



New York State Knight Life



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

September 1, 2025 Vol. 2 Edition. 9

Official Newsletter for the New York State Knights of Columbus

“O cross, you are the glorious sign of our victory.
Through your power may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.”

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Rev. Edward Sheridan

Deacon for the State Council
Deacon Charles Esposito

Deacon for the State Council
Deacon Daniel Rodriguez

September 1st

A day we all
can pray for peace.



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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 mb Boehm1122@msn.com

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PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE COUNCIL

State Deputy's Message



Dear Brother Knights,

Attending the Supreme Convention in Washington, D.C., for the first time as your State Deputy was not only a tremendous honor, but also a profound spiritual experience—one that I will carry in my heart forever. It was a powerful reminder that everything we do as Knights of Columbus flows from our Catholic faith and returns to it, strengthened and renewed. The convention was a resounding success, and the New York Delegation shone brightly as a witness to what makes our jurisdiction so special. We have much to be proud of—not in ourselves, but in how

Christ continues to work through us.

Listening to the stories of the Faith in Action award recipients stirred my heart. Their lives of service showed so clearly that when faith is lived with courage, it transforms entire communities. As I sat there, I thought: *This is what the Gospel looks like in action.* And I realized—we in New York are already living it, too.

One of the most moving moments came when I met the “Family of the Year.” Their witness of faith, love, and sacrifice reflected the very heart of the Church’s mission. Speaking with them reminded me that a family rooted in Christ becomes a beacon of hope, a living catechism that inspires all who encounter them.

And while we honor these Supreme awardees, I know that right here in New York we have families and councils whose faith and works shine just as brightly. Their stories—your stories—deserve to be told. They can inspire not only our state but the entire Order.

Now we must carry this spirit forward. As September begins, and with our “Back to School” initiative underway, let us renew our commitment to evangelization and fraternity. This is the perfect season to engage our pastors and walk hand in hand with them in strengthening our parishes. A personal invitation from a priest to join the Knights is more than recruitment—it is the Church calling her sons to deeper discipleship.

Let us be bold in our outreach, rooted always in faith:

- Speak after Mass with humility and conviction, bearing witness to the joy of brotherhood in Christ.
- Offer hospitality after Mass, where families can gather in fellowship that reflects the warmth of the Gospel.
- Promote online membership as a simple door through which men can begin a life of service and faith.

Remember: we are not merely asking men to join an organization—we are inviting them to answer Christ’s call to serve, to stand united in faith, and to build up His Church through charity, unity, and fraternity.

Brothers, let us move forward with courage and hope. Let us make this September not only a season of growth, but a season of grace. For we are not just Knights of Columbus—we are *Pilgrims of Hope*, carrying the light of Christ into the world.

Fraternally yours,

Gary J. Leonardo
State Deputy, New York

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Brother Knights,

In this month of September, the Church will celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Sunday, September 14th. It is, for us Catholic Christians, truly a celebration and complements Good Friday. On Good Friday, part of the Easter Triduum, we solemnly remember Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity, in his human nature, enduring his Passion, his suffering and death on the Cross as we prepare for the Easter joy of the Resurrection. The celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is a time for us to venerate the Cross again, as we do on Good Friday.

This Feast Day has been observed since before the end of the 7th Century to celebrate three events: the finding of the True Cross by order of Saint Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, around 327 A.D.; the dedication of the churches built by Constantine founded on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem in 629 after it fell into the hands of the Persians fifteen years earlier.

Why do we celebrate and exalt in the Cross of Christ? It is because when Jesus, in that ultimate act of unconditional love, willingly laid down his life on the Cross, suffering and dying in that most humiliating way, it was for us, for our salvation and redemption, to save us from our sins. In that moment, the Cross ceased to be a symbol of fear, torture, and death and became a symbol of hope, comfort, and the eternal life promised by God for His faithful. When we sign ourselves or bless others with the Sign of the Cross, let us remember, we are not simply going through a motion and as we wear or display crosses or crucifixes, they are not simply ornaments. The Holy Cross is for us as Christians, followers of Christ, a symbol of God's abiding and unconditional love for us and our hope because Jesus conquered sin and death by his Passion on the Cross. Before an important battle, the Emperor Constantine in 312 A.D. would be shown a vision by Jesus in the sky of the Cross with the Greek words, "(ἐν) τούτῳ νικά" which in Latin would be "In hoc signo vinces", "In this sign, you will conquer." It would lead to Constantine's conversion and the end of the persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire and the eventual establishment of Christianity as the religion of the Empire. So, we glory in the Cross of Christ!

September, in the Church is the month dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows is the day after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 15th. Our Lady stood witness at the foot of the Cross watching her beloved son Jesus suffering and dying for us all. In that moment, we were given by Jesus from the Cross his mother, Mary, to be our mother when he said to Mary, "Woman, behold, your son." and to John, the beloved Apostle, "Behold, your mother."

Let us pray that Our Lady of Sorrows will intercede to Our Lord Jesus Christ for our Church during these challenging times in our Church's history and continue to wrap us all in the mantle of her love and protection. Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us!

Vivat Jesus!

Yours in Christ, through Mary,
Fr. Mike

Rev. Michael J. Johnson
Chaplain, New York State Council, Knights of Columbus

C&B SEPTEMBER 2025



The 2025 Campaign is in full swing. On July 20 we had the Quick Start drawing. Winners were listed in last month's newsletter and are on the State's website.

This year we are challenged as the number of members in New York State decreased by 4,000. This will make it challenging to not only meet last year's sales numbers but to increase them to support the States and Councils Charities.

We did get off to a very good start as we increased sales by 147 books year on year and increased books per member from .1758 to .1889 . COUNCILS HAVE ALREADY EARNED \$15,492 in BONUS MONEY.

Below are the results by Conference:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
NASSAU	3065	2176
HUDSON VALLEY	1163	831
QUEENS	1074	980
SUFFOLK	750	566
CENTRAL	514	446
KINGS	418	238
CAPITAL	381	261
FINGER LAKES	1856	2603
NORTHERN	1025	1361
WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM	737	887
BMS	370	515
WESTERN	289	642

THANK YOU to the 7 Conferences that increased sales and let us aim for all 12 to grow after the EARLY BIRD.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 31 Councils that achieved 1 book per member and are in the STATE DEPUTIES TROPHY CLUB.

CAPITAL (2)

SCHENECTADY 201

STAMFORD 13222

CENTRAL (2)

PETER CAMPON 206

SACRED HEART 6282

FINGER LAKES (5)

FATHER BROWN 281- FR, DEVEREAUX 7980 - OUR LADY OF THE CENACLE
3892-REV.MICHAEL HOGAN 15917- BLESSED GRIMALDI 17384

HUDSON VALLEY (2)
LORETTO 536

CARDINAL EGAN 16334

KINGS (1)
BISHOP DAILY17000
NASSAU(6)

JOSEPH BARRY 2520- POPE PIUS XII-4422- OUR LADY OF MERCY/JOSEPH LAMB
5723

ST .FRANCES de CHANTAI-6526- ST.PIUS X10332 -SIGN Of THE CROSS 11254
NORTHERN (2)

DANNEMORA 2166- ROUSES POINT 2366

QUEENS (3)

DR.DOOLY-FR.MCGIVNEY 430- ST.ROBERT BELLARMINE 8964- AGNES DEI
12361 SUFFOLK (2)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 928- OUR LADY OF GRACE 11968

WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM (4)

OSSINING 311- FR.JOHN LAFARGE 4012-MSGR.RYAN 5169-HOLY SPIRIT 15493

WESTERN (2)

WYOMING 2240- ST.VINCENT DEPAUL 17883



The poster is for a "C&B EARLY BIRD DRAWING!" held on "SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025" at "ST. ANNE'S COUNCIL, 263-15 Union Turnpike, Glen Oaks". It includes a sign-in time of 12:00PM and a drawing time of 2:30PM. A yellow banner states "WATCH A LIVESTREAM OF THE DRAWING HERE:" with the URL <https://www.youtube.com/@crispinreyes8012>. Another yellow banner says "THIS DRAWING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AND RECORDED". At the bottom, it says "FOLLOW US" with the URL <https://newyorkknights.com> and features a small image of a "PILGRIMS OF HOPE" poster.

The EARLY BIRD drawing will be held on Saturday September 27 at St.Anne's Council in Glen Oaks in Queens If you are mailing returns to the Post Office Box please mail by Monday September 22 to ensure the books arrive in time. The C&B mailing address is PO.BOX 640789 Oakland Gardens Station Oakland Gardens, NY 11364-0789. If you are arriving to attend, please arrive at 12 noon.

Please feel free to contact anyone on the team if you have any questions or need additional books or posters. KEEP SELLING ----

Ken Karchinski

Director C&B

As I mentioned in my last article, I want to talk about the videos. These videos are currently available on the New York State web site. Under “NYS Training Information” on the cover page of the web site are two sections. They are “Training Documentation” and “Training Videos”. The second section is the aim of this article. The videos now will be grouped in logical titles to make finding videos much easier.



Group	Sample videos
Grand Knight	GK Training: Part One, GK Training: Part Two
Officers	Council Officer Training
Meeting	Council Meetings, Officers' Planning Meeting
Cor	Start Up Series video 1, Start Up Series video 4
Forms	Semiannual Council Audit Training Video
Membership	Membership Retention, Recruitment Strategies
Supplemental	Working with your Pastor, Public Relations

The sample video column does not contain all the videos on the web site but just a sense of what is there. As the training section of the state website expands other videos should be added. Additionally other groups will be added. A couple will be Financial Secretary and District Deputy. A reminder when doing these videos, some will require you to register for the video. Once you have done this an email will be sent allowing you to view it for as many times as needed. I do encourage all to take advantage of this one step resource from the State website. I will ask that councils do ask for whatever training they desire. The minor conference coordinators will be the first step to get needed information for training.

Fraternally,
Danny Keenan
 Training Director
dkeenankofc@gmail.com
 845-401-6304



I am very proud to serve the New York State Council as the Administrative State Chairman for Compliance, and I thank our Worthy State Deputy for appointing me to this position. I enjoyed meeting with the District Deputies in July to review our compliance program and the need for a strong team effort to be successful.

When we accept a leadership role in the Knights of Columbus, we are agreeing to fulfill the responsibilities of the position to which we have been elected or appointed. Compliance is a crucial aspect of our responsibilities, and this is achieved in large part by accurate and timely documentation. This facilitates communication of Council activity and leadership, assesses a Council's need, and monitors ongoing compliance.

At this time, Councils should have submitted their forms 185 and 365. All District Deputies must be aware of the September 15th deadline for submission of form 944, the District Deputy Annual Report. This is a firm deadline, and late submissions will not be credited. District Deputies should work to submit these as soon as possible.

The importance of a Council being Safe Environment compliant cannot be stressed enough. As Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has stated, "Protecting our children is the sacred duty of every Knight." The Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director must all be Safe Environment trained, with the Family and Community Directors also required to have a background check completed. Please note that the background check includes a state sex offender registry, criminal, and motor vehicle check. There is no credit check. Please be sure to only have names on the 365 that will follow through on the background check for these roles. If a member reported in either of these roles does not want to participate, please resubmit the 365 with someone who will. Our goal is for all Councils to be Safe Environment compliant.

Our Worthy State Deputy has created the compliance team to include a Compliance Coordinator in each Minor Conference. Our team will meet virtually on a regular basis, and can guide and assist all of our Council Officers and District Deputies. We are listed in the State Directory, so please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Vivat Jesus

Darren M. Gamma, PGK, PFN, FDD, PCP, PCC
Administrative State Chairman - Compliance
dmgamma@aol.com (914) 213-0865



The programs highlighted here are meant to inspire your council to put their faith into action. The goal is for the council to conduct programs that draw men closer to their faith, families, and communities. We will discuss some Community Programs. You need to get your Councils involved in different Community programs. This in turn usually sparks the interest of *potential members* while keeping your present members engaged. There are two new programs for this year.



- The first Community program is **Bright Futures**. This is a simple program a council can conduct a school supply event such as backpacks, pencils, pens, paper and donate to local school. The council can also plan and implement a beautification project for a school.
- The second Community program is **Celebrating our Catholic Heritage**. This program encourages the council and parishes to celebrate the culture and traditions of their community. More details can be found on kofc.org website. Councils should start to plan for **Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest**. This year's Essay Topic: Is Out of the 267 popes that have led the Catholic Church, who are your three favorite popes and why? This is open to 8th through 12th grade students. We need to keep our children engaged in church.
- Another two great community events are athletic events for youth from 9 to 14 years of age that encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. The first is a **Soccer Challenge**, start now to plan for this event. The **Free Throw Championship** is a few months away, but start the planning, ordering kits, securing dates for a gym in January, and most importantly getting the word out to the Boys & Girls.
- **Disaster Preparedness** is a necessity today. We do not know when a disaster can or will happen. Prepare your family, council members, parish family. You can offer first aid, CPR classes, or how to deal with all diverse kinds of emergencies. Your council can hold a fundraiser for an AED, to donate it to your Parish.
- **Coats for Kids** program is an excellent way to give back to your community. Last year the Knights of Columbus gave out over 286,000 coats. In this Featured Program your council would participate in purchasing cases of Coats from Knights Gear. Start planning a fundraiser to purchase coats. If your council cannot support Coats for Kids, plan a Coat Drive in your parish for gently used coats. These programs are just some of the Community Programs, Please visit **New York State Council** website www.newyorkknights.com or visit **Supremes Knights of Columbus** website kofc.org

Please remember when your council is having an event, please document the event by filling out Fraternal Programs Report Form **10784**, after each event. This makes it easier for a Grand knight to fill out the SP-7 later in Columbian year.

Administrative State Chairman - Community - Stephen Loccisano

Email-sloccisanokofc@gmail.com _631-357-4122



**Congratulations to all of the
Councils in NYS who
achieved the STAR COUNCIL
AWARD for 2024 - 2025!!**

7460	486	545
2204	5252	4065
14578	4618	13378
1992	7006	821
12993	11416	5917
338	7423	16134
2147	15917	15809
3958	16411	6844
12006	7085	17652
11163	5103	5814
2548	17580	281
8250	6526	725
309	6802	4126
3701	4783	5293
11449	5753	11950
3892	7479	15446
17379	5872	3481
3995	11227	6652
9254	794	3581
4428	13524	10332
14771		2458

**And Congratulations to all of the District
Deputies who achieved Star District as well!
Awesome Job!**



Here we are in September. Wasn't it just July? September is a very interesting month. It is an absolutely gorgeous time of the year. Especially for those who live further upstate than I do. But then again, anything north of the Bronx is Upstate to those of us who live on Long Island. I am hoping to get a chance to take a ride and get to see some of the splendor of the season this year. Last year I was fortunate enough to be able to get up to Auriesville for the annual NYS Pilgrimage. It was a wonderful day and a great opportunity to spend the day with my brothers from the NYS Council, celebrate Mass together and learn about the history of the grounds and the area. But even beyond that it was a great opportunity to enjoy some breathtaking views, to disconnect from the world for a bit and to just get in touch with Mother Nature for a few precious hours. If you have the chance to go this year I highly recommend it. Bring the family and enjoy the day. It was certainly worth the drive.

September is always exciting for others reasons too. As we all know, it is "Back to School" time. A time of the year I used to dread as a kid. Kids today seem to enjoy school. I don't know what's wrong with them. Anyway, it's another great opportunity for Councils to get involved in their Community with the new **Bright Futures Program**, which invites councils to support the students and schools in their communities. I know we all believe that we pay a ridiculous amount of money in taxes to fund our local schools and that our kids should have everything that they need. But they don't. I encourage you all to reach out to your local School to see how you can help. Donate school supplies or do a little fundraiser for your local Catholic Elementary School (is it still called that?) and donate the funds to assist with tuition (that can even qualify for the NYS school support Program and they can double their money!). And get credit on your SP7 to help you be on your way to the Star Council Award. It's a win / win all over the place.

The other great thing about September is it's a great time to be a sports fan. Baseball races are heating up, NFL and College Football is getting underway and NHL & NBA is right around the corner. It is the most wonderful time of the Year!

Michael Boehm
NYS Newsletter Editor.



Potential Themes for Cor Sessions

Thoughts from Pope Leo XIV

The evangelizing mission

“These are contexts where it is not easy to preach the Gospel and bear witness to its truth, where believers are mocked, opposed, despised, or at best tolerated and pitied. Yet, precisely for this reason, they are the places where our missionary outreach is desperately needed. A lack of faith is often tragically accompanied by the loss of meaning in life, the neglect of mercy, appalling violations of human dignity, the crisis of the family, and so many other wounds that afflict our society”.

“Take courage! Without fear! Many times in the Gospel Jesus says: ‘Do not be afraid.’ We need to be courageous in the witness we give, with the world and above all with life: giving life, serving, sometimes with great sacrifices in order to live out this very mission”.

“Evangelization, dear brothers and sisters, is not our attempt to conquer the world but the infinite grace that radiates from lives transformed by the kingdom of God”.

“This dimension of our Christian life and mission is close to my heart and is reflected in the words of St. Augustine that I chose for my episcopal service and now for my papal ministry: ‘In Illo uno unum.’ Christ is our savior and in Him we are one, a family of God, beyond the rich variety of our languages, cultures, and experiences”.

Daniel Clifford

The Importance of the K of C Cor Program

In November 2023, I was in my first year as grand knight for St. Augustine's Council 7273, Peru, when an article in the Knights of Columbus' *Columbia* magazine piqued my interest. The article, "At the Heart of Our Mission," described a pilot of a new Supreme Council men's faith-based program, Cor. The magazine piece focused on about two dozen men from St. Mary Magdalen Council 12295 in Brighton, Michigan, taking the bold step of reengaging Catholic men to the Knights' faith roots.

Now, I am a cradle Catholic who attended 12 years of Catholic school, and my parents made sure that the family was at Mass each Sunday. Still, I drifted away from the Church for much of my adult life. In time, I learned that God, not me, was running the show, and I'd better get with the plan. Slowly, through His grace, the desire to build my prayer life and return to the Church had taken a firm hold. In 2019, I put my "faith into action" and joined my local Knights of Columbus council. After reading the *Columbia* article, I realized that the Cor program was an opportunity for our council to reacquaint ourselves to, and deepen, our faith.

The name Cor is taken from the motto of St. John Henry Newman, *Cor ad cor loquitur*, which is Latin for "Heart speaks to heart." Cor exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. What is great about the Cor meetings is that each council can determine how to fulfill the program's guidelines. Meetings, usually held weekly or monthly, cover any faith topic relevant to a particular council. Ideally, the Cor program leader, who can be the council's Faith Director or any member the grand knight appoints to the position, will poll the meeting attendees for potential topics. A good option is to choose timely topics from the Church's Liturgical Calendar. No matter which topics a council chooses for a Cor meeting, it is important to keep the meetings informal to encourage meaningful faith-based conversation. In fact, you'd be surprised by the various directions a meeting can go when in a relaxed atmosphere.

Since January 2024, when Council 7273 began its first Cor meeting, topics have included Lent, Easter, forgiveness, Eucharistic Miracles, an explanation of the Mass, Lectio Divina, Marian Apparitions, and St. Faustina and the Divine Mercy, to name a few. It's important to note that a council seeking to institute Cor must involve the pastor and seek his permission before opening the meeting to the entire parish.

For Council 7273, we were fortunate to have the complete support of our parish priest and the council membership to begin the regular Cor meetings. We have had a priest at most of our meetings, and their intimate knowledge of the faith brings a powerful dynamic to the conversation. The program's three pillars – prayer, formation and fraternity – are met with a beginning and ending prayer (prayer), the topic presentation (formation), and informal conversation (fraternity). My council has averaged between 12 and 22 men at each meeting. The focus should not be on a particular headcount since, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Men who have attended the Cor meetings having a safe space to discuss real-world faith issues with like-minded men has reinforced their relationship to the Church. Essentially, the Cor meetings address the challenges of faith retention and spiritual isolation by creating small group settings where men can deepen their relationship with Christ.

Cor meetings are open to all men of the parish, and it is not a prerequisite to be a Knight of Columbus. In fact, the opening of these critical faith conversations can attract men who have, for their own reasons, distanced themselves from the church. According to the U.S. Census Bureau for 2024, there were roughly 53 million Catholic adults nationwide. A Pew Research poll conducted in March 2025 found that only three-in-ten U.S. Catholics (29%) attend Mass weekly or more often. The same poll found that nearly six-in-10 Catholic adults (58%) are ages 50 and older. The data reveals what Catholics who attend the Mass regularly already know. There is an overall decline in U.S. adults attending weekly church services, and the ones that do are older.

The Knights of Columbus are on the front lines with parish pastoral administrators to take risks for social justice, mercy and healing, and evangelization and to bring Jesus to the world. The Cor program can help rebuild the Church by reacquainting – or introducing – men, and their families, to the faith.

The Cor meetings allow men to explore the good, the bad, and the ugly of our Catholic faith. Local Knights of Columbus councils should promote the Cor program because it fosters spiritual growth and strengthens council fraternity and, as a healthy by-product, helps to make Catholic men better husbands, fathers, and community members. The Cor member, by way of example, can then be a potential beacon to guide souls back to the church and the Holy Mass.



The members of K of C St. Augustine Council 7273 and Msgr. Claude A. Gobet Council 6067 in a Cor meeting at St. Alexander Parish in Morrisonville, New York, discuss the topic of Catholic sin. Photo by John Ryan/Peru, New York.

Mike Langlois, St. Augustine Council 7273 Grand Knight and Cor Coordinator, works to engage Cor meeting members during the topic discussion. Photo by John Ryan/Peru, New York.





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

Deacon Sonny Pagnotta



I am writing to nominate Deacon Sonny Carmen Louis Pagnotta for the **Clergy Spotlight**.

He was born in Brooklyn in 1949. He married his wife Susan in 1971 and has been married for 54 years. He received the call to Diaconate in 1979. He attended Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington from 1981-1985. In 2004 he went back to Immaculate Conception Seminary for Masters in Pastoral Studies and graduated in 2010. Fr. Don Baier then hired him as Director of Religious Formation where he stayed until 2022. In 1996 he became a Knight of Columbus. He has held positions of Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Assistant Chaplain.



He started ministry in the church in 1974 with Susan in Marriage Encounter. They have been Eucharistic Ministers since 1979. Deacon Sonny started as a Lector in 1975 and was chairman of various committees over their 50 years in the parish. He is currently First Conciliator of the Society of Franciscan Deacons in the Diocese of Rockville Center. He is also Communication and Development Director of Project Don Bosco, a Guatemala children's support program operating out of Saint Raymon's Church. He coordinates the Parish OCIA program. He is the Director of Calverton Chaplains, the Catholic ministry to soldiers and their spouses doing burial services daily. Deacon Sonny has conducted many retreats and seminars including worship services. Deacon Sonny has three daughters and 7 grandchildren. He has been a lifetime Yankees fan and enjoys music and reading.

Along with all of these great accomplishments Deacon Sonny is a great catholic man. I recently was very sick and he was by my side all the way. He was a constant support to me during my recovery. Deacon Sonny truly makes a difference at Saint Francis Cabrini Church, the Knights of Columbus and our community.

Lou Borriello GK
Mother Cabrini Council
Coram NY

My Brother Knights,



I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. I would like to introduce myself. My name is Joe Muller, State Chairman for Columbiettes. If your council does not have Columbiettes and you are interested or if you have any questions regarding the Columbiettes please contact me and I will answer your questions and will give you the contact information to the State Columbiette

Officer in your area. Having Columbiettes can help your council with fundraisers, membership drives and will bring unity as a family.

The Columbiettes can be a great value to your council in numerous ways.

My contact information is below

Fraternally

Joe Muller

Cell: 917- 364- 1800

joemul1024@gmail.com





Pope urges Knights of Columbus to be signs of hope

By Vatican News

Pope Leo XIV has sent a message to the Knights of Columbus as they gathered in Washington in the United States, for the 143rd Supreme Convention. In his video address, the Pope greeted all those present, both in person and virtually, and acknowledged the significance of the gathering taking place during the Jubilee Year of Hope. Then, in quoting Pope Francis, he defined hope as “the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring.” “Jesus Christ is the source of our hope,” continued the Pope, reminding the Knights that every generation of Christians is called to proclaim the Gospel, both in word and in action. He then went on to emphasize the importance of being a sign of hope, especially to those facing hardship. Pope Leo XIV pointed to the example of Blessed Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, who responded to the needs of immigrant Catholics and the poor with practical help and spiritual support. This mission of fraternal charity, he noted, continues through the work of local Knights of Columbus councils around the world.

This year’s theme, “Heralds of Hope,” the Pope said, serves as a reminder of the role Knights are called to play in their parishes, communities, and families. The Pope expressed his gratitude for the Order’s efforts in gathering men for prayer, formation, and service, as well as its outreach to vulnerable people, including pregnant women, children, the poor, and those affected by war.

“With these brief words,” the Pope concluded, “I offer my good wishes for the work of the Supreme Convention,” entrusting their efforts to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Blessed Michael McGivney. He ended his message with a blessing for all participants. You can watch the entire video message by clicking the link : [Pope Leo’s Message](#)

Some Photos from the 143rd Supreme Convention





State Deputy Installs our State Treasurer Peter Lehr at Patchogue Council!

On August 17th at the Installation of Officers of Patchogue Council 725, our Worthy State Deputy Gary Leonardo took the opportunity to install our Worthy State Treasurer Peter Lehr. Peter was unable to attend the Organizational Meeting in July. It was a very special moment as the room was full of many of Peter's friends from all throughout Suffolk County.





A September 11th Anniversary Message



Two thousand nine hundred and seventy seven lives lost with over six thousand injuries and mental anguish for many. We may have been knocked down a bit, but we were not defeated. I repeat, we were not defeated. There were many lessons learned from 9/11.

Even the US of A is vulnerable. Terrorism is now a fact of life for everyone. As a nation, we were aware of terrorist activities on foreign soil but did not expect them here at home. Unfortunately, terrorism is here as well — and here to stay. Just recently we had to endure the loss of lives including American Service members at the Kabul, Afghanistan Airport.

We must support our military . We may not always agree with the decisions of our leaders in government and armed forces, but service members and their families are risking their lives for our country. For example the eradication of Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein. We owe it to them to support their sacrifice unconditionally.

Heroes are everywhere. The many brave and selfless acts of firefighters, flight attendants, co-workers, pass-ers-by and volunteers proved in the times that occurred on 9/11 and after that Americans are generous with their courage and that heroes are all around us.

We are at our best when times are at their worst. People donated money that was needed, gave blood, flew flags and were truly proud of our great country. Americans' ability to come together in times of need became truly heartwarming.

Today, twenty four years later, September 11th, 2025, the United States of America is still at it best when times are at their worst. Even in the face of COVID-19, worldwide terrorism, supply chain issues, etc. etc., we still pledge allegiance to Old Glory. We must never forget two sayings from the words of President Ronald Reagan, First "Freedom Is Never More Than One Generation Away From Its Extinction. We didn't pass It to our children In the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same." Secondly, "If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, we will be a Nation gone under." We were not defeated. We are AMERICA STRONG!

A prayerful September 11th, 2025, to you all.

Fraternally,

Thomas L. Freunds Schuh, PGK

Former Empire State Bulletin Editor



The Soccer Challenge is a great way for councils to engage in their communities with an athletic event for youth that encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Children demonstrate the most important skill in soccer – shooting accuracy on the penalty kick – and compete to reach the international level of competition. The program is also a way to introduce the Order to your community and recruit faithful family men of service.

- All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition.
- Make sure to Review the Soccer Challenge Playbook (#4576) for guidelines, volunteer requirements, and other information.
- Safe Environment protocols (www.kofc.org/safe) **MUST** be followed and adhered to. Ensure that the event is properly staffed and safely run. *A minimum of 2 volunteers must be Safe Trained.*

You can order the Soccer Challenge Kit (#SC-KIT), promotional items, and awards through Supplies Online via Officers Online.

Contact your District Deputy for more information or our NYS Soccer Challenge Chairman Nicholas Procino. You can contact him at

Nicholas.procino@gmail.com or (845) 499-7777.



Did You Know?

Members of the Knights of Columbus work closely as Councils, individuals and Chapters working together by putting their **WORDS**

& FAITH INTO ACTION with ***Habitat for Humanity*** in their areas. ***Habitat for Humanity*** is a nonprofit Christian organization that helps build homes, revitalize neighborhoods, assist Veterans, the elderly in home repairs and assist families in need to purchase a home. Each year, councils throughout the Order donate a considerable number of volunteer hours and dollars to this worthy cause. Each Habitat affiliate has many opportunities to help make a difference in the lives of our members and the lives of others.

We have contacted the New York State Office of Habitat for Humanity to expand our involvement. The CEO Michael Barrett has provided me with a contact list for all the affiliates in New York State.

This web site also has **Find a Affiliate**

The New York State Habitat for Humanity **web site** is:

[Habitat for Humanity of New York State](#)

If your councils participate in volunteer opportunities with Habitat for Humanity, please let me know. This program is also a feature program for the SP7

Peter Stafford

New York State Habitat for Humanity Chairman

pstafford@edithmacy.com



New York State Council Knights of Columbus

In Service to One In Service to All
STATE DEPUTY GARY J. LEONARDO



ARMY vs TEMPLE @ WEST POINT USMA SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8TH, 2025

9:30AM TAILGATE PARTY – 12 NOON GAMETIME

COME JOIN YOUR FELLOW KNIGHTS FOR A TAILGATE PARTY AND A GREAT AFTERNOON OF FOOTBALL AT WEST POINT USMA. TICKET PRICE INCLUDES 2 HOUR TAILGATE PARTY HOSTED BY CARDINAL EGAN COUNCIL #16334 (WE PROVIDE THE FOOD, YOU PROVIDE THE BEVERAGES), PARKING AND ENTRANCE TO THE GAME. TAILGATE AND PARKING AT SOUTH DOCK #'S 2 & 3.

PARKING LOT OPENS AT 6AM – ARRIVE EARLY TO BEAT THE RUSH.

RESERVE NOW - TICKETS ARE LIMITED - \$85.00 PER TICKET

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE PURCHASE OF W.W.A. HONOR WREATHS FOR WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT JAMES DE FRANCESCO (JTDF717@GMAIL.COM OR 917-903-8701)

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO :
NYS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. PLEASE PUT **WEST POINT** IN MEMO.

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE ZIP CODE _____

PHONE # _____ EMAIL _____

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

SWEEPSTAKES FUNDRAISER



New York Knights

Proceeds Benefit K of C Charities

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\$4,950.00 in Total Prizes

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New York Knights.

Each Ticket Provides 4 Random Pro
Football Teams per Week.

Your Score is the Total Number of Points
each game per week.

Prizes are Determined By the Highest
4-Team Total per week.

Tickets Here!

COST: \$20.00/TICKET

PRIZES:

1ST = \$200.00

2ND= \$100.00

3RD = \$80.00

4TH = \$60.00

5TH = \$30.00

LOWEST = \$25.00

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or reach out to
Dan Ramos at
(516)644-3009
OR email him
at
[dramos1961@
gmail.com](mailto:dramos1961@gmail.com)
for more
information!



MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT CODE:
KEY-MILS-JTS
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THIS CARD IS IN SUPPORT OF:

New York Knights

Proceeds Benefit K of C Charities



WEEKLY PRIZES

1ST \$200
2ND \$100
3RD \$80
4TH \$60
5TH \$30
LOWEST \$25

100% BONUS: 100%
100% BONUS: 100%

WEEKLY PRIZES AND THE 2014 FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES													
WEEK	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	LOWEST	WEEK	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	LOWEST
1	CHI	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	2	CHI	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN
2	PAT	PHI	WAS	NO	CHI	SEA	3	PAT	PHI	WAS	NO	CHI	SEA
3	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	4	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
4	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	5	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
6	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	7	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
8	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	9	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
10	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	11	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
12	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	13	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
14	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	15	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
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28	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	29	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI
30	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI	31	SEA	ARI	IND	ATL	MIN	CHI

USE YOUR DISCOUNT CODE TO SHOP THE OFFERS STORE ONLINE FOR GREAT DEALS AT: WWW.FUNDRAISER.COM
Check details at www.fundcrazr.com

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COUPON # _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

PRICE: _____

TOTAL: _____

AMOUNT: _____

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

PRICE: _____

TOTAL: _____

AMOUNT: _____



Assembly #0709 along with brother Knights from all over the Capital Conference held their 25th Annual Clergy Appreciation BBQ at Council 11160 St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in South Glens Falls. A total of 39 clergy, priest and deacons including the Albany Diocese seminarians and Most Rev. Bishop Edward Scharfenberger attended, they had 83 men in attendance

total, ages 19-93. The event celebrated the efforts of our hardworking clergy. Attendee enjoyed outdoor activities, fellowship and many BBQ favorites. Special thanks to our Worthy State Deputy, Gary Leonardo and his staff for joining. Their inspirational words and aspirations for the future highlighted the evening.



Members and guests of Knights of Columbus Fr. Large Council 4012 Yorktown Heights NY gather to honor our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, on his feast day August 13, 2025, at St. Patrick's Church, Yorktown Heights NY. Working with Pastor Msgr. Joseph Giandurco, Council Chaplain, and Deacon Richard Scheibe, Presider, the Holy Hour included Eucharistic adoration, the Rosary, and reflections from Pope St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.



Rev. Msgr. Daniel F. Curtis Assembly # 709's Annual Marian Devotion Prayer Service at St Mary's Church in Glens Falls, NY on Sunday, August 17th, 2025!



Knights of Columbus, Fr. Robert A. Nugent Council 11160 from South Glenn Falls presents the August Family of the Month Award to the Maynard Family! Congratulations to Bob, Barb and Veronica for all that you do for the St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church!



The brothers of the **Msgr. Sherman Council No 5103, Knights of Columbus** Celebrate St. Pancras Church Community Day! The Council held a Back 2 School Drive as well as a Recruitment Drive.

They also served food to the community and parishioners. This was a great way to show all that we Knights do. Shout Out to: Grand Knight Chris Russo, James Funaro PKG, Salvatore Laurenzano PGK, Chancellor Angelo Campagnola, Warden Michael Hennessy, Francis Dicandio, Anthony Dohnert, John Koenig, Greg Salomon, Joe Strohmeier and **Scott P. Abuso**! Great job Brothers!

PSD ANTHONY IPPOLITO TESTIMONIAL

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25th, 2025 7:00PM – 12 AM

"\$135 Per Person — Includes Cocktail Hour, Premium Open Bar, Gourmet Dinner & DJ Entertainment"



RSVP BY OCTOBER 11th

Make checks Payable to "Robert Doud Fund"

Joe Bonarrigo 516-384-9189

26 Grant Street, Farmingdale NY 11735



JOURNAL AD

\$100 Full Page

\$200 Gold Page

\$400 Inside Cover

\$500 Back Cover



Email Ads to: Dcoraci@yahoo.com, NLT Oct 1st 2025
Checks for Journal Ads made to: Nassau Conference

Journal Ads Send in PDF Format

Rich Valenti 516-574-3916

1350 Huckelberry Lane, Hewlett, NY 11557



555 Northern Blvd, Great Neck, NY 11021

HOSTED BY LEONARD'S PALAZZO

Catholic Near East Welfare Association *invites you to tee off at*

The 2nd Annual



Golf Classic

Thursday, 16 October 2025

Registration & Brunch 11:00 am

Shotgun start 12:30 pm

Plandome Country Club

145 Stonytown Rd., Plandome, NY 11030

Cocktails and dinner to follow at 5:30 pm.

Join us at the CNEWA Golf Classic:

- As a golfer on this spectacular golf course
- As a sponsor
- For cocktails and dinner

*Or make a donation toward
CNEWA's mission!*

Born of the compassionate vision of Pope Pius XI in 1926, CNEWA stands as a beacon of healing and hope throughout the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe. CNEWA provides food, shelter, and medicine while also delivering comfort, consolation, education, faith and hope.

His Eminence **Timothy Cardinal Dolan**
Archbishop of New York
Chair, CNEWA



Msgr. **Peter I. Vaccari**
President, CNEWA

To RSVP, please contact **Brian McGinley**, Director of Development at:
Work: (646) 791-0291 Email: bmcginley@cnewa.org

Please join the NY State Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage to
NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS
136 Shrine Rd #2, Fultonville, NY 12072

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025



Registration
10:30AM-1:00PM
(in front of the Gift Shop)

**Benediction, Rosary, &
Outdoor Way of the Cross**
1:30PM-2:45PM

Grounds Tour
11:00AM-12:00PM

**Installation of
Auriesville Council Officers**
3:00PM
Knights Hall (in the courtyard of
the log cabin closest to Coliseum)

Lunch
\$15pp
11:30PM-12:45PM
Pavillion
Hamburger/sausage sandwich,
chips, a drink, and dessert
Prepared by
Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine Council
16861.

Mass
4:00PM
Coliseum

Checks payable to:
Eric Mazzone
256 Truax Rd.
Amsterdam, NY 12010.



For more information, please contact
Eric Mazzone, Pilgrimage Coordinator
(518) 487-9307 or Mazzone.eric@yahoo.com

Pilgrimages have always been a significant part of the life of the Church. They are moments of grace and conversion. By journeying to a shrine, the pilgrim expresses his faith in a God who is present in history and in the Church.

POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

2025

Saturday, July 12	Blessed McGivney Statue Dedication (4PM Mass – St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, NY)
Sunday, July 13	St. Anne's Shrine (12:15PM Mass – Isle of La Motte, VT)
Wednesday, August 13	Blessed McGivney Feast Day (7PM Mass – St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral)
Wednesday, September 3	Blessed McGivney Statue Dedication (5PM Mass – St. Joseph's Seminary)
Saturday, September 20	Shrine of the North American Martyrs (Auriesville, NY)
Saturday, October 18	Our Lady of Fatima Shrine (Youngstown, NY)



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



**The NYS Council has a New Address
effective July 1st 2025**

- . N. Y. S Council K of C
Post Office Box 8
Hopewell Junction, N. Y. 12533-0008
- . Email address NYSKofC@aol.com
- . Phone number - 1-(516) 900-5632
 - . Fax: 914-470-0615
- . New NY State website will
be: newyorkknights.com

**Please direct ALL communication
here going forward!**

Thanks!

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.





Join us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nykofc>

Facebook Group of New York State Council Knights of Columbus.
Posts should be limited to the Knights of Columbus. As a member of the
Knights of Columbus, you have access to resources, such as social
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**
Page of the NYS Council



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

In order to have enough time
to get everything ready for
the Newsletter, Please send
your Articles and Photos in
NO LATER than the 20th of
EACH MONTH.

Send them to the Editor at
mb1122@msn.com



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<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/yeP7bU3>





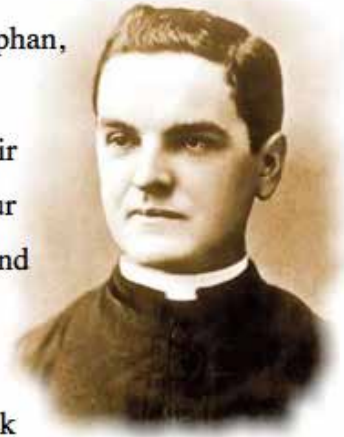
Labor Day September 1st



September 11th

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