

Who are the Knights of Columbus?

The Knights of Columbus is the largest international Catholic fraternal service organization that provides services to the Church, community, family, unborn, youth, and council. Knights of Columbus extend the reach of the Church far beyond the Church doors. With aid to the poor, the handicapped, the orphan, the widow and each other, we practice charity. Our dedicated unity with the Church helps sustain compliance with the precepts of the Catholic Church. Fraternity among ourselves and our families strengthens our resolve to live and exemplify the Christian life.

Who can become a Knight?

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to Practical Catholic men, 18 years of age or older. A Practical Catholic is one who is in union with the Holy See, obeys the Commandments of God, and practices the Precepts of the Catholic Church.

How do I progress as a Knight?

A Knight's education consists of a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree Exemplification (a 4th Degree is optional), that allow him to understand better how we, as Knights of Columbus, are involved in our community, support our faith and conduct ourselves. A member becomes a full Knight upon completion of his 3rd Degree.

What is a Council?

A local organization of the Knights of Columbus is called a council, led by the Grand Knight and a cadre of officers, program directors, and committee chairmen. We are St. Louis the King Council #11898. As a council, we focus on six major program areas: Church, Family, Youth, Community, Council, and Pro-Life. Here is a sample of the many activities our council conducts within each of the six program areas:

Church Program

Individual members of the Knights of Columbus support St. Louis Church as members of the Parish Council, Religious Education, Teachers, Ushers, Lectors, Choirs and Minister of the Eucharist and many Ministries. Collectively, Knights and their families participate in weekly Eucharistic Adoration, assist in the St. Louis School Supply Drive for our sister parishes in Western Maryland, participate in annual men's retreats, and financially help seminarians through their studies toward becoming priests. A Knights' Mass is held each month in which there is a fifth Sunday at which Knights and their family members perform the laity functions of the Mass. Our council sponsors and runs the Friday night Stations-of-the-Cross Fish Dinners during Lent, provides Church parking assistance for the Easter and Christmas Masses at St. Louis Church, supports the Clarksville and Workers Picnics in June, and supports the Pastoral Staff upon request. We also support the Franciscans at the Shrine of St. Anthony by helping with seasonal property clean-up including spreading mulch in the Shrine gardens in the spring and setting up for the Concert Under the Arches series throughout the summer.

Family Program

Family activities include: an Ice Cream Social each spring, a summer Family Picnic, a Family Christmas Party, and several social outings, each involving family members.

Youth Program

Our youth-focused activities include: A Soccer Shootout, a Basketball Free-throw Contest, a Baseball Pitch/Hit/Run Contest, a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, and a Youth Fishing Outing.

Community Program

Community activities include: assisting with the annual Leukemia Walk, Hospice Support, serving at food shelters in downtown Baltimore, participating in the MD Adopt-A-Highway cleanup program, organizing Red

Cross blood drives, and donating time and financial support to local charitable organizations.

Council Program

Council activities include: monthly golf outings, the KofC Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit the mentally challenged, a weekly Bible Study course and a monthly social meeting, typically including an educational and informative speaker. In addition, we hold fundraising events throughout the year which include a 10k run, a community mulch sale, and charity bingo.

Pro-Life Program

We support one Pro-Life activity per quarter, and assist and support to the Howard County Pregnancy Center. We support and defend the rights of the unborn to be born.

What's required to be a member?

Men who desire to be members of the Knights of Columbus must be Practical Catholics, capable of receiving the Sacraments of the Church. Our dues are \$50 annually plus a \$2.00 Pro-Life program assessment. There is also a one-time initiation fee of \$10. We encourage each member to be as active as he wants to be, which may include: helping at a function or event, serving on a committee, organizing an event or running for office. Active participation depends on your own interests and available time.

How do I become a member?

If you are interested in becoming a member or want to know more about the Knights of Columbus, please stop and ask any Knight in the parish or contact any of the names shown on the back panel.

Our Meetings:

Our council meets every second Monday of the month at the Shrine of St Anthony located on the Franciscan Friary grounds at 12290 Folly Quarter Road. The evening begins at 6:30 PM with a Council Mass, followed by our Fraternal Dinner, and a one-hour structured Business Meeting.

We also hold an Open Meeting, open to non-members (e.g., wives, family and friends), the fourth Tuesday of each month, at the St. Louis Pastoral Center, starting at 7:30 PM. This meeting features a specific topic or planned function, and lasts about an hour followed by refreshments.

Why should you join the Knights?

Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and your mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference. The St. Louis the King Council of the Knights of Columbus are Catholic men who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church and enhancing their own faith. It is also about protecting and enhancing our family life. Make this your experience of a lifetime!

As a Knight you can choose the projects with which you wish to be involved. Since our council is involved in so many activities throughout the year, you are sure to find one or more programs that are right for your interests and available time. More over, the Order is dedicated to family life and the many benefits it offers. From insurance to scholarships to service and social activities and programs, all are open to the whole family. As a Knight you can continue doing what you do now and you and your family can enjoy the many benefits the Order offers. For more information, please stop and ask any Knight in the Parish or call and speak with any of the names in this brochure.



Father M. McGivney
Founder KofC



Christopher Columbus
Namesake

For more information contact:

- Larry Staudmeister, Grand Knight
(410) 795-9159 (Home)
- Jim Garippa, Deputy Grand Knight
(410) 531-6777 (Home)
- Clark Wiebking, Membership Director
(301) 498-4735 (Home)
- Rev. Friar Joachim Giermek, Council Chaplain
(410) 531-6040 (Parish Office)




Knights Of Columbus

In Service to One; In Service to all

St Louis the King Council #11898
Clarksville, MD

<http://www.kc11898.com/>




Knights of Columbus

St. Louis the King Council #11898

Men of St. Louis Church - Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and your mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference. St. Louis the King Council members of the Knights of Columbus are and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their own faith. It is also interested in becoming a member or want to know more about the Knights of Columbus, please stop and ask any Knight in the parish or call:

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Larry Staudmeister, Grand Knight, (410) 382-7233
Jim Garippa, Deputy Grand Knight, (410) 795-9159
Clark Wiebking, Membership Chairman, (301) 498-4735
Rev. Friar Joachim A. Giermek, Council Chaplain

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