



The

Korona

St. Mary's Council 11961
Website: www.council11961.org

Charity
Unity
Fraternity



JULY 2026 Grand Knight Message

In service to one. In service to all



Psalm 133:1

As I sit down to write this letter, I am excited to share my thoughts on my new job.

It will be a challenge at first to follow GK Molony as he has done an excellent job from almost being close down to the number one Council in the State of Florida.

A tough one to follow. My hope is that you will give me some time and understanding as I take on this role.

I will need all your help in continuing to keep this the best council moving forward. One of the things I would like to accomplish is to increase the number of members during my term. It will take

some work, but if we all take on this project, it will come to pass

I want to take this time to thank all the brothers for helping me with the pavilion project.

It has been a long and tough project, but it is beginning to take shape.

Please remember to pray to our benefactor who made all of this happen.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, it will all be done. I am looking forward to working with all of you to continue the progress we made to this point.

In service to one in service to all

GK Joseph Marotti

On our 250 Anniversary - *Anniversaries are moments for giving thanks, for rejoicing. They are moments of remembrance. Not to give thanks is to be ungrateful to God who has blessed this wide land. And it is to be are moments to take stock, to look ourselves in the eye, to resolve to make things better. At this moment in history, we owe it to ourselves to contribute to the repairing our wounded political culture, to model how to talk with one other, not at each other, to help recover something of a sense of national unity and civic friendship, to reintroduce virtue into public life and discourse.* **Archbishop William Lori**



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE



Brother Knights,

The month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion has been cherished by generations of Catholics because it directs our attention to the very center of the Gospel: the love of Christ.

When we speak about the Heart of Jesus, we are speaking about much more than a symbol.

The Sacred Heart reminds us that God loves us with a personal and faithful love. In Jesus Christ, God's love became visible. We see that love in His compassion for the sick, in His patience with sinners, in His concern for the poor, and ultimately in His sacrifice on the Cross.

The image of the Sacred Heart often shows the heart surrounded by thorns, wounded yet burning with love. It is a powerful reminder that Christ's love is not diminished by rejection. He continues to love even when that love is not returned. He remains faithful even when human beings are unfaithful.

This is a message that speaks directly to our lives. Many of us carry responsibilities and concerns that are not always visible to others. We worry about our families, our children, our health, our finances, and the future of the Church and society. At times we may experience disappointments or burdens that seem difficult to carry. The devotion to the Sacred Heart invites us to bring all of these concerns to Jesus. It reminds us that we are not alone. Jesus who calls us to follow Him also accompanies us. His Heart remains

open to us. We can entrust to Him our fears, our hopes, our struggles, and our joys.

As Knights of Columbus, we are called not only to admire the love of Christ but also to imitate it. The more we contemplate the Sacred Heart, the more we learn what authentic Christian manhood looks like.

The Heart of Jesus reveals strength united with gentleness, conviction united with compassion, and leadership united with humble service. Our world often presents very different models of strength. Yet Jesus shows us that true strength is found in self-giving love. He teaches us that greatness is measured not by power or recognition but by the willingness to serve others.

The Sacred Heart also reminds us that every authentic work of charity begins with prayer. We cannot give what we do not possess. If our hearts are to reflect the love of Christ, they must first be formed by regular prayer, by the sacraments, and by time spent in His presence.

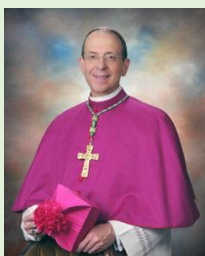
As we continue through this month dedicated to the Sacred Heart, may we draw closer to the Lord who loves us with an everlasting love. May His Heart be a refuge in times of difficulty, a source of strength in our responsibilities, and an example for our lives.

Let us entrust our families, our council, our monastery, and all our activities to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. And may His love continue to guide and sustain us in all that we do.

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. Robert

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge (July 2026)

A monthly reflection and practical challenge from Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori



"While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well." (Gospel for July 19, Mt 13:25-26)

In the midst of his suffering, Job asked, "Why do the wicked keep on living, grow old, become mighty in power?" (Job 21:7). It seems to human eyes an injustice: the good suffer while the evil prosper. But Jesus explains that God "makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust" (Mt 5:45). He is a patient

God, and we must "consider the patience of our Lord as salvation" (2 Pt 3:15a). God is patient with sinners — including us.

This month, I challenge you to reach out to a family member or friend and invite them to go to the sacrament of penance.

Questions for Reflection:

- In what way are you like wheat, and in what ways are you like weeds?
- Are you envious or disturbed by those who lead unholy lives but seem to prosper?
- Do you find it difficult to love the "weeds" in your life, to pray for and work toward their salvation?

District Deputy – Greg Gully



Brothers,

Through the leadership of GK Darren Molony St. Mary's Korona council has demonstrated what it means to put faith into action. Through your dedication, service, and commitment to the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, you have earned Star Council and multiple awards

this year, including one of only five major awards presented by the Florida State Council. Receiving Florida State Council of the year is an extraordinary achievement and a testament to the leadership and hard work of every member of this council.

I am also proud to report that District 17 received three of the five top awards presented by the Florida State Council. That level of success does not happen by accident. It happens because Brother Knights answer the call to serve their parish, their community, and one another.

Your accomplishments remind me of the classic story of *The Little Engine That Could*. Faced with a steep mountain and a task that seemed beyond its ability, the little engine kept moving forward, repeating, "I think I can, I think I can, I think I can." It was not the biggest engine, the strongest engine, or the most impressive engine. It simply refused to quit.

Council 11961 is much like that little engine. Throughout the year, you faced challenges, organized programs, recruited members, raised funds, supported your parish, and served those in need. There were times when the hill may have seemed steep and the work demanding, but you continued moving forward with faith, determination, and trust in God. Because of that perseverance, you not only reached the top of the hill—you exceeded expectations and became one of the most recognized councils in the state of Florida.

As impressive as these awards are, they are not the true measure of your success. The real measure is found in the lives

you touch, the families you support, the vocations you encourage, and the witness you give to our Catholic faith. Every food drive, every fundraiser, every hour of volunteer service, and every prayer offered in faith helps build the Kingdom of God here on earth.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." These awards are evidence that your light is shining brightly.

At the same time, as Christians, we know that our confidence does not come simply from saying, "I think I can." Our confidence comes from knowing that with God's grace, all things are possible. The little engine relied on determination; we rely on determination strengthened by faith. We move forward because Christ walks with us and gives meaning to every act of service we perform.

Thank you for your commitment to the Knights of Columbus, to your parish, and to our Lord. May you continue to grow in faith, serve with humility, and always remember that our greatest reward comes not from trophies or plaques, but from faithfully answering God's call.

Congratulations, Council 11961, and may God continue to bless you, your families, and the Knights of Columbus. As your DD I want to express heartfelt gratitude to Father Robert for his continued support and spiritual guidance throughout the year. His leadership and commitment to your council have been invaluable, and we thank him for all he does for your council.

Now prepare for the same success with the leadership of incoming GK Joe Marotti.

Vivat Jesus
Greg Gully DD

Field Agent – Larry Kennedy "July Message"



This month is the start of our new Fraternal Year. A big congratulations to all new council leadership! This is always a time of new beginnings, when councils can start fresh and reassess where they stand in relation to their goals. This should apply to us individually, too, including personal financial goals. Are you on track to reach them?

Now is the perfect time to meet with me to review the existing insurance plan you have in place or to help you take the initial steps to create one. I invite you to meet with me every year as your family grows and changes, milestones are reached, and financial needs adjust.

As your brother Knight, it's my privilege to carry out Father McGivney's mission by serving your family and helping you gain a clear picture of your financial protection needs, no matter your current situation. If I can be honest, I think this is one the most underappreciated benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus, and if you've never taken advantage of getting a complimentary financial needs review, I encourage you to make this the year!

With a personalized review using top-tier financial software, I can give you a transparent illustration of your finances with insights on how your current situation aligns to your future objectives. Together, we'll review your current coverage and identify potential protection gaps, ensuring your plan aligns with your goals.

If you're interested in investments that are aligned with Catholic teaching, I can also connect you with Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, which helps all faith-based investors prepare for retirement, build wealth and beat inflation with additional sources of income.

Knights of Columbus, your premier partner for financial services, is for brother Knights, by brother Knights.

Post Script: You can visit KofC.org and KoCAA.org for detailed information on what each of KofC and KoCAA can offer members directly.

For more information contact:
Larry Kennedy, FICF, MDRT
407-579-9888
lawrence.kennedy@kofc.org



Council 11961 Officers 2026-2027



Grand Knight
Joe Marotti



Financial Sec.
Mike Gossman



Deputy GK
Chris Grecek



Chancellor
Nestor Ramos



Recorder
Darren Molony



Treasurer
John Thomas



Advocate
Phil Lajeunesse



Inside Guard
Paul Vicario



Outside Guard
Tony Flynn



1 Year Trustee
Joe Jurek



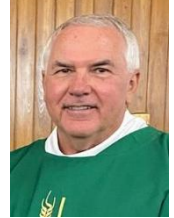
2 Year Trustee
Dr Jim St John



3 Year Trustee
John Picucci



Lecturer
Dr. Jim St. John



Warden
Deacon John



So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. **James 2:17**

Council 11961 Chaplain & Directors



Chaplain
Fr. Robert Marciniak



Program Director
Chris Grecek
jcgrecek@gmail.com



Life Director
Mike Gossman
Gossmanmike@gmail.com



Family Director
Darren Molony
dmolony@proton.me



Faith Director
Paul Vicario
pvcrosscap@comcast.net



Community Director
Chris Grecek
cgrecek40@gmail.com



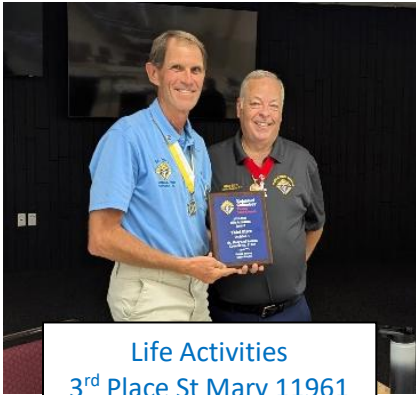
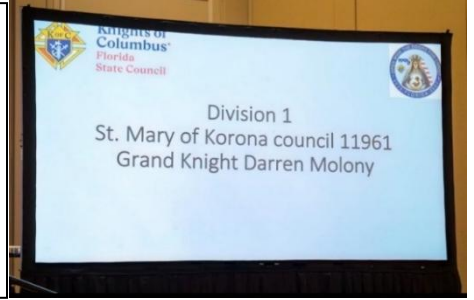
If you are over 18 years of age; a citizen of the country in which you reside; a practical Catholic in union with the Holy See; and you are a Third Degree member in good standing, it's time to consider joining the ranks of the Fourth Degree. To learn more about the Patriotic Degree and how to join its ranks, contact:

SK Ramon Marrero 386-793-2251

FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION



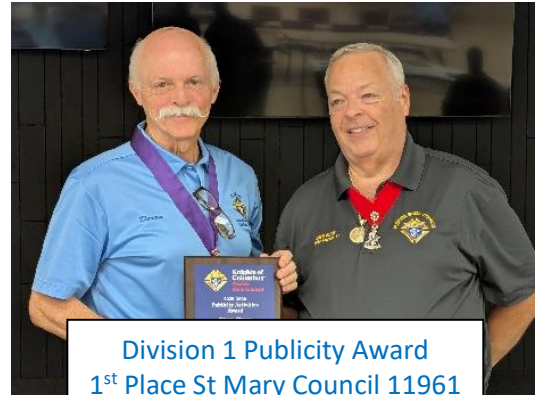
This year's convention was special because of the recognition Council 11961 was awarded. As was highlighted in the June Newsletter, our council faced many hurdles and cleared them all. All Brothers contributed to our success some more than others but all did what they could.



Life Activities
3rd Place St Mary 11961



Division 1 Vocation Support
1st Place St Mary Council 11961



Division 1 Publicity Award
1st Place St Mary Council 11961



Council of the Year Division 1 Awarded to St Mary Council 11961



Our Deputy Grand Knight, Chris Grecek was our representative at the State Convention and recipient of the Council's recognition.

We owe a dept of appreciation to our District Deputy Greg Gully. He was aware of our activities since he attended every Council meeting and event. His recognition and support of our council activities enabled him to recommend St Mary as recipient of these awards to the Florida State Council.

PAVILION PROGRESS

Our Project Director, and GK, Brother Joe Marotti has moved the project along. Having received an ok from Father Robert, the Pavilion was totally emptied and work progressed. The insulation was completely installed, the walls were studded out and the electrical work was completed. If anyone has "GCed" a project, you know this is not an easy task, from planning, getting estimates, ordering supplies, arranging space availability, timing contractors, all while keeping within budget constraints..we thank GK Joe for an outstanding job. Fans, lighting and yes air-conditioning was installed.

Thanks to the Glenn Shaw Family Foundation

BEFORE



DURING



AFTER



THE ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL HALL HOWEVER IS STILL IN NEED OF HELP. PLEASE CONSIDER FATHER ROBERT'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE.



SAINT JOSEPH DISCALCED
CARMELITE MONASTERY

141 CARMELITE DRIVE BUNNELL, FL 32110 386-437-2910

May 25, 2026.

**My dear Brothers and Sisters,
Friends and Benefactors of our Monastery,**

I wanted to give you an update on the Social Hall construction progress, and an urgent request for help.

As you can see, with your continued support, the Hall has come along nicely and is on its way to completion, hopefully by Thanksgiving.

All the structural phases are complete, and unfinished roof is installed. The retention pond and septic field are complete.

We completed the rough-in inspection for rough plumbing, electrical and HVAC, and the insulation is almost complete. We have just ordered the new beautiful front doors.

But we are still short \$150,000 to complete the construction contract, and must raise this amount by September 30th, or risk further delays.

I must ask you to dig deep to help us close this serious gap – anything you can do is greatly appreciated.

Please know that you are always in our prayers.

Blessings,

Fr. Robert M. Marciniak OCD

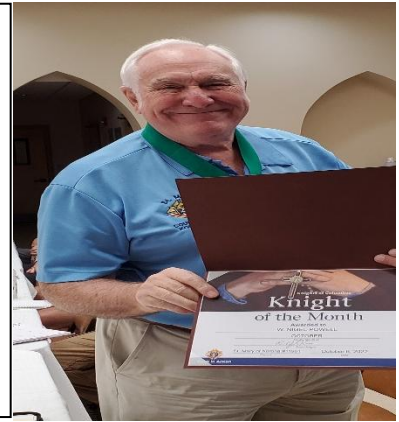
Father Robert M. Marciniak OCD
Superior of St Joseph Carmelite Monastery



KNIGHT OF THE MONTH



Sir Nigel Powell is the choice for May's Night of the Month. He is honored for his long-term, quiet service including music leadership at Mass, leading the faithful with a strong and clear voice. You will see him at every event with his partner PGK Joe Jurec, welcoming guests at the ticket table. As a fourth-degree, Nigel is also a color corps member. At this printing, Nigel is hospitalized with a virus, Let's pray for him



July 2026

Thur July 2, 2026	6:00pm-7:00pm	Business Meeting at the Pavillion
Sat. July 4, 2026	All Day	Independence Day
Sun July 5, 2026	10:00am – 11:00am	K of C Mass St. Joseph Monastery
	08:00am-1:00pm	Blood Drive – St. Joseph Monastery
	11:00am- 12:00pm	Family Breakfast at the Pavillion
Sat/Sun July 11/12	All Day	Tootsie Roll Fund Raiser Publix – Town Ctr
Fri July 17, 2026	5:00pm – 6:00pm	Officer Installation St Joseph Monastery
Tues July 21, 2026	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Assembly 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
Thur July 30, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Officers Meeting at the Pavilion

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

August 2026

Sun, Aug 2, 2026	10:00pm – 11:00pm	K of C Mass at St Joseph Monastery
Thur Aug 6, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Business Meeting at the Pavilion
Tues Aug 25-31,'26	All Day	Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon - Monastery
Tues Aug 18, 2026	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
Thur Aug 27, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Officers Meeting at the Pavilion

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



July Birthdays

Donald Gendron	07-01	Scott Christopher	07-17
Eugene Muscillo	07-02	Francis Smith	07-18
Joe Nacci	07-04	Robert Stearns	07-21
Enzo Pistritto	07-04	Peter Capozzi	07-23
Br. Patrick Gammato	07-08	Wallace Burns	07-24
Julius Kish	07-09	James Dupuy	07-24
Sonny Demartino	07-10	John Schulten	07-24
Christopher Grecek	07-16	Charles Lundy	07-27

SMOKING KNIGHTS



On June 6th we were requested to cook for the AAMP Awards Picnic. Brother Ken Fehner and his crew served up delicious smoked pork, smoked chicken thighs and our famous KofC smoked sausage, homemade coleslaw, green beans mac & cheese. The mac and cheese was a big hit. The event was held at the Palm Coast High School.



African American Mentor Program Awards Picnic





DONATE BLOOD

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus
Sunday, July 5
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

All donors will receive*:

- **\$25 eGift Card**
- **Limited Edition T-shirt**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.

Donors Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



ID REQUIRED

*Low offer price does not include per donation, per cash value, per transferrable. Gifts may vary for event. Intentional misuse may result in disqualification.

oneblood 

Knights of Columbus
Family Breakfast
All Are Welcome!
FREE Breakfast (Donations Accepted)

Pancakes
Scrambled Eggs
Sausage
Juice
Coffee



Sunday, July 5th
After the 10AM K of C Mass
All Profits to benefit the Monastery!

www.council11961.org



300 CLUB WINNERS

JUNE \$50 Winners

Terri Lujan, Roger Consolia
Dom Salvatore, Patty Shaw

Quarterly \$100 Winner

Patty Shaw



ST MARY COUNCIL 11961



Golf Tournament

Place - Halifax Plantation

Keep the Date - October 14, 2026

Golf scramble, Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Buffet Dinner

Events - Fun Day = hole in one, longest drive, putting contest.

Plus - Raffle, mulligans and silent auction





Holy Father's Monthly Prayer Intention
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

If you know of any Brother or family member in distress, please notify one of the council officers.

PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR SICK LIST

MARY, QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS
intercede to Jesus for those in need of his healing.

Nacci Family, Eric Bonilla, Mel Young, Nestor Ramos, Joe and Joan Beck, Enzo Pistritto
Bob Stearns and son, Peter Capozzi, Judd McNally, Nigel Powell and daughter Megan Cuna
Joe Rios Family, Dr. Joe Moore, Joe Pimentel, PDD Kevin Ryan's son Shane, Glenn Shaw, Ron Kiceina
Tom Flemming, Dave Norris, Brother Patrick, Joe Leahy, David Bailey

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servant for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being to bodily health, he (she) may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord.



Prayer for the Healing of Loved Ones

Almighty God, look with mercy and kindness on our loved ones who are sick, especially those listed here. Grant them good health. Send your holy Angels to watch over them. Protect them from danger, and keep them safe from lasting injury or harm. May the life-giving grace of Your Divine Son relieve their suffering and bring them to a full recovery. Embrace them with Your constant love, and with the power of Christ's healing presence, that Your bountiful goodness may be their source of comfort, strength and joy. Amen.

Prayer for the Faithful Departed

O Loving Father, Source of all life, please accompany Your servants, listed here, from this earth, to the Kingdom of heavenly peace, rest and eternal life that You have prepared for us. Forgive any sins that have been committed, and welcome these departed souls into the joyful embrace of Your never-ending love. Amen

Pray for our Deceased Brothers

Let us remember and pray for our Brothers that are no longer with us, Norman Mugford, Paul Przybysz, Richard Rentz, Gus Simms, Mel Vevera, Rev. Francis Zammit and also our former District Deputy Paul Gloekler, and our founder Hank Kesselring. May our Lord welcome them home.



Pray for Vocations

"The way Jesus shows you is not easy. Rather, it is like a path winding up a mountain. Do not lose heart! The steeper the road, the faster it rises towards ever wider horizons."
St. John Paul II





Why join the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus?

The Fourth Degree is the highest and most prestigious degree of the Knights of Columbus, emphasizing patriotism, Catholic citizenship, and service to Church and country.

The Fourth Degree, also known as the Patriotic Degree, was established in 1900 to promote the principle of patriotism alongside the original principles of charity, unity, and fraternity.

Members of this degree, called Sir Knights, are committed to demonstrating loyalty to both God and country, actively participating in programs that support veterans, active military personnel, and civic responsibilities.

Purpose and Principles

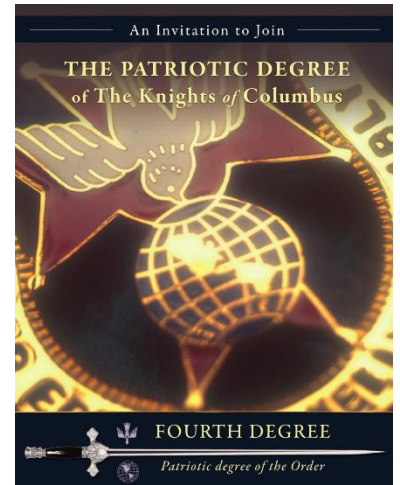
The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism and encourage responsible citizenship. Members exemplify Catholic values while serving their communities and nations, promoting the ideals of Catholic citizenship and patriotic service.

The Fourth Degree also emphasizes the protection of life, family values, and religious freedom, reflecting the Knights' commitment to moral and civic duties.

Activities and Honors

Corpus Christi Assembly 2810 Fourth Degree members support the Bread of Life Ministry, the Archdiocese of Military Services, Tunnel to Towers Foundation, local food bank programs, St. Mary Cemetery in Bunnell, the 'Lest We Forget' recognition program, the Flagler County Sheriff Department, and numerous other charities. Assembly members can become part of the Assembly Color Corp. These members often serve as honor guards at civic and religious functions, including parades, flag ceremonies, and church events, wearing distinctive regalia that symbolizes their commitment.

The Fourth Degree provides opportunities for leadership, mentorship, and visible service in both the Church and the broader community.



Fourth Degree Membership Requirements:

- ✓ Over 18 years of age
- ✓ A citizen of the country where you reside
- ✓ A practical Catholic in union with the Holy See
- ✓ A Third-Degree member in good standing

For more info contact:
SK Joseph Paul 347-688-0270
SK Frank Consentino 386-586-6865





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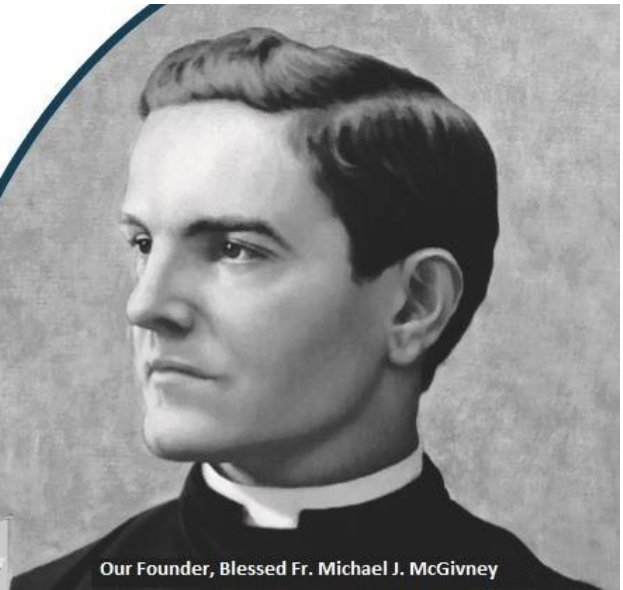
Charity
Unity
Fraternity

Offer a Catholic gentleman the
GIFT of becoming a Knight.
Please use the e-membership
function on KOF.C.ORG/JOINUS



Different for a reason

Discover the Catholic difference
of doing business with the
Knights of Columbus.



Our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney



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INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Larry Kennedy, Field Agent
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LIFE INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE LONG-TERM CARE RETIREMENT PLANNING