

## SIX AREAS OF FRATERNAL SERVICE

<b>Church</b>	<i>Through support of priests, seminarians, and our religious, Knights strengthen their own personal faith.</i>
<b>Community</b>	<i>Through service and financial donations, we support our Parish and the needy in our community.</i>
<b>Family</b>	<i>Through frequent family programs, Knights strengthen family and marital relationships.</i>
<b>Youth</b>	<i>At every opportunity, we assist our youth in building strong civic and religious responsibility to help build leaders of tomorrow.</i>
<b>Fellowship</b>	<i>Each member of the Knights brings his own unique talents and skills to share and enlighten every other member. Knights of Columbus are more than just friends... We're family!</i>
<b>Right to Life</b>	<i>Led by the Fourth Degree, the Order encourages its own members – and all people --- to vote pro-life. The Knights of Columbus feels that the right to life is not a partisan issue, but rather the pre-eminent moral issue of our time.</i>



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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7/2017



*The largest, fastest growing, family service fraternal organization. Serving Catholic Families, Church, and Communities since 1882.*

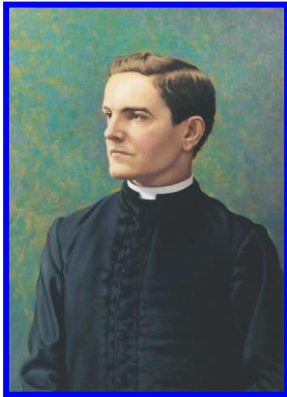


**St. Francis of Assisi**  
Council #12524  
Fulton, MD  
Since 1999

# What are the Knights of Columbus?

The Knights of Columbus is a family, fraternal, service organization based on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The order has over 1.7 million members in 13,000 councils located throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Poland, and several other countries.

Father Michael J. McGivney founded the order in 1882 in New Haven, Connecticut. His purpose was to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith through mutual encouragement; to promote closer ties of fraternity among them, and to set up an elementary system of insurance so that widows and children of members in the group who might die would not find themselves in dire financial straits.



The name “Knights of Columbus” was chosen because the founder and first officers felt that it should relate to Christopher Columbus, the Catholic discoverer of America. This would emphasize that it was Catholics who discovered, explored and colonized the North American continent. At the same time “Knights” would signify that the membership embodied knightly ideals of spirituality and service to Church, country, and fellow man.

# How do I become a Knight of Columbus?

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practical Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place while supporting their Church. A practical Catholic is one who regularly practices his faith by going to Mass, receiving the Sacraments, etc.

Application forms are available in the Gathering Space of St. Francis of Assisi Church and from any member of the Knights of Columbus. Every Knight is happy to propose eligible Catholic men for consideration as members. When favorably voted upon, the applicant becomes a member by initiation in what is known as the First Degree. He subsequently is advanced at his own pace through additional ceremonies known as the Second and Third Degrees. After becoming a Third Degree member, the Knight has the option of becoming a Fourth Degree “Sir Knight.”

Every member is required to pay a small annual dues fee and is encouraged to participate in at least one activity of the council and attend council meetings when possible. There are two meetings held each month; the meeting on the second Wednesday of the month is a Business meeting and the second meeting on the Fourth Wednesday of the month is a Social meeting. The meetings normally last about one hour and usually involve interesting and lively discussion of key topics and events. Members are encouraged to take an active part in these discussions. Refreshments and other activities or just friendly socializing with other members usually follow the meetings.

# St. Francis of Assisi Council #12524

In May of 1999, the *St. Francis of Assisi Council #12524* was founded at the St. Francis of Assisi Church in Fulton, MD. Currently, there are 87 members serving the parish and community.

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

### Family

- Council Christmas Party
- Adopt-A-Family
- Baccalaureate Mass
- Family of the Month
- Social Events

### Youth

- Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest
- Basketball Free Throw
- Soccer Shoot Out
- Parish Youth Group Support
- Boy Scout Troop Sponsorship
- Easter Essay Contest
- Rosaries for Confirmation

### Church

- Priest Appreciation Dinner
- Christmas Bazaar Support
- Calendar Sponsorship
- Pond Maintenance
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Seminarian Support
- Rosary Program

### Pro-Life

- Right to Life March
- Pro-Life Couple
- Respect for Life

### Community

- Tootsie Rolls for God’s Special Children
- Habitat for Humanity
- MDOT Road Cleanup
- Post Prom Support
- Thanksgiving Food Donation
- Wheelchair Program
- Maple Lawn Community Day
- Pro-Life Activities
- Leukemia & Lymphoma
- State Charity Fund

### Council

- Incentive Car Raffle
- Christmas Card Sales
- Duck Pin Bowling
- Columbus Day Ball
- Apostle of the Sea Support
- First Degree Team
- Widows Program
- Ladies of Hope Liaison
- Council Installation

