



KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS SUFFOLK COUNCIL 7363

James J. Riley, Sr. Memorial Scholarship

2026 APPLICATION

ELIGIBILITY: All graduating seniors from High School who are planning for post-secondary education and are actively involved in the betterment of St. Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church through active religious and community involvement. Applicants must have been accepted by an accredited university, college, or trade school as a full-time student prior to scholarship award.

One thousand dollars (\$1000) will be awarded to one graduating senior who is currently registered as a parishioner at St. Mary of the Presentation Catholic Church in Suffolk, Virginia. The scholarship is non-renewable and is awarded every year to a different applicant.

ABOUT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Thanks to the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven and some of his parishioners, the Connecticut state legislature on March 29, 1882, officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

The Knights were formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

The history of the Order shows how the foresight of Father Michael J. McGivney, whose cause for sainthood is being investigated by the Vatican, brought about what has become the world's foremost Catholic fraternal benefit society. The Order has helped families obtain economic security and stability through its life insurance, annuity, and long-term care programs, and has contributed time and energy worldwide to service in communities.

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to over 15,342 councils and 2.1 million members throughout 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.

The James J. Riley, Sr. Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of Knights of Columbus - Suffolk Council 7363 Charter Grand Knight, Jim Riley. As our Charter Grand Knight, Jim was instrumental in the formation of Suffolk Council 7363 and the successes we ultimately achieved throughout the years. Suffolk Council 7363 was established on June 24, 1979.

NAME: _____

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: (_____) _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

SEX: ☐ FEMALE ☐ MALE

Note: The information disclosed in this application will only be used by the Scholarship Committee to validate applicant eligibility and select a winner. Upon scholarship award, all applications will be destroyed.

NAME: _____

PART 2: POST-SECONDARY PLANS

- 1) Planned University, College, Community College or Trade School:

- 2) Degree or Diploma Program the applicant will study:

PART 3: SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION – ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NEEDED

- 1) List religious activities/services to which you have contributed, listing each in order of importance to you **and WHY** each was important to you. Include all volunteer religious work.
- 2) List awards, honors, and special recognition that you have received in chronological order from your freshman through senior year in high school. Include all prizes and/or scholarships.
- 3) Father McGivney is a great role model for all Catholics and his dedication and vision created one of the largest religious organizations in the world. Charity, Unity and Fraternity are the key principles of our Order. Please write an essay of no more than 350 words on the following topic: ***Describe how your Catholic faith has guided you through your teenage years and prepared you for your journey into adulthood.***

NAME: _____

PART 4: SECONDARY SCHOOL REPORT

This section is to be completed by the principal, assistant principal, or guidance counselor.

- NAME: _____
- TITLE: _____
- HIGH SCHOOL: _____
- IS THE STUDENT WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS APPLICATION A STUDENT IN GOOD
STANDING?

☐ YES ☐ NO
- EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION: _____
- SIGNATURE: _____
- DATE: _____

NAME: _____

PART 5: STUDENT CHECKLIST

CHECK ALL STATEMENTS TO BE SURE YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE.

- ☐ I verify that the information I have included in this application is correct and true to the best of my knowledge.
- ☐ I have included a current high school transcript.
- ☐ I have included a letter of recommendation from someone in my church/community (other than a relative) who can verify my involvement in the activities I described in my application.

Application can be dropped off at the church office or mailed and received
NO LATER than **FRIDAY – MAY 8, 2026**

Knights of Columbus – Suffolk Council 7363 Scholarship
c/o St. Mary's Catholic Church
202 S. Broad Street
Suffolk, VA 23434
Attention: Scholarship Chairman

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED