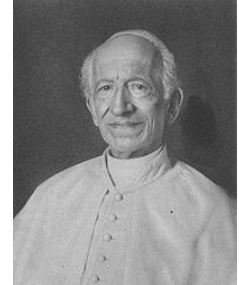


Knights of Columbus' Relationship with the Holy See

From 1882 to Present

Leo XIII (1878-1903)

- 1895 – Archbishop (later Cardinal) Francesco Satolli, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, gives the Order a “warm approbation and apostolic blessing.”
- 1903 – K of C expresses mourning at the death of the first pope of the Order's existence by wearing purple ribbon.



St. Pius X (1903-1914)

- 1903 – Knights are among the first pilgrim audience of Pope Pius X and the first to greet a newly elected pontiff with the American flag.
- 1903 – Early in his pontificate, Pope Pius sends a letter of encouragement to the K of C, read by Cardinal Gibbons at the 1904 Supreme Convention.
- 1905 – Pope sends his blessing to the Knights at the Supreme Convention.
- 1907 – The Order sends a cablegram of solidarity and support to the pope concerning the Church in France.
- 1907 – The pope meets with a delegation of Knights in Sala Clementina.
- 1910 – K of C plans the “largest pilgrimage which ever left America for Rome” and meets with the pope.
- 1910 – Knights defend papal involvement in science by printing a special edition of James J. Walsh's book, *The Popes and Science*.
- 1912-16 – Archbishop (later Cardinal) Giovanni Bonzano, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, attends the Supreme Convention, with papal blessing for the Order.
- 1912 – Past Supreme Knight Edward Hearn is honored by the pope with the title of Knight of St. Gregory.
- 1914 – The Order collects and donates funds for Pope Pius X's project for first scientific, scholastic, and paleographic revision of the Latin Bible since St. Jerome.
- 1914 – Pope Pius X commends the Order for the support and funding of The Catholic University of America and sends his apostolic blessing.



Benedict XV (1914-1922)

- 1914 – Massachusetts State Council sends a message of congratulations to Pope Benedict XV; the pope responds with an apostolic blessing.
- 1917 – The pope offers his apostolic blessing in response to the Order’s message of support and solidarity.
- 1920 – Pope Benedict XV offers Mass in the Vatican gardens for a delegation of Knights visiting Europe; the pope also requests K of C’s help in establishing playgrounds for the children of Rome.



Pius XI (1922-1939)

- 1924 – Knights of Columbus establish and staff Rome playgrounds.
- 1926 – Papal encyclical, *Iniquis Afflictisque*, praises K of C for good works during the Mexican government’s persecution of Catholics:

A word of very special praise is due those Catholic organizations, which during all these trying times have stood like soldiers side to side with the clergy.[...] First of all We mention the Knights of Columbus, an organization which is found in all the states of the Republic and which fortunately is made up of active and industrious members who, because of their practical lives and open profession of the Faith, as well as by their zeal in assisting the Church, have brought great honor upon themselves.
- 1927 – The Order sends 500,000 lire to the Holy Father for relieving the distress of the Church in Mexico.



- 1927 – Archbishop (later Cardinal) Pietro Fumasoni Biondi, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, addresses the Supreme Convention in Oregon, citing the pope’s notice of the “fraternal charity.”
- 1930 – Supreme Knight Martin Carmody urges support of Pope Pius XI’s call for Catholic Action.
- 1932 – Pope Pius XI characterizes the work of the K of C as expressing in fullest measure the spirit and purpose of Catholic Action.
- 1936 – Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli, (later Pope Pius XII) visits Supreme Council headquarters in New Haven, Conn.
- 1938 – Archbishop (later Cardinal Secretary of State) Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, praises the K of C’s campaign against communism.
- 1939 – Chapel at St. Peter’s Oratory, a K of C Roman playground, is enlarged through funding from the Order.

Pius XII (1939-1958)

- 1942 – K of C donates a portion of the Valle Giulia (K of C Roman Playground) to the Holy See for construction of Church of St. Eugene in honor of 25th anniversary of consecration of Pius XII to the episcopacy.
- 1956 – The Order completes the Vatican Film Library at St. Louis University, to preserve in microfilm selected manuscripts of the Vatican Library in the event of war or destruction.



St. John XXIII (1958-1963)

- 1959 – Knights of Columbus contributes \$250,000 to Pius XII Memorial Library at St. Louis University for rooms housing the Vatican Film Library and for conferences.
 - 1959 – Pope John XXIII becomes the first pope to visit a K of C Roman playground.
 - 1961 – Board of Directors meets in the Vatican Library with Cardinal Eugène Tisserant in attendance as the pope's representative.
 - 1964 – K of C provides volunteers for the Vatican Pavilion at New York World's Fair.



Paul VI (1963-1978)

- 1965 – K of C donates property of St. Peter's Oratory (Roman playground) to the Holy See for the site of a new papal audience hall.
- 1966 – The Order donates a short wave transmitter for Vatican Radio.
- 1968 – New Oratory of St. Peter (playground) is blessed.
- 1969 – The Knights reprint a booklet based on the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*.
- 1977 – The Board of Directors approves a proposal to collaborate with the Pontifical Commission for Social Communications in televising special programs from the Holy See throughout the world.
- 1978 – The Order agrees to underwrite the creation of the Vatican Film Library.
- 1978 – K of C assists with Vatican project, *Radio Veritas*.



John Paul I (1978)

- 1978 – Supreme Knight Virgil Dechant is granted an audience with Pope John Paul I, the new pope's first visit with a layman.



St. John Paul II (1978-2005)

- 1978 – The Order begins satellite uplink program for televised events from the Vatican.
- 1979 – K of C underwrites filming of pope's pastoral visit to the United States.
- 1979 – Knights receive a lay papal audience.
- 1981 – The Knights of Columbus provides funding for the gathering of scholars at an international colloquium, the Common Christian Roots of the European Nations.
- 1981 – The Order funds the construction in the grottoes of St. Peter's Basilica.
- 1981 – Vicarius Christi Fund is established for papal charities.
- 1982 – Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, Vatican Secretary of State, is Pope John Paul II's personal envoy to the 100th Supreme Convention in Hartford, Conn.
- 1983 – Knights assist San Lorenzo International Youth Center, for young pilgrims.
- 1985 – K of C provides Centro Televisivo Vaticano (CTV) a mobile television production



- studio and a grant to update the equipment.
- 1985 – Knights fund the renovation of the façade of St. Peter's Basilica.
- 1987 – Knights donate \$250,000 to U.S. bishops' conference to defray the expenses of the papal visit.
- 1987 – During the September visit, members of the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors are granted a special audience.
- 1988 – The Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and

Family opens a North American branch in Washington, D.C., with K of C funding; Carl A. Anderson is the institute's first vice president and dean.

- 1989 – *Pope John Paul II to the Church in America* is published by the Order in collaboration with the Cambridge Center for Faith and Culture.
- 1992 – Pope beatifies 25 Mexican martyrs, including six who were priest-members of the Order, the first Knights of Columbus to be beatified.
- 1992 – The Order funds computerization of operations at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.
- 1992 – K of C provides funding for the Pontifical School of Theology in Krakow, Poland, for training of priests in Eastern Europe.
- 1993 – Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St. Peter's repaired with K of C funding.

- 1995 – The Order co-hosts, with the Diocese of Brooklyn, the Holy Father’s Mass at Aqueduct Racetrack during his pastoral visit.
- 1996 – K of C publishes a special study guide for encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*.
- 1997 – The pope receives the supreme officers in audience for his 50th year anniversary as a priest.
- 1999 – Knights fund the restoration of the Maderno Atrium at St. Peter’s Basilica for the opening of the Holy Year door.
- 1999 – The Holy Father receives the Board of Directors in audience.
- 2000 – The pope canonizes 25 Mexican martyrs, including six who were priest-members of the Order (cf. 1992).
- 2002 – Pope John Paul II appoints Supreme Knight Anderson as one of 25 new members of the Pontifical Council for the Laity.
- 2003 – The pope names Supreme Knight Anderson as a consultant to the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, the only American among 10 new appointees.



Benedict XVI (2005-2013)

- 2005 – Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and Supreme Chaplain Bishop William Lori meet with Pope Benedict XVI shortly after his election.



- 2005 – Supreme Knight attends Vatican Synod on the Eucharist – the only American layperson in attendance.
- 2006 – Pope appoints Supreme Knight Anderson as consultant for the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.
- 2007 – Pope appoints the Supreme Knight and Mrs. Anderson to the Pontifical Council for the Family.
- 2007 – Vatican Secretary of

State Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone receives the Order’s Gaudium et Spes Award and attends the 125th annual convention in Nashville, Tenn.

- 2008 – The Order is present throughout Pope Benedict XVI’s pastoral visit to the United States. A K of C-commissioned plaque commemorates the pope’s Mass at Yankee Stadium. It accompanies two similar plaques, which commemorate Masses celebrated there by Pope John Paul II and Pope Paul VI.

- 2008 – Pope Benedict XVI approves a decree of heroic virtue for Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, declaring him “Venerable.”]
- 2009 – Giovanni Alemanno, the mayor of Rome, presents Supreme Knight Anderson with the “Lupa Capitolina” award for the Order’s 90 years of service to the Eternal City. The following year, the city hosts an exhibit about the 90-year relationship at the Capitoline Museum.



2010 – Continuing its tradition of supporting Vatican broadcasts, the Order presents a high-definition mobile broadcasting unit to Pope Benedict. The Order previously donated mobile broadcasting units to the Vatican Television Centre in 1985 and 1995, and has funded the uplink cost of Vatican broadcasts since the mid-1970s.

- 2011 – The Order establishes a shrine of then-Blessed John Paul II in Washington, D.C., at the site of the former John Paul II Cultural Center. Supreme Knight Anderson announces the initiative will include permanent exhibits celebrating the life and teachings of the late pope.
- 2011 – Building on the success of World Youth Day 2008, the Order and the Sisters of Life co-sponsor the Love and Life Centre at World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid, Spain. The venue becomes the premiere English-language catechetical site at the event.
- 2011 – The new English translation of the Roman Missal is implemented. The Vox Clara Committee, a group largely consisting of English-speaking bishops, oversaw the translation and its implementation with guidance from Pope Benedict and financial support from the Supreme Council.
- 2012 – Pope Benedict presents the pallium to 44 archbishops, including Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori, whom he appointed archbishop of Baltimore earlier in the year. |
- 2012 – Bishops gather in Rome for the Synod on the New Evangelization. Appointed by Pope Benedict as an auditor, Supreme Knight Anderson reflects on the essential witness of Christian marriage in his remarks



- 2012 – Knights in North America and the Philippines welcome Pope Benedict’s canonization of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Pedro Calungsod, and St. Marianne Cope. Supreme Knight Anderson and Deputy Supreme Knight Dennis A. Savoie attend the ceremony.
- 2012 – Pope Benedict addresses participants of a historic congress on Ecclesia in America, co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

Francis (2013-Present)

- 2013 – In a private audience, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson presents Pope Francis with a \$1.6 million donation representing the annual proceeds from the Order’s Vicarius Christi Fund; in a separate audience with the Board of Directors and their wives, the pope also praises the integrity and loyalty of the Knights of Columbus and thanks the Order for its “unfailing support” of the Holy See.
- 2013 – The Order releases a new documentary, *Francis: The Pope from the New World*, which traces the path of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, who becomes the first pope from the Americas, the first who is Jesuit, and the first to take the name Francis.
- 2014 – The pope receives and kisses a Knights of Columbus Silver Rose at the conclusion of a Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica celebrated in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- 2015 – Knights welcome Pope Francis during his first trip to the Philippines, where the population is 86 percent Catholic; during the visit, Philippine Knights display a number of boats donated by the Order to fishermen under the Livelihood Project, an initiative that focuses on the practical needs of the victims of the devastating Typhoon Haiyan.



- 2015 – The Order welcomes Pope Francis on his inaugural visit to the United States with Supreme Knight Anderson among a select group of well-wishers to meet the pope at St. Matthew’s Cathedral in Washington, D.C.; the Knights also serve as a major sponsor of the event, printing 350,000 copies of the 24-page program for the Mass marking the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia and serving as volunteer ushers, security personnel and Communion assistants.
- 2015 – In preparation for the pope’s canonization of Junípero Serra, the Knights print 30,000 booklets in English and Spanish at the request of Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington; the booklets contain two essays on the saint, one authored by Supreme Knight Anderson.