



Maryland State Council Newsletter



November 2025

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Make a Difference in Someone's Life



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Maryland State Council Newsletter

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EDITOR'S CORNER

The Maryland State Council Newsletter is formatted to provide you with information and to show you what's getting done and who's doing it. Its purpose is to keep you informed as to Supreme, State and Council aspects of the Knights of Columbus. We also want everyone to know of the good things happening, and perhaps to learn something new along the way about our Church, our Order, and our Founder.

Also, we invite Councils, Chapters, Assemblies, and Fourth Degree elements to submit highlights of their respective accomplishments to the Public Relations Director, Jeff Maynard, (jcmaynard@verizon.net) for posting on our social media platforms.





State Chaplain's Message

Fr Donald Grzyski OFM Conv
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Pope Leo XIV recently issued his first Apostolic Exhortation on October 4th, the feast of St. Francis. No doubt that date was chosen because it is a letter that was started by Pope Francis before his death, and then concluded and made his own by Pope Leo. The title of the letter, *Dilexi te*, translates "I have loved you" (Revelation 3.9), and the letter speaks of the Lord's love for His people, and in a particular way for the poor.

Jesus came into the world poor, lived the life of a poor man, and He repeatedly paid particular attention to the needs of the poor. Having this identity with the poor, when Jesus promised "I am always with you," one of the ways is in the presence of the poor. Service to the poor, and support of their needs, is a way that the disciple gives back to the Lord.

It strikes me that this call from Popes Francis and Leo goes particularly to the Knights of Columbus. It was the very often desperate situation of the immigrant that led to the founding of the Knights, who have "charity" as their first principle. Go through the list of ways the Knights offer support to those in need: when tragedy strikes a location, when a child needs a coat, when a Box of Joy will make a difference, when food is collected for the ministry of the Little Sisters of the Poor, when there is aid and support after pregnancy, when tuition support helps young people to attend Catholic school, and vocations be nourished in seminaries and houses of formation, when tootsie rolls are a means to collect for those challenged—and the list could go on.

Knights and Ladies so regularly join in the charitable works of the Church, and one might say the more that happens, the more the Knights and Ladies will be blessed—as an organization and as individuals. It is the message one hears repeatedly from those who give of their time and talent in service, interacting directly with those in need. Service can sometimes seem intimidating at first, but almost always comes to be seen as a blessing to the one who serves.

This month, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, we realize we have so much for which we can express our gratitude. It's a holiday that also reminds us of the thanksgiving we celebrate when we gather around the altar of the Lord. I hope it helps to inspire an "attitude of gratitude" in each of us. We have so many reasons to say, "thanks be to God." May the realization of our blessings inspire us to charity for others. May you and your loved ones have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving!

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. Donald

Liturgical Calendar

- 1 Nov **ALL SAINTS**
- 2 Nov **THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (All Souls' Day)**
- 4 Nov **Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop**
- 9 Nov **THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA**
- 10 Nov **Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church**
- 11 Nov **Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop**
- 12 Nov **Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr**
- 13 Nov **Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin**
- 17 Nov **Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious**
- 21 Nov **The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 22 Nov **Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr**
- 23 Nov **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**
- 24 Nov **Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs**
- 27 Nov **Thanksgiving Day**



State Deputy's Message

Tony Salvemini

a.ns@comcast.net - (240) 472-7645



Congratulations to the following 10 Councils that achieved the Fast Start Initiative and will not be billed for their second half per capita:

St. Bartholomew No. 9127- GK Gary Pohlner

Santo Nino No. 9462- GK Jessie Sayo

St. Paul's No. 11105- GK Joseph Kennedy

St. John the Evangelist No. 11171- GK Andy Harris

Our Lady of Guadalupe No. 12127- GK Jim Wasel

Resurrection of Our Lord No. 14099- GK Effi Usen

St. Rose of Lima No. 14297- GK Tony Bunn

St. Philip Neri No. 14612- GK Daniel Young

Jesus the Divine Word No. 14775- GK Gary Nagy

San Juan Neumann de Baltimore No. 16611- GK Omar Ordonez

Thank you to everyone that attended the Columbus Day Ball, you each contributed to it being a smashing success. This year the event was a sellout, and the sweepstake ticket winners were pulled from a drum built by one of our own members.

As you read this newsletter the Fall Meeting with your District Deputies and District Wardens will have already taken place. Many issues were discussed involving growth and how best to achieve our goals. In addition, upcoming programs for the second quarter were covered by the Program Team. Also discussed were any concerns or issues needing to be addressed that were raised by your District Deputies.

The month of November is when we celebrate the State Council Memorial Mass and this year, once again, there will be a joint Memorial Mass cosponsored by the Bishop McNamara Chapter of Grand Knights.

All Council Grand Knights are reminded to contact their widows/widowers and to invite them to join you at the Memorial Mass which is being held at The Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City. The reading of the Necrology will begin at 3pm prior to the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. A quick reminder. When you submit your necrology for the State Memorial Mass, please send a copy to your District Deputy. The District Deputies and Bishop McNamara Chapter Officers will present the necrology remembering those who have gone to their eternal rest.

Finally, Kathy and I wish everyone a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving Holiday. Remember how blessed we all are to have what God has given us and remember to do something on this special holiday to make a difference in someone's life and to be a force for good.

Vivat Jesus,

Tony

Coats for Kids 2025





Greetings from the First Lady of the Maryland State Council

Kathy Salvemini
kathykofc@gmail.com - 301-758-4100



Hello, Amazing Ladies of Maryland!

October was incredibly busy around the state. A big thank you to everyone who attended any of the Columbus Day celebrations. The Columbus Day Ball was a terrific event with great food, good music, and lots of very talented dancing. I need to send a huge shout-out to my Ladies Activities Committee, Kathy's Buds, for their hard work in decorating the ballroom and making it so beautiful. Due to the shutdown, the Wreath Laying could not be held at Union Station. Instead, Holy Rosary Church opened its doors for our celebration, and it was lovely. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend this important event. Tony and I rounded out the Christopher Columbus festivities by attending the Italian Heritage Festival in Towson

(moved from Little Italy due to space). This was the 130th year this event was held, and we enjoyed seeing so many familiar faces from the Knights.

Archbishop Lori joined us as we distributed several hundred coats to children in need as part of the Coats for Kids charity. As always, it was a wonderful event, and the children were so happy to receive their warm coats. There are photographs in another section of this newsletter.

As I shared last month, we are in the Box of Joy season. Once again, I chose the Box of Joy as my charity for the Fall Meeting held at the National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton where wives of District Deputies and District Wardens gathered. The Ladies enthusiastically embraced this choice, and we assembled 176 Boxes of Joy! I am thrilled that we will be Making a Difference in the lives of this many children!

I wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by your loved ones. As you thank God for the many blessings in your life, please remember those less fortunate. Food pantries and charities around the state need food and warm clothing donations. On the same charitable track, in December, we will be collecting Christmas at Sea care packages for seafarers in the Port of Baltimore during the Christmas season – these care packages are placed in a shoe box and contain toiletries, games, and snacks. I will provide more details in my December newsletter, and until then, please visit the Apostleship of the Sea website for more information about this volunteer organization.

As always, thank you for everything you do for your loved ones and the Knights of Columbus to ***Make a Difference in Someone's Life and Be a Force for Good!***

Kathy





Training Message

Rob Van Rite

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If you haven't done so already, add "training" to one of the four inevitabilities of life. This is not a bad thing. Whereas, STAPLES has its EASY button ("That was Easy!") Maryland Knights have an EASY link: each one coming with a money back guarantee! These links will help you to realize your desired end state. Use one. . . use them all. They're FREE!

Training Can Make a Difference in Someone's Life!

How to Find the Fraternal Training That's Right for You

Visit kofc.org/training to find online training for state, council, district and assembly officers, as well as important instruction for handling Operations (including Administration, Finances and Forms), Growth & Retention, and Programs & Engagement.

We recently added 6 new topics for District Deputies and 9 new topics for Grand Knights.

District Deputy:

[District Administration](#)

[District Communications](#)

[District Meetings](#)

[District Reports](#)

[Managing District Growth](#)

[Road to Star District](#)

Grand Knight:

[Administration](#)

[Communications](#)

[Delegation](#)

[Interacting with the District Deputy and Field Agent](#)

[Managing Growth](#)

[Managing Programs](#)

[The Road to Star Council](#)

[Safe Environment Program](#)

[Working with Your Pastor](#)

Not sure which training is right for you? Go to our helpful list of [Suggested Training by Office](#) to find out what is recommended for your officer position. Training is reviewed on a continuing basis, so you will always get the most up-to-date information. Best of all, these on-demand sessions are available to view at any time, on your own schedule, and the average length of each session is only 30 minutes!

Vivat Jesus,

Rob



Council Growth

Terry Waters
tejowat12127@outlook.com - (571)-269-5097



Membership



Worthy Brothers All,

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to participate in a church drive conducted by Fr. Peter Paul Maher Council No. 6793 at St. Patrick's in Rockville. Grand Knight Mark Perez delivered a short yet effective pulpit message and following mass at least 10 council members stepped up, eager to invite men to join the Order.

What struck me most was the joy and energy that the members literally brought to the table that morning. They fanned out engaging with parishioners, sharing comments about their council activities, and providing the husbands, fathers, and wives with an impressive assortment of materials that helped tell their story. And most importantly, they were happy to extend an invitation to join online!

I share this story because it seems at times that councils are indifferent to this unique opportunity to invite men to serve alongside us. Church drives are seen as too much work, or perhaps a waste of time, or something that the pastor will prevent from occurring. My experience has been that this is far from reality.

The pastor at St. Patrick's, though a brother Knight, was never one to eagerly embrace the local council. However, he was probably one of the most joyful men in his church that morning as he saw Knights inviting men to serve! He even jumped into a team picture with us!

Councils that take time to plan and prepare for their church drive will find the experience to be energizing, worthwhile, and fun! In fact, think about the visual impact councils make when demonstrating the fraternity involved in working alongside each other to recruit men to join us!



Terry Waters, RGA Dave Czarnecki, Fr. Linus Nviiri, GK Mark Perez, PGK Eugene Kane

As we move into the Advent season, please make an intentional effort to conduct one church drive in your parish this month or next. One. Church. Drive. Sure, we all realize that the holidays can be a busy time of year. But it's also a period when Catholic men are more open to putting their faith in action and there is no better organization enabling them to do that than the Knights of Columbus.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families, and thanks to all of you who have blessed a man this year with membership in the Knights!

The following list of names are our top recruiters in Maryland for the Q1 (July-Sept) period. (Council, Recruiter, No. Rec.)
14099 DR EFFI I USEN 8, 5208 PEDRO GARCIA 7, 9127 GERARD L POHLNER 7, 9462 JESSIE B SAYO 6, 14297 DENIS IVAN MAYORGA ARAUZ 6, 14612 DANIEL T YOUNG 6, 8251 FRANK V KLEIN 5, 11787 JOSEPH EMEKA ABIAMIRI JR 5, 11171 MR JOHN A HARRIS 4.

Please make every effort to recognize these brother Knights at an upcoming meeting who are doing their part to invite men to serve alongside us in charity, unity and fraternity!

Vivat Jesus,

Terry

kofc.org/join



kofc.org/unite





State Programs

Alan Pultyniewicz
apulty@yahoo.com - 410-491-8742



Faith In Action – Make A Difference in Someone's Life



Worthy Brothers All,

Councils have been busy this fall collecting donations to support our neighbors with special needs, delivering winter coats to children to keep warm this winter, coordinating and promoting novenas for life, planning holy hours, and collecting food for families. All council program directors should share information about the many FIA programs available at all council meetings and in conversations with all members with a special invitation to new members. FIA programs are easy ways that each of us can make a difference in our homes, parishes, and communities. Does your council need help with some ideas? Supreme has announced five new FIA programs (Faith: Imitating Saint Juan Diego; Family: Remembering Our Faithful Departed; Community: Bright Futures and Celebrating our Catholic Heritage; and Life: Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe) with three more to be announced later this year. Stay up to date and download the many resources available at <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/resources/index.html?1tab=1tab0&icon-tabs=0>. Remember to submit Faith in Action Program Report Form 10784 to Supreme as soon as you complete your program or activity. Over 2,400 FIA programs have already been reported to Supreme from March 1st through September 30th.

We are pleased to report that it was another successful year for the Cash Incentive Sweepstakes. Over one hundred councils participated, raising over \$125,000 with \$50,000 staying with the councils and over \$70,000 supporting the State Council Charity and Scholarship Programs). Thank you for supporting this critical fundraiser. Congratulations to this year's winners: 1st Prize \$7,000: Peggy Dillow sold by Council 7914; 2nd Prize \$3,000: Helen Connelly, sold by Council 8251; and 3rd Prize \$1,000: Alice Beard sold by Council 16634. Thank you to our Incentive Cash Sweepstakes co-chairs Frank Attard, Thom Parthenope, and Steve Law, as well as to John Vassallo for the improvements he made to the sweepstakes drum.

The month of November is a time for us to remember and pray for our deceased brothers and family members. The State Memorial Mass will be held on Sunday, November 9th at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City. The necrology will be read starting at 3:00 p.m., followed by Mass celebrated by State Chaplain, Fr. Donald Grzymski. We will remember our brother Knights, wives of brother Knights, or Ladies Auxiliary members who died between October 15, 2024 and October 14, 2025. Please remember our widows and invite them to your council Memorial Masses and bring them to the State Memorial Mass. As Blessed Michael McGivney taught us, we must never forget our widows. Keep them in your prayers and invite and welcome them to your council events all year long. For more suggestions on ways to support our widows, read our Widows Program Guide at <https://kofc-md.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-MD-State-Council-Widows-Program-Guide-.pdf> or contact Widow Program Chair Paul Girolami at girolami@verizon.net.

Join the Maryland State Council at the Navy football game on Saturday, November 15. Watch the first place Navy Midshipmen take on second place USF Bulls (as of the writing of this newsletter). Gametime is 12 noon. There will be no tailgate this year, but you can order your tickets online at: <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Knightscolumbus418>.

Pope Leo XIV announced the 9th World Day of the Poor will be on November 16 on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time. This is a great weekend to conduct your Food for Families Program to provide much needed food for our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. For every \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food donated to qualifying local food banks, food pantries, and soup kitchens, Supreme will refund \$100 back to your council, up to a maximum of \$500 per council per fraternal year? Just complete and submit Form 10057 (<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/food-for-families/10057-food-for-families-report-form.pdf>) by June 30th. For more information, contact Food for Families co-chair Joseph Feakes at josphfeakes@aol.com.

(Continued on Page 9)



State Programs

Alan Pultyniewicz
apulty@yahoo.com - 410-491-8742

(Continued)



Has your council selected a seminarian to support for this year's RSVP Program? There are many seminarians in the Archdioceses of Baltimore and Washington, and the Diocese of Wilmington who need our financial support and prayers as they discern the call to priesthood. Please contact RSVP Chairman Mike Davenport at qstorm3@aol.com to get the name of a seminarian (or two or more) to support this year.

Save the Date! On Sunday, December 21, we will join Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori for 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at the Basilica of the Assumption in Baltimore for the Anniversary of Blessed Michael McGivney's Ordination. Let's fill the pews with brother Knights from across Maryland as we continue our prayers for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney.

First place entries for the annual Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest are due to State Chairman Tim Fitzmaurice no later than December 23. State winners will be announced at the Mid-Year meeting on January 10, 2026. Last year, one of Supreme's international winners was from Maryland. Let's promote this program to students in our parish schools and religious education programs. For more details, visit <https://kofc-md.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-Keep-Christ-In-Christmas.pdf>.

On behalf of your State Program Team: Walter Leskuski and lady Beth, Rick Casazza and lady Regina, Michael Watson and lady Karen, Tim Lynch and lady Claudette, and all chairs, co-chairs, and chairladies, we wish you and your family a blessed, safe, and happy Thanksgiving. We are forever grateful for all that you and your councils do to *"Make a Difference in Someone's Life and Be a Force for Good."*

Vivat Jesus,

Alan Pultyniewicz



St. Joseph Manyanet Council #5567 honored two outstanding examples of faith and service the Jim and Jeanne Donatelli family as Family of the Month and Brother Frank Carroll as Knight of the Month.



Hispanic Activities

Armando Fernandez
armfernandez@gmail.com - (443)-691-7718



¡Hola Hermanos Caballeros! Ruego que ustedes y sus familias estén bien.

Les extiendo un caluroso saludo fraternal de parte de nuestro Diputado de el Estado el Hermano Antony N. Salvemini

¿No está seguro de qué capacitación es la adecuada para usted? Vaya a nuestra útil lista de Capacitación Sugerida Funcionarios para averiguar qué se recomienda para su cargo como funcionario. La capacitación se revisa continuamente, por lo que siempre obtendrá la información más actualizada. ¡Lo mejor de todo es que estas sesiones a pedido están disponibles para su verlas en cualquier momento, según su propio

horario, y la duración promedio de cada sesión es de solo 30 minutos!

Cómo encontrar la Capacitación Fraternal adecuada para usted

Visite kofc.org/capacitacion para encontrar capacitaciones en línea para funcionarios de Estado, de consejo, y de distrito, así como instrucción importante para gestionar Operaciones (incluyendo Administración, Finanzas y Formularios), Crecimiento y Retención, y Programas y Participación.

Recientemente añadimos 6 nuevos tópicos para los Diputados de Distrito y 9 nuevos tópicos para los Grandes Caballeros.

Diputado de Distrito:

[Administración del Distrito](#)

[Comunicaciones del Distrito](#)

[Administrando el Crecimiento del Distrito](#)
[Informes del Distrito](#)

[Camino para Distrito Estrella](#)

[Reuniones del Distrito](#)

Gran Caballero:

[Administración del Consejo](#)

[Comunicaciones del Consejo](#)

[Trabajar con su Párroco](#)

[Administrando el Crecimiento del Consejo](#)
[Gestión del Programa Ambiente Seguro](#)
[Gestionando los Programas del Consejo](#)

[Cómo Delegar en su Consejo?](#)

[El Camino a Consejo Estrella](#)

[Trabajar con el Diputado de Distrito y el Agente de Campo](#)

Gran Caballero

- [Comuníquese con su párroco](#) para conversar sobre cómo el consejo puede ayudarlo durante la temporada navideña.
- Si aún no lo ha hecho, formalice un plan para ganar el [Premio Consejo Estrella](#).

(Continued on Page 11)



Hispanic Activities



Armando Fernandez
armfernandez@gmail.com - (443)-691-7718

(Continued)

- Si su consejo tiene algún funcionario recién electo, recuerde presentar un **Informe de Funcionarios Electos para el Período** (#185-S) o el **Informe de Personal del Programa de Servicio** (#365-S) para mantener su información de contacto actualizada y asegurarse de que reciban correspondencia importante de la Oficina Suprema.
- **Formulario de presentación del Director de EFF del Consejo**. Este formulario debe enviarse cada año fraternal, incluso si el director de EFF del consejo es el mismo que el año pasado.
 - Una vez que se envíe, los directores de EFF de consejos recibirán una serie semanal de seis a ocho correos electrónicos de incorporación con sugerencias prácticas y herramientas de planificación para un año exitoso.
- **Formulario de Informe Trimestral de Cor**: Recuerde a su director de EFF que este formulario debe completarse ahora, ya que el primer trimestre del año fraternal terminó el 30 de septiembre.
 - Este formulario es vital para dar seguimiento del progreso de Cor en toda la Orden e identificar la mejor manera en que podemos apoyar a su director de EFF y su equipo.

Secretario Financiero

- Hay una guía de una página que describe el **Proceso de Envío de la Lista de Afiliados** y una **Plantilla de Afiliados** para su presentación disponibles en la página **Recursos para Funcionarios** de kofc.org.

Les Recuerdo que hay que prepararse para recibir La Rosa de Plata y También preparense para El Icono de El Sagrado Corazon.

De parte de todod los funcionarios de El Estado les desamos un Feliz día de Accion de Gracias, Que ese dia les brinde momentos de paz y mucha alegria en compania de todos sus familiars y amigos

“Seamos una fuerza del bien, Y hagamos una diferencia en la vida de alguien”

Vivat Jesus,
Armando Fernandez



Maryland State Ladies Auxiliary



Welcome November! With the holiday season sneaking up so quickly, we must be thankful for all our blessings. Please remember those less fortunate because our local food pantries will be in great need now. The Dollar Tree has supplies that would be great for Thanksgiving and Christmas such as boxes of stuffing, gravy packets, instant potatoes, and other holiday meal fare.

The local churches will need help with their families in need. Please check with your parish since most have wish lists and collections during the holidays.

The Columbus Day Ball was a wonderful evening! Food, Friends, and entertainment. It was great to see everyone again. We thank our State Deputy, Tony Salvemini, our First Lady, Kathy Salvemini, and their team for all the hard work putting it together for all to enjoy!

We are still growing our Ladies Auxiliaries! We have word of at least two new auxiliaries in the works so stay tuned for those updates.

We love seeing your functions on the Auxiliary Facebook page, so keep posting!

Make a Difference in Someone's Life AND Be a Force for Good,

Ruth, Juana, and Annette





Estado de Maryland Damas Auxiliares



¡Bienvenido mes de Noviembre! Con la temporada festiva acercándose rápidamente, debemos estar agradecidas por todas nuestras bendiciones. Por favor, recuerden a los menos afortunados, nuestros bancos de alimentos locales estarán muy necesitados ahora. La tienda Dollar Tree tiene productos que serían ideales para el Día de Acción de Gracias y la Navidad, como cajas de relleno, paquetes de salsa, puré de papas instantáneo y otros alimentos típicos de las fiestas.

Las iglesias locales necesitarán ayuda con las familias necesitadas. Por favor, consulte con su parroquia, ya que la mayoría tiene listas de ellas y colectan comida durante las fiestas.

¡El Baile del Día de Colón fue una velada maravillosa! Comida, amigos y entretenimiento. Fue estupendo volver a ver a todo el mundo. ¡Agradecemos a nuestro Diputado de Estado, Tony Salvemini, a nuestra primera Dama, Kathy Salvemini, y a su equipo todo el trabajo que han realizado para que todos pudiéramos disfrutar!

¡Seguimos aumentando grupos de Damas Auxiliares! Tenemos noticias de al menos dos nuevos grupos de Damas auxiliares en proceso, así que atentas a las novedades.

Nos encanta ver sus actividades en la página de Facebook de las Auxiliares, ¡así que sigan publicandolas!

¡Hagamos una diferencia en la vida de alguien y seamos una fuerza para el bien!

Sus copresidentas,

Ruth, Juana, Annette





Columbus Day Celebrations 2025





Maryland Knights In Action



Council 1384 CPR Training



Council 5567 Soccer Challenge



Council 13859 Rosary Rally



Council 2901 Living Rosary



Council 10966 Coats for Kids



Council 1442 Exemplification



Council 5567 Exemplification



Council 12127 Exemplification





Widows Program

Paul Girolami



What is your Council doing to help its widows?

Does your Council have a Widows Program? Do you invite your widows to Council and State Events? Have they been invited to the State Memorial Mass on Nov. 9 at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City?

It is our duty and privilege as Knights to assist our widows. Many Councils have programs in place to make a widow of a fallen Knight continue to be a vital part of their Council programs and activities. A guide to help Councils either begin a Widows Program or augment an existing one is available on the Faith in Action, Family Director's page at the Maryland State Council website: <https://kofc-md.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-MD-State-Council-Widows-Program-Guide-.pdf>.

The guide offers simple, zero cost and low-cost ideas to remember our widows and keep them engaged in Council and State activities. Be sure to include a Widows Program line item in your next Council budget.

Make a concerted effort throughout the year to keep your widows involved at your Council, not just by inviting them to your annual Memorial Mass. Periodic dinners, birthday and holiday cards, and other simple gestures are easy ways to make a widow feel appreciated and active at your Council. Create and maintain a database to stay in regular contact with your widows.

I'd like to hear what your Council is doing for its widows, so I can share success stories with other Councils and the State program team. Send your information to girolami@verizon.net. Also feel free to call me at 240-354-6412 should you have questions or need more information.

Paul Girolami
Maryland State Council Widows Program



Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Program

Pro-life pregnancy centers exist to provide abortion-vulnerable pregnant women with options and help them choose life for themselves and their unborn children. Though pregnancy centers usually offer their services for free to pregnant women, most pregnancy centers accept few, if any, government funds. They rely on private support to keep operating and meet the needs of the women that come to them for help. Pregnancy centers have a need for financial contributions, but also have a need for volunteer hours, specialized labor, and material goods/services/resources. They also have a need for prayer support.

The Knights of Columbus Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program is designed to assist with the financial aspect. The ASAP program is a simple one – for every \$500 in cash or goods a council donates to a qualified pregnancy center or maternity center, Supreme will provide a \$100 grant (maximum \$400 grant for \$2000 or more donation). The request for the process is quite simple – all that is needed for most donations is either a copy of the processed check or a signed donation form. In some cases, an IRS W-4 is needed to confirm the center is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

In the 2024-2025 fraternal year, Maryland Councils performed well supporting Pregnancy Centers, anchored by State Deputy Anthony Salvamini's initiative of the Gabriel House Project in Bowie. Maryland had 37 ASAP applications (rank #21 in the order) with a total donation amount of \$138,473 (rank #10 in the order). The Gabriel Project was led by Past Gand Knight Patrick Brady and the William E. Baldwin, Sr., Council #17990.

Examples of activities that can qualify for the ASAP grants from Supreme include Direct Donations, Baby Bottle Drives, fundraisers, open houses, etc. Material assistance includes donations of baby items (equipment, food, formula, diapers, wipes), clothes (maternity, baby, infant, and toddler) and other items often listed on the pregnancy center's or Maternity home's website.

Although volunteer hours do not qualify for ASAP grants, volunteers are needed by these centers. Many of the centers also hold fundraisers and appreciation dinners at which councils are encouraged to participate.

Let's keep up the support of our Pregnancy and Maternity Centers – bring our councils, assemblies, chapters, and Parish-es into this life saving program.

Vivat Jesus!

Jeff Koscho

Pregnancy Center (ASAP) Chairman

PILGRIM ICON PROGRAM

Sacred Heart of Jesus Pilgrim Icon 2025 – 2026 Schedule

Mike Novak, FDD – Pilgrim Icon Chairman j.michael.novak@verizon.net 443-695-1862

Sacred Heart ICON - 89

November 11, 2025 – December 07, 2025
 December 08, 2025 – January 04, 2026
 January 05, 2026 – February 01, 2026
 February 02, 2026 – March 01, 2026
 March 02, 2026 – March 29, 2026
 March 30, 2026 – April 26, 2026
 April 27, 2026 – May 24, 2026
 May 25, 2026 – June 21, 2026

Host District:

District 03
 District 17
 Districts 23
 District 21
 District 04
 District 25
 District 08
 District 20

General Area

Glen Burnie
 Catonsville
 Elkridge
 Ellicott City
 Sykesville/Owings Mills
 Frederick/Taneytown
 Frederick/Hancock
 Cumberland & West

Sacred Heart ICON – 93

November 11, 2025 – December 07, 2025
 December 08, 2025 – January 04, 2026
 January 05, 2026 – February 01, 2026
 February 02, 2026 – March 01, 2026
 March 02, 2026 – March 29, 2026
 March 30, 2026 – April 26, 2026
 April 27, 2026 – May 24, 2026
 May 25, 2026 – June 21, 2026

Host District

District 31
 District 28
 District 27
 District 16
 District 32
 District 19
 District 07
 District 13

General Area

Ijamsville/Mt. Airy
 Baltimore City
 Abingdon / Parkton
 Aberdeen/Forest Hill
 Baltimore City
 Baltimore City
 Dundalk
 North Baltimore

Sacred Heart ICON - 94

November 11, 2025 – December 07, 2025
 December 08, 2025 – January 04, 2026
 January 05, 2026 – February 01, 2026
 February 02, 2026 – March 01, 2026
 March 02, 2026 – March 29, 2026
 March 30, 2026 – April 26, 2026
 April 27, 2026 – May 24, 2026
 May 25, 2026 – June 21, 2026

Host District:

District 24
 District 22
 District 26
 District 12
 District 09
 District 29
 District 06
 District 01

General Area

Annapolis
 Salisbury/Ocean City
 Easton/Chestertown
 Waldorf
 Prince Frederick
 Lexington Park
 Hollywood
 Largo/Upper Marlboro

Sacred Heart ICON - 103

November 11, 2025 – December 07, 2025
 December 08, 2025 – January 04, 2026
 January 05, 2026 – February 01, 2026
 February 02, 2026 – March 01, 2026
 March 02, 2026 – March 29, 2026
 March 30, 2026 – April 26, 2026
 April 27, 2026 – May 24, 2026
 May 25, 2026 – June 21, 2026

Host District

District 15
 District 02
 District 14
 District 10
 District 11
 District 18
 District 30
 District 05

General Area

Forestville
 Bowie/Mitchellville
 Greenbelt/Takoma Park
 Laurel
 Silver Spring
 Bethesda/Rockville
 Olney/Gaithersburg
 Germantown/Damascus

Instead of the log book enclosed with the Icon use the online link for councils to fill out. Please see the link below.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8124274/State-Pilgrim-Icon-Program-Form>



Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council

Worthy Grand Knights,

The **Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest** is an excellent opportunity to promote Faith and Family. For a successful program, Councils need planning, publicity and recognition.

September - October, Councils should:

- Designate a chairman
- Order supplies from Officers Online > Supplies Online > Faith in Action > Keep Christ in Christmas. Kits, forms, and publicity posters available.
- Determine your Council's deadline for obtaining poster, judging, recognition of winners and participants, and forwarding to State Chairman by Dec. 23.
- If your budget permits, determine monetary awards (1st place only or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, / amounts, example: 1st \$25-\$50 range, 2nd \$20-\$35 range, 3rd \$15-\$25 range.)
- Start contacting Catholic grade schools and parishes informing them of the program and requesting their participation.
- Discuss with the school or parish: time line for submissions, how and when Council will pickup submissions; how and when Council will announce awards. School example: during morning announcements, at assembly (Christmas concert, Christmas pageant) when parents and others students can see and applaud. Parish example: announcements before or after mass, Sunday coffee and donuts, parish Christmas pageant, breakfast with Santa, Council Christmas party.

November,

- Prepare info for school and parish to put in their announcements and bulletins. Provide school and parish with Keep Christ in Christmas info posters with deadline and Council chairman contact info, along with sufficient Entry Forms (form #5025), a PDF of the Entry Form can also be emailed to school/parish to be included with their email announcements. **Note, poster size limit of 12 x 14** (so that State winners can be sent to Supreme in a standard USPS package).

December,

- Collect and judge posters.

- Announce and present winners. Publicize winners on Council social media, website and newsletter, send brief summary of program and winners to parish for submission into bulletin. Note, posters can be returned to families. However, First place winning posters that are sent to State, will be returned at the Mid-Term meeting. Only the State First Place winning posters that will be sent to Supreme will not be returned.
- Send 1st Place winning posters to State Keep Christ in Christmas chairman by December 23. Posters can be:
 - mailed to State Chairman Tim Fitzmaurice: 1593 Crofton Parkway, Crofton, MD 21114.

January,

- State winners announced at Mid-Term Meeting on Saturday, January 10. With exception of State First placed winners, that will be sent to Supreme for the international judging, posters will be available for pick-up. If a Council representative is not present at Mid-Term, District Deputy can pick up.

Thank you for your efforts in this worthwhile program.

Fraternally,

Tim Fitzmaurice

Fitzmauricemd@aol.com

410-269-3955

Keep Christ in Christmas, Chairman



NAVY FOOTBALL GAME

Sponsored by
The Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus



Vs.



Saturday November 15, 2025

Game Time 12:00 NOON

Tailgate CANCELLED

Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, Annapolis, MD

PROMO CODE FOR GAME TICKETS

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Knightscolumbus418>

Cost of Game Tickets \$40.95

**ENJOY AN AFTERNOON NAVY
FOOTBALL GAME WITH YOUR
BROTHER KNIGHTS AND FAMILIES!**



Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council

P.O Box 1468
Bowie, MD 20717

August 2025

Worthy Grand Knight:

This letter outlines the scholarship program sponsored by the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Many council members, and often even the Grand Knights, are unfamiliar with the details and processes for our scholarship awards.

The attached information serves as a source of information and provides members with the knowledge to complete an application for one or more of these scholarships. Information and applications may be obtained by accessing our website at www.kofc-md.org and selecting Resources, then High School Scholarship, or directly at the link below.

<https://kofc-md.org/high-school-scholarships/>

Children of Maryland Jurisdiction Knights of Columbus members in good standing are eligible to apply for both the Gossman and O'Brien Scholarships. All other Catholic students are eligible for the O'Brien scholarship only.

Please include scholarship information in your Council Bulletins or webpage from October through January. Also, please provide a copy of each to the office of the parish or parishes supported by your council as well the parish school office(s) so that they may be shared with parishioners and parents of students. Be sure that the Council Publicity Chairman and/or Bulletin Editor have a copy of each so they can be reproduced for greater distribution. Your cooperation in making this scholarship information available to your membership, parish(s), and parish elementary schools will be greatly appreciated.

In addition to the Maryland State Council high school scholarships, the Supreme Council offers scholarship programs for college and advanced degrees. Encourage your members to explore these options at the link below.

<https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/index.html>

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Powers', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher L. Powers
Scholarship Chairman

Y O U ' R E I N V I T E D

ARCHDIOCESE
of BALTIMORECATHOLIC
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
OF MARYLANDCATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF MARYLAND
ANNUAL CONFERENCE*"Shine the Light"***March 14, 2026 | St. Louis, Clarksville**Scan here or visit
catholicmensfellowship.com
for more information.*Featured Speakers***Patrick Kelly**
Supreme Knight
Knights of Columbus**Paul George**
President
Art of Living, Inc.**Mark Viviano**
Broadcaster
Columnist*Emcee*



2025-2026

State Planning Calendar

UPDATED 10/14/25



MONTH	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Nov 2025	11/1	STATEWIDE SOCCER SHOOTOUT FINALS	ST ANDREW APOSTLE SCHOOL SILVER SPRING, MD	WALT WILLIAMS BRIAN TROTT
	11/9	STATEWIDE MEMORIAL MASS	SHRINE OF ST ANTHONY ELLCOTT CITY, MD	MICHAEL WATSON
	11/15	NAVY FOOTBALL GAME VS SOUTH FLORIDA	NAVY-MARINE CORPS MEMORIAL STADIUM	THOM PARTENOPE
DEC 2025	12/13	STATE CHRISTMAS PARTY	COLUMBUS GARDENS	JEFFREY WILK
JAN 2026	1/10	MIDTERM MEETING	COLUMBUS GARDENS	JEFFREY WILK
APR 2026	4/8	AWD 4TH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION	NATIVITY CHURCH WASHINGTON, DC	SK GUS GUSMAN