



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KNIGHTLY NEWS

Grand Knight

Worthy Brother Knights of Ft. Belvoir Council 11170,

Since our last Newsletter, our Council has conducted several events/activities in support of the unborn, wounded warriors, our youth, and the needy. We are also continuing our preparation for several other events later this fall. Members of our Council joined others in a local “National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children” ceremony on September 12th. We also conducted our annual Soccer Challenge on September 19th with over 20 youth participating. Five “winners” then competed in the District competition and three of those qualified for the State competition being held later this month [October 17 in



Richmond]. We conducted

our “Baby Shower” on October 4th to collect baby items to donate to a local pregnancy center and have also started the “Coats for Kids” coat drive with new coats being donated to Army Community Services for distribution to needy military families and “gently worn” coats for donation to ECHO [Ecumenical Community Helping Others] which distributes clothing to the needy in our local community. Our Council also donated gift cards to the Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU) located at Ft. Belvoir to be used as prizes for winners of various events at their Organizational Day. Thank you to all of you who supported these events through your participation or donations.

Looking ahead, we are planning for several events in October and November to include the “Stuff the Truck” Food drive, the “Essay Contest” and “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest for our Youth, and the “Leave No Military Family Behind (LNMFB)” commissary gift card

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Grand Knight

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collection and “Angel Tree” for needy military families at Ft. Belvoir. We are also supporting the Fall Festival [October 31] and planning a “Corporate Communion” where we celebrate mass in communion with our brothers and community.

Be on the lookout for more detailed information regarding these events and note that our “Activities Calendar” is included with the monthly membership announcement which also identifies the support that is needed to make these successful. With the many activities mentioned above, your support is needed. Most will take only a few hours of your time but will help greatly to make them a success. Thank you.

Hans Graven
Grand Knight

Chaplaincy

Virginia’s Dangerous Catch-22 for Military Chaplains

“Johnson v. Fleming” asserts that the state demands that National Guard chaplain candidates have a master’s degree in theology, and in this case refuses to fund the only path to it.” [Read more ...](#)

[Catch-22](#)

Servant of God Father Vincent R. Capodanno Remembered at Memorial Mass on 59th Anniversary of Death

[Capodanno](#)

Archbishop Broglio Stands United with Brother Bishops in Virginia on November Ballot Initiatives

“His Excellency, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, has issued the following letter to Catholic voters in Virginia, expressing solidarity with that state’s two Catholic bishops over three proposed state constitutional amendments on the Nov. 3 ballot, ... ” [Read more ...](#)

[Broglio](#)

Archbishop Broglio Urges Legal Community to Act with Love

[Legal](#)

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Ft. Belvoir Council, the Grand Knight, the officers, the editor or the Knights of Columbus.

Links

The newsletter contains active internet links to web sites. Active links appear as light blue underlined text. Just click on the text and it will automatically take you to the corresponding web site.

District Deputy

Worthy Brothers of District 13,

With a quarter of the Fraternal Year down, we head into the very busy Holiday Season!

I'd like to start by recognizing Franconia Council for an incredible Life Chain observance in front of St. Lawrence parish on October 4. There were at least 100 people stretching over a quarter mile on both sides of Franconia Road, standing in silent witness to the scourge of abortion in our community, our Commonwealth and our Nation. Brother Knights from St. Lawrence, Mount Vernon, St. Mary's, Nativity, St. Bernadette's, and St. Raymond were present and represented our order proudly. I'd like to make this a "District-level" event next year, with as many Brothers and families as possible. Well done, GK Chuck and the Franconia Council!

I continue to be amazed by what each council is accomplishing in their communities and parishes. We have plenty of upcoming opportunities to get involved!

The annual Mount Vernon Thanksgiving meal preparation planning is underway. If you're in town for Thanksgiving, please consider helping serve the less fortunate in our community. Fort Belvoir is already collecting coats for their Annual Coats for Kids drive — if you'd like to contribute a new or gently used coat for their Coats for Kids program, please let me know! St. Bernadette is planning another incredible observance for the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe. It will be a wonderful, giving and reverent Holiday Season here in District 13!

We will host the Silver Rose in our District from November 2, to December 9, with each parish we represent having a full week to venerate Our Lady. I'm working with the Grand Knights to plan events at each council.

We also have upcoming CUF Exemplifications on October 27 at Mount Vernon and November 19 at St. Lawrence! Please reach out to your prospects and get them set up to get Exemplified at one of these events.

Once again, it is an honor to serve as your District Deputy this year! I'm looking forward to working with all of you in Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism!

Vivat Jesus!

Andy Rogers
District Deputy, Virginia 13



Financial Secretary

Autum arrived! Growing up in NY, OH, PA, MD, VT and VA, I was witness to watching the leaves change to photo perfect colors. It is joyous tradition, not unlike the joy and love of our risen Lord! I'm headed to Vermont to my 45th Norwich University class reunion. My wife and I have a custom of stopping for apple cider donuts, apple cider (cold or warm), and Ben & Jerry's factory in Waterbury.



MEMBERSHIP as of September 30, 2026

Membership stands at 132 Knights (no change) including 7 Honorary (-1), and 26 Honorary Life (+1). Congratulations to PGK Greg Mandt our latest Honorary Life member!

We have one candidate waiting for an in-person exemplification. There are two Knights in the process of transferring into our Council.

ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY

Start collecting and consolidating your calendar year 2026 service hours. Include travel time in your service hours. The Supreme Knight uses the results of all the Councils and Assemblies in his communications in his outreach and other messaging. There is a worksheet to submit in early January. The form is: [Annual Survey](#)

RECORDS MAINTENANCE

Please let me know when your contact information changes (phone, Email, address) as this will be helpful to record in Supreme's Member Management. Additionally, let me know if you want to transfer your membership to a different Council. My contact information is at the end of my update.

DONATIONS AND DUES

Donations and dues can be submitted anytime through PayPal or check (my address is below). There are eight members that haven't paid their 2026 dues. If you don't have a 2026 membership card, then there's a good chance you haven't paid your dues.

PayPal Payments. Please check the box to pay the fees. The PayPal link changed to: [PayPal](#)



Council PayPal Account QR code

NAME BADGES

You are encouraged to wear your name badge when attending mass and Council events. Have you lost or misplaced your name badge, or maybe you transferred and want a Ft Belvoir name badge?

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Financial Secretary (Continued from p. 4)

Please let me know and include a payment of \$15 to defer the majority of their cost and I will order you a name badge.

FRATERNAL BUDGET UPDATES

The 2026-2027 budget was approved on May 14 and started on July 1, 2026. Values below are unaudited.

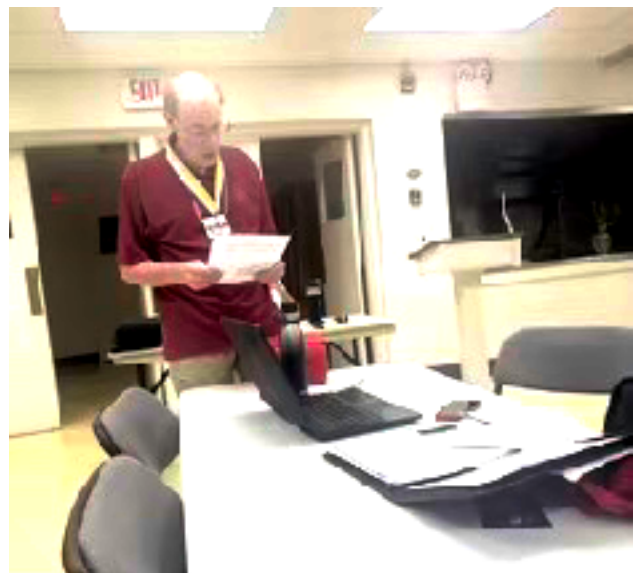
Budget	Approved '26-'27	Actuals as of Oct 10, 2026
Revenue	\$6,190	\$275.00
Rev – Dues	\$3,355	\$0
Rev – Other (Donations/Red Box)	\$2,835	\$275.00
Expenses	\$5,790	\$2,321.29
Exp – Supreme/State/Admin	\$1,440	\$721.29
Exp – Ceremonies/Special Mass/Social	\$650	\$0
Exp – Misc. Activities	\$350	\$0
Exp – Donations to VA State Charities	\$1,100	\$1,100.00
Exp – Donations to Council Sponsored Events	\$2,250	\$500.00
Exp – Donations to Council Charities	\$0	\$0
Pass-Through*	\$10,500	\$240.00
Liabilities **		\$315.00

* “Pass-Through” are cash and supplies donations collected by the Council and passed through (not included in the budget) to another charitable organization: LNMFB. ASAP and DRU gift cards funded with member donations.

** Liabilities are pre-paid dues included in Revenue.

FS CONTACT INFORMATION

SK David Clark, FS, PGK



*Financial Secretary David Clark provides his report
(Photo: Lito Constantino)*

Trustees

The trustees approved the annual audit and continue assisting the GK with Family of the Month and Knight of the Month recommendations. Ed Stance ushers at the 1100 Mass at Fairfax and is also the Assembly Color Corps Commander. Kevin Garrison manages the usher schedule, lectors, and teaches pre-confirmation religious education.



Ed Stance, Trustee One Year



Kevin Garrison, Trustee Two Years



Joe Marquart, Trustee Three Years

Treasurer

Account Balance (Fraternal) as of October 8, 2026: \$3,774.64.

Mark Visbeck
Treasurer



GK Hans Graven presented gift cars (12 @ \$20.00) to the Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU) for use as "prizes" for the winners of the various competitions at their Organization Day which was held on September 18. With him in the photo are: LTC Shaun Collins (SRU Battalion Commander), CSM Kristie Owens (SRU Sergeant Major), and CPT Colleen Houthouser (Nurse Case Manager/OIC of the Organization Day).

Lecturer

International Humanitarian Law

At our membership meeting on September 10, Brother Mike Mixon provided an interesting and thought provoking presentation regarding the origins and practice of International Humanitarian Law.

Summary of this information at this link: [International Humanitarian Law](#)

If you have any questions regarding this, please reach out to Mike at: michael.j.mixon@gmail.com



Magnifica Humanitas

Most Rev. Bernard Hebda, Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, reflects on Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, and what it says about the dignity and magnificence of the human person.

[Magnificat Humanitas](#)

Rich Dunbar
Lecturer



Charity

Soldier Recovery Unit Organization Day

Mr. Graven,

Thank you so much for stopping by yesterday with the generous donation of 12 gift cards for our Organization Day.

Please extend our sincere gratitude to the members of the Knights of Columbus for their continued dedication and generosity. Community support like yours means a great deal to our team and will certainly help make our event a success.

We truly value this relationship and hope to continue collaborating with you and your council on future events.

Thank you once again for your kindness and support.

Very Respectfully,

Agber, Philip T CH (CPT) USARMY
Battalion Chaplain
Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU)
5960 9th Street Fort Belvoir, VA 22060
Gov. Cell: 571-634-2954
Email: Philip.t.agber.mil@health.mil

Stuff the Truck

Our next Stuff the Truck event is October 25. The truck will be in the Belvoir Chapel parking lot and donations will be accepted before Mass. Blue bags will be distributed after all Masses on October 11 and 18th. Each bag includes a flyer of suggested food items. Cash/checks are also welcome. Checks are to be made out to "CCDA" (Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington), with "Ft Belvoir St Lucy" on the memo line.



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Charity (Continued from p. 7)

Demand for donations remains high. Food can also be dropped off any time the Belvoir Chapel is open. There's a wooden donation box in the narthex/lobby. A Brother Knight will pick up and drop off the contents at Christ House.

Thank you, Brothers Nick Taran, Lito Constantino, Eric Trias and Emmett O'hare for submitting paperwork to be a van/truck driver. I look forward to your help!

Thank you all for your charitable good work!

God bless you!

SK David Clark, FS, PGK
Email: djclark7321@gmail.com

Catholic Charities

During this difficult time in our nation, Catholic Charities relies more than ever on the generosity of parishioners, parishes and friends who donate financial resources, food, or other material gifts to support our work feeding the hungry and serving other vulnerable people. [Catholic Charities of Arlington](http://CatholicCharitiesofArlington.org)



VKCCI

In 1994, the Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus incorporated the charity committee to form the Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. (VKCCI) for the purpose of carrying out the first principle of our order, "Charity." VKCCI helps support those citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia who are unable to provide support for themselves or their family



members, and have exhausted all other avenues of relief. VKCCI provides grants of up to \$2,000 to individuals in need. Utilizing funds provided by a KOVAR grant, VKCCI is able to provide funds to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

You can make a donation to VKCCI by going to the Virginia State Council page at [VKCCI](http://VKCCI.org).

KOVAR

KOVAR is one of the most noteworthy charitable endeavors that Virginia Knights support annually throughout the state of Virginia. To learn more about KOVAR, visit their website at kovarva.org/.



Task Force Dagger Foundation

This is an organization that PGK Dave Lewis is supporting. For more information, go to taskforcedagger.org, and contact Dave at dave.lewis@taskforcedagger.org.



SUDS

SUDS stands for "Soldiers Undertaking Disabled Scuba." If you are interested in helping, contact PGK Dave Lewis.

Food for Families

Knights are encouraged to bring non-perishable food and beverages to our General Membership meetings and Officers meetings during the remainder of the fraternal year. Beverages are especially needed for needy families. Donations will be taken to Christ House for distribution. Supreme will provide \$100 for **every 500 lbs of** donated food / beverage up to \$500 or 2500 lbs of collected food per fraternal year.

Charity Miles

If you have a smart phone and you are a walker, runner or cyclist, you can earn donations from sponsors of an app called "Charity Miles." One of the charities is the Special Olympics of which the Knights are a major supporter. Just download the app and use it whenever you are out exercising.



Unity

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!" (Ps 133:1)



Father McGivney Guild

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are **invited to participate in** promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published bimonthly except July- August, and is sent free to Guild members. To join the Guild, fill in and submit the form at this link: <https://www.fathermcgivney.org/>

Prayer for the canonization of Father McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fraternity

Knight of the Month

July: John Saikowski
 August: Lito Constantino
 September: David Clark
 October: Esau Olsen
 November: Lito Constantino
 December: Fred Beata
 January: Mark Visbeck
 February: Rich Dunbar
 March: Kevin Garrison
 April: Eric Trias
 May: James Rainey
 June: Carlos Santiago
 July: Nick Taran
 August: Ben Dionne
 September: John Saikowski



GK Hans Graven presents August Knight of the Month certificate to Brother Ben Dionne as Father Jordan Willard looks on



Brother John Saikowski is our KOM for September

Patriotism



Faithful Navigator Kevin Garrison

Fourth Degree Exemplification

Please see below for the opportunity to become a "Fourth Degree Knight".

Also note that this Exemplification is being held in
Date & Time: November 14 at 11:30 AM

Location: St. Catherine of Siena Church, 1020 Springvale Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066

Refreshments will be served following the ceremony for all candidates, observers, and guests.

- Candidates: \$70.00 (fee set by Supreme includes refreshments)

- Adults & Children 12+: \$15.00

- Children under 12: \$5.00

Submission Process:

Please complete and submit the attached digital Form 4. The digital format ensures legibility and speeds up processing. Digital signatures are authorized.

Deadlines:

- October 30: Digital Form 4s and checks must be delivered to the Faithful Comptroller. For deliveries after this date, the council will need to

pay for overnight shipping (I will submit the postal receipt to the council Financial Secretary).

- November 7: Final deadline for submission to the District Master. No refunds will be issued after this date.

Contact the Faithful Navigator, SK Kevin Garrison, garrisonknmi77@gmail.com, (703) 209-4315, or the Faithful Comptroller, SK Beata, fred2pgk@gmail.com, (571) 249-0955.



Faithful Navigator Ken Garrison presents Past Faithful Navigator (PFN) Bill Beach with a white-handled sword as a gift from the Assembly during the PFN Dinner at El Paso restaurant in Alexandria on August 24. See more photos at this link:

[PFN Dinner](#)



(Continued on p. 11)

Patriotism (Continued from p. 10)



The Potomac Assembly Color Corps provided an Honor Guard for the funeral of Sir Knight Nate Murray's wife, Kim, on August 22 at Saint Louis Church in Alexandria.

Purchasing the ORD

If you are a Fourth Degree Knight and would like to participate in the Color Corps, you can purchase the new uniform — the Official Regalia Dress (ORD) uniform — by going to this link: [KofC Uniform](#)

The Potomac Assembly offers a \$100 subsidy for purchase of the ORD. Additionally, the Ft. Belvoir Council is also offering a \$100 subsidy for the first two Sir Knights of the council who purchase the ORD.



Sir Knight John Saikowski is seen above modeling the ORD.

Become a Member of the Fourth Degree — the Patriotic Degree

You may ask, what does the Fourth Degree do? The Potomac Assembly, to which all Fourth Degree Knights in the three area councils of Ft. Belvoir, Mount Vernon, and Fitzgerald belong, supports patriotic events. For example, we provide Honor Guards for memorial Masses and funerals of deceased Sir Knights. We participate in National observances such as the Columbus Day ceremony at Union Square in Washington. We place flags on the graves of veterans at the Alexandria National Cemetery on Veterans Day. We lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) annually. We participate in the Wreaths Across America event at ANC in December. We also hold a Christmas Social, so we do find time for unity and fraternity. We march in the George Washington Birthday Parade on Presidents Day. We also support charitable works and several religious events such as the Corpus Christi procession at the Basilica of St. Mary in Old Town Alexandria.

Prayer for Religious Freedom

Loving Father, thank you for the freedom to love and worship You. Through the power of the Holy Spirit inspire us to be your witnesses. Grant us the courage to boldly and joyfully stand in protection of our freedom. In your mercy, guard our religious freedom so we may continue to live out our faith and transform the world in which we live. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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Patriotism (Continued from p. 11)



Past Faithful Navigators of the Potomac Assembly participated in the Columbus Day observance at the Columbus monument at Union Station in Washington, DC, October 12. From left to right: Fred Beata, Larry Clark, Rich Dunbar, Bill Beach.



State Deputies, Faithful Master, Sir Knights from Virginia, DC, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, joined Bishop Studniewski for a photo behind the Christopher Columbus monument, (photo: SK Jerry Krueger)

More photos at this link: [Columbus Day](#)



Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, DC, His Excellency Gary Studniewski (former Fort Belvoir Chaplain) gives the invocation in front of the Christopher Columbus monument. (Photo: SK Jerry Krueger)



Sir Knights prepare to parade 27 U.S. flags at the start of the ceremony. (Photo: SK Jerry Krueger)

Pray the Rosary

How a baseball rosary found its way to Pope Leo XIV

About two weeks after what he calls the most surreal moment of his life, Kevin Workman remains in awe. That's no embellishment. After all, imagine being a humble noncelebrity living a quiet life as a devoted family man and suddenly realizing that Pope Leo XIV actually knows your name and possesses something you created just for him. "It's just amazing," Workman told OSV News. "Absolutely blown away."

Workman, a 65-year-old human resources manager who resides in New Haven, Indiana, became a Catholic in 1981. He married his wife, Julie, in 1982, and together they have raised eight children and welcomed 19 grandchildren, with No. 20 due in March.

Seven years ago, Workman began making rosaries as a hobby, giving them away at his parish, St. Peter's, on the southeast side of Fort Wayne. He later expanded his craft by learning to make wire rosaries and eventually began selling them online, where Notre Dame fans became some of his most devoted customers. "They've been sold to every state in the country," Workman said.

Earning some spending money was never the main objective. "I feel that the state of the world today needs many, many prayers, and the rosary is the most powerful prayer," Workman said. "I feel it has become a mission of mine that has developed through opportunities and grace."

Then, on April 18, came the request of his life. "Catholic Athletes for Christ" commissioned Workman to create a Chicago White Sox-themed rosary intended specifically for the pope. After a few arm pinches to assure himself that he wasn't dreaming, Workman immediately and emphatically embraced the assignment.

On June 24, Workman's meticulously completed work reached the Vatican through a visit by former Chicago White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski. Along with presenting Workman's rosary, Pierzynski gifted the pope — an ardent White Sox fan — the baseball from the final out of Game 1 of the 2005 World Series.

Then known simply as Father Robert Prevost, the future Pope Leo had attended the White Sox's 5-3 victory over the Houston Astros in person. Four days later, on Oct. 26, 2005, he celebrated his beloved White Sox's first World Series championship since 1917. Workman said he was "in tears" when he first learned the rosary had reached the pope. "This is the biggest thing that's ever happened in my little world," Workman said.

After his meeting with the pope, Pierzynski spoke with The Athletic's Ken Rosenthal and recounted the experience. "I know he was at the game. It was just sitting on my wall," said Pierzynski, a colleague of Rosenthal's at Fox Sports and the Foul Territory Network. "I was like, 'It's better at the Vatican with him than sitting on my wall.' I figured it was the perfect thing."

Pope Leo reacted with visible excitement after receiving the baseball from Pierzynski. "Oh my gosh," Pierzynski said. "He was like, 'This is unbelievable.' He was like, 'No way, this is the ball?' And he literally said, 'I was at Game 2, too. But nobody knows that. They didn't find me.'"

Before leaving, Pierzynski reminded the pope that the White Sox have enjoyed quite a resurgence after several disappointing seasons. "It was kind of as I was walking away, I said, 'Hey, White Sox are

(Continued on p. 14)

Pray the Rosary (Continued from p. 13)

in first place,” Pierzynski said. “He just looked at me and goes, ‘Oh, I’m watching and paying attention, don’t worry.’ And he just kind of smiled at me.” Workman hopes to receive a photo of Pope Leo receiving the rosary. If not, the unfathomable course of events will suffice. “To think the pope is going to be using my rosary to pray,” Workman said, “just boggles my mind.”

John Knebels, July 11, 2026

catholicreview.org

Faith

Father McGivney Memorial Mass

On August 16, we celebrated the feast Mass in honor of our founder Blessed Father Michael McGivney. In 1882, Father McGivney founded the Knights to support struggling Catholic families. He built this movement on the bedrock principles of Charity and Unity. He transformed his parish into a "family of families" to strengthen faith and protect the vulnerable. Today, it is the largest society of Catholic men in the world. After the Mass, we distributed prayer cards and applications to join the Father McGivney Guild to support his cause for sainthood. Our members were out in force along with our Color Guard.



BE BOLD, BE STRONG, BE CATHOLIC

(Continued on p. 15)

Faith (Continued from p. 14)

Answering the Call: Supporting Our Military Families.

Our new pastor, Father Andy Lawrence shared his mission during his homily: a dedicated focus on the active-duty soldiers of Fort Belvoir. How can our council support this focus? This is the one question we need to answer as a military focused council. During the October 3 State Council Meeting in Richmond, I realized how unique we are. Nevertheless, many ideas were learned and I will share them with you in the coming days



The military imposes many reporting and requirements as a council inside Fort Belvoir. The challenge is to include in many of our activities a renewed sense of the unique challenges of being a soldier and support those who just returned from deployment, families whose loved one is away from their homes and young men looking for a brotherhood rooted in faith. Father Andy and our council are active in the parish council and an upcoming event, the Soldiers' Barbeque at the Barracks on October 25 is one such activity in support of Father Andy's focus on the soldier. Let us commit to being the unwavering support system these military families need. In the coming months, with your collective help and leadership, we can grow our council and continually remind ourselves of the core focus of our work. By expanding our reach, we will ensure that no service member or spouse faces difficulties.

What's Next in Growing our Faith? The Knights of Columbus COR Program is a men's faith formation initiative designed to build Christ-centered brotherhood, prayer life, and spiritual leadership. The name "COR" was derived from the Latin phrase "Cor ad cor loquitur" ("Heart speaks to heart") by St. John Henry Newman. The core pillars are as follows below and we will have more information in the coming months.

Prayer: Deepening a personal relationship with God through scripture, the Rosary, or Eucharistic adoration.

Formation: Learning the faith, character, and virtue to grow as husbands, fathers, and leaders.

Fraternity: Fostering honest, intentional conversation and supportive brotherhood.

In my dual role as your Deputy Grand Knight, I will strive as much as I can in the months to learn more about the Knights systems and programs. Thank you for your support of our council.

Lito Constantino
Deputy Grand Knight and Faith Director



Family

As we continue into our new Columbian Year, brother Knights have planned a number of family related activities through December. **A Stuff the Truck** event is scheduled on October 25 in support of the local Catholic Charities' St. Lucy Food Project (see p.7). This involves collection of non-perishable food items donated by our parishioners. In addition, we have our major charitable event on November 14, **Leave No Military Family Behind (LNMFB)** which takes place at the Ft. Belvoir Commissary. Brother Knights will set up a booth at the commissary and request food gift card donations from patrons in support of needy Army families on base. This will be our second LNMFB event this year. Lastly, a **Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Poster Contest** is planned in December for children in our community. Children will create KCIC crafts/posters for judging by brother Knights with a presentation and monetary award(s) for the best poster (see KCIC below).



John Lawler
Family Director



Linda and Ron Wilshire were the August Family of the Month

Community

Soccer Challenge

Our main Community event earlier in October was the Soccer Challenge organized and run by our Grand Knights Hans Graven ably supported by several Brother Knights. See Hans' note and photos below.



Carlos Santiago
Community Director

Family of the Month

July: Greg and Lori Kuzniewski
August: Jim and Linda Puhek
September: Geoff and Chat Ampoyo
October: Engelhart Family
November: Celia FlorCruz and Ken Dahl
December: Brian, Marie, Brian Jr. Murphy
January: Fred and Marlene Beata
February: Denise and Kevin Galligan
March: Sturgill Family
April: Helen D'Avignon family
May: Bruce and Elsie Mersereau
June: Hans and Sang Graven
July: Antoine and Maria Martinez
August: Linda and Ron Wilshire
September: Helen Yusaitis

Brothers,

I want to thank you for all your support in making this year's Soccer Challenge such a successful event.

Your help in setting up, registration, scoring, shagging balls and tabulation of the results is much appreciated and all went off without a hitch. Brother Rich also came to the rescue with tissues and a first aid kit for a bloody nose!

We had 20 participants, including 4 "under 9" who just enjoyed participating.

(Continued on p. 17)

Community (Continued from p. 16)

We have Champions in 6 different groups (Boys/ Girls) who are eligible to compete next Sunday at the District competition.

The weather was great and the young boys and girls, along with their parents seemed to enjoy this and many thanked me for conducting this friendly competition.

Again thank you for your support.

GK Hans Graven



Boys 9 Champion William Lofgren. One of several participants. (Photo: Lito Constantino)



The crew with William

KCIC

The sixth annual Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Poster Contest is a go!



Knights of Columbus Council 11170 Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

- ▶ The 6th annual KCIC Poster Contest for Kindergarten through 8th grade
- ▶ Application forms are in each chapel and the RE Center
- ▶ \$50 gift card to winners in each of 5 grade levels
- ▶ Posters are due December 6, 2026 (any mass)
- ▶ Presentation of awards after mass on December 20, 2026

David Clark
KCIC Chairman

Birthdays

October: Thomas Calhoun; Ted Cowles; Eric Dano; Ken Dunbar; Kyle Englehardt; Ralph Espinosa; Ireneo Manalo; Mark Marchione; Ed Millson; Joseph Palgutt; Luis Reyes; Christopher Rouleau; Reverend Ken Schroeder; Tom Schymanski; Nicholas Scotch; Eric Trias.

November: Rafael Davila; Steven Gonzales; Matt Jones; Tim Maples; Ben Raback-Schink.

December: Richard Cautle; Luis Garcia-Baco; John Lawler; Richard Morgan; Mitch Pabis; John Palgutt; Pat Pearson; Jim Puhek; Steve Rushen; Ed Stance.

Membership

Membership Corner

To earn Star Council recognition for the current Fraternal Year ending June 30, 2027, we must gain a total of 7 members. To date, we have gained 2 members; so we need 5 more. Remember that you are our most valuable recruiter! You are encouraged to invite practical Catholic men — e.g., family members, friends, parishioners, etc. — to join or attend an upcoming event.

About a month ago you should have received an email that included the Council's New Member Information guide. This guide has good information for long-standing members too. If you cannot find it in your inbox, reach out to me



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Membership (Continued from p. 18)

and I'll ensure you get a copy. And when you do have time to review it, please pay particular attention to Appendix 4, which covers the Shining Armor Award program. This program is administered at the Council level and is designed to encourage members to maintain an active level of participation in Council programs and activities. The Shining Armor Award is presented to those members who exemplify active Knighthood in our Order.

To qualify for the award, a member must accomplish the following five activities during a fraternal year that runs from July through June of the following year. One, be involved in at least three council Faith in Action programs; involvement includes supporting activities within the Council's Faith, Family, Community, and/or Life programs. Two, attend at least three council meetings; membership and/or officers' business meetings (in person or online). Three, attend at least one Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, aka 3rd Degree Ceremony (in-person or online). Four, meet (in-person, online, or other) with our council's financial advisor. And lastly, sponsor at least one man who becomes a member of the Order; to sponsor means that you help recruit the member, and that you take personal responsibility for orienting, guiding, and mentoring the new member during his initial months in the Order; you should remind him of meetings, encourage him to participate in events, and reach out to him at least monthly to maintain contact/answer questions, etc.

Thank you for helping grow the Council!

Mike Mixon
Membership Director



Life

Catholic Vote NO

There is still time to vote in the mid-term elections. Please be sure to vote NO for the first two ballot propositions to amend the Virginia Constitution.

Ballot 1: "Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment"

Ballot 2: "Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"

See the graphic on next page for details.

Vote pro-life!

March for Life 2027

March for Life Reveals 2027 Theme: **With Truth as the Focus**

[2027 March for Life](#)

40 Days for Life



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THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN LIFE & MARRIAGE
calls for a consistent, universal response from Catholics
to protect and preserve objective goods
by which God blesses humanity.

As Catholics, we vote no on these ballot measures:

☐ YES **BALLOT 1: "Virginia Right to**
☒ NO **Reproductive Freedom Amendment"**

- Eliminates common-sense health and safety regulations
- Allows unregulated abortion even for healthy babies up to birth for any reason with no limits
- Pushes parents out of irreversible, life-altering decisions involving their underage daughters
- Encourages even non-physicians to operate unlicensed abortion businesses

☐ YES **BALLOT 2: "Virginia Remove Constitutional**
☒ NO **Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"**

- Enshrines radical gender ideology through "sex" and "gender" language
- Conscience rights and religious liberty protections would be effectively denied
- Commercial surrogacy would continue to exploit vulnerable women and violate the rights of children

Pledge to Vote: CatholicsVoteNo.com

CATHOLICS  **NO**



(Continued on p. 21)

Life (Continued from p. 19)

God, we ask you to be with every expectant mother. Give them the courage of Mary to say yes to your divine will, even in the most unexpected circumstances. Help us to notice women in need and embrace every mother facing an unplanned pregnancy. Amen. (September 23, 2026)

Pope Leo XIV on Life Issues

Pope Leo XIV Appeals for Release of Haiti Hostages, Prays for Flood Victims in Nepal And Tibet

Pope Leo XIV on Sunday [August 30] called for the immediate release of hostages taken in a deadly massacre in Haiti, appealed to authorities to protect the population from violence and prayed for victims of severe flooding in Nepal and Tibet.

[Appeal](#)

From Abortion to Euthanasia: How Will Pope Leo XIV Respond to the Culture of Death?

The Pope's upcoming visit to France following its recent legalization of euthanasia could shape our understanding of how the Leonine pontificate will navigate life issues, in Europe and abroad.

[Culture of Death](#)

Pope Leo XIV, in France, Says Protection of Life a Duty for Everyone

Pope Leo XIV, in his first speech during a four-day visit to France, lamented the use of science and technology for profit instead of moral and ethical human progress and said that everyone is responsible for the protection of life.

[France](#)

Pope Leo's Blessing of Little Marie-Garance Becomes a 'Yes to Life' Icon in France

In what has become one of the most viral and tender moments of Pope Leo XIV's trip to France, the world is now learning about the little girl who

was blessed by the Holy Father on his way to celebrate Mass at Place de la Concorde in Paris.

[Concorde](#)

Pope Leo - Medicine must never become the servant of programmed death

"we must reject the temptation to cause death under the guise of false compassion."

[Medicine](#)

Read more Life articles at this link:

[Life Seo-Oct 2026](#)

Rich Dunbar
Life Director



National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children at Truro Anglican Church in Fairfax, VA, September 12.

respect life
novena

Get daily prayers in your inbox October 22-30! This novena prays for the protection of human life from conception to natural death. Each day of the novena features a different pro-life prayer intention that is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. [Sign up](#)

Fraternal Benefits

Brothers,

Nearly half (47%) of adults say they would have trouble paying living expenses within six months of their primary wage earner's death. While no one wants to think about tragedy striking their family, planning ahead about how your family might manage financially can be an important part in caring for those you love.

Your decisions today have a direct impact on your family's financial future. By working with me to consider your life insurance and income replacement needs, you can prepare for the unexpected while also carrying forward a legacy that has been at the heart of the Knights of Columbus since our founding.

When Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, he was witnessing firsthand the precarious situation widows and orphans faced when a father died. He sought to create a way to relieve their burdens and care for those in need. Today, we are proud to continue that tradition of guarding what matters most to our members — their families and their faith.

Income replacement through life insurance can be one part of that protection. As your financial circumstances and family needs change over time, I'm here to help you consider whether your coverage continues to align with your goals and priorities.



 A portrait of David Schallmo, a man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and green tie. He is standing in front of an American flag and a European Union flag.	 Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors® David Schallmo, RIC Financial Advisor The Virtus Agency Mobile: 540-929-1356 Office: 804-547-2373 1211 Caroline St. Fredericksburg, VA 22401 https://info.kofcassetadvisors.org/Michael-David-Schallmo.html	Catholic Investing  Let your faith guide your financial decisions LEARN MORE >
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Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Calendar

Council Business Meetings are the second Thursday of every month, unless notified of a change, at the Religious Education Center at Ft. Belvoir. Rosary begins at 7 p.m. and the meeting follows at 7:30 p.m. Officers, Directors and Program Managers meet on line on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

This is the projected calendar of events for the next three months.

New officers will be installed June 22, 2026 at 7 p.m. at Woodlawn Chapel.

October

25 — Stuff the Truck. Food for Families collection at all Masses at Fort Belvoir.

Ongoing — Coats for Kids collection. Collection box at Belvoir Chapel.

October and November — Catholic Essay Contest ongoing.

November

14 — Leave No Military Family Behind gift card collection at the Fort Belvoir commissary.

Ongoing — Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Posters due December 6.

November and December — Knight Before Christmas Angel Tree. Further details forthcoming

Catholic Links

John Paul II Healing Center: <https://jpiihealingcenter.org/>

Voluntas Dei: <https://www.ivdei.org/blank-3>

Catholic Connect: <https://catholicconnect.in>

Maryknoll: <https://www.maryknoll.org/>

Officers, Directors, and Chairmen

Officers

Grand Knight	Hans Graven
Deputy Grand Knight	Lito Constantino
Chaplain	TBD
Chancellor	Eric Trias
Financial Secretary	David Clark
Warden	Bruce Mersereau
Recorder	Fred Beata
Treasurer	Mark Visbeck
Advocate	Rich Rouleau
Trustee 3-years	Joe Marquart
Trustee 2-years	Kevin Garrison
Trustee 1-year	Ed Stance
Lecturer	Rich Dunbar
Inside Guard	Dakotah Albin-Szumowski
Outside Guard	Esau Olson

Directors and Chairmen

Faith	TBD
Family	John Lawler
Community	Carlos Santiago
Life	Rich Dunbar
Membership	Mike Mixon
KCIC	David Clark
Stuff the Truck	David Clark
Coats for Kids	Kevin Garrison
Angel Tree	Fred Beata
Facebook	Rich Rouleau
Newsletter	Rich Dunbar

Ft. Belvoir Knights of Columbus Facebook Page

[KofC Belvoir Facebook](#)

