



WHAT THIS *organization* STANDS FOR IS EXTRAORDINARY.  
WHAT IT HAS STOOD UP AGAINST IS *inspiring*



*Knights of Columbus*

*Welcome* TO THE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

UNITED STATES, CANADA, THE PHILIPPINES, MEXICO, PUERTO RICO, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.





GUAM, GUATEMALA, PANAMA, CUBA, THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, THE BAHAMAS, AND SAIPAN

## *An organization like no other.*

We are an organization of dedicated individuals—1.6 million members strong, and growing. An organization that, since 1882, has embodied the selflessness of man as it has helped overcome the problems of the world. Poverty. Ignorance. Apathy. Things which imperil not only a single individual, but the whole of humanity.

We are men of faith, comprising over 12,000 Knights of Columbus councils at home and overseas. Guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but by our belief in each other, and in ourselves.

We are the Knights of Columbus. Believing that a man is defined by his actions as a follower of God, and as a leader in his community. Believing that a man is more than simply a man, when he bears the title of “Knight.”

## *An immovable foundation.*

In 1882, Father Michael J. McGivney invited a small group of parishioners to gather in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. His goal was simple—to establish an Order that would unite men in their faith as well as help provide for Catholic families in times of need. It was in that humblest of beginnings that the Knights of Columbus was founded.



Guided by four core principles—charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism—these founding members strove to overcome the hardships of the time. Poverty. Unemployment. Even persecution.

Father Michael J. McGivney's perseverance and foresight have resulted in the largest Catholic fraternal and humanitarian organization ever created. An organization that has endured for over a century because of the inspirational courage of so many.

DEDICATED TO *making a difference*  
AND BUILDING A FUTURE.





FAITH

COMMUNITY

FAMILY

YOUTH

FELLOWSHIP

The Knights of Columbus is an organization fortified by its past, and driven by its goals for the future. It's through these five areas of service—faith, community, family, youth, and fellowship—that we truly make a difference.

*faith* As Knights, our faith is our foundation. Dedicated to the Catholic Church's growth and her good works, we support religious outreach, promote vocations, and provide financial support for seminarians and postulates. This way, we help support our Church and strengthen our personal faith.

*community* As committed as we are to the Catholic Church, so are we to our communities. By actively and financially supporting Special Olympics, by leading the charge in pro-life, or by safeguarding the environment, Knights of Columbus members all over the world have helped countless communities prosper.

*family* As fathers and husbands, serving our families is not only part of what we do, it's part of who we are. To that end, Knights of Columbus councils offer programs that strengthen family and marital bonds by holding numerous family-focused events, including the "Family of the Month" program that honors outstanding families. Most importantly, as Knights, we are able to provide assistance and support to Knights and their families whenever needed.

*youth* The importance of helping today's youth become tomorrow's leaders is also a huge focus of the Order. For that reason, many local councils sponsor Columbian Squire Circles, the Order's official youth organization for Catholic young men, ages 10–18, which provide them the unique opportunity to develop leadership skills. Additionally, through activities such as the Catholic Citizenship Essay contest, the Substance Abuse Poster contest, and the annual Free Throw championship, the Knights of Columbus assists youth in building a strong sense of civic and religious responsibility.

*fellowship* To be a Knight means to believe in each other as we believe in ourselves; realizing that by creating strong, social, and supportive local councils, we help create a stronger Order worldwide and ensure an even stronger future.

AN ORGANIZATION OF *generations*  
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

As a service organization, the Knights of Columbus owes its many achievements to the tireless efforts of those in local councils where the greatest impact is most often witnessed, both by our families and our neighbors. Whether it's through the support of local athletic programs, sponsoring of special events, or even planning and hosting religious activities, Knights serve as valuable role models for other Catholic men, as well as mentors for all our children. And, hopefully, as a source of inspiration for future generations of Knights.

Within the Order itself, there are four "Degrees" of Knighthood, each one meant to exemplify one of the four principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. To become a full Knight, each member is encouraged to attain the Third Degree level. After which, he can go on to the Fourth Degree, the one that embodies patriotism and is the most visible of all the Degrees. It is through their participation in these areas that Knights receive their greatest, and often most personal, rewards.



WHEN A KNIGHT ACTS SELFLESSLY, HE ACTS ON BEHALF OF THE WORLD.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE.  
**SECURITY FOR KNIGHTS BY KNIGHTS.**

From the very beginning, a central focus of Father McGivney was the financial security of Knights and their families. Exclusively for members and their families, Knights of Columbus Insurance ranks in the top five percent of the approximately 2,000 insurance companies throughout North America.\* In addition to exceptional financial protection, you'll also get personal service from a trained insurance representative who's a Knight just like you.

\*Based on total value of assets, as published in the *National Underwriter*.



IN SERVICE TO *One* IN SERVICE TO ALL.

When we reflect on our history, it's inspiring to see how Father McGivney's dedication has given rise to an organization that has touched so many. Decades later, councils number in the thousands and our members in the millions. In total, the Knights of Columbus has raised over a billion dollars for charitable causes. And our hopes and dreams for tomorrow are greater, because the need is, too.

Today, we're looking for the next generation of Knights. Men of character and conviction who are driven by both faith and conscience to do truly meaningful works. And the tangible rewards for members are numerous, from scholarships for our sons and daughters, to being able to participate in one of the leading insurance programs in the country.

But of the countless rewards Knighthood offers, perhaps the most inviting is this: The knowledge that, as a Knight, you can make a difference. Through fearless service. Through heartfelt perseverance. And, above all, through unfaltering fellowship.

*for more information*

ON HOW YOU CAN BECOME A KNIGHT, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL  
OR CALL THE SUPREME COUNCIL AT 1-203-752-4270.

[www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)



**KNIGHTS**  
**OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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