



**Knights of Columbus**  
**Connecticut State Council**  
**132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**  
**Bristol • April 25-27, 2025**

**RESOLUTIONS**

<b><u>No.</u></b>	<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>SUBMITTED BY</u></b>
1.	Priests with 50 Years of Service	State Officers
2.	Priests with 25 Years of Service	State Officers
3.	Per Capita Assessment	State Officers
4.	Councils Required to Have General Liability Insurance	State Officers
5.	Councils with 75 Years of Service	State Officers
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7.	Members with 50 Years of Service	State Officers
8.	Death of His Grace Basil H. Losten, Eparch Emeritus of Stamford	State Officers
9.	Necrology of Priests	State Officers
10.	Death of District Deputy Ray Shortt	State Officers
11.	Death of Brother Francis E. Silverman, Former General Agent	Council 3928
12.	Death of Brother Richard E. McMunn, Former District Deputy	Council 8882
13.	Resolution of Condolence on the Deaths of Brother Knights	State Officers
14.	In Support of Knights of Columbus Actions to Protect and Support Ukraine	State Officers
15.	Retirement of His Eminence Michael R. Cote, Bishop Emeritus of Norwich	State Officers
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## **RESOLUTION 1**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Priests with 50 Years of Service**

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefit society of Catholic gentlemen founded by a parish priest; and

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with our bishops and priests; and

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus takes note of significant milestones of priests in the State of Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS,** The achievement of fifty years of priestly service to the Catholic Church is one such milestone.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council recognizes and congratulates the following priests who attain this milestone during the 2025 calendar year; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary shall send a copy of this resolution to each priest congratulating him on attaining this milestone.

#### **Archdiocese of Hartford**

Reverend John P. Gatzak  
Reverend Monsignor John J. Georgia  
Reverend Monsignor Gary F. Simeone  
Reverend Lawrence S. Symolon  
Reverend David D. Thayer, S.S.

#### **Diocese of Bridgeport**

None

#### **Diocese of Norwich**

Rev. Russell Kennedy  
Fr. Mark Curesky, OFM Conv.  
Most Rev. Michael R. Cote, Bishop Emeritus

#### **Ukrainian Eparchy of Stamford**

None

## **RESOLUTION 2**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Priests with 25 Years of Service**

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefit society of Catholic gentlemen founded by a parish priest; and

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with our bishops and priests; and

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus takes note of significant milestones of the priests in the State of Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS,** The achievement of twenty-five years of priestly service to the Catholic Church is one such milestone.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus recognizes and congratulates the following priests who attain this milestone during the 2025 calendar year; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary shall send a copy of this resolution to each priest congratulating him on attaining this milestone.

#### **Archdiocese of Hartford**

Reverend Kevin M. Dillon  
Reverend John P. Melnick

#### **Diocese of Bridgeport**

Reverend Otoniel Lizcano  
Reverend Greg Markey  
Reverend Edicson Orozco  
Reverend Jean-Rony Philippe

#### **Diocese of Norwich**

Rev. Francis Rouleau

#### **Ukrainian Eparchy of Stamford**

None

### **RESOLUTION 3**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

#### **Per Capita Assessment**

**WHEREAS,** The Connecticut State Council must work within its financial limits each fraternal year; and

**WHEREAS,** The current per capita assessment rate charged by the State Council on councils in Connecticut is \$10.00 per member, with a \$5.50 discount per inactive insurance member; and

**WHEREAS,** College councils are discounted 50% of the annual per capita assessment to assist in their fraternal and charitable programs on their respective campuses; and

**WHEREAS,** Seminary-based college councils are discounted 100% of the annual per capita assessment; and

**WHEREAS,** The monies collected through the current per capita assessment have allowed the Connecticut State Council to properly promote the work and mission of the Order during the past fraternal year.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the per capita assessment rate levied by the Connecticut State Council shall remain at \$10.00 per member, with a \$5.50 discount per inactive insurance member; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That college councils will continue to be discounted 50% of the annual per capita assessment to assist in their fraternal and charitable programs on their respective campuses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That seminary-based college councils will continue to be discounted 100% of the annual per capita assessment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That any newly-chartered or reactivated council will have its assessment discounted 100% in the year it is chartered or reactivated, and any such council that attains its membership growth goal in the subsequent year will have its assessment discounted 100% upon attaining said goal; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That payment of the per capita assessment by local councils to the Connecticut State Council shall be due on or before July 31, 2025.

**RESOLUTION 4**  
**Submitted by the State Officers**

**Councils Required to Have General Liability Insurance**

**WHEREAS,** All three Roman Catholic dioceses in Connecticut require that groups like Knights of Columbus, which use parish property and buildings for meetings, events and programs, must demonstrate that they have general liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence, which also covers the parish and diocese as additional insured parties; and

**WHEREAS,** Over the last few years the Connecticut State Officers have worked with Lockton Affinity in establishing a robust general liability insurance program, which provides excellent insurance at very good premium rates, meets the requirements of the dioceses, and also covers the State Council, and Supreme Council as additional insured parties; and

**WHEREAS,** Most councils in Connecticut are already insured through the Lockton Affinity program, and others have general liability insurance through other insurers.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That starting July 1, 2026, all active councils in Connecticut must either participate in the Lockton Affinity program, or provide the State Advocate with a certificate of insurance which shows general liability insurance which meets the requirements of the diocese, and also covers the State Council and Supreme Council as additional insured parties; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the cost of the Lockton Affinity program may be included on the same invoice as the State Council's annual per capita assessment.

## **RESOLUTION 5**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Councils with 75 Years of Service**

**WHEREAS,** The Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus duly takes note of the important and significant milestones of its local councils; and

**WHEREAS,** The achievement of a One-Hundred year anniversary is such a milestone; and

**WHEREAS,** One council in the State of Connecticut will attain One-Hundred years of service to the Church, community, and the Order during the calendar year 2025.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus recognizes the following Connecticut council on its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and congratulates its members for One-Hundred years of charity, unity, and fraternity:

<b><u>Council Name</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Town</u></b>	<b><u>Founding Date</u></b>
Our Lady of the Rosary	3300	East Haven	May 4, 1950

## **RESOLUTION 6**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Councils with 25 Years of Service**

**WHEREAS,** The Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus duly takes note of the important and significant milestones of its local councils; and

**WHEREAS,** The achievement of a twenty-five-year anniversary is such a milestone; and

**WHEREAS,** One council in the State of Connecticut will attain twenty-five years of service to the Church, community, and the Order during the calendar year 2025.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus recognizes the following Connecticut council on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and congratulates its members for twenty-five years of charity, unity, and fraternity:

<b><u>Council Name</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Town</u></b>	<b><u>Founding Date</u></b>
Rev. Mons. Patrick J. McGivney	12615	Bridgeport	January 21, 2000
Our Lady of Fatima	12698	Wilton	May 3, 2000

## RESOLUTION 7

Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus

### Members with 50 Years of Service

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization of Catholic gentlemen who take note of significant milestones of its members; and

**WHEREAS,** The achievement of fifty continuous years of service in our honored Order is one such milestone.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus recognizes and congratulates the following Brother Knights who attain this milestone during the 2025 calendar year, noting in particular any priests:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>		<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	
1	KENNEDY, JOHN	J	32	ROGERS, DONALD	
3	SPALLONE, FRED	N	32	TEVNAN, BRIAN	M
3	MILARDO JR, JOSEPH	E	32	MEREDITH III, WILLIAM	
3	GIOCO, RAYMOND	J	33	VAGNINI, MARIO	L
3	EYLES, KENNETH	G	34	COUTU, DANIEL	F
5	TATTA, JOSEPH	R	34	MICHAELSON, JOSEPH	
7	NANFITO, PHILIP	P	35	MARTIN, NORMAN	R
12	DOMINIQUE, FRANCIS	Q	35	MICHELE, ROGER	B
12	WASIELAK, WILLIAM	A	35	SAULNIER, J	DAVID
12	KWASNICKI, GEORGE		35	ZACK, RICHARD	J
12	JACOBS SR, GEORGE	WM	35	SIMEONE, MSGR GARY	F
12	EGAN JR, GERARD	J	39	BYRNES, GREGORY	A
14	LANDRY, NORMAN		39	MCDONNELL, SHAWN	J
14	LANDRY JR, ALBERT		39	SALVATORE, PAUL	F
14	TEIXEIRA, GILBERT	J	39	SOTTOSANTI JR, GUIDO	J
17	WHITEHOUSE, WARREN	D	39	PETRONE, JOSEPH	
22	BASCETTA, CARMEN	A	39	O LEARY, JOHN	F
24	DILLON JR, WM	F	39	KOZIEL, PETER	J
24	PORTO JR, GEORGE	T	39	FOREST, WALTER	T
24	FINN III, WILLIAM	A	39	D ANDREA, MICHAEL	A
26	HARVEY, PAUL	F	39	ENGLERT JR, WALTER	J
26	SCIUCCO, ARNALDO		39	SULLIVAN, DAVID	S
26	PEARCE, ROBERT	C	39	MARTIN, PETER	J
26	STROGOFF, VICTOR	D	39	AMBROGIO, JOHN	C
26	O BRIEN JR, WILLIAM	F	39	ZALEWSKI, JOSEPH	M
29	LE BLANC, LOUIS	M	39	DURANTE JR, FRED	N
29	LA BARBERA, SALVATORE		39	O DONNELL, BRIAN	M



**RESOLUTION 8 continued. Members with 50 Years of Service**

<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>		<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	
39	INGRAHAM, DANIEL	G	3544	MASSE, MELVIN	J
39	DUFF, TIMOTHY	J	3594	SLOSS, JOSEPH	A
41	LEWIS, RONALD		3594	KOLATSKY, THOMAS	J
43	MOTHERWAY, DAVID	L	3594	DAYTON, RICHARD	A
43	PACHECO, DAVID	E	3594	RYAN, GERALD	F
47	KRUSEWSKI, RICHARD	J	3594	LYNCH, MICHAEL	J
48	MC CLELLAN, ANDREW	R	3594	GEDRAITIS, ANTHONY	J
50	TIROLETTO, JOHN	M	3594	POIRIER SR DAVID	R
50	METZLER JR ROBERT	W	3605	GAMBARDELLA, DR RAYMOND	
50	FLEMING, JOHN	R	3733	PELOSO JR, JOSEPH	
50	EGAN, ROBERT	A	3884	GRIFFIN, COL JOHN	R
50	PERAZELLI, LEONARD	R	3884	DE MILA VINCENT	L
50	BIZIER, MARCEL	O	3884	CARRON SR CHARLES	WJ
53	BONADIES, JOSEPH	A	3884	MC BRIDE PAUL	J
64	MC LAIN PAUL	B	3884	CLAFFEY, WILLIAM	P
125	ROEMMELE, VINCENT	J	3901	DARBY, KENNETH	R
125	KIRKER SR THOMAS	F	3928	VOLPE JR, JOHN	R
573	MC NAMARA LEO	D	4096	D AMICO JOSEPH	
1520	MC Kay MARTIN	J	4193	MARCHETTINI, MARIO	
1943	BENEDICT, JOSEPH		4203	FARRELL, MARK	F
2287	ARRANDO, REV ANGELO	S	4303	COOK, STEPHEN	F
2287	CICALESE, THOMAS	A	4310	MIDDLETON II JOSEPH	W
2287	KORNER, GEORGE	J	5066	MC CORMACK, JOHN	J
2364	GUARNERI, KENNETH	T	5066	ROTH, MARK	J
2364	JUZWIC, WILLIAM	W	5633	ABRAHAM, DONALD	D
2364	NASH, WILLIAM	E	5633	FARINA, JAMES	E
2364	HADDAD, RONALD	M	5779	KENNEDY JR, JOSEPH	P
2364	SULIK, THOMAS	A	6119	CYR, RAYMOND	J
2364	PAYNE, MICHAEL	A	6119	ROY, VINCENT	
2364	LUSSIER, JOSEPH	L	6119	LEVESQUE, GAETAN	
2364	GILGENBACH, JOHN	W	6119	BEAUDOIN, RICHARD	
2616	SULLIVAN, PETER	D	6119	FILLION, LAURIER	
2616	QUINN, JOHN	R	6190	DUMOND, FRANK	G
2758	WOLF, ROLAND	R	6281	MATHIEU, VICTOR	G
2758	CURTISS JR, WILLIAM	F	6626	SANTINI, EVANDRO	S
2758	O SHEA, PATRICK	J	6723	BISSONNETTE JR HENRY	A
2758	GIRARD, MICHAEL	A	6723	HARKINS DR ROBERT	W
2961	FOSTER, FRANK	S	6723	MARTINELLI, MAURO	P
2968	MIGLIACCIO, MARIO	A	6723	TIMM, HOWARD	J
2978	MURPHY, WILLIAM	P	6723	SMITH, HENRY	F

**RESOLUTION 8 continued. Members with 50 Years of Service**

<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Name</u>
6723	DAVERSA	JOSEPH	F
6723	WILLIAMS,	CLIFORD	G
6723	PETRUZZI,	VINCENT	J
6723	GAGNON,	LOUIS	J
6723	GAUDINO,	ROBERT	S
6723	PERKINSON,	PETER	H
6723	SNIECKUS,	BRONISLOW	A
6723	VITAGLIANO,	THOMAS	J
10651	LASTRINA,	THOMAS	C
11077	CHERVENAK,	RAYMOND	J
12289	MORIN,	JOSEPH	O
13266	DAYTON,	ALAN	P
14326	TIERNAN,	EDWARD	F
14546	KALAKAY JR	MICHAEL	R
14664	KORTSEP,	CHARLES	J

## **RESOLUTION 8**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Death of His Grace Basil H. Losten, Eparch Emeritus of Stamford**

- WHEREAS,** Basil Harry Losten began a life of profound service on May 11, 1930, during which he served as a priest of Jesus Christ, as a faithful voice in the teaching office of eparch and bishop; and
- WHEREAS,** He graduated from Saint Basil's Prep in 1949, and continued his education at Saint Basil's College Seminary in Stamford, from which he graduated in 1953 with a degree in Philosophy; and then prepared for the priesthood at Saint Josaphat Major Seminary in Washington, D.C. and received a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Catholic University of America in 1957; and
- WHEREAS,** He was ordained a priest in 1957, and then served in several pastoral assignments including the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, and parishes in Pennsylvania and New Jersey; and
- WHEREAS,** He was instrumental in organizing various projects for the Archeparchy of Philadelphia, and due to his dedication and zeal for service he was raised to the rank of Papal Chamberlain in 1968, and, then on May 25, 1971, he was ordained Auxiliary Bishop of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia; and
- WHEREAS,** He was appointed as Bishop of Stamford on September 20, 1977 and was installed on December 7, 1977 in Saint Basil College Seminary Chapel; and
- WHEREAS,** He was known for his zeal for pastoral work and priestly vocations; and in supporting the rebuilding of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine after half a century of oppression under communism; and
- WHEREAS,** He retired as Bishop of Stamford on January 3, 2006 but continued to serve the Church even in his retirement as a generous benefactor of countless ecclesial and civic causes; and
- WHEREAS,** He was a dedicated member of our Order since 1985 and was an active member of Saint Augustine Council 41, where he served for many years as Chaplain, and also Lafayette Assembly 109, and in 1994 received the Father Michael J. McGivney Award from the State Council; and
- WHEREAS,** His Excellency, Bishop Basil Harry Losten fell asleep in the Lord in Stamford Hospital on September 15, 2024.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That at the annual meeting of the Connecticut State Council, all in attendance will remember the life of this extraordinary servant of God and remember him in particular during the prayers for departed priests.

## **RESOLUTION 9**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Necrology of Priests**

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with our bishops and priests; and

**WHEREAS,** Those bishops and priests listed below served their respective dioceses, parishes and parishioners; and

**WHEREAS,** These servants of God were called home by their loving Creator since our last Annual Meeting.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the delegates to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut State Council of the Knights of Columbus extend our deepest sympathy to the families and colleagues of these departed priests; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That at the conclusion of the reading of this resolution the delegates and members present will stand for a prayer in remembrance for our departed shepherds who are listed below.

*Let us pray. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

*O God, you raised your servants to the sacred priesthood of Jesus Christ, according to the Order of Melchizedek, giving them the sublime power to offer the Eternal Sacrifice, to bring the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, down upon the altar, and to absolve the sins of men in your own Holy Name. We beseech you to reward their faithfulness and to forget their faults, admitting them speedily into your Holy Presence, there to enjoy forever the recompense of their labors.*

*Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

#### **Archdiocese of Hartford**

Rev. Mons. Daniel J. Plocharczyk  
Rev. Thomas J. Kelly, Jr.  
Rev. Henry Balchunas  
Rev. Cyriac Maliekal  
Rev. Wacław Hlond, CM  
Rev. John E. Cockayne  
Rev. Marion I. Krupnick  
Rev. Joseph Benicewicz, OFMConv.  
Rev. Daniel G. Keefe  
Rev. Richard J. Neumann  
Rev. Lawrence G. Wrenn  
Rev. Henry P. Cody  
Rev. Chacko Kumplam

#### **Diocese of Norwich**

None

#### **Diocese of Bridgeport**

Rev. Joseph Sidera, C.S.C  
Rev. James M. Bowler, S.J.  
Rev. James E. Breen  
Rev. Michael J. Bachman  
Rev. William F. Carey, Jr.  
Rev. Robert John Post  
Rev. Monsignor Richard J. Shea

#### **Ukrainian Eparchy of Stamford**

Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, Eparch Emeritus

**RESOLUTION 10**  
**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

**Death of District Deputy Ray Shortt**

- WHEREAS,** Raymond G. Shortt was born in Waterbury on July 27, 1951; and
- WHEREAS,** Brother Ray was a high school teacher, coach and vice principal in Waterbury and continued his education career after retiring from the Waterbury public schools; and
- WHEREAS,** He joined the Knights of Columbus at Pinta Council 5 in Wallingford in 2016, and then joined Christopher Columbus Assembly 1858 in 2019, and remained a member of each until his death; and
- WHEREAS,** He served in various council leadership roles starting in 2018, including Deputy Grand Knight from 2019 to 2021 and Grand Knight from 2021 to 2023; and
- WHEREAS,** He was appointed District Deputy on July 1, 2024 and was serving in that role at the time of his death; and
- WHEREAS,** Our Brother Ray departed this life on December 13, 2024, leaving his wife Dolores, children and grandchildren.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That while we bow in submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, we mourn the loss of our Brother who has been taken from us; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this testimonial of condolence be offered to the family of our departed Brother Knight as an expression of our heartfelt sympathy; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary of the Connecticut State Council forward a copy of this Resolution to the family of our late Brother Raymond G. Shortt.

**RESOLUTION 11**  
**Submitted by Saint George Council 3928, Guilford**

**Concerning the Death of Brother Francis E. Silverman, Former General Agent**

**WHEREAS,** Francis E. Silverman entered the Knights of Columbus St. George Council 3928 in Guilford, Connecticut on April 22, 1965; and

**WHEREAS,** During his nearly 60 years of service to the Order, and to St. George Council 3928, Brother Silverman was a tireless champion of our Blessed Founder's cause for canonization; and

**WHEREAS,** Brother Silverman served as Grand Knight of St. George Council 3928 from July 1, 1970 to June 30, 1971; and

**WHEREAS,** Brother Silverman served the Order as the General Agent for the Eastern portion of Connecticut for nearly 15 years, retiring on December 31, 1999; and

**WHEREAS,** Brother Silverman entered into eternal rest on May 26, 2024.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That while we bow in submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, we mourn the loss of our Brother who has been taken from us; and; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this testimonial of condolence be offered to the family of our departed Brother Knight as an expression of our heartfelt sympathy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary of the Connecticut State Council forward a copy of this Resolution to the family of our late Brother Francis E. Silverman.

**RESOLUTION 12**  
**Submitted by Holy Family Council 8882**

**Concerning the Death of Brother Richard E. McMunn, Former District Deputy**

**WHEREAS,** Richard E. McMunn entered the Knights of Columbus at Spalding Council 427 in Peoria, Illinois in 1974; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon his appointment as Editor of Columbia Magazine in 1988, Brother McMunn transferred to Holy Family Council 8882 in New Haven; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1990 he became a charter member of St. Joan of Arc Council 10477 in Hamden, where he also served as Grand Knight, and was more recently a member of Saint Paul VI Council 14664; and

**WHEREAS,** In his nearly 50 years of service to the Order, Brother McMunn was a tireless champion of our Blessed Founder's cause for canonization; and

**WHEREAS,** Brother McMunn served the Connecticut State Council as District Deputy from 1996 to 2002, inaugural Catholic Schools State Spelling Bee Chairman from 2004 to 2006, and Public Relations Chairman from 1998 to 2006; and

**WHEREAS,** Brother McMunn died on February 24, 2025.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That while we bow in submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, we mourn the loss of our Brother who has been taken from us; and; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this testimonial of condolence be offered to the family of our departed Brother Knight as an expression of our heartfelt sympathy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary of the Connecticut State Council forward a copy of this Resolution to the family of our late Brother Richard E. McMunn.

**RESOLUTION 13**  
**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council**



**Knights of Columbus**  
**Connecticut State Council**  
**Annual**  
**Resolution of**  
**Condolence**



*In memory of our deceased Brothers named herein.*

*Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to call from our midst our beloved Brothers, who departed this life in the last year, and*

*Whereas, By their deaths, our State Council has sustained the loss of exemplary Catholic gentlemen and worthy Knights of Columbus;*

*Therefore, be it Resolved, That our departed Brothers be remembered in a special Mass offered for the repose of the souls of all deceased Brother Knights at our Annual State Meeting and Convention; and be it further*

*Resolved, That while we bow in submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, we mourn the loss of our Brothers, who have been taken from us, and be it further*

*Resolved, That this testimonial of condolence, duly signed and sealed, is offered as an expression of our heartfelt sympathy.*

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State Deputy



## **RESOLUTION 14**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **In Support of the Knights of Columbus Actions to protect and support for Ukraine**

**WHEREAS,** February 24<sup>th</sup> marked the three year anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the start of the ongoing war, which has caused thousands of people to be unnecessarily killed, wounded, and displaced; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2013 the Order expanded into Ukraine, and there are now 83 councils and 3,059 Brother Knights in that country; and

**WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus, inspired by our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, have already successfully launched multiple initiatives to protect and provide for the needs of Ukraine and donated millions of dollars through the Ukraine Solidarity Fund; and

**WHEREAS,** His Holiness Pope Francis continues to call us to care for refugees and stand in solidarity for Ukraine as he himself prayed for the families affected by the conflict.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That at the annual meeting of the Connecticut State Council in 2025, the delegates and all in attendance will pray for an end to the conflict in Ukraine in the words below; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council hereby urges each member of the Order in Connecticut to continue to pray for peace and act towards relief efforts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the members of the Order are encouraged to continue to support initiatives that would end the conflict and bring just resolution and true reconciliation between Russia and Ukraine and provide relief and hope of a better future for all the victims.

### ***A Prayer for Ukraine***

*Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.*

*Amen*

## **RESOLUTION 15**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

**Retirement of His Excellency, Michael R. Côté, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Norwich**

**WHEREAS,** Bishop Michael R. Cote was born on June 19, 1949, in Sanford, Maine; and

**WHEREAS,** He attended Our Lady of Lourdes Seminary in Cassadaga, New York, and Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts, and graduated from St. Mary's Seminary College in Maryland with a Bachelor of Philosophy degree, and then went to Rome to study at the Pontifical Gregorian University, receiving a Master of Theology degree in 1975; and he later received a JCL in Canon Law from The Catholic University of America in 1981; and

**WHEREAS,** He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Portland by Pope Saint Paul VI on June 25, 1975, in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and served at several parishes in Maine; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1989, he returned to Washington to serve as secretary of the Nunciature of the Holy See for five years; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1995, he was appointed as Auxiliary Bishop of Portland, Maine and titular bishop of Cebarades by Pope John Paul II; and

**WHEREAS,** Pope John Paul II appointed him as the fifth bishop of Norwich in 2003, succeeding Bishop Daniel A. Hart; and

**WHEREAS,** He has served the church in numerous roles at the diocesan level and with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; and

**WHEREAS,** He has been a Knight of Columbus since 1979; and

**WHEREAS,** He faithfully served the people of his diocese until his retirement at age 75.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council recognizes Bishop Cote's services to the Diocese of Norwich and congratulates him on his retirement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That on behalf of its over 23,000 members, the Connecticut State Council conveys our gratitude to Bishop Cote for his leadership and guidance through the years; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary shall forward a copy of this resolution to his Excellency Bishop Emeritus Michael R. Cote.

## **RESOLUTION 16**

**Submitted by the State Officers of the Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus**

### **Welcoming Bishop-Elect Richard F. Reidy**

**WHEREAS,** On February 12, 2025, Pope Francis appointed Monsignor Richard F. Reidy, then serving as vicar general of the Diocese of Worcester, as Bishop of Norwich, Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS,** He was born on May 30, 1958, in Worcester and studied at the College of the Holy Cross and received a J.D. at Boston College in 1983; and

**WHEREAS,** After practicing law from 1983 to 1990, he studied for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, and continued his studies at the North American College in Rome where he received a bachelor's degree in sacred theology from the Gregorian University, and he later received a master's degree in spirituality from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, and a licentiate in canon law from The Catholic University of America; and

**WHEREAS,** He was ordained to the priesthood in 1994, and then served in pastoral roles; and

**WHEREAS,** He was appointed vicar general and moderator of the curia for the Diocese of Worcester on July 6, 2013, and was then named a Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Reverend Monsignor by Pope Francis on Aug. 30, 2023. and

**WHEREAS,** He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2006 and has served several times as a local council Chaplain; and

**WHEREAS,** He will be ordained Bishop on April 29, 2025 at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council welcomes Brother Knight Bishop-elect Reidy to the Founder's State; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that on behalf of its over 23,000 members, the Connecticut State Council pledges our total support to Bishop-elect Reidy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the State Secretary shall forward a copy of this resolution to Bishop-elect Richard F. Reidy.

**RESOLUTION 17**  
**Submitted by Ojeda Council 33, Naugatuck**

**Concerning Support for Seminarians**

- WHEREAS,** For more than 40 years, The Knights of Columbus has supported tens of thousands of men and women as they answer the Lord's call to serve the Church and the people of God; and
- WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus have surpassed \$100 million in financial support for seminarians, postulants, and novices through the RSVP program; and
- WHEREAS,** Our three Connecticut Dioceses are experiencing an extraordinary increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated religious life; and
- WHEREAS,** Over the course of the next two years, the Archdiocese of Hartford are scheduled to have 2 men ordained to the priesthood; and
- WHEREAS,** Over the course of the next two years, the Archdiocese of Hartford expects to welcome between 30 and 40 men into priestly formation; and
- WHEREAS,** The average annual cost of sending one seminarian to formation is greater than \$70,000; and
- WHEREAS,** The increased financial burden of the Dioceses will need to be met; and
- WHEREAS,** Priests are needed for the distribution of the Sacraments; and
- WHEREAS,** The number of Catholics per priest in Connecticut has for the first time exceeded 2,000 in this decade and continues to worsen at an accelerating rate.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council congratulates the Connecticut Diocesan Offices of Vocations and Seminarians for the significant growth in vocations; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That on behalf of its members, the Connecticut State Council, wishes the aforementioned Diocesan Offices continued growth of more young men seeking to serve the Church as priests and men and women in discerning a vocation in the consecrated life as a religious sister or brother; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council, will establish a committee which will seek to create a sustainable source of funds through new initiatives at the State and local Councils dedicated to supporting the missions of the Diocesan Offices of Vocations and Seminarians; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Connecticut State Council will, inform respective Directors of Vocations of each diocese of this resolution.

**RESOLUTION 18**  
**Submitted by Marquette Council 245, Ridgefield**

**Concerning Knights of Columbus Sunday**

- WHEREAS,** Blessed Michael McGivney was born in the State of Connecticut; and
- WHEREAS,** It is the fervent wish of the faithful that someday Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney, if so desired by God, will be elevated to Sainthood becoming the first Saint born in Connecticut; and
- WHEREAS,** The Fraternal Order that he founded with its first Council in the State of Connecticut, The Knight of Columbus, is a lasting and enduring legacy of his discipleship in Christ; and
- WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus has faithfully stood by the Church and the Holy See in word and in deed, and its Knight are both practicing and practical Catholic Men; and
- WHEREAS,** The Knight of Columbus is an active participant in reflecting the Glory of God through its global, national, state and local works of charity and evangelization of the Faith; and
- WHEREAS,** The Knights of Columbus seeks to promote strong families, support local parishes and financially assist with the education of new Priests.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That in light of these facts, Knights of Columbus Marquette Council 245 of Ridgefield humbly ask the State Council of The Founder's State, with 159 councils and over 23,000 Knights distributed in every corner of the State, with a united voice representing 418 parishes spread across all three dioceses, recommend for adoption at the State Convention, as a resolution, to directly petition Archbishop Coyne, Bishop Caggiano and Bishop-elect Reidy to, in their respective Episcopal Sees,
1. Officially recognize the second Sunday in August as "Knights of Columbus Sunday" throughout the entire State of Connecticut; and
  2. To Instruct each Parish to preach on the positive role that the Knights play in the world, nation, state and local parish and the life of Father McGivney and his mission on that Sunday; and
  3. To ask that at the conclusion of all masses said in the State during the vigil or on Sunday pray the Litany of Fr. McGivney.