

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fraternity
Charity
Unity



Patriotism



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FAITH
IN
ACTION

Ocean City Council #9053
Pope John Paul II Assembly #2454
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The *Faith in Action* model carries the Order's unchanged mission into the challenges of a changing world. It includes a strong call to action and focuses on programs in four categories: *Faith, Family, Community* and *Life*.

Fraternity – 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 the good works of individual Knights, who gave more than 75.6 million service hours in 2017, illustrating how Catholics serve each other in fraternity and mercy.

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.

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 we 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.

FAITH

Building the Domestic Church Kiosk
Holy Hour
Into the Breach
Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)
Rosary Program
Sacramental Gifts
Spiritual Reflection

FAMILY

Consecration to the Holy Family
Family Fully Alive
Family of the Month/Year
Food for Families
Good Friday Family Promotion
Keep Christ in Christmas

COMMUNITY

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
Coats for Kids
Disaster Preparedness
Free Throw Championship
Global Wheelchair Mission
Habitat for Humanity
Helping Hands
Soccer Challenge

LIFE

Christian Refugee Relief
March for Life
Mass for People with Special Needs
Novena for Life
Pregnancy Center Support
Special Olympics
Ultrasound

All of the good works that we do as Knights are influenced by the above four core principles. A few notable programs we have completed each year are: Coats for Kids, Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health, Keep Christ in Christmas,, and Food Drives supporting SVdP and the Joseph House.

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Pope John Paul II Assembly

After taking their **third degree**, knights are eligible to receive their **fourth degree (4th Degree)**, the primary purpose of which is to foster the spirit of **patriotism** and to encourage **active Catholic citizenship** — consequently, the 4th Degree is often known as ‘**The Patriotic Degree**’. Fourth Degree members are referred to as ‘**Sir Knight**’. The requirements for joining the 4th Degree are that a brother Knight must: have been a third degree member in good standing for at least one year; be an exemplary Catholic; and be of sound citizenship of his country. The 4th Degree members:

- Promote and strengthen the patriotic spirit of the civic community;
- Educate its members, and others, both in the teachings of Holy Mother Church, and the history of our nation;
- Promote by example the highest type of citizenship so necessary for the preservation of our democratic government;
- Oppose dissemination and spread of doctrine dangerous to our form of government, and to the Divine law of faith and morality; and
- Support by word and deed, the duly constituted authorities of local, state and national government, and to recognize excellence in public life.

It is not unusual to find 4th Degree Knights: participating visibly in Church events, such as Eucharistic processions and escorting the Church dignitaries, in the community; standing up for the unborn and the elderly at Pro-Life events; and commemorating the sacrifices of previous generations by participating in veterans’ celebration and veterans’ assistance programs.

Words from a Faithful Navigator

Pope John Paul II Assembly #2454 conducts programs that support and promote **Patriotism**. As a member of Assembly #2454, a Knight joins the **Patriotic Degree** and stands by those who have fought to keep America free. Fourth Degree Knights are steadfast at keeping God in the civic arena by supporting laws that recognize the sanctity of life, and the defense and protection of religious liberty. We carry out our mission of **Patriotism** through veterans’ celebrations and ceremonies, fostering respect for the Flag, as well as, supporting our Parishes and community activities.

Ocean City Lady Knights Auxiliary, Inc

The OC Lady Knights Aux. Inc. was originally organized in April of 1987. We are the wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends of the Knights of Columbus. We are a separate organization, but enjoy a pleasant working relationship with Council #9053.

We strive to support these fine Catholic Christian men in their works of charity, and we perform our own charitable works for our churches and our community, as well. Our greatest incentive is dedication to the Gospel message found in Matthew 25:35-36: *“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.”*

We invite all Ladies with a heart for charitable giving of time, talent and treasure who are 18 years of age and older to join our group. We work with the hope that our advocacy for the poor and troubled will spread like wildfire in those who are eager to make the world a kinder place. We invite YOU, no, we challenge YOU to help in this ministry!

Words from a Grand Knight

Being Grand Knight is both wonderful and frightening at the same time. The best analogy I can give is the Circus Master in a 12 ring circus. As one act ends, another begins (sometimes they overlap). Meetings are an endless string of information sources, as well as, planning circles.

Nothing can prepare one for the job, not even a stint as the Deputy Grand Knight. Time constraints and people needing decisions are a constant. It is definitely a requirement to be a Type A personality, and having a thick skin is sometimes helpful.

The upside of the job is the satisfaction that comes with seeing results of so many good people pull together performing acts of charity helping our own, our parishes and our communities. Mentoring new members to develop into good Knights and seeing them taking on jobs and positions in the organization is inspiring.

My personal summation is as follows: Find and keep good officers, let them do their jobs without micro-managing, and let the organization flourish with a minimum of interference. Above all, never forget that Fr. McGivney is always looking over your shoulder advising you and leading you and your Council to bigger and better things.

Membership Information

The Ocean City Knight of Columbus Council #9053 has proudly served the Catholic parishes, community and families of the Ocean City and neighboring Delaware areas for nearly 40 years. We are always willing to pitch in and give back whenever the need arises. Whether it’s raising funds for the clients of the Worcester County Developmental Center, providing winter coats for the needy, contributing to the food pantries of St. Vincent de Paul and Diakonia or supporting the youth of our community through Ocean City Parks and Recreation Center, the Knights are there!! We are bound together by our shared faith and values to make our community better through sharing what we have with our less fortunate brothers. Guided by the four principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism on which our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney established the Knight of Columbus, Knights are Catholic men dedicated to the Catholic Church and committed to serving the Church and community. Council #9053 is seeking Catholic men to join the ranks of over 2 million brothers globally committed to helping others and promoting a Christian way of life. You can be assured that while becoming a better man, you will form lifelong bonds through this brotherhood. Are you interested in helping the Church, our community and families? Come and see what Council #9053 has to offer and what you can offer it. Contact the Knights of Columbus Membership Director at 410-258-5663 or email him at koc9053@comcast.net for additional information.

Council and Assembly Goals:

As Non-profit organization, the K of C holds fundraisers, e.g., Breakfasts, Community Suppers, Food Drives, Friday Night Bingo, Hall Rentals and Seafood Nights throughout the year so that it can serve our local Parishes, Families and Communities. The K of C Hall Rental offers a venue for special events, e.g., club meetings, family gathering and weddings. SK Richard Thomas handles our Hall Rentals, and you can contact him at 610-304-9773.

The K of C hosts Red Cross blood drives helping to ensure adequate blood supplies for those in need.

For Insurance Needs, contact Robert S. Marlowe, III

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Knights of Columbus
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YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

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