



IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

# KNIGHTLINE

NEWS FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326, USA • SEPTEMBER 2017 • VOLUME 34 • NUMBER 9 • [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)



## K of C Convictions Inspire New Charity

*Father Thabet Habib stands in front of what remains of the once thriving Christian village Karamles.*

### *In annual report, supreme knight announces initiative to rebuild Iraqi town*

In his annual address delivered at the 135th Supreme Convention in St. Louis Aug. 1, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced two new initiatives that will assist persecuted Christians in Iraq.

These initiatives are tied to the convention's theme, "Convinced of God's Love and Power," which the supreme knight officially announced at the opening of his report. Convinced that God's power can help people overcome even the most tragic situations, the Order is moving forward with increasingly intense efforts to help Christians and other minorities who have suffered genocide in the Middle East.

"Christians who endure suffering and death for their faith in places like Iraq, Syria and Egypt show us how to confront terrible evil with the weapons of love and truth. They are a brilliant witness to God's love and power," Supreme Knight Anderson said during his announcement.

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### Texas Hurricane Victims Need Your Help

Many people in the Gulf Coast of Texas region are reeling from the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey. Thousands have evacuated their homes, many of which have been damaged or destroyed. The recovery process is going to be a long and painful one.

Please visit [kofc.org/disaster](http://kofc.org/disaster) to help those suffering such devastation. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go directly to relief efforts. This includes meeting immediate needs such as food, clean water, shelter and other necessities.

God bless you for your support.



# Supreme Knight Outlines Recruitment Priorities

Addressing hundreds of convention delegates at the Membership Seminar July 31, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson called recruitment “Job Number One.”

First and foremost, Knights should seek Catholic men who are looking to serve others. Younger prospects, in particular, should be appealed to, as their enthusiasm and energy can be a great motivator for continued charitable work and evangelization. Because of this, be sure to develop programs that will attract these men and keep them both interested and involved.

As Knights attract new members, they will help the Order become “the vanguard of Catholic men who will strengthen and serve our Catholic Church.”

“We can be engines for renewal in our parish, as the pope asks,” Supreme Knight Anderson said.

Deputy Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly also shared methods of reaching out to Catholic men. He said recent surveys show that young Catholic men look to the Knights of Columbus to help them grow in their faith; become better husbands and fathers; and engage in family-centered programs. Council programs and activities must respond to these needs rather than draw men away from their family obligations, he pointed out.

Just as Father Michael McGivney developed innovative ways to reach the Catholic men of his day, so Knights today must creatively address the needs of men today, he added.



## BY THE NUMBERS

1,941,728 members

\$105+ billion of life insurance in force

\$8.54 billion in new life insurance

\$177+ million in donations

75+ million hours of volunteer service

45 years of membership growth

16 years of insurance sales growth

## Why We Focus on These Numbers

In the weeks following the convention, we’ve all heard the staggering numbers of our successes in membership growth, and we see the continual emphasis on gaining even more members in this fraternal year. Yet, some might ask, why this type of focus? Are we limiting membership to a simple figure, thereby diminishing the personal worth of each of our members?

Our purpose is precisely the opposite. We focus on numbers because each and every number represents one Knight who is making a positive impact on his community. As each Knight ministers to the community, to the peripheries, that in turn will impact the entire world. As we grow our numbers, we increase our ability to live out our principle of fraternity and become the men we are called to be as Catholic Knights, living out Christian charity and defending the truth and beauty of the Church.

So join us in celebrating our numbers. Help us increase that number and grow our impact.

*Rebuild*, from Page 1

First, on Nov. 26, the Knights of Columbus and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will sponsor a day of prayer for persecuted Christians. This day will then kick off a special week of awareness and education.

Second, the Order will begin a \$2 million initiative to save Karamles, a Christian town located on Iraq’s Nineveh Plain. Until recently, Karamles was under the control of ISIS terrorists, who not only looted and destroyed homes but also desecrated churches and graves, leaving the town essentially destroyed. Yet, despite the destruction, Christian families want to return to their homes and rebuild their town.

Explaining the initiative, Supreme Knight Anderson said, “Now we will ensure that hundreds of Christian families driven from their homes will return. We will give them and many others hope for the future.”

To meet the \$2 million goal, the Supreme Council is asking individuals, councils, parishes and others to each prayerfully consider donating \$2,000, which is the approximate cost of relocating one family.

For more information on this initiative, or to make a donation, visit [christiansatrisk.org](http://christiansatrisk.org).

*“This year, let us be in even greater ways who we are called to be as brother Knights. Let us strive to be that radiant and attractive witness of fraternal communion that our Church and our world so desperately need. Let us strive to be authentic witnesses of how to care for one another, and how to encourage and accompany one another. We can and we will do these things as the spiritual sons of Father McGivney. We can and we will do these things because we are convinced of God’s love and power.”*

– Supreme Knight Carl Anderson

## Three Steps for a Successful Drive

It makes sense to look for new members in the place you're most likely to find them: your parish. Do this by holding a Church Recruitment Drive. Hold a successful drive by following these three steps.



### 1. Prepare

- Ask your pastor's permission to hold a "Church Recruitment Drive Weekend" at the parish.
- Contact your council's field agent to get his assistance.
- Advertise the drive in the parish bulletin, making it clear that Knights will be available to talk to interested men and their families after all Masses on the given weekend.
- Order your Church Recruitment Drive materials by submitting the form found at [kofc.org/churchdrive](http://kofc.org/churchdrive).
- Organize your members into teams. Make sure that at least one team is committed to covering each Mass.
- Plan a First Degree Ceremonial within one week of the recruitment drive. If needed, use the *First Degree Video Production* available via Officers Online.

### 2. Implement

- Arrange for a membership recruitment announcement to be made before or after Mass.
- Have members wear K of C-branded apparel and greet parishioners in an appropriate area of the church. They should be prepared to answer questions about the Order and invite eligible men to complete a *Membership Document* (#100) or *Prospect Card* (#921A).

### 3. Follow-up

- Within 48 hours of the drive, contact every prospect who expressed interest in joining, including those who completed a *Membership Document* (#100).
- Inform them of the date, time and location of your next open house and First Degree ceremonial. Also, be sure to extend the open house invitation to each prospect's family.

## What Your Council Needs for a Church Drive

You will need the right tools to make your Church Recruitment Drive a success. Here is a quick guide to what every council should have for their recruitment drive:

*Membership Documents* (#100) — This form is what it is all about: getting prospects to share the joy and honor of being a Knight of Columbus.

*Prospect Cards* (#921A) — Use these 3-by-5-inch cards to collect contact information for prospects who are interested in learning more about the Order.

*Membership Recruitment and Retention Manual* (#10237) — Not sure where to begin? Consult this manual for suggestions and tips on how to reach out to the members of your parish. Included are customizable announcements, suggested activities and more.

*Going to the Periphery* (#10521) — This new item offers descriptions of the major charitable activities undertaken by the Knights of Columbus. It also includes full-color photos of Knights in action and the people we help. It's a great way to show a potential member what Knights do every day to make the world a better place.

*Knights of Columbus: Protecting Families for Generations* (#10395) — Keep this booklet on hand to give potential members an overview of our charity, membership, benefits, domestic church program and more.

*24 Hours Can Change Your Life* (#10099) — You may find that many prospects are concerned about time commitments, but using this flyer, you can outline how a man can make a difference in his community, parish and family simply by giving 24 hours a year to the Knights of Columbus.

*Why You Should Become a Knight* (#10100) — Service. Support. Stability. These are some of the reasons behind why a man should become a Knight, and with this flyer, you'll be able to present the highlights of what we have to offer.

Knights of Columbus  
Protecting Families  
for Generations



## Heroic Missionary Receives Gaudium et Spes Award

The Gaudium et Spes Award — the highest honor of the Knights of Columbus — was bestowed on Father Gerard E. Hammond, a Maryknoll priest who has engaged in the heroic mission of ministering to the people of North Korea for the past two decades. He received the award from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson at the annual States Dinner of the 135th Supreme Convention Aug. 1.

Father Hammond, who is 83 years old, serves as the Maryknoll's regional superior of Korea. Stationed in South Korea, he's been given an opportunity rarely granted to a Catholic priest: permission to cross the North Korean border. He has crossed the border more than 50 times since 1995, bringing food and medicine to those with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and providing other humanitarian assistance.

He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1960, the year of his priestly ordination, and has served as chaplain of Bishop John J. Kaising Council 14223 and faithful friar of Bishop Joseph W. Estabrook Assembly, both located on the U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan in Seoul.

In his acceptance speech, Father Hammond gave a blessing in Korean and spoke of his love for the people of North Korea, who very rarely get to interact with Catholic priests. At the conclusion of his talk, he was joined by Knights from South Korea in offering a profound bow as a sign of deep love and gratitude toward the Order and those in attendance.



## Three New Board Members Elected

In the Business Session Aug. 2, three new members were elected to the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors, and six board members were re-elected.

North Carolina Past State Deputy Colin Jorsch Jr. and New York Past State Deputy Carmine Musumeci were both elected to a three-year term, beginning Sept. 1. New Mexico State Deputy Patrick Mason was elected to complete the unexpired term of retired former Deputy Supreme Knight Logan Ludwig. With his term starting immediately, Mason, at age 36, is the youngest member of the board.

Re-elected to another three years on the board were Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, Supreme Advocate John A. Marrella, Missouri Past State Deputy Michael Gilliam, Idaho Past State Deputy Brian Simer, Virginia Past State Deputy Tommy Harger and Manitoba Past State Deputy Larry Kustra. Retiring from the board at the completion of their terms were Thomas Wegener of Michigan and Arthur Harris of New York.

## Double Your Charitable Impact With 2-on-1 Recruiting

Bringing twice the energy, enthusiasm, knowledge and persistence to any endeavor doubles the likelihood of success. That's why 2-on-1 recruiting is the way to go.

1. Organize two-man recruitment teams.
2. Train the recruiting teams by showing them recruitment productions; giving them copies of the *Pocket Flip Chart* (#2041) and *Membership Document* (#100); and having them speak to your insurance agent.
3. Divide the prospect list among the teams. Prospects and their wives should be invited to discuss the Knights of Columbus in a casual setting, such as over a cup of coffee.
4. When meeting with prospects, review materials such as the *Protecting Families for Generations flyer* (#10395), the *Going to the Periphery flyer* (#10521), the *Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit flyer* (#2773), *Columbia* and council newsletters.
5. Ask the prospect to join and help him complete a *Membership Document* (#100).
6. Ensure prompt initiation by informing candidates of the dates for the Admission Committee interview and First Degree exemplification.



Remember that proposers of new members should accompany their prospects to the Admission Committee interview, First Degree exemplification and council meetings. It's also important that they introduce the prospect and his family to council members; see that the prospect is assigned to committees/programs of interest; encourage the prospect to complete Second and Third degrees; and accompany him to the exemplifications.

## Campaign to Save 1 Million Children

The Knights of Columbus launched its Ultrasound Initiative on Jan. 22, 2009. Now, eight years later, the supreme knight has announced the “Knights of Columbus Campaign to Save 1 Million Children.” This new campaign aims to reach the goal of 1,000 machines as quickly as possible so that by 2019 — the 10th anniversary of the initiative — we will have saved an estimated total of 1 million babies. By doing so, we’re not just saving these young lives but transforming families and affecting countless generations to come.

For information on how your council can work toward this goal, visit [kofc.org/ultrasound](http://kofc.org/ultrasound). Questions may be directed to William O’Brien at 203-752-4403 or [william.obrien@kofc.org](mailto:william.obrien@kofc.org).

## Don’t Forget to Submit!

The *Report of Round Table Coordinator* (#2629) is due. If you have not yet submitted this form, complete it immediately and send it to the Fraternal Mission Department. This form may be accessed at [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms).

## College Councils Conference to Take Place Sept. 29-Oct. 1.

The annual College Councils Conference will take place Sept. 29-Oct. 1 in New Haven, Conn. Every college council should plan to send their grand knight, chaplain and financial secretary — and an additional council officer — to this week-long event. Register online at [kofc.org/collegeconference](http://kofc.org/collegeconference). Questions regarding the conference should be directed to the College Councils Department at [college@kofc.org](mailto:college@kofc.org) or 203-752-4671.

## Heading to School? Don’t Forget the Coats!

As the calendar turns and kids head back to school, you should begin placing your Coats for Kids orders. By acting now, you’ll be sure to have coats available when the weather turns cold. For information on shipping and costs, visit [kofc.org/coats](http://kofc.org/coats) or [knightsgear.com](http://knightsgear.com).

## Sustaining Our Jurisdictions

In his address to the annual Canadian Association Meeting of the 135th Supreme Convention, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson asked the assembled Knights to focus their attention in the coming year on membership recruitment.

“There is no organization in Canada better than the Knights of Columbus to show value and compassion that Christianity brings to society,” he said.

The supreme knight added that the Knights need to live and focus on who they say they are as Catholics and Knights — a joyful community with the mission to care for, help and accompany each other. That is an organization, he said, that men will want to join.

Earlier in the meeting, Bishop Noël Simard of Valleyfield, Québec, thanked the Knights for their work in building the kingdom of God in Canada. “We need to [continue to] reach out to the peripheries, to troubled families, to immigrants, to persecuted Christians. We need to be close to these areas,” he said.

He pointed out that the Knights also need to dedicate themselves to promoting a culture of life; to guaranteeing freedom of conscience and religion; to strengthening parishes by building the domestic church; and to helping evangelize younger generations.

Basilian Father Thomas Rosica, chief executive officer of Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation, thanked the Supreme Council and local Knights for their involvement with making Salt and Light a success. He added that Salt and Light recently completed a studio named for Father Michael McGivney in the network’s new Toronto headquarters.



*State Deputy Romeo Quevedo of California and fellow state deputies attend a business session at the 135th annual Supreme Convention.*

## You Can Be a St. Francis to Your Community

*“Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received — only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.” — St. Francis*

The Supreme Council invites you to embrace the spirit of Franciscan service during K of C Charitable Service Week, Sept. 30-Oct. 8. This week marks the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of our Holy Father. Your council can participate in many ways, depending on the needs of your community. Host a food drive or prepare a meal at a soup kitchen; distribute warm winter coats to children before the cold weather arrives; or take part in a Habitat for Humanity build. Be sure to invite prospective members and inactive Knights to join you in the planning stages and service projects, showing them that their talents, energy and ideas are valuable to your council.

After the week is complete, share the details with *Columbia* magazine. Visit [kofc.org/knightsinaction](http://kofc.org/knightsinaction) for more information.

# BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

## *While Strengthening Our Parish*



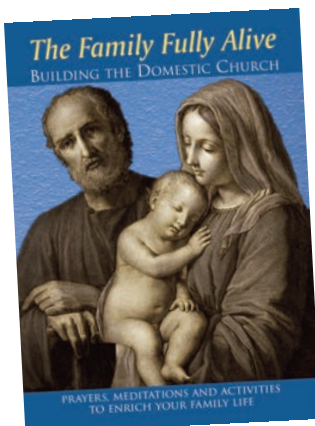
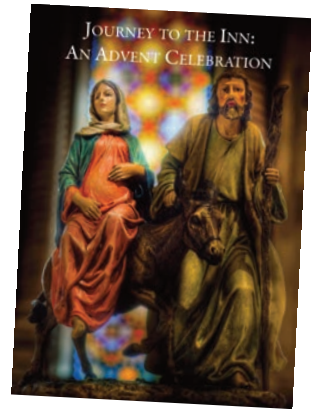
“The family as domestic church is central to the work of the new evangelization and to the future sustainability of our parishes.” ~ Supreme Knight Carl Anderson

## Meeting With Your Pastor — Grand Knight’s Preparation

By sponsoring events such as a family rosary program, the Family Week Celebration, a *Journey to the Inn — An Advent Celebration* (#9898) or a Simple Suppers & Stations during Lent, councils will help parish families become the domestic churches that Pope Francis has called us to be. In order to effectively conduct these and similar programs within the existing parish framework (and to complete the Year Two Plan featured in the July 2017 *Knightline* and at [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch)), it is essential to collaborate with your pastor.

To best accomplish this, follow these steps:

1. Schedule a meeting with your council officers and program personnel to decide which Domestic Church programs the council is able to sponsor.
2. Meet with your pastor to discuss the programs your council would like to sponsor. If your pastor is not your council chaplain, be sure to invite your chaplain to join you at the meeting (or, schedule a separate meeting for the two of them). During this time, explain how your programs will enhance your council’s relationship with your parish.
3. Prepare for the initial meeting by reviewing the following items:
  - a. The supreme knight’s introduction of the initiative, found at [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch).
  - b. The December 2015 and January 2016 supreme knight’s columns in *Columbia* magazine.
  - c. The short video *Inside the Domestic Church*, found at [fathersforgood.org](http://fathersforgood.org) under the Video tab. This humorous video will help dispel some of the common misconceptions regarding what we mean when we refer to the domestic church.



4. Meet with your council to discuss the domestic church activities offered at [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch). If your council wishes, you may develop original programs better suited to your members, their families and other parishioners. Whatever you decide, these programs should be considered part of the Domestic Church initiative and bring your council into closer unity with your parish.
5. Prepare materials to bring to the meeting with your pastor:
  - a. A copy of the *Building the Domestic Church: Family Fully Alive* (#10162).
  - b. A plan that is flexible and open to new ideas and suggestions from your pastor.

*Note: Some pastors may initially be resistant because what you are proposing is inconsistent with their image of a Knights of Columbus council. If this happens, or if there are other parish groups already taking the lead on similar programs, the council should volunteer to play a supporting role.*
6. Schedule regular conversations with your pastor and council leadership to assess current initiatives and discuss new approaches to existing programs.

## Your Council Action Plan

All councils are required to implement Domestic Church activities into their annual action plan. To do this, work with your pastor in organizing those best suited to your parish and her families. There are four categories of Domestic Church activities for councils to choose from, including Member Activities, Family Activities, Parish Activities and Community Activities. Any council that organizes at least two Domestic Church activities from each of the four categories will receive a commemorative Holy Family icon.\* For a checklist of Domestic Church activities and further details, please see the July 2017 issue of *Knightline*, available at [kofc.org/knightline](http://kofc.org/knightline).

\* Icon only available to councils in Canada and the United States.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

### Don't Leave Your Family's Future to Chance

September is designated as Life Insurance Awareness Month. It's a great opportunity for you to evaluate your life insurance coverage and make sure your family's future will not be left to chance.

Since life insurance guards against one of life's only certainties, it's a product that nearly everyone needs. The question is not "Do I need life insurance?" but rather "Who should I get it from?"

#### Who Should I Get It From?

Every life insurance company sells life insurance. There are hundreds of them in North America. But there's only one life insurance company that belongs to you.

From the beginning, the Knights of Columbus has been determined to offer insurance by brother Knights for brother Knights and to uphold the Catholic commitment that has animated our Order since Father McGivney's time.

Today, with more than \$105 billion in force, our insurance program protects hundreds of thousands of families. In 2016, the Order paid more than \$900 million in total benefits (death claims, maturities and annuities) and dividends to policyholders.

Being *your* insurance company also means that we are ethical, responsible, Catholic and charitable — just as you would expect.

We refuse to invest in companies who deal in lines of business that run contrary to Church teaching. We also use proceeds from our insurance business to donate to Catholic causes and charitable initiatives around the world. Our insurance business and local councils are the two primary sources of the more than \$1.6 billion we've donated to charity in the past decade.

The insurance program has earned numerous accolades, including the highest possible rating for financial strength (currently A++, Superior) from rating agency A.M. Best for 41 consecutive years. We have also received a "World's Most Ethical Company" designation by the Ethisphere® Institute in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Our strength cannot be beaten. Our ethical pedigree cannot be questioned. And our Catholic commitment is never compromised. Not every life insurance company can say that.

#### How Much Do I Need?

As a Knight, you have a full-time professional brother Knight field agent to call your own. His job — his mission — is to help you determine the most cost-effective means of getting your family the coverage it needs. It's a proven fraternal system that has helped countless families when they need it most.

So, as we observe Life Insurance Awareness Month, don't leave your family's future to chance charity. Protect your family with the safety and guarantees of life insurance from the Knights of Columbus.

To find your agent, visit [kofc.org/findagent](http://kofc.org/findagent) or call 1-800-345-5632.

<sup>1</sup> <http://kofc.org/en/news/insurance/kofc-2017-most-ethical-company.html>

## Grand Knight's Checklist – September & October

- ✓ Confirm that the *Circle Officers and Chairmen Report* (#468) and *Report of Round Table Coordinator* (#2629), both due Sept. 1, were submitted.
- ✓ Continue planning your council's participation in Coats for Kids drives, Food for Families initiatives and the International World Day of Prayer for Peace (Sept. 11).
- ✓ Begin collecting data for the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728).
- ✓ Lead your council in earning the Star Council Award.
- ✓ Confirm that your council's July assessments have been paid.  
*Failure to pay the assessments prior to Oct. 10 will result in suspension of the council. A suspended council may neither be seated at their state convention nor be delegates to the Supreme Convention. Note: The incentive credit for Star Councils is listed on your Sept. 1 statement. Please refer to this statement to determine the amount due or credited.*



Larry and Beth Odom and their children were named this year's International Family of the Year during the Awards Session of the 135th Supreme Convention in St. Louis Aug. 2.

# KNIGHTLINE

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PUBLISHED 12 TIMES A YEAR BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPREME COUNCIL + 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326  
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