



Knights trade a Father Michael McGivney pin at the annual convention pin exchange. Photo by Matt Barrick.

Membership Seminar Convenes

Knights must embrace the Order's online membership program, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said at the annual Membership Seminar on Monday.

"It's a tremendous tool and it's going to be the primary tool that helps grow the Knights of Columbus," Anderson said.

Online membership allows men to join the order through www.knights.net. They get all the benefits of membership but do not necessarily join a council or take a degree. It's designed to appeal to younger men who are more digitally oriented and who have competing demands on their time. The program is now live in all 50 states and Canada.

"This is your new Form 100," said Theodore Stites Jr., as he held up his smart phone.

Stites acknowledged that as recently as last fall questioned whether the program would hurt local councils. Once men join online, they are given the option of joining a council in their area. He has since become a major supporter of the program after seeing how it could be used to boost membership.

"We have to meet Catholic men where they are," Stites said.

One of those younger men is John P. Dehm, the 33-year-old state membership director of the Illinois State Council. He carries around wooden coins stained with the Knights of Columbus emblem. On the other side, the coin reads "Just ask him." It's a challenge to members to invite men to the Order.

Since the program's national launch on July 1, 20 men from Illinois have joined through knights.net. Three-quarters of them are under the age of 40.

Young Catholic men are out there, he said. It's up to Brother Knights to go find them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

Opening Mass

Hall B&C 9:30 a.m.



Opening Session

Hall B&C 1 - 4:15 p.m.



States Dinner

Hall B&C 6:30 p.m.



WEDNESDAY

Adoration Chapel

Room 306

7 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Confessions

Hall A 7-7:50 a.m.



Catching Up With Canada Knights

As the 136th Supreme Convention begins, delegates from Canadian jurisdictions met for the Canadian Association Meeting. Here are four key takeaways:

- Supreme Knight Carl Anderson spoke on the need to welcome more men to our councils. “We have a moral obligation to invite every eligible Catholic man to join the Knights of Columbus.”
- Bob Ennis, director of Canada growth, introduced the Canada Cup, a membership recruitment competition exclusively for Canadian Knights. Jurisdictions will earn points by outperforming the other nine Canadian jurisdictions in membership recruitment during the fraternal year. The winning jurisdiction will be presented with the Canada Cup at next year’s convention.
- Salt + Light Television has named a new studio in Toronto in honor of K of C founder Father Michael McGivney. Father Thomas Rosica, CEO of the network, expressed his thanks for the Knights’ support, saying, “If Salt + Light is to continue in Canada, it is to continue because of you.”
- The supreme knight also placed heavy emphasis on Online Membership. Practicing Catholic men 18 years of age and older can join at kofc.org/joinus.



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If you’re a student at @CatholicUniv (or just visiting the area) be on the lookout for Father McGivney Hall and statue! #KnightsCon18



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The #KofC is “more than an organization. It’s a lifestyle!” - John P. Dehm, State Membership Director, IL State Council #KnightsCon18 #charity #fraternity

