



Kentucky State Council Newsletter

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COMMEMORATIVE MASS

September 19, 2026, marked the 75th anniversary of St. Clare Catholic Church in Berea, Kentucky, which was observed with a beautiful commemorative Mass. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop John Stowe, Archdiocese Lexington Kentucky, and attended by the St. Paul II Council 3024 4th Degree Knights. We are committed as members to exemplifying our Faith, supporting our Church, and presenting ourselves as patriots to the country we love.

David Bonn

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COUNCILS JOIN FORCES FOR MEMORIAL BENCH PROJECT

Members of Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council 1487 and the Ironton Knights of Columbus joined together for a work party to install a concrete pad for Beth Hund's memorial bench at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Ironton Ohio.

The joint effort brought members of both councils together in service, preparing a lasting foundation for a bench dedicated to Beth's memory. The memorial bench will offer visitors a place to pause, pray, and reflect in the peaceful setting of the shrine.

Thank you to all who contributed their time and labor to this meaningful project. Their cooperation reflects the Knights of Columbus' commitment to charity, unity, and fraternity while helping create a special place of remembrance for Beth.



LEXINGTON KNIGHTS UNITE TO PROTECT LIFE, RAISING OVER \$74,000

Knights of Columbus Council 14130 has been leading the effort to bring Safe Haven Baby Boxes to Lexington, and thanks to the generosity and cooperation of Brother Knights throughout the city, that effort has become a tremendous success.

Working alongside other Lexington-area councils, Council 14130 has helped raise more than \$40,000 to support the installation of two Safe Haven Baby Boxes. One is located near East New Circle Road, while the second is planned for a fire station in the Masterson Station area.



At the council's August 27 meeting, members presented a check for \$20,600 to Lexington Mayor Linda Gorton and the Lexington Fire Chief to fund the installation of the second Baby Box. The presentation represented a united effort by Knights from across Lexington,

PROTECT LIFE CONT.

demonstrating what can be accomplished when councils work together toward a common goal.

Several councils contributed to the project, including Pax Christi Council 15613, Bluegrass Council 762, Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Council 14372, and St. Peter Council 18058.

Assembly 3929 member Rick Towner also played an important role in the project, placing Safe Haven Baby Box signs at Lexington parishes and meeting with the Fire Chief regarding the placement of the second box at the Masterson Station fire station.

The Knights' commitment to protecting life extends beyond the Baby Box initiative. Council 14130 and its supporters also raised sufficient funds to provide approximately \$34,000, including matching funds from Knights of Columbus Supreme, toward a new 4D ultrasound machine for Assurance Pregnancy Center.

Together, these initiatives represent more than \$74,000 in support of mothers, babies, and families in the Lexington community.

Council 14130 extends its sincere appreciation to every council, Brother Knight, donor, and supporter who helped make these projects possible. Their generosity and dedication demonstrate the Knights of Columbus' unwavering commitment to the protection of life and the power of working together in service to others.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 - FIRST RESPONDER MASS

Friday, September 11, 2026, marked the 25th anniversary of 9/11. In Hopkinsville, Kentucky, 25 Sir Knights from Assembly 2753 gathered with many of the city's First Responder's for fellowship and mass at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church. The nave was filled with gratitude and solemn remembrance, anchored by the Assembly's Sir Knights and the reverent presence of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School students from pre-K through 5th grade.

Parishioners turned out in full force to support their local heroes, worshipping alongside members of the Christian County Sheriff's Department—including the Sheriff—as well as the Hopkinsville Police Department, Hopkinsville Fire Department, and Hopkinsville Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The liturgy also brought together key civic leaders, including the Mayor of Hopkinsville, dignitaries from the Kentucky State Representative's

Office, judicial officials, attorneys, and other state and local officials. Pastor Fr. Emmanuel Udoh, himself a Sir Knight, delivered a deeply moving homily that resonated throughout the congregation. He offered heartfelt thanks to our first responders for their selfless dedication and sacrifice, while commending civic leaders for their steadfast backing of these public servants.

Father Udoh concluded the service with an inspiring call to move forward with enduring love and hope for our community and the world. As our heroes exited the church, the Sir Knights presented each of them with a Saint Michael the Archangel medal and prayer card, accompanied by personal, handwritten thank-you notes from the students. Adding to the spirit of hospitality, Ladies of the Sir Knights worked tirelessly decorating the venue and providing delicious refreshments for our honored guests and students, making the day a truly memorable tribute.



David Allard, PGK
Faithful Navigator

KENTUCKY PURPLE STAR AWARD

The Kentucky Purple Star Award is a state-sponsored recognition for K-12 schools that show a strong commitment to supporting military-connected youth and their families. It is rare when an elementary school establishes their own flag team to raise and retire their school flag during the school year.

Lexington's Sandersonville elementary was a proud recipient last school year of the KY Purple Star Award. When Assembly 3929 became aware, we partnered with their coordinator about replacing the flag that flies over their school. In early October, FN Chris Luketich and CCC of Assembly 3929 presented a new flag to the student-leader of the flag team

Chris Luketich
Faithful Navigator



TEMPUR SEALY DONATES 222 SETS OF SHEETS TO SUPPORT EASTERN KENTUCKY FAMILIES

Thanks to the efforts of Kentucky State Advocate Tommy Johnson and the generosity of his employer, Tempur Sealy International, 222 brand-new sets of sheets will help families in need throughout Eastern Kentucky.

The donation, consisting of five pallets of mostly king- and queen-size sheet sets, was secured by Johnson through Tempur Sealy International and coordinated with the assistance of Gabe Cabral, Chairman of Charities of Kentucky, and Glenn Greenwell, a Charities of Kentucky Board Member and Head of Stewards of Appalachia.

The sheets are intended to support the charitable outreach efforts of Father Beiting's mission and St. Vincent in the Appalachian region. Rather than being designated for a specific disaster relief effort, the donated items will be distributed to individuals and families in need as determined by the receiving organizations.

Greenwell confirmed that all five pallets have been picked up and that both missions have been contacted regarding the donation.

This generous contribution is another example of how Knights of Columbus members can use their personal and professional connections to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.



Special thanks to Tempur Sealy International for its generosity, to Tommy Johnson for making the donation possible, and to Gabe Cabral and Glenn Greenwell for their assistance in coordinating this charitable effort.

COUNCIL 1487 HELPS IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY

Council 1487 has helped make its parish school a safer place through the purchase and installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The lifesaving devices have been installed on each floor of the school and in the undercroft, providing greater access to emergency equipment when every second counts.

Brother Knight Tom Adams spearheaded the installation effort, with assistance from fellow volunteers.

AEDs play a critical role in responding to sudden cardiac arrest, and having these devices readily available can significantly improve the chances of survival. This project is another example of Knights putting their commitment to service into action and helping protect their parish community.



FAITH AND SERVICE: FR. CONRAD JACONETTE COMPLETES DEMANDING TRAINING TO SERVE AS AN AIR FORCE RESERVE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

On Saturday, September 26, 2026, parish life and military ministry intersected in a memorable celebration as Fr. Conrad Jaconette took a significant step in his priestly vocation. Following the 5:00 PM Mass at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Hopkinsville, KY, Fr. Jaconette—himself a Sir Knight in Assembly 2753—was officially administered the oath of office by Fr. (COL) Paul Weberg, an Army Reserve Catholic Chaplain serving at Fort Campbell, KY. Surrounded by fellow Sir Knights of Assembly 2753, family, friends, and parishioners, Fr. Jaconette was also promoted from the rank of Second Lieutenant to First Lieutenant after meeting every rigorous requirement to serve as a Catholic Chaplain in the United States Air Force Reserve.



Answering the call to serve as a military chaplain represents a unique "vocation within a vocation," carrying demanding prerequisites from both the Church and the Armed Forces. Ecclesiastically, a priest must be fully ordained and in good standing, requiring the formal permission of his home diocesan bishop or religious superior, along with an ecclesiastical endorsement from the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS).

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Fr. (1LT) Conrad Jaconette as he embarks on

this noble dual journey of faith and service. Please keep him, Fr. (COL) Weberg, and all our military chaplains in your prayers as they support and shepherd the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces.

David Allard, PGK

Faithful Navigator



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Back-to-School Fellowship Breakfast, hosted by the Knights Council 15841 and Women's Auxiliary at St. Edward Catholic Church in Jeffersontown, KY, is an event centered on fellowship and a hearty morning meal. It is held as a casual, welcoming community event in the school cafeteria. It brings together families, long-time parishioners, and visitors to socialize and connect in a relaxed, friendly setting.

The breakfast included pancakes and syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, kielbasa, bacon, biscuits and gravy, coffee, milk, juice and desserts.

The Knights host breakfast events periodically throughout the year and take place on select Sunday mornings, specifically scheduled to run directly after the morning 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses so parishioners can head straight over for breakfast.

Net proceeds from the good will donations usually go to the St. Edward School Tuition Assistance Program.

Brian Gregory

Program Director



STATE DEPUTY GARY DYKHUIS



Worthy Brothers, First Quarter!!

Our First Quarter, we were able to welcome 140 new Brother Knights to the order. This is a great start, let's keep inviting, Ask every Catholic man in Kentucky. We need to focus on our Council Goals. We need Twenty-five-Star Councils and eight Star-Districts. Continue our dedication of all the Knights of Columbus in Kentucky, to their parishes, communities, and our Order. Keep the pace, keep inviting more men to join our Order. Remember New Brothers are real good source of new ideas and programs.

Congratulations to Councils 14290, 15613, 16232, 17606, and 18908. They had zero additions last year and have at least one each this year. The councils have earned \$50 Our Goals for this year (2026-2027) for "Circle of Honor" for Kentucky Jurisdiction are: Membership is 531, New Brothers (26.37%)

Start Councils Goal of 25 Councils or better

Faith Formation Goal at least three Holy Hours to be conducted

The Knights of Columbus empowers a Catholic Man to live their Faith and Serve their Family, Parish, community and country.

Knights of Columbus Insurance Field Agents

Have you had a visit with your Field Agent? A Good check-up, will keep you in Great Shape. Make an Appointment today. Our Field Agents have been our best, in inviting men to join our Order. Do you have a man in your council that looking for a change in career? Would he make a Good Field Agent? General Agent Dan Schachle is looking for a "Few

DYKHUIS CONT.

Good Men” and offering a reward. Your Council can have the Supreme Per-Capta waived for two periods.

Kentucky Mid-Year Organizational Meeting- December 4-5, 2026 in Madisonville, Ky

Start planning to attend the upcoming Mid-Year Organizational Meeting, we will lay out and reviewed the FY 2026-2027 Strategic Plan. This meeting is primarily for District Deputies and State Program Directors/ Chairmen. Council Officers and members are Welcome and encouraged to attend. Details will be sent out soon.

Council 11132 will be hosting along with Christ the King Parish. We will have a Holy Hour at Christ the King Church Friday Night at 6:30pm Central Time. Father Steve is also offering Confession at this time.

We started our Business meeting Saturday, after the presentations and great lunch we attended 4:30pm MASS at the Christ the King Catholic Church. We will also have a Great Banquet to celebrate this point of this Fraternal Year.

8 Guides for a Successful FY 2026-2027

Kentucky Knights of Columbus leaders need to become acquainted with the 8 Guides;

- Fraternal Planner 2026-2027 (#5033-2026-2027)
- Fraternal Excellence Guide (#11619 Fraternal Excellence Guide)
- Faith in Action (#10907 Faith In Action Guidebook)
- Protocol, Meetings and Ceremonies Guide (#11620 Protocol, Meetings and Ceremonials)
- Kentucky State Directory (sent out by State Executive Secretary)
- Kentucky State Program Guide and Tally Sheet (2026-2027 Program Guide-Final.pdf)
- Kentucky State Membership Guide (KY-membership-Guide)
- Kentucky state Culture of Life Guide

October dates

- Wednesday October 7th, “Miracles of Divine Mercy Dinner” Erlanger, KY
- Saturday October 10 is the 13th Anniversary of Bluegrass on Beshear, “Pickin Life” in Dawson, KY. A fun Family event.
- Sunday October 11th Is Fourth Degree Exemplification, 11:30am, St John’s, Brandenburg, KY
- Monday October 12th Columbus Day, in honor of Christopher Columbus

DYKHUIS CONT.

- Tuesday October 13th U.S. Navy Birthday, happy Birthday all Navy Veterans and Navy Personnel.
- Thursday October 22nd Feast Day of St. John Paul II
- Thursday October 22nd, “Culture of Life Gala” 5:30pm, La Grange, KY
- Saturday October 31st, Halloween and the need to prepare for All Saints Day & All Souls Day.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Pray the Rosary every day
Schedule a “COR” meeting, invite your fellow Catholic Men in your Parish.
Schedule a Charity, Unity, Fraternity (CUF) Exemplification at least every month
Schedule a Culture of Invitation - Church Drive. Order Kits at MarketingBench

KofC Kentucky Charities, Inc- College Football Frenzy Fundraiser
Are you watching your tickets? This fundraiser helps KofC KY Charities Account make grants. Did your Councils sell all your tickets?

KAPID Fundraisers

Have you sent your letter back? Kentucky /Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, Inc (KAPID) asking for your individual donation to help KAPID support the agencies that are helping these individuals.

All Councils should be sponsoring a Tootsie Roll Drive in the upcoming months, hopefully all these drives are successful.

Council Officers

Has your address or phone number changed? Please let the Executive Secretary Rick Arnold, PSD, will be the Executive Secretary, rickd.arnold@gmail.com, for changes. If you need help with the Forms, #185, 365, 1295 Audit, Ask your District Deputy or any of the State Officers.

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

See you on the next Zoom Meeting. District Deputies October 8th, Grand Knights October 12th.



DYKHUIS CONT.

Are you proud to be a Knight of Columbus? Don't stop inviting men to join our order, invite a High School Senior or College Student.

Keep praying daily, if you can attend Daily Mass, we need all the help from our Father in Hevan.

Father McGivney, Pray for Us,
Have a Blessed Day!

Vivat Jesus!
Gary Dykhuis
State Deputy



STATE CHAPLAIN FR. PATRICK DOLAN



Many folks today do not understand Vatican II, thinking it was mainly about making their lives difficult by changing the liturgy or making the church “more Protestant” (according to the SSPX group). The real and true goal of Vatican I and Vatican II was and is to empower the Christian faithful to “renew the face of the earth” (as we pray in the prayer to God the Holy Spirit). That is the duty of all of us—each in our own area and with our own skills.

This was tough in the early church, for many Christians were lower class folks, including many who were slaves or minimally educated “plebians” rather than the ruling class anywhere; but the Church started educating them (in addition to saving them). Kings and other rulers were still important, but with the end of the Roman empire and the invasion of the barbarians, most folks were simply trying to survive. Many became “serfs” on land own by the local lord, which was just one step above being a slave. Others were “cottage industry” workers (potters, tanners, blacksmiths, winemakers, cheesemakers, etc.) who eventually developed trade guilds. Those trading routes also led to the Crusades and other exploration voyages that led to the New World.

Little by little, a larger and larger percentage of folks became literate (which is why gospel stories were depicted visually in Cathedral windows) and the first cathedral schools emerged before the 900s and universities started before 1100. Monasteries had been in existence since the 400s, with support from Charlemagne in early 800s and other rulers and great reformers around 1000 like St. Bernard and St. Norbert, and St. Francis and St. Dominic in the 1200s. By the 1400s the widespread introduction of papermaking from China and printing in the 1440s gave folks lots to read without going to a monastery.

Up to this time, the church councils dealt with combatting errors, and at the Council of Trent in the 1500s the participants refuted attacks by Luther, Zwingli and Calvin—and brought great clarity and consistency to what was taught throughout Christendom. At this same time, due to developments of connections to and colonies in Africa, Asia and the New World, the church’s focus was spreading the doctrine to newcomers rather than continuing

DOLAN CONT.

to uplift the ever-more-literate faithful. Vatican I and Vatican II, as well as intervening papal initiatives, sought to fill in that void.

By the time of Vatican I, despite the disturbances of the French revolution and the Napoleonic wars, nearly all the faithful in not just Europe, but the Americas, and most in Africa and Asia were literate. The everyday faithful were no longer slaves or serfs; they owned not only “cottage industry” businesses but international trading enterprises, and they had formed organizations like trade unions, and insurance fraternities like the Knights of Columbus; and they had developed participatory governments. Vatican I started to call the faithful to renew the face of the earth with those same skills, but that council was cut short by the taking of the papal states by the Italian government.

Vatican II completed that task. It called everyone, not only clergy and religious, to holiness within their own style of life: their families and professional skills. It called everyone to spread the gospel by good example, but also by incorporating gospel values into the way they lived each day: respecting life, upholding civil rights and justice, preferential option for the poor, etc. The call included using scripture well, but also living out the sacraments diligently in every profession, from intellectual and research pursuits by university professors to factory workers and farm hands. It addressed modern forms of communication to do this—and it addressed respectful relationships with other religions (something SSPX also objects to).

Finally, to help nurture the faithful to do this “renewal of the earth” work, the council built on papal decrees like Pius X who gave communion to children or Pius XII who restored the Holy Week liturgies, to make the everyday liturgies more accessible to everyday faithful. The language was changed to that of each nation. Trent did this too—for Latin was the common language of Europe at that time. Vatican II also let the faithful participate more by taking part in the services like reading the scripture (other than the gospel), and everyone proclaiming the other parts of the Mass: Gloria, Creed, responses, etc. In addition, the restoration of the chalice to the faithful (who had always received that way until the black plague in the 1300s stopped that practice) required authorizing the faithful to both help distribute the body and blood of Christ, and take communion to the sick. All of this had previously only been done by a priest or a deacon (whose office was also restored to parish use, for all priests were ordained deacons for at least a few days, but not always seen as such).

In short, Vatican I and II sought to uplift the lay faithful to their true place in the contemporary church, challenge them to renew the face of the earth, and nourish them with the liturgy in a way that they could not only understand and appreciate, but participate better in it—to be nourished even more completely. Many lay faithful now do many of the things in the world that clergy and religious led the way on: schools, hospitals, outreach to the poor, bringing morality to businesses, even theological research and assistance with the

DOLAN CONT.

organization of the church at the highest levels in dioceses and in the Vatican dicasteries. Led by groups like the Knights of Columbus, who regularly participate not only in the liturgical life of the parishes to which they belong, but do a lot of the “heavy lifting” in parish functions and organization, the faithful (living stones in the body of Christ) are living out the call of the two Vatican councils; they are having a spectacular effect; and they are growing in grace by being nourished more effectively in the Mass and sacraments.

May the Knights of Columbus continue to lead the way in this effort, and encourage other organizations to do likewise.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. Patrick Dolan, PhD, STD
State Chaplain



IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY LUKE WILLIAMS



Pope Leo XIV asks in his first encyclical - “What are we building” and reminds us that “Our grandeur is a Gift, not an Achievement”.

I was going through my cell phone the other day and came across a countdown clock I created back in January that I had set to calculate how many days it would be till July 1, 2026. I had set this countdown more as a “stunt” than to idolize the date that was supposedly going to change my life forever since it would be the first day, I would be the Immediate Past State Deputy (IPSD) which I have always been told is the best Kentucky State Council Officer position you could be in. That countdown clock was now counting up and it just happened to be October 9, 2026, the 100th day since the “Big” July 1st date. In the Gospel of Matthew 6:34, Jesus says, “Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day’s own trouble be sufficient for the day.” We all know how hard it can be to apply this Gospel wisdom to our lives. I did thank God our Father that 100th morning for bringing what I would call a sense of serenity from not being the State Deputy, back to the Williams household because those 100 days have been a little difficult to explain. One part, I now understand the feeling of what some folks have told me who retired from a job, started their new “retreat” from the working world, and disliked it so much that they went out and got another job. The reflection back on my status since July 1 has been more of a what to do with this “free time” more than being board or lost. I admit that it has been hard to go from a goal orientated daily state to a “what do I do today” state of mind. I have not become unretired and there are definitely no plans to change that status.

In light of the thoughts, actions and goals I have experienced in these last 100 days, my phone calls are now much fewer, and the emails have definitely reduced and there are only one or two tabs open on my computer now compared to more than twenty at a time before. The calendar also looks so different now than it did back in January of this year. We all

WILLIAMS CONT.

know how one could really get overwhelmed by facing the concerns brought to us in our day-to-day roles but beware that the Devil also enjoys idleness because it directs us to the space within “us” instead of keeping Gods will in the forefront.

I can only guess the number of members who feel overwhelmed with the Knights of Columbus information that is sent to you as a member of the order. There is the Columbia Magazine and other postal mail items, emails from the Supreme Council, emails from the KY State Council and texts or emails from your local Council or Assembly. I would guess that most who are reading this at least turn a glance or open and do their best speed read for what is being sent to you. I encourage you to continually share what you learn to others. This giving of a gift given is truly what we are told to do by Jesus.

Please continue to “Give God first place in your life, and He will take care of the rest”. The Knights of Columbus principles and dispatched information, is calling us to seek “God’s Kingdom first, and he will “add” the necessary things” for us. I also encourage all to not get overwhelmed by the immensity of our roles as Knights and keep it simple by seeking to integrate membership, programs, and charitable activities into your Council’s and your personal monthly calendar.

**Vivat Jesus,
Luke Williams
Immediate Past State Deputy**



STATE SECRETARY MIKE KUCHENBROD



Worthy Brothers,

While attending the COR EFF Director training last month I had the privilege and honor to serve in the Honor Guard for the September 11th memorial mass at St Mary in New Haven. The training weekend included COR Directors and also the next class of McGivney Scholars which this year includes our State Warden and Advocate. If you ever get a chance to visit New Haven, be sure to include a visit to St Mary church where it all began. Better yet consider serving on the State Council and you will get at least one trip there to meet the Supreme Knight.



The information for the mid-year meeting has been sent out to Grand Knights to share with their councils; anyone can attend but the focus is on sharing information with council leadership. Be sure to make your hotel reservations in a timely manner, and send your registration forms in to our State Executive Secretary Rick Arnold.

KUCHENBROD CONT.

Tootsie roll drives happen this time of year, tie it in with a membership drive. Thanksgiving and Advent will be here before we know it, the church calendar gets busy as we near the end of the year.

For those councils that have a parish school take this opportunity to review the various programs available for the fall. Soccer challenge, poster contests, citizenship essay contests, and many others are an easy way to reach out to the students and engage with the parish. Be thinking about tootsie roll drives and supporting a seminarian with RSVP.

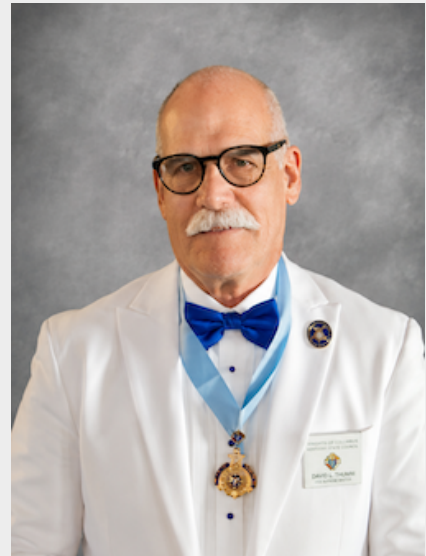
Soccer challenge competition is headed into the regionals and we should have the state winners identified soon, if you plan to host the basketball challenge be sure and get that time slot reserved at your parish so you have the gym available in January to host your event.

Recruit and Retain

We are in a New Fraternal Year; we have nine more months to recruit New Members and Families in our Kentucky Knights of Columbus order. This is a Gift that needs to be offered to each Catholic man and his Family. There still is FREE MEMBERSHIP. for a New Member and he can join on his iPhone, cell phone by going to www.KofC.Org. The new Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY. The new Young Members and Families have the Best Ideas and know some of best practices.

**Vivat Jesus,
Mike Kuchenbrod
State Secretary**

STATE TREASURER JOHN STAUDT



Worthy Brothers,

I hope you all had a great summer. We are now officially in the Fall season or Harvest season. Welcome to October, the month of Fall is upon us. Fall was originally referred to as "Harvest". It was a time of the year when farmers would harvest their crops and prepare them for winter storage. Later the season was changed to, "Fall", in reference to the leaves falling from the trees. Similar to the reference of, "Harvest", we gather our thoughts and prepare ourselves for the birth of Christ this winter, as we should throughout the year.

There are many activities the councils are involved with this fall. Many you may already know about. Get involved and support your council and parish. When you are asked what the Knights of Columbus do, you don't have to go far for a reply. Look at what your council does and how you change lives and save lives. Therein lies your reply. Take a look and attend or volunteer.

Speaking of council activities, take a look at the current September Columbia magazine. See what local Bardstown Council, #1290 are doing to feed the hungry. September's Columbia is a good read. It features articles about people and first responders who survived or were affected by the attack on 9/11. Other articles feature Archbishop Martin Sheen and the miracle that started the process to his canonization.

We are through the third month of the fraternal year and entering into October. October 12th is Columbus Day. Invite men to join the Knights of Columbus during the weekend of October 10th/11th. It is not about meeting membership goals, although that is a part, but we invite our Catholic brothers to join to become closer to God and our faith. Invite and help them walk the journey with you and with those in your council. When we invite men, we are also inviting the participation of their families and their protection through our insurance program and the many products available.

STAUDT CONT.

I also hope your families and friends are safe from the September storms that blew through Kentucky. If you need help, please ask or let someone know. If you or someone you know need financial help, the K of C Kentucky State Charities may be able to help. Go to, [K of C Kentucky State Charities Form](#), on the K of C Kentucky State website and complete the form.

Continue to review your council event's plan and adjust your fraternal year. Make plans to not only earn the Star or Columbian Award, but also the State Deputy Award. You can find the State Deputy Award requirements at the following link: [KY State Program Guide](#), Page 33. Make sure to you have completed the Officers Elected, Form #185 and Council Directors, Form #365. As you complete your events be sure to complete the Form #10784. Any member can complete this form. It will help to determine and complete the State Deputy Award in March and Columbian Award (SP-7) in May and June.

We have had a cool down for a week, but the heat and humidity may return as a summer's last gasp. Be careful and be vigilant of your family and neighbors who may need assistance with outside activities. Drink plenty of water and take breaks often.

School busses are picking up and dropping off our precious children. With recent attention by the media and law enforcement, School zones seem to be a hazard for not only the kids, but also for crossing guards. Be vigilant and respect the school zones and pay attention to the school buses. Bottom line, be patient and give yourself more time to get where you're going.

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

**Vivat Jesus,
John Staudt
State Treasurer**

STATE ADVOCATE TOMMY JOHNSON



Worthy Brother Knights,

Last month, I had the privilege of traveling to New Haven, Connecticut, the birthplace of our Order, to begin the two-year McGivney Fellowship program. The fellowship seeks to develop faithful Catholic men with spiritual maturity and leadership potential so they can better serve their councils, parishes, families, and communities.

I am excited to make this journey alongside fellow State Officer Eric Guy. One of the highlights of our visit was celebrating a memorial Mass on September 11 at St. Mary's Church, where Blessed Michael McGivney is laid to rest. We also visited the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center and explored the history of our Order. It was a full weekend of prayer, reflection, fellowship, group sessions, and plenty of good food. Supreme always takes excellent care of its visitors!

The fellowship has a strong focus on developing younger leaders, although a few of us more seasoned members made the cut as well! I was inspired by the younger Brother Knights I met, many of whom are stepping into State leadership roles in their jurisdictions. Their faith and enthusiasm were contagious and served as a powerful



JOHNSON CONT.

reminder that the Knights of Columbus is not an “old man’s” organization.

Young men are not simply the future of our Order. They are an important part of its mission today. Let us invite them in, give them opportunities to lead, listen to their voices, and walk with them as brothers in Christ.

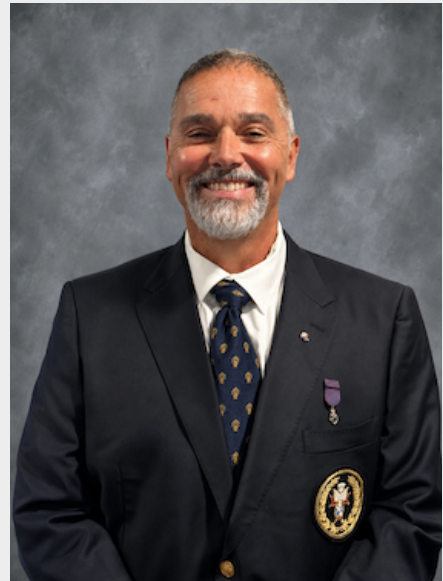
I look forward to sharing more from this journey as we grow together in faith, leadership, and service. May Blessed Michael McGivney continue to guide and inspire us in the important work ahead.



**Fraternally,
Tommy Johnson III
State Advocate**



STATE WARDEN ERIC GUY



Worthy Brother Knights,
September was a busy month for me. A few months ago, our Worthy State Advocate, Tommy Johnson, and I were both nominated and selected to be part of the second class of the Fr. McGivney Fellowship Cohort. It is a selective, two-year leadership formation program for Knights who demonstrate spiritual depth and leadership potential. Needless to say, we were both honored and excited to be selected.

A Pilgrimage to New Haven

As part of the program, we traveled to New Haven, Connecticut, for a four-day kickoff meeting. What an experience! I think every Knight should make the trip to St. Mary's Church at least once and see firsthand the historic birthplace of the Knights of Columbus.

There are a lot of interesting things to see at St. Mary's. Did you know that the ends of the pews have markers recognizing each U.S. state and jurisdiction, based on the year the first local Knights council was established there? Of course, Tommy and I made sure we found the Kentucky pew and sat there for Mass. We had to represent!

But for me, the most meaningful part of the visit was kneeling in prayer at the sarcophagus of Blessed Michael McGivney. It was a deeply moving moment. To kneel quietly and pray at the resting place of the priest who founded the Knights of Columbus was a powerful reminder of the legacy he left to all of us. Blessed Michael McGivney started something that has grown far beyond what he could have imagined. More than 140 years later, we have the

GUY CONT.

privilege, and the responsibility, to continue that mission of charity, unity, and fraternity in our own councils, communities, and families.

Football Frenzy Sweepstakes

Well, the deadline has passed for Football Frenzy ticket sales. I thank every council that put forth the effort to sell as many tickets as possible. The mailbox was emptied, stubs were counted, inventoried, and sent back to GreenBee. I am happy to report that we sold over 2,800 tickets. Although our goal was 4,000 tickets, selling more than 2,800 tickets is still a significant accomplishment. It represents thousands of individual efforts by Knights and their families across Kentucky. Fundraisers like this don't happen because of one person or one council - they happen because we work together. Most importantly, the funds raised through Football Frenzy help support the charitable work of the Kentucky Knights of Columbus. I am grateful to everyone who sold tickets, purchased tickets, shared the information, or encouraged their fellow Knights to participate.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication. Together, we continue to make a difference throughout the Kentucky Jurisdiction.

Vivat Jesus!
Eric Guy
State Warden



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR TOM O'HAGAN



Are you cultivating a Culture of Invitation in your part of the world, and is it spreading? It should become a normal habit. Most of us eat, sleep, and breathe Knights of Columbus, so it should be a normal part of who we are. Live it and teach it! The bottom line is: one person inviting one person, anytime, anyplace, anywhere, on a mission to bring souls to Christ.

Mission of the Order - The Knights of Columbus empowers Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community, and country.

The Knights of Columbus empowers Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community, and country.

October needs to be a very strong month for us. If you have a plan, work it. If you don't, develop one. I will be glad to help! Every council needs to develop a **'Culture of Invitation'** 12012 6-26 Church Drive Guide. As part of your membership growth plan.

- Invite Your Field Agent to every POD/CUF/Member Meeting/Event – Create a Partnership with Your Field Agent
- Let's work on really gearing up our FAST START for the rest of the first half of the Fraternal Year. Keep inviting!
- Schedule a Parish Outreach Drive (POD) quarterly. Membership growth is the lifeblood of a council and provides the fuel to expand your mission and increase your impact in your parish and community. 11872 Membership Drive Steps Council
- Schedule and conduct a monthly CUF Exemplification meeting, In-Person and/or On-Demand

2026-27 KY State Membership Incentives

- Every Council that had zero new members added in 2025-26, add at least one new member via a CUF (submit Form 450 and 10784) by 9/30/2026 = \$50. **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 – Councils 14290, 15613, 16232, 17606, 18908. Congratulations to the DD and Officers of these councils. Keep Growing!**



O'HAGAN CONT.

- Every Council that has Form 185/365, SET, FEB Goal, and has reached 100% of Membership Goal by 12/31/2026 = \$100 and membership in the Century Club (GK Coin). **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 - None**
- Every Council that achieves 200% of Membership Goal by 3/31/27 = \$75. **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 - None**
- Every Council that earns the Star Council Award by 3/31/27 = \$50 **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 - None**
- The Council with the most PODs (recorded via Form 10784) by 3/31/2027 = \$75 **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 - None**
- The Council with the highest point total for the State Deputy Award (Form 10784s) = \$75 **Qualifying Councils as of 9/30/2026 - None**

Supreme Incentives 2026-27

Join & Serve Challenge!

Grow our brotherhood while serving your community and win big!

This year, let's kick-start the giving season by growing our brotherhood and inviting others to join us in faith, charity, and service to our local communities. Fulfill your entire membership quota and participate in the Food for Families program by November 30th to qualify! (with the Food for Families application being submitted no later than December 31st, 2026) Councils that qualify will receive 8 sets of custom-embroidered KofC aprons and hats and will have a chance to enter for a chance to win an additional \$200 gift certificate to Knights Gear! [Join and Serve Challenge v2](#)

Go For Two More!

Individual Member Incentive

To recognize brother Knights who "go for two", members who extend the invitation and get two men to join between September 1st and December 31st, 2026, will be entered into a drawing to receive a cash prize of \$1,500! * 10 second-place winners will receive a customized K of C-branded item.

Invite four men who join in that time frame to be entered into the drawing twice! [Go For Two - Member 2026](#)

Founded in 1882 by Blessed Michael McGivney, the Knights of Columbus is the premier lay Catholic men's organization. Guided by the principles of charity, unity, and fraternity, we build lifelong relationships with our members and families. We are multigenerational and international. Through our charity, products, and outreach, we offer formation, mutual aid, and financial security to members. We aspire to invite every Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus and to extend our charitable reach as widely as possible.



O'HAGAN CONT.

Very strong Council growth month. Keep inviting and converting your prospects into your council.

	Actual v Goal MTD	Actual v Goal YTD
New Members	57 v 47 = 121%	135 v 545 = 24.77%
Councils With No YTD Adds		56 v 100
Form 365 Not Submitted		34 v 100
Form 185 Not Submitted		15 v 100
SP7 Not Submitted		100 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
State Membership Director



PROGRAM DIRECTOR RSVP CHAIRMAN JOE CARTER



“The main thing is to keep the main thing a main thing.” – Stephen R. Cove!

"Star Councils are the most vibrant and energetic councils in the Order — well-recognized in their parishes and communities."
— Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus

The **Star Council Award** is the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council's highest annual recognition for a local council's overall performance. It is the comprehensive standard of fraternal excellence.

The award recognizes outstanding achievements across three foundational pillars:
Membership,
Insurance & Fraternal Benefits, and
Service Programming

A council earns the Star Council Award by completing all three component awards,

Component Award	Focus Area	Key Requirement
Father McGivney	Membership Growth	Meet or exceed 6% Growth
Founders'	Insurance and Fraternal Benefits	10% of Associate Members meet individually with a Field Agent for a financial review.
Columbian	Faith in Action Programs	Complete 8 programs, or 5 programs and COR

CARTER CONT.

and by submitting required administrative forms on time, and maintaining Safe Environment Training compliance.

Title	Number	Submit Date
Officers Chosen for the term	#185	June 30th
Service Program Personnel Report	#365	June 30th
Annual Audit	#1295	August 15th
Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	#1728	January 31st

In addition to the above, a Full Safe Environment Training (“SET”) compliance is also required for all designated officers.

So, what are the benefits of receiving the award?

Benefits to Councils:

- Formal recognition from Supreme Council and the Kentucky State Council elevates a council’s reputation within the parish, diocese, and broader community.
- Strengthens recruitment appeal — high-performing councils attract quality candidates.
- Provides a clear, measurable annual roadmap for council officers.
- Reinforces a culture of accountability, planning, and follow-through.
- Recognition at the State Convention and meetings.
- Builds lasting council pride and deeper engagement of members.

Benefits to Parish:

- Earning the Star Council Award demonstrates a council's deep partnership with its home parish.
- Faith in Action programs directly serve the parish and local community across Faith, Family, Community, and Life.
- Star Councils are "well-recognized in their parishes and communities" — per Supreme Council.
- Active councils strengthen parish identity and support the pastor's mission.
- Builds visible Catholic witness through liturgical participation and community response.

Leadership Development:

- Pursuing the Star Council Award requires engaged, organized leadership at every officer level.



CARTER CONT.

- Grand Knights, Deputy Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, Program Directors, and Trustees must all coordinate and meet deadlines throughout the fraternal year.
- The award process inherently builds critical leadership skills: planning, delegation, record-keeping, and communication.
- Councils that consistently earn Star Council develop a culture where excellence is expected and passed down to future officers.
- Required Safe Environment Training (SET) compliance ensures that all council leaders meet the Order's child-protection standards — an important mark of trustworthiness in the parish and community.

Program Activity:

- The Columbian Award consists of three requirements:
- Requirement 1 - complete one of the four donation activities:
 - ASAP,
 - Food for Families,
 - RSVP, or
 - Donate 6 Coats for Kids cases.
- Requirement 2 – complete one program in each Faith-in-Action Category (but not the same program in Requirement 1).
- Requirement 3 – complete three programs;
 - one of which brings men closer to Christ,
 - one that builds Fraternity, and
 - one that supports the parish or community.
- Active programming keeps members engaged year-round and generates the visible good work that defines the Knights in every community.

Recruitment Impacts:

- Membership growth is a core requirement — Star Councils must recruit new members every fraternal year.
- The Father McGivney Award sets a clear, measurable growth target that keeps councils focused on the Order's future.
- Active, high-performing councils create an environment that attracts quality candidates.
- A Star Council designation signals to prospective members that a council is worth joining.
- Strong programs and parish presence generate natural recruitment opportunities.
- Councils that earn Double Star (200% of quota) or Triple Star (300% of quota) set a benchmark of organizational vitality.
- Long-term Star Council recognition demonstrates organizational health year over year.

CARTER CONT.

This is the “Main Thing!”

Earning this award is not merely an administrative exercise. It is concrete evidence that a council is focused on what Knights are called to do. The Kentucky State Council encourages every council to use the Star Council framework as a year-round strategic plan.

If you need assistance, do not hesitate to contact your district deputy, State Program Director, State Membership Director or any State Officer.

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

DISTRICT MASTER CAMERON PECK



Brother Knights,

Every October, Columbus Day gives us an opportunity to think about a name that we probably say so often that we seldom stop to consider what it means.

We are the **Knights of Columbus**.

Why Columbus?

When Blessed Michael McGivney and the first members of our Order were organizing in 1882, Catholics in America faced considerable discrimination and anti-Catholic prejudice. Many Catholic immigrants were treated as outsiders and, in some cases, as though their Catholic faith somehow made them less American.

Our founders wanted to send a very different message.

Christopher Columbus was one of the most widely recognized figures associated with the discovery and exploration of the New World. By choosing his name, those first Knights emphasized that Catholics had been part of the American story from its earliest days.

Father McGivney initially proposed the name “Sons of Columbus.” During the early organizing meetings, James T. Mullen, who would become the first Supreme Knight, suggested replacing “Sons” with “Knights.” The group agreed, and the Knights of Columbus name was born.

There was something important behind that choice. Our Catholic faith and our love of country were never intended to be competing loyalties.

They belong together.

That idea eventually became even more visible with the creation of the Fourth Degree and the addition of Patriotism as one of the principles of our Order.

PECK CONT.

As Sir Knights, we inherit that responsibility in a special way.

We demonstrate it when the Color Corps presents the colors at a public event. We demonstrate it when we honor a fallen veteran. We demonstrate it when we support members of the military, veterans, first responders, and their families.

But just as I wrote last month, patriotism is not limited to ceremonies.

Being a good Catholic and a good citizen means bringing the values of our faith into the communities in which we live. It means serving others. It means defending human dignity. It means helping those in need. It means treating those with whom we disagree with respect. And it means being willing to stand publicly for what is good and right.

More than 140 years ago, our founders chose a name that told the world that Catholics belonged in America and had something important to contribute to this nation.

We still do.

So, as we observe Columbus Day this month, I would encourage each of us to think beyond the name itself.

Ask yourself what it means to be a Knight of Columbus.

Does my community see in me a man of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism?

Does my parish know that the Knights can be counted on?

Do veterans and first responders in my community know that we appreciate their service?

Do other Catholic men see something in our Order that makes them want to become part of it?

Those are much more important questions than whether we can simply explain the history behind our name.

We carry that name every day.

Let us make sure we are worthy of it.

Vivat Jesus!
Cameron Peck, PSD
District Master

KAPID CHAIRMAN TOM JOHNSON



It's October & Fall is in the air!

The Tootsie Rolls have been and should have been delivered. That's the good news. If you or your council haven't received them yet, please let me know. Remember, if your council holds a Tootsie Roll drive and turns in a minimum net of \$200, your council will be entered into the drawing to receive \$500 at the upcoming State Convention in either April or May.

KAPID has written vouchers & checks of \$5,774.93 to cover the cost of the Tootsie Rolls. It's critical and important that councils hold their Tootsie Roll drives and turn in their monies as soon as possible so that KAPID can get reimbursed for the funds spent to purchase the Tootsie Rolls on your behalf.

While we haven't secured the 3rd party partnership with Walmart, we have made some headway. Charlie Baumbusch has put a lot of time and effort into trying to straighten out our account with PayPal and Walmart's third-party partner DEED. We have a new/separate email account that is not tied to an individual but to KAPID. The Knights of Columbus Kentucky Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, Inc is a "public" 501(c)3 and as such conforms to the IRS guidelines as a qualified charitable organization. Our federally issued EIN # is 31-0965614.

- Go to <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits> enter
- Type EIN# 31-0965614 then hit enter
- The name "Kofc Kentucky Association for Mentally Disabled I" will appear
- Look at "Other Names" and you will see the prior & current names that have been filed for KAPID

JOHNSON CONT.

The annual KAPID Camp letter has been mailed out. Included in the letter are the guidelines for participating in the Camp & Tootsie Roll incentives. The response to date has been positive. Charlie reported that as of 9/24/2026 we had collected \$14,140 dollars, which is about 61% of our AVG collection over the past three. To give you an idea of where we stand, the typical cost to hold the Camp along with the cost of our mailings is about \$21,900 dollars. That means we are still about \$7,800 dollars short going into the 2nd Quarter of our fiscal year. Pledge cards and monies are due by March 15, 2027, to be entered into the \$500 drawing.

Back in July, I mentioned that Charlie was sitting on about \$20,000 of unclaimed council funds. This month that number stands at roughly \$5,796.

Following are the councils and the amount of unclaimed funds as of Oct 12, 2026:

2761 - \$105.40 / **6317** - \$1,034.34 / **6368** - \$582.20 / **8145** - \$500.60 / **10725** - \$23.00 /
12923 - \$537.80 / **14290** - \$1,432.12 / **15707** - \$355.00 / **16232** - \$20.60 / **17247** - \$20.00 /
18126 - \$1,185.40

These are funds that councils raised but never claimed for its charitable organization. If you don't claim it, KAPID will happily move those funds into the Camp Program.

In Closing:

If you, a family member or brother knight would like to donate to the Camp Program and are not sure how to do it, Charlie has provided the following link: [Donate with PayPal Giving Fund](#)

Let us not forget the blessings bestowed upon us by our Father in Heaven. We can't outdo His Love nor His generosity. Pick up your Rosary & Pray. Don't be afraid to Step Into the Breach. It's our time to serve the Lord!

**Take Care & God Bless,
Tom Johnson, PSD
KAPID Chairman**

GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE



Knights of Columbus – Caring for Those That You Love

Brothers, nearly half (47%) of adults say they would have trouble paying living expenses within six months of their primary wage earner's death.¹ While no one wants to think about tragedy striking their family, planning ahead about how your family might manage financially can be an important part in caring for those you love.

Your decisions today have a direct impact on your family's financial future. By working with me to consider your life insurance and income replacement needs, you can prepare for the unexpected while also carrying forward a legacy that has been at the heart of the Knights of Columbus since our founding.

When Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, he was witnessing firsthand the precarious situation widows and orphans faced when a father died. He sought to create a way to relieve their burdens and care for those in need. Today, we are proud to continue that tradition of guarding what matters most to our members — their families and their faith.

Income replacement through life insurance can be one part of that protection. As your financial circumstances and family needs change over time, I'm here to help you consider whether your coverage continues to align with your goals and priorities.

SCHACHLE CONT.

That's why every year, we ask for an update on any big life changes — such as whether you've bought a home, had a baby or retired. This annual Financial Protection Survey gives my team important insight into your evolving financial needs so we can provide the personalized, faith-based service you deserve. It also helps us know how well we're fulfilling the Knights of Columbus mission in our roles as licensed professionals. Complete your survey online at <https://survey.kofc.org>

That mission is straightforward and hasn't changed for more than 140 years: to help Catholic men grow in faith, serve others and financially protect their families. Thank you for your time and thoughtful response. We truly appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your family.

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 Members

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

2

Submit Application

Scan the QR code below, and be sure to use in the referral code:
2026Incentive

3

Member Contracts

If the referral is contracted on, they will start the onboarding process

4

Contract Tenures 6 Months

The referral completes their first 6 months as a Knights agent

5

All Per Capita Fees Waived

All per capita fees waived at the end of the Fraternal year



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.

20541 12/25

Local Events

You are invited!
Viable is coming to
KENTUCKY

COMMONWEALTH
Culture of Life
TOUR & GALA

Clear your calendars and make way for
DINNER THEATRE GALA like no other.
 We have had dynamic speakers in the past,
 but we are excited for this in Dinner Theatre.

THURSDAY EVENING
October 22, 2026
 Commonwealth Culture
 of Life Gala

La Grange
 Louisville Region

**SCAN TO
 REGISTER**



BECOME A SPONSOR | HOST A TABLE | JOIN THE CELEBRATION



CALENDAR

Issue No. 26-9

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December

Midyear Meeting	4-5
Christmas	25

April

State Convention	23-25
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KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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