JOIN US

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council in 1882 to more than 14,000 councils and 1.88 million members throughout the world today... and still growing! We are always looking for new members!

Who can be a Knight?
Candidates must be:
(i) Male,
(ii) 18 years of age, and
(iii) A practicing Catholic in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church.

How do you join?
There are three steps that must be completed in order to join the Knights of Columbus:
(i) an application (KoC form #100),
(ii) an interview with the officer board, and finally
(iii) the First Degree initiation ceremony.

We also host interest meetings for candidates each semester! Feel free to contact any of us if you are interested or have any questions!

What is the time commitment?
We hold our business meetings twice a month on Sunday evenings, have Mass & Rosary every Monday at 10:30 PM in St. Vincent de Paul Chapel, and host a variety of other Service, Pro-Life, Church, and Fraternal opportunities throughout the semester! Participate in as much as you are comfortable with— it is always better for 30 men to do one hour of service than having one man do 30 hours of service!
Our Principles

All the good works we do are informed by our four core principles:

Charity — Our Catholic faith teaches us to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Members of the Knights of Columbus show love for their neighbors by conducting food drives and donating the food to local soup kitchens and food pantries, by volunteering at Special Olympics, and by supporting, both spiritually and materially, mothers who choose life for their babies. Knights recognize that our mission, and our faith in God, compels us to action. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

Unity — None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus all know that together we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So we stick together…we support one another. That doesn’t mean that we always agree or that there is never a difference of opinion. It does mean that — as a Knight of Columbus — you can count on the support and encouragement of your brother Knights as you work to make life better in your parish and community.

Fraternity — The Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in large part, to provide assistance to the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died – often prematurely. The Order’s top-rated insurance program continues to do this today, as do individual Knights, who last year gave more than 10 million hours of their time to assist sick and/or disabled members and their families. In the Knights of Columbus, we watch out for and take care of one another.

Patriotism — Members of the Knights of Columbus, be they Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Cubans, Filipinos, Poles, or Dominicans, are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both. Whether it’s in public or private, the Knights remind the world that Catholics support their nations and are amongst the greatest citizens.

Our History

The Knights of Columbus was founded in the midst of a society hostile to the Catholicism, including its values of charity and service. The Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, a parish priest from New Haven, CT conceived of a way to rescue the men of his parish from the miasma of New England in 1881. He gathered a few of these men in the basement of St. Mary’s church in order to discuss his plan for a fraternal society, which would become the world’s largest Catholic family fraternal service organization.

Today, the Knights of Columbus offer an escape from an increasingly secular society, where a commitment to faith-inspired service is considered strange. Pope St. John Paul II hailed the Order as a “strong right arm of the Church,” which is just one example of praise from the leaders of the Church, presidents, and the rest of the world. Collectively, the Knights have contributed over $173 million and 71.5 million hours of service over the past year alone. Since Supreme Knight Carl Anderson took up the leadership of the Order in 2000, the Knights of Columbus has donated more than 653 million hours of service and $1.4 billion to charity.

To learn more about the Order, visit http://kofc.org/en/index.html

Our Mission

The mission of the Knights of Columbus College Council Program is to promote the moral, intellectual and spiritual development of the future leaders of civil society, the Order, and the Church through witness to the Gospel and dedication to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

What We Do

The University’s own council was established on April 13, 1987, as the second college council in D.C. We have been, and continue to be, an active part of student life at CUA. Our works reflect our Christian identity and our answering the call to loving evangelization and service in every aspect of our lives. CUA Council #9542 has frequently been recognized by the Supreme and D.C. State Councils for its activities and witness, such as parish cleanups, food drives, caring for the elderly, co-hosting the annual Catholic Leadership Conference and National Prayer Vigil for Life, as well as numerous cookouts and excursions. Wherever the needs are greatest — in the Church or in the community — the Knights of Columbus strive to meet those needs with Christian charity and love of neighbor.