



IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

KNIGHTLINE

NEWS FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326, USA • OCTOBER 2017 • VOLUME 34 • NUMBER 10 • www.kofc.org



Knights at the Forefront of Disaster Relief

The Knights of Father Eugene Heyck Council 8960 in Pearland, Texas, were hit hard by Hurricane Harvey, but that didn't stop them from heading out to help others in their community. The council assembled early in the morning to receive trucks of fresh produce, non-perishable food, diapers, pet food and bottled water.

Later, these were loaded directly into the vehicles of families seeking aid.

Packing winds at more than 180 mph, the record-setting strength of Hurricane Irma terrorized the Caribbean Islands and southeastern United States. Not long before, Hurricane Harvey affected countless people in the Gulf Coast region of Texas. The areas hit by these storms will never be the same.

The Knights of Columbus has raised more than \$2.8 million for victims of the recent hurricanes and natural disasters. The Order has taken a leadership role in assisting those affected by these storms, immediately distributing more than \$720,000 for food, water and other necessities. At the forefront of the rescue and relief efforts are our Knights, who have done everything from rescuing trapped people from flooding cars to providing food to those who haven't had a hot meal in days.

Their selfless acts of charity and kindness are so inspiring that we wanted to share them with our *Knightline* readers.

Dave Kanaszka, a past grand knight and now trustee of St. Jude the Apostle Council 14178 in St. Petersburg, Fla., witnessed the destruction firsthand. He and his wife, Carol, had only just unloaded a personal trailer full of Hurricane Harvey donations and relief supplies to storm-battered Texans when the news broke about Hurricane Irma. On the drive back to Florida, they began picking up supplies to assist the people affected by Irma. Both Dave and Carol said this "roll-up-the-sleeves" response is what Knights do. "As Christians or Catholics in general, we are supposed to help those in need," Carol said.

San Juan Diego Primero Council 13563 in Lakeland, Fla., held a drive with other area councils to collect items for infants and toddlers.

Meanwhile, in Sealy, Texas, Father Crann Council 3313 served food and provided clean water and shelter for more than 100 evacuees.

See *Relief*, page 2

Earthquakes and Hurricanes: Knights Among the Affected

Hundreds of our brother Knights and their families in Puerto Rico and Mexico will never be the same. Their lives changed forever with the arrival of Hurricane Maria, whose reported winds of 145 mph tore through the island. And just the day before, a massive earthquake struck Mexico, killing hundreds.

They urgently need your prayers and support. Please join us in remembering our suffering Knights and their families.

Spread Awareness of Persecuted Christians



On Nov. 26, the Knights will join the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in sponsoring a day of prayer for persecuted Christians. This day will kick off a week of awareness and education.

During this week, spread the word about the Order's \$2 million initiative to save Karamles, a Christian town in Iraq that had been under the control of ISIS. Together, we can help the Christian families who want to finally return home.

The approximate cost of relocating one family is \$2,000. One way to raise this amount is through a joint fundraising effort between your council and parish. For details, visit christiansatrisk.org.

Relief, from Page 1

Father Roach Council 3217 in Dickinson, Texas, used boats to help evacuate stranded individuals, including a priest from the Shrine of the True Cross in Dickinson. The council also came to the aid of Knight Lance Pawlik, who lost nearly everything he owned due to flooding. The council mobilized a group of Knights and other volunteers to assist in the removal of water-soaked walls, flooring, furniture and other items.

Ingleside (Texas) Council 11570 opened its facilities to house first responders. Emergency personnel camped at the council hall and utilized its bathrooms and kitchen, and utility crews used the parking lot as a staging area for their trucks and equipment.

Holy Family Council 7728 in Missouri City, Texas, helped unload trucks of donated clothing and assisted senior citizens at a parish in Sugar Land, while Rev. John T. Weyer Council 11343 in Sugar Land made repairs to roofs damaged by tornadoes.

These are just some of the many good works being done by Knights in response to Hurricane Harvey and Irma. For more details, visit kofc.org/disaster.

If you would like to support our brother Knights' efforts, please visit kofc.org/disaster or call 800-694-5713.



A Knight from Msgr. A.L. O'Connell Council 3700 in Pasadena, Texas, stands in front of a trailer carrying food and other supplies for hurricane victims. The council helped unload the trailer, which brought the disaster relief items from New Orleans.

Grand Knight's Checklist – October & November

- ✓ Confirm your council's July assessments have been paid. *Failure to pay the assessments prior to Oct. 10 will result in suspension of the council. Please note: Prior to paying, be sure to review the Sept. 1 statement, which lists the incentive credit for Star Councils.*
- ✓ Distribute K of C disaster relief flyers within your parish and community.
- ✓ Continue collecting donations, charitable disbursements and volunteer data for the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728).
- ✓ Review how your council will participate in the annual Coats for Kids and Food for Families programs.
- ✓ Start planning Christmas activities, such as an Advent celebration and the Orderwide Keep Christ in Christmas initiative.
- ✓ Confirm that your council and jurisdiction is compliant with the Office of Youth Protection requirements for all activities.
- ✓ Make sure your council is on the path to earning the Star Council Award.

Disaster Relief: How You Can Help

Your brothers living in disaster areas urgently need your help.

First, please pray. Pray for the victims and their families. Offered together, our prayers can be stronger than the most powerful storm.

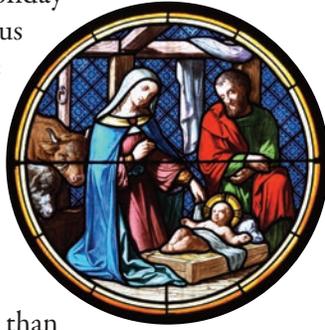
Second, give what you can to kofc.org/disasterrelief. Even small contributions make a big difference.

Third, spread the word by checking out "Hurricane Relief: How You Can Help" at kofc.org/news. Two flyers are available on this page. Print copies and distribute them in your community. Give copies to your pastor and ask if you can insert them in your parish bulletin.

Finally, help local Knights. The state councils in the affected areas are coordinating various efforts and will be updating their websites with information about ongoing needs.

Help Youth Promote the True Meaning of Christmas

As we inch closer to the holiday season, councils should give serious consideration to sponsoring the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. This program allows children ages 5-14 to engage their creative talents and imaginations while promoting the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas.



During the past four years, more than 60,000 young people have engaged in our Christmas poster contest. The Supreme Council is again encouraging councils to participate and thereby help even more young people have an opportunity to explore, understand and share the religious significance of Christmas.

Teachers and parents involved in the poster contest might be interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus, so be sure to have informational flyers about the Order and prospect cards on hand during the event.

Check out the contest rules and informational materials at kofc.org/christmas. You can also call 203-752-4270 or email fraternalmission@kofc.org.

Campaign to Save 1 Million Children

The Knights of Columbus launched its Ultrasound Initiative on Jan. 22, 2009. Now, eight years later, the supreme knight has announced the “Knights of Columbus Campaign to Save 1 Million Children.” This new campaign aims to reach the goal of 1,000 machines as quickly as possible so that by 2019 — the 10th anniversary of the initiative — we will have saved an estimated total of 1 million babies. By doing so we’re not just saving these young lives but transforming their families and affecting countless generations to come.

For information on how your council can help work toward this goal, visit kofc.org/ultrasound. Questions may be directed to William O’Brien at 203-752-4403 or william.obrien@kofc.org.

Countdown to Christmas

It’s not too early to begin planning how your council will celebrate the birth of Christ. Consider hosting *Journey to the Inn: An Advent Celebration* (#9898). For details on this program, please visit kofc.org/domesticchurch.

Plan Your Fall/Winter Outreach

The cold weather season is approaching, which means it’s time for you to start planning for your fall/winter outreach events, including Coats for Kids distributions.

To help you prepare for your coat distribution, KnightsGear has brand-new winter coats available in cases of 12 for both grade-school and high school-aged children.

- Grade-school sizes, shipped within U.S. — \$220
- Teen sizes, shipped within U.S. — \$288
- Grade-school sizes, shipped outside U.S. — \$245
- Teen sizes, shipped outside U.S. — \$313

All prices include shipping. Coats should be ordered via knightsgear.com, which will allow easy ordering and fast delivery.

Be sure to use all available means of communication to inform parishioners about your Coats for Kids distribution, and personally invite prospective members to join you at the distribution.

For more information, visit kofc.org/coats. You can also contact the Fraternal Mission Department at 203-752-4270 or fraternalmission@kofc.org.

Please Share This Issue

In the past, *Knightline* has been emailed to all members who have an email address on file. As of last month, we began emailing *Knightline* only to grand knights, financial secretaries, deputy grand knights, chaplains, program directors, church directors, community directors, council directors, family directors, youth directors, Columbian Squires chairmen, membership directors, insurance promotion chairmen, vice supreme masters, masters, faithful navigators and faithful comptrollers.

Going forward, we ask that all grand knights share *Knightline* with interested council members and post each new issue on local council websites. Councils can also share *Knightline* articles via council social media accounts or newsletters. Thanks for sharing!

This Holiday Season, Feed a Brother in Need

Since the Food for Families program started in 2012, councils have donated close to 29 million pounds of food and over \$15 million to help hungry families. The demand remains high, though, so we could use your help.

For information, visit kofc.org/food. Or, contact the Fraternal Mission Department at 203-752-4270 or fraternalmission@kofc.org.

Remember, the Supreme Council offers financial rebates to councils and assemblies that donate food or money. Councils must submit the *Food for Families Application* (#10057) along with proof of the donation to the Fraternal Mission Department to qualify. Refund details are listed at kofc.org/food.



Turn Your Prospects Into Members

Last month, we reminded councils to hold a church or similar recruitment activity. Now that you're done planning your drive, what do you do next?

First, schedule an open house to inform prospects and their families about your council and the Knights of Columbus. Then, schedule a First Degree exemplification to immediately bring these new members into the Knights of Columbus.



How to Schedule and Conduct First Degrees

Promptly advancing new members is essential to the success of your council. A well-organized, regular schedule of degrees will show that you care about your prospects' journey to Knighthood and value their involvement. Here are some helpful tips:

- Schedule and conduct at least one First Degree exemplification per month. Regularly changing the exemplifications' time and day each month will allow greater participation.
- Publicize the degree schedule at council meetings and in council bulletins, advertisements and mailings. Invite neighboring councils to your degree exemplifications.
- Hold exemplifications in the name of specific honorees, such as deceased members of the council.
- Contact candidates a day or two in advance to confirm attendance and discuss proper attire.
- Arrange, when appropriate, for the proposer or a member of the recruitment committee to pick up the candidate and escort him to the First Degree.
- Make sure your council has ample *Candidate Kits* (#531) and *First Degree Certificates* (#268) prior to the event.
- Advise new members of the dates and times of the next Second and Third Degree exemplifications.

NOTE: If a First Degree team is not available, the *First Degree Ceremonial Production DVD* may be used. The DVD is helpful, but obviously less personal, so we recommend its use only when absolutely necessary. For more information, contact Fraternal Education, Training and Ceremonials at ceremonials@kofc.org or 203-752-4270, option 3.

Meet and Greet Prospects

Invite your prospects and their families to a meet and greet event. There, introduce them to the Order's volunteer service programs, social and fraternal activities, membership benefits and more.

To plan this event:

- Appoint a committee to organize the event.
- Set a date and time. Publicize the event using local websites, social media, newspapers, radio, cable television and church bulletins.
- Order quantities of promotional materials, including the *Going to the Periphery flyer* (#10521) and *Knights of Columbus: Protecting Families for Generations flyer* (#10395).
- Invite your chaplain/parish priest and insurance agent to your event.
- Email or mail invitations to prospects and their spouses. Follow up the mailing by calling each prospect to confirm whether they received the invite and if they will attend the event.
- Arrange for a display of council scrapbooks, awards, programs and activities.
- Assign a recruiter to each attending prospect; these men will act as hosts throughout the event.

Your event should include a welcome committee that greets guests; an endorsement by your chaplain or parish priest; an introduction of officers and members; an explanation of council aims and organization by the grand knight and/or membership director; an explanation of insurance benefits by your local agent; a showing of a promotional video (visit kofc.org/films or youtube.com/user/KnightsOfColumbus/videos); a question and answer session; and refreshments. Be certain that before the evening ends, recruiters offer to assist prospects in completing a *Membership Document* (#100).



Social Media 101: Looking to Be Social?

Take advantage of the power of social media to connect you to your parish and the greater community! The first step is to set up a Facebook Page. For details on how to get started, visit kofc.org.

Have any tips and tricks you want to share with other Knights looking to get started on social media? Let us know! We'd love to feature your ideas in an upcoming Social Media 101 column.

Being a Star Takes Year-long Effort

During the 2016-17 fraternal year, 2,071 councils achieved Star Council status. Not only can we take great pride in the exemplary efforts of our brother Knights, but in the year ahead, we can look to them as role models. Visit kofc.org/star and see how you can become a Star Council!

1. Earn the Father McGivney Award for excellence in council membership growth.
 - Conduct frequent church drives. Visit kofc.org/drive for information.
 - Schedule a First Degree Ceremonial each month.
 - Invite prospective members to volunteer in one of your council's service programs. After the program, invite the prospective member to join your council.
2. Earn the Founders' Award for excellence in the promotion of our insurance and fraternal benefits.
 - Conduct Fraternal Benefits Nights.
 - Promptly deliver completed *Membership Documents* (#100) to your council's insurance agent.
 - Invite your council's insurance agent to speak at council meetings.
3. Earn the Columbian Award for well-rounded council programs.
 - Conduct at least four major programs in each of the Surge with Service categories of Church, Community, Council, Culture of Life, Family and Youth.
 - Alternatively, complete one Featured Program in each category to fulfill that category's requirements.
 - Complete and submit the *Columbian Award Application* (#SP-7) by June 30.
4. Submit the *Service Program Personnel Report* (#365) by Aug. 1.
 - Use the Member Management Application in the secure Officers Online section of kofc.org to easily submit this information.
5. Submit the annual *Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728) by Jan. 31.
 - Complete the form electronically by visiting kofc.org/forms.
6. Remain current with assessments from the Supreme Council headquarters.

For additional information on how your council can earn the Star Council Award, visit kofc.org/star.

Important Requirements for Council Awards

To be eligible for the Pinnacle Award or either level of the Circle of Honor Award, state councils in the United States and Canada must be fully compliant with applicable safe environment requirements. This means that your state deputy must complete the Praesidium safe environment training, and your state youth director and state Squires chairman must complete both the training and a background check.

For the Star Council, Double Star or Triple Star awards, councils in the United States and Canada must also be fully compliant with applicable safe environment requirements. This means that your grand knight must complete the Praesidium safe environment training, and your council youth director must complete both the safe environment training and a background check. If your council sponsors a Columbian Squires circle, your council Squires chairman and all circle counselors must complete the training and background checks.

For more information on the Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program, please visit kofc.org/safe.

Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the Fraternal Mission Department at 203-752-4270 or fraternalmission@kofc.org.

Questions regarding safe environment program compliance may be directed to the Office of Youth Protection at 203-800-4940 or youthleader@kofc.org.

Prospects Want to Talk to You — They're Just Busy

Remember that when you talk to a man about joining the Knights, he is often busy with family commitments. That doesn't mean he doesn't want to talk to you; it just means that you have to show him that you really appreciate the time he is giving you.

When talking to him, use your time wisely and talk about your positive experiences. Offer personal stories and share what being a Knight means to you. Remember that your facial expressions and body language show how you feel about being a Knight of Columbus. Maintain a positive attitude, smile often, avoid being negative and always look the prospective member in the eye when talking with him.

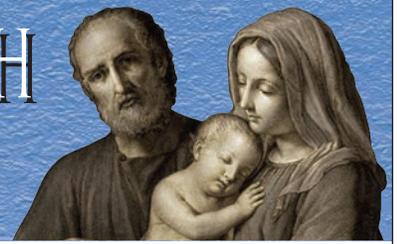
If a prospect says that he doesn't have the time to commit to being a Knight right now, tell him, "The amount of time you give is completely up to you. Even one or two Saturdays a year would be a big help. Also, with the family-oriented activities we offer, you'll have many opportunities to spend time with your family."

Finally, don't forget to:

- Make sure that your members are visible when conducting a charitable service project.
- Ask young men to join your council. Recruiting a wide range of age groups will provide your council greater reach within your community.
- Ask family, friends, co-workers and fellow parishioners if they would like to join your council.
- Always follow up with prospects in a timely manner, advising them of the date and time of the next First Degree exemplification.

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

While Strengthening Our Parish



“The family as domestic church is central to the work of the new evangelization and to the future sustainability of our parishes.” ~ Supreme Knight Carl Anderson

The Family Fully Alive program was created to help each family deliberately welcome God into their home. It provides monthly themes, reflections, meditations, family projects and Scripture verses designed to help each family place God and the Catholic faith at the center of their life. Through prayer and reflection, each family has the opportunity to grow in holiness together.

Launching the Program in Your Parish

Councils should speak with their pastors about the program and remind them that families can participate at no cost to the parish. (Check out the September *Knightline* for suggestions on how to prepare for this discussion with your pastor). The Family Fully Alive program can be used throughout the liturgical year, and all of the programs' resources are available at kofc.org/domesticchurch.

Councils should order hard copies of the program book for families to use at home. Place your order online at knightsgear.com. You can also contact the Supply Department at 203-752-4214 or supply@kofc.org.

Adapting This Program

The Family Fully Alive program is designed to meet the continuously changing needs of different families. This program can be started during any month of the year, allowing families to complete projects and say prayers at the times and places most suitable for each.

However parish families decide to incorporate the Family Fully Alive program into their busy schedule, one thing is certain: It will change their lives. The monthly cycle of themes, prayers, reflections, meditations and family projects will help everyone focus on the important things in the world. They will help build each family's domestic church into a place of faith, hope and charity, where each member will grow with grace toward his or her full potential in God.

Life: A Worthy Cause for 45 Years

This year's annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., which will be held on Jan. 19, 2018, observes the 45th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision following *Roe v. Wade*. It's a tragic anniversary, but the number of years speaks to the unwavering faith of men and women who have found the courage to speak against this law that discriminates against our nation's most vulnerable children.

We ask that every single Knight living in the United States consider going to Washington, D.C., for this event. Imagine if each Knight attended the march; the number of the pro-life attendees, already vast, would be unprecedented!

Councils should begin planning ways of assisting parishioners and others that wish to march, either by sponsoring buses that travel to D.C. or organizing a fundraiser to sponsor a pro-life group that might not otherwise have the financial means to attend.

Knights who cannot make the national event should try to attend local pro-life demonstrations.

Check marchforlife.org for information on dozens of other regional, state and local marches being held throughout the country. If there isn't one near you, perhaps your council could start one!

Whichever you attend, order *Defend Life signs* (#9341, available in English, French or Spanish) to carry at the event so that the pro-life message of the Knights is visible to the whole world. To place an order, please send an email to william.obrien@kofc.org with your name, address, council number, telephone number and the exact number of signs needed. When ordering, please specify the language preferred.



USCCB Respect Life Materials

Culture of life directors and culture of life chair couples in the United States should have received the 2017-2018 Respect Life Program packets prepared by the USCCB's Secretariat of Pro-life Activities. Directors or chair couples who have not received their packets should call 203-752-4403 or email william.obrien@kofc.org.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

End the Year With a New Career

Are you interested in a career of service and unrestricted earning potential? What if you could enjoy professional independence without the risk of going it alone? Can you see yourself working for a mission-oriented organization that you already belong to and which is fiercely loyal to its principles and members?

Then consider a career as a Knights of Columbus field agent.

What you do will have a positive impact on your brother Knights, their families, your local community and the world.

Not Your Typical Sales Job

Being an agent for the Knights of Columbus is not like being a typical salesman. On your very first day as an agent, you will be assigned an exclusive territory of hundreds of Knights of Columbus families. You won't need to start from scratch. And since all of your clients will be Knights or their family members, you will be welcomed as a brother, not as a stranger.

Well-Compensated

We don't put a limit on your success. As an agent, you can thrive in our commissions-based system, which ensures that you make what you earn. You also will have access to an excellent benefits package that includes medical and retirement benefits, as well as incentive awards and programs.

A Clear Path to Success

Knights of Columbus agents use proven techniques to grow their business and be successful. As a new agent, you will learn those techniques through an extensive training and support system that includes agent mentoring, classroom learning and the Knights of Columbus Online University. Our pre-contract program allows you to engage in real sales situations with veteran agents, helping you to understand an agent's day-to-day work and determine if it is the right career for you.

Independence and Brotherhood: A Perfect Match

Knights of Columbus field agents are in business for themselves but not by themselves. Agents love the flexibility that allows them to plan their time to be there for family events. They also love working in regional teams and learning from their fellow agents. As a Knights of Columbus agent, you will have all of the perks of independence without having to go it alone.

Work You Can Believe In

The Knights of Columbus is unique. It's not your typical life insurance company. It is both one of the largest life insurers in North America* and one of the largest donors to charitable causes.** It is a proud Catholic company that puts values above profit, earning the respect of its members as well as the insurance industry. When you work for the Knights of Columbus, you won't need to check your principles at the door — you can carry them with you.

Our field agents not only help safeguard the financial futures of Catholic families in their communities, they also work closely with their councils to help them increase their charitable impact. As a Knights of Columbus field agent, you too can make the world a better place.

This is a unique opportunity. It combines service, professionalism, independence and brotherhood in ways that no other opportunity can. Its potential is limitless and so is its promise.

To learn more about a career opportunity with the Knights of Columbus, fill out our brief contact form on kofc.org/careers, and let's get the conversation started.

* *Knights of Columbus is a member of the Fortune 1000. It has been rated A++ (Superior) by A.M. Best for 41 years.*

** *In the past decade, the Knights of Columbus and its members donated more than \$1.6 billion to charity and volunteered hundreds of millions of service hours valued at \$15.5 billion.*

Time to Plan Your Council's Free Throw Championship

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is now in its 45th year of competition. This classic youth program showcases the shooting skills of boys and girls ages 9-14. All you need to participate is a gym, a basketball and a few volunteers.

Remember, at least one volunteer must meet K of C safe environment requirements.

All rules and procedures are outlined in the *Free Throw Program Kit* (FT-KIT), which can be ordered by visiting kofc.org/forms or by contacting the Supply Department.



The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest encourages young people to consider the role of a Catholic citizen in the world today. The contest strengthens the bond between Knights of Columbus councils and local schools, as well as emphasizes the Order's concern for the future of young people and the state of being Catholic in the modern world.

The theme of the contest for the coming academic year is "Going to the Peripheries," a theme inspired by Pope Francis. As students reflect upon this theme and write their essays, we hope they will be inspired to do their utmost to help those on the peripheries in their own communities and beyond.

The contest is open to any student in 8th through 12th grade, whether they are educated at home or in public, private or parochial schools.

To learn how to sponsor the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest, visit kofc.org/essay or contact Ed Wezenski at 203-752-4703 or edward.wezenski@kofc.org.

KNIGHTLINE

1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326, USA

2017



MDRT®

The Premier Association
of Financial Professionals®

*Extraordinary
Service.*

*Exemplary
Dedication.*

A commitment to excellence, outstanding service and the highest ethical standards: These are the traits of all Knights of Columbus field agents, but the dedication of 143 of our agents has earned them membership in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) for 2017.* MDRT is an international organization that recognizes the top 1 percent of financial professionals in the world. We salute these men for their devotion to continuing Father McGivney's mission of protecting Catholic families.

*See October *Columbia* for the complete list.



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