



Office of the Bishop

March 2026

Dear Parishioners,

I extend a personal invitation to all Catholic men, eighteen years of age or older, to join the Knights of Columbus; a Catholic organization founded by Father Michael McGivney over 140 years ago in Connecticut. Knights of Columbus members adhere to the teachings of the Church and embrace the great principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. These principles guide their relationships with God, their family, the Church and society.

For the Knights, commitment to family and personal responsibilities come first, followed by support for their parish, local community and the Diocese. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacraments, along with devotion to the Blessed Mother and Saints, are essential component in their life that strengthen their faith and commitment to serve. A new initiative for the Knights is called *Cor*. This flexible framework of prayer, small group formation and fraternity helps men focus on Jesus by building Christ-centered brotherhood. The various activities of the organization help support the members to fulfill their Christian responsibilities. Knights involve themselves with the youth, the elderly and other members of the parish through participation in various ministries, events and programs. Knights perform many other good works that enhance the common good through their prayers, charity and service to the poor and the most vulnerable.

I, myself, am a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and have personally witnessed the impact of this Catholic organization on families, our Diocese in particular, and in our society. Knights have been strong partners with priests in the mission of evangelization and are always ready to respond generously when I or their pastor request assistance. Their support for the sanctity and dignity of human life, for vocations to the priesthood, religious life and seminarians has been a significant contribution to the work of our Church.

I encourage all Catholic men to consider becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus. Our world needs more Catholic gentlemen who can witness to others how to be a good father, a loving husband, a devout Catholic and an active member of the Church. For more information, talk to a member of the Knights of Columbus or for further inquiry you can access membership at www.kofc.org. Join online for free using the promo code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Missouri State Council



+ James V. Johnston, Jr.

Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Diocese of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph at The Catholic Center

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