

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded by Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882, it was named in honor of the explorer Christopher Columbus. Originally serving as a mutual benefit society to working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States, it developed into a fraternal benefit society dedicated to providing charitable services, including war and disaster relief, actively defending Catholicism in various nations, and promoting Catholic education. The Knights also support the Catholic Church's positions on public policy issues, including various political causes, and are participants in the New Evangelization. The current Supreme Knight is Carl A. Anderson.

There are over 1.9 million members around the world.^[4] Membership is limited to practicing Catholic men aged 18 or older. The Order consists of four different degrees, each exemplifying a different principle of the order. The nearly 15,000 councils, including over 300 on college campuses, are chartered in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and around the world. The Knights' official junior organization, the Columbian Squires, has more than 5,000 circles, and the order's patriotic arm, the Fourth Degree, has more than 2,500 assemblies.

Pope John Paul II referred to the order as the "strong right arm of the Church" for their support of the church, as well as for their philanthropic and charitable efforts. In 2015, the order gave over US\$175 million directly to charity and performed over 73.5 million man-hours of voluntary service, part of the \$1.55 billion given to charity over the past 10 years.

The Knights are also well known for their insurance program with more than 2 million insurance contracts, totaling more than US\$100 billion

of life insurance in force. This is backed by \$21 billion in assets as of 2014. This places it on the Forbes 1000 list. The Order also owns the Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, a money management firm that invests in accordance with Catholic social teachings.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Supreme Website: <http://www.kofc.org/en/>



Knights of Columbus
NEBRASKA STATE COUNCIL

Louis (Lou) Gasper, State Deputy



Nebraska State council Website: <http://www.nebraskakofc.org>

State news letter, the Courier:

<http://www.nebraskakofc.org/ecourier/ecourier.php>

District Deputy 25
Marshall Paczosa

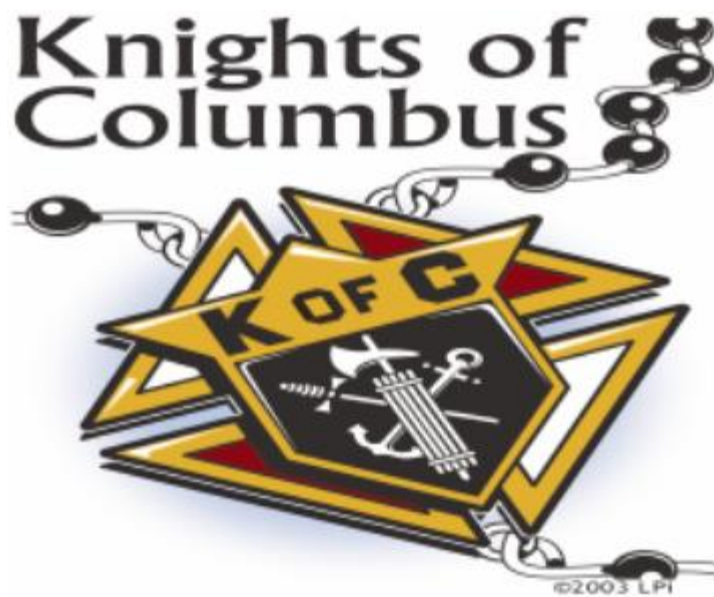
Third Degree

Council 5455, St. Josaphat

GK Mark Oseka

email: moseka@charter.net

FS Brandon Tuma



Fourth Degree Knights



On February 22, 1900, the first Fourth Degree exemplification or degree ceremony was held in New York City. The Fourth Degree imparts a lesson on the virtue of patriotism. The primary purpose of this degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism in members and the community at large and encourage active Catholic citizenship. Today there are some 300,000 Fourth Degree Knights out of the total 1.6 million member Knights of Columbus.

Local units, called assemblies, draw their members from Knights of Columbus councils. The qualifications for membership in the Fourth Degree are: membership in the Knights for at least one year and being a Third Degree Knight.

A Fourth Degree Knight may become part of the assembly's color corps. These members are recognized widely by their distinctive attire of tuxedo, feathered hat (chapeau), cape and sword. These members regularly take part in civic events such as parades and wreath-laying ceremonies, and at ecclesial functions at Catholic churches. The various colored capes and chapeau feathers denote different officer positions within the Fourth Degree.

District Master

James N. Haiar

e-mail : haiar@cox.net

Fourth Degree

Assembly 1712, St Josephat

Loup City

John Hulinsky

e-mail: thriftway@nctc.net

Mark Oseka

e-mail: moseka@charter.net



