



2025 / 2026
NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL
Knights of Columbus

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

New York State Knight Life



“In Service to One. In Service to All.”

November 1, 2025 Vol. 2 Edition. 11 Official Newsletter for the New York State Knights of Columbus

Do not be afraid to be holy! Have the courage and humility to present yourselves to the world determined to be holy, since full, true freedom is born from holiness.” - St. John Paul II

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Deacon for the State Council
Deacon Daniel Rodriguez



P.O. Box 8, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 • Office: 516-900-5632 • Email: NYSKofC@aol.com • Website: newyorkknights.com

Tell others about Knight Life... Forward this newsletter to Catholic men interested in the Knights, and let them know they can become a member for free online at kofc.org/join. You can also share your questions, feedback and story ideas by emailing mboehm1122@msn.com

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PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE COUNCIL

State Deputy's Message



The Gift of Gratitude

As Knights of Columbus, we give of ourselves generously — our time, our talents, and our faith — to serve others. Thanksgiving offers us a sacred pause to reflect not only on what we give, but on what we receive in return through the grace of gratitude.

Personal Gratitude — The Knight's Heart

Each of us, as individual Knights, has countless reasons to be grateful. We can be thankful for the gift of faith that called us to this brotherhood, for the strength to serve when the world grows weary, and for the joy that comes from knowing our efforts make a difference — sometimes in ways unseen. We are grateful for our families, who support our mission; for our health and work, which enable our service; and for the quiet peace that comes when we follow Christ's command to love our neighbor.

Council Gratitude — The Brotherhood We Share

As a Council, we share a deep gratitude for one another. Together, we've stood shoulder to shoulder at fundraisers, parish events, and community outreaches — each man offering his unique gifts. We've prayed together, laughed together, and carried one another through trials. We can be thankful for the friendships formed in faith, for the spirit of teamwork that strengthens our parish, and for the shared mission that keeps us united in purpose. In each project we complete and each person we help, gratitude binds us as brothers in service.

Order-wide Gratitude — The Mission We Continue

As members of the greater Knights of Columbus, we can be grateful for the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney, whose dream of faith in action continues to transform lives across the world. We can give thanks for our Order's enduring commitment to defending life, supporting families, and upholding the dignity of every person. And we can be grateful that, in a world often divided, the Knights of Columbus still stands as a beacon of charity, unity, and fraternity — proving that faith-filled men can make a powerful difference.

A Spirit of Thanksgiving

This season, may we remember that gratitude is more than a feeling — it is a way of living. When we serve others, we express our gratitude to God for the blessings we have received. When we give of ourselves, we open our hearts to receive even more grace.

As we gather with our families and our brother Knights this Thanksgiving, let us pause to thank God not only for what we have, but for who we are called to be — men of faith, service, and gratitude.

Vivat Jesus, and Happy Thanksgiving!

GARY J. LEONARDO
State Deputy

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



As we approach the end of the Liturgical year, we will hear in our daily readings about the “end times.” It is meant to wake us up -- smell the coffee. It is not meant to scare us. As men and women of faith, we are called to prepare to be ready to one day meet the Lord.

As a Boy Scout I always remember the Scout motto- “Be Prepared.” As Catholic Christians we should also do the same. All of you, in a very tangible way, are the “Choir” if you will.

The ones who are at Mass every Sunday, feeding the poor and actively participating in outreach in each of your parishes throughout New York State. As a chaplain by your side, I say “thank you, thank you” to each of you for your great witness to the Gospel. To all the Knights, Columbiettes and your families, thank you for all you do.

Let us remember why we do what we do. Scripture teaches us to care for the poor. Christ asks us to care for the poor. May we continue to listen to Jesus Christ who is our Mediator. St. Paul teaches: “For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all (1 Timothy 2:5).

As we approach Thanksgiving Day let us not forget the principles of our Founder, Blessed Father Michael McGivney: Unity, Charity, and Fraternity.

I thank each of you for living these principles and ask that you pray for me, that I, together with all of you, may celebrate the culmination of the Church Year on the Solemnity of Christ the King with our hearts open to God’s will for the New York State Council and for each of us as we prepare to begin the new Church year in Advent.

Vivat en Gesu,

Father Edward Sheridan
Associate Chaplain
NY State Knights of Columbus



Dear Brother Knights

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the resounding success of our recent membership drive over the Columbus Day Weekend. Your dedication and enthusiasm, paired with the impactful Coats for Kids program, showcased the true spirit of our Order. Your efforts provided warmth to children in need while strengthening our fraternal bond by welcoming new members into our ranks.

This fraternal year, 163 of our 486 councils across New York State have actively recruited new members—a commendable achievement! However, our mission to grow the Knights of Columbus is a year-round commitment. Recruiting is not confined to a single weekend or season; it is a 12-month endeavor. I urge every council to diligently follow up with all leads generated during the drive. A timely follow-up can make all the difference in bringing a prospective Knight into our fold.

Let us continue to extend a warm invitation to every Catholic man in our communities to join the Knights of Columbus. Share with them the value of our brotherhood, our commitment to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, and the opportunity to make a lasting impact in our parishes and beyond. Together, we can inspire more men to live out our mission and grow our Order to new heights. Thank you again for your tireless efforts. Let's keep the momentum going and continue building a stronger, more vibrant Knights of Columbus in New York State!

Vivat Jesus,

Carl Schneider
New York State Membership Director

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

As the seasons change to cooler weather, it is great to see our councils doing the great works of our Order and supporting those that benefit, need, and rely on their local Knights of Columbus council and its members that our programs provide. Here is an update of our upcoming and new programs announced by Supreme Council.

Community Programs

Coats for Kids - The Order is on pace for another record setting year of coat donations and Supreme is no longer accepting additional requests for coats through the BOGO black Friday incentive.

Free Throw Championship - Basketball season is here, what is your council doing to keep our youth active and engaged. Councils are encouraged to participate in a Free Throw Competition and for information and resources please visit kofc.org/freethrow and refer to the Free Throw Guidebook #1928 to see how to run the program.

Hockey Challenge - This is an excellent program that resembles the Free Throw and Soccer Challenge with the age range of 10 - 17 years old. This program allows councils to engage their communities all year round with ice, indoors, or other flat surfaces as potential locations to hold this event. Councils are encouraged to participate in the program and for information visit kofc.org/hockey

Family Programs

Keep Christ in Christmas - Yes, we are talking about Christmas already, Councils are encouraged to participate in one of Keep Christ in Christmas activities - from the Poster Contest to Spread the Light of Christ. For more information, please visit kofc.org/christmas or the Keep Christ in Christmas Program Guidebook.

Consecration to the Holy Family - December 28th is the Feast of the Holy Family. Councils can bring families closer to Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph by organizing a group consecration to the Holy Family.

Life Programs

Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe - NEW PROGRAM - The Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe calls upon councils to organize adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a special prayer service to ask for Our Lady's intercession for the pro-life cause. As a Patroness of the unborn, Our Lady is a powerful advocate for those at-risk of abortion and those involved in the cause of life. Through this Holy Hour, councils and their parishes can pray for a variety of intentions such as healing from infertility, defense of the unborn, care for mothers and families, and an end to the evil of abortion. Resources are available in the Faith in Action section of Supplies Online.

Novena for Life - Encourage councils to participate in the USCCB's 9 Days of Life from January 16th - 24th, the Novena for Life Guide Sheet outlines the steps a council can take to promote the novena and ensure the Knights build a culture of life in our homes, parishes, and community.

Faith Programs

Imitating Saint Juan Diego - NEW PROGRAM - As Knights of Columbus, whose patroness is Our Lady of Guadalupe, we, we are called to be her messengers, just as Saint Juan Diego was throughout his life. The appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego led to the mass conversion of millions of indigenous people to the Catholic Faith and continues to serve as a means of evangelization today. Councils can teach others about their lives and status as powerful intercessors by organizing a traveling image of Our Lady of Guadalupe for families, by encouraging acts of popular piety, and by sharing other devotional materials with members and their parish communities. Resources are available in the Faith in Action section of Supplies Online.

Pilgrim Icon Program - November 23rd is the Feast of Christ the King and the perfect day to promote and run the Pilgrim Icon program or distribute Home Enthronement materials to families, In fact, this year marks the 100th anniversary of Quas Primas, Pope Pius XI's encyclical instituting the feast. All resources for these activities can be found for download at kojc.org/sacredheart and additionally Sacred Heart Holy Hour materials can also be ordered by councils for free on Supplies Online.

SK Thomas M. Moran PGK FDD PCC
Director of Programs
NYS Council - Knights of Columbus
dd14pgktom@gmail.com - 516/260-1517



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Thank you for all you do for our Churches and Parish communities!

Stephen Calcutti,
State Administrative Chairman of Faith
stephencalcuttiknights311@gmail.com
914-557-4942



C&B NOVEMBER

The Early Bird drawing was held Saturday September 27. I would like to thank St. Anne's Council in Glenn Oaks for their hospitality in making this a successful day. Thank you to Cris Reyes who produced YouTube which was viewed by over 1,000 brothers and family. The results showed an increase in sales and books per member. Thank you to all

Please review website to see where your council is related to the bonus \$. Already Councils have earned \$40,195 in bonus dollars. The money is waiting for you to keep selling and earning much needed dollars to support your charities. You still have 5 more weeks. Let us finish strong and not lose the momentum we have achieved to this point.

REMINDER -Final drawing is December 6 and it will be on YouTube at 545p.m. Any mailings after November 26 should be mailed directly to the Villa Roma my attention

Here are the results by Conference .

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Nassau	6323	6519
Finger Lakes	4464	3861
Northern	2731	3000
Suffolk	1983	1963
Queens	1793	1968
Westchester /Put	1772	1676
Western	1657	684
Hudson Valley	1388	1553
Central	1142	1387
BMS	951	925
Capital	661	919
Kings	411	865

The following 74 council are now in the State Deputies Trophy Club for selling one book per member Congratulations and thank you

BMS (2)

1. Christ the King 3993 - 2. St. Benedicts 11590

CAPITAL

1.Schenectady 201 - 2.St.Joseph the Worker 1805 -3.Our Lady of Knock 6439
4.St Henry 10990- 5.Stamford 13222.

CENTRAL

1.Peter Campon 206- 2.Oneida 473- 3.Vestal 4746- 4. St.Joseph's 5398
5.Sacred Heart 6282- 6.Msgr.Meaney 9042

FINGER LAKES

1.Itacha 277- 2.Father Brown(Corning) 281- 3.Our Lady of the Cenacle 3892-
4.Victor 6652- 5.Bishop McQuaid 7085- 6.Pope John XXIII- 7.Fr.Devereaux 7980
8.Blessed Damian of Moloki 11411- 9.Father Guy 12223-10.Rev Hogan13194
11.St.Pius X-12.Blessed Grimaldi 17384.

HUDSON VALLEY

1.Kingston 275- 2.Msgr Henry O'Carroll 444- 3. Loretto 4.Joyce Kilmer 1177-
5.Pine Bush 5329- 6.Cardinal Egan16334.

KINGS(2)

1.Holy Name of Jesus 4783-2.Bishop Daily 17000

NASSAU

1.Joseph Barry 2520- 2.New Hyde Park 2852- 3.Robert Powell 3488- 4.Pope
Pius XII 4422 5.Father Carroll 4566- 6.Our Lady of
Mercy/Joseph Lamb 5723- 7.St Frances de Chantal 6526- 8.St.Pius X 10332-
9.Sign of the Cross11254

NORTHERN

1.Plattsburgh 255-2.Carthage 291-3.Thousand Island 350-4.Wadhams 469-
5.Dannemora 2166 6.Rouses Point 2366-7. Eugene Santor 4689-
8.Fr.Wm.Bourbeau-9.Msgr.Gilbert 6136-10.St. Frances Regis7321-
11.St.Augustine 7273.

QUEENS

1.Dr.Dooley-Fr.McGivney 430-Msgr Sherman5103-3.St Robert Bellarmine8964-
4.Agnes Dei 12361-5.American Martrys14666-6.OLPH/Msgr Flynn17153-7.St
Kevins18180

SUFFOLK(5)

1.Immaculate Conception 928-2.St.Jude5814-3.Our Lady of Grace11968-4.St
Joseph the Worker 12993-5.St.Joseph the Carpenter14771

WESTCHESTER – PUTNAM :

1.Ossining 311,- 2.Cardinal Hayes3995-3.Father John LaFarge 4012-
4.Msgr.Ryan5169-5.Holy Spirit 15493

WESTERN(4)

1.Olean338-2.Wyoming2240-3.John Cardinal O'Hara 13661-4.St Vincent de Paul
17883

Ken Karchinski

Director C&B



November is quite possibly my favorite Month! The weather is almost always awesome, Football (NFL & NCAAFB) NHL & NBA is well under way & Thanksgiving is on

the horizon. Not to mention it's my birthday month! It's just a great time of year here in the Empire State! It's the perfect run-up for the Season of Advent!

It is also Election Season. I hope that everyone goes out to Vote for their Candidates of choice. This will be an interesting year. Many people are very emotional when it comes to politics these days. Please remember to bring your Faith with you into the Voting Booth. There are several aspects of our Faith that need to be considered when we vote – this is in no way a one issue decision. Many of these local elections effect our day to day lives even more so then the big national elections.

So choose wisely, but most importantly, get out and VOTE.

Next month many of us will be gathering once again for the Mid-Year Meeting. How did that happen? We just left the Organizational Meeting in July! In any event – I look forward to seeing many of you again! It's always great to see my Brother Knights from all around the State!

My wife Jessica and I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!!

Michael Boehm

NYS Newsletter Editor

ESSAY & POSTER COMPETITION

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

- Grades K through 8 (Ages 5-14)
- Rules:
 - o Poster must reflect the theme of "Keep Christ in Christmas."
 - o Should be original work (concept, layout, slogan, visual images).
 - o Poster should be approximately 11X17 inches.
 - o If pastels, charcoal, or chalk are used, poster must be laminated.
 - o Poster must be submitted with the Keep Christ in Christmas entry form. (Be sure to include the council number.)
 - o Name and age of the entrant should be printed on the back of the poster.
- Judging:
 - o Slogan - 30 points (How clearly is the theme presented?)
 - o Visuals - 30 points (How well do the visuals convey the message?)
 - o Overall Impact - 40 points (How effective is the poster in capturing your attention and causing you to reflect on the topic at hand?)
- Due Date: Submit council winners in each age category no later than 1/31/26
- Submit winning posters to: Michael Tully
279 Lincoln Avenue
St. James, NY 11780

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

- Grades 8 through 12
- In an essay of 500-750 words, explain: The office of the papacy was established by Jesus Christ nearly 2000 years ago when He chose St. Peter to lead His Church.
Out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why?
- Essay must be submitted with Catholic Citizenship Essay entry form. (Be sure to include the council number.)
- Judging:
 - o Content - 35 points (How clearly is the theme presented?)
 - o Grammar - 30 points
 - o Style - 35 points
- Due Date: Submit council winners in each grade category no later than **1/10/26**
- Submit winning essays to: Michael Tully
279 Lincoln Avenue
St. James, NY 11780

For Essay Kits and Poster Kits go to K of C Supplies on Line.

For more information sign on to the Supreme web site and look for Essay Contest or Poster Contest.



Brothers all,

It's time to get ready for the **2026 Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship**. One of the great **Faith in Action "Community" programs**. As always, Council contests should be held in the December/January timeframe.

District Deputies should be checking with their Councils to determine if more than one Council is participating. If two or more councils are holding a Free-Throw a District

event should be held in February and DDs should make sure that they have the District medals for their events.

Here are a couple Important facts that you should be aware of:

- **Make sure that you are up-to-date on the program and rules.**
[Free-Throw Championship Playbook](#) Here are a few important ones
 - **Age is determined as of January 1, 2026 NOT their age when your event is held.** *Guide for age is attached*
 - Council Level participants shoot 15 baskets
 - District Level and above participants shoot 25 baskets
 - Ties at all levels must be broken.
 - To break a tie, contestants take a second round of five free throws. No warm-up tosses are permitted for the tie-breaker rounds. Successive rounds of five free throws each continue until a winner emerges.
 - **Do not use the old two-sided participant forms.** Click on this link for the [1598 score sheet](#) that you should be using. They should also be included in the new Free-Throw kits if you order one.
- Rules for proof of age/gender: "Paperwork that determines age eligibility of participants **should be viewed and confirmed but it should not be collected or copied.**" So, have them bring and show proof, but **do not make or attach copies of birth certificates or passports to the score sheets.** You can simply note on the score sheet that their eligibility has been verified.
Note: I have verified with our State Advocate, State Deputy and the Director at Supreme for the Free-Throw Championship that we still use the information for age and gender on the Birth Certificate.

Supplies are available through Supplies Online:

Free Throw Kit (FT-KIT-E) *Order a new kit for the latest forms and updates*
Free-Throw participant patches (FT-P-E). You can get 25 patches for \$15.25
District Deputies should order Free-Throw Medals if needed

Insurance for Free-Throw events

If an insurance certificate is requested, a one-day policy for \$1 million of coverage can be purchased from:

Lockton Affinity

800-496-0288

councilInsurance@locktonaffinity.com

Dates for regional finals are TBD Please follow-up with your DD or regional chairman

The NYS finals will be at West Point (*Date TBD*). The team at West Point does a wonderful job with supplying us with a facility and Knights to work with the kids. I look forward to working with them again this year.

It is important to make sure that all Diocesan and KofC Safe Environment requirements are met at all events. We have a moral obligation as well as a legal obligation to safeguard events that involve the youth in our communities and parishes.

Thank you all for your help. I look forward to working with all of you on the Free-Throw program. Vivat Jesus!

Nick Caputo

Free Throw State Chair

e: santa.nick.c@gmail.com

c: 315-247-3677

h: 315-627-0171

Nick Caputo

~Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles.~

Matthew 5:41



Empire State Bulletin

October 2025



New York State Council KNIGHTS • OF • COLUMBUS SOCCER CHALLENGE STATE FINALS



**SOCCER
CHALLENGE**



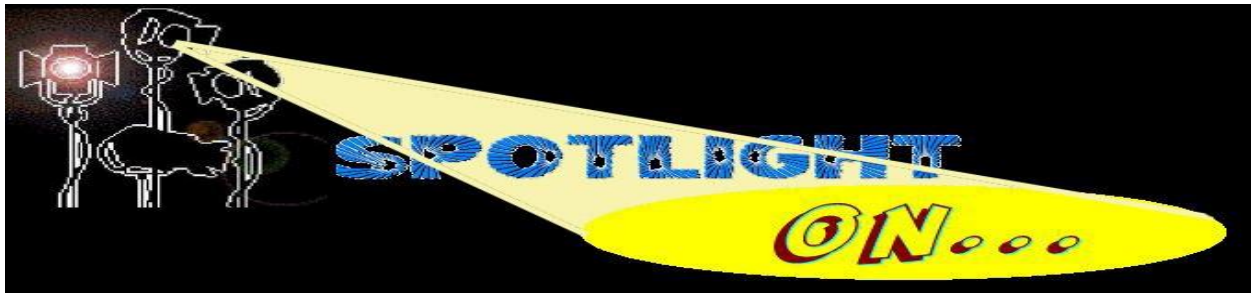
The New York State Soccer Challenge Finals will be held on;
Sunday, November 2nd, at West Point Military Academy.

Event Address: UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL (USMAPS)
950 Reynolds Road, West Point NY
Ask directions at gate to USMAPS

Check in times: Downstate Participants: 8:30am
Upstate Participants: 9:30am
Long Island Participants: 10:30am
We will be starting at 9:00am **SHARP!**

Please Note: All persons entering West Point must visit the West Point Visitor Control Center and present proper ID to obtain a visitor day pass.
Visitor Center open from 6:00am – 10:00pm
WEST POINT VISITOR CONTROL CENTER
2107 New South Post Road Highland Falls, NY (845) 938-0392

If you have any questions, please contact Nicholas Procino, email; Nicholas.procino@gmail.com
or cell; (845) 499-7777



It is my honor to nominate Fr. Zachary Miller for the New York State Knights of Columbus Clergy Spotlight. As Pastor of Christ the King and Pope John XXIII parishes—and a Fourth Degree Knight—Fr. Miller embodies priestly devotion and fraternal commitment.



He is not only our most faithful supporter, but our greatest advocate. His presence at events brings spiritual depth and joyful camaraderie. He doesn't just endorse our mission as Knights of Columbus—he lives it.

Fr. Miller's ministry does not stop at just the parishes he serves. He also serves as:

- National Guard Veteran
- Chaplain to Central New York Police Chiefs
- Chaplain to the 174th Fighter Wing at Hancock Field
- Board Member at Christian Brothers Academy
- Member of the Diocesan Presbyteral Council
- Contributor to the Ad Hoc Committee for Deacon Formation
- On-call priest chaplain for Upstate Medical's Spiritual Care Team
- Member of the Diocesan Priest Vocations Team

Whether ministering to those in uniform, hospital beds, or discerning vocations, Fr. Miller's care is always personal. He is often the first to respond—day or night—whenever a need arises.

Fr. Zach exemplifies servant leadership. He leads with compassion, serves with unwavering dedication, and reaches far beyond his parish to touch every corner of our community.

We are proud to call him our brother Knight, our pastor, and our friend.

Sincerely,

Rick Beiswenger, 4th Degree Knight
Father Louis Waters Council 7928
Liverpool Knights of Columbus



NYS Knights of Columbus Council

“Clergy Spotlight”

The NYS Council would like to introduce a new initiative called “**Clergy Spotlight**” to further support and recognition our Clergy. The NYS Council is looking for councils throughout the state to nominate a local clergy. The nominating council will then put together an article with a small photo of a Priest, Deacon or Bishop who makes a difference in their parish, community, and the Order. The selected submission will be posted in the state's monthly newsletter.

Format:

Limit 250-300 words.

Single page article or narrative with photo already on the page

Email attachment only

Submission:

One Submission per council per month

Email **MUST INCLUDE** the council’s name, number and location along with contact person’s name and email address.

Submit spotlight articles:

Saville1@yahoo.com

SK Stephen Saville FN

State Chairman of Priest Recognition

NYS Council- Knights of Columbus

518-538-3391

Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrimage 2025 on Oct 21, 2025



PSD Anthony Ippolito Testimonial 10/25/25 Congratulations Tony!!





My report this month is on one of New York State Columbiettes longest running programs . It is called the Transcription program for the Blind. It is recognized as a 501(c) 3 Tax Exempt nonprofit Charity. It is estimated that over 10,000 books have been given out since this program started in 1972 .The Columbiettes have been working hand in hand since the early 1960s with the Xavier society for the blind in New York City, and in the early 1970s they began making a Funny Alphabet book all the books are large print and have descriptive objects (3D) with a Thumb Drive of the story making this a read along book. Each book is handcrafted, and it takes hours to complete. I

know for a fact Because I have gone to many of these Workshops. The Funny Alphabet Book is given to any child or Columbiette that is blind or severely sight impaired. at NO cost to parents educators, hospitals libraries and facilities to aid the children in learning the alphabet the book is in English and Spanish (Spanish started in 2012), not only to children in the United States but in countries around the world. They also distribute thousands of dollars in education grants to children up to the age of 24 and to sister

Columbiettes who have developed site issues and need assistance in purchasing adaptive devices to assist them with their daily living .Please pass On this information along with your Grand Knights the program is always in need of funds for more printing of the book pagers ,binders boxes, supplies, there are a lot of things the Columbiettes cannot handmake.

NYS CC Transcription Program for the Blind Inc.

P.O Box 60498
Staten Island 10306

Fraternally,

Joe Muller
State Chairman Columbiettes
917-364-1800
joemul1024@gmail.com

NY STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS **LENT 2026**

5TH ANNUAL RETREAT

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27 -
SUNDAY, MARCH 1**

**Mt. Alvernia Retreat Center
Wappingers Falls, NY**

PRE-REGISTRATION OPEN

Please email: jcerato@ix.netcom.com



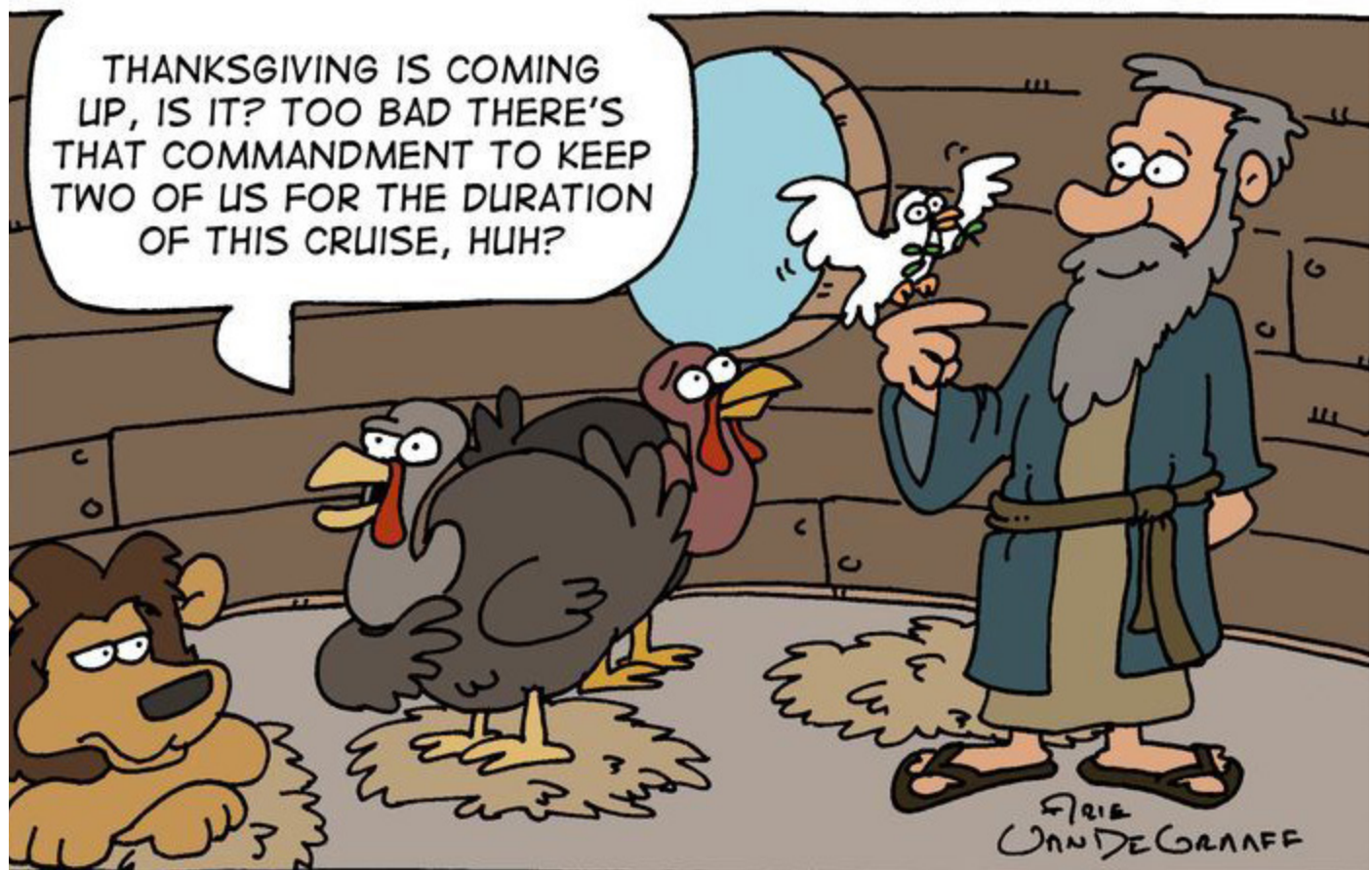


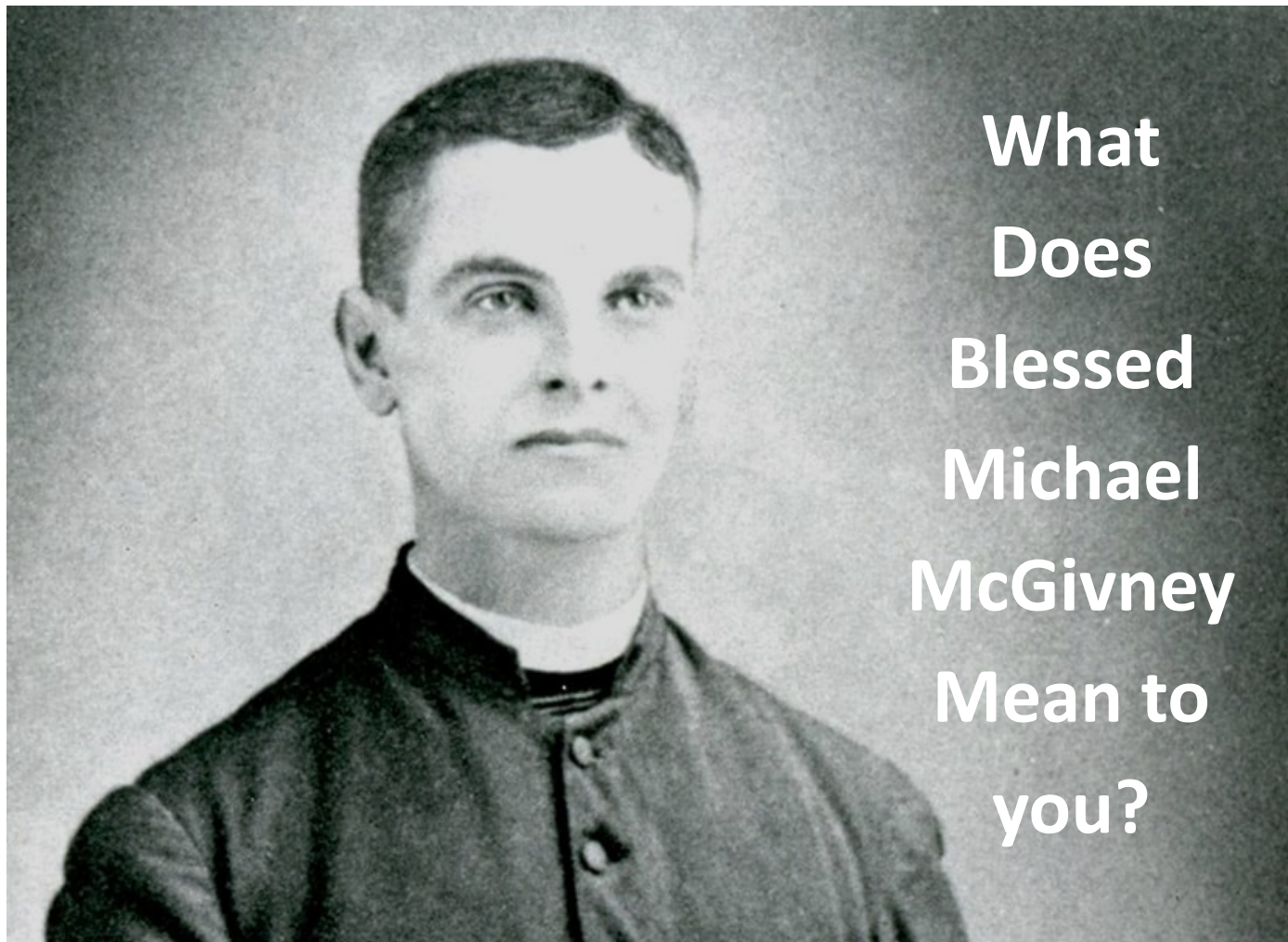
NY State Council Knights of Columbus FAITH ACTIVITIES & SHRINE PILGRIMAGES

2026

Sunday, January, 18	Pro Life Mass (10:15AM Mass – St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY)
Sunday, January 25	Pro Vita Mass (11AM Mass – St. James Cathedral, Brooklyn NY)
Sunday, March 29	Founder's Day
Sunday, May 17	Our Lady of the Island Shrine (10AM Rosary, 11:30AM Mass – Manorville, NY)
Sunday, July 12	St. Anne's Shrine (Isle of La Motte, VT)
Saturday, July 25	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine (Middletown, NY)
Thursday, August 13	Blessed McGivney Feast Day (7PM Mass – St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral)
Saturday, September 19	Shrine of the North American Martyrs (Auriesville, NY)
Saturday, October 17	Our Lady of Fatima Shrine (Youngstown, NY)

Pilgrimage is a symbol of life. It makes us think of life as a walk, as a path. A path to meet Jesus.
POPE FRANCIS





What Does Blessed Michael McGivney Mean to you?

Michael McGivney is more than just the founder of the Knights of Columbus. He is the face of what the Knights of Columbus have become. He represents every person given a wheelchair, every child given a coat, every chapel that has been rebuilt, every pilgrimage we participate in and the endless list of all charitable deeds of the Knights. Fr. McGivney through our works has touched millions of lives.

As State Chairman for the McGivney Guild, if you are not already a member, I highly encourage to join, for the sake of our founder and the purpose and charitable works he represents. You can play a key role in advancing Father McGivney's cause for canonization by joining the McGivney Guild for free and praying for his intercession and canonization. What else is the Guild? It is the center for reporting favors that occurred with his intercession.

The Guild currently has more than 176,000 members, and you are encouraged to join by filling out and submitting the online form. Please assist in the cause of Father McGivney by spreading the word about this holy and blessed priest. You can join online at:

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/join-the-guild>

Thomas Freunds Schuh, PGK, FSD
State Chairman, McGivney Guild
Thomas.Freunds Schuh@gmail.com



Archbishop John Hughes Council #481 celebrates their 125th Anniversary:



At the meeting of the Hudson Valley Chapter on September 26th, Chapter Vice President Carl Schneider was honored with the Edward J. Rose Award for his many years of dedicated service to the ceremonials of the Order and the Hudson Valley Chapter. The award was presented by Past Chapter President David Kibler and State Deputy Gary Leonardo.



On Monday October 20, 2025, the St. Isaac Jogues Council 333 Ticonderoga, NY held an Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity where Seven new Brothers were inducted into our order. Over Fifty Brothers, Families and friends were in attendance including our Worthy State Deputy Gary Leonardo, State Warden Keith Kemp and Worthy Carl Schneider. A social evening including food and refreshments was held to welcome the new Brothers.



Did you know Thanksgiving is a Catholic holiday?

True, it's not on the Church calendar. And it is celebrated only in America, whereas Church holidays are universal. Our national holiday is certainly an event that has taken on a life of its own, with an established tradition involving turkey and mashed potatoes, football, shopping, and a four-day weekend—which is fascinating since none of those things have anything to do with the original event that gave rise to annual celebration on the fourth Thursday in November. But any time a nation does anything in unison that involves families getting together and counting their blessings, it is a good thing. "Thanks," says G.K. Chesterton, "is the highest form of thought." And he mentions the fact that the worst moment for an atheist is when he is thankful and suddenly realizes he has no one to thank. But what is the origin of this holiday?

What most people believe is a variation on what I was taught in public school in the 1960s. The Pilgrims came to Plymouth on a ship called the *Mayflower*. They were the first English settlers in America. They came for religious freedom. And they had a big feast with Indians, and that was the first Thanksgiving. That about sums it up. And that is what Chesterton calls "The Myth of the *Mayflower*." First of all, they were not known as "pilgrims" till about 200 years afterwards. They were Puritans, a radical Anglican "low church" sect that loathed the "high church" Anglicans that happened to include the King of England. In fact, about 30 years after the Puritans arrived in America, some of their fellow Puritans back in England arranged for King Charles I to have his head chopped off.

Secondly, there were at least nine other British settlements before the Plymouth colony. In fact, one of them was at Plymouth. All but one of them failed, including the first settlement at Plymouth. The Puritans who came to Plymouth in 1620 almost didn't survive. Half the settlers died the first winter. They were saved by a Native American named Squanto, who taught them how to hunt and fish and grow corn.

But here's what is really interesting: ***Squanto was a Roman Catholic.***

In 1614, he had been captured by an English party led by Captain John Smith (of Pocahontas fame) and taken on a ship to Spain where he was to be sold as a slave. He was rescued by some Dominican friars who instructed him in the Catholic faith. He told them he wanted to return to his people in America. They helped him get to England, where he met John Slaney, who taught him English and arranged for

him to get to Newfoundland. Squanto served as an interpreter between the English and the Indians and crossed the Atlantic six times. He was never able to return to his own tribe, because they had been wiped out in a plague.

After he came to the aid of the Plymouth settlers, helping them grow their own food, he arranged for a joint harvest feast with the local Wampanoag tribe. It was this event that is the basis of our Thanksgiving holiday. So Thanksgiving was started by a Native American Catholic. Ironically, the Wampanoag tribe later took Squanto hostage because they distrusted him, and he was rescued by the English. It is possible that the Indians poisoned him, which led to his death shortly afterwards in 1622. And then there is this other thing we never learned in school: In 1621, the year after the Puritans arrived at Plymouth, another group of English settlers arrived in Ferry, Newfoundland. The land had been granted to George Calvert, the First Baron of Baltimore. Calvert's son, Cecilius, the Second Baron of Baltimore, was granted another chunk of the New World, which he settled in 1632. He called it Maryland. Why did England give this land to George Calvert and his son? As compensation for the fact the George Calvert had been stripped of his title of Secretary State. And why had he been stripped of his title? Because he declared that he was a Roman Catholic. Maryland (named for some woman whose name was Mary) was the first English Catholic settlement in the New World, and one of its founding principles was...freedom of religion.

The Puritans up the coast get all the credit for establishing freedom of religion, but they did not do it. They were actually quite opposed to the idea. They were anything but tolerant. In fact, it was their intolerance that caused them to come to the new world, not persecution. England was not Puritan enough for them. They did not think the Stuarts had gone far enough to do away with the elements of Catholicism that still remained in the Church of England. Puritan intolerance led the eventual execution of King Charles I (whose wife and children were Catholic). Puritan intolerance was further demonstrated by a course of events in another Puritan settlement established just six years after the one in Plymouth, just down the road, had there been a road. It was called Salem. It was there that anyone who departed from a strict Puritan practice was in danger of being burned as a witch. Chesterton points out that the Puritans lost their belief in priests but kept their belief in witches.

So the Catholics deserve the credit not only for the first Thanksgiving, but for the first real religious freedom in America. Not the Puritans whom we call Pilgrims. It is perhaps why G.K. Chesterton says that England should also celebrate Thanksgiving—in thanks that the Pilgrims *left* England!

(This essay was originally posted on November 25, 2015 by **Dale Ahlquist** , president of the Society of Gilbert Keith Chesterton)

**NOT JUST TODAY...
BUT EVERY SINGLE DAY**



**THANK YOU
VETERANS**





ARMY vs TEMPLE



West Point United States Military Academy
606 Thayer Rd, West Point, NY 10996

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 2025

Pre-Game Tailgate Party 9:30am – 12pm

(Tailgate Party and Parking At South Dock #'s 2 & 3)

Come join your fellow Knights for a Tailgate Party and a great afternoon of football at West Point USMA.

Ticket price includes the 2 Hour Pre-Game Tailgate Party hosted by Cardinal Egan Council #16334, Parking and Entrance to the game!
All food provided by Cardinal Egan Council! You provide your own beverages.

***PARKING LOT OPENS AT 6AM – ARRIVE EARLY TO BEAT THE RUSH.
RESERVE NOW - TICKETS ARE LIMITED - \$85.00 PER TICKET***

**Proceeds to purchase W.W.A. Honor Wreaths for Wreaths Across America
For information contact James De Francesco (JTDF717@gmail or 917-903-8701)**

*Make check or money order payable to NYS Knights of Columbus, please note
"West Point" in memo and mail to: 23 Robinson Ave, Staten Island, NY 10312*

NAME _____

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PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

OF TICKETS _____ @ \$85.00 EACH TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

"We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern." - Pope Francis, 9/16/13



As Catholics and citizens, members of the Knights of Columbus should vote and should encourage members of their families, parishes, and communities to vote. Members are not permitted to engage in partisan political activity in the name of the Knights of Columbus. Partisan political activity is defined as action directed toward success or failure of a political party, candidate for political office, or political group.

That being said, The Catholic bishops of the United States are pleased to offer once again to the Catholic faithful *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, their teaching document on the political responsibility of Catholics. This statement represents their guidance for Catholics in the exercise of their rights and duties as participants in our democracy. They urge our pastors, lay and religious faithful, and all people of good will to use this statement to help form their consciences; to teach those entrusted to their care; to contribute to civil and respectful public dialogue; and to shape political choices in the coming election in light of Catholic teaching. The statement lifts up our dual heritage as both faithful Catholics and American citizens with rights and duties as participants in the civil order. To see the full document, click here: <https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Please consider joining the Blessed Father Michael J
McGivney Guild All Are Welcome To Join It's Free To Join.



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS 2025 CAMPAIGN

Here's a Great Way to Keep Christ in Christmas...

...While at the same time, raising money for your group!

The Knights of Columbus, Father William A. Daly Council #2122 in Manhasset NY is the distributor of the **"Keep Christ in Christmas" Nativity Magnets.**

The new Magnet is about 7" wide x 4 3/4" tall and stands out nicely on any color vehicle. They are made of strong, high-quality magnet material so weather isn't a factor.

Most organizations use this as a fundraiser by selling the Magnets for \$5.00 each. You and your organization can net \$700 per box of 200 Magnets with just a small investment of time and effort.

We have set up tables after Mass, outside of supermarkets and local stores, where parishioners can purchase, with a terrific response!

Your Cost:

One box of 200 @ \$1.50 ea. = \$300.00
Free Shipping On All Orders of Full Boxes

Your Profit:

200 at \$5.00 ea. = \$1,000
Your profit \$700 per box!

Spanish Magnets are now available !

For Questions about this program, please email us at: FSKofC2122@gmail.com, or you can go directly to our website to order www.kofc2122.org.

**All the money we raise goes directly to helping our parish, their students and our Charities.
We hope you and your group will join us in keeping Christ in Christmas! Thank You.**



Our Newest Magnet Design



Each magnet is individually packaged, ready to sell.



New Items Available!
Lawn Signs
and
License Plate Frames

The parish priest who changed the world.



BLESSED MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

Parish Priest

Founder

Knights Of Columbus

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Church Statue Initiative

Join the New York State Knights of Columbus, the first jurisdiction to place
10 statues of Blessed Michael McGivney in the 8 Cathedrals and
2 Co-Cathedrals of New York State.

Celebrate Blessed Michael McGivney's profound impact on the Catholic Church
and his remarkable journey toward sainthood.

Commemorate this humble parish priest, who founded the Knights of Columbus
and is revered for his unwavering faith and dedication to serving others.

Contributions

Donations should be payable to "New York State Council Knights of Columbus"
and sent to SK Louis Pepe, 93 Rapelve St. 4D, Brooklyn, NY 11231.





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Posts should be limited to the Knights of Columbus. As a member of the
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media, to help you grow deeper in your faith, stay informed about the
Order and connect to your Brother Knights. This is the **ONLY OFFICIAL FB**
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**Daylight Savings Day
November 2nd**



**Election Day
November 4th**



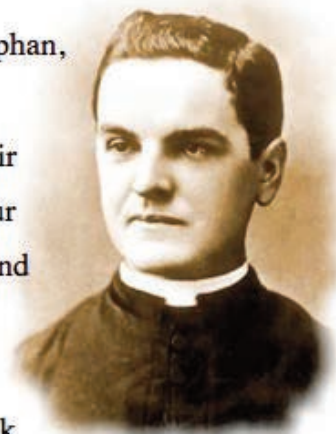
**Veterans Day
November 11th**



**Thanksgiving
November 27th**

Prayer for the Canonization of **Blessed Michael McGivney**

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, **Blessed Michael McGivney**, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify **Blessed Michael McGivney** on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request).
Through Christ our Lord. Amen



The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild promotes the cause for sainthood of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, who was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020. Members of the Guild, and anyone devoted to Father McGivney, can play an active role in the cause by praying for his intercession in times of need, especially in cases of serious illness, and reporting to the Guild any favors received.

Membership in the Guild is free and open to anyone who is devoted to Father McGivney and wishes to invoke his intercession and assist in his sainthood cause through prayer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and are remembered in a weekly Mass offered for their intentions.

Catholic men who wish to live out the vision and mission of Father McGivney are invited to join the [Knights of Columbus](#) and become part of a network of charity, unity and fraternity that serves local parishes and communities. Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 in New Haven, Conn., and died at the age of 38 in 1890. His cause for sainthood was opened in 1997, and his heroic virtue was recognized by the Vatican in March 2008, when he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI. On May 26, 2020, Father McGivney took another step toward sainthood when Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a [miracle attributed to his intercession](#). With the approval of this miracle, he was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, with the title of Blessed.

Another miracle through his intercession is needed for him to be canonized as a saint.

Those devoted to Father McGivney are encouraged to recite regularly the prayer for his canonization, which is available online and on a special prayer card. You may Report favors through this website or by email or regular mail at the addresses listed below.

To request a third-class relic or to order devotional items, click on the [online form link](#). Print out the form, fill it out and mail it to the Father McGivney Guild.

The Guild has more than 176,000 members, and you are encouraged to join by filling out and submitting the [online form](#). Please assist in the cause of Father McGivney by spreading the word about this holy and blessed priest.

For more information or to request a prayer card:

Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Tel: 203-752-4087

Email: guild@kofc.org