II, born Karol Józef Włodyka in Poland, was pope from 1978 to 2005. He was one of the most loved popes in history and the first non-Italian pope in over 400 years. One reason I really admire him is because of his courage and strength. He grew up during a very hard time when his country was under Nazi and Communist control. Even through all that, he stayed strong in his faith and never gave up on hope.

During his years as pope John had traveled more than any other pope before him. He visited people all over the world, spreading messages of peace, forgiveness, and love! He helped bring an end to communism in eastern Europe, especially in his home country of Poland. One of the most powerful things he did was forgive the man who tried to kill him in 1981. That showed how deeply he lived his faith. I think Pope John Paul II is one of my favorites because he showed how forgiveness and courage can truly change the world.

Pope Benedict XVI: The Wise Teacher

Pope Benedict XVI, born Joseph Ratzinger in Germany, led the Church from 2005 to 2013. Before becoming pope, he was a teacher and one of the top theologians in the Catholic Church. He is one of my favorite popes because of his intelligence and love for learning. He believed that faith and reason go hand in hand and that people should really understand what they

ESSAY CONTEST CONT.

believe in.

As pope, Benedict focused on strengthening the Church's beliefs and helping Catholics grow closer to God through study and prayer. What I respect most about him is his humility. In 2013, he decided to resign because he felt he was too old to continue leading the Church. No pope had done that in almost 600 years. It showed that he cared more about the Church than about holding onto power. His choice showed true honesty and responsibility, which I think are important qualities in a leader.

Conclusion: Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis are three amazing leaders who have each made their marks on the Catholic Church. John Paul I taught people about forgiveness and courage, Benedict XVI showed wisdom and humility. And lastly Francis taught us about kindness and service. They are my favorite popes because they each remind me that faith can be lived in many ways through strength, knowledge, and love. Their leadership continues to inspire people everywhere to live better, care for others, and keep their faith strong.

HONOR GUARD FOR ORDINATION

On January 31, the Diocese of Lexington joyfully celebrated the ordination of Deacon John Becerra to the priesthood at the Cathedral of Christ the King. It was a beautiful and sacred moment for the local Church and a testament to God’s call in his life.

The Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree were honored to provide an Honor Guard for the ordination Mass, offering a visible witness of our commitment to faith and support for our clergy. Sir Knights from across the district stood proudly in service, reflecting the reverence and solemnity of the occasion.

Thank you to all the Sir Knights who participated and represented the Fourth Degree with dignity and devotion. Your presence at events like this underscores our Order’s faithful service to the Church and her priests.

Please join us in prayer for Father John Becerra as he begins his priestly ministry. May God bless him abundantly as he serves Christ and His people.



THREE NEW BROTHER KNIGHTS

On Thursday January 15 St Joseph Council in Mt Washington held an exemplification. They were joined by All Saints council in Taylorsville. 3 new members made the Charity, Unity, and Fraternity exemplification. A celebration dinner was held immediately afterwards

Front L-R: GK Greg House (All Saints) new members Wayne (all Saints) Jay Moore, Michael Knight (St Joseph) GK Michael Zygmunt (St Joseph)

Back L-R: exemplification team Deacon Earl Baker, James Underwood, Dwight Frank, Pat Mattingly, Joey Followay, Deacon Kevin Webb, DD Eric Guy.

Mike Zygmunt
Grand Knight



RAMP FOR A BROTHER KNIGHT

Brother Knight of almost 40 years, Shelby Croutcher from Council #4665 Msgr. Joseph Newman Council in Louisville due to health issues was in need of a ramp in order to be able to get in and out of his home.

Brother Shelby's family asked if the council could help with this project. Brother Shelby was in physical rehab due to a fall along with having to go once a week for kidney dialysis, so it was needed quickly.

A huge thank you to the new Hispanic Brother Knights in the council for stepping up and building a beautiful ramp for Brother Shelby in just one day. Brother Knights helping Brother Knights and their families.

Steve Arnold
District Deputy



4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATIONS

January was an encouraging and productive month for the Fourth Degree in Kentucky, as we were blessed to hold two exemplifications that welcomed new Sir Knights into our ranks and strengthened our assemblies across the Commonwealth.

On January 17, we gathered in Ft. Mitchell for the second Fourth Degree exemplification of the year. This event resulted in 17 new Fourth Degree members, including Father Daniel Schomaker of the Diocese of Covington. It is always a special privilege to welcome a priest into the Patriotic Degree, and his participation was a meaningful highlight of the day.



Later in the month, on January 31, we held our next exemplification in Brandenburg, where 11 new Sir Knights took the oath and committed themselves to the principles of Patriotism, Faith, and Service that define our Degree.

These exemplifications did not happen by chance. They are the result of dedicated recruiters, supportive assemblies, hardworking degree team members, and a shared commitment to inviting worthy Catholic men to take this important step in their Knights of Columbus journey. Each new Sir Knight strengthens not only his local assembly, but our entire District.

4TH DEGREE CONT.



Our work is far from finished. We still have several Fourth Degree exemplifications coming up later this fraternal year:

Bardstown – April 18, 2026

Oak Grove – April 25, 2026

Louisville – June 6, 2026

To ensure that any Catholic man who wishes to join the Fourth Degree will be able to do so, we will be holding CUF (Charity, Unity, and Fraternity) exemplifications prior to each Fourth Degree exemplification. This will allow eligible men who are not yet Third Degree Knights to complete the necessary degrees and fully participate in the Patriotic Degree without delay.

I encourage every assembly to continue identifying and inviting eligible men to take part in these upcoming exemplifications. Together, we can ensure strong participation and continued growth across Kentucky.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has played a role in making these events successful, and congratulations once again to our newest Sir Knights. May they wear the title with pride and continue to serve God, Church, and Country with distinction.

Cameron Peck
District Master

19TH ANNUAL CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER

On January 18, Knights and their families joined together to honor our clergy at the 19th Annual Clergy Appreciation Dinner for the Archdiocese of Louisville. The event was held at St Martha's Bethany Center. There were about 200 in attendance including 22 priests and 8 deacons. The 4th degree honor guard honored all.

Chairman Jack Banbury of Bishop FLAGET Council 13053 mentioned how many people complimented the food. And Fr Patrick Dolan was a memorable speaker.

While it's hard for our clergy to get away so they can attend the event we certainly want our Clergy to know how much we care for them.

Jack Banbury



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

2025 Salute to Summer Games

The Knights of Columbus Salute to Summer Games is back for a sixth year! Once again, with the support of the State Deputy, the Salute to Summer Games has returned as a Knights of Columbus-specific campaign. From March 1 through the 2026 State Summer Games (scheduled for June 5-7 at Eastern Kentucky University), individual Knights and Councils across the state will have an opportunity to raise money to support Special Olympics with the goal being to add the Knights of Columbus as an official State Summer Games sponsor.

The Salute web site (sokysalute.com) will go live on March 1.

This is a great opportunity for Councils and individual Knights to easily help us support Special Olympics without Councils making direct donations. The Salute web site provides easy to use tools for Councils and Knights to raise money outside the organization.

However, if your Council does decide to make a donation, it can be sent to:
Special Olympics Kentucky
Attn: Salute to Summer Games
105 Lakeview Court
Frankfort, KY 40601



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

Last Year's Salute to Summer Games saw 16 Councils raise or contribute more than \$7,759. Our goal again this year is to raise \$13,000 (or about \$1 for every Knight in the state).

More communications about the Salute will be coming to Grand Knights soon. If you have any questions, contact Mark Buerger at mbuerger@soky.org.

Volunteer Opportunities Abound in Coming Months

March through May provides huge opportunities for Knights across the state to volunteer at Special Olympics Kentucky events. From basketball to soccer to track and field, there is no shortage of need for volunteer help. And no sports experience is necessary for most of the positions. Upcoming events include:

March 14-15 – State Basketball Tournament, MidAmerica Sports Complex, Louisville

April 12 – Louisville Regional Soccer Tournament, Lynn Family Training Facility, Louisville

April 25 – Area 1 Track and Field Meet – Calloway County High School, Murray

April 25 – Area 2 Track and Field Meet – Owensboro Middle School

April 25 – Area 7 Track and Field Meet – Ryle High School, Union

SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONT.

April TBA – Area 3 & 9 Track and Field Meet – Johnson Central High School, Paintsville

April TBA – Area 5 Track and Field Meet – Bowling Green High School

April TBA – Area 6 Track and Field Meet –

Southwestern High School, Somerset

April TBA – Area 8 Track and Field Meet – Great

Crossing High School, Georgetown

May 9 – Area 4 Track and Field Meet – Mercy High School, Louisville

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



Three Chances Left to Get the Chill of a Lifetime at the Polar Plunge

There is still time to sign up and participate in the Coolest Fundraiser in Kentucky – the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Kentucky. There are three Plunges remaining in 2026. Several Councils across Kentucky have participated in the Polar Plunge over the years. In 2025 Councils raised nearly \$5,500 for Special Olympics Kentucky in Plunges in Lexington, Louisville and Lake Cumberland

For more information or to sign up, visit the site for the Plunge nearest you.

[February 21 – Louisville at Main Event](#)

[March 7 – Western Kentucky at Kentucky Dam Village](#)

[March 21 \(postponed from Jan. 31\) – Cincinnati Polar Plunge](#)



STATE DEPUTY LUKE WILLIAMS



He Leads Me In Right Paths

The weather has been BIG news across most of KY these past months and I for one am looking forward to the BIG thaw! So, with the Christmas Season and Groundhog Day behind us, it's time to look ahead to Lent, spring, and the many Knights of Columbus activities leading up to July. Historically in Kentucky, Knights of Columbus council activities, membership recruitment and actions always ramp up the last 5 months until we reach the end of the Fraternal Year on June 30th. This means we have passed the halfway point, turned the last corner and are staring at the home stretch these last 5 months of the 2025-2026 Fraternal Year. Good luck with all your Charity, Unity and Fraternal activities in the coming months!

2026 Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention –

The 123rd Annual Knights of Columbus - KY State Convention, will be held at the Clarion Hotel/Bluegrass Convention Center – Lexington, KY on April 10 - 12, 2026. The 2026 Convention Delegate Certification Documents have been emailed to the councils to be filled out and sent back in. Contact your District Deputy if you have questions. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Convention in April.

The 123rd Annual Convention Information Packet has just been sent out so make your reservations and register to attend now.

Necrology List for 2026 State Convention

On Sunday, April 10th, the Reading of Necrology will take place at the State Convention. Our Worthy Executive Secretary recently sent a request to all Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries and District Deputies asking to complete a council Necrology form and send to him so that our deceased Brothers from this past year can be honored. We do not want any

WILLIAMS CONT.

name omitted. Please remind your councils to submit their Brothers names before March 10th. Any questions can be directed to Executive Secretary Mike Rinehart at kykofces@gmail.com. Thank you for your help and support in remembering our fallen Brother Knights.

Important EFF and Cor Reminders for the COR Initiative in Kentucky - With the launch of the new KofC.org website, some of the links in the Cor Central newsletter sent last month are not valid on the new site. The links have been revised and an updated version has been published: [Cor Central](#).

If you or someone on your team isn't receiving *Cor Central* and would like to, you can sign up here: [Subscribe to Cor Central](#)

Make Succession Planning for our leadership a regular order of business for the State and Local Councils. Please remind your councils that Nomination Committees need to be formed and ready to present a slate of nominees for Elections to be held between May 1st and June 15th. Remember that “On Demand Training” Is Always Available - Visit [Fraternal Training | Knights of Columbus](#) to find online training for state, council, district and assembly officers, as well as important instruction for handling Operations

Membership Growth Initiatives - Time to bring those members in the “prospects” tab into the councils. Is your council having regular Charity, Unity, and Fraternity exemplifications? Why not go ahead and Plan or Practice District or Council Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity (CUF) ceremonies every month. Now is the time to ensure your council has a Spring Parish Outreach Drive scheduled using the Proof Of Concept method. The Parish Outreach Drive (POD), Membership outreach process has proven success for getting new members in your council or roundtable. Ask KY State Membership Director Tom O’Hagan for more information!

Ensure at least 25 Local Councils achieve Star Council Status before June 30, 2026.

Many KY Councils are getting closer to the Star Council Status. The 9 achievement items required to attain the Star Council Status show that a council is active and serving the parish and community well. I am thankful for those District Deputies and Grand Knights that meet and serve their Pastors faithfully as this is the first step in being an active Knight.

- **Programs/Faith In Action-Updates**

The Kentucky March for Life in Frankfort is March 11, 2026 at the State Capital.

You can register at this link to receive email updates and to stay informed about this year’s KY March for Life. I urge all 99 KY Knights of Columbus Councils to be represented in Frankfort for this year’s March for Life. Please plan to join us at the Capital!

[2026 Kentucky March for Life!](#)



WILLIAMS CONT.

New - Join ASAP Incentive (Membership and Program) going on now!

Councils that recruit **3 members** between **February 1 and March 31** AND donate at least \$500 through the ASAP program any time during the 2025-26 fraternal year (including donations made since July 1, 2025) will receive an additional \$250 for one pregnancy resource center or maternity home they supported. The top 10 recruiting councils will also receive an additional \$750 for the pregnancy resource or maternity home, bringing the total incentive to \$1,000 for those winners! Let potential members in your parish know that by joining your council, they could help earn funds for your local pregnancy resource center. Please note: To qualify, councils must apply for ASAP through the online form at kofc.org/asap or this [link](#). Councils that have already received a grant through ASAP in the 2025-26 fraternal year do not need to reapply. This \$250 will be in addition to the standard amount your council already earns(ed) as part of the standard ASAP program.

***Special Olympics support needs reported**-Please report all Council and individual Special Olympics donations and participation hours through the online [Form Invitation](#) (#10784). All participation taking place in calendar year 2025 should have been reported through the online form #10784 by January 31, 2026 but it is still not too late. A check from the Supreme Council based on state participation in the Special Olympics reports will be presented to the KY State Deputy in April to be given to our State Special Olympics organization. (please turn in a Special Olympics survey NOW).

New - Be a part of the Waive “Supreme” Per Capita Agent Recruitment Incentive for Councils

Effective immediately every **council who refers a prospective field agent who ultimately contracts as an agent and tenures for a minimum of 6 months will have all per capita fees* waived for the next two billing cycles.**

Full details on this council incentive can be found [here](#).

Additionally, there are several video links that highlight what a career with the Knights looks like that can be shared at council meetings, on council social accounts and with prospective members!

- [A Career Rooted in Faith & Family](#)
- [A Career Unlike Any Other](#)
- [An Opportunity to Grow](#)

As always, our General Agents are a great resource. All fraternal leaders are encouraged to reach out to their GA for help and to learn where there might be the greatest need for new agents. Even if a council already has a great agent, there may be a need for more agents in the greater area, and the men of the council or parish could be a good fit.

WILLIAMS CONT.

The new [KofC.org](https://kofc.org) in English is now live! The Spanish, French and Polish sites will follow at a later date. This site is an important early step in the digital modernization efforts that will culminate in a totally revamped Officers Online, Member Management and Member and Client Portal. Please note that while aliases for many important webpages will still forward to the correct page (i.e. kofc.org/join or kofc.org/cor), the full URL may have changed and so bookmarks and saved links to specific pages may have broken and will need to be relinked and saved. This may affect links that you have on your Council’s website. If you have questions about finding the correct page, please let us know. Please review these [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [walk through video](#) for information about the new website and how to navigate it.

FY 2025-2026 Upcoming Important Dates for your Council Calendar

- *January 31, 2026 **[Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity \(#1728\)](#)**
Not Too Late to turn in!
- *January 31, 2026 Special Olympics Funding Incentive –
[Form Invitation \(#10784\)](#) Not Too Late to turn in!
- *February 15, 2026 Awards/State Per Capita/State Convention Stuff
- *February 18, 2026 Ash Wednesday
- *March, 2026 Councils have Parish Outreach Church Drive
- *March 1, 2026 Appoint Council Nominations Committee
- *March 1, 2026 Council Officers compliant with **Safe Environment**
- *March 5, 2026 KofC Scholarship Applications available online
[Knights of Columbus Scholarships for College Students | Knights of Columbus](#)
- *March 11, 2026 Kentucky March for Life – Frankfort-State Capital
- *March 15, 2026 Candidate and Council Resolutions turn into State
Advocate Deadline
- *March 15, 2026 State/Faith In Action Award Submissions due to
Program Director
- *March 18, 2026 RTL-Louisville Celebration of Life Gala
- *March 25, 2026 4th Degree Exemplification – Oak Grove
- *March 28, 2026 4th Degree District Meeting – Clarkson
- *March 28,2026 Deadline to make room reservations for State
Convention
- *March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday/Founders Day
- *April, 2026 Councils have Parish Outreach Church Drive
- *April 5, 2026 Easter Sunday

STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST



“Your light must shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your Heavenly Father.” (Matt. 5:16)
(from the Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time)

The recent issue of the Chaplain’s Report made reference to the Holy Father’s message for the upcoming World Day (of prayer) of the Sick, which coincides with the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes on February 11. In his message Pope Leo reflects on the parable of the Good Samaritan “for rediscovering the beauty of charity and the social dimension of compassion... through the lens of (Pope Francis’) Encyclical Fratelli Tutti.” That letter expands our understanding of charity to see that “compassion and mercy towards those in need are not reduced to a merely individual effort, but are realized through relationships: with our brothers and sisters in need, with those who care for them and, ultimately, with God who gives us his love.”

It has been said that those who perform charitable works should not be confused with “social workers”. I think what this means is that they should not think of themselves as the primary agents. Rather, in our charitable endeavors we should consider that we are servants of God in our service to others. “The gift of encounter” Pope Leo continues, “flows from our union with Christ. We recognize him as the Good Samaritan who has brought us eternal salvation, and we make him present whenever we reach out to a wounded brother or sister.”

LIST CONT.

Mahatma Gandhi is often credited with saying that “The greatness of a nation can be judged by how it treats its weakest member.” A quick Google search raises some question about that and credits Hubert Humphrey in a Nov. 1, 1977, speech with the origin of the concept: “The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped.” As laudable as this litmus test may be, however, it remains a merely human principle.

The true value of our charity is inextricably linked to its divine origin and goal. Compassion comes from God and leads us back to God. When we allow the encounter with those we serve to be an encounter with the Suffering Servant, we are lifted out of ourselves to be united to the One who is the Source. Again, Pope Leo: “To be one in the One’ means truly recognizing that we are members of a single Body that brings the Lord’s compassion to the suffering of all people, each according to our own vocation. Moreover, the pain that moves us to compassion is not the pain of a stranger; it is the pain of a member of our own Body, to whom Christ our Head commands us to attend, for the good of all. In this sense, our service is identified with Christ’s own suffering and, when offered in a Christian spirit, hastens the fulfillment of the Savior’s prayer for the unity of all.”

May all our efforts give the glory to God, and draw us ever closer to his loving embrace.

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. John List
State Chaplain

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON



Immediate Past State Deputy's Report:

Brother's we are on the downhill side of the Fraternal Year with an **UPHILL** battle. Seven months have passed with 5 months to go. So, where do we stand...

Membership – If your council hasn't recruited a single member, time is running out. All councils should be at 50% of their goal by now.

Founders Award – Achieving this award is as simple as turning on your computer, yet we have many councils that have not attended a single Fraternal Benefit Event. How do you think I learned about the Asset Advisor Program? By watching and learning.

Form 1728 – reports are due 1/31/2025. Did you get yours in?

Form 1295(2) – The Feb reports are no longer required by Supreme. The EFY (End of Fraternal Year) report is still due by August 15th.

Safe Environment Compliant – Lent is just around the corner. If you are planning on your parish youth to participate in your fish fry's, your council needs to be compliant.

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

- February 11th Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
- February 14th Valentine's Day
- February 14th KAPID & State Officers meeting
- February 18th - Ash Wednesday

JOHNSON CONT.

- Feb 20th thru Mar 27th Fish Fry for most councils
- March 15th is the last day to submit a resolution for consideration at the State Convention in May.
- March 29th Founder's Day
- April 3rd – Good Friday
- April 5th – Easter Sunday
- April 10th – 12th KY State Convention

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

Brother's, as a man, as a Catholic and as a Knight of Columbus much is expected of you. Do not shirk your responsibilities.

God has called you for this time and place in history. Stop thinking of yourself as one and isolated...**you are not!**

Within the KY Jurisdiction alone we are 12,500+ strong and the Order is 2 million + strong. Don't tell me that there is nothing one can do.

- One can pick up the Rosary and pray it often.
- One can Fast and ask for God's Blessing on his family, his country, and the Knights of Columbus.
- One can be more involved in serving his parish.
- One can ask a fellow Catholic man to join him in the greatest Fraternal Organization in the World.
- One can attend Eucharistic Adoration
- One can attend the Stations of the Cross and ponder the Passion of Jesus Christ.

If **One**, Jesus Christ, can die for our sins and our complacency, surely to God you can do something to show God that you love Him and want to serve Him!

Don't let this opportunity that God has given you go to waste. He expects much of his children, let us not disappoint Him.

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

STATE SECRETARY DICK BURNS



Brothers Knights,

Tempus Fugit!

The days are counting down to our State Convention on April 10th in Lexington, and to our Fraternal Year on 6/30/2026.

It's time to sit down and review what your council has done for the year and what you have planned to do for the rest of the year in order to earn the Star Council Award.

It's also time to assess your council's progress toward the Star Council Award.

Membership (McGivney Award)

- 5 more Councils have now reached their Membership Quota for a total of 22.
- % other Councils are over 50% of their quota, needing only 1 or 2 more members to meet quota
- 2 Councils gained their first new members of the year taking us down to the still too high number of **34** Councils which have yet to recruit a new member.

Three of those councils are struggling, and more will be if they don't keep new blood coming into their council. It's simple – you just have to ask. We've got a great new tool called the Parish Outreach Drive to help you. My council got 11 signups when we did it the first time. Your District Deputy, your Field Agent, our State Membership Director DD Tom O'Hagan, and your State Officers are all willing and able to help you out.

Fraternal Benefits (Founders Award)

- Only 12 Councils have met the requirements of having had members attend at least 2 Fraternal Benefits presentations with at least 10 members total

BURNS CONT.

This is so easy. Brothers can attend these virtual presentations online, register their presence online, and let their Grand Knights know. Grand Knights can schedule a watch party after their council or officers meeting – feed them pizza if you need to to get them to stay. You can have your Fraternal Agent give an in-person presentation. Or you can have just your Grand Knight and Financial Secretary have a discussion with the Fraternal Agent.

Service Programs (Columbian Award)

So far no Council has submitted its SP-7, which isn't due until June 30th, but you don't want to wait that long. There's still plenty of time, but last year 2 of the 41 Councils which submitted their SP-7 had it denied. If they had submitted it earlier, they might have had time to amend it and get it accepted.

I'm sure that most of the 50+ Councils which didn't submit their SP-7 actually did the programs, but just didn't submit it.

Be sure to fill out a Form 10784 and submit it to Supreme with a copy to State Program Director Joe Carte. It'll help you remember them for your SP-7 and speed up approval of your SP-7 by Supreme.

Other Requirements for Star Council

Form 185, Report of Officers Chosen

Only 4 Councils have failed to submit this form, down from 10 last month. A couple of those are on struggling list. I'm sure the other two have officers, but not sure why they don't fill out the form.

Form 365, Report of Service Personnel

5 more Councils have submitted their form 365 this month, taking us down to 28 Councils which haven't. Again, I'm sure almost all these Councils have people in these positions, and I'm not sure why they don't send it in. Some of these Councils may have submitted the Form, but if you don't fill in the required 4 positions, it won't be accepted.

Safe Environment Training

3 more Councils have become Safe Environment Training Compliant, bringing us up to 38 Councils in compliance. Of the 61 which aren't, completed their Safe Environment Training. The 28 who haven't submitted their Form 365 can't be, because Supreme doesn't have the information to send them the training link.

Form 1728, Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

This report provides necessary information for Supreme to provide to the IRS and maintain our status as a 501c3 tax exempt fraternal organization. It was due January 21st. 35 Councils have not yet submitted this form. Last year only 16 Councils didn't submit it.



BURNS CONT.

The good news is, Supreme will accept this form late, so you've still got time to remain qualified for the Star Council Award

Form 1295, Annual Council Status and Audit

This once semiannual report is now down to just an annual report for the Fraternal Year, not due until August 15th.

Summary

So far, of the 22 Star Councils that Supreme has tasked the State with this year, only 5 have met all of the requirements except for the SP-7. There's still plenty of time for you to get there, Ask your District Deputy or State Council Officers to help you find a way!

Unity and Fraternity are two of the 4 principals of the Knights. Please practice them by joining the councils who are working toward the Star Council Award!

Memento Mori

I'm always happy to have a month I don't have to report the passing of Former District Deputy or Past State Officer!

Executive Secretary Mike Rinehart has sent out a request for name of Brothers who have passed in the last year for the Necrology to be read at the State Convention. Please respond promptly, and if anyone dies between your submittal and the Convention, let me know and I'll add it to the list.

Celebrations!

Fr. Dentinger Council 390 in Louisville celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year!

And Happy Birthday to PSD Gabe Cabral on 2/8.

State Convention April 10-12 at the Clarion Hotel in Lexington

62 days to the State Convention!

State Executive Secretary has sent out a request for Councils to register their Delegates for the Convention. So far, I've heard from only four – 4665, 6897, 11132, and 15181. If you sent it to me and you're not on that list, please send another copy. If you haven't sent it, please get them to me by March 15th so we can plan meals and delegate materials.

The State Convention is a really great weekend! You get to meet Brothers from all over the state, celebrate and share our successes and learn from each other, and Fraternal gatherings Friday and Saturday night. This year we also get to elect the New State Officers. **Please join us there!**



BURNS CONT.

Council per Capita Billing

The Council Per Capital assessments have been sent to all the Councils. So far I've received payment from 44 Councils. Please make sure that I receive your Council's check by March 31st, Your Council will not have voting rights at the State Convention if you are in arrears to the State or Supreme.

Please, please, please, don't confuse this assessment with your Supreme assessment that comes out at the same time. I had several councils swear to me that they had already paid the State last year, only to find out that they had paid Supreme, delaying the State Payment. Especially with the early Convention it's important to get this in.

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,

Burr it is Cold!!

With the cold weather, are you checking on your elderly neighbors? Is their driveway and sidewalk clear? Is your driveway and sidewalk clear, don't overdo it, be safe.

We are on the downhill side of the Fraternal Year and the back side of the year is here. We have five months left and area you on the path? Where are you on your Councils Goals? Have you done an Outreach Drive? With Ash Wednesday on February 18th, Fish Fries, this is a great time to ask our other brothers to join our order. This is the time help our Parishes and Communities by promoting our principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

How is your Council on being a Star Council? How is your goal on COR doing in your Parish.

January was another Great Month Recruiting Year so far, 309 new Brother Knights. We are on a Great Month for this fraternal year. Keep going, the race is still going, keep the "metal to the petal" to meeting your membership Goal?

Congratulations to the New Fourth Degree Sir Knights that have been to an Exemplification, this last month. Thank You District Master Cameron Peck and your Team, for going out of your way to hold these Exemplifications.

DYKHUIS CONT.

Is there a new Family to your parish and your council? Is your council struggling and need help, please contact any state officer, or your District Deputy. We are all just a phone call away, but you need to make the call.

Remember that for all your hard work you did this month, please have someone in your council file a Fraternal Programs Report form #10784. You can do this online.

February History

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, the 16th President, in Hardin County.

While George Washington was born February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He was the Commanding General for the Continental Army and First President.

Basketball Slam Sweepstakes

Has your council sold all your Basketball Slam Sweepstakes Tickets? The Funds from this go to the state Charities Disaster Fund. If you need tickets, get with your Grand Knight. Great Money Prizes. Good Selling!!

Kentucky Knights of Coumbus State Convention

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This year's State Convention has been moved to April 10th, 11th, and 12th, 2026 at the Clarion Hotel, Lexington. Watch for more information coming. I am looking forward to seeing you in April.

Recruit and Retain

We have five months left of this Fraternal Year, let's keep up the momentum, keep asking that new parish member to join us. Have you recruited one New Member? Have you held an Exemplification? Your council needs to hold one every month. If you don't have any Candidates, do a practice. Hand that prospective your iPhone, and use "Join KofC" and Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY. It is time to start asking that young man, who is a new High School Senior, or a College Student to consider becoming a Knight. Ask your Parish to be a part of the in the Exemplification. These 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.

-



DYKHUIS CONT.

Council Officers

Has your address or phone number changed? Please let the Executive Secretary Mike Rinehart (miketheresa@gmail.com) know your changes, for the state Directory.

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.

Thanks for the District Deputies and District Wardens.

May you have a Blessed Lent!

Father McGivney, Pray for Us,

Have a Blessed Day!

Vivat Jesus!

Gary Dykhuis

State Treasurer



STATE ADVOCATE MIKE KUCHENBROD



Worthy Brothers,

I hope you are all surviving the winter weather, lots of snow adventures for everyone this year. But spring is around the corner and it is time to be planning those March recruiting events and looking at ways to engage your parish in Lent opportunities as we enter that stage of the Liturgical year.

Perhaps this would be a good time to look at Cor and how you can help your parishioners in deepening their faith and studying the word while enjoying some fellowship. The information on a number of programs and how to run them is all available at Kofc.org.

Holy hours such as saying a rosary or engaging in the Stages of the Cross event are just two ways to serve the faithful and get a step closer to your Star Council Award.

Resolutions!

I am not talking about those new year's 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

KUCHENBROD CONT.

matters beyond our Jurisdiction will be submitted to the Supreme Advocate for consideration at the Supreme Convention.

Council Forms

The Form 1295 Semiannual Council Audit Report is no longer required for February, the form still shows Semi but is an annual Audit due on August 15th and should include data for the entire year.

It is also IRS For 990 time again.

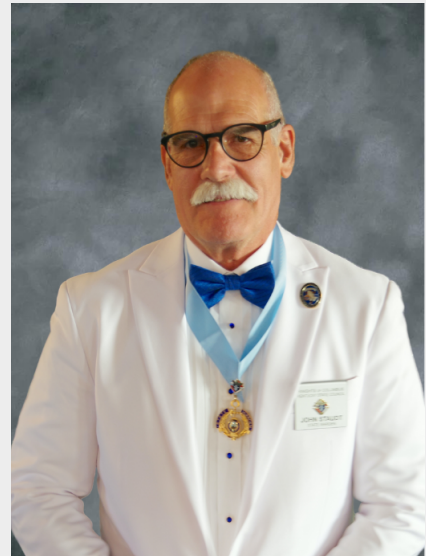
If you have not already, submit the **Fraternal Survey**. The 1728 was due end of January and your Financial Secretary will need that info to fill out the form with any accuracy. This form not only helps us capture the scope of efforts by our Knights but also helps us comply with requirements from the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

State Convention is coming up soon, get commitments for your delegates and get that form submitted.

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,

I hope you and your family are all safe with the frigid winter weather we have had to endure with the ice and snow including the unusually low temperatures. Watch out for your neighbors, especially those who need assistance.

If you haven't already, the January/February 2026 Columbia magazine is a good read. The articles are mostly about the sanctity and dignity of life. In one of the articles, "People, Not Products", about, in vitro fertilization (IVF), we must support the natural conception of a life versus conception in a laboratory being nothing more than a manufactured object. Take a look at the Editors article also; both articles are related. A third article, "MAiD for Dying", about Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD), in Canada and how there is help from pro-life advocates and coalitions to help those considering MAiD to reconsider and how the Knights of Columbus are involved in assisting those who have been traumatized by being told assisted suicide is the answer to their pain and illness. Still another dignity of life article about St. Josephine Bakhita, kidnapped at a young age and trafficked as a slave follows her life and her eventual freedom and how, today, the Knights of Columbus are involved in helping those who have survived human trafficking.

Councils participating in the Basketball Free Throw should have already planned their Basketball Free Throw Contest. Council level competition is usually in January, District level in February, Regional in February/March and State Competition on March 15, 2026 at Bethlehem High School in Bardstown, KY at 1:00 pm EST.

We are two months into the distribution of the Basketball Slam tickets. Several sold tickets packets have already been returned to me. Thank you to those councils who have sold and returned their ticket stubs and checks. All individuals and councils can still purchase more tickets for their councils by going to Green Bee and purchasing more tickets on-line. For

STAUDT CONT.

example, if your council sold all 25 tickets assigned, individuals purchasing additional tickets on-line, say 10 tickets, the tickets will be added to the total tickets sold for a total of 35 tickets sold by the council. The following link will take you to on-line purchasing at Green Bee: www.basketballsweeps.com, click **Order Tickets Online**, button and enter code **BK26KENTUCKY**. Final day to purchase on-line tickets is March 30, 2026.

The Basketball Slam tickets were distributed at the Mid-Year Meeting in Madisonville, KY. If your council still doesn't have the tickets, reach out to your District Deputy or Grand Knight. The teams are all college teams. U of L and UK are featured as two of the listed of teams competing for the championship. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Buy two (2) tickets and register them on-line with Green Bee, get a third ticket free. **I encourage those who purchase one or more tickets to register them online in case the stub(s) is lost or misplaced.** If the teams on your ticket(s) do not make it into the playoffs, a team or teams will automatically replace the disqualified team(s). The sale of the tickets helps to fund the Kentucky Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program. The funding for this program assists 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 unsold tickets, ticket stubs and money are to be returned to the KY State Warden, John Staudt by **March 6, 2026**. Please follow the instructions in the distributed packet assigned to your council.

With any 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](#)

Thank you and I appreciate all your councils do for the communities and people you serve. May the, "Peace of Christ", be with you all.

**Vivat Jesus,
John Staudt
State Warden**

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR TOM O'HAGAN



The entire State of Kentucky Jurisdiction has pretty much taken November, December, and January off from Parish Outreach Drives and Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Exemplifications. Far too many e-members remain waiting to be transferred.

District Deputies, I am challenging you to help your councils by scheduling and conducting District-Wide CUF Exemplifications in February

There are options to add your e-members to your council. Let me know if you need assistance.

There remain 36 Councils that have not recruited a new member this Fraternal Year.

When was the last time you engaged your council leadership with your General Agent and Field Agent? They are some of the best recruiters in the Order, and oh, by the way, they have skin in the game. Utilize your tools!

The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity Form 1728 was due January 31st- [1728 Activity Survey Council](#)

Along with completing the Form SP-7 to be awarded the Columbian Award, councils need to submit Family of the Year, Knight of the Year, and Blessed McGivney Award for your Chaplain. Our SD highly recommends February 15th as the submission date.

It is also time to begin taking the steps to create a Slate of Officers for your council for the new Fraternal Year, which begins on July 1st. Succession planning is a crucial step in achieving a successful council.

Keep up with the Star Council and District Award Status Reports to see where your council/district stands.

What is needed to reach Star Council/District?

O'HAGAN CONT.

COUNCIL INCENTIVES Kentucky State Council

Fraternal Year 2025-26 Membership Growth Incentives

- Every Council that has achieved the McGivney and Founders Award requirement, SET compliance, and submitted completed Forms 185, 365, and 1728 by the end of the day on 3/31, the council will receive \$50.
 - o Councils that have qualified so far – 1315, 4665, 7847, 12965, 15979
- Those councils that reach 200% Membership Growth of Quota/Goal and above by the end of the day on 3/31, the council will receive \$75 (Awards to be presented at the State Convention)

Councils that have qualified so far – Councils 7831, 11132, 12965, 14128

Join ASAP Council Incentive!

Councils that recruit 3 members between February 1 and March 31 AND donate at least \$500 through the ASAP program any time during the 2025-26 fraternal year will receive an additional \$250 for the pregnancy resource center or maternity home they supported. The top 10 councils recruiting the most members will also receive an additional \$750 for the pregnancy resource center or maternity home, bringing the total incentive to \$1,000 for those winners!

Full details on the incentive can be found [here](#).

This incentive gives you a unique opportunity to expand your charitable impact by recruiting new members.

Schedule a Parish Outreach Drive in January for the first quarter of 2026

Follow Up When Using Membership Enrollment Cards

Since their release this fall, Membership Enrollment cards have aided council recruiting efforts, especially Church Drives. It's important that when your council uses Membership Enrollment cards, you have a plan to follow up with each man who completes one. [Membership Outreach Steps](#)

O’HAGAN CONT.

As a reminder, Membership Enrollment Cards and Materials can be found on Supplies Online under Membership & Recruitment >> Membership Enrollment Cards.

Conduct a Charity, Unity, and Fraternity (CUF) Exemplification before March 31.

The On-Demand ceremony, in English, Spanish, and French, can be accessed by candidates online 24 hours a day. [Fraternal Operations | Knights of Columbus Exemplification | Knights of Columbus](#)

Upon completion of a Charity, Unity, and Fraternity Exemplification, please complete Form 450 and send a copy to the SD and KYMD – [Form 450 blank.pdf](#)

Also, complete Form 10784 and forward a copy to the SD and State Program Director Joe Carter – [Form Invitation](#)

[Fraternal Programs Report Form \(#10784\) Training Video - Forms - Fraternal Mini Videos Video Training Gallery](#)

The new [kofc.org](#) is now live! We encourage you to explore the site, especially the Officers' Resources section. To familiarize yourself with the new site, watch this [video](#) to get you started.

	Actual v Quota MTD	Actual v Quota YTD
New Members	49 v 40 = 122%	365 v 498 =73%
Councils With No YTD Adds		36 v 100
Form 365 Not Submitted		30 v 100
Form 185 Not Submitted		6 v 100

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.

“The Order grows one member at a time, and with a personal ask.”

Vivat Jesus!
Tom O’Hagan
KY State Membership Director

PROGRAM DIRECTOR RSVP CHAIRMAN JOE CARTER



Don't Miss Out—Submit Your Award Nominations by March 15th!

As we celebrate the outstanding service and dedication of our councils and members, it's time to recognize those who go above and beyond. The nomination period for several prestigious awards—including the Dentinger Lifetime Service Award, Family of the Year, Knight of the Year, and the State Deputy Unity Award—is now open!

Why Submit? These awards honor individuals and councils making a real difference in our community—whether through charitable causes, supporting local organizations, or championing pro-life initiatives. By submitting your nominations, you help shine a spotlight on the inspiring work happening across Kentucky.

How to Nominate:

- **District Deputies:** The State Deputy Unity Award recognizes multiple councils and or districts working together for a “charitable cause” that may benefit a certified charitable organization, such as a Pregnancy Center(s), a local food bank(s), a St Vincent DePaul center, a pro-life activity, such as funding an Ultrasound machine or a Baby Box or by holding a fund raising activity to support KY Special Olympics or other great ideas that councils and districts cooperate on. Please submit detailed reports, including the scope of the project, participating councils, and the impact on the community.

CARTER CONT.

Other Forms!

- Single Service Program Awards – Form #STSP
- Family of the Year – Form 10680
- Blessed Michael McGivney Awards – Form #SBMMA
- Knight of the Year – Form 10765

Let's Celebrate Service Together! Don't let your council's achievements go unnoticed. Take a few minutes to fill out the forms and ensure your members and projects receive the recognition they deserve. The deadline for all submissions is **March 15th**—let's make this year's awards the best yet!

For forms and more information, visit the state or Supreme website or contact your District Deputy.

In addition to celebrating our councils and Kentucky brother knights, we should celebrate brother knights worldwide. Two thousand twenty-five was a banner year for the Order. Consider this:

- The Order grew by 100,000 new or readmitted members in 2025
- Two thousand twenty-five was the strongest membership year since the post WWI era
- Twelve hundred new councils have been installed in the past 5 years

It is appropriate to acknowledge the efforts of the councils and the State Membership Director in achieving these results. While these achievements are commendable, there remains significant potential for growth. Currently, only 4.6 percent of Catholic men are members of the Knights of Columbus, indicating substantial opportunity for future membership expansion.

With the Love of Christ,

Joe Carter, FDM
Program Director
RSVP Chairman
(702) 277-9122
josephcarter5898@att.net

DISTRICT MASTER CAMERON PECK



Brother Knights,

As we move further into the new year, I would like to take a moment to offer my congratulations to the candidates who recently completed their Fourth Degree exemplifications in Ft. Mitchell and Brandenburg. I also want to extend a sincere thank you to the many Sir Knights who gave their time and effort to make those exemplifications possible. Your dedication and willingness to serve continue to strengthen the Fourth Degree across our district.

I also want to express my thoughts and prayers for any Brother Knights, families, and communities affected by the winter storm that moved through our area on January 24–25. Severe weather reminds us how important fraternity and neighborly support truly are. I am grateful for the many Sir Knights who quietly step forward in times of need—checking on others, offering assistance, and living out our principles through action.

February also gives us an opportunity to reflect on leadership and service to our country. As we observe Presidents' Day this month, we are reminded that the strength of our nation has always depended on men willing to serve something greater than themselves. The Fourth Degree continues that tradition through visible patriotism, respect for our flag, and service to our communities. Whether through ceremonies, honor guards, or quiet acts of support, our presence matters and makes a difference.

Looking ahead, we still have several Fourth Degree exemplifications scheduled in the coming months. I encourage you to continue identifying and inviting eligible Brother Knights to take this important step:

Bardstown – April 18

Oak Grove – April 25

Louisville – June 6

PECK CONT.

A personal invitation remains one of the most meaningful ways we can strengthen our assemblies and ensure continuity of leadership for the future.

Thank you, Brother Knights, for all that you do. Your commitment, leadership, and service are deeply appreciated, and I look forward to continuing our work together in the months ahead.

Vivat Jesus!
Cameron Peck, PSD
District Master

GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE



K of C can assist you in achieving your goals – February 2026

Brothers, do you have goals in mind for this year? It may be February, but the year is still fresh. Instead of new year's resolutions, I like to think about setting concrete, actionable goals. I recommend that at least once a year, you make it a goal to take inventory of your financial health. You can start by asking yourself if you've experienced any major life events in the last year that may call for an update to your insurance plan or to acquire a policy for the first time. If you've gotten married, welcomed or are expecting a baby, changed careers or purchased a home, these are good reasons to evaluate your life insurance coverage.

Don't forget that if your life insurance policy is dependent on your current employer, you could be underinsured and only protected while you are still working. It's also important to consider whether you're on track to maintain the lifestyle you want in retirement. Do you know how much money you'll need to retire comfortably?

Finally, consider if you're missing an opportunity to grow your assets. With faith-based investment options through our affiliate, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, you can pursue your financial goals with products that adhere to Catholic investment guidelines. It's not too late to set goals for 2026.

Your K of C Field Agent would love to sit down with you and conduct a complimentary needs analysis. If you have any questions, please contact him so you can schedule a time to meet.

Lastly, if you have access to a video screen during your council meeting, we encourage you to show this video with council members or share another way. And before I go, I'd like to share with you the story of our late brother Knight Brad Wolf. Brad was a past grand knight

SCHACHLE CONT.

in Texas who chose to protect his family with a Knights of Columbus insurance policy. That decision became a lifeline for his family — allowing his wife, Dena, and their daughter, Riley, to remain in their home, free from the fear of financial hardship.

Play video (copy and paste URL below)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc-RSg3Ayl0>

Vivat Jesus!

Dan Schachle, FICF, PGK

Knights of Columbus, General Agent

(615) 589-8848

daniel.Schachle@KofC.org



Local Events

Do you want to *waive* your *per capita* this year?

Recruit your top men to become Knights of Columbus Financial Professionals! Just **one** successful candidate equals 100% reduction in assessment.



1

Promote the Career to Your Members

Learn more about the career at www.kofc.org/agentcareers and visit Supplies online to find all promotional materials

2

Have Your Candidate Apply

Scan the QR code below, and be sure the candidate uses the referral code: **2026Incentive**

3

Your Candidate Becomes an Agent

After becoming an Agent, he will complete a training program

4

Your Agent Completes Six Months

Your candidate must complete six months under contract as an Agent for your council to qualify

5

All Per Capita Fees Waived

All per capita fees waived at the end of the applicable billing cycles



Knights of Columbus®

To apply, scan the QR Code, using the referral code: **2026Incentive**



Referral Incentive only applies to FA's with at least 6 months of tenure. Per Capita includes all Supreme Council Assessments for the 2026 Fraternal year.

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Local Events



NON PROFIT
ORG US
POSTAGE PAID
OWENSBORO,
KY 42301
PERMIT 111

**Catholic Men's Conference
of Western Kentucky**
Diocese of Owensboro
McRath Catholic Center
600 Locust Street
Owensboro, KY 42301



Local Events

11th Annual Conference Schedule

- 8:30 Registration & Coffee & Donuts
- 9:30 Opening Prayer
- 9:45 **Speaker Bob Allen Kroll**
- 10:30 *Break*
- 10:45 **Speaker Bob Allen Kroll**
- 11:30 **Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation**
- 11:30 *Lunch*
- 1:00 **Speaker Dr. Jason Winkle**
- 1:45 *Break*
- 2:00 **Testimony Fr. Larry McBride**
- 2:15 **Speaker Dr. Jeff Andrini**
- 2:45 *Break*
- 3:00 **Speaker Dr. Jason Winkle**
- 3:45 Announcements & Closing Prayer
- 4:00 Conference concludes
- 4:30 MASS with Bishop Medley following the Conference at St. Stephen Cathedral, 610 Locust St.**



Our Mission: Guided by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to Catholic men with faith enriching and life changing presentations to strengthen faith, family, and work lives.

All times approximate; updates, details, and ticket sales on our website: www.KyCatholic.com



BOB ALLEN KROLL



DR. JASON WINKLE



FR. LARRY MCBRIDE



DR. JEFF ANDRINI

more info available at www.KyCatholic.com

2026 Conference Registration

Tickets: \$40 Adult, \$15 Student (Grade 12+), Priests & Religious Free - Lunch is provided

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

e-mail: _____

Parish: _____

Total number of tickets # _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____ Cash/Check # _____

Send Cash or Check to:
CMCWK
600 Locust St.
Owensboro, KY 42301

OR



Order online/by card:
www.KyCatholic.com

Mail-in deadline: Must be received by Friday, February 6, 2026
CMCWK is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit

CALENDAR

February

Ash Wednesday 18

March

St. Patrick's Day 17

Founder's Day 29

April

Good Friday 3

Easter Sunday 5

Divine Mercy 12

State Convention 10-12

4th Degree Exemp. Bardstown 18

4th Degree Exemp. Oak Grove 25

KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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