



# CHAPLAIN'S *report*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS *In service to One. In service to all.*

LEARNING THE FAITH, LIVING THE FAITH ♦ 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326, USA

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

### New Programs to Form Basis for Renewal

#### Father Jonathan D. Kalisch, OP

Director of Chaplains and Spiritual Development



In his letter to priests on the abuse crisis, the supreme knight stated that “Now, the Knights of Columbus – laymen, priests and chaplains together – will have an important role to play in rebuilding the Church. We must commit the Knights of Columbus to work for repentance, reform and rebuilding of the Church.”

As a chaplain to our brother Knights, you are in the best position to spiritually guide and form the men of your council to assume the leadership roles and ever greater collaboration necessary to fostering an evangelical response to the spiritual warfare raging around us along with the task of rebuilding the Church.

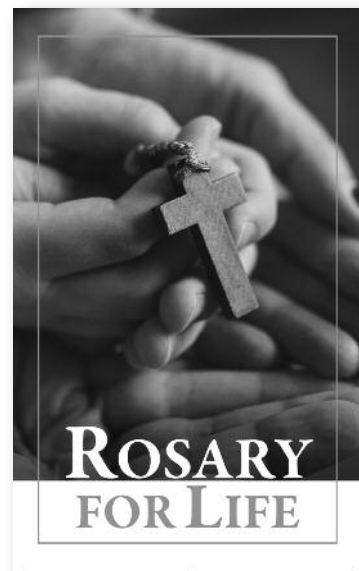
Experience has shown that members of the K of C respond best when their priests and chaplains personally ask them to step up. In the face of this grave crisis, we ask you to meet with your local council members and personally assist them in becoming men of prayer, who by the witness of their lives perform acts of charity that evangelize and sow trust in the Church, and in becoming spiritual leaders of their families.

Provisionally, the Supreme Council has launched a new **Faith In Action** program which provides a structure that refocuses K of C council activities toward faith-filled family programs. I invite you to review the Faith In Action program books with your grand knight and council officers to see how the Knights can support the parish and local community. Implementation of the Faith In Action model is designed to be flexible and adaptable to the specific pastoral needs – which you yourself determine – of the local community.

Among the new programs which we hope will form the basis for renewal in the Church and our councils are **Spiritual Reflection** (retreat), **Holy Hour**, **Sacramental Gifts**, **Family Prayer Night**, **Mass for People with Special Needs**, **Novena for Life** and **Consecration to the Holy Family**.

The K of C has always proudly supported priests, and we will continue to pray and support you during this time of necessary renewal in the Church. In return, our brother Knights count on you to spiritually encourage and guide them to become the strong men of faith capable of engaging the spiritual warfare in front of us by stepping into the breach, and becoming better brothers and sons, husbands and fathers.

*Vivat Jesus!*



## Marian Prayer Program: Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians

At the 136th Supreme Convention in Baltimore, the Knights of Columbus launched its 18th Marian Prayer Program, this year featuring an icon of “Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians,” created by Italian artist Fabrizio Diomed. Each state deputy received a blessed image to travel within their jurisdiction, to raise awareness of the current persecution of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Contact your grand knight about using your jurisdiction’s image as the centerpiece for a rosary-based Marian Prayer Service at your parish. He can order copies of the *Marian Prayer Booklet* (#5050) and *Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians Prayer Card* (#10740) through Supplies Online, the Knights of Columbus’ supply ordering portal.

Discuss with your council the possibility of hosting a dinner or similar event in conjunction with the prayer service to raise awareness and much-needed financial support for Christians at risk. Visit [kofc.org/christianrelief](http://kofc.org/christianrelief) for more information and ideas.



# Remembering our Brother in Arms

*This November, commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I by remembering K of C chaplains, soldiers and volunteers.*



During World War I, the Knights sponsored centers, or “huts,” offering servicemen of all faiths an escape from the war. Dozens of huts were built on or near U.S. military bases in the United States and Europe. At these K of C Huts, soldiers attended Mass, went to confession, heard music recitals, saw vaudeville entertainment and took advantage of an opportunity to write home (the Knights provided 1,800 tons of stationery).

Knights were also among the soldiers who offered their service, and their lives, for the Allied cause: 1st Lt. Chaplain William F. Davitt, a member of Holyoke (Mass.) Council 90, volunteered as a K of C chaplain and served with the 125th Infantry. He was killed in the final exchanges of fire on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918.

He was the last U.S. officer to be killed in the war.

*Learn more about Father Davitt in By Their Works: Profiles of Men of Faith Who Made a Difference. The well-illustrated, high-quality coffee table book profiles 65 Knights whose lives span the first 124 years of the Order. The book is available for purchase on Amazon and other online sellers.*

*The Knights of Columbus Museum's exhibit “World War I: Beyond the Front Lines” features various galleries of artifacts and information about the experience of servicemen during the Great War. The exhibit runs until Dec. 30, 2018. Visit [kofcmuseum.org](http://kofcmuseum.org).*

## Giving and Living with Charity

Hurricanes Florence and Michael reminded us to care for our neighbors, no matter how far away the yare. Thousands came together and helped the Knights raise support for people in the disaster areas.

Many in your parishes are looking to support similar causes. Share with them the charities listed below. Visit [kofc.org/charities](http://kofc.org/charities) for more details.

### DISASTER RELIEF

Thousands of people suffer in the wake of hurricanes and other local disasters. As they face recovery efforts, the Knights of Columbus are there to lend a hand. The Disaster Relief Fund supports local councils as they coordinate with emergency agencies and first responders.

### CHRISTIAN REFUGEE RELIEF

Persecuted Christians in the Middle East have been forced to flee the land they have called home since Biblical times. In 2014, the Knights of Columbus responded by setting up the Christian Refugee Relief Fund which directs 100 percent of donations to humanitarian assistance for these Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

### CULTURE OF LIFE FUND

The most effective pro-life program the Order has undertaken, the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative has funded more than 970 ultrasound machines in all 50 states and in Canada.

### VOCATIONS

Our scholarships, together with our Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP), has helped many pursue their call to the priesthood and religious life. Since 1992, scholarships totaling nearly \$9 million have assisted more than 1,300 seminarians. Know a seminarian who may qualify? Visit [kofc.org/vocations](http://kofc.org/vocations) for details.

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Disaster Relief**

**100%**  
of donations will  
directly **BENEFIT**  
disaster victims.

People are devastated by local  
natural disasters and they  
can't recover alone.

If you don't help,  
who will?

900-694-5713 | [kofc.org/disaster](http://kofc.org/disaster)

*To support one of these important efforts, visit [kofc.org/charities](http://kofc.org/charities).*

*For questions regarding a donation, call 1-800-694-5713 or email [info@kofccharities.org](mailto:info@kofccharities.org).*

# Upcoming Activities

## NOVEMBER

Encourage Knights to participate together in All Saints Day and All Souls Day Masses, devotions and visits to cemeteries, witnessing to the devotion and brotherhood that are integral to the Order.

Remember chaplains, soldiers, Knights and volunteers who sacrificed so much during a Mass on Nov. 11, marking the 100th anniversary of World War 1.

## DECEMBER

Join brother Knights in spreading the light of Christ by illuminating a Nativity scene at your parish on Dec. 4.

Organize a parish gathering for a showing of *Guadalupe: The Miracle and Message* to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dec. 12. The DVD can be ordered via [knightsgear.com](http://knightsgear.com).

Invite the men of your parish and councils to an Advent night of reflection. Include discussions on the Nativity passages of the Gospels, quiet moments for personal reflection and individual spiritual direction, confession and Benediction.

Organize a day for families with young children, turn to the booklet *Journey to the Inn: An Advent Celebration* (#9898, available at no cost, except shipping, for quantities as high as 300).

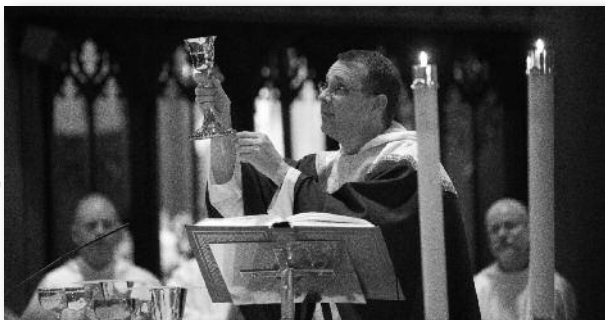
## JANUARY

Encourage your parishioners and council members to attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 18, 2019. If you are unable to attend due to parish obligations, say the Blessing for Travelers for your brother Knights before their departure.

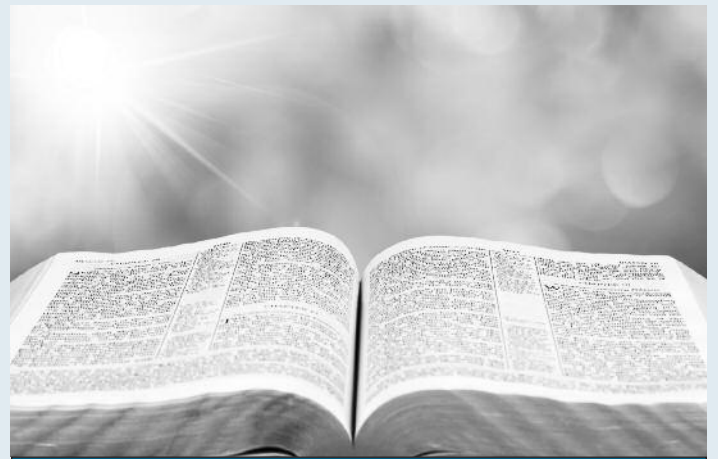
## Continued Reparation and Healing

A “Novena of Masses in Reparation” is being led by Knights of Columbus chaplains in reparation for sins committed by clergy, and for the healing of victims of sexual abuse.

The celebration of these nine Masses may be offered as local needs dictate, at public or private Masses. Grand knights should work with their pastors and chaplains concerning the provision of a customary stipend in appreciation for the Masses. If you have not yet spoken with the grand knight, please discuss with the council the best dates and time for their sponsoring and attending the Masses.



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## THE MEETING YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

A CHALLENGE AND MESSAGE  
FROM SUPREME CHAPLAIN ARCHBISHOP LORI

*[The blind man] threw aside his cloak,  
sprang up, and came to Jesus.  
Jesus said to him in reply,  
“What do you want me to do for you?”  
The blind man replied to him,  
“Master, I want to see.”  
Jesus told him, “Go your way;  
your faith has saved you.”*

— Gospel for Oct. 28, Mk 10:50-52

Most of us can probably recall requesting a meeting with someone influential, and then reaching a point in that meeting where he or she looked us in the eyes and asked, “So, what can I do for you?” We most likely prepared for this moment, and we clearly stated our need or wish.

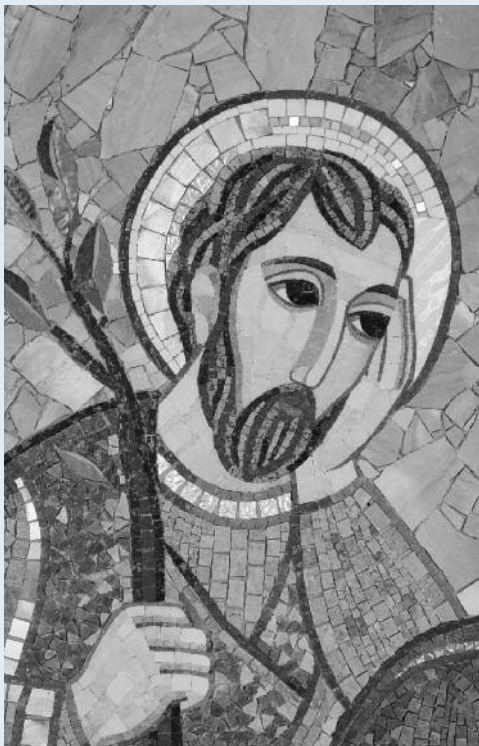
Brothers, can we imagine the Son of God speaking our own name and asking, “What do you want me to do for you?” It seems extraordinary. Even unbelievable! And yet, this is exactly what Jesus invites us to do *every day* in prayer, reading and reflecting on Scripture, speaking to him about what is in our hearts. That’s a meeting you and I would not want to miss.

### Your Goal for October

When having discussions with people this month (especially your family members), give them your undivided attention and do not look at your cell phones during the conversations. Secondly, I challenge you to honestly attempt to answer Jesus’ question to you, “What do you want me to do for you?”

*Look for the November challenge on the  
Knights’ social media pages at the beginning of the month.*





*The Epiphany (detail of St. Joseph)*  
*Saint John Paul II National Shrine, Washington, D.C.*  
Designed by Father Marko Rupnik  
Photo by Tamino Petelinsek

## Prayer to St. Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation,  
and having implored the help of your most holy spouse,  
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God  
and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus,  
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance  
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his blood,  
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,  
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;

O most loving father, ward off from us  
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;

O our most mighty protector, be propitious to us  
and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness;  
and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,  
so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy  
and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,  
so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously,  
to die holy, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

*Pope Leo XIII's 1889 encyclical Quamquam Pluries entreated the faithful to offer a prayer to St. Joseph following the rosary during October. It can also be prayed throughout the year.*