



the Anchor



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South Bend, Indiana

February, 2020

*"We've had enough exhortations to be quiet! Cry out with a hundred thousand tongues!
I see the world is rotten because of silence." —St. Catherine of Siena*

The SECURE Act and Your Retirement

by Andrew Weiss, Knights of Columbus Field Agent

Bundled within a larger spending package aimed at keeping the government running was a piece of legislation that will change the way you look at retirement and at leaving money to your heirs dramatically! The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act was signed into law on December 20, 2019 and it's aimed at enhancing security in retirement for many Americans, but it also changes the game in ways you should be aware.

Some Key Takeaways

- Age limit for Traditional IRA contributions is eliminated.
- Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) age raised to 72.
- Parents now able to withdraw up to \$5,000 from retirement accounts penalty-free within a year of birth or adoption of a child for qualified expenses.
- Parents now able to withdraw up to \$10,000 from 529 plans to repay student loans.
- Say GOODBYE to the Stretch IRA, limits placed on the beneficiaries of IRAs.

While there are plenty of exciting and positive aspects of this new legislation, like the fact that parents can use IRA money without paying the 10% penalty for the birth or adoption of a child or to repay student loans or that you can now contribute to Traditional IRAs for as long as you have earned income, it's important to take pause.

"No longer is an IRA a good estate plan because all of the tax will be bunched [paid out] within 10 years after death."

~Ed Slott, IRA Expert

Remember, if you can contribute to your IRA for a longer period of time and you are not required to take money out of your IRA until later, you are essentially delaying your taxes even longer than you were allowed to before. Couple that with the fact that you can no longer leave an IRA to beneficiaries as easily or effectively as before and you have a recipe for a potential tax disaster for your heirs.

Required minimum distributions (RMDs) now begin at age 72

Americans are working longer and will no longer be required to withdraw assets from IRAs and 401(k)s at age 70½. RMDs now begin at age 72 for individuals who turn 70½ in the calendar year 2020.

If you turned age 70½ in 2019 and have already begun taking your RMDs, you should generally continue to take your RMDs. The IRS may provide further guidance on this point, so you might want to speak with your tax advisor regarding any 2020 distributions.

Next step: If you are turning 70½ in 2020 and had planned on taking an RMD, give me a call, so we can work together to reconsider your withdrawal plans.

You can make IRA contributions beyond age 70½

As Americans live longer, an increasing number are continuing to work past their traditional retirement age. Under the act, you can continue to contribute to your traditional IRA past age 70½ as long as you are still working. That means the rules for traditional IRAs will align more closely with 401(k) plans and Roth IRAs.

Next step: Give me a call so that we can work together to determine your retirement readiness, how long you plan to work, and when you expect to start withdrawing from your retirement savings. This change doesn't apply for tax year 2019, as it will begin for tax year 2020 contributions. You can make your tax year 2020 contribution up until April 15, 2021.

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Virtue of the Month February = Humility

*Whoever humbleth himself,
shall be exalted. — Luke 14:11*

Humility is the foundation of all the virtues; therefore, in a soul where it does not exist there can be no true virtue, but the mere appearance only. In like manner, it is the most proper disposition for all celestial gifts. And, finally, it is so necessary to perfection, that of all the ways to reach it, the first is humility; the second, humility; the third, humility. And if the question were repeated a hundred times, I should always give the same answer.

— St. Augustine

Prayer For Reverence For Life

*Almighty God, giver of all that is good,
We thank You for the precious gift of human life:*

For life in the womb ...
coming from Your creative power ...
For the life of children ...
making us glad with their freshness and promise,
For the life of young people ... hoping for a better world ...
For the life of people who are disabled ...
teaching us that every life has value,
For the life of the elderly ...
witnessing to the ageless values of patience and wisdom.

Like Blessed Mary, may we always say, ... "YES" to Your gift.
May we defend it and promote it from conception
to its natural end. And bring us at last, O Father, to the
fullness of eternal life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

KNIGHTS - NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

Theology on Top Winter Series 2020 – Tuesdays at 6:30pm, KofC Hall

Dinner Buffet:

Price: \$7/person for the first 50 people (cash & cards accepted). Babies and infants welcome and commonly present.

Series Theme:

Reclaiming Goodness, Truth, & Beauty

Tuesday, February 11

Reclaiming Culture – Fr. Paulinus Odozor CSSp

Tuesday, February 18

Reclaiming Art – Stephen Barany, MDiv

Tuesday, February 25

Mardi Gras: Mass & Party! –

at St. Joseph Church, South Bend

Conclude the winter series on Fat Tuesday by enjoying fellowship with your new friends!

Celebrate together before our Lenten fasting begins the following day on Ash Wednesday.

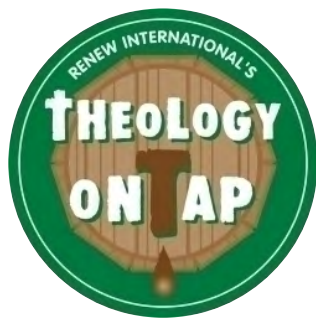
The festivities begin with Mass at 6:30pm followed by a potluck dinner social in the parish hall. For dinner, Cajun main course options will be provided from Yats. If you can, bring a side dish to share and your favorite beverage, but don't let that stop you from coming. Drop off food before Mass at the parish hall (below the church).

Mardi Gras Directions: Mass will take place in St. Joseph Church, located at 226 N Hill St in South Bend. The party will take place in the parish hall, located directly underneath the church.

Questions: Sean Allen – sallen@diocesefwsb.org or 858-354-9006

Podcast: Listen Online!

<https://anchor.fm/tot-fwsb>



Theology on Tap is a speaker and conversation series for young adults in their 20s & 30s, single and married, to learn more about the Catholic faith, enter into conversation with their peers, and make connections between faith and everyday life. For more go to www.theologyontap.com.

2020 Lenten Activities

Lent for the year 2020 starts on Wednesday, February 26th and ends on Thursday, April 9 with evening mass on Holy Thursday. That translates into 6 Friday Fish Fries at Council 553. Let this be a heads up to save the dates to either bring your family to the Fish Fry or Come to work at the Hall with your brother Knights.

SECURE ACT continued

Good Bye, Stretch IRA

Beginning for deaths after December 31, 2019, the stretch IRA is replaced with a ten year rule for the vast majority of beneficiaries. The rule requires accounts to be emptied by the end of the tenth year following the year of death. There are no annual RMDs. Instead, the only RMD on an inherited IRA is the balance at the end of the 10 years after death. For deaths in 2019 or prior years, the old rules would remain in place.

There are five classes of “eligible designated beneficiaries” who are exempt from the 10-year post-death payout rule and can still stretch RMDs over life expectancy. These include surviving spouses, minor children, disabled individuals, the chronically ill, and beneficiaries not more than ten years younger than the IRA owner.

Next step: The new rules mean a new landscape when it comes to retirement and estate planning. How will they affect you? You may have some new opportunities to make IRA contributions or be able to access your retirement funds without penalty. You may be able to delay taking RMDs a little bit longer. You will also want to give some serious consideration to how the elimination of the stretch will impact you. Reviewing your beneficiary designation form is a good place to start. Give me a call so we can review your options.

How do I leave my IRA to my heirs?

Under the new legislation, you DEFINITELY want to re-evaluate any plans to leave your IRA to the kids or even, possibly, the grand kids. Unless your beneficiaries fall within the 5 eligible designated beneficiaries, you could be leaving them with a big tax bill. Roth IRA conversions and Life Insurance are two ways to ensure you leave a gift instead of a bill.

Contact me today to schedule a time to review your plans for retirement and for leaving a legacy to your heirs:

<https://andrewweisskofc.com/schedule-a-meeting/>

Indiana District Fourth Degree Exemplification

DATE:

Saturday, February 29, 2020

SPONSOR:

Father Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C.,
Province, Indiana District

HOST ASSEMBLY:

Right Reverend Monsignor A. J. Sprigler
Assembly #0253

LOCATION:

Registration, Exemplification, Mass, and
Dinner
Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church
625 Frame Road, Newburgh, IN 47630
Please enter through the Parish Center, Door
5E

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATION/ REGISTRATION FORM IS: February 15, 2020

Click link below for complete details:

www.indianakofc.org/download/degree/4th-Degree_20200229_Newburgh_INFO.pdf

Click this link for Registration Form:

www.indianakofc.org/download/degree/4th-Degree_20200229_Newburgh_REG.pdf

Everyday Heroes

The Knights of Columbus have a program called Everyday Heroes. We have included a link below for one of the episodes called "A Touchdown For Life". There are numbers of these professionally recorded chronicles of the works of the Knights of Columbus from all over the world. One could spend hours listening to the heroic brothers and their stories. Please take a moment to listen to this story that comes from our own backyard.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0XzKFzK5U0>

There is a story of a fisherman who prayed to Fr. McGivney for his life. It could be a story that would result in Fr. McGivney being declared a saint. Give it a listen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NVY2P-ijuU>

There are many stories that are so inspirational toward being a Knight of Columbus!

What is your story for being a Knight?

I'm a Member of the Knights of Columbus and I'm Not Old By Andrew Weiss

I know, I know. Only old guys are in the Knights of Columbus, right?

They wear funny hats, carry swords, and run the fish fry at your parish – your grandfather was probably a Knight.

While that may be true in a limited sense, the reality is that the Knights of Columbus is a large and robust organization that has been doing extraordinary things for over 135 years. I joined the Knights of Columbus in college when I was 18 years old. I am now 28, and I'm as active as I've ever been in the Order.

Who are the Knights of Columbus?



The Knights of Columbus is now the world's largest Catholic Fraternal Organization. It was founded in 1882 by Fr. Michael J. McGivney to provide financial assistance to the widows and orphans of Irish immigrant men who died prematurely because of poor working conditions.

Today, the Knights continue to provide financial assistance to members and their families through our insurance program, which has allowed us to expand our charitable efforts beyond Fr. McGivney's wildest dreams. Local chapters, called "councils," conduct localized charitable activities specific to their community's needs. These local efforts are often supported materially and financially by the overarching structure called "Supreme." This collaboration between local councils and Supreme empowers smaller communities to do big things.

It is the brilliance of this collaboration and the uniformity of mission that compels me to this day to be such an active member and "big fan" of the Knights of Columbus. I knew when I first joined that I was becoming a part of something very special, something much bigger than myself.

Why the Order Matters to me as a 20-something Brothers despite differences

We're a transient generation, moving from home to college, from our first job to our second job, and so on.

As young adults, we typically find community among our peers through things like young professional associations or young adult groups.

But there's a reason "older and wiser" is a coined phrase — our elders have wisdom to share! So we shouldn't confine our networking circles to those with similar ages.

I have found great value in networking with, serving alongside, and befriending men who are older, wiser, and often very well-connected. Having friends who aren't all in the same stage of life as I am has been extremely valuable.

For one, it's tough to advance your career when all of your connections are right there with you at the bottom of the totem pole. Beyond "networking" though, the friendships I've built with guys twice my age has taught me things that only the expensive School of Experience teaches most.

As I begin to start my own family (my wife and I are expecting our first child!), I've been able to bounce ideas off of men who already have families.

Talking with guys who have climbed the corporate ladder or suffered a layoff has helped me manage expectations in my own career.

Some men lost their faith earlier in life and, having now returned, they've shared their experiences with me.

I might have been friends with some of these guys if we were the same age or went to college together, but it's the Knights of Columbus that has brought us together now. I have friends who share my Catholic values who are 78 years old, 58 years old, and 28 years old — and we're all in the same club. We serve in different capacities and we bring different things to the table, and there is great wisdom to be found in such an eclectic group of Catholic gentleman and their families.

By joining a Catholic organization, you can make a bigger impact on the world, through the Church.



Unity among cultures

Our faith unifies us across languages and cultures, age demographics, etc. Serving in the KofC and becoming Brothers enables us to transcend those human boundaries and elevate our relationships with one another.

The Order was founded by an Irish priest and his Irish immigrant parishioners; however, they named their club after an Italian, Christopher Columbus, and subsequent councils were formed at parishes with other ethnic makeups.

In my own city, I've seen bonds of friendship forged through service between my Brother Knights of Hispanic, Polish, African, and Filipino descent. Relationships have been built between men of a rich diversity of backgrounds. This dynamic of unity among the different ethnicities exists in the Catholic Church all over the world.

When the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882, the Irish were a despised minority for their faith and immigration status. Today, my Hispanic Brother Knights suffer many of the same prejudices for the same reasons. We learn to love and respect one another as men by working together to build our Church through prayer and service.

My Brother Knights and I share in our desire to grow in holiness; we want to care for our families; we want to serve the Church; we find opportunities to do these things through the Knights of Columbus.

One global Catholic voice

The Knights of Columbus as an institution does not endorse any particular political party or ideology.

The Order does, however, encourage its members to be active participants in the political sphere — guided by their conscience and informed by Catholic teaching.

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, my voice is added to those of the 1.9 million other Catholic families in the Order. Together we are a global voice for Catholic values in the public sphere.

When political or social action needs to be taken to stand

up for the Christians being persecuted in the Middle East, to protect life in all of its stages, or even to help men become better fathers and husbands, members of the Knights of Columbus can work together to accomplish so much more than any one individual could on his own.

As a politically engaged guy, I value the encouragement I receive from the Knights of Columbus through things like the "Nonpartisan National 'Get Out the Vote' Program."

I also admire that, as an institution, the Knights of Columbus remain unwavering in their Catholic identity. During a time of increased secularity and polarization, this commitment takes courage. That courage on the institutional level has helped me be bold whenever I feel that my faith is being challenged.

Charity at the next level

The first and most important principle of the Order is Charity.

I'm a really busy guy and I value my social life, but looking at the lives of any one of my Brother Knights who has a wife, 5 kids, and his career made me realize that I can probably find a little time to give.

Once I began volunteering, the rewards were unbelievable. I almost feel guilty, because I think I get more out of volunteering than the people I am "helping."

Of course, anyone can volunteer and they should, but as a Knight, my efforts are amplified through my council and through my council's collaboration with Supreme.

I used to think I was too busy to be active in something like the Knights of Columbus, but when I reflected on what was really filling my time, I realized I could do better. Just a little bit of time goes a long way.

As a Knight, I have taken on a leadership role in my parish by starting (with the help of other Brother Knights) a formational group for men, I've headed up the "grill team" for our annual parish picnic, I've emceed our council "Trivia Knight," and the list goes on.

Sure, I could do many of those things on my own, without being a Knight, but by joining the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world, I unite my efforts to millions of other men and amplify my impact.

A community to call my own

My life has been truly enriched by joining the Knights of Columbus. As a Knight, I practice the Catholic principles I believe in by forming real-life relationships with my Brothers and serving my local community.

I've found a community to call my own, and I hope that other young people can do the same!

We can bring our skills, energy, and new ideas to the table to revitalize these orgs that have the power to do such good.

Why reinvent the wheel? I found the resources to grow and work in my community have been readily available through my council.

So be bold! Join one of your parish's organizations, maybe even the Knights of Columbus, and reinvigorate it with your fresh ideas, energy, and skills. Make a significant difference by uniting in service with others from your local communities.



Hugh O'Flaherty – saved 6,500 lives during WW2

Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty was an Irish priest who is credited with saving more than 6,000 lives after he helped Jews and Allied soldiers hide from the Nazis during World War II.

O'Flaherty hid thousands of people in a various farms, church-houses and homes around Italy, risking his own life in the process.

He has since be honoured for his brave actions, and his story has been made into a film.

O'Flaherty was born in Killarney in 1898. He grew up on a golf course in Cork, where his father worked.

He joined Mungret College in County Limerick in 1918 to study for the priesthood. Once qualified, O'Flaherty was sent to Rome to work as a Vatican diplomat.

He travelled the world visiting countries such as Haiti, Egypt and Czechoslovakia.

In the early years of the Second World War, O'Flaherty travelled around Europe visiting Prisoner of War camps.



Hug From Ireland Gift Package

Thousands were at risk of being captured by Nazis

He was in Italy at the time of the collapse of the Mussolini Empire. Thousands of Prisoners of War were released but at risk of being recaptured by the Germans who had taken control of the country.

Many remembered O'Flaherty from his visits to the camps and made their way to Rome to ask him for help in escaping the Nazi regime in Italy.

O'Flaherty organised safe-houses for thousands. He hid people in farm buildings, church-houses and hundreds of private homes in Italy.

He had a network of people helping him. Delia Murphy, the wife of the Irish ambassador, and Major Sam Derry, an escaped British Prisoner of War were two of O'Flaherty's key allies.

They also hid Jewish people from the Nazis in the same way. Colonel Herbert Kappler was the head of police in Rome.

He was a Nazi and was tasked with capturing any Italian Jews and transporting them to Auschwitz for execution. Kappler was ruthlessly efficient at this job.

O'Flaherty and his associates managed to transport and hide thousands of people in Italy.



Threat of torture and execution

The Nazis knew about this network of deception, and knew that a priest was behind it. They kept a close watch on the Vatican, until they eventually

discovered that O'Flaherty was the one concealing Jews.

However, he continued to organise the massive operation of hiding people. He knew that he was safe when in the Vatican, as the Nazis could not kill him there.

O'Flaherty was wanted by the Nazis. Kappler ordered a white line painted on the pavement at the opening of St. Peter's Square to mark the border of the Vatican City and Italy.

Nazi soldiers were under instructions to execute O'Flaherty on site if he crossed the line.

Ludwig Koch of the Italian police vowed that should O'Flaherty ever end up in his custody, he would not only be executed but also tortured beforehand.

'Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican'

Several unsuccessful attempts were made on O'Flaherty's life, but he was not deterred. Despite this severe intimidation, O'Flaherty continued his work. He met his associates on the safe ground of the Vatican when possible, and wore disguises on the occasions he had to venture out.

His ability to evade capture earned him the nickname of 'Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican'.

O'Flaherty kept this up for two years before the Allied Forces finally took control of Italy. When they arrived, there were 3,925 Prisoner of War escapees hiding in O'Flaherty safe-houses.

Thousands of Jews were also in his care. It is estimated that O'Flaherty and his allies saved the lives of six and a half thousand people.

Once the war had ended, O'Flaherty stressed that Nazi prisoners should be treated properly and humanely by the Allied Forces.



Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty Memorial Garden in Tralee

He was known as 'Ireland's Oskar Schindler'

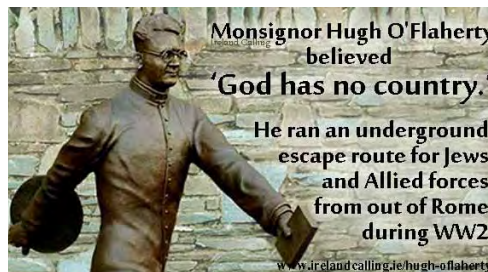
Baptised the man who had wanted him dead

In the following years, he was honoured with numerous awards for his actions. He continued with his humanitarian work and visited prisoners around Europe.

This led to a remarkable friendship between O'Flaherty and the man that had once wanted him dead, former Nazi head of police Colonel Herbert Kappler.

O'Flaherty visited him once a month in jail for several years, and the two men became close friends. In 1959, Kappler converted to Catholicism and was baptised by O'Flaherty.

A year later, O'Flaherty suffered a stroke during a mass. His health deteriorated and he returned to Ireland to live with his sister. He died in 1965.



This is a statue of O'Flaherty in his home town of Killarney, to honour him for his bravery in saving so many lives.

Source: <https://ireland-calling.com/hugh-oflaherty/>

The Catholic Faith of Kobe Bryant - *Catholic News Agency*



Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna Bryant attend a basketball game between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Atlanta Hawks at Staples Center on November 17, 2019 in Los Angeles, California.

(Photo by Allen Berezovsky/Getty Images)

Basketball superstar Kobe Bryant died Sunday in a helicopter crash in Southern California, along with his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna.

Bryant, the father of four, was Catholic.

In all nine people were killed in the Jan. 26 crash.

Bryant, 41, is widely considered one of the greatest basketball players of all time. He retired in 2016 after a 20 year career with the Los Angeles Lakers, in which the shooting guard won five NBA championships, a league MVP award, two scoring championships, and myriad other distinctions.

Beyond basketball, Bryant was a husband and a father who in 2015 attributed his Catholic faith with helping him move past a challenging period in his own life and the life of his family.

Bryant was raised in a Catholic family, and spent much of his childhood living in Italy. He married in 2001 in a Southern California parish.

In 2003, Bryant was arrested after he was accused of raping a woman in a Colorado hotel room.

Bryant admitted a sexual encounter with the woman, but denied that he had committed sexual assault. When the allegation became public, Bryant lost sponsors and faced criminal charges, which were eventually dropped.

Bryant issued an apology to his accuser, with whom he also reached a settlement in a civil lawsuit.

"Although I truly believe this encounter between us was consensual, I recognize now that she did not and does not view this incident the same way I did. After months of reviewing discovery, listening to her attorney, and even her testimony in person, I now understand how she feels that she did not consent to this encounter," Bryant said in his 2004 apology.

In 2015, the basketball player told GQ that after the matter was resolved, he decided to shed some superficiality he felt he had built up in his public persona.

"What I came to understand, coming out of Colorado, is that I had to be me, in the place where I was at that moment."

Bryant said it was a priest who helped him to make some important personal realizations during the ordeal.

Describing his fear of being sent to prison for a crime he believed he had not committed, Bryant told GQ that "The one thing that really helped me during that process—I'm Catholic, I grew up Catholic, my kids are Catholic—was talking to a priest."

"It was actually kind of funny: He looks at me and says, 'Did you do it?' And I say, 'Of course not.' Then he asks, 'Do you have a good lawyer?' And I'm like, 'Uh, yeah, he's phenomenal.' So then he just said, 'Let it go. Move on. God's not going to give you anything you can't handle, and it's in his hands now. This is something you can't control. So let it go.' And that was the turning point," Bryant said.

A 2004 decision to place deeper trust in God did not mean the basketball star's life was thereafter without difficulties, or defined by virtue.

In 2011, Vanessa Bryant filed for divorce from Kobe, citing irreconcilable differences. But Bryant said he decided not to give up on his marriage, and two years later, his wife withdrew her divorce petition.

"I'm not going to say our marriage is perfect, by any stretch of the imagination," Bryant told GQ in 2015.

"We still fight, just like every married couple. But you know, my reputation as an athlete is that I'm extremely determined, and that I will work my ass off. How could I do that in my professional life if I wasn't like that in my personal life, when it affects my kids? It wouldn't make any sense."

Bryant and his wife have been reported to be regular parishioners at an Orange County, California parish.

Singer Cristina Ballesteros posted on Instagram Jan. 26 a story of her encounter with Bryant at Holy Family Cathedral in Orange, California at a weekday Mass.

"As we went up to communion, [Bryant] waited for me to go. If you grew up in the Catholic Church, you understand this is a respectful thing men do in church as a sign of respect to women. He said I have a beautiful voice."

"His most inspiring trait was his decision to turn to his faith in God and receive God's mercy and to be a better man after a regretful decision," Ballesteros added.



Source: <https://angelusnews.com/news/nation/the-catholic-faith-of-kobe-bryant/>

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Becoming Catholic - Traditions for Feasts, Solemnities, and Other Catholic ways of living, visit: www.beginningcatholic.com
"Living a devout, holy, pious, humble Catholic life is the only way to Heaven!"
Begin or Reclaim your Catholic Heritage!

UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY 2020

6th Fourth Degree Meeting @ 7:00pm
6th Rosary at Holy Cross @ 7:00pm
10th Knights Rosary at the Hall @ 7:30pm
10th Business Meeting Following Rosary
17th Rosaries at CTK @ 6:30pm / St. Joseph's @ 7:30pm
18th SBCC Meeting @ 7:00pm
24th 1st Degree Ceremony @ 7:30pm
24th Social Meeting @ 7:30pm
29th 4th Degree Exemplification in Newburgh, Indiana

MARCH

5th Fourth Degree Meeting @ 7:00pm
5th Rosary at Holy Cross @ 7:00pm
9th Knights Rosary at the Hall @ 7:30pm
9th Business Meeting Following Rosary
16th Rosaries at CTK @ 6:30pm / St. Joseph's @ 7:30pm
23rd 1st Degree Ceremony @ 7:30pm
23rd Social Meeting @ 7:30pm

APRIL

2nd Fourth Degree Meeting @ 7:00pm
2nd Rosary at Holy Cross @ 7:00pm
10th Good Friday
13th Knights Rosary at the Hall @ 7:30pm
13th Business Meeting Following Rosary
20th Rosaries at CTK @ 6:30pm / St. Joseph's @ 7:30pm
27th 1st Degree Ceremony @ 7:30pm
27th Social Meeting @ 7:30pm



MOVIE REVIEW: STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER

NEW YORK (CNS) – A long time ago, in a world that now seems far, far away – to wit, Earth in spring 1977 – George Lucas wowed audiences with the original "Star Wars" film.

More than four decades later, the ninth, and officially final, installment in the main body of the blockbuster franchise, "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" (Disney), premieres. Although it feels less substantive than the previous chapter, released in 2017, director and co-writer (with Chris Terrio) J.J. Abrams' sci-fi epic certainly has spectacle to spare as well as some touching moments. Given that the battles that play out in this portion of the saga are spiritual as well as physical, moreover, viewers of faith will have much to ponder.

With the evil First Order rebranding themselves the Final Order as they prepare to launch a vast space fleet capable of crushing all opposition, General Leia (the late Carrie Fisher), commander of the Resistance, dispatches her ablest follower, Rey (Daisy Ridley), to locate the enemy's secret base. Rey is aided by ex-stormtrooper-turned-Resistance-fighter Finn (John Boyega) and by hotshot pilot Poe (Oscar Isaac). But Kyo Ren (Adam Driver), now the Order's supreme leader, is convinced that he can draw Rey over to the Dark Side to which he, once the good Ben Solo, long ago surrendered himself.

The status of Lucas' trademark Force remains ambivalent from a Christian perspective. But lessons about making moral choices, the need to reject temptation and the power of forgiveness and redemption are clear. So, too, is the message that ancestry does not determine moral destiny – just ask Luke Skywalker.

A couple of not-very-bloody wounds aside, the violence is kept nongraphic and the dialogue is mostly on the up-and-up, though the presence of some Jedi jingoism is one of the script's minor flaws. This being a 2019 Hollywood movie, however, someone felt the need to include, in a moment of general celebration, a gal-to-gal smooch possibly suggesting a lesbian relationship between two of the extras.

Blink and you'll miss that moment, though. So parents not wanting to be seen as latter-day Darth Vaders in the eyes of their teens may give way without much worry. (Motion Picture Association rating is PG-13)



- 🕯 Gerard Van Overberghe
- 🕯 Dr. Anthony Randles
- 🕯 SK Rev. John Riley, CSC
- 🕯 Liam De Los Reyes
- 🕯 Rev. Stephen Sedlock, CSC
- 🕯 SK Thomas Reith
- 🕯 William Kilbury
- 🕯 Daniel Kelley
- 🕯 William Doran
- 🕯 Ronald Miller
- 🕯 SK Gerald Wardzinski
- 🕯 Leonard Clark
- 🕯 Joel Houston
- 🕯 William Schmitt
- 🕯 Dennis Brennan
- 🕯 Joseph Caudle
- 🕯 Ronald Collins
- 🕯 John Voorde
- 🕯 Hilaire Wittenbrink
- 🕯 James Fenstermaker, CSC
- 🕯 Jeffrey Toepp
- 🕯 Louis Seago, III



KNIGHTS ROSARIES

Come pray with us!

Holy Cross:
1st Thursday @ 7pm

KofC Rosary at the Hall:
2nd Monday @ 7:30pm

Christ the King:
3rd Monday @ 6:30pm

St. Joseph:
3rd Monday @ 7:30pm

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FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Knights Rosary at Holy Cross 7:00 p.m. 4th Degree Meeting 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.		1
2	3	4	5	Euchre Night 6:00 p.m.	6	7
9	10 Knights Rosary at Hall 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting Following	11	12	Euchre Night 6:00 p.m.	13	14 Valentine's Day
16	17 Knights Rosary at CTK 6:30 p.m. Knights Rosary at St. Joseph's 7:30 p.m.	18 Columbus Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.	19	Euchre Night 6:00 p.m.	20	21
23	24 1st Degree 7:30 (if required) Social Meeting at 7:30 p.m.	25 Fat Tuesday	26	Ash Wednesday Euchre Night 6:00 p.m.	27	28
						29 4th Degree Exemplification at Newburgh, IN begins at 11 a.m.

The Anchor has begun to receive recognition throughout the KofC organization. We invite you to leave this copy on your coffee table as a means of opening conversations about the Knights and what we do.

DATED MATERIAL - Please Do Not Delay

Phone 574-234-9800

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