

# Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

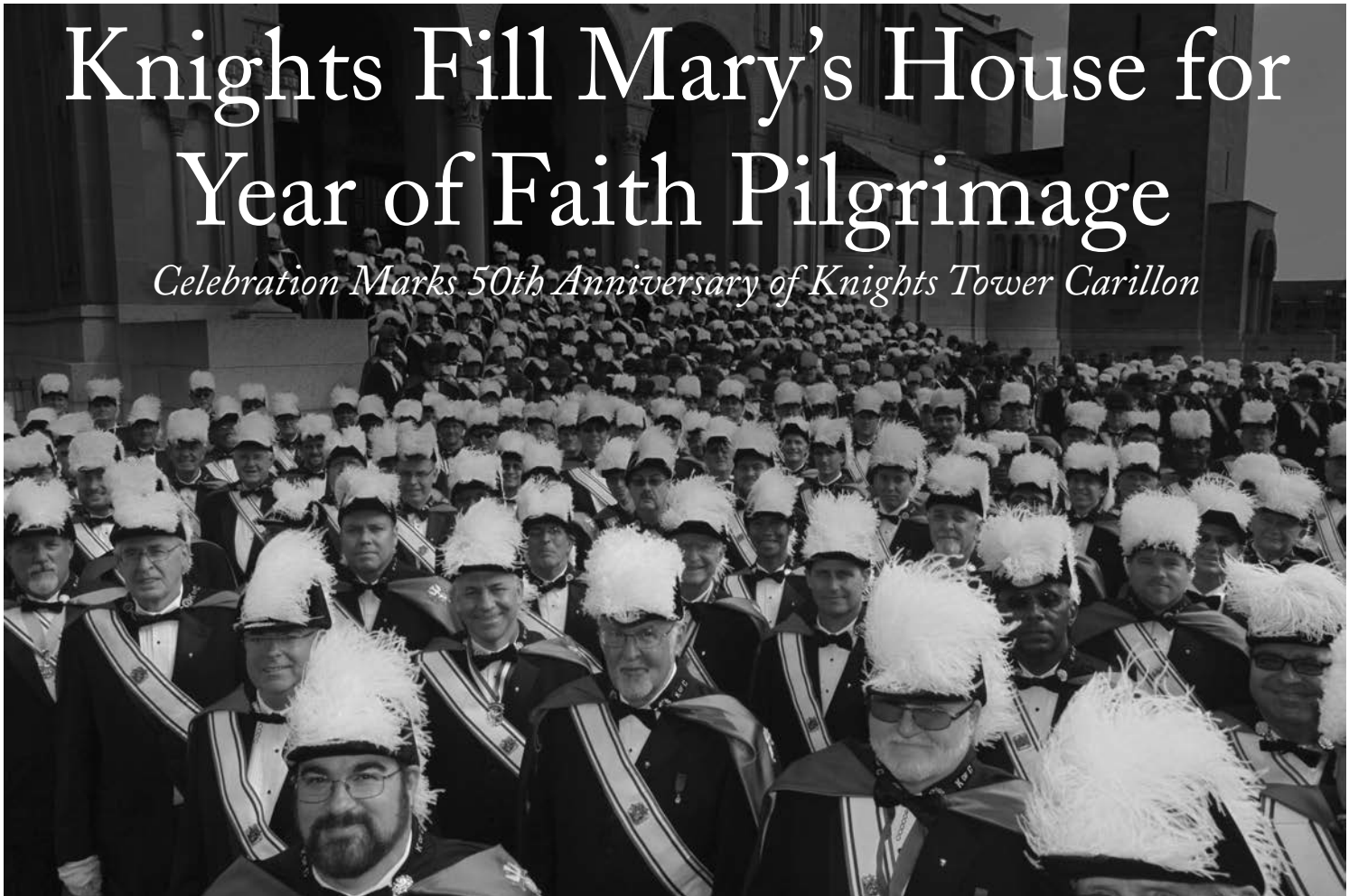
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## Knights Fill Mary's House for Year of Faith Pilgrimage

*Celebration Marks 50th Anniversary of Knights Tower Carillon*



On Sunday, Sept. 8, nearly 4,500 Knights of Columbus and their families and friends traveled to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Filling the Great Upper Church of the nation's preeminent Marian shrine, they gathered for the Year of Faith Pilgrimage, as music from the 56-bell carillon of the Knights Tower called them to prayer.

The pilgrims joined Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, together with other K of C leaders and guests, at "America's Catholic Church" to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Knights Tower Carillon and to reconsecrate the Order to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

An honor guard of approximately 500 Fourth Degree Knights led the opening procession for the Solemn Mass, which was celebrated by Archbishop Lori and concelebrated by Archbishop Gérald Cyprien Lacroix of Quebec, primate of Canada, among others. Immediately following Mass, a prayer program commenced that included exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a Marian meditation led by Archbishop Lacroix, the recitation of the rosary, remarks by the supreme knight, and an act of

reconsecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary led by the supreme chaplain and supreme knight.

Sept. 8 traditionally marks the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nine months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

*see Pilgrimage, Page 2*

### Grand Knight Checklist – October

- Remember that Oct. 10 is the suspension of councils that have not paid the July assessments.
- Review how your council will participate in the annual Coats for Kids and Food for Families initiatives.
- Start planning how your council will observe the Christmas season by sponsoring a Posada event and/or a "Keep Christ in Christmas" initiative.
- Begin collecting your council's data for the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) due after the start of the new year.
- Make sure your council is on the path to earning the Star Council Award.

Archbishop Lori began his homily by noting the relevance of Jesus' words in the Gospel reading, which seemed "tailor-made for this occasion": "Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?" (Lk 14:28).



*The honor guard encircles the National Shrine for the entrance procession as part of the Year of Faith pilgrimage celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Knights Tower carillon.*

The 329-foot Knights Tower, funded by a \$1 million grant from the Order and completed in 1959, together with its 56-bell carillon that was dedicated on Sept. 8, 1963, has a symbolic purpose, the supreme chaplain said. "I would submit that the Knights Tower should be seen as a tower of faith, that rises in our midst as sign and symbol of the Church's faith."

Citing Pope Francis' first encyclical, *Lumen Fidei* (*The Light of Faith*), Archbishop Lori proceeded to cite several ways that the Knights Tower is "an apt symbol for the faith that we profess." For instance, it is built on a solid foundation, just as Christians are called to firmly establish their faith on the truth (cf. Lf, 23). While "faith knows because it is tied to love" (26), the tower also represents the Knights' works of charity as they "bear witness to the truth of God's love." Moreover, just as faith involves

hearing and seeing (cf. 29), the Knights Tower "directs our gaze and lifts our spirits upward," and "the bells open our ears to the Word of God." Finally, the "structural unity and integrity" of the tower evokes the unity and "communion of the Church" as well as the "interconnected elements" of the faith (cf. 38, 46).

After Mass, Archbishop Lacroix led the congregation in prayer and meditation before the Blessed Sacrament.

The recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary followed, with the decades being led by state deputies from throughout the East Coast who traveled to the Basilica with delegations from their state councils.

Supreme Knight Anderson echoed the supreme chaplain's sentiments in his remarks: "Just as the carillon of the Knights Tower sends beautiful music into our nation's capital and reminds all who hear it of this place of God, our lives as Catholics and as Knights of Columbus must also reach out to enrich others and remind them of Our Lord's presence among us."

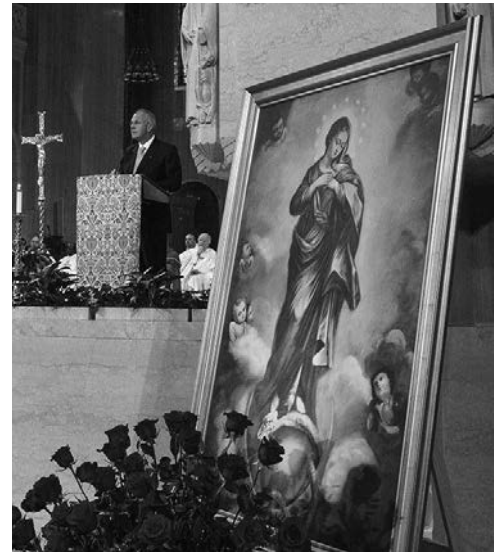
Anderson went on to speak about the significance of Mary's title as the Immaculate Conception, which he said is reflected in the patronage of not only the National Shrine but also of the home parish of Venerable Michael McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus.

"Our Lord sees and loves and saves Mary before she had free will, before she could speak, before she could breathe, before her parents were even aware of her existence," Anderson said. "And thus Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the paragon of human dignity. Because, in reaching out to Mary with extraordinary grace while still in the womb, God reminds us that our dignity comes to each of us as a gift from the Creator."

The supreme knight further noted that a two-year Orderwide Marian Prayer Program dedicated to the Immaculate Conception was inaugurated Aug. 7 at the Supreme Convention in San Antonio. The program features a painting of Our Lady that hangs above the main altar in the Basilica-Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Québec, the primatial church of Canada. A large reproduction was on display at the foot of the basilica's sanctuary during the pilgrimage.

Before the final benediction, Archbishop Lori prayed an act of reconsecration of the Knights of Columbus to Mary. In part, the prayer read: "O Mother of the human family, Mother of America, and Mother of the Knights of Columbus, we confidently entrust ourselves and our families to you. ... Obtain for us strong faith and the grace of eternal

*see Pilgrimage, Page 3*



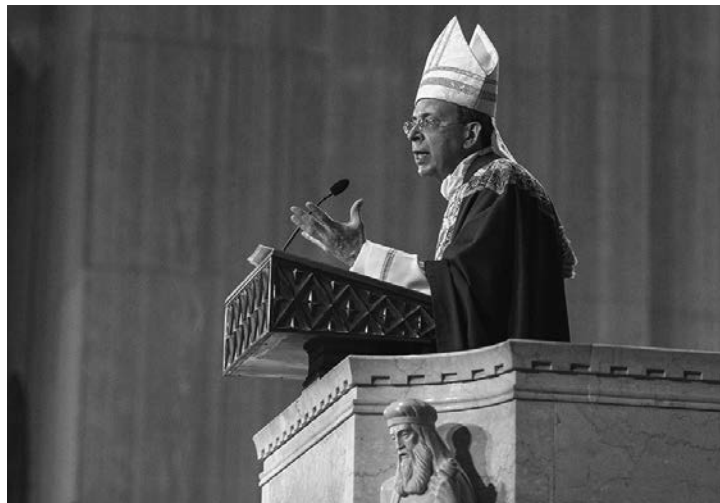
*Supreme Knight Carl Anderson spoke about the significance of Mary's title as the Immaculate Conception.*

salvation. Pray that we might be dedicated entirely to your Son. We pray that by your motherly care our Order and our hearts, newly consecrated, and belonging totally to God, may be a special portion for Him, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

The carillon’s largest bell (or bourdon), which is known as the Mary Bell, sounded after Supreme Knight Anderson led the congregation in praying the *Sub Tuum Præsidium*, a prayer to Mary from the first centuries. Weighing 7,200 pounds, the Mary Bell features fleurs-de-lis, the emblem of the Order, and the inscription: “MARY IS MY NAME / MARY IS MY SOUND / BELOVED MOTHER / QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH / QUEEN OF THIS DEAR LAND / FOR KNIGHTS TO GOD AND COUNTRY BOUND / AND ALL WHO HEAR MY VOICE / I SING THE PRAISES OF GOD.”

Finally, Archbishop Lacroix invited all those present to consider making another pilgrimage in 2014 to his home diocese of Quebec. The year will mark the 350th anniversary of the historic parish of Notre-Dame de Québec, the mother parish of Canada and the United States.

Also among the special guests and dignitaries present for the Mass and prayer program was Cardinal William Baum, a former archbishop of Washington. It was Cardinal Baum’s predecessor, Cardinal Patrick O’Boyle, who presided at the inauguration of the Knights Tower Carillon in 1963. On that occasion, Cardinal O’Boyle declared, “To the members of the Knights of Columbus, in the name of all the bishops of the United States, I say we are deeply grateful for this wonderful gift. Long after we



*Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore was the celebrant and homilist for the pilgrimage’s Solemn Mass.*

are gone, this tower and these bells will be paying honor to God and to his Mother.”

Indeed, although the Year of Faith Pilgrimage was a special occasion of prayer and celebration, the bells of the Knights Tower Carillon sound numerous times each day, welcoming pilgrims from near and far to Mary’s House.

## Service Programs

### Spread the Light of Christ

The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ brought a great illumination of hope into the world. Councils, Knights and their families throughout the Order are invited to help spread the light of Christ on Dec. 3 by lighting a Nativity scene and/or Christmas tree at 8 p.m. local time. The ceremonial lighting of the Christmas tree is just part of the celebration; other activities can accompany it, such as caroling, collecting clothing and food for the needy, or serving snacks and refreshments to commemorate the event. If

your council has not participated in the past, this is the year to start a great tradition and help spread the joyful tidings of Christmas. This celebration is a wonderful way to kick off the season and celebrate with brother Knights, family and friends. A poster is available (#2757) from the Supreme Council Supply Department to help promote your council’s event. For details, visit [kofc.org/christmas](http://kofc.org/christmas).



### ‘The Posada — An Advent and Christmas Celebration’

The Posada is a traditional Christmas celebration that Franciscan missionaries developed in America with the goal of introducing the faith, and it continues to be popular throughout the southwestern United States and all of Latin America.

Councils can order the booklet *The Posada: An Advent & Christmas Celebration* (#9898-E, S) from the Supply Department. Through distribution of this booklet the Order hopes to bring the rich Posada tradition to all Knights and their families as a way of encouraging a sharing of cultures in the Americas around the celebration of the birth of our Savior.

This booklet provides all that is needed to conduct a Christmas Posada with your family and your Knights of Columbus council. Councils may wish to discuss with their parish pastor the possibility of making this a parish program. Copies of the booklet can be ordered by using a Requisition Form (#1) and mailing it or faxing it to the Supply Department.



# Service Programs (cont.)

## Active Councils are Successful Councils

It's a very simple formula: the more active your council is with charitable initiatives in the parish and community, the more people will see and appreciate the good works the Order performs and the easier it will be to recruit qualified Catholic men into your council. It's a circular process that benefits the new member, council, parish and community.

*Has your council conducted an outstanding activity like these?*

If so, we'd like to hear about it. Please send information on your project (including the when, where, what, who, why and how of the activity) and photos to [knightline@kofc.org](mailto:knightline@kofc.org). If you have any questions

about sending in photos, call us at 203-752-4264. In addition, if you think your council has an event or program that is an outstanding example of one of the six "Surge ... with Service" categories – Church, Family, Culture of Life, Youth, Community or Council – let us know. We would like to produce a listing of upcoming events that we can pursue for possible promotion with local media and/or for use as a feature article in one of our publications. Please send a brief description of your upcoming event (one or two sentences about the project), with the date, location and contact information to [knightline@kofc.org](mailto:knightline@kofc.org) or call 203-752-4264.

To honor the deceased brother Knights of their assembly in a way that memorializes the man while also helping others, Santa Clarita (Calif.) Assembly participates in the Order's chalice program. Through this program, a chalice engraved with the name of the deceased Knight is presented to a priest. The donation of a chalice in memory of a deceased member helps to bring closure to the mourning process while also ensuring that the man is memorialized whenever the chalice bearing his name and the dates of his birth and death is used during Mass. "One of the most difficult parts of the ceremony is to find a recipient of the chalice," said assembly member John Springer (who is shown in the photo with chalice recipient Father Muddu of Uganda). In 2013, the assembly had four chalices to present. The members were able to find four priests to donate the chalices to. The recipient were from Peru, India, Nigeria and Uganda. At a special Mass, each priest was presented with their chalice. "The assembly was honored to have been a part of this beautiful and meaningful ceremony," Springer said.



Thanks in part to the efforts of the Knights in Michigan's Lansing Diocese, the Cooley Law School Stadium was packed for the Lansing Lugnut's Annual Vocations Night. Priests, nuns, deacons and seminarians were invited to attend the minor league baseball game free of charge. During the pre-game ceremonies, Bishop Earl Boyea (shown in photo) of Lansing and Michigan State Deputy Michael Malinowski were among the dignitaries and religious to throw out ceremonial first pitches. A Fourth Degree Color Corp also participated in the ceremonies. Total attendance for the game was 11,166 (which constitutes a sellout). Among this crowd was an estimated 2,200 members and their families.



## Help Set the Table for Those in Need

### *Food for Families Initiative*

The need for food to feed hungry families is ongoing. To help meet this need, hold a Knights of Columbus Food for Families program to obtain food for local soup kitchens or food pantries.

In order to encourage increased outreach to food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens, the Knights of Columbus will continue to offer financial rebates to councils that donate food or money. The Supreme Council will again refund \$100 for every \$500 or 500 pounds of food donated. The maximum refund will be \$500 per council per fraternal

year. Indicated contributions of food and/or money should be cumulative for the fraternal year. There is no need to send in a refund request every time a contribution is made, nor does every contribution have to be for at least \$500 or 500 pounds of food.

Continue to report Food for Families outreach using the Food for Families report form, found at [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms). Also, you must submit documentation that acknowledges receipt of the food by the personnel of the organization that is receiving the donation(s). Councils should

# Service Programs (cont.)



*Joe Militello, Howard Killian Jr. and Donnie Dobbolare of Leo Council 716 in East Moline, Ill., display some of the items that were garnered during a council-sponsored food drive. Knights conducted a drive at five local parishes that netted nearly \$1,400 in cash and 240 pounds of food for the St. Mary Food Pantry, which serves about 200 families.*

report all financial and food donations made in a fraternal year by June 30. Please do not convert your pounds to dollars on the form. For example, if you donated 500 pounds of food, please do not put its dollar equivalent. Questions regarding this program can be made to Jason Porrello (203-752-4571 or Jason.Porrello@kofc.org) or Quianna Richardson (203-752-4402 or quianna.richardson@kofc.org).

Knights of Columbus councils have been very generous in providing support to food banks and food pantries. In the 2012-13 fraternal year, councils donated more than 3,500,000 pounds of food and 565,000 man hours of service to help feed hungry people. As valuable as donations of food are, the people who run food banks often say that contributions of money are even more valuable, as they allow the food bank to procure

exactly the food items that they need. That's why in the 2012-2013 fraternal year, Knights of Columbus councils \$2,600,000 dollars to help the cause. In addition, volunteer support to help sort food and perform other valuable functions is always needed. Continue to help your neighbors with the fight against hunger, because no one should go to bed hungry.

Here are some steps to follow when conducting this program.

- Contact a local food pantry or soup kitchen to ensure they will be able to receive the food. Also, determine if there are specific items that they need.
- Obtain permission (either from your appropriate government department, business owner or pastor) to set up the drive at a grocery store or in the church foyer.
- Get permission to display posters (#4833) around your parish, community and stores. These posters should include the time and location of the drive.
- Ask nearby stores for empty boxes in which the donations can be collected.
- At the event, pass out flyers to shoppers as they enter the store asking them to purchase extra food to place in the collection boxes on their way out.
- If you are running the event at your parish, hand out flyers to parishioners as they enter the church and ask your pastor to make an announcement about the initiative. Or, get permission to have a council officer make an announcement before or after each Mass. Also, request that a written announcement be included in the parish bulletin. In the announcement, ask parishioners to bring nonperishable food items to Mass the following weekend.
- When collecting monetary donations, make sure to have a secure receptacle in your collection area for cash and checks.

For more information visit the "community" section of [kofc.org/service](http://kofc.org/service).



## Get Ready for Your Coats for Kids Distribution

If your council has yet to place your Coats for Kids order, now is the time to do so. By ordering now, you'll be guaranteed to have coats on hand by wintertime. Twelve brand-new winter coats cost \$220 (shipping included) for U.S. orders, and \$245 for orders shipping outside of the U.S. In these challenging economic times, no family should have to keep their child home from school on a cold day because the lack of a winter coat makes it unsafe for him or her to stand at the bus stop. Last winter, councils throughout the United States and Canada purchased and distributed more than 42,000 coats to needy children, and by doing so allowed those kids to go to school on even the coldest days. Visit [kofc.org/coats](http://kofc.org/coats) for more information on how your council can participate, and download a Coats for Kids order form at [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms).





# Knights of Columbus Insurance

## Congratulations to Our Million Dollar Round Table Members

The Knights of Columbus insurance program was recently well-represented at the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) meeting, held annually in June. Over 100 of Knights of Columbus agents (a new record) who earned membership in this prestigious organization attended this year's meeting in Philadelphia. Thomas Smith, chief insurance officer, commented on his experience at the meeting. "While I made my way around the room, greeting and thanking the men who were present for their work, I was struck by some common themes that filled the room," he said. "First, these agents are happy! It is a career that carries with it a fairly good-sized dose of difficulty. But the men who have qualified for and joined this organization of agents who are among the best in the industry have found themselves in a good place.



*Chief Insurance Officer Thomas Smith*

As men, they are grateful for the opportunity to represent the Knights of Columbus in their communities. Second, they are Knights first. As you get to know these agents you begin to realize their devotion to the Order — above and beyond any business interests. Most were active Knights before deciding to become agents, and all are active Knights today. Finally, they are professional. Achieving the honor of membership in this prestigious

organization takes passion, intellect and devotion. Each one fits that description." The October issue of *Columbia* contains the names of each agent who achieved MDRT membership in 2013. MDRT is an international organization that recognizes the top 1 percent of financial professionals in the world.



## Knights of Columbus Insurance

Since our founding in 1882, the primary mission of the Knights of Columbus has been to protect families from the financial ruin caused by the death of the breadwinner. In the beginning, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney and his fellow Knights "passed the hat" to benefit widows and orphans.

From that start, the Order has grown to include top-rated life insurance, long-term care insurance and retirement products. With more than \$90 billion of insurance in force and a full-time field force of more than 1,500 serving our members and their families, we are proudly fulfilling Father McGivney's vision.

The best way to learn about our products is by arranging a visit with a local field agent. Your agent can custom design an insurance program to meet your current needs, help you plan for the future or simply explain the many fraternal benefits that come with membership. To contact the agent in your area, use our convenient Find An Agent feature located at [kofc.org/insurance](http://kofc.org/insurance). Also, visit that site to learn more about insurance or our products. To get a rough estimate of the amount of life insurance protection you and your family need, use our Life Insurance Calculator.



## Schedule a Fraternal Benefits Night Today

For many years, one of the requirements for a council to win the Founders' Award was the conducting of an "Insurance Night" during the fraternal year. Some time ago, that requirement for the award was dropped in an effort to streamline the steps to becoming an award-winning council.

Just because it's no longer an award requirement doesn't mean it's a bad idea. In fact, an "Insurance Night" should be a part of each council's program.

The council's field agent or general agent can assist your council by holding a "Fraternal Benefits Night" for members and their families. Make sure invitations are sent well in advance to all members and that is promoted in the parish bulletin and council newsletter, via email, on the council's webpage and in other ways. The agent will do most of the work for the evening and help the council arrange for additional speakers, such as a tax expert, lawyer, funeral home director or college admissions official.

The evening should include the speaking agenda, door prizes and refreshments. In addition to information about Knights of Columbus products, the agent will touch upon the fraternal benefits available to members and their families, including our scholarships and fellowships, member/spouse fraternal benefit, orphan benefit, family fraternal benefit, widow benefits and any local/state programs. For materials to use during the event, the council's agent can order a "Fraternal Benefits Night" Kit from the Supply Department.

The members who attend gain valuable information about Knights of Columbus insurance, annuities and long-term care insurance. The agents gain valuable exposure to the members. And the council may gain those all-important insurance members necessary for obtaining Star Council.

For additional information on how your council can promote Knights of Columbus insurance, visit the "Recruitment Strategies/Action Steps" page at [kofc.org/recruit](http://kofc.org/recruit).

# Membership Recruitment

## How to Conduct an Open House

Following up your church drive (conducted in October) with an open house provides an opportunity to further introduce your council and the Order to prospects and their families. The main objective is to “exhibit

*Appoint a committee to organize the open house.*

- The open house should be held in your council’s meeting place.
- Set a date and time. Publicize the event in local newspapers and church bulletins, and on community websites, radio and cable television.
- Order quantities of promotional materials, including the “Open House” poster (#2826), from the Supply Department at least six weeks in advance.
- In addition to the prospects from your church drive, compile a list of other potential members.
- Send open house invitations to prospects and their spouses.
- Follow up the mailing with a telephone confirmation of receipt and availability to attend events.
- As the event approaches, reconfirm all arrangements for site, materials, program, etc.
- Arrange for a display of council scrapbooks, awards, programs, activities and etc.
- Assign each attending prospect to a recruiter who will act as host throughout the event.
- Invite your chaplain/parish priest and insurance agent to your event.

that products” — your volunteer service programs, your social and fraternal activities, your membership benefits — that your council and the Order have to offer to members and their families.

*Plan your program:*

- Have a welcome committee greet guests.
- Ask your chaplain or parish priest to endorse the Knights of Columbus.
- Introduce officers, members.
- Have your grand knight/membership director explain council aims/organization.
- Ask the insurance agent to explain benefits of membership.
- Schedule a question and answer session following the film, further explaining the council and the Order. Conclude with refreshments or a light buffet.
- For those attendees who haven’t already filled out a Membership Document (#100), make certain host-recruiters ask prospects to join, and assist them in completing the Membership Document.
- Inform prospects of the First Degree date.

## Short Takes

### *Knights Gear Now Online*



Knights of Columbus apparel, accessories, books, religious and liturgical items, flags and a variety of other products are now available online for purchase. This webstore covers all Knights of Columbus related gift and clothing needs. Brands featured include Adidas, Nike, Cutter & Buck, and Columbia. In addition, items can be personalized with council or assembly names. Products are also being added to the site on a regular basis. Visit [knightsgear.com](http://knightsgear.com) to see the full selection of items and to buy your Knights of Columbus-oriented products.

### *New ‘Keep Christ in Christmas’ Poster Contest*

In a society where Christmas is often regarded as a secular holiday, many people –

especially children – forget that Christmas is the day on which God gave the greatest gift of all to the world in the form of his only son.

To combat this, the Knights of Columbus has introduced the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. This program – similar to the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest – will allow young people to engage their creative talents and imaginations while understanding the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. This program will be open to young people ages 5-14. It will be broken up into three separate age groups. For more information and to order the “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest Kit (#5024), visit [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms) or call 203-752-4016.

All councils are encouraged to conduct this program. It is time for the young people in your community to know the true meaning of Christmas, and what better way to do that than a poster contest? The children of today should know that Christmas is more than gift-giving and Santa Claus.

### *Substance Abuse Poster Contest*

With the introduction of the new “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest, the suggested dates for conducting our long-standing Substance Abuse Poster Contest have been changed so that the two programs do not overlap. The Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Kit (#SA-KIT) should be ordered in early December and presented to schools after the Christmas break, and the artwork should be collected in late January or early February for judging. Call 203-752-4016 or visit [kofc.org/forms](http://kofc.org/forms) to get your kit today.



## Score a Touchdown by Earning Star Council Status!

*And that's the end of the first quarter, with the score ...*

If you're a football fan, you will be hearing that quite a bit over the next several months. The first quarter of our fraternal year is done, so make sure your council is on the way to a touchdown by earning the Star Council Award.

- Council recruitment and programming goals are set.
- Recruiters are committed to a minimum of one new member per month.

- Agents are being worked with to promote Knights of Columbus Insurance.
- Service programs are planned and ready to go, and potential members have been invited to help out.
- Forms are filed when needed.

Don't wait until the last quarter, meet your goals early and ensure your success.

*Make your drive now to earn the Star Council Award for this Fraternal Year!*

