

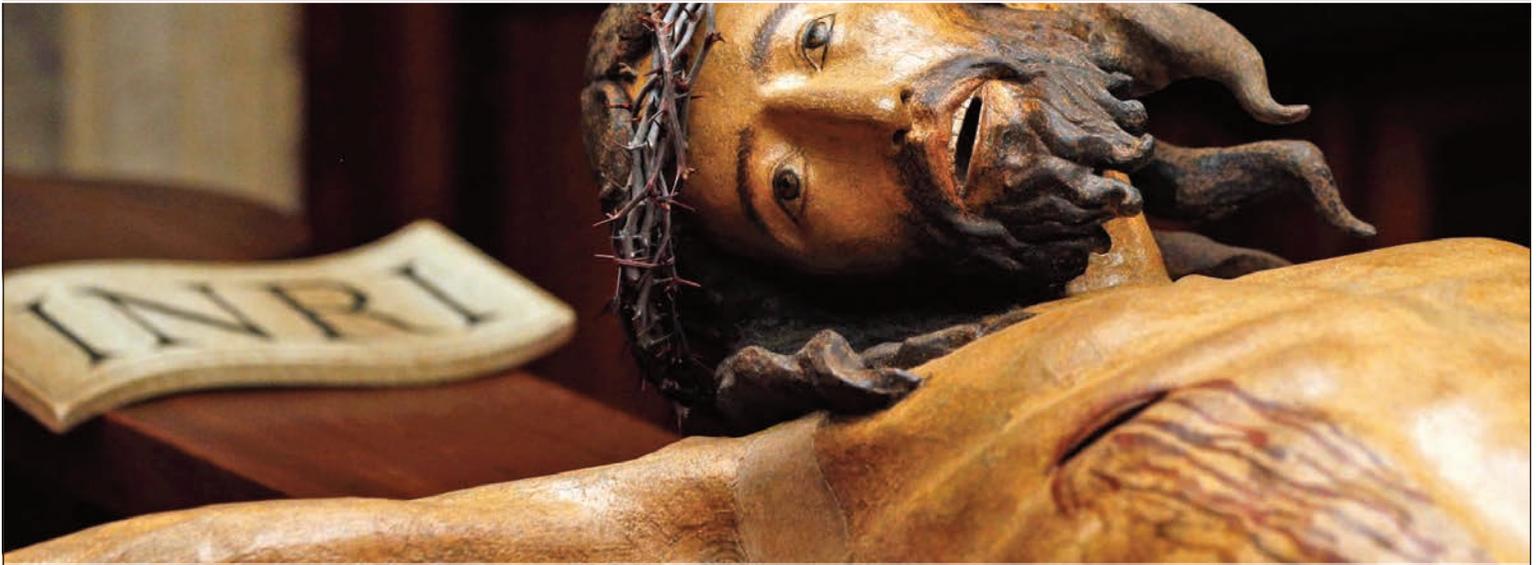


IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

KNIGHTLINE

NEWS FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

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Our Call to Calvary

Attendance at the Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death has been in decline in many parts of our country – but as a Knight, you can change this!

If we want to really “get” Easter, we need Good Friday. Our kids need it. Our neighbors need it. The world needs it. As Archbishop Fulton Sheen put it, “Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday.”

As we enter the Lenten season, every single Knight of Columbus should plan to attend his parish's liturgy on Good Friday, March 30. Knights who are married, bring your wives and kids of all ages, and welcome them to bring their friends along. Invite other families in your parish to do the same.

In our busy lives, it is all too easy to look away from the harsh reality that Christ suffered agonizing pain and died on the cross for us. However, our faith — and that of our families and parishes — is strengthened when we take the time to meditate on his Passion and Death. So this Good Friday, attend the liturgy with your family and transform your parish today!

See page 3 for more details.

Three Practices to Successfully Grow Your Parish and Council This Easter

Easter is a time when we welcome converts to their new home in the Church. They also have a home in the Order as well — and it's up to you to invite them in!

Don't wait until Easter to mention the Knights. Personally invite the RCIA candidates in your parish to attend and assist with your other Lenten programs. Familiarize catechumens with the K of C now and they will be excited when you invite them to join after Easter.

Offer to teach the rosary to catechumens. After you pray with the RCIA candidates, invite them to a meal served by your brother Knights and their families — there's nothing like a homemade meal to make a person feel loved and at home in their new parish community.

Host a party to celebrate new parishioners. Host a “Welcome to Family” celebration a week or two after Easter after your parish's most popular Mass. Not all parishioners are able to attend the Easter Vigil, and your celebration will allow everyone to meet and welcome the newest members of your parish family.

7 New Councils in 7 Years: How Recognizing Diversity Sparked Growth and Changed a Community

Communications Staff recently chatted with District Deputy George Sonnen from the St. Paul, Minn., area, where seven Spanish-speaking councils — and one assembly — have been established in just seven years.

Looking around at Minnesota's growing Hispanic population, George Sonnen saw potential. He knew, without a doubt, that they could be a dynamic, driving force in their parishes, communities and families.

Convinced that the Knight of Columbus would help them maximize this potential, Sonnen got down to business.

"Typical recruitment didn't work," he shared. But as an active member of Father Lucien Galtier Council 4184, Sonnen was aware of the life-changing benefits of being a member. He wouldn't give up.

"It took two years to get the [first] council started," he said. "I had to learn and learn." It was realizing that his Hispanic neighbors "have to have their own pride of ownership" that led to Sonnen's success.

Minnesota's Hispanic population is younger than the state's overall population, and that trend is reflected in the seven new Hispanic councils, which mostly have men between their late 20's to early 30's.

This is a huge asset to the Knights and parishes, explained Sonnen. "When they are younger, they have a heck of a lot more energy," he said. They help their pastors, with maintenance, yard repair and so much more. "Their goal is to first help their parish, their priest and, finally, their community."

Their projects may be different — taco dinners instead of pancake breakfasts, meatless enchiladas instead of fish fries — but like other Knights of Columbus councils, the Minnesota-area Hispanic councils are family orientated. Wives are heavily involved, coming to events and forming ladies' auxiliary groups. Kids come to events all the time, helping families — and the community — to grow closer.

As Enrique Centeno, a member of San Francisco de Sales Council 16198, shared, "For me, being part of the Hispanic *consejo* in Minnesota makes me proud, and it makes me feel united with the members like a brother. It also helps us grow together in our faith and serve our community and others."

Such community is vital for the Hispanic Knights — they see it as a way they can cooperate with God's will in their life. As Knight Norberto Solis said, "United like brothers, we will grow together in God's plan."

Most of the parishes welcoming these Hispanic councils already have English-speaking councils. But Sonnen explained that since the needs and interests of the Hispanic community are different, it's important that the Hispanic community has a council of its own. In fact, he shared, having two councils has been incredibly beneficial to most of these parishes: "It woke up the Anglo councils, and they have all become Star Councils."

As Minnesota's new council development chairman, Sonnen has a positive outlook on the future of the new councils, which boast a membership of 250 Knights.

"They are finding out the power they have. These guys are full of ideas, so good at what they do. It doesn't get any better."

Want to find out more about new council and Hispanic development? Contact the Fraternal Mission Department at 203-752-4270 or email fraternalmission@kofc.org.



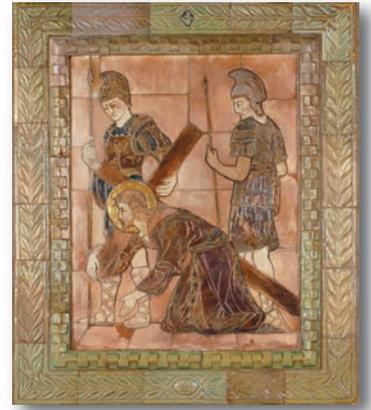
Five Tips on Starting Hispanic Councils

During his conversation with Knightline Staff, Sonnen shared a few helpful council development tips.

1. Be persistent: "Keep trying on. The need is there."
2. Focus on the similarities: "They are just like we are. They love their families. They love their faith."
3. Utilize help from the Fraternal Mission Department: "We've had all the support we need, from earphones [used to translate a degree ceremony] to Spanish displays."
4. Don't worry about the language barrier: "I only speak about 10 percent Spanish, but there's always a way to communicate."
5. Let them create their own plans: "They are learning leadership. They need to learn they have great ideas and we give them the opportunity to do this."

Four Ways Councils Can Promote Attendance at Good Friday Liturgy

1. Display the “*By Your Holy Cross*” poster (#10573) in the church vestibule and at other gathering spots around the parish. Be sure to get your pastor’s permission to do this. A copy of this poster was mailed to grand knights in the U.S. and Canada. If you haven’t yet received your poster, email supply@kofc.org.
2. Spread the word! Print out an 8.5x11 version of the poster, available at kofc.org/goodfriday. Then, insert it in your parish bulletin or hand it directly to parishioners.
3. Partner with the parish to help lead the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday before or after the Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion and Death. The prayers, meditations and hymns for the devotion can be found in *The Way of the Cross: Traditional and Modern Meditations* (#363), available online at kofc.org/cis. Copies can be ordered at knightsgear.com.
4. Share the booklets *Jesus Christ* (#105) and *Christ: Lord and Savior* (#358) with your council members and fellow parishioners. These booklets can be ordered by visiting kofc.org/cis, or they may be downloaded as PDFs at no cost. *Jesus Christ* (#105) is also available as an MP3 audio file.



“*Jesus Falls the First Time*,” displayed in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The image of the station is featured in the CIS booklet *The Way of the Cross* (#363).

“If you can stand the gaze of a crucifix long enough you will discover these truths.

First, if sin cost him, who is innocence, so much, then I who am guilty cannot take it lightly; second, there is only one thing worse in all the world than sin — and that is to forget I am a sinner.”

– Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Knights of Columbus Earns Honor for Five Years Running



Order among 135 companies recognized for ethical business practices.

We are proud to announce that the Knights of Columbus has been recognized by the Ethisphere® Institute as one of the 2018 World’s Most Ethical Companies®, winning this distinction for five consecutive years! For details, visit kofc.org/news.

Vital Steps to Keeping Membership Data Up-to-Date

The Supreme Council depends on local councils to report any and all changes to their membership data, because this helps us to monitor and foster growth.

- All membership-related transactions that require a *Membership Document* (#100) should be emailed to the Supreme Council. Send the details to membershiprecords@kofc.org. Once emailed, do not send it by mail.
- Confirm the form is legible and filled out completely. Double check to make sure it includes the new member’s signature, as well as that of the grand knight and financial secretary. Also verify that the member’s name, address and birth date are correct.
- Check that the transaction type (in the upper right-hand corner) is correct. Skipping this, or marking the incorrect box, causes delays and billing issues.
- Use Member Management and Officers Online to stay on top of membership data changes.

Ordering Print Items Just Got Easier

Beginning next month, all print requests will be handled through Officers Online.

Through this online self-service ordering tool, select officers can access the item catalog, see samples of materials being ordered, and search for items via keywords — all without the hassle and delay of paper forms.

To allow people to get used to the online ordering system, print orders via phone or fax will be accepted through the transition period. During this period, we encourage councils and assemblies to use the online portal for ordering. In the near future, customer service agents will be dedicated to helping Knights of Columbus officers become familiar with the system, answer questions and walk users through the ordering process.

Users have an option of placing orders via secure credit/debit card payments. For information on proper council and assembly credit/debit card use, see the “Officer Use of Debit and Credit Cards” section of Officers Desk Reference.

As April approaches, additional information will be made available to council officers regarding the new process and the contact information for the Knights of Columbus customer service representatives.

Adopt a Warrior to Lourdes

In just a few short months, more than 200 men and women of the United States Armed Forces will be making their way to Lourdes, France, as part of the 2018 Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage, which takes place May 15-22. These wounded or ill troops are seeking healing from the scars of war, and they need your help.



Caroline and I were so incredibly blessed to be given the opportunity to participate in the 2017 WTL pilgrimage. I cannot say enough about what it did for us, both as individuals and as a couple. ... The healing we have enjoyed, both during our trip to Lourdes and since returning, is something that I wish we could share with all of our fellow service members.

- Jonathan A., Warrior Pilgrim

Consider “adopting” a Warriors to Lourdes pilgrim by covering his or her travel expenses and praying for them during the days of this life-changing event. When you adopt a Warrior to Lourdes, you spiritually accompany him or her on every step of their pilgrimage with your prayers. It’s the most important gift you can give.

Adopting a warrior is simple. All it takes is a personal commitment to do what you can to financially support a warrior and to offer a prayer (such as the Prayer for the Wounded) for him or her daily. That’s it.

Travel expenses for one pilgrim total \$2,600. Give what you can — every dollar you donate makes a difference. Also, invite your parish and community to join your adoption campaign. Bring a donation bucket to your next council event and share copies of the prayer with everyone who donates.

Donate the collected funds at warriorstolourdes.com. Tweet about your donation using the hashtags #WarriorsToLourdes and #KofC.

Prayer for the Wounded

from the Knights of Columbus Military Prayer Book

**Father in heaven, grant our wounded brethren
comfort in their suffering.
Give them courage when afraid,
patience when afflicted, hope when dejected,
and when alone assure them
of the prayerful support of your holy people.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Grand Knight’s Checklist — March & April

- ✓ Participate in the Orderwide Church Recruitment Drive (March 10-11, or any available weekend), Orderwide Outreach Week (March 12-18), Council First Degree Week (March 19-25) and Founder’s Day (March 29).
- ✓ Don’t forget these dates:
 - April 1 — Submission date for the *Application for Refund Support Vocations Program* (#2863).
 - April 10 — Suspension date for councils failing to submit the Per Capita Tax, Catholic Advertising Fund and Culture of Life Fund assessments to the Supreme Council. *Remember, failure to pay prior to April 10 will result in suspension of the council.*
- ✓ Set up a recurring meeting with your pastor to ensure your council is supporting the mission of the parish.
- ✓ Confirm that your council and jurisdiction remain compliant with the Office of Youth Protection’s requirements for all activities.
- ✓ Schedule admissions degrees to take place in April, May and June.
- ✓ Assess your council’s progress on earning the Star Council Award.

We Want to Hear From You!

Has your council conducted a successful and unique program that you are especially proud of? Have you done a successful recruitment drive, or created your own recipe for growth? Are you in the process of implementing a new program that has your council fired up? Let us know! We are seeking

authentic and remarkable experiences that encapsulate the experience of being a Knight of Columbus.

Send us a brief description of your successful event/program and any relevant related materials, such as pictures or a news story, to membershipgrowth@kofc.org.

Lenten Fish Fries and Recruitment? That's Right.

Fish Fries serve as an excellent opportunity to invite parish families to learn more about the Knights of Columbus. Here's how you recruit during a Lenten Fish Fry.

- Ask the pastor to talk from the pulpit about the fish fry and all the charitable activities it supports.
- Wear K of C-branded shirts or aprons.
- Set up a table with membership materials, photos, family events, insurance information or anything that tells the story of what your council does. It can spark great conversation while families are waiting for their meal. Be sure that two or three Knights man the table at all times.
- Encourage Knights to start up conversations with prospects and their families. If they are interested, help prospects complete a *Membership Form* (#100) or a *Prospect Card* (#921A), and set up a time to further discuss membership.
- Order copies of *Columbia* and place a few on each table along with Knights of Columbus *Coloring Books* (#2016) and *crayons* (#AD 26). Children might color during the dinner or while recruitment teams are talking with the prospect and his wife.
- Place *Become a Knight Place Mats* (#1915) at every table setting.
- Schedule a First Degree event for March and April. Be sure it's scheduled prior to your fish fry so that candidates do not have to wait long to become a Knight.
- Invite your field agent to every fish fry event and make him part of your recruitment team.



Your Family “Can” Make a Difference!



Don't forget to invite your family — and all the families of your parish — to participate in the 40 Cans for Lent initiative. Councils should have already set up a collection box in the church or parish hall, so all your family needs to do is drop off one can of food for each of the 40 days of Lent. Engage your kids by bringing them to store and having them pick out canned items for donation. Or, have them go through your family's pantry and choose which items they'd like to share with families whose cupboards aren't quite as full. Once Lent ends, families can help councils to collect and deliver the cans to a parish food pantry or community food bank.

Be sure to keep track of how much you collect: Donating 1,000 pounds of food could earn your council a refund. For details, visit kofc.org/community or call 203-752-4270.

Outstanding Families Should Be Honored

Without your council's help, the Supreme Council would never hear the stories of amazing Catholic families who are transforming themselves, their parishes and the world. Help us discover — and honor — Catholic families who are making an outstanding difference in their communities by submitting a Family of the Year entry to your state council using the *Family of the Year Awards Entry Form* (#1993), which can be found at kofc.org/forms. Be sure to submit your entries in time to meet your jurisdiction's deadlines, which generally occur prior to April 1.

A Great Way to Mark World Day of Vocations

April 22 — the 55th World Day of Prayer for Vocations — is the perfect time for your council to support young persons as they discern their vocations, not just to the priesthood or the religious life, but to marriage and Christian family life as well. Talk to your pastor and chaplain about organizing a vocations awareness event or a Refund Support Vocations Program fundraiser. Your council could also volunteer to lead the Prayer for the Canonization of Michael McGivney before each council meeting and every Mass at the parish; as a priest and an apostle of Christian family life, Venerable Father McGivney might be a great intercessor for your parish and family. *Prayer cards* (#10502-A) can be ordered from knightsgear.com, while videos and materials on promoting vocations are available at kofc.org/vocations.

Don't Forget: April 9 Is a Day of Prayer for Unborn

The Day of the Unborn Child is Monday, April 9. It's a great opportunity to encourage both prayer and practical action, such as a Baby Bottle Boomerang to support the Ultrasound Initiative. See below for details.

Join Your Family This Founder's Day to Be a Witness

In preparation for this Founder's Day, March 29, we invited all Knights and the families to organize a Lenten charity event. Do you have a great project in the works? Let us know the details by emailing knightline@kofc.org. Need a last-minute idea? Check out the "Founder's Day — An Opportunity to Witness" column, featured in the December 2017 issue of *Knightline*. The issue is available online at kofc.org/knightline.

Join the Campaign for Life in Canada

The National March for Life in Canada will be held in Ottawa on May 10, 2018. A candlelight prayer vigil will be held the evening before. Masses, rallies, conferences and other events will also be held in Ottawa during this campaign.

All You Need to Succeed!

Looking for some guidance in performing your officer duties? Look no further than the "For Members" pages of kofc.org. There, under the "Resources" tab, you can find digital versions of officers' handbooks, forms, videos, resources on planning council meetings and so much more. Check it out today!

Build Up the Domestic Church

Consider implementing a program offering childcare during a time when parents have an opportunity to go to confession. If interested, talk to your pastor and be sure to review all safe environment requirements for K of C children's activities.

Misplaced an Old Issue?

Did you know it only takes a moment to access the *Knightline* archive at kofc.org/newsletters? There, you can also access other publications helpful to council planning. Also, to stay updated with current events and initiatives, be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Save Lives, Fund an Ultrasound With a Baby Bottle Boomerang

A baby bottle boomerang is a quick and simple way to earn funds for an ultrasound machine, which can save up to four babies each week. Our goal is to have 1,000 machines in place by 2019, the tenth anniversary of the K of C Ultrasound Initiative.

Check out the below tips and help us meet this goal!

What is a baby bottle boomerang? The Baby Bottle Boomerang is another name for the Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Campaign. Empty baby bottles are distributed to individuals or families who then fill them with loose change, checks or paper money. The bottles are returned to your council after a set period of time.

How do I get my council involved? First, obtain your pastor's permission. If possible, talk to him in person (not via phone or email) about the request. You should ask for at least two weekends: the first to hand out bottles and the second to collect them.

What's next for my guys? Recruit a Knight to chair the project, and as a group, determine the number of baby bottles you will need to cover all weekend Mass attendees. Assign various Knights to hand out the bottles on the day of event. Start advertising the program in the parish bulletin and through posters placed around the parish at least one week prior to the event.

How do I get the baby bottles, and what should I do with them? Many pregnancy care centers already have a supply of baby bottles that they will lend to you for your campaign. If not, ask council members to donate clean used baby bottles. If you need more, visit your local discount store. Once you have the bottles, label them with your council's name, the return date and the Order's emblem.

What should I do on the day of the drive itself? Announce the program from the pulpit and have your Knights hand out the bottles at each exit of the church. If possible, ask brother Knights to bring their kids and grandkids along. Even the youngest toddler should be a welcome volunteer; there's no better way to witness to your council's support of life.

How do we get the bottles back? On the day of the return, set up a collection box when people can drop off their full bottles. Make sure a Knight stays with the box and thanks everyone for their donation. If anyone forgets to bring in the bottle, he can ask them to drop it at the parish office at their convenience. Be sure to make arrangements with the pastor for this.

What should we do with all the full bottles? Collect the donations and deposit them in your council's account to set aside for the purchase of an ultrasound machine. Next, clean and return the bottles to the pregnancy care center or set them aside for a future campaign. Finally, visit kofc.org/ultrasound to read the Ultrasound Initiative guidelines and find out more about the purchase process.



*Thank you to the North Carolina state council for this suggested program.
For more information, visit the Culture of Life section of kofc.org/service.*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

Protect What Matters Most — Your Family

Since its inception, the Knights of Columbus has been a family-first organization.

Father McGivney strove to create an organization where Catholic men could come together to protect and support the families in their communities who needed it the most — including their own.

Today, the mission is the same. The Knights of Columbus has more than \$109 billion of life insurance in force, covering the lives of hundreds of thousands of our members and their families.

Knights across North America continue to trust the Order to protect them and see to it that their loved ones are well taken care of once they're gone. Are you one of those members?

Life insurance can help you protect your loved ones in all stages of your life. And understanding how life insurance can help you protect your family while achieving your financial goals is easier than you might think.

As brother Knights, we have the honor of being part of an organization that carries out its founding mission even hundreds of years later. Your Knights of Columbus dedicated field agent is here to help you achieve this same mission — now and for years to come. His job — his mission — is to help you determine the most cost-effective means of providing your family with the coverage they need. It's a proven fraternal system that has helped countless families.

Your dedicated field agent is available to provide a complimentary, comprehensive analysis to assess your family's situation. He will determine any financial shortfalls. He will also provide a solution that fits your family's budget through top-quality products: lines of life insurance, disability income insurance, long-term care insurance and retirement annuities.

We are an organization guided by ethical and moral values that has consistently earned the highest ratings of financial strength.

Our charge remains the same as it did in 1882: To protect and provide for those in need. As your first commitment is to your family, our first commitment is to you.

Contact your local agent today and learn more about the coverage available to you through your membership with the Knights of Columbus. To find your local agent, visit kofc.org/findagent.

Electronic Insurance Application a Reality!

Thanks to the exceptional efforts of the Supreme Council eApp Team, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson's 2016 challenge to bring electronic insurance applications to our field force has become a reality. The newly developed eApp is now available in all states and provinces where Knights of Columbus Insurance is offered — and it has paved the way to a faster, smoother insurance process for our clients! Talk to your council's agent today for more details on K of C Insurance. Or, visit kofc.org/insurance.

Best Practices for Your Council: Efficient Day-to-Day Operations Ensure Success

Knights of Columbus leaders face many responsibilities. Here are some tips to quickly address the council's day-to-day operations and the needs of members.

Consider the Needs of Your Parish and Community — What impact will the council's activities have on the community? How can you draw family members together to aid their community? Look at the answers to these questions in context of your members' interests.

Take a Broader Perspective — When choosing activities, consider the long-term effect they might have. Are the council's goals and priorities in line with the Order's? Do they get young people involved so that they grow in faith and have potential as future Knights?

Look at Your Members' Interests — Survey council members on the types of service activities their families are interested in and then plan accordingly.

Remember: Each Small Deed Is a Big Step — Don't let projects or new ideas overwhelm you. Work with your council to make simple plans that can be easily implemented and involve family members of all ages, including Knights' wives and daughters. These manageable achievements can pave the way for greater success.

KNIGHTLINE

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Darin Reed
Knights of Columbus Field Agent
Ellis, Kansas

‘WORKING FOR THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALLOWED ME TO CONTINUE MY VOCATION OF SERVICE.’

WHEN MY FATHER passed away in 2004, I lost not only my friend but also my guide. I had just graduated from college and was newly married. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. Shortly after, I met my general agent, George Spinelli, and things just clicked. I knew I was meant to be a field agent. My time in the Marine Corps had taught me to take care of those around me, and working for the Knights of Columbus allowed me to continue my vocation of service.

My father's memory stays with me and impacts my work. Whenever I meet with a widow of a brother Knight, I see my mother. And whenever I meet with someone who has lost a parent, I see myself, and I am better equipped to help, because I have experienced that same loss.

That is what our job boils down to: taking care of those who have lost loved ones.

I often tell people that I went from one fraternity in the Marine Corps to another in the Knights of Columbus. Though very different, they both teach us to take care of your fellow man, and it's an incredible honor for me to be a part of both.

Find an agent at kofc.org or call 1-800-345-5632.



LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

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