

# Knight Happenings



KofC Council 13996  
Delray Beach, FL  
July 2018

## Message from District Deputy Chuck Dolce:



My Worthy Brother Knights...

Happy New (Fraternal) Year!

But before we move forward, first things first. Congratulations on all your achievements this past year! Your commitment to the goals and principles of the Knights have made a major contribution to the success of the State Council and the Order at large.

I'm proud to have been associated with all of you this year.

The State Convention is now in the books and an important and exciting announcement was made. One that will offer new and challenging opportunities in the area of programming.

Supreme is implementing an entirely new program structure called **Faith in Action**. The basis for this change is essentially two-fold.

First it simplifies the requirements of your programming.

The new structure breaks down into 4 categories of activities: Faith, Family, Community and Life, as opposed to the 6 categories before, lowering the total number of programs you'll need to undertake. (There are, however, *required* activities in each category, so some planning for success will be necessary.)

But second, and more importantly, it's designed to focus all our activities back toward the area of faith! This shift to focus on quality, faith-filled family programs is meant as an opportunity for us to consistently form ourselves in the Catholic faith.

As our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson has said,

*"We can reach halfway around the globe to help those in need and we can reach to our neighbor next door. And we do that everyday. That makes us witnesses to the faith."*

As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me and ask.

Membership will also be a major focus of the Order. And this comes in 2 parts.

First we need to make a concerted effort to make sure all our current members are "active" members of the council. This starts by getting them to pay their annual dues. Reach out to those who have been out of touch or aren't responsive. Contact them to see how they are or what might be going on in their lives. Retention is often the forgotten part of the membership equation.

The second part we all know... recruitment. And there's no time like the present to get started on that. **Now** is the time to work with Monsignor and get membership drives on the church and council calendars.

I'll be confirming degree schedules for the new fraternal year in the coming weeks. Stay tuned. In the meantime, don't forget about the online option for signing new members up.

My Brother Knights, welcome to a new and exciting year! I look forward to making it a huge success with you all.

Vivat Jesus,

Chuck Dolce  
District Deputy #68

### **Check Out the Order's New Faith-Based Program**

The Faith In Action model has a total of **32** programs. Among them are nine new programs designed to revitalize you, your parish, your council and your community.

### **SACRAMENTAL GIFTS**

Our councils play an integral role in helping Catholics understand and value the sacraments as pivotal moments in their lives. Now, councils will together pray for recipients of the sacraments and offer them gifts marking the significance of the occasion.

### **FAMILY PRAYER NIGHT**

It can be a challenge to raise children in the faith without the support and companionship of other Catholic families. Family Prayer Night provides an opportunity for council members, their spouses and children, as well as other Catholic families, to come together regularly for prayer, dinner and fellowship.

### **MASSES FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The Knights of Columbus affirms, welcomes and defends life in all its stages and in every condition. Yet people with intellectual or physical disabilities (and their families) may still feel excluded or unwelcome in our parishes and communities. It is an obligation of Knights to never let this happen. A dedicated Mass — organized with help from the council — is the first of many steps toward ensuring they regularly attend Mass and become an integral part of the parish family.

### **HOLY HOUR**

A Holy Hour is a simple way to carry on the Church's long tradition of worship before the Blessed Sacrament. Councils will now work with their pastors to organize regular Knights of Columbus Holy Hours. They may include a reflection, communal rosary and intercessory prayers to St. Joseph, Venerable Father McGivney and the councils' patrons.

### **PREGNANCY CENTER SUPPORT**

Father McGivney formed the Knights to provide for widows and their children. Today, this care for the vulnerable extends to parents facing unexpected pregnancies, as well as their unborn children. To better help them, moving forward councils will provide more extensive support to pro-life pregnancy centers in their local areas. ***Note: This is a new activity unrelated to the Ultrasound Initiative.***

### **GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY PROMOTION**

Our Christian faith centers on Christ's passion, death and resurrection. But attendance at Good Friday and Easter is declining. Now, through this promotion, Knights and their families will work with their pastor to create a campaign promoting the importance of Good Friday services. Knights will take this opportunity to also educate parish families about the plight of Christians living in the Holy Land today.

### **NOVENA FOR LIFE**

Knights will lead their communities in the spiritual battle to establish a culture of life, primarily by praying and promoting a novena with their parishes, families and the wider community.

### **SPIRITUAL REFLECTION PROGRAM**

Families need rejuvenating spiritual events that inspire them in the moment and shape their future. Under the Faith In Action program model, councils will work with pastors to host and attend low-cost retreats. These events could be open only to council members or men of the parish, or entire families.

### **HELPING HANDS**

This program continues the important work many councils already do to extend to others the friendship and love of God. Under this newly named program, councils have the freedom to organize activities that best suit their community, whether it's serving at a soup kitchen, helping the homeless, aiding refugees or something entirely unique. ***Note: This is a new activity unrelated to the Food for Families program.***

# 5 Rules to Break

## MATT FRADD'S "RULES FOR MEN TO BREAK"

Source :Dave DiNuzzo Sr.

[www.truemanhood.com/matt-fradds-rules-for-men-to-break](http://www.truemanhood.com/matt-fradds-rules-for-men-to-break)

The 5 Rules:

1. Never get into a fight.
2. Never think about sex.
3. Never give into peer pressure.
4. Never risk it all.
5. Never ask for directions.

**Number 1:** Although in my youth, I used to get into physical altercations frequently (sorry if you didn't know that, Mom!), I now fight for things much more important – like the innocence of my children. I fight for truth. I fight the evils of pornography. Getting into these sorts of fights... for goodness, and justice... is a good thing! In fact, men are called to this. To be effective, however, we must be educated, courageous, and prudent.

**Number 2** is so important for us to understand. Sex is a good thing! Similarly to fire, sex needs to be contained, and looked at in context. Fire, raging out of control, is bad. It can destroy, and kill. Sex, out of context and out of control, will ultimately destroy love and will kill us. *(For more on this, search out and read anything by Christopher West on the topic of Blessed John Paul II's "Theology of the Body". Especially reference any time that West refers to the "fast food diet vs. the starvation diet" of sex for more understanding of the correct Catholic view of sex.)*

**Number 3** can be tricky... we should give into peer pressure when the pressure of our peers is good and properly ordered. This requires work on our part, and discipline, to put ourselves in good places with

good people. How many of us have solid, well-formed friends that we spend our time with? Not only, however, that we spend our time with, but also that challenge us to live better, and hold us accountable to the standard that we want and are called to uphold? If you don't, you need to seek out these kinds of people and get to work!

**Number 4** comes down to courageousness. The courage to risk it all is within you! If you're a man and have been with a suitable woman for the right amount of time, don't wait! "Risk it all" and ask her to marry you already! If you're considering the priesthood, don't sit around and waste time "discerning" more... make a decision and do it! (Please don't take my use of discernment as though I don't believe in it. I use it emphatically here b/c of how skewed it has become, and how it allows men to hide behind it like a mask, easily shucking any form of responsibility.) Decisiveness is a virtue; a sub-virtue of prudence.

**Number 5** takes our minds automatically to the road, but I'd prefer to take it deeper. How about linking this to spiritual direction? Accountability? Obedience to our priests? Taking directions from trusted, wise, and faithful men can be the difference success and failure in life.

Let's step outside of the "norm" and be dangerous men for the Lord! How many do you break?

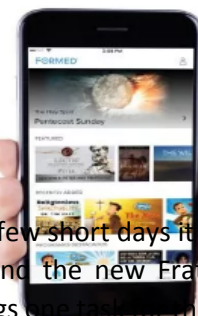
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In a few short days it will be July 1<sup>st</sup> and the new Fraternal Year brings a new look for the members of our Council ... DUES.

Council Dues for 2018 - 2019 are assessed per our By-Laws as \$30 for all Regular Members and \$10 for Honorary Members. Honorary Life Members do not pay dues. There is also a voluntary assessment for support of Vocations of \$5.00; bringing the total to \$35 for all Regular Members and \$15 for Honorary Members



First Notices were sent out on June 23<sup>rd</sup> via email to all members that have a valid email address on file; all others will receive an invoice via the US Mail.



Paying your dues can be done by the following methods:

- Through PayPal using our website at: <http://kofcknights.org/CouncilSite/?CNO=13996> follow the link at the top of the home page
- By Check mailed to Knights of Columbus Council 13996, c/o David Austin-Financial Secretary, 5938 Los Alamos Ln, Delray Beach, FL 33484
- By Cash at any of our 2018 meetings.

Upon receipt of payment I will mail your 2018-2019 Membership Card to you. Membership Cards will also be available at Council meetings starting with our August 2018 Business meeting.

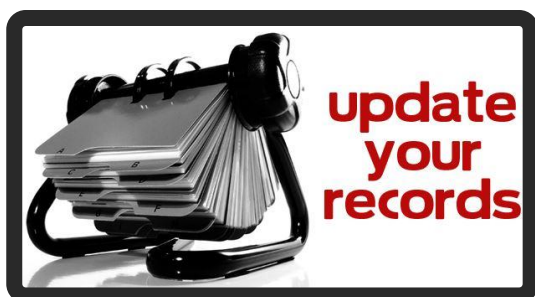
It is critically important that Council Dues are paid promptly; quick action on your part will save much time and effort. Thank you for your cooperation; I wish you and your Families a Safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to an active and successful new fraternal year. Hope to see you all at our next Business Meeting.

God Bless

David Austin, FS

## Records Update

Brothers, to keep our records up to date please make sure we have all your correct info on file. This includes address, phone numbers and email. We have come across multiple brothers that have incorrect info on file. Thanks so much for your attention to this matter. To update your info please email Dave Austin at [austindrtr@gmail.com](mailto:austindrtr@gmail.com)





## Ask Eligible Men to Join



Today, I want to address the growth of the Order. Membership growth is the fuel that keeps this great fraternal engine running. All of our charitable works at the council, state, national and international level are thanks to our hard-working members. And more members equals more charity.

We know that the membership blitz is a tried and true way for councils to get more men to join. We see these pushes often in March, in celebration of Founder's Day, and again in October. These drives are successful because brother Knights have increased visibility speaking or presenting during and after Masses and at special events. We must remember that we have a duty to ask each and every Catholic gentleman to join our ranks for the good of the Church, the community and the Order.

During the rest of the year, we often "forget" to ask men to join and to bring their families into the Knights of Columbus family. You probably know an eligible Catholic man you could ask today. What if the only reason he hasn't joined is because no one has asked him yet?

When telling a prospect about the strengths of the Order, don't forget our greatest fraternal benefit: our insurance program. This is often a "selling point" to a potential member who is on the fence. Many members become Knights simply to be able to buy coverage to protect their family. Soon after, they realize the good our charitable works do for their community, and they are proud to be members.

As your professional Knights of Columbus insurance agent, I look forward to helping us grow in fraternity in any way that I can.

Jeff Toeniskoetter

561-654-6115

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### Pope Francis's Prayer intentions for July

#### **Evangelization – Priests and their Pastoral Ministry**

That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Men's Retreat at SVF, see the below flyer.

**THE MAN TALK**  
VIDEO FEATURING MATT FRADD

EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE, THE CHOICES YOU MAKE  
DETERMINE THE MAN THAT YOU ARE—AND WILL BECOME.

"MATT FRADD GIVES US A VISION OF HOW TO LIVE CATHOLIC MANHOOD TO THE FULLEST."—JEFF CAVINS

SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 | KELLAGHAN HALL | 8:30AM-2:00PM  
R.S.V.P. CHRISTOPHER BECKETT  
CBECKETT67@GMAIL.COM

## Recruitment

Recruiting Catholic men into the Knights of Columbus is an on-going activity. Recruiting is not difficult when we have the information to share with our potential knights.

This council has put together a recruiting booklet to complement the new Supreme recruiting initiatives. This week there are recruiting booklets in the credenzas in the back of the Church and rectory office packaged with form 100 and knights.net sign up information.

Familiarizing yourself with the information will make it easier for you to recruit new knights. It is the responsibility of all brothers to recruit potential Knights. Please take the opportunity to talk the benefits of the Knights of Columbus and the rewards to your Catholic men friends and families.

Vivat Jesus!

SK David DeFrancesco, PGK



## Saint Spotlight



**St. Maria Goretti** is unique in that she is the youngest canonized saint in the Church. She died tragically on July 6, 1902, at the age of eleven. Born into poverty, her father moved the family when Maria was just six years old from the east side of Italy (near Ancona) to the west side (near Nettuno, about 40 miles south of Rome) in hopes of escaping the grinding poverty that was

gripping the area.

Just three years later, when Maria was nine, her father died tragically. It fell to her at that time to raise her five siblings while her mother worked the fields to produce the crops with which they would both pay the rent and feed themselves.

This was a terrible time of trial and suffering for the whole family. For Maria it was especially difficult. Aside from having the responsibility of caring for her family, she had to also cook and clean for her two next door neighbors—Giovanni Serenelli and his son, Alessandro—who assisted her mother with the farm tasks.

It was also during this time that Alessandro began to develop an impure liking for Maria. The big 20-year-old would say rude and crude things to her, things that were inappropriate and embarrassing, and that would cause her to run away. However, at a certain point he began to make direct sexual advances towards her, demanding her virginity and threatening her with violence for non-compliance.

Finally, after many months of this, Alessandro forced himself upon Maria in an attempt to rape her. Though she prevented him from violating her, Alessandro brutally stabbed her numerous times. Maria died the next day in the midst of horrendous infection brought on by her lacerations. Her last words were, "I forgive Alessandro Serenelli ... and I want him with me in heaven forever."

During his prison sentence Maria appeared to Alessandro and forgave him. That act of mercy and forgiveness—that act of love—filled Alessandro with contrition for his crime. It was also a turning point for him where grace entered his heart. From that point on, he lived a beautiful and converted life of holiness, eventually becoming a Franciscan lay brother.

Before his death Alessandro Serenelli wrote a beautiful open letter to the world.

<https://mariagoretti.com/who-is-st-maria/>

## **12 Ways to Become a committed Catholic Man**

By [Matthew James Christoff](#)

Every Catholic man is called to give himself fully to Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. How does one become a Committed Catholic Man? Here are 12 steps to grow in loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ:

1. ***Develop a rousing case for why Jesus Christ is your King*** – If a man is asked to describe why he loves his parents, wife, children or friends, most can quickly rattle off a long list of reasons for his love. But for most men, Jesus Christ is abstract, conceptual or a long-gone historical figure. Large numbers of men don't know Jesus as real, alive and present. Each Catholic man must be able to give a rousing argument for why Jesus Christ is the greatest Man and why Jesus is his King. If a man is not convinced about Christ's greatness to the point of being able to articulate the case, his growth in faith will be stunted and he will be unable to draw others to Christ. Committed Catholic Men can make the case for Christ.
2. ***Commit to be a Saint of Christ the King*** – There are no nice people or good people in Heaven, only Saints. Most men have not made a commitment to strive for Sainthood. Men are stuck in mediocrity and need to raise the bar higher; there is no higher bar than Sainthood. Christ's first words of public ministry were to "Repent!" and every man must repent or die. By making a commitment to Sainthood, a man starts with repentance and aspires to greatness; in this he realizes his own spiritual poverty. In the recognition of spiritual poverty, a man comes to both humbly recognize his need for God's mercy and to cry out for it. Aspiring to Sainthood changes everything.
3. ***Go to Reconciliation at least once a month*** – While the Church teaches each man must go to Reconciliation at least once a year, any man who is truthful with himself and Christ knows he needs the Sacrament of Reconciliation much more frequently. Keep a guide to Reconciliation with you, recalling regularly the 10 Commandments. Make the commitment to go to Reconciliation on a pre-determined schedule each month and go to Reconciliation immediately when you fall into grave sin (e.g. when you view pornography). Regular and frequent Reconciliation changes men, for supernatural Grace flows to men during Absolution.
4. ***Pray for 15 minutes every day*** – Only about a third of Catholic men pray daily; some smaller number, a much smaller number, pray for 15 minutes. How can a man know Jesus if he never talks to Him? He can't. Commit to get to know Christ the King on a personal basis by approaching His Throne and talking with Him every day for 15 minutes. It is in this personal conversation that Christ will make His will known to each man.
5. ***Discover the majestic manliness of the Mass*** – The Mass is the "source and summit" of the Catholic faith, and yet, the majority of men claim to "be bored by the Mass" and to "not get anything out of the Mass". This is because they don't know what is occurring in the Mass: they have little understanding of the manly symbolism of the Mass, a Sacrament that has been devoutly passed down for 2000 years. They don't realize that during the Mass they are witnesses to the actual Bloody Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross. If a man doesn't actively participate in the Mass because of ignorance and boredom, he can't receive the Graces that flow from the Eucharist. Learn the Mass to such a degree that you can explain it to others with the reverence and devotion that Christ's Sacrifice deserves.
6. ***Participate in Sunday Mass + 1*** – It is the *minimum* obligation of each Catholic man to attend Mass *every* Sunday; but only about a quarter of men do so on any given week. This is both a catechetical failure and an outrageous insult to Our King. In addition to attending Mass every Sunday, each man should go an additional step to encounter the Eucharist *at least* one more time during the week either by participating in daily Mass or by kneeling in Adoration for 30 minutes. Most men have much to make up for and precious little time; drawing closer to Christ more regularly will help men make up for lost time. A warning: never approach the Eucharist in a state of mortal sin.
7. ***Pray the Rosary regularly and carry the Rosary with you*** – Only about 40% of Catholic men ever pray the Rosary, and only 1 in 10 carry their Rosary with them. Praying the Rosary draws a man closer to our Holy Mother and to her Son, Jesus Christ; it is the manliest of rituals, prayed by the greatest Saints over centuries, in quiet places and in the din of the battlefield. It is a manly act of loyalty and fidelity. Commit to carry the Rosary as a sign of your loyalty and faith and as a weapon against the daily onslaught of Satan; Satan hates the Rosary and fears it. Have the Rosary handy at all times to pray a decade in times of gratitude and stress, relying on the Holy Mother to bring your prayers to Jesus Christ. The Rosary is part of the uniform of the Committed Catholic Man.
8. ***Get to know your Patron Saint and Guardian Angel*** – We believe in a Communion of Saints. Many men don't have a personal relationship with a Saint or their Guardian Angel. Many men don't feel connected to the Church, in part because they are not connected to the Saints or to the Guardian Angel that Jesus Christ has appointed for each man. Saints and Angels intercede on men's behalf and stand by to protect and



defend men from daily assault of Satan and his demons. Don't go into daily battle without a Saint and your Guardian Angel guarding your back.

9. **Read Holy Scripture for 15 minutes each day** – All of Holy Scripture is about Jesus Christ. When a man reads Holy Scripture, Jesus Christ is with him, not figuratively or conceptually, but in a real and actual way. Jesus Himself came to earth to speak the words of Scripture for all men, across all time, to read and contemplate, drawing strength and wisdom and Grace from His words. Reading Holy Scripture can be done by working through books of the Bible and by reading/praying the Divine Office. A man can't know Jesus Christ without contemplating His Word.
10. **Be a priest, prophet and king in your home** – In the face of a secular culture that attacks valid patrimony, Catholic men need to reassert their rightful roles as priest, prophet and king of their family. We are not talking about being a chauvinistic tyrant, but a true Saint of Christ, with each man serving his wife and children with humble sacrifice, holy example and courageous commitment to lead his family to Heaven. Be a priest by leading your family in prayer. Be a prophet by teaching the truth of Christ and His Church. Be a king by defending your family from the perversions of the culture, correcting them when they fall into error and by leading them the Eucharist and Reconciliation.
11. **Build a brotherhood with other Catholic men in your parish** – In Acts 2:43, the Apostles from the earliest days of the Church give the "formula" for Catholic brotherhood: *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.* For a man to grow in faith he must build brotherhood with faithful Catholic men who can challenge and help him grow in holiness. There is an epidemic of loneliness in modern men, even in regular mass-attending men. Make the commitment to build brotherhood with other Catholic men, particularly younger men, men who are at grave risk as they enter adolescence and move into adulthood. Gather the men of your parish in large groups and small, to pray, to learn, to teach and to serve the poor. Be a catalyst, be a leader, working with your priest. Christ will hold all men accountable for their personal response to His command to "Go and make disciples."
12. **Commit to tithing and begin to work toward it** – The willingness of a man to give his hard-earned money to the Church is a direct indicator of the strength of his devotion and loyalty to the King Jesus Christ. Sadly, many Catholic men give little to the Church, both in absolute terms and relative to other Christians' gifts to their churches. Tithing is the giving of 10% of a man's income to the Church including a parish and other

Catholic charities. While you may not be able to give a full 10% due to economic constraints, commit to tithing and begin to work toward it, making progress each year, guided by the Holy Spirit.

Being a Committed Catholic Man is the greatest challenge to which a man can aspire to accept and the commitment can seem daunting. Don't be deterred; be a Catholic Man! Make the resolution, right here, right now to be a Committed Catholic Man. Print this list off and post it where you will see it every day. As in all things, start with prayer.

Excerpt taken from  
<https://www.catholicgentleman.net/2014/10/12-ways-become-committed-catholic-man/>

*Matthew James Christoff is a Catholic convert. He is the founder of The New Evangelization Project which is committed to confront the Catholic "man-crisis" and to develop new ardor, methods and expressions for the re-evangelization of Catholic men. Matthew is also a co-founder of CatholicManNight, a parish-based men's evangelization effort that has drawn thousands of Catholic men into Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, fellowship and lively discussion.*