



The

Korona

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

March 2026

Grand Knight Message *In service to one. In service to all*

Charity
Unity
Fraternity



And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, and tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry. Luke 4: 1 – 2

This month we continue our Lenten journey, along with those brothers and sisters who are travelling on the road to the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, toward the glory of Easter morning and our Risen Lord.

The three pillars of Lent are fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Our council and the monastery community are the recipients of very generous almsgivers this Lent –

Glenn and Pattie Shaw. Their foundation has given our council a donation of \$20,000. to complete the renovation of the pavilion and we are incredibly excited to begin the work! Please keep this wonderful couple in your prayers. At some point in the future, we will show our thanks to Glenn and Pattie in a public way and I know all our brothers will want to get behind this celebration of the Shaw family.

We will continue serving our **fish fry meals each Friday** at the end of the 1st outdoor **Stations of the**

Cross throughout March. Stations begin at 3 pm in English and start at 6 pm in Polish. Our last fish fry will be on **Friday, March 27th**. Please contact either Brother Chris or Brother Don if you would like to join the fish fry team. The team looks forward to providing good food and good fellowship to our community. If you are unable to work, please support us by coming for a meal!

Our next **blood drive** and **1st Sunday morning Mass** are on **Sunday, March 1st** at the **Monastery**. The Big Red Bus, along with Brother Chris and Brother Joe Jurec, will be there near the pavilion from **8 am until 1 pm** for the blood drive. Please sign up for an appointment if possible. **Mass** is at **10 am** in the chapel.

For those of Irish and Italian descent, March is a special month as we celebrate **St. Patrick's Day** on **Tuesday, March 17th** and **St. Joseph's Day** on **Thursday, March 19th**. May we celebrate these holy saints' lives in a way that would do them honor.

An Irish Blessing

*May your neighbors respect you,
trouble neglect you,
the angels protect you,
and heaven accept you.*

Vivat Jesus!
Darren

Chaplain's Message



Miracles

Between Christmas and Easter, the Gospels show us Jesus moving about his ministry performing countless miracles: healing of the blind, walking on water, raising of Lazarus, cure of lepers... The miracles he performs seem

endless. How do we feel about them? Do we accept them, or do we ask ourselves...

"That was great then, but what about now?"

"Where was the miracle when I prayed and even begged God to save the life of my spouse?"

"Where was the miracle when I lost my home, income, loved one?"

Many of us just give up, believing that miracles were in the Gospel readings, but in today's world, there are very few... if any at all.

I want to say that we are surrounded by miracles everyday of our lives and last week was a good example. Less than one mile from the Monastery there was a brush fire. It was so bad that the police evacuated the Monastery and shut down Old Dixi Highway.

Where was the miracle? There were several. The wind was blowing in a direction that prevented the fire from reaching the Monastery. If the direction of the wind had changed there would have been nothing left of our beloved Monastery. It consumed over 153 acres but never touched the Monastery. The fire occurred only a few days after the severe cold snap that had sub-

freezing temperatures. What would have happened to the firemen if they were required to use water hoses in that climate? Finally, we have not had rain in quite some time, in fact we are in a severe drought, however, on the night of the fire it rained on the fire to help put it out.

God in His infinite wisdom surrounds us with miracles like the Fire every day. In the case of the fire, I am convinced that His love for the work being done by the Monastery, work bringing so many closer to God, convinced His hand to guide those works of nature.

I cannot answer why God appears to not have answered anyone's particular prayer. I do believe it is for a reason that only His wisdom understands. Perhaps my faith enables me to see miracles which are His handy work in our world. Why? I know that His love for us is endless, yes, endless.

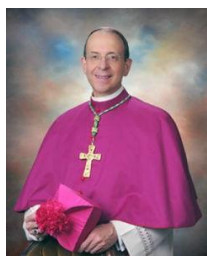
This lent, during quiet moments of prayer, why not take time to see some miracles that surround you? The sunrise/sunset, the wind in your face, the hug of a grandchild, The Eucharist...or one of my favorites, A 43-year-old son who actually called to see how you are and, to let you know how he is doing. Now that has to be a Miracle.

I wish you many blessings as you hunt for those miracles that surround your life, like the Easter eggs you hunted for as a child. They represent a good reminder. You will find the hand of God all around, if you seek to find it with the mindset of a child.

God bless,
Deacon John Harvey

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge (March 2026)

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



So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him." (Gospel for March 22, Jn 11:16)

Look at the bravery of Thomas! Jesus had just announced his intention to travel to Judea, where he had narrowly escaped getting stoned to death. Given the potential danger ahead, Thomas seems prepared for martyrdom. Later, of course, he and the other disciples would flee as Jesus was arrested, and Thomas would doubt reports of Jesus' resurrection. As fallible humans, our strength and resolve sometimes collapse into weakness. May we always seek the courage to follow Jesus faithfully, even when the going gets tough.

This month, as we continue through Lent, I challenge you to pray the Stations of the Cross each week — in your parish community, with your family or individually — with the intention of receiving the courage to suffer for Christ. A good resource is the Catholic Information Service booklet *The Way of the Cross: Traditional and Modern Meditations* (www.kofc.org/shopcis).

Questions for Reflection:

- Are you a good disciple of Christ?
- How can being a Knight of Columbus help prepare you to take up your cross and follow him?

Are you willing to suffer for your faith if called upon?

District Deputy Message



Brothers,

I am so proud of how all 3 councils in District 17 came out in force for the meeting with our Worthy State Deputy. We received a great message and personal stories from SD Michael Gizewski. Special thanks to Notre Dame council for hosting the event.

As we enter this holy season of Lent, the Church invites us into the desert — just as Christ entered the desert for forty days. In the Gospel of Matthew, we hear how Jesus fasted, prayed, and resisted temptation. Lent is not simply about giving something up; it is about drawing closer to the Lord and becoming the men God calls us to be.

For us as Knights of Columbus, Lent speaks directly to our principles: Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Charity calls us to sacrifice for others. Unity calls us to stand firm in faith together. Fraternity reminds us that no brother should walk alone — especially in difficult times.

This is a season to examine our hearts. Are we leading our families in prayer? Are we serving our parish with

generosity? Are we visible witnesses to Christ in a world that desperately needs strong Catholic men?

There are men in our parishes who are searching — searching for brotherhood, for purpose, for a way to live their faith more fully. The Knights of Columbus is not just an organization; it is a band of brothers striving for holiness through service. When we invite a man to join the Knights, we are not just offering him a membership card — we are offering him a path to deeper faith, meaningful service, and authentic Catholic brotherhood.

Remember we were INVITED to be Knights. Bless a Catholic gentleman with an invitation

This Lent, let us renew our own commitment to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. And let us courageously invite at least one man to walk this journey with us.

May this Lenten season strengthen our families, energize our council, and draw us ever closer to Christ, so that when Easter comes, we rise renewed — as better husbands, better fathers, and better Knights.

Vivat Jesus!

Greg

Field Agent – Larry Kennedy “Permanent Life Insurance”



Tax Day, April 15, will be here before you know it. Do you know if your tax rate or bracket has changed? If so, are you aware of the implications?

Your income throughout life can fluctuate, causing you to potentially end up in a higher tax bracket than anticipated. And following an election year, each new administration can change tax brackets and tax rates. As a result, you may not have as much disposable income or as much money to leave to family as you planned. This can be true earlier in life, or in retirement when your income sources may change.

You can protect yourself against these potential losses and build dependable cash value through permanent life insurance with the Knights of Columbus.

Permanent life insurance allows you to build cash value that you can access tax-free while you're alive. You can also create an income tax-free inheritance for your loved ones after you pass.

Of course, we always recommend that you work with a qualified tax advisor or CPA. But permanent life insurance can be a useful tool for tax planning in a range of situations.

In partnering with you to secure your financial future and legacy, we're fulfilling the mission of Blessed Michael

McGivney, who founded our Order 143 years ago this month.

I'd love to share how permanent life insurance may be able to help you prepare for the unexpected. If you have any questions, please come chat with me and we can schedule a time to meet.

Thank you!

Tax benefits assume all premiums are timely paid and are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuer. Any policy loans will impact the tax benefits by reducing the policy's death benefit and cash values. Proceeds from life insurance policies may be subject to certain taxes based on individual circumstances. Tax laws vary by jurisdiction and may change over time. Knights of Columbus and its agents do not provide tax or legal advice and are not financial planners. Please consult with your financial, legal and tax advisors about your own particular circumstances.

Vivat Jesus!

Larry Kennedy

* Insurance products offered through Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

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



District #17 hosts State Deputy Gizewski's 'Back to Basics' Tour



FL. State Deputy
Michael Gizewski

District Deputy Greg Gully (District #17) welcomed members of the Florida State Family to the Santa Maria del Mar Parish Hall on February 11th. All three councils in District #17 invited their members, wives, and fellow parishioners and guests to attend the meeting. In attendance were each respective Grand

Knight from each council; Notre Dame Council 10514 (Bryant Perszyk-Flagler Beach), St. Mary's Council 11961 (Darren Molony-Bunnell), and Mother Seton Council 17480 (Joseph Paul-Palm Coast). There were approximately ninety members, wives, and guests in attendance. Attendees came from as far as St. Augustine and Jacksonville to the north and Port Orange to the south.

The evening began with a light meal. Deacon and Brother Knight Stephen Johnson from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton began the meeting by leading the attendees in a decade of the rosary **(photo, bottom of page)**. This was followed by Grand Knight Bryant Perszyk of host Council 10514 introducing State Membership Director Danny McIntyre (who was accompanied by this wife, Carol). Brother McIntyre talked about the importance of the Knights of Columbus in evangelization and strengthening the church, through both spiritual and corporate works of mercy. He emphasized the importance of communication on both a local and statewide basis. The Order's outreach to Catholic men to join us is crucial to the continued success we enjoy. Brother McIntyre **(center photo)** interspersed three or four short (one or two minute) videos produced by the Supreme Council to bring additional clarity to his remarks.

State Membership Director McIntyre then introduced State Deputy Michael Gizewski for his presentation. SD Gizewski

stated that he was impressed by the number of ladies present. He remarked that the support of wives and family members plays a crucial part in the success of, not only individual Knights of Columbus councils, but his own personal efforts as state deputy to successfully lead a jurisdiction with approximately 57,000 members.

SD Gizewski touched on the many programs that the Florida State Council supports that 'piggyback' on the Order's Faith in Action Program. He encouraged each member to learn as much as they can about the state programs by going to the public portion of the Florida State Council website. He explained that every member in Florida can create an account at www.floridakofc.org and clicking on 'Member Login'. This will allow them to get timely information that is only available to members on the state's website. He explained that the Florida State Council has a 501(c)(3) called Florida KofC Charities, Inc. that is utilized to provide funding for local disasters, pro-life efforts, religious vocation assistance, provide coats for kids, food for families, and many other worthwhile charitable programs throughout the state of Florida.



The final part of program included a couple of short stories about SD Gizewski's personal life journey that brought him to where he is today. The stories were not only humorous at times, but deeply personal as they emphasized the importance that God has played in his life from childhood to the present. The program then concluded with questions being taken by SD Gizewski and State Membership Director McIntyre. A very poignant moment occurred when an attendee asked about the inspiration behind the creation of the State Deputy pin for his tenure. State Deputy Gizewski responded that he has a special relationship with the Blessed Mother. He highlighted the inclusion of baby Jesus in the womb and how it connects to his strong Pro-Life position and a personal situation in his family that dates back forty-eight years. He explained that everyone has a personal story of how God has been present in their lives. God inspires us to use his graces to lead others to Him through leading by example.



(Article compliments of Michael Boullion, Notre Dame Council 10514)

Council 11961 Officers 2025-2026



Grand Knight
Darren Molony



Financial Sec.
Mike Gossman



Deputy GK
John Picucci



Chancellor
Chris Grecek



Recorder
Darren Molony



Treasurer
John Thomas



Advocate
Phil Lajeunesse



Inside Guard
Joe Beck



Outside Guard
Tony Flynn



1 Year Trustee
Ron Kiceina



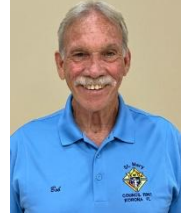
2 Year Trustee
Joe Jurec



3 Year Trustee
Dr. Jim St. John



Lecturer
Dr. Jim St. John



Warden
Bob Stearns



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
John Picucci
johnpicucci@yahoo.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



**“AND WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR
THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM” (ROMANS 8:28)**

Vocations are *Everybody's* Business. Pray for Vocations!



Saint Joseph Carmelite Monastery

141 Carmelite Dr, Bunnell, FL 32110



Join Us During Lent



*By Your holy cross,
You have redeemed
the world.*

St. Joseph's Monastery Stations of the Cross

3:00 PM Every Friday during Lent (Good Friday 4:00 PM)



GREAT NEWS...AND SINCERE THANK YOU

Brothers Mel Young and Phill Lajeunesse met Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Shaw at a neighborhood get together. They discussed the Knights plans for the Pavilion. The Shaw family administers the "Glenn Shaw Family Foundation." They showed interest in our project and offered to help. After learning about the condition of the Pavilion and the charitable work the Knights do, the Shaw Family Foundation donated the necessary funds. Words cannot convey the appreciation and thanks we have for their generosity.

The Shaw donation will cover supplies and professionals where needed however Brother Joe Marotti, our "modification director" will require volunteers. Please find time to offer assistance.

1ST LENTEN FISH FRY



Brothers Chris Grecek and Don Worthington ran our first fish fry with great success. The menu included Cod, French fries, coleslaw, beans and soft drinks. As the faithful waited patiently (2 minutes) the cod was battered, fried and served piping hot, along with the fries. It is estimated that 90 meals were served.



Our Fish Frys take an inordinate amount of time, work and volunteers.

Brother Chris Grecek with assistance from Brother Don Worthington organized the event. As can be seen from the sign-up website, the project takes four days, from planning, shopping, set up, preparation, frying, serving and cleanup which stretches to Saturday morning.

While the stress was on Chris's and Don's shoulders, we should all be proud of the number of Brother Knights who came to help and make it an event to be proud of. It shows real BROTHERHOOD.

**PRAY THE ROSARY AT
ST JOSEPH CARMELITE MONASTERY
MON-FRI 8:00AM, WED 5:00PM
SAT 8:30AM**



**FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT.
WHERE – AT THE MONASTERY PAVILION
WHEN – AFTER STATIONS OF THE CROSS
MENU – COD, FRIES, COLESLAW, BEANS
SOFT DRINKS
WHO – ALL ARE WELCOME
COST - \$15.00**



**Proposed Slate of Officers
2026-2027**



**Grand Knight
Joe Marotti**



**Financial Sec.
Mike Gossman**



Deputy GK



**Chancellor
Chris Grecek**



**Recorder
Darren Molony**



**Treasurer
John Thomas**



**Advocate
Phil Lajeunesse**



**Inside Guard
Paul Vicario**



**Outside Guard
Tony Flynn**



**1 Year Trustee
Joe Jurec**



**2 Year Trustee
Dr Jim St John**



**3 Year Trustee
John Picucci**



**Lecturer
Dr. Jim St. John**



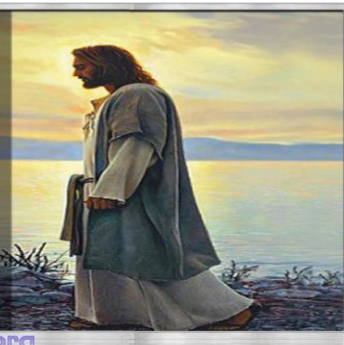
**Warden
Deacon John**



**"My grace is sufficient for
you, for my power is
made perfect in
weakness." Therefore I
will boast all the more
gladly about my
weaknesses, so that
Christ's power may rest
on me.**

2 Cor 12:9

CatholicGallery.org



THE WAY OF THE CROSS



Stations of The Cross, Fridays, 3:00PM during Lent, at St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery



Mar 2026 Calendar

Thur Feb 26, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Sun Mar 1, 2026	10:00am – 11:00am
Sun Mar 1, 2026	8:00am - 1:00pm
Thur Mar 5, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Fri Mar 6, 2026	After Stations
Fri Mar 13, 2026	After Stations
Tues Mar 17, 2026	All Day
Tues, Mar 17, 2026	4:30pm – 6:30pm
Fri, Mar 20, 2026	After Stations
Thur Mar 26, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Fri, Mar 27, 2026	After Stations

Officers Meeting at the Pavilion
Mass – St Joseph Monastery
Blood Drive – St Joseph Monastery
Business Meeting at the Pavilion
Fish Fry
Fish fry
St. Patrick's Day
Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM, Parish Hall)
Fish Fry
Officers Meeting at the Pavilion
Fish Fry

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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

Apr 2026 Calendar

Thur Apr 2, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm
Sun Apr 5, 2026	10:00am – 11:00am
Tues Apr 21, 2026	4:30pm-6-30pm
Thur Apr 30, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm

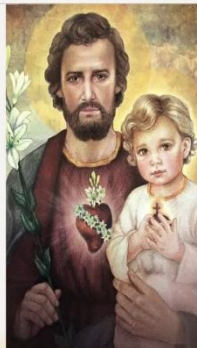
Business Meeting at the Pavilion
Easter Mass St, Joseph Monastery
Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
Officers Meeting at the Pavilion

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	1	2

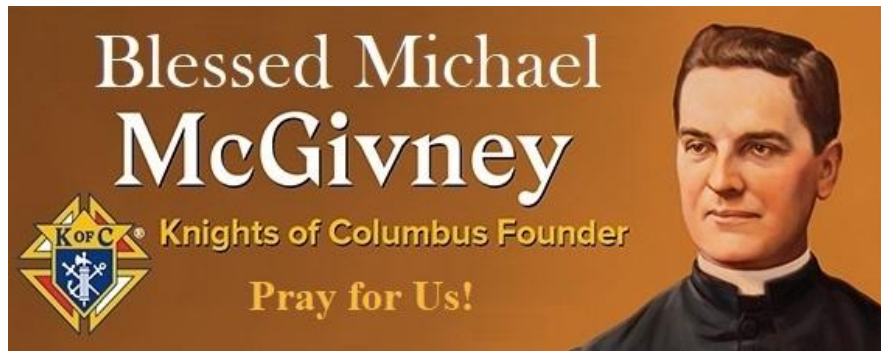
Prayer to St. Joseph

St. Joseph,
watch over me
and care for me
just as you cared for
the child Jesus;
and by your help,
may I come to know
your Son,
and grow
in strength
and wisdom
and the favor of God.
Amen.



O Lady of Guadalupe,

*Mother of Mercy and Mother of the Americas,
I come to you today with a trusting heart. You
appeared on Tepeyac to bring comfort, hope, and
healing
to all your children who suffer or feel alone.
Please look upon me with the same tender love. Holy
Mother, wrap me in your mantle of protection.
Intercede for my needs, my family, and all who seek
your help.
Strengthen my faith and bring peace to my heart
O Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe,
guide me closer to Jesus your Son
and help me trust in God's plan with courage and
serenity.*



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

March Birthdays



Marcus A Dodd-O 03-14

Frank M Deluca 03-16



300 CLUB WINNERS

January \$50 Winners

- #101 John Thomas
- #110 Kevin Cerrington
- #144 Amelia Jurec
- #180 Father Robert Marciniak

February \$50 Winners

- #40 Dan Dureck
- #170 Rick Stevens
- #269 Mary Zappala
- #282 Pat Shaw



"OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST" is a powerful and fitting exhortation for the KofC in this Jubilee Year. As men of faith, the Knights are called to welcome Christ into every aspect of their lives, into their homes, their parishes, and their communities. By echoing the words of St. John Paul II, we are reminded to live boldly and faithfully, opening our hearts to Christ's truth, mercy, and love. Worn as a pin, it becomes a visible sign of commitment to evangelization, service, and the defense of life; encouraging all to embrace and share the Gospel in this special year of grace.



"JESUS IN MARY'S WOMB" is a profound symbol of the sacredness of life from its very inception. His presence as a child, unborn, reflects the divine value of every human life. The Knights of Columbus draws strength and inspiration from this mystery, standing firmly for the right to life from conception to natural death. As Mary carried the Savior of the world in her womb, so too must society recognize and protect the dignity of every human being at all stages of life.

So, OPEN WIDE THE DOORS FOR CHRIST and he shall enter.

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

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,
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

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 restored 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.

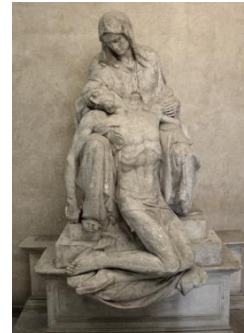
Prayer for the Faithful Departed

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



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.



The

Korona

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

March 2026

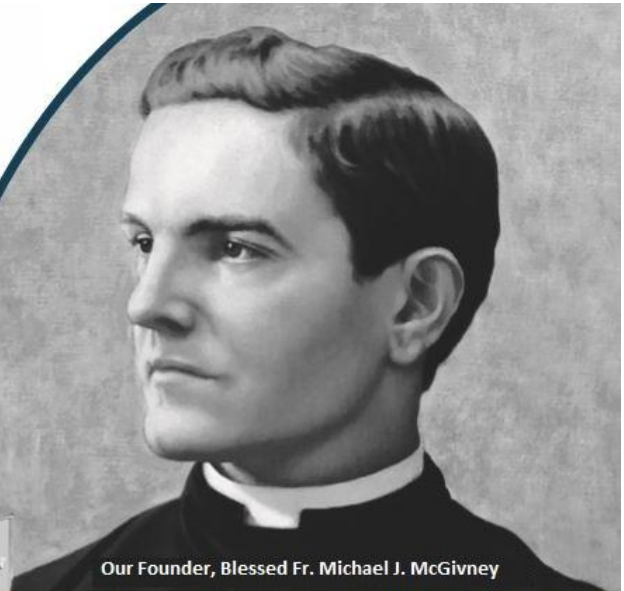
Charity
Unity
Fraternity

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



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

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