



Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney  
Parish priest and founder of the Knights of Columbus

### WHY ESTABLISH A PARISH-BASED COUNCIL?

- 1** The Knights of Columbus is an organization dedicated to serving the Church by supporting the Pastor in the task of evangelization.
- 2** The members of a Knights of Columbus council are men seeking to deepen their faith so as to become the spiritual leaders of their family and parish.
- 3** The time given to the formation of men of a Knights of Columbus council, will facilitate their growth as “force multipliers” in the evangelization of the “peripheries”.
- 4** A Knights of Columbus council allows good men to become better Catholics, engaged in service to the Church and community.
- 5** A Knights of Columbus council is an investment in the Catholic Church.

### A WORD FROM SUPREME KNIGHT CARL A. ANDERSON

#### HOW CAN WE HELP?

The Knights of Columbus was founded by a parish priest in 1882, and we continue to do our best work in a parish community, in close cooperation with the pastor. While serving as the strong right arm of the parish priest, Knights answer the call of both St. John Paul II and Pope Francis to participate in “a charity that evangelizes.” Being a member of the Knights of Columbus allows a man to strengthen his own faith while serving others.

From our organization’s founding by Father Michael McGivney, the Knights has maintained a close affiliation with parish life. We have grown with the help of priests who recognize the Knights of Columbus as a solid and faithful organization for their parishioners to join. We are working to strengthen the bonds of cooperation between priests and Knights to achieve Father McGivney’s vision of a council in every parish and we look forward to working with you as we strive to increase the life of faith, hope and love among Catholic men and their families through “a charity that evangelizes.”

I often hear that our K of C councils are known for asking “How can we help, Father?” It is my great hope that we will have the opportunity to work with you within your parish and the larger community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl A. Anderson".

# A CHARITY THAT EVANGELIZES



1 COLUMBUS PLAZA • NEW HAVEN, CT • 06510-3326  
1-203-752-4247 or [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)

A KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL  
IN YOUR PARISH



## A CHARITY THAT EVANGELIZES

The task of each Knights of Columbus Council is to summon men to what Evangelii Gaudium 89 calls: a “fraternal communion and missionary fruitfulness.” Catholic men more than ever are aware of the spiritual battle they must engage in everyday, in order to stay faithful to their vows and lead their families. The Knights of Columbus provides men with a formation in charity, spiritual leadership, and faith formation throughout the various stages of their vocations as men at the heart of the family and for others.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is an investment in the Catholic Church. Men who join the Knights of Columbus actively participate in meeting the pastoral needs and priorities of the parish and diocese. Knights are universally proud to be Catholic and are often just waiting to respond to the invitation to bear witness, defend the faith and spread the Gospel through a charity that evangelizes. The time a priest invests in catechetical, personal and spiritual formation of our brother Knights serves as a “force multiplier” to make the “strong right arm” of our local churches that much stronger.

The Order’s highly rated insurance program protects the future of Catholic families through quality products and ethical investments. The Knights of Columbus’ financial resources support the spread and defense of the faith through such programs as Christians At Risk, the March for Life, Special Olympics, the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family, World Youth Day, and the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC.



A Knights of Columbus Council is a blessing for a parish. Dedicated to the growth of the Church and its good deeds, involved in social and ecclesial charitable activities, building fraternity and unity, participating in the sacramental life of the parish, they contribute immensely to the building up of a vibrant parish community. They are not only essential pillars of the parish, they are also the hands, the eyes and the heart with which Christ is made present in our midst. Being involved with the Knights, witnessing their faith, their generosity, their hard work and their self-sacrifice is for me a source of strength and hope, a motive of praise and gratitude. ‘My soul magnifies the Lord’ for He is doing great things through and by the Knights.

**BISHOP NOËL SIMARD**  
BISHOP OF VALLEYFIELD



I have become convinced that being a Knight can really help a man to be a good Catholic. I think the Knights help a man articulate his faith and to be proud to be seen as a Catholic gentleman. Being a Knight encourages a man to be active in his parish and community. The Knights support the Church, and every priest should know they can call on their Knights, especially when they are brother Knights.

**FR. DONALD GRZYMSKI, OFM CONV.**  
COUNCIL 370



## THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL GUIDED BY FAITH. COMMITTED TO SERVICE.

Since its founding by a parish priest — Father Michael McGivney in 1882 — the Knights of Columbus has been dedicated to serving the Catholic Church. To date, its members have volunteered millions of hours and raised billions of dollars for worthy causes. With more than 1.9 million members worldwide, Knights have served their faith, communities and each other in times of need. Whether locally or globally, the influence that the organization’s members have had on society as a whole has been extraordinary.

Father McGivney’s vision of a Knights of Columbus presence in every parish stemmed from his belief that local councils can achieve great things for the Church. In addition to creating an organization where Catholic men could grow their faith and help each other in times of need, Father McGivney saw an opportunity to help parishes prosper through service by Knights in the areas of faith, community, family, youth and fellowship.

## BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH WHILE STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH

In promoting each family as a domestic church, the Knights of Columbus seeks to highlight the importance of Christian family life. To accomplish this, the Knights of Columbus has begun the Knights of Columbus Building the Domestic Church While Strengthening Our Parish initiative. A Knights of Columbus council would bring this initiative and its growing resources and programs to your parish.

Through the initiative’s programs and activities, the Knights of Columbus offers tools and material that help families grow and find encouragement. By building upon long-established programs and developing new ones, the Knights of Columbus will help each family participate in the Church’s mission of evangelization, strengthen our parishes and establish our councils as centers of lay leadership for the Church.

### Domestic Church Activities Include:

- Family Fully Alive
- Consecration to the Holy Family
- Father’s Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows
- Holy Family Prayer Program
- 5th Sunday Rosary Program
- Journey to the Inn
- Food for Families

For more information about the initiative visit:  
[www.kofc.org/DomesticChurch](http://www.kofc.org/DomesticChurch)