Great Defender of Life Award

Pro-life organization honors supreme knight at New York gala

This October, during a New York gala attended by notable pro-life supporters, the Human Life Foundation Inc. honored Supreme Knight Carl Anderson with the 2016 Great Defender of Life Award. In announcing the winner of the award, the organization stated: “As supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, the world’s largest Catholic family fraternal service organization, Carl A. Anderson leads an organization whose massive efforts on behalf of the unborn and the vulnerable are legion. The Knights have donated millions of dollars and volunteer hours to many pro-life charities and projects at both the local and national level through their Culture of Life programs.”

Supreme Knight Anderson was introduced by Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund. Addressing the attendees, Supreme Knight Anderson said the number of abortions in the United States could be greatly reduced if more American politicians supported the pro-life view held by the majority of Americans.

Local Council Sponsors ‘Turkey Bowl 2016’ to Benefit Poor

Continuing a tradition begun in 2007, last month, Knights of Columbus in southern Florida united with the larger Catholic community to help local families in need.

Aware of an avid football rivalry between two Catholic high schools — Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami and Msgr. Edward Pace High School in Miami Gardens — Knights Douglas Austin and Jorge Varela, members of Coral Gables Council 3274 and alumni of the competing schools, began the tradition of getting each team to pledge $10 per point scored during the annual game.

The funds are then collected for the council’s Thanksgiving food drive, which buys turkeys for parishioners in need at seven local parishes. Ana Garcia, principal of Msgr. Pace High School, spoke about the tremendous honor of being involved in such a project, explaining that it raises the students’ awareness of people in need and provides them the opportunity to assist those less fortunate. “We are helping our students understand that they are blest and [that] they need to continue to give back to the communities,” she said.

Grand Knight Checklist

December & January

✓ Remember these upcoming due dates:
   • Jan. 1 — Council Per Capita, Catholic Advertising and Culture of Life fund assessment levied by the Supreme Council
   • Jan. 31 — Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (#4583), Free Throw Championship Participation Form (FT-1), Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Participation Form (#4001) and Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728)

✓ Review how your council will participate in the annual Food for Families initiative.
✓ Make sure your council is on the path to earning the Star Council Award.
Help make the pro-life message be heard throughout the world by joining in the #WhyWeMarch social media campaign. Upload a photo to Instagram, Facebook or Twitter with the hashtag #WhyWeMarch. You can also follow the pro-life activities of your fellow Knights by tracking the official Knights of Columbus hashtag, #KofC.

No matter which pro-life event you and your brother Knights participate in, don’t forget to display your council banners. Also, wear apparel with the K of C emblem and march together as a council.

For more information on the annual March for Life, visit marchforlife.org.

Knights’ Leaders Recognized for Commitment to Higher Education

At its annual dinner and awards ceremony Nov. 5 in Arlington, Va., Catholic Distance University (CDU) bestowed its Founder’s Award upon Supreme Knight Carl Anderson and Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori for their contributions to Catholic education. This award constitutes the university’s highest honor.

Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, who serves as chairman of the board of CDU, presented the award to Supreme Knight Carl Anderson “for his inspiring, courageous leadership of the Knights of Columbus and generous support of Catholic Distance University to educate the domestic church in a digital world.”

Recognizing the honor and privilege of receiving such a recognition, the supreme knight said CDU is visionary and “very, very important for the future of our Catholic faith community.” He continued, “It is an educational project that understands the creative opportunities of our new technology but also understands that — even with this new technology — we need Catholic education that forms the entire person.”

Bishop Loverde also praised Archbishop Lori “for his wisdom, his courage, his example as the supreme chaplain of the Knights of Columbus and as a supreme teacher of the church, in the sense that he teaches so beautifully and wisely,” locally and around the world.

In accepting his award, Archbishop Lori said that it belongs to the entire Order because of its commitment to the Gospel principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

He also commented on the issues our Church is facing in the United States, stating “how important it is to have a large number of people — a growing number of people — who understand what the Church teaches about religious freedom.”

He added that there need to be a lot more people who understand our heritage as Americans. “I certainly see Catholic Distance University as a great ally in this challenging time that we are in.”

Dr. Marianne Evans Mount, president of the university, noted that when the university first began as the Catholic Home Study Institute in 1983, the Knights supported its courses by mailing the institute’s materials to students. Now, students in all 50 states and more than 60 countries participate in the university’s certificate, undergraduate and advanced degree programs.

This article is based off of a report by Christopher Gunty, associate publisher/editor of The Catholic Review and CEO of The Cathedral Foundation/CR Media.

Defender, from Page 1

“If Catholics were to stand together with other people who support life to make abortion the pre-eminent human rights issue of our time and to treat it as a truly non-negotiable priority, imagine how different our country would be,” said Anderson.

The Human Life Foundation Inc. is an independent, non-sectarian, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation started in 1975 by the late James P. McFadden to promote pro-life issues. It sponsors the Human Life Review, a quarterly journal now in its 41st consecutive year of publication, and a matching grant program that supports crisis pregnancy centers around the country.

Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund; Maria Maffucci, editor of the Human Life Review; and Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York stand with Dorian Anderson and Supreme Knight Carl Anderson at the Union League Club, where the gala was hosted.

This January 27, Tell the World #WhyWeMarch

MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church.
Families today face many struggles, through both cultural pressure and the personal difficulties that accompany family life. Despite these struggles — and partly as a result of conquering them — families have great capacity for love and joy.

To help families experience the fullness of this joy, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a new prayer through which families may seek the protection and guidance of the Holy Family.

Each Knights of Columbus council should invite families of their parish to offer this prayer of Consecration to the Holy Family (#10371) on the first Sunday after Christmas. So that this prayer may strengthen every one of our families and revitalize our parishes, ask your pastor’s permission to lead it after each Sunday Mass.

Joy should be part of the regular fabric of Christian life. The Lord promises his disciples that “no one will take your joy from you” (Jn 16:22), and we are instructed by St. Paul to “rejoice in the Lord always” (Phil 4:4).

But how is it possible to be joyful when there is sorrow in our lives? The answer is that joy in its deepest sense is not dependent on positive circumstances or upbeat feelings. Joy means having an encounter (encuentro) with God’s infinite love for us, which is always present in our lives. It “adapts and changes, but always endures,” even amid great sorrow. It takes the form of a quiet assurance, a reminder that we are God’s beloved sons and daughters. At other times, joy comes from “an expansion of the heart” through prayer and gestures of love toward others, creating a bright, warm and cheerful atmosphere.

Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need.

May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.

O Lord Jesus, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you grew in age, wisdom and grace as you prepared to fulfill your mission as our Redeemer.

We entrust our family to you.

O Blessed Mary, you are the mother of our Savior. At Nazareth you cared for Jesus and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home.

We entrust our family to you.

O St. Joseph, you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary, and gave us a model of fatherhood while showing us the dignity of work.

We entrust our family to you.

To order prayer cards (#10371) containing the above prayer, email supply@kofc.org or call 203-752-4214. They are also available online at kofc.org/domesticchurch.
Share the Gift of Charity This Holiday Season

As Christmas and the new year approaches, share the gift of warmth and food with those in need. Assist your local parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen by conducting food or clothing drives during the Christmas season.

Your council should also consider organizing a Coats for Kids event in the new year. For additional information, visit kofc.org/coats.

Both the Food for Families and Coats for Kids programs are featured programs; councils meeting participation requirements may fulfill the Youth and Family Activities sections of the Columbian Award. To find out more, visit kofc.org/community or call 203-752-4270.

Celebrate That God Is With Us: Say “Merry Christmas!”

“This day and season are a time for us to celebrate the fact that God exists and is with us,” says Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “Saying ‘Merry Christmas’ allows us to celebrate that fact with joy and lets us share this joy with our loved ones and neighbors.”

Send Us Your Feedback!

Last month, we asked our digital subscribers whether they prefer a paper or electronic version of Knightline and if Knightline content is conducive to successful council programing.

Many brother Knights have already let us know their preference and what they would like to see in upcoming issues, but we’d love to hear from all of you. If you have not been contacted regarding this survey, please let us know what you think by emailing knightline@kofc.org or writing Knightline at 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.

We plan to review all responses over several months before determining which format provides the best method of reaching the majority of Knights.

Social Media 101: Boost Your Council’s Christmas Events

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are among the busiest times of the year for Knights of Columbus councils. As Catholics prepare for Christ’s birth, Knights and their families lead their parishes in organizing charitable events that exemplify not only our dedication to serving others, but also the true spirit of the season.

By following these three easy steps, you can boost your council events, spreading the spirit and joy of the season even further.

First, promote your event. You probably already hang flyers in your parish hall and send mass emails about your council events, but you should also use your council’s Facebook Page to promote participation in your charitable events. Create a Facebook “Event” and invite brother Knights, their families and members of your parish. Not only can invitees share your council’s event with their friends online, but having an RSVP list allows your council to better plan its logistics. You should also ask one of your council’s more camera-savvy Knights to take pictures during the event. Or, hire a local photographer. Having high-quality pictures will help you engage with your followers and provide you with visual content for future council newsletters and fliers.

Second, use the #KnightsInAction hashtag. This hashtag increases your council’s visibility and allows your online content to become searchable, all while remaining consistent with the Knights of Columbus brand. You may even see your post shared on the official Supreme Council Facebook Page!

Finally, celebrate your success. After your council event, be sure that you post about its success, thanking all those who participated. Uploading a photo album with pictures from your charitable event is an easy — and compelling — way to show your Facebook followers that your council is dedicated to serving others during Advent and all year long!
New Addition to Shrine Celebrates St. John Paul’s Legacy

The Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C., invigorated its namesake’s feast day celebration on Oct. 22 by welcoming young local Catholics and World Youth Day alumni to a special event titled “World Youth Day Unite,” a day of fellowship, adoration, confession and more.

Amid live music, engaging speakers and opportunities for prayer and reflection, the shrine unveiled an 11-foot-tall statue of St. John Paul II, sculpted by American artist Chas Fagan and commissioned by the Knights of Columbus. The statue now welcomes visitors as the centerpiece to the shrine’s front plaza.

Present at the unveiling was the sculptor himself, as well as the shrine’s executive director, Patrick Kelly. Addressing the attendees, Kelly declared, “We hope this gathering carries on the prayerful joy that was on display at prior World Youth Day events.”

An additional World Youth Day Unite event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 28, following Friday’s March for Life. For more information on this and future World Youth Day Unite events, visit jp2shrine.org.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson is joined by the shrine’s executive director, Patrick Kelly, and artist Chas Fagan in unveiling the statue of St. John Paul at its new permanent location on the shrine’s front plaza.

Benefit, from Page 1

At this year’s event, held Nov. 4 at Pace High, fans and players alike were filled with the spirit of giving.

“You can’t be a Knight without working with the community. They go hand in hand,” one member of Council 3274 shared.

Knight Ralph Egues agreed, saying, “I think it’s really important for the football players [and] for those that are in the stands to see Catholic men in action doing things for the needy in the community. That’s what we’re about.”

After a game-winning 50-yard touchdown pass, Belen Jesuit won the game, marking the team’s third consecutive win after years of Pace dominating the rivalry. The Knights of Columbus presented the players with the game’s ceremonial trophy — a silver turkey platter engraved with the helmet designs of both teams and the scores of previous Turkey Bowls.

In addition to the Turkey Bowl, Council 3274 organizes numerous charitable activities throughout the year for local youth and persons with disabilities, and they also provide scholarships to Catholic high schools.

For information on how your council can participate in similar Food for Families activities, visit kofc.org. There, you can also check out a video highlighting the Belen-Pace game.

Announcing Expansions to the Ultrasound Initiative

The Order’s Ultrasound Initiative is proudly expanding to include mobile ultrasound units!

When a state and/or local council funds the full cost of a vehicle designed to house the machine, the Supreme Council will provide up to 100 percent of the cost of an ultrasound machine for that unit.

For full information about this new aspect of the Ultrasound Initiative, go to kofc.org/ultrasound.

Deadline Approaching for the Special Olympics Report

All councils participating in Special Olympics activities must submit the Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (#4584), due Jan. 31, 2017. This form can be found at kofc.org/forms.

Pray the Rosary; Witness to Faith

Place your council and parish under the protection of Our Lady during the next Orderwide 5th Sunday Rosary Program event on Jan. 29.

Invite brother Knights, their families and local parishes to join you on that day, as well as the fifth Sunday of future months, to together pray through the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

This event is the perfect opportunity for you to witness to Knights of Columbus fellowship and illustrate what it means to be practicing Catholics. Do this by attending Mass as a group before the rosary service begins, or ask your pastor’s permission to have Knights serve as readers, lectors, ushers, choir members or an honor guard during the Mass.

Councils in need of rosaries and prayer cards for the event can order the 5th Sunday Rosary Kit (#SR-KIT) by visiting kofc.org/5thsunday. Remember, participation in the 5th Sunday Rosary Program may help your council qualify for the Columbian Award. To qualify, you must report your events on the 5th Sunday Rosary Program Report Form (#10243) and the Columbian Award Application (#SP-7).
Reaching Star Status — What It Really Means

It’s not just an award — it’s testament to the good you and your brother Knights accomplish throughout churches and communities worldwide.

It’s a goal — a method of measuring what your council needs to achieve in order to uphold our reputation as the strong right arm of the Church.

This is why it’s important that every grand knight regularly meets with council officers, chaplains and field agents. Doing so helps you maintain proper focus and makes your council inviting to young Catholic men. Starting this year, we are encouraging assemblies to take similar steps toward Star status:

• Publish a monthly newsletter or bulletin for assembly members, and be sure to send a copy to the vice supreme master.
• Submit the Report of Officers Chosen (#186), the Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) and the Annual Assembly Audit Report (#1315).
• Share the privilege of being a member of the Patriotic Degree by reaching Fourth Degree exemplification goals.
• Hold at least four varied patriotic programs throughout the fraternal year to earn your assembly the Fourth Degree Civic Award.
• Report your patriotic programs to be eligible for the “To Be a Patriot” Award, which recognizes the best of these initiatives.

For more information on the award requirements, please visit kofc.org.

Key Tips for Filling Out Council Forms

The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) measures each council’s successes throughout the calendar year, especially in the categories of charitable donations and hours of volunteer service.

To best measure your council’s level of charitable giving and volunteer hours on this form, follow these tips:

• Send each member an Individual Member Worksheet (#1728A). Once completed and collected, use the data to form an accurate portrait of the charitable activity in the council.
• Use your Fraternal Leader Success Planner to document the number of each month’s meetings, events, charitable hours and distributions. At the end of the year, tally up the total of each and report them on the annual survey.
• Keep accurate figures for the number of hours donated to charity. Remember: Total hours for an activity equals the number of hours dedicated to the activity multiplied by the number of participating members.
• Submit all fraternal surveys (State, Council, Assembly and Circle) by the Jan. 31 deadline.

If a Picture Is Worth 1,000 Words, What’s a Video Worth?

Liven up your recruitment efforts by utilizing the videos available at kofc.org/recruit1. These films, offered in English, French and Spanish, bring the good works of our Order to life, showcasing Knights in action and sharing testimonies that will let any prospect know how they, too, can participate in the experience of a lifetime. Explore the selection today — you just may find the perfect video to share on your council website or Facebook Page!

Council Information: Make This a Priority Today!

One of the most valuable tools offered to grand knights, financial secretaries and advocates is the Fraternal Training Portal, an application available through Officers Online. This incredible resource has been so helpful that we have now opened it to all council officers.

Here is where we need your help: In order for the system to work, we need you to provide a valid email address for every council officer. If you do not, these men will not be able to access the system.

Once you obtain this information, share it with us by logging into Officers Online and going to Member Management. Then, under Member Information, input the new email addresses. Once an officer’s email address is put into the system, he will be notified via email and asked to establish an Officer Online credential.

Please make updating your officers’ email addresses in Member Management a priority. If you have any questions, email fraternaltraining@kofc.org or call 203-752-4270 (Option #3).

Make Each Hour Count

Sometimes the task of planning council activities for the year ahead may feel overwhelming, but it’s not impossible to get on track. In just one hour, you can learn how to plan engaging and important council activities through the live webinar “Council Membership: Programs with Purpose” on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017, at 2 p.m. EST.

Remember, if you are unable to attend or are only available for a portion of the webinar, you still should register. Registered members will receive a link to the webinar to view at their convenience. To register, please visit kofc.org/webinar. Questions regarding this event should be directed to Gary Nolan at gary.nolan@kofc.org or 203-752-4270 (Option #3).
A re you interested in a career of service and unrestricted earning potential? What if you could enjoy professional independence without the risk of going it alone? Can you see yourself working for a mission-oriented organization that is fiercely loyal to its principles and customers?

Then consider a career as a Knights of Columbus field agent.

What you do will have a positive impact on your clients, their families, your local community and the world.

Not Your Typical Sales Job
Being an agent for the Knights of Columbus is not like being a typical salesman. On your very first day as an agent, you will be assigned an exclusive territory of hundreds of Knights of Columbus families. You won’t need to start from scratch. And since all of your clients will be Knights or their family members, you will be welcomed as a brother, not as a stranger.

Well-Compensated
We don’t put a limit on your success. As an agent, you can thrive in our commissions-based system, which ensures that you make what you earn. As an agent, you would also have access to an excellent benefits package that includes medical and retirement benefits, as well as incentive awards and programs.

A Clear Path to Success
Knights of Columbus agents use proven techniques to grow their business and be successful. As a new agent, you will learn those techniques through an extensive training and support system that includes agent mentoring, classroom learning and the Knights of Columbus Online University. Our pre-contract program allows you to engage in real sales situations with veteran agents, helping you to understand an agent’s day-to-day work and determine if it is the right career for you.

Independence and Brotherhood: A Perfect Match
Knights of Columbus field agents are in business for themselves but not by themselves. Agents love the flexibility that allows them to plan their time to be there for family events. They also love working in regional teams and learning from their fellow agents. As a Knights of Columbus agent, you will have all of the perks of independence without having to go it alone.

Work You Can Believe In
The Knights of Columbus is unique. It’s not your typical life insurance company. It is both one of the largest life insurers in North America* and also one of the largest donors to charitable causes.** It is a proud Catholic company that puts values above profit, earning the respect of its members as well as the insurance industry. When you work for the Knights of Columbus, you won’t need to check your principles at the door — you can carry them with you.

Our field agents not only help safeguard the financial futures of Catholic families in their communities — they also work closely with their councils to help them increase their charitable impact. As a Knights of Columbus field agent, you too can make the world a better place.

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This is a unique opportunity. It combines service, professionalism, independence and brotherhood in ways that no other opportunity can. Its potential is limitless and so is its promise.

To find out more about a career opportunity with the Knights of Columbus, visit kofc.org/careers.

* Ranked in the top 5 percent according to assets under management by Best’s Statistical Study. The Knights of Columbus is also a member of the Fortune 1000.

**In the past decade, the Knights of Columbus and its members donated more than $1.55 billion to charity and volunteered more than 700 million service hours.

In the New Year, Make a Councilwide Resolution

The New Year is often synonymous with resolutions — we resolve to lose weight, exercise, read more and make all the improvements that were somehow left behind in the previous year. This 2017, look beyond yourself and make a resolution that will make a difference to others by committing to help the Global Wheelchair Mission.

The Knights of Columbus began participating in the Global Wheelchair Mission more than 10 years ago, sponsoring 2,000 wheelchairs for distribution in Afghanistan. Since then, the Knights’ efforts have gone global.

Resolve to continue this much-needed service by committing to raise a specific dollar amount throughout 2017 for the Global Wheelchair Mission. Be sure to report your activities, which may help your council fulfill all four Community Activities requirements for the Columbian Award, on the Global Wheelchair Report (#10071).

Luis García, 3, is thrilled over his new wheelchair, gifted on behalf of the Knights of Columbus and the Global Wheelchair Mission at a distribution in Mexico City.
This Christmas, give your family peace of mind.

Find an agent at kofc.org or call 1-800-345-5632

Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
Making a difference for life.