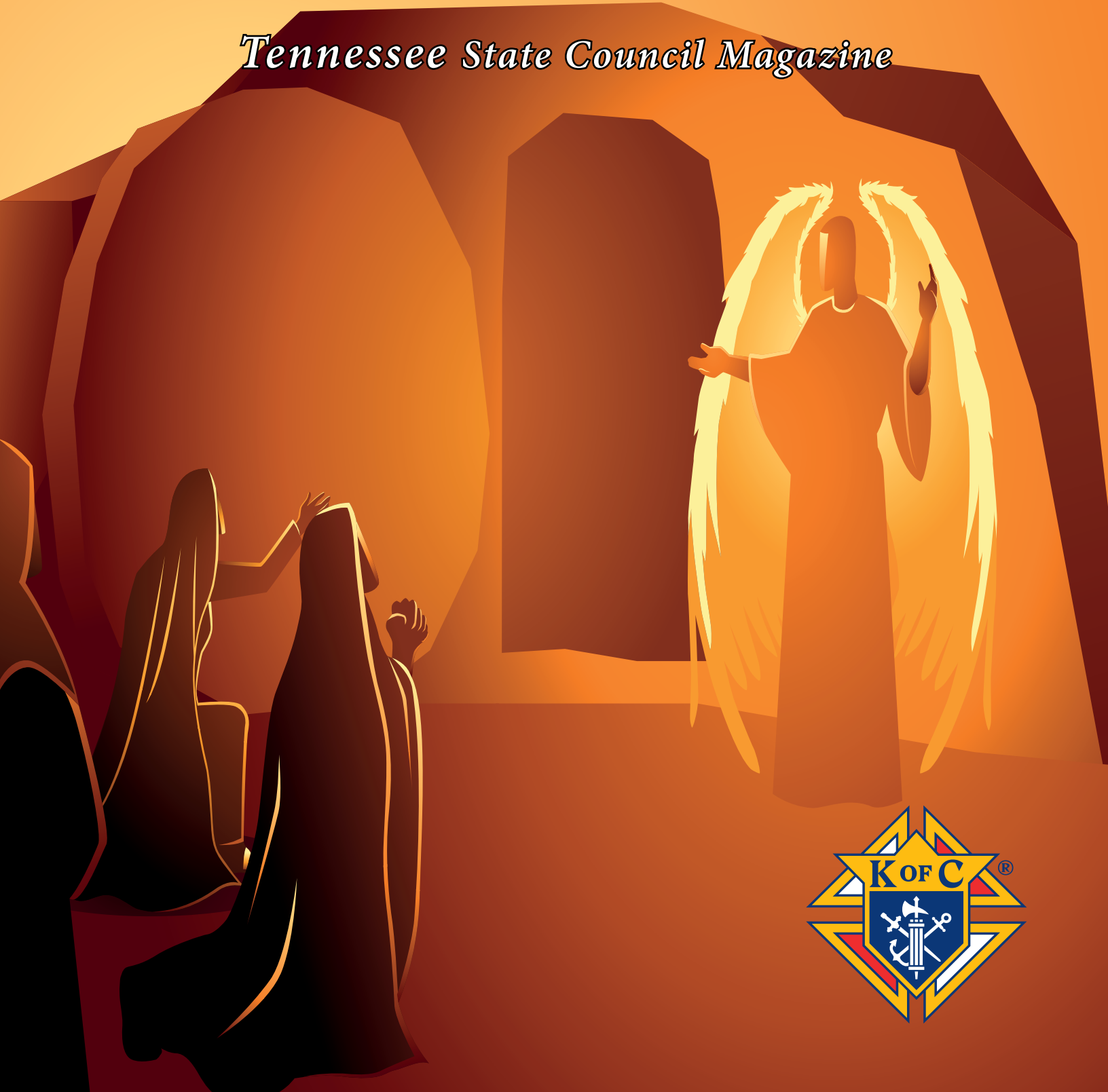


*Lent 2022*

# Hallelujah!

*Tennessee State Council Magazine*



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*State Deputy*

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**Jimmy Dee**  
*Director of Evangelization & Education*

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**State Deputy's Message**



*“During lent  
we must be  
focused!”*

We are fast approaching the holiest time in our Church's liturgical calendar, Easter. Beginning Ash Wednesday, we start to prepare for our faith journey with Christ to his crucifixion and then come to rejoice with His resurrection Easter morning. Our forty days of Lenten preparations are when we as Catholic men focus on our baptismal mission, just as Christ reflected upon His mission in the desert. It is also a perfect time to do an examination of conscience.

Where are we in our faith journey, where are we in fulfilling our four promises, where are we participating in the sacraments, where are we in our prayer life, and where are we acknowledging our faults? Do not use Lent to subtract something; add something that will bring you closer to God. We are on a Faith Journey to get to Heaven!

Jesus' time in the desert was a time of separation from the distractions of the world and immense spiritual focus on His Father's plan for the fulfillment of freedom from the bondage of man's sinfulness. During this time, we know that Satan offered many temptations in the hope of preventing Christ from fulfilling his mission on earth. But our Lord's strength and focus kept evil from prevailing.

As Catholic men, Knights, and Men of the Cross, we too must take these upcoming days of Lent to focus hard upon our priorities and our mission on earth

We must use this time to examine our conscience, look at where we are storing our treasures, and, more importantly, clearly see who (or what) we worship.

Will you take the coming weeks to seek out the stillness of the desert and remove the distractions that manifest as the temptations in your life? Will you do as Christ and seek out a space to be with God, your most loving Father, and speak with Him so that you might better understand His plan for you? Will you add to your prayer life? Will you do Eucharistic adoration Holy Hours, attend the Stations of the Cross, receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist? Then, when the sun rises Easter morning, will you awaken with the joy that our Lord has defeated death so that you too may experience God's embrace when your time on earth has come to an end? Or will you miss the Good News and instead find more excuses as to why you refuse to deny yourself, carry your cross and follow Christ?

My brothers, it is time to focus. It is time to seek out God without distraction and make yourself present before Him. It is time to examine your conscience. It is time to make Christ's mission your mission, and these Tennessee Knights of Columbus promises your priority.

1. *We will help all men grow closer in their relationship with Jesus Christ.*
2. *We will provide men with opportunities to serve Christ in his Church.*
3. *We will provide men with opportunities to serve those most in need within our communities in the name of Christ.*
4. *We will do our very best to ensure that no Catholic family undergoes unnecessary financial hardship due to the loss of a primary breadwinner or an underfunded retirement plan.*

May God bless each of you and your families throughout this Holy season. Know that I love you, and God loves you! Vivat Jesus.

**Fred Laufenberg**  
*Tennessee Knights of Columbus State Deputy*





**Welcome to Lent, 2022!**

Etymologically, the word “Lent” comes from the old Anglo-Saxon word, “Lencten” which means spring-cleaning, lengthening of the day, springtime or spring. The Latin word for “Lent” was Quadragesima, which simply means (40) and referred to the fact that the prayer, fasting and penance associated with Lent went on for 40 days.

In OT, the people of Israel wandered for 40 long years in the wilderness, faced with all kinds of temptations. The flood under Norah lasted for 40 days and night.

In NT, Jesus spent 40 days and nights fasting and resisting temptations in the desert, guided by the angels, in preparation for his public ministry.

For us Christians, Lent is a time for personal reflection as we struggle with the bad habits we’ve acquired during the course of the year, past and present. We’re encouraged as Knights of Columbus, Catholic gentlemen, to make peace with one another, look for God’s forgiveness and have compassion on all who suffer or are in need.

Lent offers us a wonderful opportunity to spring-clean our lives and start afresh, by putting aside old habits of sin that are contrary to the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Bad habits such as lying, cheating, back-biting, false judgment, discrimination, sexism, racism, hatred, jealousy, greed, lust, gluttony and laziness, these have nothing to do with following Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Redeemer. These are dysfunctional habits that makes us unclean as Knights of Columbus and defiles us, and makes us unchristian. A person act as he or she thinks.

Lent is a time to discover the joy of the gospel and acting appropriately like Jesus. Lent is also associated with Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, where some Christians mark their foreheads with ashes as a symbol of sorrow and mourning over their sins. “Then I turned my face to the Lord, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes” (Daniel 9:3).

This custom of ashes is really an ancient one and was a penitential practice common among the Hebrew people. It was adopted by local churches of that time as a way to expel public sinners from the community for very serious sins. Then by the 7th century, the custom was expanded in some churches into a public Ash Wednesday ritual. Sinners first confessed their sins in private and then presented themselves to the bishop to be publicly enrolled in the ranks of penitents in preparation for absolution on Holy Thursday. In those days and many years following, when ashes were placed on the forehead, the words were said, “Remember, you’re dust and to dust you shall return” .

As time went on during the Middle Ages, the emphasis changed from public sin to personal sin. Lent became more of a time for personal repentance and examination of one’s personal life and conscience with an effort to improve in choosing to do good than in choosing to do wrong as we say during act of contrition. “My God, I’m sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I’ve sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us, in His name, my God have mercy” This confessional prayer is a paradigm of our Lenten observance.

The following words are also said when ashes are placed on our foreheads, “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel”

During this sacred season of Lent, not all of us Knights of Columbus can do great things, Mother Teresa of Kolkata said, but we can do small things with great love.

As Knights, and during this season of Lent, we’re not only ask to give up things or denying ourselves certain things of great importance, but to perhaps make a greater effort to grow spiritually. It’s a season to plan as Knights to spending more time with your families, with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament as men of the Hour, and men of the Rosary. The Holy Spirit want to move us into the desert. Are you ready to go? He wants to separate us from the comforts of everyday life so that we can focus on overcoming the sin and moral weakness that separate us from the love God. Get your tools out during this 40days of Lent. Where will you start chipping away? By destroying the pornography on the Internet- no need any more to find the peep show, the burlesque hall. Don’t allow it to invade your home any longer as you begin to observe this sacred season of Lent.

Our world will continue to be broken for a while, especially for the physical vulnerability. Let the three traditional disciplines of Judaism—alms giving, prayer and fasting be our goal over the 40 days. Let us give alms because we want to discipline our appetite in preparation for the day on which he who became our living bread conquered death for us all.

The prophet Joel too speaks of penitential practices including, fasting and prayer. Significantly, he calls us to gather together as Knights of Columbus to acknowledge solidarity in our sinfulness and our mutual need for forgiveness.

Last year’s Lent, my brother Knights as we could remember, was the start of the time during which we could no longer physically gather together to express that oneness due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of us have no choice but only to pray, fast and give alms from the privacy of our homes.

This 2022 Lenten season, no matter what circumstances, let us realize our unity in practicing our Lenten discipline and asking God for mercy. As St. Paul says, now is the acceptable time, for now is the day of salvation. Life is too short to let others steal your happiness. Be strong and brave, make positive changes, reduce stress, clear clutter, your closets, deepen your relationships, focus on prayer, and prioritize your actual needs and allow God to take care of the rest. Be firm and resolute in following Jesus into the 40 days wilderness experience.

Remain blessed, and happy Lenten season of 2022.

*Rev. Dr. Bart Okere  
Tennessee Knights of Columbus State Chaplain*



**Knights of Columbus  
Daily Mass Reflections**  
*by Fr. John Dowling  
Past State Chaplain*

**“Year C” Daily  
Reflections  
7 Days a week**



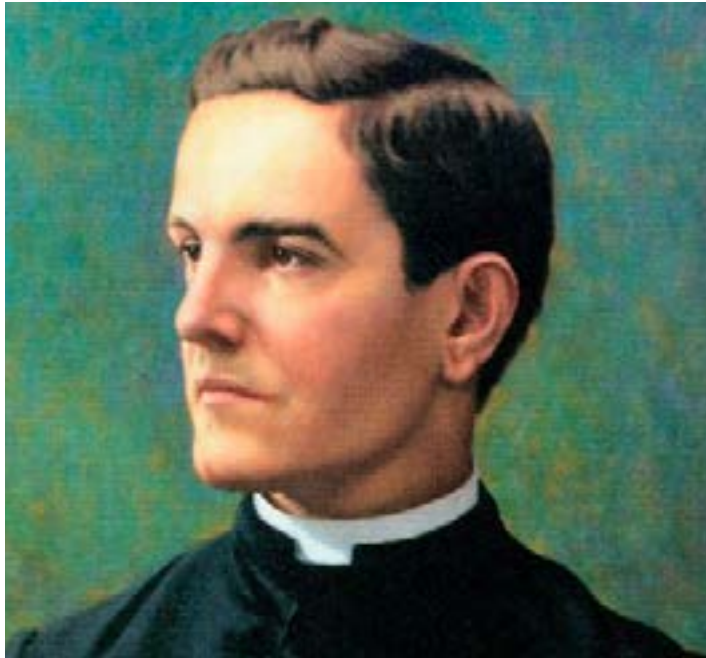
We are pleased to bring these amazing daily mass reflections to all our KofC brothers across the State of Tennessee. You can access these reflections by following the State Council on Facebook or by subscribing to our “**KofC Daily Mass Reflections**” Group on our State Flocknote account. *To be added to the Flocknote Group, please email jimmydee@kofc16523.org or just go into Flocknote and join this new open group.*

**Prayer is our armor against the wickedness and snares of the devil. Be sure to suit up every day!**





## Increasing your Council Membership



As Catholic men and members of the Knights we have a unique responsibility to defend our faith and increase our numbers. Through engagement in the Catholic community and membership drives the organization has grown to more than 16,000 councils with two million members. Although these are impressive numbers, they represent only about 0.45% of eligible Catholic men. As Knights we have a lot of work to do.

### Increasing Membership

Each council is required by charter to attempt to increase its membership. An informal quota of five percent is typical, with a minimum of 7% to qualify for the Father McGivney Award. Reaching these numbers is a daunting task for some councils while others meet and exceed them regularly. Why is this the case?

The Knights of Columbus easily surpasses basic requirements for product sales: packaging, pricing, and durability! Promoting membership should be a breeze!

As membership director I have been fortunate to have the support of a passionate past director and an active online director. Having their support has given me insight into some of the more successful strategies, some of which I will share with you:

### Use Available Resources

- The Knights' website is a font of information like no other. It provides a comprehensive history, details of services, training, and extensive material about everything you need to know about our organization. Use the website as a tool to sharpen your message.
- Proudly dress in Knights clothing. The online store offers hats, tee shirts, dress shirts and other apparel. Wearing Knights gear generates inquires.
- Create a prospects list of friends and family. Use the list make 5 contacts a week.
- Use the Knights printed material. Most material has a QR code that will take the perspective member directly to the online registry.
- Encourage other Knights to recruit members.

### Become a Knight

The story of Father Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, and his contributions through service is a relatively well-kept secret. How has a man beatified to become a Saint flown under the radar and how do we educate our fellow Catholics about this great man? We join the Knights!

Most if not all Catholics have heard of the Knights but how many know who we are? Through informal surveys of family and friends I find few. Simply put, we are brothers in arms that, through our actions, evangelize Catholicism and contribute to our community at-large. Through charity, unity, and fraternity we exemplify the meaning of being Catholic and we defend our faith. Since its inception the Knights of Columbus has been a charitable organization. From its original goal of providing resources for windows and orphans to its more recent role in insurance and retirement planning, the Knights continues to be a leader in community benevolence. Working together as Catholic men we raise funds for: the Right to Life, family and pregnancy services, schools, and food banks to name a few. In addition to our charitable endeavors joining the Knights provides a fraternity for Catholic men to gather in faith and prayer.

## Membership (Continued)

### Old Fashion Sale Techniques

- "Success is Dependent on Effort" Sophocles circa 2500 B.C.. Make repeated requests until you recruit. Anecdotally, it takes 35 contacts to recruit a member..
- Follow up. Most sales require 4 follow-up calls to close the deal.
- Go through the website and educate yourself. Knowing your product is essential to making a sale.
- Listen to their story to understand how being a Knight will benefit them.

### Catholic Gatherings

- Attend mass. Wear your Knights attire and introduce yourself to fellow church goers.
- Stay informed of upcoming church events. Most parishes have several functions a year and provide a captive audience.
- Requests opportunities to address church groups.

### Membership Drives

- Organize membership drives with your pastor. Having your priest announce the drive carries a lot of weight.
- Make other Knights' functions membership drives.

The importance of expanding membership in the Knights cannot be overstated. Our church is in trouble. Since 1990 practicing Catholics attending mass has declined 53% and is accelerating with millenniums. The most often reason cited is disagreement with church teachings. Fifty five percent of Catholics believe abortion should be legal; scores more think gay marriage is moral; and transgenderism is an acceptable lifestyle. Becoming a Knight reinforces us as a bulwark against further decline. Let us be a symbol, though our actions and deeds, of what it means to be a Catholic.

*Michael J Pellatt*  
Membership Director of Holy Family Council 15234

### About the Author

Michael J Pellatt serves as the Membership Director for Holy Family Council 15234 in Brentwood, Tennessee. Michael and his wife have four Children. *KofC member since 2021.*



*At the 2022 Tennessee State Mid Year meeting Dan Brodbeck moderated a discussion panel that shared membership best practices. You can view this session by visiting : <https://youtu.be/Skyh5DvRfew>*

## Membership Support Resources

Dan Brodbeck - Membership Director  
[membership@kofc-tn.org](mailto:membership@kofc-tn.org)

Lonnie Younger – Online Membership  
[lyounger52@bellsouth.net](mailto:lyounger52@bellsouth.net)

Tim Brown – Retention, New Council Development  
[timothybrown819@gmail.com](mailto:timothybrown819@gmail.com)

Sal Salvatierra – Hispanic Council Outreach  
[binarysal@yahoo.com](mailto:binarysal@yahoo.com)

**We're here to help!**





## The Mysteries of Christ and the Missing Parish Ministry

### The Great Paschal Mystery of Christ

Over two thousand years ago, Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb of our crucified Lord and found it empty. There she encounters Jesus who says to her “...go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.” Following His instructions, Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord.” At this moment in our faith’s history, we come to the apex of God’s plan for the salvation of His people through the resurrection of his Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. In this same moment we also receive His instruction to spread the news of this freedom to others.

But what if instead, Mary Magdalene had decided to just keep the news to herself? After all, who on earth would want the responsibility to tell others they had just spoken to our risen Lord just days after his death? But yet Mary did, and as a result the news of God’s sacrifice became the foundation of our faith and forever married us to Christ’s real presence in our sacraments. So the question now remains, if Mary Magdalene could find the courage to share the news of our risen Lord, why can’t we? As followers of Christ, we are all called to join the first disciples and share with the entire world the Good News that Jesus Christ was born, suffered, died, and is risen from the dead so that our sins may be forgiven. This important work must be at the top of our priorities. Brothers we must all go out and spread the news!

### The mystery of the missing parish ministry

If you visit parish websites, or read their weekly bulletins, you will likely find a long list of parish ministries and a vast list of events and activities that each performs during any week throughout the year.

These ministries include but are not limited to music ministries, liturgical ministries, fellowship ministries, faith formation and catechesis ministries, humanitarian aid ministries, administrative ministries, facilities support ministries, and the list could go on and on. But there is one critically important ministry that seems to be missing from just about every parish: an *Evangelization and Discipleship* ministry.

Compared to other Christian denominations, we must rank near the bottom of the list when it comes to going out into the world to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ risen from the grave. Yet without a strong mission of evangelization, Mother Church as we know her will wither up and disappear. The numbers speak for themselves and support the notion that Catholics are falling away from the faith in record numbers. For example, we know that for every one new Catholic who enters the Church today, seven will leave it. Those statistics clearly show that our Church will continue to destabilize unless things change.

### So how do we reverse this trend?

News flash, if you want more people to join your parish, you need to go out into the world and invite them! But why does this simple idea continue to allude most Catholics? Instead, we seem to say, “don’t worry, if we build it, they will come!” Sorry to break this news to you but, NO THEY WON’T, not without an invitation. Maybe things worked that way a hundred years ago but not today. Arresting Mother Church’s death spiral and reversing our course will be difficult and require all of our help. It will require the laity to fully embrace their vocational responsibility to proclaim their faith and invite others into an intimate relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Don’t worry; if the thought of talking about your faith to others scares the daylights out of you, you’re not alone. In fact, you can be counted among a majority of Catholics who feel the same way.

### Why is evangelization so hard for Catholics?

Most Catholics appear to be wholly stymied on this topic of sharing their faith with others and inviting them into the Church. For many, when they attempt to open their mouths on the subject, they find that they have no voice and nothing to say. Too many Catholics find that they have no earthly idea how to speak about their faith with others, including their family members. We as a Church lack the confidence and knowledge to share with others what we believe, what our Church teaches, and how living out our faith helps us fully live our lives and survive out in a challenging world. For many Catholics of my generation, the slap on the face by our Bishops during our confirmation was more like a knockout punch rendering us spiritually unconscious.

### Indelible marks or just faint smudges of faith?

Speaking in his role as a Baptist Preacher, the Reverend Jessie Jackson certainly hit the nail on the head with this quote. “*You cannot teach what you do not know. You cannot give energy if you are not on fire on the inside.*” As a cradle Catholic coming of age in the 1970s, I became the victim of mass (and Mass) Catholic confusion in the wake of Vatican II. It seems many bishops and priests of the era did not quite know what to teach the faithful about their faith or properly instruct them on how to practice it for the betterment of their mortal and eternal lives. Bishop Robert Barron even recounts the story of a young priest riding his motorcycle up the nave’s center aisle to help make his sermon more spectacular. I can imagine the title of his talk that Sunday, “Jesus is *Leader of the Pack*.” My apologies to all of you too young remember the Shangri-Las and their 1965 hit by the same name.

Within many parishes during the sixties and seventies, the familiar smells and bells of our Masses were replaced with tambourines, electric guitars, fancy drum sets, and even liturgical dancers. It was very confusing time in our Church’s history.

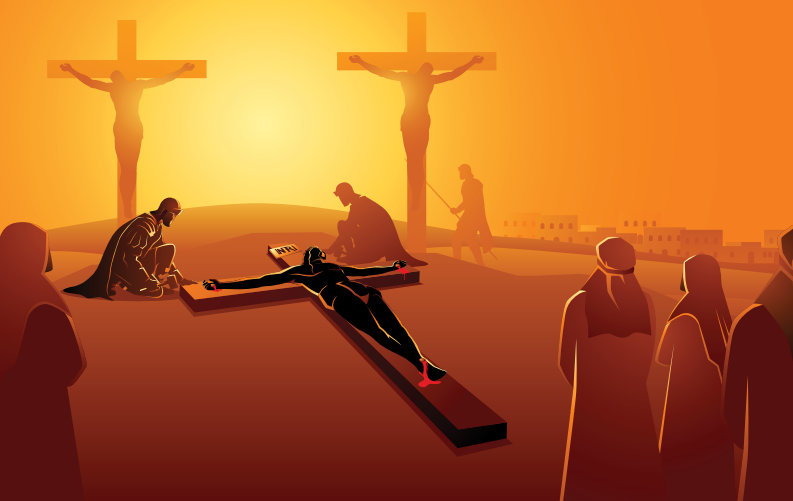
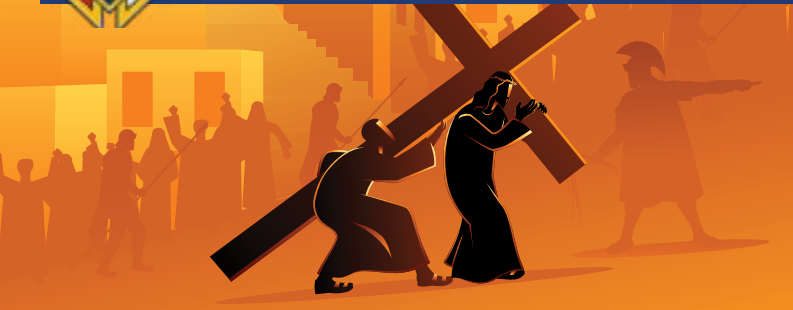
In cities across the country, the Baltimore Catechism was pushed aside and replaced with weekly children’s group therapy sessions about why love is better than war and focused on how “hip” Jesus was because he was “all about the love.” I am still not sure how that method of sacramental preparation was meant to help prepare us on how we should practice and defend our faith, but I can say that I was more than ready for a sit-in-style protest should one randomly pop up on my school playground. In the end, these challenging times for our Church left many Catholics uneducated in matters of their faith and left them entirely uninspired to live a life dedicated to Christ and his teachings.

Fortunately, several Bishops and Popes have since grabbed evangelization by the horns. They include Saint Pope John Paul II, Bishop Fulton J Sheen, and Bishop Robert Barron. These great spiritual leaders have made great strides in filling in the gaps of our faith knowledge and by teaching us how to live out our daily lives as priests, prophets, and kings. We now possess wonderful reference tools and highly organized discipleship training materials, thanks to their efforts. It is now up to us to “go back to school” and fill in our missing knowledge. To move forward we acquire the confidence and skills needed to help heal our suffering Church and invite others into a relationship with Christ.

Let us all find the courage of Mary Magdalene and make it our goal to have fully functioning ministries of evangelization and faith formation in every parish. If we do this job well, we will hopefully never have to live through challenging times like these again.

*Jimmy Dee*  
*State of Tennessee*  
*Director of Evangelization and Formation*





## Our Lenten Season

What is the point of Lent? Is the Lenten season only to make us reflect on our sinful nature and seek forgiveness? Will we satisfy this need by abstaining from alcohol, meat, chocolate, social media? The church divides Lenten activities into three sections: Prayer, fasting, and alms giving.

### Prayer

The first is prayer. For prayer to be effective we need to slow down. Take time. For all forty days of Lent consider praying:

- The Rosary**
- The Divine Chaplet of Mercy**
- The Our Father**

### Fasting

The second is fasting. What is the purpose of fasting? Fasting enhances our hunger and thirst for Christ. Are our deep desires inhibiting our desire for Christ? Our abstinence should make it necessary to ask God for divine assistance in this endeavor.

### Alms Giving

The third Lenten activity is alms giving. Why does the church include this? The gift of alms expresses our love for the good of others. Traditionally this is focused on assisting the economically poor. This is absolutely necessary, however sharing this focus to include the “spiritually poor” as well might be considered. In conclusion, while our traditional Lenten activities should continue, perhaps asking one question may hone in our purpose: What activities will bring each and every one of us closer to becoming a saint?

*John Hitt*  
State of Tennessee Faith Director  
DD # 19



In this Lenten season, as we again prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, let us do so with a renewed understanding of the sacrifices made for our salvation.

Over the last couple of years, due to the challenges of a pandemic, many have experienced a separation of our fellowship in Christ, both physically and spiritually. Let us not become apathetic to the challenges before us but become the beacons of hope and renewal that have been promised us through the sacrifice our Lord made for us many centuries ago. As Knights of Columbus, let us take up the cross as “Men of the Cross” and do not shrink in our duty to God, Family, and Church. Let us leave no man behind, nor their family!

In this place, at this time, we must create a legacy of God’s love for us by being the men that Jesus called us to be. Therefore, we must keep our nose to the grindstone! It lies on our shoulders to be the inspiration to bring all men, women, and children back to an active role in strengthening His Living Church.

Over the last couple of years, many have suffered the loss of a friend or family member. Imagine the grief experienced by our Holy Mother and the disciples of our Lord when in the pinnacle of his ministry, he freely offered up himself as a sacrifice for us on Good Friday and fulfilled scripture by rising on the third day, securing us the promise of eternal life. Imagine their fear of not knowing what would happen to them or their family.

As we contemplate this Paschal mystery, let us also reflect on the legacy we will leave as Christian men known as Knights of Columbus.

Through our dedication as Knights, we are afforded the opportunity to fulfill the first three promises in Charity, Unity, and Fraternity and to know that you have a brother knight and field agent in Tennessee standing in the breach on behalf of you and your family to help you address our 4th promise.

Brothers, during Lent, let us reflect on the blessings that have been bestowed upon us as soldiers for Christ and let us enter Easter with renewed vigor in meeting the challenges ahead of us.

May God continue to bless you and your family and the Knights of Columbus!

Vivat Jesus!

*S.K. Ron Henry*  
Council 16523  
Knights of Columbus Field Agent FSCP FICF

## Are we keeping our promises?

As we journey through Lent, are we representative of the four promises Father McGivney envisioned for membership within our Order?

1. *To help all men grow closer in their relationship with Jesus Christ*
2. *To provide opportunities for all Catholic men to serve Christ in his Church*
3. *To provide opportunities for all Catholic men to serve those most in need in their community in the name of Christ*
4. *To ensure no Catholic family experiences unnecessary financial hardship due to the loss of a primary breadwinner or an underfunded retirement plan*





## Tennessee Evangelization - An Invitation to Serve Christ



### “Knights can help heal our suffering church by building teams of evangelizing disciples within their Councils.”

We must all train and work hard to become the fishers of men Christ asks us to be. Through our baptism and confirmation, we are touched by God’s hand and given an indelible mark so that all realms will know us as one of his chosen children. That divine marker forever commits us to the “family business” of helping shepherd the lost home to the Father.

This work requires us to vocationally prepare for a life in service to Christ our Lord and all those we encounter along the way. Working hand in hand with Our Supreme Council’s newly created Division of Evangelization and Faith Formation, we will begin our much-needed specialized training.

On March 17-20, 2022, men from twenty Councils will undergo an intense leadership conference that will help them carry out evangelization missions and discipleship within their Councils. Attendees will participate in a multi-day conference constructed upon the framework of the FOCUS college missionary training curriculum. Over forty Tennessee brothers and key members of our State leadership team will train to become a select group of special forces Knights ready to help build an army of new Knight disciples.



(Sean Pott – Director of Evangelization and Education Supreme Council)

The FOCUS program has given birth to thriving discipleship ministries on college campuses around the country, including Tennessee. Under the coaching, teaching, and leadership of Damien O’Connor, Dr. Jonathan Reyes, and Sean Pott, Tennessee will become the first Jurisdiction in the Order to roll out this new exciting new program.

Please have all the men of your Council and your parish pray for our brothers attending this conference.

To learn more about this new evangelizing discipleship initiative, contact Jimmy Dee, Tennessee Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation at jimmydee@kofc16523.org



## Immediate Past State Deputy’s Lenten Message

Spring approaches. On the cool but warming air of Friday evenings, we again detect the aroma of so many amazing KofC fish fries. The time has arrived again for us to travel with Christ through His passion every Friday night as we pray the stations. That old familiar tug to repent and sin no more is present as we simultaneously strive to look up to Heaven while trying to also look deep into our damaged souls, desiring to shed our pain, fueled by the memory of sin. In short, it is Lent once again. We begin our journey again. Not a journey that leads us into the despair of suffering and sacrifice, but a journey that propels us toward a season of joy that is Easter.

Long ago, I heard an Army chaplain on Easter morning preaching upon the subject of the two Marys of Mark’s Gospel who come to the tomb on Sunday morning. They travel together in sorrow, worried about how to roll the stone back so they can anoint Christ’s body. In his sermon, what he focused on was the two Marys’ lack of focus on the resurrection. How had they forgotten that the Lord had told them that the son of man must suffer, be crucified, and rise again? That seems like something we would not forget, and yet, somehow, they did.

In the end, the chaplain surmised that the error of the Marys was that they had traveled through the passion and allowed that grief-filled struggle to consume them. In short, they chose to be Good Friday people instead of Easter Sunday people. Do we do the same? Do we become too fixated on our grief-filled sorrows to see the resurrection in front of us? Do we linger too long in the memories of our sin with all its pain, disillusionment, and empty promises to keep us from fully embracing God’s love and forgiveness?

With that in mind, let us begin this Lenten journey with our eyes only focused on our risen Christ, trusting in Him, knowing that despite ourselves, we will rise in His glory, no longer Good Friday people. Let this hope guide our Councils and us as we move once again toward the Easter Season of Joy! Vivat Jesus!

Michael McCusker IPSD



### Join us in this year’s pilgrimage of the new St. Joseph Icon

The State Council has secured two traveling St. Joseph Icons that have begun touring through all three dioceses in Tennessee. We urge you to join the tour by contacting our State Icon Charmian Bill Strebel to arrange an icon tour stop at your parish. If you would like more information on the icon program, email Bill at wgstrebel@comcast.net

### PATRIUS CORDE PRAYER

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

From the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis on the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.  
Icon by the hand of Elizabeth Bergman. Based on a drawing by Alexander Solodov. Photograph by GraphStudio.







## 2022 State Convention News

**David Zwissler**  
*Tennessee State Advocate*  
*State Convention Co-Chairman*

The first live (well sort of) state convention in three years is just around the corner. Since the pandemic showed us how to streamline our business portion of the convention, we have been able to eliminate the Sunday business session and accomplish our business Saturday afternoon. This will allow all of the delegates and guests to leisurely depart the hotel after a “break-fast and farewell” Sunday morning.

There are few reminders that need to be passed on to everyone. First, register as soon as possible. We need to keep the Cool Springs Marriott updated with headcounts on a regular basis. If you will be attending in person and need to get a hotel room, make your reservations as soon as possible. Your registration does not include a hotel reservation.

Second, Grand Knights and Program Directors need to submit awards packages as soon as possible, but no later than March 15 to Dave Johnson at programs@kofc-tn.org. In addition to the award submissions, any resolutions a councils wishes to bring up at the convention need to be submitted to the State Advocate David Zwissler stateadvocate@kofc-tn.org by March 15, as well.

These include congratulatory or recognition resolutions, support or opposition resolutions to positions of the Order or those within our communities, or resolutions to make changes or amendments to the State Council or Supreme Council bylaws.

Third, nominations for State Officer or Supreme Delegate will need to be submitted by April 15 to the State Advocate. Nominations will be distributed to the delegates prior to the convention so there are two ways to make a nomination – recorded audio or video of 3 minutes or less, or in written form of 100 words or less. These requirements are for both State Officer and Supreme Delegate positions. Be sure to include with the nomination the candidate’s member number, home council, and either Insurance or Associate member. Nominations over three minutes or 100 words will be cut off at the limit. Nominations can be submitted any time up to the April 15 deadline.

Finally, we are having a Program/Ad book for this convention and ads can be sent to Dave Johnson for inclusion. A form will be sent out through Flocknote and placed on the state website for download. The program will be available both in hard copy and soft copy and distributed to those joining virtually. The program book helps defray some of the additional costs for hosting the convention at the Marriott. We look forward to seeing you in Nashville or Online!

## SAVE THE DATES

### SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

29-30

#### Tennessee State Convention

Cool Springs Marriot  
Franklin Tennessee.  
Registration on-line at:  
[www.kofc-tn.org](http://www.kofc-tn.org)

JUL / AUG

29-4

#### Supreme Convention

Gaylord Opryland Resort  
Nashville, Tennessee  
Volunteer Registration at:  
[www.kofc-tn.org](http://www.kofc-tn.org)



## Supreme Convention is Coming to Nashville in 2022



### With Lent We Are Reminded: Tempus Fugit!

It’s hard to believe that Lent is here. For me, it is only another reminder of how quickly time is passing and how soon it will be time for the 140th Supreme Convention in Nashville this July 29-August 4, 2022. To date, many have volunteered, but we need so much help in so many areas! It’s not too late to volunteer. You can begin the process by clicking this link. <https://reg.kofc-tn.org/2022-supreme-convention-volunteer-form/>



## Thank You Worthy Supreme Director Mike Wills!

Over the years, Knights all across Tennessee have had the joy and privilege of listening to our brother Mike Wills share the essential lessons and mission of the Order. His polished, thoughtful, and calm demeanor always helps us focus our attention on the importance of our work as servants of Christ and Knights of Columbus. (...And of course, who among us doesn’t look forward to the quiz he always provides us at the end of all his talks to make sure we were all paying attention.)

Our State, our Order, and our Church are a better place thanks to the many years of hard work and dedication by our brother Mike Wills, Worthy Supreme Director to the Knights of Columbus. This year Mike will retire from his post after serving three terms, and a new Supreme Board Member will be elected to fill his seat at our upcoming 2022 Supreme Convention.

Once on the registration page, it will collect your information and then direct you to our SignUp Genius site where you can pick your volunteer shifts. Remember that it’s not just you that we need! This is a family fraternal organization. Please invite your spouses, adult children, and fellow parishioners to get involved. There’s no better way to recruit new Knights than by them seeing the great work of the Order through the convention.

With our new Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, now at the helm, you can expect many exciting changes to the Supreme Convention. I look forward to sharing this information with all of you in the coming months. Vivat Jesus!

*Michael McCusker, IPSD*  
*Supreme Convention Chair*

Please join us in thanking Mike, and of course his wonderful wife Ms. Kathy, for all they have done for our Order, our State, and our Councils over their many years of service. May God bless you both and Vivat Jesus! (...And yes Mike, there will be a quiz!)







Happy Lent to all our Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Religious!

The Most Reverend  
David Prescott Talley  
Bishop of Memphis



The Most Reverend  
J. Mark Spalding D.D., J.C.L.  
Bishop of Nashville



The Most Reverend  
Richard Frank Stika  
Bishop of Knoxville



Congratulations to Tennessee's Newest Council

UTC Newman Center Council # 17919  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Please reach out to their Grand Knight  
Gerald Sims and offer your Council's support!  
514 Palmetto St., Chattanooga TN, 37403

