Hurricane Victims Need Your Help

See Knights in Action, page 7

The East Coast is reeling from the devastation caused by Hurricane Florence. Dozens died in the storm’s aftermath, with countless homes damaged or destroyed.

Visit kofc.org/hurricane to help those suffering such devastation. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go directly to relief efforts.

Defend Life With Your Brother Knights

An estimated 40-50 million abortions take place every year throughout the world. This means approximately 125,000 babies are killed per day.*

As Knights of Columbus we must fight against this horror.

Inside this issue you’ll find information about how to stand up for life by using our Faith In Action programs. Some, like the ultrasound initiative, you’ll recognize. Others are new and require new commitment. Each shows the world that every person — whether he or she is unborn, has special needs, or has a different faith — deserves the chance to be loved, to be welcomed and to live to his or her full potential.

Together, let’s be men of action. Join us in defending life this October, which marks Respect Life Month, and through the whole year. Visit kofc.org/faithinaction for details.

*From statistics by the World Health Organization

More on How We Support Life

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K of C Life Initiatives: What You Need to Know

We need to stand up against the threats to life in our world. We must meet these threats with prayer and by putting our faith in action. Review our pro-life programs below. Using them, we’ll be able to stand up against — and someday defeat — the threats against life.

Mass for People With Special Needs
This program creates an opportunity to welcome those with special needs who might not feel welcome at a parish due to physical and social barriers. Celebrating a Mass for People With Special Needs is a start toward welcoming them and their families to participate in parish life.

Novena for Life
Prayer is the foundation of all that the Knights of Columbus does. Through this program, you will lead your council in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life in our nations. The program centers on a novena, nine days of sustained prayer, for the protection of all human life in our homes, parishes and the wider community.

To get started:
- Organize a social activity during the novena for the parish to come together to celebrate life.
- Involve members of local pro-life groups and parish organizations in the promotion of the novena and services.
- Visit kofc.org/novena.

Note: Participation in Novena for Life is required to qualify for the Columbian Award.

Special Olympics
The Knights have worked with the Special Olympics since its start in 1968. Your council can continue this service.

Start by connecting with your state and local Special Olympics branch. For program credit, councils must donate $2,000 or provide 200 service hours in a fraternal year.

Last year, councils donated $5,693,877 to Special Olympics and other programs for people with intellectual disabilities. More than 75,720 Knights volunteered 350,960 hours of their time at more than 12,500 events.

Work with your pastor and personalize the sample press release at kofc.org/mpsn. Use the press release to let the members of your community know about the event.

Get started by visiting our website or emailing fraternalmission@kofc.org.
**March for Life**

By participating in the March for Life, Knights and their families give visual testimony to their support for a culture of life. Councils that coordinate the attendance of at least 50 participants at the annual March for Life in Washington or who help organize a local march for life receive credit for this program.

*Some Ideas on Organizing*

Struggling to fill a bus with participants from your parish?
Consider partnering with other parishes in your diocese.

Are the national marches too far away and expensive?
Attend or organize a local or state event.
Check marchforlife.org, Canada’s campaignlifecoalition.com, or the Philippine jurisdictions’ websites for information.

Printable resources, including brochures and posters, for all life programs are available at kofc.org/life. Also, review the printable guide sheets that provides chairmen roles and responsibilities.

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**Christian Refugee Relief**

Christianity is on the verge of extinction in the Middle East, the original home to our faith.

This program is designed to raise awareness about this issue, to raise funds to support Christians facing genocide, and to encourage solidarity in your local community or parish.

A Christian Refugee Relief kit is being prepared to assist your efforts. Visit the Christian Refugee Relief page at kofc.org/refugee for details.

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**Silver Rose**

Each year, Silver Roses are carried by Knights from Canada to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico.

By participating, you and your council can develop a closer relationship with Our Lady of Guadalupe and share her message. Getting involved is easy: With your pastor’s permission, contact your jurisdiction’s Silver Rose Chairman and visit kofc.org/silverrose to find a route near you.

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**Follow Mary on Social Media**

At this year’s supreme convention, each state deputy received an icon of Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians. The icons will travel from council to council within each jurisdiction, who will host a special prayer service at their parish for persecuted Christians.

Members from every council are encouraged to take photos of the icons as they travel the world. Share your photos on Instagram or Twitter using #FollowingMary. Not on social media? Send your photos to socialmedia@kofc.org for a chance to have your photo shared on the Knights’ social media pages.

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Have any questions about these programs? Seeking advice or encouragement for successful implementation into your council? Fraternal Mission is here to help.
Contact Tyler Lomnitzer, program manager for life-based initiatives, at fraternalmission@kofc.org.

For detailed instructions and access to all pro-life forms, visit kofc.org/life.
Ultrasound Initiative

Since the Ultrasound Initiative launched in 2009, councils have helped place more than 970 ultrasound machines in pro-life pregnancy centers around the world. These machines are central to the Knights’ lifesaving work, because most pregnant women who have an ultrasound will choose life for their babies.

We are close to making our goal of 1,000 ultrasounds, which together could save 1 million lives. Help us meet this goal by visiting kofc.org/ultrasound.

When a council raises half the cost of an ultrasound machine — which start at roughly $20,000 — the Supreme Council matches that amount through the Order’s Culture of Life Fund.

The Supreme Council has designated March for Life, Special Olympics and the Ultrasound Initiative as featured programs. If your council satisfies the requirements of a featured program, it receives two credits in that program’s category.

Pregnancy Center Support

More than 3,000 pro-life pregnancy centers operate in K of C jurisdictions. This program allows councils to “adopt” one of these centers by providing material, financial and volunteer support.

This program is flexible to meet local needs. Creative and generous councils will make a difference and achieve program credit. For ideas, visit kofc.org/support and click on Pregnancy Center Support.

Note: Pregnancy Center Support is distinct and separate from the Ultrasound initiative.

Forgiveness, Healing and a Saved Life: The Effect of One K of C-Funded Ultrasound

The Ultrasound Initiative provides a mother the chance to see her developing child and hear her baby’s heartbeat.

For one couple in the Philippines, the life-saving moment brought forgiveness and family healing.

For months, schoolmates Alexander and Angeline had a secret romance. Then they decided to elope. Angeline’s parents were furious.

Shortly afterward, Angeline learned she was pregnant. Thinking they were too young to support a baby, the couple sought an abortion.

But then Angeline received a free ultrasound sponsored by local Knights. She saw a healthy baby boy and abandoned her thoughts of abortion.

Since that life-saving moment, her parents offered their unconditional forgiveness. This one moment — and the efforts of the Knights of Columbus — saved not just the life of a young baby but healed the relationship between parents and their daughter, between in-laws, between a mother and a child.

Special thanks to St. Francis of Assisi Council 14381 in Calihan, San Pablo City, Philippines, for sharing Alexander and Angeline’s story. They were among more than 230 women and couples that took part in the council’s Free Ultrasound Program in February 2018.
Meet the New Head of Life-Based Initiatives

Appointed as program manager for life-based initiatives, Tyler Lomnitzer is responsible for Knights’ pro-life efforts worldwide. He recently spoke with Damien O’Connor, director of Catholic Information Service, about his history with the Knights and his personal pro-life connection.

O’CONNOR: Can you tell a little bit about what your job entails?

LOMNITZER: The Knights recently launched Faith In Action, which is a new council program model, and there are four categories: Life, Community, Family and Faith. I oversee the Life program category.

At some point, you must have been initiated to the pro-life movement. Tell us a little about that.

I attended my first March for Life [in Washington, D.C.] my senior year in high school. ... I was just overwhelmed by this whole world that I didn't know existed, that all came to D.C. to meet and pray together. ... It was blistering cold, but everyone was so passionate and positive, and that really made an impression on me as I continued on to college and here today.

Tell us what you studied at The Catholic University of America, and how you ended up working for the Knights.

I studied English Literature. ... I was always reading, writing and arguing. I got involved then with the college Knights of Columbus council — The Catholic University council — which was just a brilliant group of young men who came together to pray together, to perform acts of service together. The Knights of Columbus college council left such an impression on me that I had to come back here to Supreme and give back to the Knights in a unique way.

When you look at the Life category, some of our guys may think “This is a little tough, I've never been involved in some of these things before.” What would you say to encourage them?

If you don’t think you can raise the amount of money to make that type of difference, we have proven methods of success, and I’m sure we can replicate or adapt one of those methods for your particular council.

Can you talk a little bit about your family growing up? Were they interested in the pro-life movement?

I actually wasn’t Catholic until I turned 14. My entire family, we were Episcopalian. Devout Episcopalians. Dad volunteered, Mom taught Sunday school, I sang in the choir. We had this great church community and life, but we realized we were missing Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, present and available to us every day, every Mass. So I became Catholic when I was 14. I ended up going to Fairfield Prep, a Jesuit-Catholic high school. That’s when the pro-life movement really took a hold of me, when my Church-service oriented mind met with sound, Catholic teaching. I realized that Catholics can make a difference in society.

The Knights focus on so many things that are pro-life. It’s the full gambit, from birth to death. Can you tell us how that has inspired you over the years?

The Knights aren’t simply focused on defending the unborn, though that is important and foundational. The Knights are also involved with Christian Refugee relief and helping persecuted Christians abroad. The Knights are rebuilding cities in the Middle East, they are giving food, water and clothing to these communities that are war-torn and persecuted. And that’s just totally inspiring.

Seeking advice or encouragement with life-based initiatives? Visit kofc.org/life or email fraternalmission@kofc.org
Grand Knight’s Checklist

**Deadlines**
- Confirm your council’s July assessments have been paid. *Failure to pay the assessments prior to Oct. 10 will result in suspension of the council.* Prior to paying, be sure to review the September statement, which lists the incentive credit for Star Councils.
- Begin collecting data for the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728) due on Jan. 31.

**Planning**
- Get a head start on your council’s Coats for Kids, Food for Families and Christmas activities.
- Remain compliant with updated Safe Environment requirements (see kofc.org/safe for details).

**Things to Consider**
- Distribute K of C disaster relief flyers in your parish and community, available at kofc.org/prepare.
- Regularly meet with your pastor and your council’s field agent.
- Invite men of all ages to join, using the Form 100 or kofc.org/joinus.
- Work with regional growth directors and officers to implement the Faith in Action program model.

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**A CHALLENGE AND MESSAGE FROM SUPREME CHAPLAIN ARCHBISHOP LORI**

[The blind man] threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.
Jesus said to him in reply, “What do you want me to do for you?”
The blind man replied to him, “Master, I want to see.”
Jesus told him, “Go your way; your faith has saved you.”
— Gospel for Oct. 28, Mk 10:50-52

Most of us can probably recall requesting a meeting with someone influential, and then reaching a point in that meeting where he or she looked us in the eyes and asked, “So, what can I do for you?” We most likely prepared for this moment, and we clearly stated our need or wish.

Brothers, can we imagine the Son of God speaking our own name and asking, “What do you want me to do for you?” It seems extraordinary. Even unbelievable! And yet, this is exactly what Jesus invites us to do every day in prayer, reading and reflecting on Scripture, speaking to him about what is in our hearts. That’s a meeting you and I would not want to miss.

**Your Goal for October**
When having discussions with people this month (especially your family members), give them your undivided attention and do not look at your cell phones during the conversations. Secondly, I challenge you to honestly attempt to answer Jesus’ question to you, “What do you want me to do for you?”

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**Take Advantage of Recruitment Incentives Today**

Start recruiting and your name might be at the top of the new monthly incentive leaderboard. Visit kofc.org/incentive for details.

The leaderboard tracks your progress toward exciting incentives that run until June 30, 2019:

- The top grand knight and district deputy *in each jurisdiction* (based on their membership quota) will be entered into a raffle for five trips to New Haven for him and his spouse. The top district deputy and grand knight *orderwide* will both be awarded a trip to the Supreme Convention in Minneapolis, Minn.
- The top 10 recruiters and their spouses will receive a complimentary trip to the Supreme Convention and will sit at the Supreme Knight’s Reserved Tables during the States Dinner. The top recruiter will receive the Top Recruiter Plaque during the Awards Session.

So what are you waiting for? Ask a man to join today.

*Incentives only available in insurance territories.*
As a father, one of your greatest worries is protecting your children and their future. One of the most valuable ways is by purchasing a life insurance policy for them.

Knights of Columbus Insurance offers a Guaranteed Purchase Option (GPO), which ensures that more insurance can be purchased for your children. This option extends far beyond childhood; it guarantees that even as adults, your children will not be denied coverage, even if they suffer from health issues.

Life is uncertain and unpredictable; one of every six adults are postponed or denied life insurance coverage, with health denials being the primary reason. Knights of Columbus Insurance protects your children from uncertainty and provides additional peace of mind, in the event of the unimaginable or an emergency.

With a Knights of Columbus GPO, you guarantee that your children can purchase additional Knights of Columbus Life Insurance later in life. Secure your children’s future with an insurance premium that, in many cases, is as low as $10/month.

Contact your local Knights of Columbus field agent today to discuss this or any of the other life insurance purchase options for your children. Visit kofc.org/faa.

Knights in Action: ‘We Always Respond as Knights’

They get up in the early morning, load a commercial truck or two with water, paper towels, cleaning supplies and food, and then drive across North Carolina to deliver supplies to assist hurricane-ravaged areas.

Knights Tim Kilpatrick and Denis Carter have done this several times during the relief and recovery efforts following Hurricane Florence.

“I’ve always, in my entire years, helped with hurricane and other natural disaster relief and we got a call that they needed some help, to get some supplies down here,” said Carter. “We always respond as Knights.”

They are two of dozens of Knights from places as far away as West Virginia and Georgia who have helped with relief efforts. The Knights of Columbus has raised more than $360,000 to help and donated hundreds of volunteer hours, continuing a tradition of helping those in need that stretches back to the organization’s founding in 1882.

The riverfront town of New Bern, N.C., was one of the hardest hit by Hurricane Florence with estimated damage costs exceeding $100 million.

Streets were piled with debris and remnants of gutted homes, making the city difficult to navigate. Some roads were entirely closed off to the public. Meanwhile, the highway leading into New Bern is flooded by rivers whose overflowing waters are pouring into shopping mall parking lots and wooded areas. The devastation is glaring and lingering. Every building, every tree, every face is etched from the struggles of the storm’s aftermath.

It is for these reasons why Tim Kilpatrick and Denis Carter decided to travel from Raleigh to assist the community.

Kilpatrick and Carter brought their supplies to Cedar Street Center, a distribution site located in an area particularly ravaged by the storm.

As Kilpatrick and Carter were bringing in supplies, a line started to form, stretching down the block. More than 500 people signed up to obtain desperately needed items. Shopping carts were provided so that people could carry items back to their cars or homes.

“People have lost everything,” said Kilpatrick. “When you go home tonight and you brush your teeth, or you get a drink of water, or you sit at your table for food and you lay down and go to bed, a lot of these people aren’t able to do that. So think about all of the things you have and the people down here, the devastation, they don’t have any of it.”

When asked what other members of the Knights could do to help, Kilpatrick said, “I think if you come see it, you will help.”

These areas still need the Knights of Columbus. You can help by donating at kofc.org/disaster.
A commitment to excellence, outstanding service and the highest ethical standards: These are the traits of all Knights of Columbus field agents, but the dedication of 132 of our agents has earned them membership in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) for 2018.*

MDRT is an international organization that recognizes the top 1 percent of financial professionals in the world. We salute these men for their devotion to continuing Father McGivney’s mission of protecting Catholic families.

*See October Columbia for the complete list.