

COUNCIL #7491 JOHN K. MAHANEY CHAMPION

INSTITUED - JANUARY 30, 1980

2018 - 2019 Officers

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Our Principles

The Knights of Columbus are Catholic Gentlemen committed to developing and expanding service programs focusing on the values of charity, unity, fraternalism, patriotism and defense of the priesthood.

Charity

Our Catholic faith teaches us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself." There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

Unity

None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus all know that – together – we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So we stick together...we support one another. That as a Knight of Columbus – you can count on the support and encouragement of your brother Knights as you work to make life better in your parish and community.

Fraternity

The Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, in large part, to provide assistance to the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died – often prematurely. The Order's top-rated insurance program continues to do this today, as do individual Knights, who last year gave more than 10 million hours of their time to assist sick and/or disabled members and their families. In the Knights of Columbus, we watch out for and take care of one another.

Patriotism

Members of the Knights of Columbus, be they Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Cubans, Filipinos, Poles, or Dominicans, are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both. Whether it's in public or private, the Knights remind the world that Catholics support their nations and are amongst the greatest citizens.

Annual Donations

In the past year, the Knights of Columbus, Council # 7491 have donated over \$3,500.00 to St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, St. William Youth Mission Trip, Boy Scout Troop 25, National Catholic Youth Choir, Ultrasound Fundraiser, Christian Refugee Fund, Skylar Scarnecchia Fund, Santa's Hide Away Hollow, St. William Youth March in Washington D.C., Military Chaplain Scholarship Fund and the Champion Robotics Team, Children's Services and Fairhaven Workshop.

History of the Knights of Columbus

On Oct. 2, 1881, a group of men met in the basement of St. Mary's Church on Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven, CT. called together by their 29-year-old parish priest, <u>Father Michael J. McGivney</u>. These men formed a fraternal society that would one day become the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization.

They sought strength in solidarity, and security through unity of purpose and devotion to a holy cause: they vowed to be defenders of their country, their families and their faith.

These men were bound together by the ideal of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the Americas, the one whose hand brought Christianity to the New World. Their efforts came to fruition with the incorporation of the Knights of Columbus on March 29, 1882.

The Order has been called "the strong right arm of the Church," and has been praised by popes, presidents and other world leaders, for support of the Church, programs of evangelization and Catholic education, civic involvement and aid to those in need.

Father McGivney's founding vision for the Order also included a life insurance program to provide for the widows and orphans of deceased members. The Order's insurance program has expanded substantially to more effectively serve the Knights' growing membership. Year after year, the Knights of Columbus has earned the highest possible quality ratings for financial soundness from outside ratings agencies. The Order provides the highest quality insurance, annuity and long-term care products to its members, along with many other fraternal benefits. In November of 2015, the Knights of Columbus surpassed \$100 billion of life insurance in force. and has distributed \$875 million to members and their beneficiaries in benefits, claims, maturities, annuities and dividends. The Knights of Columbus has more than 2 million active contracts in force. That means that hundreds of thousands of brother Knights have elected to help protect their families and their futures with the Knights of Columbus. For 41 consecutive years, the Knights of Columbus has earned the highest possible rating for financial strength, currently: A++ (Superior) from ratings agency A.M. Best.

The Supreme Council is the governing body of the Knights of Columbus and is responsible for the development of the organization as a whole. Supreme Council duties include establishing the Order in new regions and setting up regional authorities, defining and advancing its values and goals, undertaking organization-wide initiatives, promoting awareness of the Knights' mission worldwide, and protecting the families of members through its extensive insurance program. Members working in local, or subordinate councils, however, carry on the majority of the Knights' beneficial work.

JULY 2018

4 ~ The 4th of July No meeting

18 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

28 ~ Measure Up collection at Sparkle Market 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus is a values-driven Catholic men's organization, deeply rooted in the tradition of expressing Christ's love by serving people in need of care. Founded by Father McGivney, men of the Knights of Columbus utilize the strength of our national presence to focus on meeting the specific needs of each community we serve.

AUGUST 2018

1 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

4 ~ Assist packing up Rummage Sale

12 ~ Fr. McGivney Birthday 1852

14 ~ Fr. McGivney Death 1890

15 ~ Feast of the Assumption 7:00 p.m. Mass Meeting

Business 8:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 3 ∼ Labor Day
- 5~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

- **16** ~ Corporate Communion 11:00 a.m. Mass Coffee & Donuts 9:00 a.m. to Noon
- 19~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

29~ Cornhole Tournament 6:00 p.m.

In the realm of everyday affairs, a Knight conducts himself with integrity, kindness, respect, hospitality, and civility. This means charitable efforts of every sort on behalf of the poor, sick, elderly, and disadvantaged.

OCTOBER 2018

3 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

- 15 ~ Columbus Day
- 17 ~ Meeting

- 19 ~ Spaghetti Dinner Prep 6:00 p.m.
- 20 ~ Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2018

- 1 ~ All Saints Mass BS 8:30 a.m. STW 7:00 p.m.
- 7 ~ Meeting

Business 8:00 p.m.

- 10 ~ Corporate Communion 5:00 p.m. Mass
- 10/11~ Veterans Tribute at Masses
- 11 ~ Veteran Day
- 22 ~ Thanksgiving

Mass 8:30 a.m.

We also support our veterans – both financially and through our actions. We owe so much to our Veterans and active military personnel for the very freedom that we enjoy.

DECEMBER 2018

5 ~ Meeting

- **8** ~ Immaculate Conception

 Mass 8:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament
- $9 \sim \text{Craft Show set-up/Craft Show tear down}$
- 19 ~ Christmas Dinner 6:30 p.m.
- **24** ~ Christmas Eve Mass 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
- **25** ~ Christmas Mass 10:00 a.m.
- 31 ~ New Year's Eve Mass 5:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament

JANUARY 2019

1 ~ New Years Day Mass 10:00 a.m. at STW

2 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

16 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

21~ Martin Luther King Day

Support of vocations has always been a priority for the Knights of Columbus. We cherish and celebrate all forms of vocations, especially vocations to the priesthood and a religious life. With the many distractions throughout our society it is difficult for many people to hear and answer the call to a religious life.

FEBRUARY 2019

6 ∼ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

16 ~ Reverse Raffle 6:30 p.m.

14 ~ Valentine's Day

18 ~ Presidents' Day

20 ~ Meeting at 6:30 pm

MARCH 2019

6 ∼ Ash Wednesday

Mass 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

6∼ Meeting

Business 8:00 p.m.

17 ~ St. Patrick's Day

17 ~ Corporate Communion 8:30 a.m. Mass breakfast 9:30 a.m.

20~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

There is no greater Charitable Organization of Catholic men in the world then the Knights of Columbus.

APRIL 2019

3 ∼ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

14 ~ Palm Sunday

17 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

18 ~ Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 p.m.

19 ~ Good Friday Veneration Service 7:00 p.m.

20 ~ Holy Saturday *Easter Vigil 8:00 p.m.*

21~ Easter Sunday Mass 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

MAY 2019

1 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 pm

5 ~ Mother/child Banquet 12:30 p.m. *Knights serve dinner*

15 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

27 ~ Memorial Day Parade $9:00 \ a.m.$

The Knights of Columbus seeks to act in solidarity with and to assist the poor and disadvantaged, to defend the dignity of human life, and to defend the dignity of marriage. Our members are thus encouraged to engage the secular world and to help determine the values which will shape the future of the nation.

JUNE 2019

5 ~ Meeting

Social 6:30 p.m. Business 7:00 p.m.

19 ~ Meeting

PAST GRAND KNIGHTS

1980-81 N/A 1999-00 James Marrangoni 1981-82 John J. Ughrin Jr. 2000-01 John R. Makosky 1982-83 John J. Ughrin Jr. 2001-02 John R. Makosky 1983-84 John J. Ughrin Jr. 2002-03 Harold G. Hawkins 1984-85 John A, Mancini 2003-04 Harold G. Hawkins 1985-86 John A. Mancini 2004-05 William S. Tombar 1986-87 Dr. Andrew J. Shine 2005-06 William S. Tombar 1987-88 Keith E. Bowser 2006-07 John Joseph Rose 1988-89 Keith E. Bowser 2007-08 Joseph W. Mintus 1989-90 Robert E. Hardman 2008-09 Keith E. Bowser 1990-91 Robert E. Hardman 2009-10 Michael F. Kufchak Jr. 1991-92 Robert E. Hardman 2010-11 Robert J. Kane 1992-93 Brian M. McCue 2011-12 Robert J. Kane 1993-94 Dr. Andrew J. Shine 2012-13 John J. Timko 1994-95 N/A 2013-14 John J. Timko 2014-15 Brian M. McCue 1995-96 Leonard J. Kalman 1996-97 Leonard J. Kalman 2015-16 Dan Gelet 1997-98 Timothy J. Timko 2016–17 Dan Gelet 1998-99 Timothy J. Timko 2017-18 Dan Gelet

Third Degree Emblem

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

The emblem indicates a shield mounted upon the Fornectors (having the arms narrow at the center and expanding toward the ends). The shield is that associated with a medieval knight. The Formée cross is the representation of a traditional artistic design of the cross of Christ through which all graces of redemption were procured for mankind. This then represents the Catholic spirit of the Order.

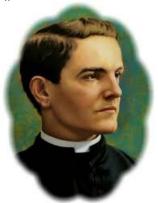
Mounted on the shield are three objects: a fasces (a bundle of rods bound together about an ax with the blade projecting) standing vertically and, crossed behind it, an anchor and a dagger or short sword.

The fasces from Roman days, carried before magistrates as an emblem of authority, is symbolic of authority which must exist in any tightly-bonded and efficiently operating organization.

The anchor is the mariner's symbol for Columbus, patron of the Order, while the short sword or dagger was the weapon of the Knight when engaged upon an errand of mercy.

Thus, the shield expresses Catholic Knighthood in organized merciful action, and with the letters, K of C, it proclaims this specific form of activity.

FATHER MICHAEL MC GIVNEY



In 1997, Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin of Hartford, CT., opened Father McGivney's cause for canonization, at the request of the Knights of Columbus

The cause for sainthood for Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest in Connecticut who founded the Knights of Columbus, has taken another official step forward.

1852-1890

At the fraternal organization's 131st Supreme Convention in San Antonio, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson reported "there is good news concerning Father McGivney's cause. A possible miracle attributed to his intercession is now under investigation in Rome."

If the miracle is approved, Father McGivney would be beatified and receive the title of "Blessed."

"If he were beatified now, he would be the first United Statesborn parish priest to be beatified," noted Brian Caulfield, the vice postulator for Father McGivney's cause for canonization.

Through the Knights of Columbus, Father McGivney gave Catholic laymen a new opportunity – the chance to grow in holiness while contributing to their parishes, communities and security of their families. Today, more and more Church leaders are recognizing his spiritual genius in animating the laity.

The Knights of Columbus has grown to more than 15,100 councils in the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, Saipan, Lithuania, Ukraine and South Korea with a total membership of 1.9 million. Over the past decade, Knights have raised and donated nearly \$1.4 billion to charity and given nearly 653 million hours in humanitarian service.