

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Newfoundland Labrador State Council**



**2025**

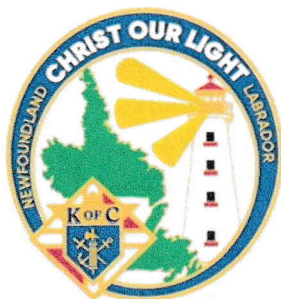
**2026**

*Welcome Package*

**108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention**

**May 01 - May 03, 2026**

**Capital Hotel, St. John's, NL**



**Schedule of Events**

**Messages**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
1 COLUMBUS PLAZA  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510-3326

*March 19, 2026*  
*Solemnity, Saint Joseph*

Paul R. Baldwin  
State Deputy of Newfoundland  
Knights of Columbus

Worthy State Deputy and dear Brother Baldwin:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus and myself, I extend greetings to you and all my brother Knights and their families in Newfoundland.

As a result of your tireless service and dedication throughout this fraternal year, the Knights of Columbus continues to rise to new heights, fulfilling the mission set for us by Blessed Michael McGivney.

Last year marked a significant milestone for the Order's growth. I am pleased to report that in 2025 over 101,000 men joined our ranks as new brother Knights. This represents the strongest year of growth since World War I. In our time, just as in the early 20th century, men are yearning for authentic Catholic brotherhood. Thanks to the genuine Christian witness that each of you live in your councils and communities new men continue to join our Order!

This past October, in observance of the Jubilee Year of Hope, the Board of Directors had the honor of representing you at the Vatican, meeting with Pope Leo XIV for the first time. The Holy Father expressed his appreciation for the Order's work upholding the sanctity of human life and our assistance in restoring the artistic wonders of St. Peter's Basilica. I know that all brother Knights join me in saying that we look forward to continuing our service as the strong right arm of the Church under Pope Leo XIV's spiritual leadership, as we have done in Rome and around the world for more than one hundred years.

Brother Knights, while you prepare to undertake your convention deliberations, I ask that you again turn to our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, to seek his intercession more fervently, as you join Knights across the world in praying for his canonization. Thank you for all that you have done to forward the mission and legacy Father McGivney has left to our order. Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,

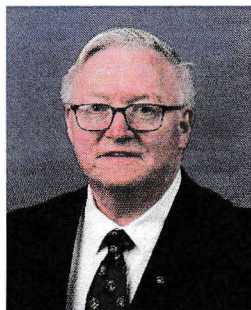
*Patrick E. Kelly*  
Patrick E. Kelly  
Supreme Knight



Paul R. Baldwin  
State Deputy  
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## State Deputy Message

1 May, 2026



Delegates, Brothers, Ladies and Guests welcome to the Newfoundland and Labrador Knights of Columbus 108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention. As we gather for the next few days in the beautiful City of St. John's to celebrate our achievements and discuss our future challenges it is important to remember our vibrant history as Knights of Columbus in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Dalton Council formed on November 29, 1909, in Harbour Garce was the start of the Order in Newfoundland. The next day November 30, 1909, Terra Nova Council was formed in St. John's. It wouldn't be until December 8, 1918, that Conception Council on Bell Island was formed and these three councils formed its own jurisdiction, Newfoundland.

For the past 108 years the Order has grown with Councils in every region of the province. For us to continue to grow and continue the mission of our founder Blessed Father Michael McGivney we must Recruit. It is our responsibility to give every Roman Catholic gentleman the opportunity to join our ranks.

Our Mission Statement is simple and direct:

“Our Mission is to give every Roman Catholic man in the jurisdiction of Newfoundland and Labrador the opportunity to live their Faith at home, in their Parish, at Work and in their Community”.

This year we are privileged to have our Deputy Supreme Knight, Brother Arthur L. Peters and his wife Angela as our Supreme Guests. Please give them a royal Newfoundland and Labrador welcome.

I encourage you all to have a Blessed convention, have fun with old friends and meet new friends.

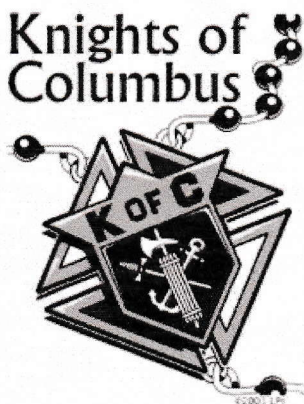
As your State Deputy, I look forward to meeting with you all.

Vivat Jesus

Paul R. Baldwin  
State Deputy

May 2026

**To my worthy brothers in council for our annual convention** - greetings and blessings! Our order is forever creative with energetic, spirit filled leadership. These are an abiding consolation for me in my role as State Chaplain. I encourage everything you to do promote unity and charity in good measure throughout our ranks. In contemplating the year so far, I wish to commend you especially for promoting retreat, prayer and reflection. These act as a springboard for the many ministries we are committed to. You, yourselves know, the importance of such an approach to the work at hand. I do encourage you to keep this spirit of prayer as the vital support for so much outreach and inclusion in our order.

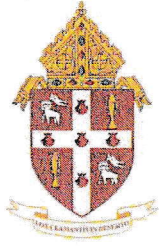


Every member has a gift to offer to the Knights of Columbus. If we look within, we'll find mounds of time, talent and treasure freely given us by the hand of God. We are commissioned to make maximum use of these as we build the kingdom of God in our midst. In addition, we have our eyes and hearts on the world, especially to the developing nations where the needs are so great. So many projects, prayers and good wishes make our order a felt reality for the many we serve.

Prayer is at once, particular and universal. The church believes that when one prays, everyone prays. When one acts, all receive the blessings. I'm so glad the COR experience happened during my tenure. It has proved to be very beneficial in my own call to holiness. I thank you sincerely for all you do. I invoke blessings on your future plans and endeavors. It is also important to note that this smacks at the heart of what Father McGivney had in mind when he, in consultation with his little band of believers, decided to establish this generous sharing of the wealth with the many. The Knights now serve in so many good causes. They are clearly visible in the soup kitchen and on parade for the cause of dignity and freedom of everyone. So many have been blessed with their cheerful leadership and cooperation. We take our place as servants of the Gospel and missionaries of mercy to all we minister to. This spirit of evangelization must continue to thrive so that the many will receive the blessings they so dearly long for. Well done, brother knights. Count on my support in all such endeavors. As noted, retreat and renewal are the two hinges that keep our order current and vital to holiness of life.

May Mary, Queen of all Saints, continue to intercede for us as we proclaim the Gospel to all the nations, amen.

Father Edward Terry,  
State Chaplain.



## Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's, NL

March 15, 2026

Worthy Knight Paul R. Baldwin  
State Deputy  
Knights of Columbus  
Newfoundland and Labrador  
[pbaldwin@kofcnl.org](mailto:pbaldwin@kofcnl.org)

Dear State Deputy Paul Baldwin:

It is a pleasure for me to offer to you, and through you to all the members of the Knights of Columbus of Newfoundland and Labrador, these words of greeting on the occasion of your 108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention.

I regret that other commitments will keep me from joining you at your Convention dinner. However, I will be praying for God's blessings upon your convention and upon your continuing generous, fraternal service to our Church and to our society.

Thank you for all you do, as a fraternity and as individuals, to support our Church, our parishes and so many charitable endeavours and works of mercy in this province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

With gratitude and prayers for God's blessings upon you, upon all the members of the Knights of Columbus of Newfoundland and Labrador, and upon your 108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

+Peter Hundt  
Archbishop of St. John's



## *Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador*

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Dear Brother Knights:

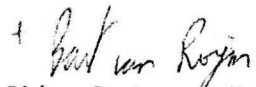
Joy and peace in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

I send you greetings on this, your 108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention, to be held in St. John's on May 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. I pray that this may be a time for fraternal support, shared faith, inspiration and new ideas. I also pray that it may be a celebration of Catholic faith, in prayer and in worship, the source of our love in action.

Brought together by fraternal charity, may you strengthen the bonds of the past, forge the bonds of each present encounter and heal the bonds that have been broken. Evermore conscious of the one common bond we have in Christ, may you strive to see him in each encounter and bring him to others with fervent joy.

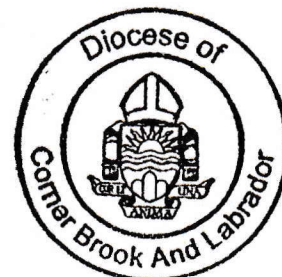
Likewise, I ask for your prayers for all those who are being Confirmed, receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, throughout the Easter Season. May they be strengthened in their union with Christ, their willingness to serve others and their openness to the Spirit at work in their lives.

Fraternally in Christ,



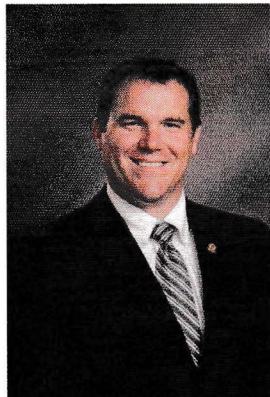
Bishop Bart van Roijen

Bishop of Corner Brook and Labrador



# Welcome from General Agent Martin Bourgeois

1 May 2026



Worthy Brother Knights,

It is an honor for me to be here with you this weekend for your State Convention here in Newfoundland and Labrador, a province where community, faith, and truly living out the phrase “We are our brother keeper.”

That spirit is exactly what we do through the Knights of Columbus. We protect families with life insurance and assist our members through proper financial planning by offering the industry’s best quality and guaranteed products. We also have a responsibility to keep growing by bringing in strong members and recruiting dedicated field agents who believe in what we stand for.

If we work together, we can build greater awareness of just how important it is for every member to sit down with their agents and make sure their family is taken care of.

At the end of the day, it’s about taking care of our own- and I know that’s something Newfoundland and Labradorians understand better than anyone.

I look forward to working with all of you to keep building something strong for the future.

Vivat Jesus

Fraternally

Martin Bourgeois, CPCA  
General Agent



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

Newfoundland & Labrador

State Deputy

Paul R Baldwin

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Knights of Columbus  
108<sup>th</sup> Annual State Meeting/Convention 2026  
1-3 May, 2026  
Capital Hotel, St. John's, NL

Schedule

Friday May 1, 2026

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 9:00-11:00 am   | State Executive Meeting Hotel Boardroom                                     |
| 2:00 – 5:30 pm  | Fourth Degree Convention Salon TBC<br>District Master to coordinate         |
| 6:30 – 8:00 pm. | Registration (Convention Delegates) Salon Foyer                             |
| 6:00 pm         | Meet and Greet: Past State Deputies' & Spouses<br>Location: Hotel Boardroom |
| 8:30 pm         | Awards Presentation & Social Salons TBC                                     |

Saturday May 2, 2026

- |         |                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| 8:15 am | Final Registration Salon Foyer  |
| 9:00 am | Opening Prayer Salon TBC        |
| 9:10 am | Motion for Open Session         |
| 9:15 am | Open Session Families / Friends |

- Welcome and Introduction of State Officers
- Welcome Supreme Representative  
Deputy Supreme Knight Brother Arthur Peters
- Welcome General Agent Martin Bourgeois
- Welcome Vice Supreme Master Sir Knight Daniel Miller
- Message from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly (video)

- 9:30 am State Deputy's Report – SD Paul Baldwin
- State Chaplain's Report – Rev. Fr. Edward Terry
- 10:15 am Coffee Break – End of Open Session
- 10:35 am CALL TO ORDER  
Opening of Official Business
- 10:40 am Presentation of Temporary Roll Call (SS)
- 10:50 am Adoption of Official Agenda
- 10:55 am Appointment of Committees  
Credentials Audit/ Protocol  
Greetings Mileage and Per Diem
- 11:00 am Presentation of Minutes of 107th State Convention
- 11:02 am Reading of Communications
- 11:05 am Presentation of State Officers Reports
- 11:10 am Resolutions Briefing State Advocate
- 11:15 am Discussions and Voting on Resolutions

12:00 pm	Adjourn Morning Session (Lunch)
12:00pm	Ladies Function TBC
1:00 pm	Call to Order
1:05 pm	Roll Call and Update (SS)
1:30 pm	Insurance Update General Agent Martin Bourgeois
1:45 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Degree Update VSM Sir Knight Daniel Miller
2:00pm	Keynote Address Deputy Supreme Knight Brother Arthur Peters
2:30pm	In Camera Session Panelists: Deputy Supreme Knight Vice Supreme Master General Agent District Master
3:00 pm	Unfinished Business
3:30 pm	Adjournment
4:30pm	<b>Mass</b> – Salons TBC
7:15pm	Convention Banquet Salons TBC Awards Presentation Ticket Draw Dance/Social



Supreme Guest  
Deputy Supreme Knight  
Brother Arthur L. Peters

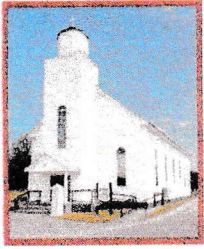


Brother Arthur L. Peters of Brampton, Ontario, was elected in April 2023 by the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors to the position of Deputy Supreme Knight, effective July 1, 2023.

Brother Peters joined the Knights of Columbus in 1986 as a charter member of Father Clair Tipping Council 9235 in Brampton, Ontario. He served in numerous officer positions for his council, district and the Ontario State Council, which he led as State Deputy from 2010 to 2011. He served as host committee chairman for the Knights' international convention that was held in Toronto in 2016.

Brother Peters has worked in the nonprofit sector with Youth Assisting Youth, which provides mentorship and tutoring, and with the Canadian Red Cross. For 15 years, he was a member of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and served as its vice-chair and chair. He is an active parishioner of St. Anthony's Church in Brampton, coming from one of the founding families of the parish. Since 2005, he has worked as the Director of Development for the Archdiocese of Toronto, a position he will retain during his tenure as Deputy Supreme Knight.

Deputy Supreme Knight Peters resides in Brampton with his wife, Angela, who is an executive in the nonprofit sector.



# Immaculate Conception Parish

HARBOUR GRACE, NL  
A0A 2M0  
GRAND FALLS DIOCESE



December 28, 2025

Hi Paul,

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to you and the Knights of Columbus for the generous support given to some families affected by the wildfire that occurred last August while I was the Parish Priest of the Communities of Kingston, Northern Bay, and Bay de Verde.

The wildfire, which began in Kingston and spread through Small Point, Gussett's Cove, Western Bay, Ochre Pit Cove, and part of Northern Bay, caused significant loss and displacement before it was brought under control by our dedicated firefighters. Many families lost their homes and belongings and were forced to evacuate under very distressing circumstances.

In this difficult time, the charitable donations made by the Knights of Columbus, through your direct assistance, brought real hope and relief to some of those most affected. The financial support provided to those families who lost their home was a remarkable act of compassion and solidarity, helping them begin the process of recovery and rebuilding.

I had hoped to write earlier but was transferred to Immaculate Conception Parish, Harbour Grace, before doing so. Please accept this letter as my heartfelt thanks for your kindness and for the outstanding witness of Christian charity shown by the Knights of Columbus.

May God bless you and all the members of the Knights of Columbus for your generosity and continued service to those in need. Be assured of my prayers.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Fr. Julius Chiedozi  
Parish Priest  
Immaculate Conception Parish  
Harbour Grace



January 19<sup>th</sup> 2026

Paul Baldwin  
State Deputy  
Knights of Columbus NL

To members of the State Executive, Grand Knights and Knights of Columbus councils;

On behalf of the Board of Directors I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the State Executive for responding to the Centre for Life's request for financial support. Your quick response to contact your councils for assistance was greatly appreciated. I thank all of the Knights of Columbus councils for their immediate response to come to the aid of the Centre for Life.

The Centre for Life's views and beliefs towards human life contradicts current cultural values. Federal and provincial governments do not follow the same moral compass as people for "Life". This makes navigating a pro-life organization challenging. Corporate companies have their chosen charities which leaves little room for anyone else. The economy, an aging demographic and a shift in the acceptance of abortion and euthanasia (MAID) have impacted donor dollars to our organization. Preparing for a baby has become ever increasingly financially difficult especially in an unplanned pregnancy. With your continued support the Centre for Life will provide the resources that mothers need. The acceptance of euthanasia is growing within our communities due to several factors. The push from the pro euthanasia lobby continues to market MAID as a socially acceptable and dignified way to end one's life. There are two excellent interviews on our home page [www.centreforlife.ca](http://www.centreforlife.ca). There is one with Alex Schadenberg who had an interview aired on VOAR and another interview Talk Nation Radio which addresses the reality of the impact of MAID on the weakest members of our society. Please share our website link and encourage your members to listen to the interviews. Brochures are also available upon request for parishes. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition recently released a new documentary in January 2026 that shows the shockwaves of MAID. There will be a Zoom presentation of the film on Monday January 26<sup>th</sup>. To register go to [www.euthanasia-prevention-coalition.ca](http://www.euthanasia-prevention-coalition.ca). [Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Euthanasia Prevention Coalition: Watch the powerful Life Worth Living film on January 26.](#)

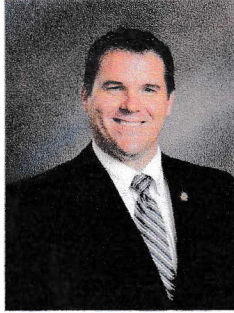
Our future lies with our youth and the Centre for Life offers resources to affirm human life in all stages. Reaching this demographic will determine the fate of the pro-life presence to carry the message of "LIFE" into generations to come.

Your ongoing support is vital to the continuation of our programs and services.

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T 1.877.997.5433

May God continue to bless and guide all of the work and efforts of the Knights of Columbus.

Linda Holden  
President



**Knights of  
Columbus**

**Martin Bourgeois, CPCA**  
*General Agent*

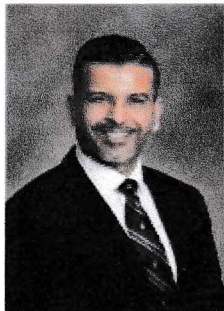
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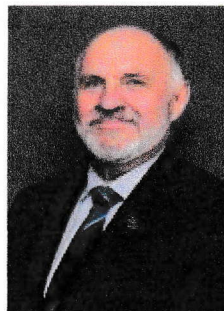
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**Savio Dias**  
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savio.dias@kofc.org

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