



How Will Your Council Celebrate Columbus Day, 2024?

In recent years we have seen an upward trend in efforts to rename or eliminate the Columbus Day holiday. Much of the public has become indifferent to the celebration of the day. It is up to us as Knights of Columbus to publicly display our support for Columbus Day and to proclaim that reasons for which the holiday was established are still relevant today. So, how will your council commemorate the day? Here are some ideas and opportunities:

Columbus Day Ball – *Saturday, October 12, 2024 – 6:30 PM, Columbus Gardens* - All councils are encouraged to purchase and sell ads for the program book to show your support for Columbus Day. Then, don't miss Maryland State Council's premier social event of the year. Limited space available so make your reservations early.

National Columbus Day Ceremony – *Monday, October 14, 2024 – 11:00 am, Columbus Memorial Statue, Washington, DC* - This ceremony is the official commemoration of Columbus Day sponsored by the National Christopher Columbus Assn with the cooperation of the National Park Service. The KofC 4th Degree Color Corps contributes to the pageantry of the ceremony that includes the Joint Armed Forces Honor Guard, United States Marine Band, Embassies of Spain and Italy, and the Presidential Columbus Day Proclamation. The program is not only patriotic, but educational. Come as a council and bring the families.

Educate our members and others why we are called the Knights of Columbus – If looking for resources the Supreme Web Site www.kofc.org has good information. Also available is information for dispelling false facts about Columbus.

Commemorate the day with acts of Columbian charity – Ignore the negativity and turn it into a positive: helping the community. Charity – the first Principle of the Order.

Other ideas? – Here are a few that your council can do:

1. Hold a Christopher Columbus/Columbus Day trivia contest.
2. *Good of the Order* presentation on Columbus/Columbus Day. You can make it a series.
3. A council Columbus Day ball/dinner.
4. Insert a church bulletin announcement or page with Columbus Day facts.
5. Have a Columbus Day display with information available at your parish.
6. Your council can join the National Christopher Columbus Association.
7. Hold a membership drive in honor of Columbus Day – Admissions Degree.
8. Invite a speaker on Columbus and Columbus Day to a meeting – Open it to families.

Do not let Columbus Day go by without your council commemorating this important holiday!