

Father Maher's Knightly News

FR. PETER PAUL MAHER COUNCIL 6793 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chartered April 21, 1976 ♦ District 30 ♦ Member of McNamara Chapter
Charter Council of the Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861
P.O. Box 570 Olney, MD 20830 ♦ www.kofc6793.org



October 2024 ♦ VOLUME XLV ♦ ISSUE 4

Motto: "Mary, fill our Hearts with Charity and Love."

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

**Chaplain - Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor
Our Lady of Grace Church**

Assoc. Chaplain Reverend Linus Nviiri, CSC

**State Chaplain's Message
Fr Donald Grzymiski OFM Conv**

I was struck by a line in the June issue of Columbia magazine. The article was referencing a group of early Christian martyrs, arrested and sentenced to death after attending the Sunday Eucharist in 304 AD. The explanation one gave for his readiness to accept his fate: "Without Sunday, we cannot live."

This got me reflecting on Sunday, the Christian Sabbath, the weekly celebration of the Lord's resurrection. Without getting too nostalgic for dressed up and crowded churches of some decades ago, it also made me think of things like Sunday dinner, the Sunday drive, and the Sunday visits with family and friends. The slower pace was helped by the fact that very few stores were open, and sporting events wouldn't begin before noon. It seems it made it easier to have a day of rest (though maybe less so for all the mothers who made those Sunday dinners), and to have a time to "be," be with family, be in some quiet reflection, be without guilt for not working.

While I seriously doubt our society, even our Christian society, will fully revert to those Sunday customs of old, as individuals we can make some conscious choices. We can make sure that Sunday Mass is a priority. We can let many bits of work wait until Monday—including emails and texts. We can plan to do something which will be relaxing and renewing. We can do this to honor and celebrate the gift of new life that Jesus has given to us. (Please know, I'm not being critical of all those who now must work on Sunday, and I hope they can also get the break they need for renewal.)

Many years ago when I was taking some graduate courses in a summer session, those of us living at the house of studies decided that despite the tight schedule, we would do no school work on Sunday. After Mass and breakfast we would find some site to visit, or somewhere to go, perhaps for a swim or a picnic. It really cleared our minds, refreshed us physically, and made it easier to work the other days. Our bodies, our minds, our spirits need a break and that seems to be why God "gave" us the Sabbath.

I know I am sometimes guilty of "catching" up on

Sunday, and, for example, doing errands on my way home from celebrating Sunday Mass. So I am writing these words to myself as well. What is motivating me is that, along with all the efforts at Eucharistic renewal in our country, maybe we can also contribute to it by re-capturing a fuller appreciation of Sunday, our day of rest.

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Eugene Kane



Welcome to the Month of October and the commencement of our 4th month of the new Fraternal Year 2024 2025. Excited as we enjoy the beginning of Fall. Our full complement of Officers and Directors has commenced the exciting faith based year of FIA programs.

Fantastic people are in the key leadership positions to ensure we have a fantastic & successful year

Review the Directorships and the Programs planned (extensive details regarding program on the website). In implementing the various programs, we will focus upon keeping the members and parishes current of the details and any updates via Council website, Council Newsletter, Council Emails, Flocknotes, and Parish Bulletins.

We have four Directorships and various programs within each Directorship. I would like to review these Directorships and Programs with you and encourage each member to find a program that really interests them and get involved.

FAITH DIRECTORSHIP (Worthy FS Don Hemke / Worthy Andrew Colliton)

1. Seminarian RSVP Program (Refund Seminarian Vocations Program)
2. "Into The Breach" Video Program – January 2025 (more specifics TBD). We are looking into the COR program and will be hosting a State Representative on October 9, 2024 to explain the program and assist the Council in discernment to incorporate the program.
3. Council Widow's Memorial Mass/Luncheon – 11/13/2024 10:30 am St Peter's Chapel
4. Rosary Prayer Sessions - both Live and Virtual

- 5. St Joseph Icon - St Joseph Mass/Reflection Icon (as Available) – 5/1/2025 (specifics tbd)
- 6. Parish Eucharistic Pilgrimages – 10/20/2024 St Patrick’s 2 pm (See Parish Bulletin)

FAMILY DIRECTORSHIP (Worthy Walt McKee)

- 1. Christmas with St Nicholas – 12/7/2024 (See St Peter’s Bulletin)
- 2. Family of the Month
- 3. Council Family Picnic- June 2025 (specifics tbd)
- 4. Council Christmas Party – 12/15/2024 (specifics tbd)
- 5. Holy Week Celebration
- 6. Keep Christ in Christmas
- 7. Consecration to the Holy Family
- 8. Sporting Event

LIFE DIRECTORSHIP (Worthy GK Gene Kane/Worthy Peter Wallace)

- 1. Shady Gove Pregnancy Center – Dinner 10/25/2024 6:00pm (Bethesda Marriott North Center)
- 2. Novena for Life
- 3. Silver Rose Icon & Program – 11/22/2024 OLOG
- 4. Marches for Life
- 5. Gabriel Project

COMMUNITY DIRECTORSHIP (Worthy William Studenic)

- 1. Coates for Kids
- 2. Marian House / Grace House
- 3. Inwood House. 11/25/2024
- 4. Box of Joy – Pickup Boxes 10/9; return following Business Meeting 11/13/2024
- 5. SOME
- 6. Social Events to Encourage Fraternity.
- 7. Retired KOC Leadership (Charter Dinner) – April 2025 (specifics TBD)
- 8. Olney Theater (Olney Theatre) – 11/8/2024 5:30pm. See our website for details.
- 9. Tootsie Roll Campaign. – last weekend - October 4/5.

Tootsie Rolls Campaign: Tootsie Rolls collections for our mentally challenged members of the community have almost concluded. You can help still through October 11, 2024. Fantastic program supporting those with special needs. Thankful for all the volunteers who assisted with collections of donations. Each of you has made a tremendous contribution and difference.

Sweepstakes: If you are interested in the Knights of Columbus State Sweepstakes and missed the earlier opportunities, please see Don Hemke as tickets are available and must be purchased before the Columbus Ball on October 12, 2024.

Columbus Day Ball: Council members are encouraged to attend the annual State Columbus Day Ball on October 12, 2024. See the State KOC website for more information.

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center Dinner is being held October 25, 2024 at the North Bethesda Marriott facility. I

will be in attendance and hope other members of the Council will be able to show our support for Life as defined by Jesus and His Church.

Eucharistic Procession We are encouraging all members to join us on Sunday 10/20/24 1:00 pm to demonstrate the priority of the Eucharist to each of our lives and the importance to our Faith. Benediction and Prayers for Reparation will follow at St Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church. Please see the flyer for details.

Membership Recruitment: Separately, Our Council will be arranging and conducting **Delta Church Drives** for Membership Opportunities in the three parishes throughout the year. We have a team of very committed Knights led by Mark Perez and supported by Worthy Fred Taylor for these efforts. Look for further information from the Council via email notification. We have been successful in our recruitment efforts recently. Exciting to see our Council grow so we can better serve the Parishes we serve.

Communications with our Communities: We will be having a “Knights Corner” in each of the Parish Bulletins which will update the Parishes on Council Events & Programs in service to our faith based communities at St Peter’s, St Patrick’s, and Our Lady of Grace. We are participating the ministry fairs for all three of our Parishes.

Silver Rose We are privileged to host the Silver Rose on November 22, 2024 at Our Lady of Grace. Please join us for the 9:00 am Mass and the beautiful devotion to Mary our Savior’s mother immediately afterwards. Truly a special experience.

Election & Question 1: Finally, please become informed about the Maryland Constitution Question #1 which we aggressively encourage everyone to vote against (No).

Vivat Jesus!

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP #6793

[HTTP://KOC6793.ORG](http://koc6793.org)

OFFICERS:

Chaplain	Reverend James D Boccabella
Associate Chaplain	Rev Linus Nviiri
Grand Knight	Eugene Kane
Deputy Grand Knight	Mark Perez
Chancellor	Paul Lockwood
Warden	Robert Amato
Recorder	Christopher Romano
Financial Secretary	Donald M Hemke
Treasurer	Christopher Schneider
Advocate	Steve Sutkowski, PGK
Lecturer	Jack Giacalone
Inside Guard	Paul M Boccabella
Outside Guard	
Trustee One Year	Martin G Peschke, PGK
Trustee Two Year	Joseph F. Krempasky, PGK
Trustee Three Year	Walter (Fred) Taylor, PGK

ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN:

Program Director	Mark Perez
Faith Activities Dir.	Don Hemke / Andrew Colliton

Community Activity Dir	Bill Studenic
Family Activities Dir	Walt McKeet
Life Activities Dir	Gene Kane / Peter Wallace

Membership Chairman	James E Street
Retention Chairman	
Food for Families Chair	Bob Amato
Tootsie Roll Chairman	James E Street
Pro-Life Couple	
Sweepstake Chairman	Donald M Hemke
Newsletter Editor	David C Czarnecki
Webmaster	John R Feldmann
Fourth Degree	Joe Feakes
District Deputy, 30	Yen Le, PGK

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

All council meetings are generally held in the KoC Meeting Room at Our Lady of Grace Parish Center, Leisure World at 7:30PM

Officer’s meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month and the Social meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

CHURCH NEWS

James Street, Church Activities Chairman

OUR LADY OF GRACE

Website: <http://ourladyofgracelw.weebly.com/>
Reverend James Boccabella, Pastor



The Sodality Mass

Please join us for the Sodality Mass on the first Sunday of every month, at 9:00 a.m., and for the recitation of the Fatima Rosary on the first Saturday of every month immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. SAINT PATRICK’S LEISURE CLUB--Have you heard about our club for the past few years but just did not take the initiative to join? Please join us. We meet on the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting is on October 10th. The venue is Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church and Parish Center.

Morning Coffee & Fellowship

Please join us for our next coffee after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, October 18th in the parish center. Please join us for BINGO! on the first Friday of each month in the

parish center at 1:00 p.m. The next Bingo is October 4th. Doors open for Bingo at 12:30 p.m. Cash prizes! Cost is \$5.00 for 6 cards/10 games. Guaranteed fun. After expenses, all proceeds will be donated to The Gabriel Project.

Father Michael’s Mission – 2024 Coat Drive

The coat drive begins on Friday, October 4th through the cold months ahead. We are accepting new or gently used winter coats for men, women and children. When temperatures drop, many people are faced with the impossible decision between paying bills, purchasing food or buying coats for their children or themselves. Your generosity and donations can eliminate this struggle and benefit those less fortunate to stay warm this winter. Please place your donated coat in the box in the narthex beginning the weekend of Friday, October 4th. Donations are greatly appreciated. Please mail a check payable to: Fr. Michael’s Mission, Inc., 200 Howard Street, PO Box 1115, LaPlata, MD 20646.

ST. PETER’S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpetersolney.org>
Reverend Thomas M. Kalita, Pastor



Saint Peter’s Ministry Fair

On October 5–6, Mark your calendars for a special weekend at Saint Peter’s! Join us after all Masses on October 5 and 6 for our Ministry Fair, a dynamic event where all of our ministries will be on full display. Take this opportunity to discover all the amazing ways to get involved and serve in the parish community. The event will take place in the Parish Hall, where you can meet ministry leaders, ask questions, and see how you can become more connected to the vibrant life of Saint Peter’s. Refreshments will be served.

SOME

SOME (So Others Might Eat) is getting close to the reopening of their kitchen; however, for October, we are still asking for the following: Please only donate small water bottles, even if it means you give fewer in number. It is a space issue during the meal distribution. Please provide individually wrapped snacks, like cookies, crackers, oatmeal pies, Rice Krispies treats, or Welch's fruit snacks. If you can supply any of these items, please bring them to the parking lot opposite the Parish Hall Kitchen on

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, from 8–8:30 a.m. Our SOME Team will be there to collect your donations. Thank you for your flexibility and your care and concern for the homeless. Please note: If you wish to drop off any of the requested items before October 1, please contact Mark Perez at 240–422–7644 or the Office of Social Concerns at 301–774–0162 to make arrangements.

Catholic Charities

Volunteer at Catholic Charities. People of all faiths can share their talents once, volunteer multiple times, or pledge a year-long contribution of their time. You can share your expertise as a pro bono professional or enjoy a volunteer activity needing no previous experience. There are many possibilities and few limits to the positive impact you can have on our neighbors in need. For more information, please visit the Web site at www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/get-involved/ways-to-volunteer.

Parochial School - Inaugural Golf Tournament

Inaugural Golf Tournament Calling all golfers! Saint Peter's School is hosting its inaugural golf tournament on Monday, October 21, 2024, at Blue Mash Golf Course. Thanks to Euro Motorcars in Germantown for sponsoring the Hole-in-One contest. Players will have the chance to win a new Mercedes Benz. To register to play or become an event sponsor, please visit stpetersschoololney.org/fundraising. For more details, please e-mail beth.sanz@stpetersolney.org.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

Website: <http://www.stpatricksmd.org>
Monsignor Charles J. Parry, Pastor



Poor Box

This week's Poor Box donations will benefit The St. Brigid of Ireland Ministry, a special St. Patrick's Social Concerns ministry to respond to the needs of the community, including rental and utility assistance. Parishioners conduct intake with clients and visit with clients two-by-two to assess their needs and provide emergency financial assistance. Please support this ministry which depends solely on financial contributions in order to respond to client needs.

Spirit & Life

A new opportunity for personal spiritual growth at St.

Patrick's Deepen your relationship with Christ and find orientation for all aspects of your life. Join us as we plumb in depth the pillars of our Catholic Faith, immersing ourselves in the perennial wisdom of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the documents it references, including the timely and relevant decrees from the Second Vatican Council, the writings of the Church Fathers, and much more. All are welcome! When: 1st Monday of the month, 6:45 - 8:00 pm beginning October 7th. Where: Church and Room 206 of the Parish Center Building. For more information, contact Melanie, (301) 924-2285 x317 Melanie.Baker@stpatrickadw.org.

2024 Loyola on the Potomac Men's Retreat

The men of St. Patrick's go on retreat each year at LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC– A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. The Ignatian Weekend Retreat is conducted in prayerful silence and includes generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God. It is open to men who desire to grow in their relationship with God through prayer. The retreat begins Friday evening, November 1, 2024 and concludes with lunch on Sunday, November 3, 2024. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245. First-time retreatants and young adults (35 and under) pay \$195. You can make a reservation online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com. If you plan to attend, kindly register at your earliest convenience. For more information, please contact Jack Gibala at 301-871-8122 or jackgibala@aol.com.

Project Cluster

Backpacks and school supplies needed. Many of our pregnant client mothers who are struggling have youngsters going to school, and back-to-school supplies are urgently needed. Women volunteers are urgently needed to assist struggling pregnant mothers. This includes keeping in touch with them via text, phone, or e-mail during their pregnancy; bringing them items, such as diapers, baby clothes, formula, etc., that are provided by the project; and praying for them. Men are also needed to set up cribs or to pick up donations once or twice per month. Join our team of over 210 volunteers so that we can help more than 380 needy moms. For more information or questions, visit the website: www.gpmoco.org, or contact Bill Lamoureux at wlamoureux@aol.com. The Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County serves mothers and their families in crisis pregnancies.

FAITH ACTIVITIES

Don Hemke /Andrew Colliton, Faith Programs Director

State Incentive Cash Sweepstakes

Don Hemke – Event Chairman

The 2024 State Incentive Cash Sweepstakes is similar to past KofC State Council Cash Raffle's. Each \$5 ticket gets a chance at three cash prizes (\$7,000., \$2,000., and \$1,000). The council gets to keep 60% of all funds

donated. The council will setup donation collection after all three Masses at Our Lady of Grace Church the last weekend in SEP and 1st weekend in OCT. We collected over \$1100, almost exactly what we collected last year!

Spaghetti Dinner

Don Hemke – Event Chairman

The council's first Spaghetti Dinner of the Fraternal Year was held at Our Lady of Grace Church on SAT (10/5). We had over 80 guests for the 1st time which generated \$890!! We had to go out and get additional salad and bread. The people at Leisure World really look forward to our meals. "Bet they will look forward to our upcoming Turkey Dinner in NOV".

Hats off to Joe Krempasky & Fred Taylor's Kitchen & Serving & Cleanup Crew for another great effort!



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Walt McKee, Family Programs Director

Knights at The Theatre

Joseph Feakes – Event Chairman

Once again, this season Father Peter Paul Maher Council #6793 Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a "Knight at the Theatre." This year with the cooperation of the Olney Theatre Center, the Council will be hosting the family entertainment musical "Frozen"

The performance is scheduled for November 8th at 7 PM. Tickets are \$55 per person and include a discount ticket, a pre performance reception and intermission refreshment. The reception opens at 5:30 PM and will include drinks and appetizers. While there is no charge, donations are welcome. Tickets can be purchased by cash or check. Checks are to be made payable to the Council and can be purchased by contacting the Council Chairman, Joseph Feakes, e/m josephfeakes@aol.com or 301-774-0137 18128 Darnell Drive Olney, Md. 20832. The deadline for purchasing is November 4th.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Bill Studenic, Community Activities Director

Food for Families Program

Bob Amato – Event Chairman

Our Council supports St. Patrick's monthly food drive. You can donate on the third Sunday of every month at the church between 8am and noon in the parking lot. Or you can bring food items to our monthly business meeting, and we will take them for you. Please support this worthy program.

Last month, 22.7 lbs. of food were delivered to St. Patrick's for delivery to St. Martin's food pantry on September 15 for the Family Food Drive. Thanks to all Knights for your participation. Bob Amato 301 385 1017.

Tootsie Roll Campaign

Jim Street – Event Chairman

We have concluded our donation solicitations at the Montgomery County Liquor and Wine facility on Georgia Ave. in Olney. We have scheduled to collect at Our Lady of Grace church after the Masses on the weekend of October 12/13. These funds help provide financial assistance to Montgomery County's Intellectually Challenged children and adults. You may also donate to the Tootsie Roll Campaign on our Council website in the Member's Only Section.

Special thanks go out to Campaign Chairman Jim Street and his assistant Bob Amato who have volunteered numerous hours to make this activity a tremendous success.

To date, we have collected over \$3,000 and are looking to collect \$4,000-5,000. Our efforts will benefit three local charities including; *Community Support Services, Potomac Community Resources, and. Rosario Communities.*



Annual Inwood House Halloween Party

Bill Studenic – Event Chairman

The Annual Halloween Party for the residents at the Inwood House is scheduled for Friday, October 25th. This event involves providing a Halloween party for around 60 residents of the facility, located off University Blvd. in Silver Spring. Bill Studenic will be Chairman for this event. The major items we provide for the evening Include:

- Dinner (usually spaghetti, salad, beverages, and cake)*
- Joe Krempasky in charge of the kitchen.*
- Entertainment (usually a hired musician)*
- Door Prizes for all attendees, provided by Fred and Laine Taylor*
- Halloween costume contest with prizes*
- Decorations for the dining room for a spooky atmosphere*

We will need around 10-12 Council Members to assist with putting up decorations, serving, registration, distributing gifts, and clean-up. We will start decorating around 3 PM with serving spaghetti, salad, etc. starting about 5PM.

Watch for a request via email coming week for helpers. This is a great event for spouses to come and help us. Additional information will follow shortly.

Coats for Kids Program

TBD – Event Chairman

Our Council will be purchasing youth boys and girls coats through Supreme Council and donating to St. Patrick’s and St. Peter’s parishes for distribution.

Box of Joy Program

TBD – Event Chairman

This program provides Christmas gifts for children in Central America who otherwise will not receive any gifts this Christmas. Our Council has received 125 boxes which are to be filled with inexpensive toys, clothing, etc. Council members may pick up one or more boxes at the October Council Meeting along with a list of suggested items for filling the box. Boxes are to be returned to our council in early November (No Later than Nov. 7th) along with a check for \$9.00 to cover the cost of shipping.

We are hoping to involve Our Lady of Grace parishioners to help us with project this Christmas. A Council Box of Joy Stuffing event is planned for the Oct 23 Council Social meeting. The shipping costs for all Boxes filled will be covered by the Council.

LIFE ACTIVITES

Gene Kane/Peter Wallace Life Programs Director

Respect Life Month

Stephen Goldhammer

The month of October is celebrated as Respect Life Month. Baby bottles to benefit Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County will be available in the St. Patrick's

narthex beginning October 1st. Please pick up a bottle and return with your donations the last weekend in October (26/27). A "Baby Shower" to benefit Shady Grove Pregnancy Center and the Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County will also take place. A pack and play will be set up in the St. Patrick's narthex to collect donations throughout October. Thank you for your generous outreach to these precious babies and their families.

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center wish list:

- New layette items for boys 0-3 months*
- Sleepers, long sleeve onesies, pants*
- Receiving blankets*
- Similac formula, baby wipes*
- Girls 9-12-months sleepers, fall/winter clothing*
- Girls 18-24-months fall/winter clothing, jackets*
- Boys 24-month pajamas, fall/winter clothing*

Gabriel Project Cluster wish list:

- Newborn-3-month sleepers, outfits, socks, bibs, receiving blankets*
- One piece winter jumpsuits*
- Diaper bags, baby soap, lotion, diaper cream, grooming kits with thermometer*
- Board books*
- Gently used clothing for siblings up to youth 14/16 and small toys for siblings*

**Ballot, MD Constitutional Amendment
Protect Our Kids**

Stephen Goldhammer

Vote **NO** on Question 1 on November 5th. It's not about 'Reproductive Freedom'; it's about terminating parental rights. Go to HEALTHNOTHARMMD.ORG for more info.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep these Knights and families in your prayers.

INDIVIDUAL'S NAME	RELATIONSHIP
Regina Whitman	Brother's spouse
Gary Street	Sibling of Brother Knight
Janie Street	Brother Knight's spouse
John Hartinger	Brother Knight
Keith Bielanski	Nephew of Brother Knight
SK Innocent D'Almeida	Brother Knight
Donna D'Almeida	Brother's spouse
D'Almeida family	Brother Knight family
DECEASED'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH
N/A	N/A

Continue to pray for the souls of our deceased armed forces.

FRATERNAL BENEFITS ADVISOR REPORT

Stephen Clites, Fraternal Benefits Advisor



Stephen M. Clites, FICF
MDRT
Supreme Knights Club Qualifier
Call: (240) 375-1372
Stephen.Clites@kofc.org

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FOURTH DEGREE NEWS

SULLIVAN BROTHERS ASSEMBLY 2861

"WE STICK TOGETHER!"

Website: www.sullivan2861.org

SK Danilo C Orino, Faithful Navigator



Assembly Business Meetings are held the **third Thursday** of each month at 8PM. Fr. Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road, Derwood MD 20855.

Fourth Degree Exemplification

The next Fourth Degree Exemplification for the Archdiocese of Washington District will be held on Tuesday October 15, 2024 at Saint John Paul II National Shrine, 3900 Harewood Rd NE, Washington, DC 20017, USA.

For more information please contact: Christopher L. Powers, IPSD, and Master Archdiocese of Washington Dist. <http://www.awddistrict.org/>

CHAPTER NEWS



Bishop McNamara Chapter -

Established 1963

Website:

<http://www.mcnamarachapter.com/>

McNamara Chapter Pres – Steve Law

The October Meeting - Crab / Shrimp Dinner/Silent Auction will be hosted by Calvert Council #7870, 8816 Chesapeake Ave, North Beach MD

20714

SUPREME NEWS

WEBSITE: <http://www.kofc.org>

Source: K of C Supreme Website

2024 Annual Report of the Supreme Knight,
excerpt*

by Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly, 10/1/24)

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly's annual report was broadcast worldwide Aug. 6 following the Supreme Convention's opening Mass in Québec City, Canada

*For the complete text see the Supreme web site, <https://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/columbia/2024/october/annual-report.html>



ON MISSION

...The Knights of Columbus is on mission — a mission given to us by Christ through the founding vision of Blessed Michael McGivney. From the beginning, Knights have been faithful to this mission. And today, we must summon the courage that these times demand.

...Father Michael McGivney. In his time,

Catholic families were struggling. Fathers were dying in factories, leaving widows and orphans with nothing. And the anti-Catholic culture of the 19th century pressured young men to leave the faith. Father McGivney met those challenges head-on — building up men in faith and strengthening their families.

More than 140 years later, the Knights of Columbus continues to do exactly that. Together, we build up families, parishes and communities that are centered on Christ. There is no greater task. It requires sacrifice and sometimes even suffering. But that's what it means to be a disciple. That's what it means to be on mission.

MEMBERSHIP

We're making historic progress. All together, we now have 2.1 million members. Last year alone, more than 92,000 men joined our ranks. And to all my brother Knights, thank you for achieving one of our best years of growth in a century!

Men are joining us around the world. From the United States to Ukraine, from the Philippines to France. And this year marks the 10th anniversary of our expansion into the Republic of Korea. We are joined today by our largest-ever Korean delegation of 21 Knights. They are led by Bishop Titus Seo Sang-bum and our territorial deputy, Gen. Shin Kyoung-soo. To you and all our brother Knights in Korea, thank you for expanding Father McGivney's vision in Asia.

We now have almost 17,000 active councils around the world. But one deserves a special mention. The Knights of Columbus arrived in Cuba in 1909 — 115 years ago. But our first council there — San Agustín Council 1390 — was suppressed in the political turmoil of the 1950s. The same was true for the Order in all of Cuba. But that changed five years ago, when the archbishop of Havana asked us to revive the council. We did — and it's now growing along with other councils in Cuba. ...

We are growing in Mexico, too, where our Knights have a new tradition. Each year, they reconsecrate

themselves to St. Joseph during their annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Christ the King in central Mexico. Throughout the country, Mexican Knights are bearing witness to the faith. That was on full display last October, in Juárez. There, Knights carried a statue of the Virgin Mary around the city’s Olympic Stadium, while more than 20,000 people prayed the rosary. To our Mexican Knights, thank you for your powerful witness. Viva Cristo Rey!

Today, we have 2.1 million members. But I envision the day when we will have 4 or 5 million. Imagine the impact — the communities we could help, the parishes we could serve and the lives we could change.

CHARITY

Last year, Knights spent more than 47 million hours serving and sacrificing for the sake of others. And we set a new record for charitable giving. All told, the Knights of Columbus donated more than \$190 million dollars to those in need!

Our charity is personal. I saw that last November when I visited Annunciation Catholic School in Denver. Most of the students there are under-privileged. Many don’t know where their next meal or next set of clothes will come from. So that morning, we gave out more than a thousand winter jackets through Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids. And it was my great joy to personally give a little girl named Lexi our 1-millionth coat.

In partnership with the Global Wheelchair Mission, we continue to help those who have lost limbs or cannot walk. Last year, we gave the gift of mobility to more than 11,000 people.

And we continue to serve persons with physical and intellectual disabilities through our partnership with Special Olympics. We helped organize nearly 4,000 competitions last year, and we donated more than \$4 million to make Special Olympics a success.

AIDING THE PERSECUTED & THE VULNERABLE

We continue to serve those who are persecuted for our faith. Ten years ago, we promised to help the Christians of the Middle East. Since then, we’ve rebuilt churches and restored whole communities in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.

And today, we’re standing with the persecuted Christians of Nigeria. There are more than 20 million Catholics in Nigeria. Many live in fear of kidnapping, violence, forced conversion and even death. Last year, Nigerians accounted for 82% of Christians killed for their faith.

This crisis is a call to action. So we asked Nigeria’s bishops how we can help. Their answer was unequivocal. They need us to help their people stand strong in the face of persecution — by spreading the hope that comes from faith.

I’m announcing that the Order will sponsor a collaboration between the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Nigeria and Franciscan University of Steubenville. We’ll fund the ongoing formation of priests and lay leaders — and support the creation of a national catechetical institute in Nigeria. Our efforts will reach thousands of parishes — and strengthen the faith of millions of Catholics in the heart of Africa.

INDIGENOUS OUTREACH

At last year’s Supreme Convention, we adopted a historic resolution condemning the scourge of human trafficking. And we also resolved to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples. We’re fulfilling this promise in many ways.

South Dakota Knights also provided wheelchairs on the Pine Ridge Reservation. And when they learned that many of the reservation’s children had no beds to sleep on, they built and delivered 100 new beds.

In June, Knights organized a pilgrimage to Canada’s National Shrine of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Pope Francis praised Kateri, the Lily of the Mohawks, during his visit to Canada two years ago, hailing her “exemplary devotion to prayer and work” (Meeting with a Delegation of Indigenous Peoples in Québec, July 29, 2022). Inspired by her example, on a single day, Knights distributed 600 winter coats to children in the Tobique and Dene First Nations. Many of those children received their coats from Graydon Nicholas, the former lieutenant governor of New Brunswick who served on our board of directors and is a member of the Maliseet First Nation.

CONCLUSION

This is our call — to be Knights of the Eucharist — to serve Our Lord in all we do. We answered this call in new and renewed ways over the last year. And as we look to the year ahead, we do so with great confidence and joy.

In 2025, the Church will celebrate a jubilee year. And the Knights of Columbus is preparing the way.

For the last jubilee, in the year 2000, we restored the Holy Door of St. Peter’s Basilica. And for this jubilee, we’re helping restore the baldacchino — the massive bronze canopy, crafted by Bernini, that rises 10 stories above the papal altar and St. Peter’s tomb.

And today, I’m pleased to announce that we will assist with another landmark restoration — Bernini’s bronze masterpiece at the altar of the Chair of St. Peter. It contains the relics of the very chair used by our first pope and honors the authority of all his successors. There are few more important places in all of Christendom.

MARYLAND STATE COUNCIL NEWS

[Website: www.kofc-md.org]

**Make A Difference in Someone’s Life
Hurricane Assistance:**

Brother Knights,

Anyone wishing to make donations to help hurricane victims should send their donations to the Maryland State Council at P.O. Box 1468, Bowie, MD 20717-1468.

Make your check payable to the Maryland State Council and mark on the Check that it is for Hurricane Victims. The State will accumulate the funds and send them directly to the Supreme Office for hurricane relief.

REPARATION TO OUR LORD / PRAYERS FOR HEALING

**3 DAYS OF
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
OCTOBER 20, 21, AND 22**

St. Patrick Church
4101 Norbeck Road
Rockville, MD 20853
301-924-2284 ~ www.stpatricksmd.org

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

Public Procession with the Blessed Sacrament

Meet at Manor Country Club between 1:00 and 2:00 pm.
Procession begins at 2:00 pm.

Park at Saint Patrick Church.

Free bus service provided to Manor Country Club.

The walk is 0.7 miles from Manor Country Club to St. Patrick Church.

**2:45 pm - Prayers of Reparation and Healing
Adoration all day until 7:00 pm Benediction**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

Adoration in the church all day following 9:10 am Mass
Benediction at 7:00 pm

**Knights of Columbus
Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council #6793
Post Office Box 570
Olney, MD 20830**

**NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION**



**October 2024
Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council #6793**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Officer Mtg 7:30 PM	3	4 Tootsie Roll Drive, Olney MD	5 Tootsie Roll Drive, Olney MD Sweepstakes Tickets Spaghetti Dinner OLOG
6 St. Peter's Ministry Fair Sweepstakes Tickets, OLOG	7	8	9 Business Mtg 7:30PM	10	11	12 Tootsie Roll Drive, OLG
13 Tootsie Roll Drive, OLG	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 St. Patrick Church Eucharistic Proc.	21	22	23 Social Mtg 7:30P Box of Joy, stuffing event	24	25 Shady Grove Preg Cntr Dinner Innwood House Hallown Prty	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

Calendar updates are available at any time by checking the Council website. www.KOFC6793.ORG