

# Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

OCTOBER 2016 • Volume 33 • Number 10 • www.kofc.org

News for Knights of Columbus Leaders • 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326, USA

## K of C Commissioned Mother Teresa Portrait for Canonization

In advance of the canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Knights of Columbus commissioned American artist Chas Fagan to paint her portrait. A banner featuring the image was displayed on the façade of St. Peter's Basilica at her Vatican canonization, Sept. 4.

The official canonization image was seen publicly for the first time at a press conference in Washington, D.C., at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine, Sept. 1. The Knights declared the painting a gift to the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by Mother Teresa in 1950.

As part of their gift, the Knights also printed more than 1 million prayer cards, which were distributed at the canonization Mass celebrated by Pope Francis. Reproductions of the portrait were also given to the Missionaries of Charity to share with the poor they serve around the world.

"The Knights of Columbus has been privileged to work closely with Mother Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity since the 1970s," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "We always felt a special affinity with Mother Teresa, since our first principle is charity. As with her, that principle manifests itself in our own work and also through our help and support for the poor and vulnerable — those on the margins of society."

The Knights first collaborated with Mother Teresa in 1988, when she personally delivered her community's constitutions and official book of prayers for reproduction at the Order's printing plant in New Haven, Conn. At that time, in a talk to nearly 600 K of C employees, she thanked "the Knights of Columbus for all the good things they have done for the people of God."

It was the start of a longstanding tradition: To this day, the Knights of Columbus printing plant continues to produce all publications required by Mother Teresa's congregation.



*With the help of two Missionaries of Charity sisters, Shrine Director Patrick Kelly and artist Chas Fagan unveil the painting at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine, Sept. 1.*

## Ronald Schwarz Welcomed as New Supreme Treasurer

Last month, the Supreme Council welcomed Ronald F. Schwarz as the next supreme treasurer of the Knights of Columbus.



A certified public accountant, Ronald Schwarz previously worked as a divisional controller at Climate Control Group Inc., overseeing the financial operations of eight manufacturing plants. He also worked as a financial controller at SAIC Energy, Environment & Infrastructure LLC.

Schwarz is a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus, having joined the Order in 1977. He served as Oklahoma state deputy for the 2013-2015 fraternal years, during which time his jurisdiction twice earned Circle of Honor status for membership and insurance growth. Prior to this, he served as state secretary from 2011-2012, state treasurer from 2009-2010 and state advocate

from 2010-11. He belongs to St. Monica Council 11237 and Father Joseph Tierney Assembly in Edmond, for which he served as faithful navigator.

Ronald and his wife, Jeanette, are the parents of two daughters.

## Grand Knight Checklist – October & November

- ✓ Confirm your council's July assessments have been paid. *Failure to pay the assessments prior to Oct. 10 will result in suspension of the council. Please note: Prior to paying, be sure to review the Sept. 1 statement, which lists the incentive credit for Star Councils.*
- ✓ Review how your council will participate in the annual Coats for Kids and Food for Families programs to help those in need in your parish and community.
- ✓ Start planning Christmas activities, such as an Advent celebration for the community and ways to participate in the Orderwide Keep Christ in Christmas initiative.
- ✓ Continue collecting donations, charitable disbursement and volunteer data for the for the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728).
- ✓ Make sure your council is on the path to earning the Star Council Award.



## New K of C Documentary on Mercy to Air on ABC



*Among the stories shared in the documentary is that of Jennifer Trapuzzano, here pictured with her 2-year-old daughter, Cecilia. Jennifer was 9 months pregnant with Cecilia when her husband Nathan was killed during an attempted robbery, April 1, 2014. Jennifer has since publicly forgiven her husband's murderer, speaking of mercy at his sentence hearing.*

The Knights of Columbus' new documentary film, *The Face of Mercy*, will air on ABC affiliates across the U.S. from Oct. 16 to Dec. 16.

Narrated by Jim Caviezel, *The Face of Mercy* explores the history and relevance of Divine Mercy in our turbulent times. Watch its story unfold, from the Polish nun who received powerful visions of a merciful God, to her countryman Pope John Paul II, and to Pope Francis' declaration of the Year of Mercy. Filmed in stunning 4K and seamlessly weaving together theology and history with modern testimonials, this stirring film creates a remarkable tapestry of what constitutes the face of mercy in our modern world.

Meet a woman who found freedom in forgiveness after seeing her family wiped out by genocide, a former-NFL linebacker who walked away from football to share Christ's mercy with the homeless, a baseball player who traded MLB ambitions for the monastery, a priest with a drug-dealing past and a young widow who chose mercy toward her husband's killer.

For information on broadcast times or to obtain a DVD, please visit [faceofmercyfilm.com](http://faceofmercyfilm.com).

## Join Us for the 5th Sunday Rosary Program

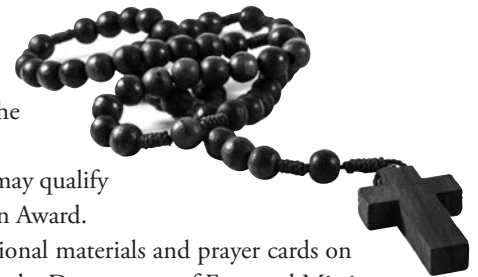
Join us Sunday, Oct. 30, in leading a community rosary to foster greater devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to pray for the needs of our families and the Church.

Lead the rosary in your parish church immediately before or after Sunday Mass; should the church not be available, invite the community to pray the rosary in your parish hall or council meeting place. Also, if parish activities present a scheduling conflict, it is suitable to hold the rosary prayer service on the closest available day to the fifth Sunday.

Councils that conduct this program on each of the fifth Sundays during the 2016-17 fraternal year may qualify as completing a Domestic Church Activity or all four Church Activity requirements of the Columbian Award.

To help your council conduct this church activity, kits containing a supply of rosary rings, promotional materials and prayer cards on how to pray the rosary are available from the Supreme Council. To order a program kit, please contact the Department of Fraternal Mission at [fraternalmission@kofc.org](mailto:fraternalmission@kofc.org) or 203-752-4270.

More information regarding the 5th Sunday Rosary program can be found at [kofc.org/5thsunday](http://kofc.org/5thsunday).



## Promote Catholic Citizenship

The Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest invites young people to explore the relationship of politics and faith as they write on the importance of religious freedom.

An excellent project for public, parochial, private and home-school students alike, the essay contest is easily adapted into an academic curriculum and open to all children grades 8-12. Winners may move on to regional and state levels. First place winners on the international level will receive a check for \$300, and two runners-up for each grade level will receive \$100. For information on the various levels of competition, contact Ed Wezenski (203-752-4703 or [edward.wezenski@kofc.org](mailto:edward.wezenski@kofc.org)) or visit [kofc.org/essay](http://kofc.org/essay).

To participate, order the *Essay Contest Kit* (#EA-KIT). Certificates for first, second and third place winners, and certificates of participation for 50 entrants, are included in the essay contest kit.



## Plan Your Fall/Winter Outreach

The colder seasons are approaching, which means it's time for you to begin planning your fall/winter outreach events, including a Coats for Kids distribution for the youth in your area.



Through the Coats for Kids program, Knights can order brand-new winter coats in cases of 12 for children in need. Cases are \$220 (shipping included) for U.S. orders and \$245 for orders outside of the U.S.

Councils should place their orders well in advance of the planned distribution day — get a start on your shipment by visiting [knightsgear.com](http://knightsgear.com) today.

Councils in warmer climates may wish to donate funds to purchase coats for children in colder locations. For additional information on how your council can participate, visit [kofc.org/coats](http://kofc.org/coats).



## For Decades, K of C Disaster Relief Delivers Tremendous Aid



*A Knights of Columbus volunteer carries a box of supplies to aid recovery and cleanup efforts, Baton Rouge, La.*

The Knights of Columbus has a long history of lending a helping hand in times of distress.

On Sept. 12, 2001, the Knights of Columbus established the Heroes Fund to provide immediate assistance to the families of emergency first responders who lost their lives after the attacks on 9/11. The fund was created with a \$500,000 donation from the Supreme Council and matched by another \$500,000 donation raised by Knights throughout the world.

But the Heroes Fund is just one of the initiatives the Order has undertaken under Knights of Columbus disaster relief. Money raised through the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Fund are used to support the response efforts of local councils working in coordination with emergency agencies and first responders.

Among our many projects was the multimillion-dollar recovery effort in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina and a \$860,000 donation for local humanitarian and recovery relief after Typhoon Haiyan ravaged the central Philippines. In addition, after Superstorm Sandy devastated the Eastern seaboard, Knights were on the ground with supplies in a matter of hours.

More recently, \$50,000 was given to Pope Francis to help provide for children affected by the recent earthquake that occurred northeast of Rome. And in the United States, relief efforts have been directed to the thousands of victims of the disastrous flooding in Louisiana. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said the Order is committed to assisting these people who are suffering so much.

“As we have done in situations of natural disasters and other needs in the United States and around the world, the Knights of Columbus is committed to showing solidarity and God’s mercy concretely through our help of those most in need,” he explained.

Many of the above-mentioned relief efforts are an ongoing process, and support is still needed.

For details on how to donate, visit [kofc.org/disaster](http://kofc.org/disaster). You are also welcome to contact us at 800-694-5713, Monday-Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST, or you may email [info@kofccharities.org](mailto:info@kofccharities.org).



## Building a Culture of Life

Now is the time to plan how your council will participate in the annual March for Life. The event will be held in Washington, D.C., on Friday, Jan. 27, 2017, in observance of the 44th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision following *Roe v. Wade*.

Encourage your family, brother Knights and fellow parishioners to participate in this peaceful demonstration. For information, call 202-234-3300 or visit [marchforlife.org](http://marchforlife.org).

Knights who are unable to attend are instead encouraged to join in other national, regional, state/provincial or local marches to continue building a culture of life.

Councils planning on participating in national or local pro-life demonstrations should order *Defend Life* signs (#9341). To place an order, please send an email to [william.obrien@kofc.org](mailto:william.obrien@kofc.org) with your name, address, council number, telephone number and the exact number of signs needed. Signs are available in English, French or Spanish; specify the language preferred.



## Be on the Lookout for Respect Life Materials

Last month, Culture of Life directors and Culture of Life chair couples should have received the new Moved by Mercy packets prepared under the USCCB’s Respect Life Program. Contents of the packets — which include brochures, posters, flyers, catalogs and a resource guide — can be viewed at [usccb.org/respectlife](http://usccb.org/respectlife).

If you have not yet received this kit, please contact William O’Brien, manager of the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Values, at [william.obrien@kofc.org](mailto:william.obrien@kofc.org) or 203-752-4403.



## Counting Down to Christmas

It’s not too early to begin planning how your council will celebrate the birth of Christ and observe the religious season. Consider sponsoring a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest or hosting the *Journey to the Inn: An Advent Celebration* (#9898) at your parish or council hall.

For details on these programs, please visit [kofc.org/christmas](http://kofc.org/christmas) and [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch).

# BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

## *While Strengthening Our Parish*

### *Monthly Reflection*

## STRENGTHENING OUR PARISHES – ENGAGING IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

*Excerpts from Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori's remarks to state deputies, June 10, 2016*

“If we are serious about moving ahead with what God has given us through the ministry of our founder, Father McGivney, then we will recognize that more is required of us. ...

We all need to pay close attention to Bishop Thomas Olmsted's pastoral letter addressed to the men of his diocese, an exhortation titled *Into the Breach*. When I began reading his letter I couldn't put it down. It is perfectly suited to the mission of the Knights of Columbus as envisioned by Father McGivney — to bring about the conversion and spiritual growth of ourselves and our fellow Knights. Bishop Olmsted has given us a guide on what it truly means to be a Catholic man who follows Christ, pays attention to the witness of the saints, understands what he is called to be and to become, and is willing to engage in the spiritual warfare necessary to be a good husband, father and disciple who spreads the Gospel by word and by example. This letter, I would suggest, will go a long way in helping all of us guide the Order in our local jurisdictions.”

Copies of *Into the Breach* (#340) can be obtained by contacting the Catholic Information Service at 203-752-4214. An online copy of the booklet is also available online at [kofc.org/cis](http://kofc.org/cis) through our CIS Veritas Series.

### *The Family Fully Alive*

## INTRODUCING THE 3RD EDITION

*The Knights of Columbus will be launching a revised edition of Building the Domestic Church: The Family Fully Alive (#10162).*

The latest edition is designed especially for young families and includes new monthly themes, meditations, Scripture readings and family activities. The English version of the booklet will be available to order Oct. 15. Be sure to get copies before the first Sunday of Advent so that it can be used as a devotional during the new liturgical year. Copies in French, Spanish and Polish will be made available later in the year.

Speak with your pastor today about this program, reminding him that families can participate at no cost to the parish. The program is available online at [kofc.org/familyfullyalive](http://kofc.org/familyfullyalive), or councils can order the program book by calling 203-752-4214 or emailing [supply@kofc.org](mailto:supply@kofc.org).



### *Monthly Planning Items*

- ✓ Be sure that all council officers are familiar with all the resources available at [kofc.org/domesticchurch](http://kofc.org/domesticchurch).
- ✓ Meet with your pastor to discuss your council's continued implementation of the Building the Domestic Church initiative.
- ✓ Ask for monthly feedback from your pastor on how your council can help strengthen parish family life.
- ✓ Make plans for your council's participation in the Orderwide Keep Christ in Christmas campaign.

*“The family as domestic church is central to the work of the new evangelization and to the future sustainability of our parishes.”*

~ Supreme Knight Carl Anderson



## *Featured Program*

# INTRODUCING THE NEW BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH CIS SERIES

This month, the Catholic Information Service offers its new Building the Domestic Church Series, a special collection of popular CIS books that focus on family formation and spiritual life.

Councils that order a full set of the Building the Domestic Church Series will also receive a special kiosk for display of the books. Speak with your pastor today about ordering the CIS Domestic Church Series and kiosk for your parish. The complete set (which contains 15 copies of each book) is available to councils for the special price of \$150 (which includes shipping and handling). To place an order, email [cis@kofc.org](mailto:cis@kofc.org) or call 203-752-4267.



## *Family Prayer Corner*

### PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

St. Teresa of Calcutta,  
Jesus called you to bring the light of his love  
to those who live in darkness.  
By tender, loving care for the poorest and the neediest,  
you became the sign of God's presence,  
love and compassion in the midst of suffering and pain.

Following your example,  
help us to recognize the face of Jesus  
in our suffering brothers and sisters  
and to serve him with humility and joy.  
Teach us to be carriers of God's tender love and mercy  
and so bear witness that God still loves the world  
through each one of us.

Amen.



Painting by Chas Fagan

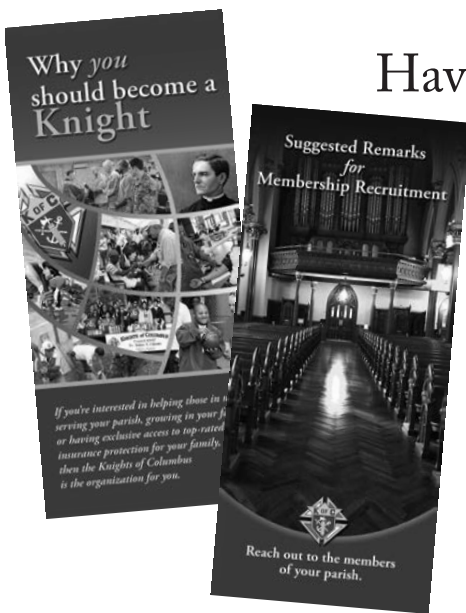
## Have You Held Your Church Drive?

Missed out on the September fraternal training webinar on church recruitment drives? There is still time to learn how to grow membership and build council momentum.

First, get permission from your pastor to hold a membership recruitment drive at your parish following all weekend Masses. Next, once permission is received and the dates for the drive are chosen, order drive materials — including *Why You Should Become a Knight* (#10100) and *Suggested Remarks for Recruitment* (#10067) — using the order form found at [kofc.org/drive](http://kofc.org/drive).

During the weekend of the drive, use pulpit and bulletin announcements to invite men to learn more about the Knights of Columbus. You might also utilize the video *An Invitation*, available at [kofc.org/recruit1](http://kofc.org/recruit1), to help peak a potential member's interest. The video is available to stream or download. For more information on conducting a successful church drive, please consult the *Membership Recruitment and Retention Manual* (#10237).

Finally, be sure to keep an eye on invitations for future webinars on membership growth. While previous sessions are accessible at any time from our video archive, the live instructional gatherings are the most immediate way to learn how to make the most of your service as a council officer.



## Social Media 101: K of C Rules on Politics and Social Media

As Knights of Columbus, each of us is called to faithful citizenship: to live out our Catholic faith in our public lives as well as our private lives. But how to do this, especially if you identify yourself as a Knight on social media, is not always clear. When in doubt, follow these guidelines:

### ***Talk about the issues, not the candidates.***

It is very important that your council's official Facebook Page never endorses one specific candidate or party. Despite our political differences, the Second Degree reminds us that we are all united in our Catholic faith. Moreover, Section 162.23 of the Laws of the Order expressly forbids any member of the Knights of Columbus from using the name and emblem of the Order for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for public office. Instead, councils may share information about the Church's teachings on life, marriage and family. Your council may also encourage your community to register to vote by participating in the Knights of Columbus Nonpartisan National Voter Registration Program.

### ***Separate your candidacy from your being a Knight.***

If you run for city, state or national office, you are not authorized to use membership in the Knights of Columbus to promote your candidacy. The Third Degree and Section 162.23 of the Laws of the Order are very clear on the subject of partisan politics in the Knights of Columbus. If you have questions about this or any other branding issues, please contact your district deputy and state advocate.

### ***Be positive and polite online (and in person!).***

As always, be gracious and charitable when using social media to discuss political issues. Rather than attacking a candidate or political party, share resources to guide others in their faithful citizenship. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has published many excellent resources that Catholics should consult for political guidance. This information — found at [uscbb.org](http://uscbb.org) — may be shared on your council's social media page. Finally, always use prudential judgment and restraint when engaging people who leave inflammatory or impolite comments on your council's Facebook Page. Remember, charity is the principle of the First Degree!

## Communication Is Key to Your Council's Success

Staying in touch is key to keeping your members actively involved in council and parish programs.

To best keep in touch, it is critical that all councils maintain up-to-date information on all active members of their council. Do this by utilizing the Member Information Report, available at the print center of Member Management. Financial secretaries should use this report each time they send out annual dues notifications, ask members to review and update information, and request payments.

Once members fill out the Member Information Report, they should immediately return it to their financial secretaries, who can manually update the member's record in Member Management.

## Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars for the next fraternal training webinar, "Strengthening Your Council and Parish," which will be held Saturday, Oct. 27, 2 p.m. Eastern time.

Have you missed any of our previous fraternal leader training webinars? If so, they are now available in our on-demand portal. For details, please visit [kofc.org/webinar](http://kofc.org/webinar).

## How to Order: Visit Knights Gear

To order items mentioned in this newsletter through your council's account, visit [kofc.org](http://kofc.org), sign into Officers Online and then click on the Knights Gear logo. Questions regarding pricing or ordering should be directed to the Supply Department at 203-752-4214 or [supply@kofc.org](mailto:supply@kofc.org).



**KNIGHTS  
— GEAR —**



# Protect Your Family With Knights of Columbus Insurance

## Knights of Columbus by the Numbers

As leaders in your councils, you help to shape the views of your new members. Many men who join the Knights of Columbus already know about the charitable work for which the Knights — and your councils — are famous. Many, however, are less aware of the insurance program and the hundreds of thousands of families it helps protect. Here are some numbers to help you tell them the story of our greatest fraternal benefit.

### **\$100,000,000,000 of Life Insurance in Force**

That's how much life insurance the Knights of Columbus has in force. Put differently, that's the total value of all Knights of Columbus policies.

### **\$875,000,000 Distributed to Policyholders**

That's how much money the Knights of Columbus distributed to members and their beneficiaries in 2015 in benefits, claims, maturities, annuities and dividends.

### **2,000,000 Policies**

That's the number of active life insurance contracts the Knights of Columbus has on the books. These 2 million policies cover members, their spouses and their dependent children.

### **1,500 Agents**

That's the number of full-time professional field agents working for the Knights of Columbus. Every field agent is a brother Knight and is assigned to members and councils so that each member has a dedicated field agent he can call his own.

### **1975**

That's the year the Knights of Columbus began their 41-year streak of ratings excellence from A.M. Best. The Knights of Columbus has earned the highest possible rating for financial strength from A.M. Best every single year since the mid-1970s. There is no more highly rated life insurer in North America.

### **134 Years**

That's how many years the insurance program has been in operation. It's as old as the Knights. In fact, the insurance program was the principal reason why Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in the first place.

### **4 Product Lines**

That's the number of product lines the Knights of Columbus offers to members and their families: life insurance, retirement annuities, long-term care insurance and disability income insurance. Each product line contains a number of different products and/or options that members can select to best fit their needs.

### **3 Awards**

That's the number of World's Most Ethical awards the Knights of Columbus has earned from the Ethisphere Institute. The Institute's evaluation is a comprehensive assessment of all aspects of a business' operation, including its corporate citizenship and responsibility, its culture of ethics, its governance and its leadership, and its innovation and reputation. In 2016, the Knights was one of only two life insurers to earn the designation.

### **0 Peers**

That's how many other life insurance companies are like the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic insurance company in the world, and it is built for you. We believe in insurance by brother Knights for brother Knights.

\*\*\*

Help your members discover the Catholic difference of doing business with your Knights of Columbus. They too can be among the thousands of Knights who are glad they did.

To find an agent, visit [kofc.org/findagent](http://kofc.org/findagent) or call 1-800-345-5632.

## US Knights: Get Out the Vote!

This Nov. 8, every American Knight is asked to cast his vote in the national, state and local elections.

Encourage your family and friends to vote as well, and don't forget those that cannot make it to the polls without your assistance. Your help could make all the difference in whether or not the elderly and the disabled of your community have an opportunity to take part in the election process.

To help you in these efforts, the Knights of Columbus offers its Nonpartisan National Get Out the Vote Program.

Over the next few weeks, be sure to take advantage of all the support materials available, including the vote poster (#10402), guidelines for political activity, and information on Catholic citizenship and public policy. These and more can be found at [kofc.org/vote](http://kofc.org/vote).

Working together, we can make sure that all the members of our communities have the chance to vote on Election Day.

*Please be advised: Members are not authorized to engage in partisan political activity in the name of the Knights of Columbus. Partisan political activity is defined as activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for partisan political office, partisan political group, ballot initiative, proposition and the like. Remember the Third Degree: Partisan politics are not allowed in the Order or in any of its council chambers.*



MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church.

# Knightline

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326

## MDRT

The Premier  
Association of Financial  
Professionals®

A commitment to excellence, outstanding service and the highest ethical standards — these are the traits of all Knights of Columbus field agents, many of whom have earned membership in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) for 2016. MDRT is an international organization that recognizes the top 1 percent of financial professionals in the world. We salute these men for their devotion to continuing Father McGivney's mission of protecting Catholic families.

*Congratulations to the  
138 Knights of Columbus agents who have  
reached this pinnacle of success.*

### Court of the Table Members

# 2016



**Robert Abbate**  
Virginia Beach,  
Virginia

(7 Consecutive  
Years)



**Chad McAuliff**  
Broken Arrow,  
Oklahoma



**Ronald Sandoval**  
San Gabriel,  
California

*Exemplary Dedication.*



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS®**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.®

*Extraordinary Service.*