



New York Knight Life

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Official Newsletter for the New York State Knights of Columbus

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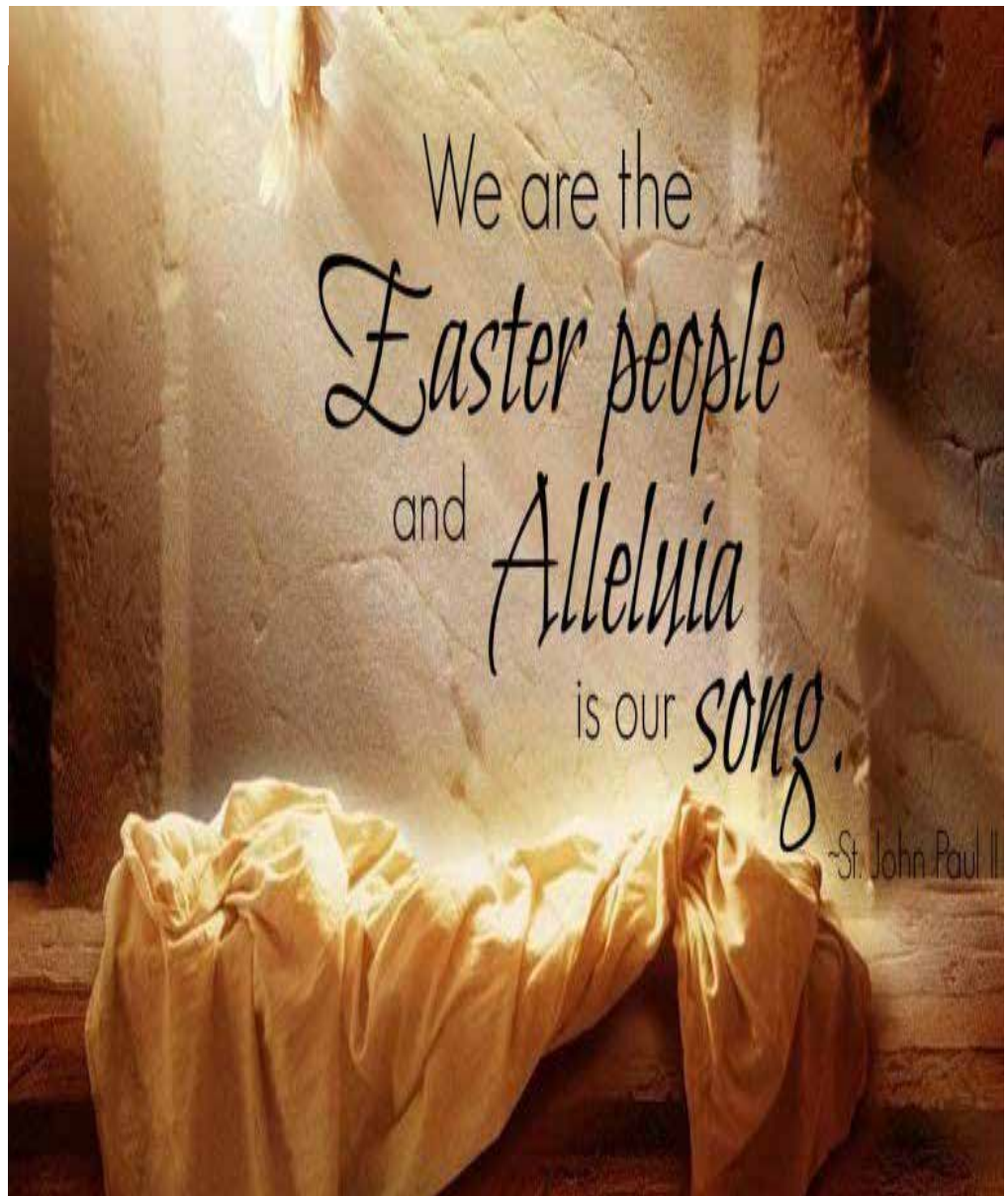
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Tell others about Knight Life... Forward this newsletter to Catholic men interested in the Knights, and let them know they can become a member for free online at kofc.org/join. You can also share your questions, feedback and story ideas by emailing mb1122@msn.com

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State Deputy's Message

What good is it, my brothers, and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?
James 2:14



Dear Brother Knights,

I believe the above quote is especially relevant during the Lenten season, and so I would like to share the following quick story with you.

For 15 years, I served as an adjunct professor of tax at both St John's University and then later at CW Post College - teaching graduate level courses in Taxation. During a particular semester, I assigned the students a term paper, (I didn't want to do it, but the Dean insisted all graduate level courses have a team paper requirement) and so on this particular class, which the term paper was due – all the students handed in a term paper except one student.

So, I confronted him after class and asked what happened and he replied that the paper was done but he didn't have it with him. So, I told him no worries, just e-mail it to me tomorrow. He replied he couldn't do that, and when I persisted, he reluctantly admitted that he had the term paper concept in his head, but he didn't write it yet.

Now we all know that - it is good for a student to have the term paper concept in his head, but it isn't really an accomplishment until he puts it on paper. Obviously, he saw the error in his thinking and admitted that an idea is **only** an idea until we put it into action. In other words, an idea without action is useless. And if you permit be to be a little theological **faith without good works is also, useless.**

Fortunately, we don't have this problem in the Knights of Columbus. We have ideas in our head – this is our faith. But we're people **of faith who put our good works into action.** This has been demonstrated in a number of ways. (As your State Deputy), I see that faith everywhere I go. I see it in all our councils, our assemblies, and our chapters. Because we are people who put **our faith into action.**

The moral of the story is this: Constantly keep in mind what makes the Knights of Columbus a great organization: It's our charitable work.

And so, I am asking you to keep doing all the great things that you're doing. Remember this is a world that needs Christ more than ever. But realizes the need for Christ less than ever.

Keep up the good work. I am rooting for you!

Fraternally,
Anthony Ippolito
State Deputy

P.S. If your council has any questions on running a Faith in Action Program, please feel free to contact the NY State Program Director, **Brian Langdon**, or one of his Admin State Chairman.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

My Brother Knights,

In the midst of our Lenten journey we are called to remember two significant feast days dedicated to Saints Patrick and Joseph. Both of them are truly crucial in the examples they provide in this time of the Church's history.

The abuse of the first: Saint Patrick has been very born out of ignorance and hatred for what he stands for. We have been aware for many decades of the misuse of the Apostle of Ireland. Men and women see his feast as an opportunity to be overindulging in food and drink. It is also an occasion for the denigration of the contributions of Celtic peoples. And most recently to desecrate the monument of the Catholic faith: America's Catholic Parish. Such a sacrilege, previously unknown, I fear is a growing sign of the renewal of the bigotry faced by our ancestors in this country. We call to mind this ancient missionary disciple as our model for living the faith courageously, sharing the Gospel of Mercy and Compassion, and seeking the peace, justice, and unity of our Church and Society.

As men and knights we look to the foster father of our Savior. We do not hear his voice as much as we witness his life of obedience to the will of God. He is a protector of Mary and Jesus. He practices his faith and teaches Jesus as he passes on the truths of the earth and the lessons of his trade. His whole life is committed to the family. Throughout the centuries the Church Fathers have seen him as the Patron and Guardian of the Church. Pope Francis, recognizing the burdens of modern life and family, had declared a Year Dedicated to Joseph. In the parish where I reside we still recite the prayer authored by His Holiness.

I trust that all of you are committed to a fruitful Lent. All of you are in my prayers and I hope you will remember me and all those deacons and priests who serve your faith communities as well as our seminarians. Continue beseeching the Lord for religious and priestly vocations.

Vivat Jesus,
Father Brian
Administrative State Chaplain

C&B March

During the month of February we began the distribution of the Bonus and Winners Checks. Due to geography and time constraints I am unable to travel to all of the Conferences to personally to present checks.



I was able to attend the Suffolk Chapter meeting in early February to distribute bonus checks and we were fortunate to have present the **\$10,000 winner Joe Ingarra**. Joe's brother is FS for Blessed Sacrament Council. Joe was not a member of the KofC. Blessed Sacrament in 2022 sold 7 books, in 2023 jumped to 87 books representing 1.62 books per member. I am told after the meeting that Joe is the newest member of our order!



The following week, I was in Nassau presenting 28 bonus checks amounting to over \$17,000 to GK's or a representative from their councils. They say a picture is worth a thousand words so we are enclosing some photos.

We plan to be in Brooklyn later in February for more presentations. The 2024 books will be out after Easter as many areas have spring functions



and this will give those councils the opportunity to begin selling as July 21 is the Quick Start Drawing. Thank you for your support in 2023 and we have expectations for a better 2024.

Ken Karchinski
Assistant Director C&B



Hello Worthies All!

This month, the Membership Team would like to speak to the **Grand Knights** of the State.



Through the statistics we receive from Supreme, we have noticed that way too many councils are still at zero recruiting on the year. But surprisingly, many of these same councils are fairly active in most other respects, like doing their forms, completing programs, paying their bills, holding elections etc. So, it seems that too many of our **Grand Knights** either do not see the importance of recruiting, or they simply don't care. We certainly hope it isn't the latter.

As Grand Knights, a major part of your job is to grow the Order and to increase your council's membership! Membership and growth rely almost entirely on you. If you are not recruiting, we not only aren't growing, but we are also shrinking. How effective your councils are, and your very future depends on steady membership increases. If your council has meetings with only 5 or 6 men showing up, there is only so much you can do to help your Pastor, the Church, or your communities. But if you have 15, 20 or more members showing up, you can do the work you want to do and be a much more effective council. In addition, through increased membership, you are securing your council's future, which would otherwise be in jeopardy. ***I simply cannot stress enough how important recruiting is to your councils health and to the Order itself!***

So Worthy Grand Knights, we need you to get busy recruiting! For you councils that are still at zero, we are not asking for miracles, but to just go out and find one, two or three men. Do that, and you will want to recruit more, because success begets more success. Springtime will be here before you know it, so we are asking you to plan with your Pastor's now for a springtime Church Recruitment Drive. These recruitment drives are very important, and they are how we have achieved remarkable growth over our 140-year history. Also, every council activity is a recruiting opportunity. Do not let them pass without trying to recruit. The Knights of Columbus has what men are looking for. A place to do good works with likeminded men, with programs that feed their souls and help them to become better fathers, husbands, and men. We give men a way to fight back against all the wrongs we see in society today. There is not another group or organization of men that can match what we do. So do not be afraid to brag about our Orders great achievements and bring those men in!

Thank you Worthies for all that you do for our Order. And thank you to all the Grand Knights that are working hard and succeeding at recruiting new members. Your work is doing more for the Order than you might know, and the Membership Team is very appreciative of your efforts.

If you have any questions or you just want to give us some feedback, we are here to listen and to help you!

Fraternally,

James Funaro PGK/FDD/FCOB
NYS Chairman, Recruiting
J101cav@aol.com

State Support Program for ASAP and RSVP



Brothers,

As a result of a successful Fund Craze Program the New York State Council is now able to start two new programs both focused on LIFE in two different ways.

One way is to support ***Life After Pregnancy*** through Supreme Council's "Aid and Support After Pregnancy" (***ASAP***) program. The State Council will be matching funds from Supreme Council through local council support to any qualified Pregnancy Center and or Maternity Homes. Any local council who supports a pregnancy center or maternity home and ***meets all the proper qualifications set forth by Supreme Council*** and receives \$100 from Supreme Council to the pregnancy center or maternity home, the State Council will now match the \$100 to the same pregnancy center or maternity home. Every council that donates \$500 or a value of \$500 in supplies (up to \$2,000) the State Council will donate \$100 (up to \$400) to the same pregnancy center or maternity home. This does not apply to Fourth Degree Assemblies. In order to qualify a council must submit all proper forms that were submitted to Supreme Council. Councils must send to these forms to me as the State Chairman and ***not to the State Office*** in one email or hard copies via regular mail.

The second way of supporting Life is in our church. Our ability to celebrate the Eucharist is through our Priests. We must support new life in our faith and that starts with our seminarians and includes our novices or postulants. Vocations are the lifeline of our church and we all should be on the front lines giving financial and spiritual support through their journey! Supreme Council in their Refund Support Vocations Program gives the council \$100 back for every \$500 (up to \$2,000) per individual. All local councils who meet all the requirements of Supreme Councils' RSVP Program, The NYS Council will send \$100 directly to the Seminarian or Postulant (up to \$400). This does not apply to Fourth Degree Assemblies. All proper paperwork that Supreme Council requires are to be sent to the State Chairman and not the State Office. ***There is one exception!! We have a simple State form that also is to be included.*** This form is simply the contact information for the seminarian or postulant so the State Office knows where to send the check to. All submissions are to be emailed in one email to the State Chairman or via hard copies mailed.

Both State Programs are for council participation for this Columbian Year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

The ASAP or RSVP information please send to me:

State Chairman Matching Funds ASAP & Supporting Funds RSVP Program

Robert Graziano

54 Bobolink Lane

Levittown, NY 11756

718-938-0114

chiefrob451@gmail.com

May God Bless you and continue the great work of our Honored Order!

Bob Graziano

Brothers:

The NYS Knights of Columbus Training just keeps Marching On! I am getting very positive reports regarding the training website! Please visit it at www.knightstraining.org .. There should be another three or four new videos on the webpage next month. Please keep checking back and watch the date at the top of the page.



If you have not experienced the training this year, go to the website in your leisure and watch the videos of interest. Yes, they are raw! Not a Walt Disney production, but it works!

The Convention will soon be upon us. I think all that can, should make every effort to attend this event. What a great way to network with other Knights and socialize? See what's happening around the State. See what works!!

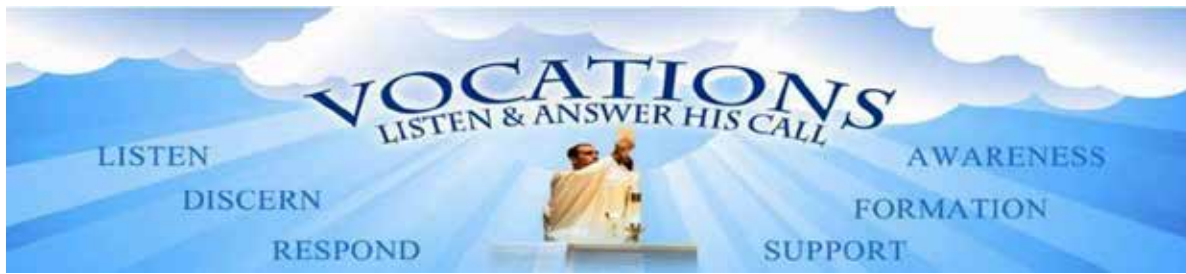
Regarding the District Deputy Indoctrination in July, DD's.... all hands are deck! The training will be nothing like you have ever seen! And, I promise fun! We are also contemplating an ebike giveaway that day for the District Deputies that attend. Will see. Stay tuned! It's going to be **HUGE!**

The training team is growing. We are looking for more representatives on the District level to help reinforce the training, and just offer more support. If you are a Past Grand Knight or Former District Deputy, this would be right up your alley. I promise you will make a significant difference and have fun doing it too! So, step up! Join the team! If you're interested, please email me at kofcideas@gmail.com

Again, great things are happening. Spread the word. It's a Great Year to be a LEADER in the NYS Knights of Columbus. Keep up the Great Work!

Fraternally,

Steve Driscoll
NYS Training Director



As the Columbian Year nears its end, it is an appropriate time to review the progress of this year's **Faith in Action** activities. Your Council or Assembly Vocations Committee is a great place to start.

Are you including prayer for the increase of Religious Vocations in each of our meetings?

Are you encouraging our brothers and their families to pray for Vocations?

Have you developed activities that bring knowledge of the life and work of our priests and religious to our members and their children?

Does your Council or Assembly have an active program to support vocations such as the Supreme Council's RSVP? Have you fulfilled all of RSVP requirements?

Is your Council/Assembly actively supporting and participating in the many Vocations Awareness Programs of the Parish or Diocese?

Does your Council/Assembly encourage its brothers to actively support the parish and its priests by participation as Eucharist Ministers, Ushers, Catechists, Spiritual Discussion participants and involvement in its many temporal needs?

The above are examples of what is happening and what can be done to foster Religious Vocation promotion. What are you doing? Do you have a special activity that you sponsor? Perhaps you would like to share it with our brothers in other Councils or Assemblies. There is an idiom that says, "Imitation is the Sincerest Form of Flattery."

In the Order's spirit of Unity, copying and implementing a successful vocation centered idea could be an excellent way to show your admiration and willingness to meet the challenge. If your council has a proven Vocations Program, would you be willing to share it.

No program, big or small is unacceptable. If so, please send me a brief summary of what you do. I will share selected programs in future issues of *New York Knight Life*. Email is the best method to get it to me. (See below)

In my last article I suggested that you use your local Diocesan Vocations Office as a source of vocations material for your newsletter or Lecturer's programs. Another great source is the extensive coverage offered by our own Supreme Council in the **Faith in Action** section of its website, (Kofc.org) Among the Resources highlighted in the RSVP section include the following: #10601- Guide Sheet and # 1942-Vocations Handbook.

Supreme

In closing it should be noted that it is not too late to participate in the REFUND SUPPORT VOCATIONS PROGRAM, RSVP. For the current and future participants, a formal application must be submitted as follows:



West Point Update:

LTC Robert McMahon and the Knights of Msgr O'Keefe Council 8250 at West Point have come back with a date for the State Finals. Sunday, 7 April 2024, from 1100 to 1500. They are waiting to find out which gym we will be using this year.

Security: We had some difficulties last year with getting people through security in a timely fashion. We have been requested to provide a final manifest roster of participants and parents after the last Major Conference events which are March 16th/17th, This will allow them to give that list to security at the visitor center to facilitate entry onto West Point.

Updated list of Free Throw regional events:

The **Major Conference finals** details:

Upstate:

Saturday March 16th, Bishop Ludden HS, 815 Fay Rd, Syracuse, NY. Registration 9:30 AM. Event 10:00

Contact Nick Caputo santa.nick.c@gmail.com 315-247-3677

Downstate: Saturday March 16th, St Augustine's school gymnasium 381 N. Highland Ave, Ossining NY 10562. Registration will begin at 12 noon and the free throw will begin at 1PM

Contact: Steven Brundage kofcdd46@optonline.net 914-310-9150-C

Long Island: Sunday March 17th, Holy Trinity School, 98 Cherry Ln, Hicksville, NY 11801. Doors open at 8:30am, shooting starts at 9am. Contact Michael Galganno MGal1313@yahoo.com 516-426-8938-C

The **Chapter/County finals** (that I am aware of) details:

Capitol: March 9th, between 11-2PM at the St. Ambrose Parish 347 Old Loudon Rd, Latham NY 12110

Hudson Valley: Sunday February 25, 2024 (snow date March 3rd) Our Lady of Lourdes High School, 131 Boardman Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Check-in - 1:00pm. Competition start - 2:00pm

Contact Darren Gamma dmgamma@aol.com 914-213-0865

Central: Saturday March 2nd, Bishop Ludden HS, 815 Fay Rd, Syracuse, NY. Registration 9:30 AM. Event 10:00 Contact Peter Riley peterkriley@hotmail.com 315-532-2032

Finger Lakes: Sunday March 10th, at noon, McQuaid Jesuit HS 1800 S Clinton Ave, Rochester NY

Contact Michael Reyda mareyda@gmail.com 585-313-7588

Northern: March 3, 2024 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at SUNY Canton. Please let Mark McKenna know you are coming from what district and council asap. dmckenna@twcny.rr.com 315-854-0383-C

Nassau: March 10th, Holy Trinity School, 98 Cherry Ln, Hicksville, NY 11801.

Contact Timothy Rogers 516-318-7242-C

BMS: St Charles in Staten Island BMS (Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island) Free Throw contests on Saturday, 2/10 Contact Geoff Thatcher

Suffolk: March 9 at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School 1170 Montauk Highway, West Islip, NY registration at 9 am / competition at 9:30am Pat Woods patrick.woods4@verizon.net

Thanks for all you do! Vivat Jesus!

Nick Caputo

Free Throw State Chair

e: santa.nick.c@gmail.com

c: 315-247-3677

h: 315-627-0171



My Brother Knights,

We are well into the season of Lent now. And what exactly does Lent mean to you? To most of us it's not eating meat on Fridays. But it HAS to be so much more than that. It's meant to be a time set aside to prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord. And even

though some people will tell you how you are supposed to do that, it is a very personal journey. Some people fast and pray, some people read Scripture and the Gospels. Some people "give up" something for Lent. All of these are good things to do. But this journey is yours to take. The most important thing is that you connect with Jesus somehow. That you understand what He did for you, for us. The sacrifice that He made. And that you accept Him, and His Love for you.

That's a difficult thing for a lot of folks. For them to believe that they are actually worthy of His Love. Why would Jesus Love me, a sinner? He knows all of the bad stuff I have done. He knows all of the bad thoughts I've had. How can He forgive me and Love me? We need to understand that He died on the cross for sinners like me, like us. It was exactly for sinners that He suffered so terribly on the cross, so much so that it was almost impossible for Him to bear.

Wow, this is some heavy stuff, I know. It's almost beyond my understanding. All I can recommend to you this Lent is that you try to prepare for his coming the best way that you can. Yes, go to Church and pray. Yes fast and don't eat meat. Read the Bible. All that is good. But try to prepare yourself inside your heart. Go to Confession and ASK for His forgiveness yourself. And try to remember that you are not confessing anything that He doesn't already know. So be happy when you go to Confession. St. Francis de Sales said, "I cannot understand why those who have given themselves up to God and his goodness are not always cheerful; for what possible happiness can be equal to that? No accidents or imperfections which may happen ought to have power to trouble them, or to hinder their looking upward."

On behalf of my wife Jessica and myself, we want to wish you all a very Blessed and Happy Easter. Vivat Jesus!

Michael Boehm
NYS Knight Life Editor



"In Solidarity with our Priests"

Clergy Night



On Friday evening February 9th the Suffolk Chapter held their Annual "Clergy Night". Chapter Chairman Gene Johann and his Officers were proud to Welcome and Honor several members of the Clergy from various Parishes and Councils around Suffolk County! In addition to honoring them the Chapter gave each one a very nice memento of the evening.

This yearly tradition and ones like it are just another way Knights can let our Clergy know that we are truly *"In Solidarity with our Priests"*

NYS Council at the Islanders Game-

On Saturday February 10th members from the NYS Council attended an Islanders Game. Not only was this a great way to get together with our families and Brothers, but as always it was for a good cause. \$16 from each ticket sold went to Bravo Foxtrot United Alliance. Their Suffolk County - Bayshore N.Y. Headquarters provides essentials such as food, clothing, toiletries, talk groups, virtual meetings, legal aid, advocacy, and continued outreach to locate Veterans who are homeless. What a great way to help our Veterans who need it the most! Great job by Tony Vesco once again on putting this wonderful event together!!





**PLEASE KEEP
THE BROTHERS
ON RETREAT
THIS WEEKEND
IN YOUR PRAYERS**



**NY STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
2024 LENTEN RETREAT
FRIDAY, MARCH 1 - SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024**





Easter isn't just a religious holiday marking the resurrection of Jesus – it's also an opportunity to learn about and grow within our Catholic Faith together as families.

Whether you're celebrating Easter at home, or traveling to join in with other family members on the big day, these are four ways to make this Easter a celebration that is enjoyable and memorable for you and your kids / grandkids.

The Importance of Family Time during the Easter Season

The Easter holiday is here and it's time to celebrate with family. With so many things going on in throughout the year, sometimes we have to be reminded to slow down and spend time together. It's easy to get carried away with your busy schedule and forget about the important moments in life. Obviously the best way to commemorate the Easter

Season is to spend time as a Family by attending Sunday Mass together. When we celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, we grow together. Take this time to spend time with your family. Especially those lucky enough to have grandkids nearby. Take the time to do the things you may not have had the time to do or the chance to do with your own kids because you were too busy, unfortunately, just trying to work and get by.

Here are 4 more ways to celebrate the joys of Easter as a family.

1. Prepare Your Easter Activities and Crafts in Advance

Before Easter Sunday, arrange a workspace for the kiddes in advance for a fun-filled morning of coloring Easter eggs! Hopefully this is something you already do. I remember doing this as a kid with my family, and my wife and I still do it. When you see the children's joyous smiling faces, it makes all the preparation and planning worth it. And try not to worry too much about the mess.

2. Focus on Family Time

Sometimes we can be so focused on our day-to-day lives that we forget the little things that make each day unique. Put down your phone, get off social media and enjoy this time with your child, or grandchild. Take a little time to explore the world around you and take in all that nature has to offer. You'll be amazed at the things you find together! By enjoying time in nature on this Holy Day, we're reminded of the joys of the world God has created for us.

3. Share in Life's Simple Joys Together

Easter is a time to celebrate the birth of life and the miracle that is Christ's love for humanity. It's an important reminder of how precious children are and a great opportunity to teach your kids that new, or old, activities can be fun! Share in your children's excitement; explore together, capture memories together, and create together. In some parts of the world they celebrate Easter by building and flying kites. The wind, that we cannot see, lifts the Kites to heights we can't imagine, much as God's Love for us lift's us up. When was the last time you flew a kite? Its sounds like a great way to spend time with the kiddies.

4. Watch a Heartfelt Easter Movie

As you and your family prepare for the Easter season, it's a great time to use media and entertainment to help you focus on the true meaning of Easter with a good movie. And no, I'm not talking about making them watch some of your old favorites like Ben-Hur or The Greatest Story Ever Told., and certainly not The Passion of the Christ.

Invite the kids to browse a streaming service to find an Easter movie they'll love! You may be surprised how many Easter themed movies there are for kids.

At the core of the Easter Holiday is the celebration and commemoration of Christ. It's a time when we should be thankful for our blessings and good fortune, as well as grow in our faith together as a family. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity to grow in Faith and as a family together!! Vivat Jesus!!



Palm Sunday – March 24

Palm Sunday is the first time we hear the Lord's Passion in the liturgical calendar.

Holy Thursday – March 28

Holy Thursday begins the Easter Triduum—the three days leading up to Jesus' Resurrection.

Good Friday – March 29

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, commonly known as Good Friday, is the only day in the entire year in which no Mass is celebrated. It's a solemn day that calls for fasting and abstinence

Holy Saturday – March 30

The Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil, though its full reference on the USCCB schedule of daily reading is "Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord Holy Saturday At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter. This is the most unique and perhaps most important liturgy of the year. The Easter Vigil ends the Triduum and begins Easter celebrations.

Easter Sunday – March 31

Compared to other Holy Week services, Easter Sunday Masses are most similar to those that occur during Ordinary Time. The festive atmosphere continues from the Easter Vigil, with the worship space decorated with beautiful flowers, especially white lilies.



If, like many Catholics, you cringe when you see Easter merchandise at the store as soon as Valentine's Day ends and Ash Wednesday is upon us, take heart.

Resist those ubiquitous chocolate eggs and their egg-shaped jelly bean counterparts. Keep your home free of chipper little bunnies during Lent. Then, when Easter arrives, take time to shower your home with the lavish symbols of the risen Christ and explain to your family the long, beautiful history behind those treasured traditions.

So let's start with all those eggs. Symbolically, eggs have a long history and it's easy to see why. To pagans, nothing more closely spoke of fertility and rebirth than an egg, that sterile and shelled little object that suddenly explodes into new life. It's easy to see why the church adopted eggs as symbols of returning life. And those cracked and no-longer-needed shells certainly resemble an empty tomb.

In the Roman rite, there's even a blessing for eggs at Easter, and by the 13th century people had begun coloring eggs. Why? Colors are important in our liturgy — more on that later — but in the beginning people dyed eggs bright red to symbolize Christ's blood. This was followed by an explosion of color, and by the 13th century, King Edward I of England was so into the custom that he prepared 450 magnificently dyed Easter eggs, some covered in gold leaf, for his royal court.

And how about those Easter lilies? Just peer into a lily and you can envision an empty tomb opening toward you. The white of the lily symbolizes purity, and there's a legend that the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed over his impending death, was full of lilies. Whether that's true is a question for a Middle Eastern horticulturist, but it is true that when lilies were first brought to the U.S., the fact that they were early spring bloomers made them ripe for Easter adornment.

Popes often ate lamb for Easter dinner, and many Christian households still follow this old custom. The lamb, of course, is the symbol of Christ himself — the lamb of God, the sacrificial offering.

Speaking of food, many Christian cultures prepare special breads and pastries for Easter. For example, Italian homes offer [Colomba Pasquale](#), a dove-shaped Italian cake topped with almonds and sugar. Hot crossed buns, with the symbol of the cross frosted on top, are eaten in some countries on Good Friday.

Palms are an easy one. They've been a symbol of victory since before the time of King Solomon, and Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem with a shower of palms before his Passion began. That's why they are used on Palm Sunday, and burned before the next Lent to be used as ashes on Ash Wednesday.

And those Easter bunnies? It's harder to place them in religious tradition, and no special ritual prayer exists for our cotton-tailed friends. However, again since pagan times, rabbits have been symbols of fertility, their reproductive prowess well-known throughout history. They, too, embody the rebirth that comes in the Easter season, and our culture has tasked them with delivering all those symbolic eggs that mark Easter Sunday.

The beautiful colors of Easter are echoed in the church's liturgical colors. Lent is full of purple and violet, of course, the colors of penance and sacrifice. But Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent, surprises us with beautiful rose, the color of our joyful anticipation. Easter Sunday brings us pure white vestments, sometimes adorned with gold, the colors of celebration, victory, joy and rebirth.

Easter bonnets used to be prevalent, encouraged in part by the old tradition of head-coverings for women in church. Today, you still see a few. With or without a bonnet, come Easter morning, find something festive, colorful and special in your closet to add a traditional and personal "Alleluia" to the greatest liturgical celebration of our church year.

This article appeared in the Catholic News Service



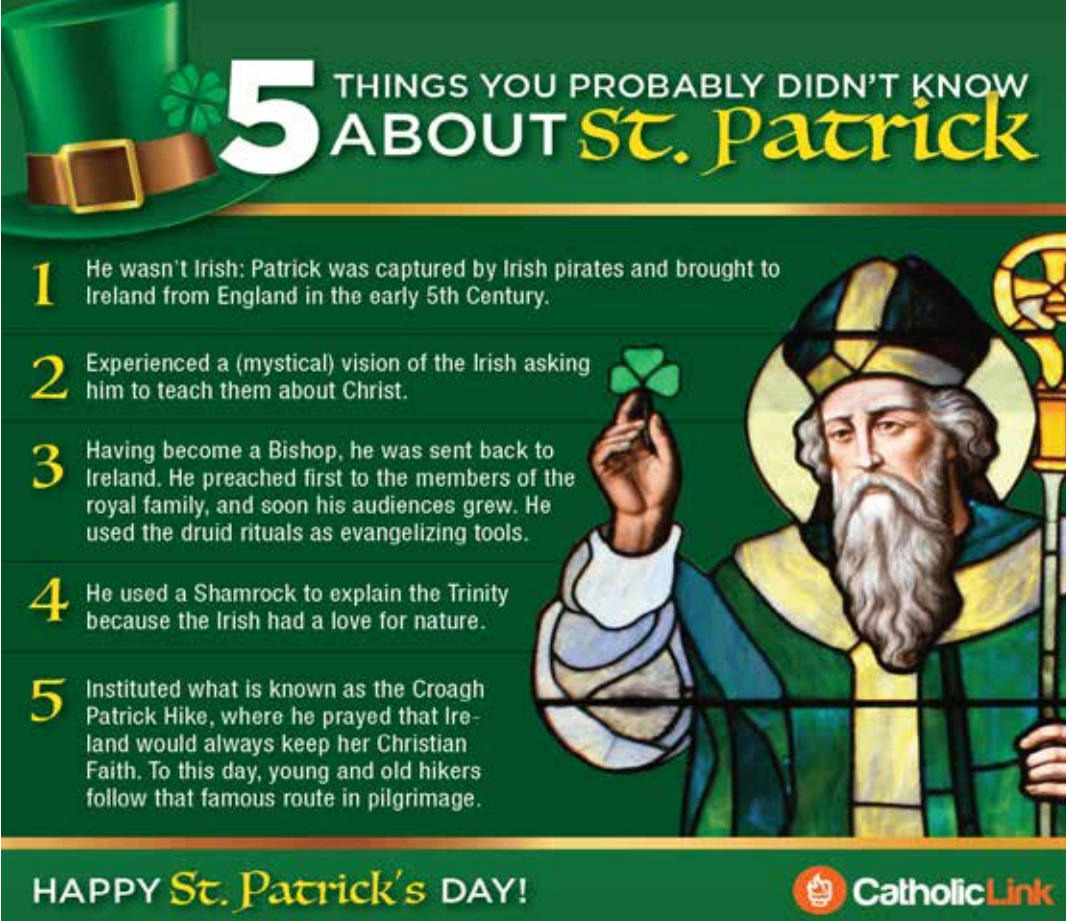
Have you seen the **NEW Constitutional Roll** recently? If your Council is like mine, the one that you have been using has probably been around for years. Well just a few weeks ago I was made aware by one of the F. S.'s in my area, Brother Tom Humel from Our Lady of Grace Council #11968, of this new, and very important addendum:

d. That, in accord with the disciplinary and procedural rules of the Knights of Columbus, and the Order's commitment to a policy of Zero Tolerance of abuse of minors and vulnerable persons, I declare that I am not currently required by law to register as a sex offender or child offender; that I agree to notify my council's Grand Knight and/or Financial Secretary of any arrest, charge, indictment, guilty plea, criminal conviction, civil judgment, or adverse administrative determination involving either sexual misconduct or an offense against a child; that I agree to notify my council's Grand Knight and/or Financial Secretary of any felony conviction that occurs after having been initiated in the Knights of Columbus; and that I further agree that any suspension, expulsion, or forfeiture of membership shall not result in a refund of membership fees.

Now that I am aware of this my Council will be ordering a new **Constitutional Roll** to use for the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. I recommend that every F. S. review the one they are currently using and if necessary do the same. Also I suggest they read this paragraph to the Candidates until they receive the new one. Thanks to F.S. Humel for bringing it to our attention!

In March this year we not only Celebrate Easter, but many of our Irish and Italian Brothers will celebrate their two favorite Saints. Here are a few tidbits about these two popular Saints.

We all know St. Patrick's Day is March 17th.
But here are a few FUN FACTS you may not know.



5 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT St. Patrick

- 1 He wasn't Irish: Patrick was captured by Irish pirates and brought to Ireland from England in the early 5th Century.
- 2 Experienced a (mystical) vision of the Irish asking him to teach them about Christ.
- 3 Having become a Bishop, he was sent back to Ireland. He preached first to the members of the royal family, and soon his audiences grew. He used the druid rituals as evangelizing tools.
- 4 He used a Shamrock to explain the Trinity because the Irish had a love for nature.
- 5 Instituted what is known as the Croagh Patrick Hike, where he prayed that Ireland would always keep her Christian Faith. To this day, young and old hikers follow that famous route in pilgrimage.

HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY! CatholicLink



We received this information from 48 year member Dennis O'Connor from Council # 6318 in Carmel, NY. Brother O'Connor has an odd hobby, he spends time searching the NYS Comptroller's website for Catholic institutions and with over 18 BILLION dollars sitting on a shelf in Albany, you know a lot of those funds belong to Catholics, Knights and institutions. Here is the link [Unclaimed Funds](#) When you

type in the Knights of Columbus you find dozens of results. Hey, who knows, maybe your Council can claim some of these funds. Or even yourself. It's worth a try, it doesn't cost you anything. And thank you Brother O'Connor for thinking of your fellow Knights.



From ChurchPop

His Feast Day is March 19th, but here are 8 things you might not know about St. Joseph, the foster father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1) He has no recorded words in Scripture

He protected the immaculate Mother of God and helped raise the Lord of the Universe! But he doesn't get even one quote. Rather, he's a silent, humble servant of God who does his task well, and no more.

2) He is not even mentioned in the Gospel of Mark – or most of the New Testament

Joseph is mentioned in Matthew, Luke, once in John (someone calls Jesus "the son of Joseph") – and that's it. He's not mentioned at all in Mark or in the rest of the New Testament.

3) His exit from the story of the Gospels is left unexplained in Scripture

He's an important figure in the Nativity narratives of Matthew and Luke, and he is included in the story of finding the 12-year-old Jesus with the teachers of the Law in the Temple. But that's the last we hear of him. Mary comes up several times during Jesus' ministry, but Joseph is gone without a trace. So what happened to him? Various traditions explain this gap by saying that Joseph died around Jesus' 20th birthday.

4) He may have been an old widower

Scripture doesn't tell us how old Joseph was when he married Mary, or really anything about his previous life.

An early tradition, though, claims that he was about 90 years old, and that he had been previously married, had children from that previous marriage, and that his wife had died,

leaving him a widower. In this account, he knew that Mary had taken a vow of virginity, and he was chosen to marry Mary and serve as her protector in part because he was old and not interested in starting another family. This helps to explain why he apparently died while Jesus was a young man, as well as explains why some people are referred to as Jesus' "brothers" and "sisters" in the Gospels: they could have been Joseph's children from a previous marriage, and so were Jesus' step-siblings.

5) Veneration of him goes back at least to the 9th century

An early title used to honor him was *nutritor Domini*, meaning "guardian of the Lord."

6) He has 2 feast days

The Solemnity of St. Joseph is March 19th (if this falls on a weekday during Lent, you can break your fast!), and the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker is May 1st. Of course, he's also included in the Feast of the Holy Family (December 30th, or thereabouts), and he's certainly a part of the Christmas story.

7) He's the patron of a bunch of stuff

He is the patron of the Universal Church, a happy death, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, craftsmen, engineers, and workers. He's also the patron of the Americas, Canada, China, Croatia, Mexico, Korea, Austria, Belgium, Peru, the Philippines and Vietnam. So start asking for his intercession!

8) Josephology is a thing

Among the sub-disciplines of theology, you've probably heard of Christology and Mariology. But did you know there's Josephology now? Of course, St. Joseph has been a figure of theological interest for centuries. But only in the 20th century did some people start to gather the Church's insights about him into a sub-discipline of its own. In the 1950s, three centers dedicated to the study of St. Joseph were opened: one in Spain, one in Italy, and one in Canada.

Now you don't *HAVE* to Irish or Italian to celebrate these two Great Saints! In fact I think they are both deserving a special place in all of our hearts! They say everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day. And why not! And who is more deserving of our devotion than St. Joseph, the Patron Saint of our Order. So I encourage all of you to celebrate these two great men!!

CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The NYS Annual Convention will take place this year on May 2nd, 3rd & 4th at the Villa Roma Resort in beautiful Callicoon N.Y.

Reservation Forms and Credential information has been sent out to all Financial Secretaries. If you are attending the Convention as a Delegate please contact your F.S. for your forms.

If you are a current F.S. and you have not received this information from the NYS Council, please contact Executive Secretary Joseph Bonarrigo at the NYS Office , 203 Rockaway Avenue Valley Stream, NY, 11580 Phone: 631-366-3787/88 Fax: 631-366-3786 Email: NYSKofC@aol.com and he will be happy to assist you.

Please get your Reservations in as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing all of our Brothers and Delegates at the Convention!





129th Annual Meeting Journal Ads

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NO LATER than March 24, 2024

Gary Leonardo at: Garyleonardo2@gmail.com 914-450-2417

UNVEILING A LEGACY



**BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY
PARISH PRIEST
FOUNDER
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

With your help, we will place 10 statues of Blessed Michael McGivney in the 8 Cathedrals and 2 Co-Cathedrals of New York State.

These statues will serve as a constant reminder of our Founder's dedication to the well-being of others and will inspire generations to come to follow in his footsteps.

We are half-way to our goal and 5 statues have been ordered!

Please consider a donation now to bring this initiative to completion.

Please send your donation (payable to "New York State Council Knights of Columbus, and "Blessed McGivney Statue Fund" in the memo field) to: SK Louis Pepe, 93 Rapelye St. 4D, Brooklyn, NY 11231.



VIVAT JESUS!



Join us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/624362663090112/members>

Facebook Group of New York State Council Knights of Columbus.
Posts should be limited to the Knights of Columbus. As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you have access to resources, such as social media, to help you grow deeper in your faith, stay informed about the Order and connect to your Brother Knights.



In order to have enough time to get everything ready for the Newsletter, Please send your Articles and Photos in **NO LATER than the 20th of **EACH MONTH.****

Send them to the Editor at mb1122@msn.com

We are very pleased with the response that we have been getting and all of the Council activities that you have been sending in. Keep them Coming!



We are very excited to announce that the NYS Council has a Brand New Website

www.nykofc.com

Communications Director Ralph Cefalo along with Web Site Chairman Brian Ennis have been hard at work to get this up and running and it shows! They are constantly updating information and content! Soon all the

information that you need regarding the NYS Council will be only a “click” away! We have recently added a “FORMS” tab where you can find many important Supreme Forms as well as UPDATED NYS COUNCIL Forms such as Grants, Scholarship and Matching School Support! Also, the MEMBERS ONLY Tab will give you access to the NYS_2023 - 2024 State Directory. It is for NYS COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY and is PASSWORD PROTECTED. While we were sworn to secrecy not to reveal the Password outright, we are prepared to pass it along in a very cryptic and sophisticated code. Some of you will crack the code quickly, some of you will need to phone, or email, a friend. And some of you will be forced to break out your 1936 Little Orphan Annie de-Coder Badge (if you don’t have one just ask around your council, one of those old timers probably still has his). So, in my best Alan Ludden voice, the Password is: ble**edmc***ney. All lower case.

We hope that you keep checking the Website often to see all of the updates!

JOIN OUR



MAILING
LIST!!

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/cREyUxb>

Some of you are still getting our Newsletter forwarded to you by your DD or GK. If you want to get the NYS Newsletter Directly - as well as other important news and information from the NYS Council - just click the link above and register. It's easy!



MARCH



March 10th!



March 17th!



March 24th!



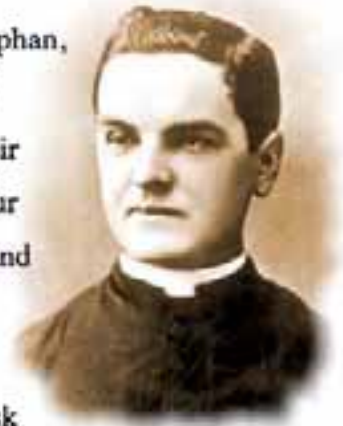
March 29th!



March 31st!

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, **Blessed Michael McGivney**, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify **Blessed Michael McGivney** on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen



The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild promotes the cause for sainthood of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, who was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020. Members of the Guild, and anyone devoted to Father McGivney, can play an active role in the cause by praying for his intercession in times of need, especially in cases of serious illness, and reporting to the Guild any favors received.

Membership in the Guild is free and open to anyone who is devoted to Father McGivney and wishes to invoke his intercession and assist in his sainthood cause through prayer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and are remembered in a weekly Mass offered for their intentions.

Catholic men who wish to live out the vision and mission of Father McGivney are invited to join the [Knights of Columbus](#) and become part of a network of charity, unity and fraternity that serves local parishes and communities. Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 in New Haven, Conn., and died at the age of 38 in 1890. His cause for sainthood was opened in 1997, and his heroic virtue was recognized by the Vatican in March 2008, when he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI.

On May 26, 2020, Father McGivney took another step toward sainthood when Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a [miracle attributed to his intercession](#). With the approval of this miracle, he was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, with the title of Blessed.

Another miracle through his intercession is needed for him to be canonized as a saint.

Those devoted to Father McGivney are encouraged to recite regularly the prayer for his canonization, which is available online and on a special prayer card. You may Report favors through this website or by email or regular mail at the addresses listed below.

To request a third-class relic or to order devotional items, click on the [online form link](#). Print out the form, fill it out and mail it to the Father McGivney Guild.

The Guild has more than 176,000 members, and you are encouraged to join by filling out and submitting the [online form](#). Please assist in the cause of Father McGivney by spreading the word about this holy and blessed priest.

For more information or to request a prayer card:

Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Tel: 203-752-4087

Email: guild@kofc.org