

FR. MCCORMICK COUNCIL 3880

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 3880, CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014

KNIGHT LIFE



ISSUE NO 2 | AUGUST 2025 | VOLUME 30



TOPIC 01

This Newsletter is
Chock full of news...
10 pages!!

TOPIC 02

New column from our
Chancellor!

TOPIC 03

Financial Secretary's
column is noteworthy!

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT



Hello Brother Knights.

It was a busy start of the month. If you recall we were at Lippold Park with the food truck for the Little League event all day in July. Once we set up the venue we had constant rain for over half of the event. When the rain stopped, then we were able to sell food. It was a sand filled mess. But we survived. Due to the timing of this event being back to back with the monthly breakfast the next day we did minimal clean up of the truck and parked the truck by the shed for a more thorough cleaning on a separate day. In early August, I sent out a call for help to assist with cleaning the food truck and you responded. We took everything out of the food truck, washed the walls and countertops with chlorine towels. We swept and mopped the floor and put everything back in time for the next event. I want to say thanks to John Walsh, Tim DeLance, Jesus Garibay, Jorge Chimal, Pat Slowey, Pete Harren, John Orso, and Ned Holland along with his 3 kids, for coming out and supporting this clean up.

Let's not belittle the efforts of PGK – John Orso and SK – Dan O'Connell for their support of the Blood Drive this month. Rumor has it they hit their goal of 33 candidates. This drive directly impacts the citizens of Crystal Lake

>> 2

GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT **From Page 1**

It's through our Brotherhood and with you that we can accomplish so much. Therefore, if you hear about a future event, please consider donating some time to assist. Together we can do so much.

For example:

- August 28th – Food Pantry
- August 31st – 5th Sunday (Just show up to 9am mass)
- September 6th – Parish picnic – Free food

As always, if you know of someone who feels left out, please reach out to me at 847-341-1727.

Thank you for all that you do to support this council. Your contributions make us who we are.

God Bless.

Vivat Jesus,

Cesar Jimenez
Grand Knight

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT

What a wonderful time for a young man to become a seminarian. These young men have a chance to enrich their faith and become closer to God; enjoy daily camaraderie and lively discussions about the scriptures and benefit from the Knights of Columbus helping to defray some of their expenses.

This fiscal year, Knights of Columbus Council #3880 (the best council in the state of Illinois) will be sponsoring all seminarians from the Rockford Diocese. Look online to see pictures of this fantastic group of young men. This endeavor appears like a rather tall order for any council; but if past accomplishments are any indication; Council #3880 will rise to the challenge.

For over 25 years the Fr. McCormick Council has been providing a stipend to seminarians within the Rockford Diocese. The Vocational Raffle is the vehicle used to generate the funds for the seminarians. The 2025 vocational raffle kicks off this month and our goal is to sell 500 books. The deadline to have the books returned is Tuesday, November 4th. This date is also the council's monthly meeting so you can return the books and attend the meeting.

Please contact the Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, William Bransley at webnd78@yahoo.com or call him at 815-793-3595 to participate in this worthy cause. The program has changed this year. Each book contains five (5) \$5.00 raffle tickets (\$25.00 per book).

To make things easier for us we have created 2000 envelopes containing information on the vocational program, a \$5.00 raffle ticket and instructions on how to return the raffle ticket. These envelopes will be handed out on Sunday, September 7th at all masses. I will be giving a brief summary after each mass. I will need at least 8 knights to man the doors and hand out envelopes. Please just help out at the mass you attend regularly.

On behalf of the seminarians; I would like to thank you in advance for your commitment and generosity.

MEMBERSHIP COLUMN



It's No Secret

Whether ending the first year as a new member of the Council or one who did their Exemplification in the last Century, a favorite event was experienced with Brother Knights. Once the name badge and blue shirt is in hand, there are events published in Knight Life. Finding a favorite, among the other constraints on time, is a journey itself. The Sunday Breakfast can accommodate the most eager worker or on the other side of the counter the most discerning Appetite in the family. Collecting for intellectual disabilities by "Tootsie Roll" Fund Drive supports those who most need a strong right arm of a Knight as described by Saint John Paul II. Then there is the Pop Tab collection, a long march one at a time to the Million Tab Club of the Ronald McDonald House Charity. If all this is already known, then share your experience. Council 3880 has not gone as far as it has in its seventy year history by not sharing its riches. The Council took the name of Fr. McCormick as one who was seen all over Crystal Lake from baseball games to Veterans Day observance. What is special about being a Knight and start by sharing with those you know ?



CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

The process that had been formerly known as RCIA is now called OCIA. The "rites" are still part of the "order", but the new emphasis is meant to invite candidates and catechumens into a continuous process of formation as opposed to fixed checkpoints on the path to Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Furthermore, by making the entire process an "order", the candidate or catechumen understands the "rites" received in church or at the parish are just one part of the ongoing journey of discipleship that will culminate with Baptism and Confirmation – usually during the Easter Vigil – but will continue throughout their lives.

The new name also emphasizes that the process to become Catholic should not be rushed and can be entered at any time. While most converts enter the Church at the Easter Vigil, this new structure acknowledges that converts could be converted or welcomed into the Church at any point in the year, even taking multiple years before making the final decision. Becoming a Catholic is a major commitment, which involves a great deal of discernment and prayer. It is not and never should be simply a matter of going through the "rites" at fixed points of the calendar year.

The OCIA consists of several distinct stages, each aimed at preparing participants for full communion with the Church:

1. **Evangelization and Pre-Catechumenate:** In this initial stage, inquirers learn about Christ and the Catholic faith, often through conversations with a priest or parish director.
2. **Catechumenate:** This phase typically lasts the better part of a year, during which catechumens deepen their understanding of the faith and participate in various rites, including the Rite of Acceptance.
3. **Purification and Enlightenment:** Occurring during the Penitential Season of Lent, this stage involves more prayer and reflection as catechumens prepare for their initiation into the Church, usually at the Easter Vigil.
4. **Mystagogy:** After initiation, newly baptized Catholics continue their formation in faith, engaging with the community and deepening their understanding of the sacraments and their implications for daily life.

Individuals interested in becoming Catholic are encouraged to reach out to their parish for information on inquiry sessions and the steps to begin their journey. Please contact a priest (or director) or call the parish office if you are interested.

Peace, be with you, Fr. Bob Jones

2025-26 OFFICERS

Grand Knight (847) 341-1727
J. Cesar Jimenez

Deputy Grand Knight (815) 793-3595
William Bransley

Chancellor (815)-404-6072
John Carzoli

Lecturer 815-477-2241
Vito DeFrisco

Chaplain 815/455-5400
Rev. Bob Jones

Advocate (847) 338-1772
Stuart Liegel

Treasurer 574-850-1053
Ned Holland

Financial Secretary (815)-679-6596
PGK, PFN John Stefani

Recorder 773-641-6601
Sam Evans

Warden 815-893-4061
Pat Slowey

Inside Guard (815) 382-4528
Tim DeLance

Outside Guard (815) 263-0177
Paul Tagatz

3 Year Trustee
PGK Pat Maguire

2 Year Trustee 815 354-668
Joseph Scherb

1 Year Trustee 815 354-6686
Mike Bradley

Membership (815) 528-3491
Robert Kosin

Newsletter (815) 790-5191
PGK, Tim Hicklin

FINANCIAL SECRETARY



Hi! How are you? Or maybe better Where are you? And very likely, the ones I am writing to and about aren't even reading this!! We've been having a lot of discussions recently about what we do as a Council and more importantly who does it... We have not had a **St. Patrick's Dinner** the last few years.. we have had some rather disappointing turnouts at a few events we have had recently... The old 80/20 rule that says 20% of the people do 80% of the work has likely dropped to 90/10 or possibly 95/5. The sign of the time as some suggest... maybe. When was the last time you went to Mass and saw 3 alter servers? Or 2 Lectors? Or enough Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist? Or Ushers? And that's just at church... look around at anything and everything... I was the Membership Director for many years, and like all my successors and predecessors, we would always say when you join you only need to pay your dues, pray with us, support what we do and maybe spend an hour or two helping us out during the year... your family is most important, so you need to be there for them. But increasingly, there are less and less of US people doing what we do to raise funds for our number one goal, Charity. I remember over 30 years ago when PGK Marty Zopp asked 4 of us to run the breakfast as it moved upstairs into the new Community Center how do we get people to help the bigger venue? I was asking Brothers Knights to help... but then got concerned if ALL 200 of us at the time showed up, we would run out of food and lose money! Silly thought.. But at the Breakfast I have been Blessed with almost 2 dozen Brothers being there month after month to get the job done. But at the same time, I walk around and see the same 3 or 4 of you not working but supporting us by coming in with the family and enjoying Breakfast. But then think where are the other couple of hundred of you? Then think, how many have purchased a Christmas Tree from us? Or came to an event around town and came up to the BratMobile and bought a hot dog or burger? Or how many come to the Polish Dinner? Or who wants to run the St. Patrick's Dinner this year? Or even volunteer to work it? Some of us have the time to work many events... some of us are silly enough to work most, but we (well, some of us) are getting older and fading into the sunset... who will carry on for us? I'm not asking everyone to work everything, will never happen of course, but that's okay, I'm just looking for a little help... and hour here or there... All I'm asking is that you give a little thought to see if you can help out... and with that, honestly, an even bigger question: Did **WE** or just as importantly, did **I** do something or failed to do something that is keeping you away? If yes, let **me** or **us** know so we can fix that...

... I may be reached by phone / text at (815) 679-6596 or jstefani44fs3880@aol.com John

MONTHLY BREAKFAST REPORT



AUGUST 2025

Greetings! Well, as they always say, "Be careful what you ask for!" Well, it was me and my big mouth again, but it was a good ask this time... The first meal, after the 7:30 Mass only had 29 people coming in to eat, as opposed to the normal 60 or so... then after the 9, only 82! So, since my goal is always 200 people I said aloud, "well, we better get at least 90 for the last mass!" Of course, I got a bunch of (good hearted) yells at that! But oh boy, they did come in after mass... all 114 of them! So, to say we made our number is a bit of an understatement. But better than that, because the last two events have been woefully light, when I made the inventory before breakfast there was very little that we needed. But to place an order for delivery with our vendor, I need to order a minimum of 20 cases of food. But all I could come up with was about 8 or 10... usually if I'm 1 or 2 short I'll just order a couple little fillers to make it up, but this was way too many.. so, I decided to skip the order and just pick up some bread and eggs from Sam's along with the normal local buys of milk and veggies and hope for the best. Good Choice!! We came so close to running out of a few things, like potatoes, sausage, batter, and eggs... but did make it! And financially, it was tremendous... more than making up for the last two red months. Did someone say, "Thank God!!"? yes, I think a few of us...

See you next **September 21st**... Hope to see you there... one side of the counter or the other!

John



Knights of Columbus
**FOURTH
D E G R E E**
Patriotic degree of the Order.

FOURTH DEGREE REPORT

The next Exemplification of Patriotism for the Rockford Diocese will be held at Saint Margaret Mary Church in Algonquins on October 25th. This will be the newly revised and released Exemplification Program that was used at the 125th Anniversary Exemplification in New York in February and Indianapolis in March. If you are a 3rd Degree Knight and looking to join the Patriotic Degree, ask one of the many Sir Knights in our Council to be your proposer. Families are also now able to attend and view the Exemplification and see you knighted into the 4th Degree.

The Assembly has been busy providing honor guards at various events and will be starting the Color Guard at Marion Central home football games on Friday nights. If you are interested, please let me know and I can get you contact information. A uniform is required (see below on how to get one). If you haven't been out to the Assembly website in a while, you can find it [here](#). We are updating it with Council events going on with those Councils who make up our Assembly so check it often.

The Assembly has decided to increase the uniform allowance to \$200 this coming Fraternal year and there will be five (5) available beginning July 1st. It is on a first-come, first-reimbursed basis. You must submit a paid receipt along with the reimbursement form to receive payment. You can order the uniform [here](#). The sword and scabbard package can be found [here](#). Our Council will continue the \$100 allowance (maximum 5) so you could get up to \$300 back on a uniform purchase.

Our next Assembly meeting is on **September 10, 2025**, at 7:30 PM at Holy Apostles in McHenry. If you are a Sir Knight and are not receiving the meeting invites or other Assembly emails, please let me know and I can update your email address to rectify the situation. If you have purchased the uniform for the 4th Degree and are not receiving the Honor Guard callouts, please let me know as well so I can add you to that list.

God bless you and your families and God Bless the United States of America.

Vivat Jesus!

COUNCIL 3880 STORE

Brothers Knights,

If you've been thinking about ordering a Council Polo, now's the time. Orders are open year-round, but to be included in this round, we need them in by September 3rd.

This is also the perfect time to get a long-sleeve polo in time for the cooler fall weather. All polos can be personalized with your name, making them a great way to represent the Council at events.

Place your order here: 3880.square.site

LAST CALL for Polos at Shop 3880

Order anytime, but to be included in this round of polos, place your order by **September 3rd**.

Get yours personalized today!

3880.square.site

Questions? Call Sam Evans at 773-641-6601
or email samevans97531+kofc@gmail.com
Hablamos español (despacio, por favor!)



Hoodie



Zip Hoodie



T-Shirt



Long Sleeve Performance T-Shirt



Short Sleeve Polo



Long Sleeve Polo

CHANCELLOR'S OBSERVATIONS

Latin

When I became a Knight, the degrees were separated. I vividly remember Tim Hicklin holding a skull during the 1st Degree ceremony and saying, in an ominous tone, "Tempus Fugit, Memento Mori!" He was very clear that this was something we needed to think about always, and that motto has stuck with me ever since. It has become a focal point in my life as I always find myself taking comfort in the fact that this life is fleeting and, God willing, by His grace, I will be welcomed into His Eternal Kingdom. But the motto also triggered in me a desire to learn Latin.

At first, I wasn't sure where to begin, then one day I happened to meet our Pastor (from several years ago) at a certain coffee shop, and we started talking about cosmology since he knew I taught physics and astronomy. One thing led to another, and we were talking about St. Thomas Aquinas and his line-by-line analysis of the Creed. It was a lot to take in, but Father said he'd send me a document that he was referencing so that I could spend some time digesting it before we met again. When the document arrived in my inbox, I was excited to see that it was in two columns, one was Aquinas's original text in Latin, and the other was the English translation. I thought to myself, "This is awesome! I'll sit down and carefully go through word for word and compare the Latin and English!" Well, little did I know, it wasn't as simple as that, and I got distracted by other things that life threw my way such as family and work.

In the meantime, I started using an app that contained lessons in Latin, but then I found the pronunciations to be a bit different than "church" Latin. I kept my eyes open for other resources eventually hearing about a four-day Latin Boot Camp coordinated by St. Mary in Huntley. The videos of these sessions are recorded and can be found on YouTube. I found textbooks by Fr. Henle and others, and even some materials we were thinking about using with our kids years ago that I had forgotten about. Now I just need to find time to dive into all of this with the hope that someday I'll know enough to be able to read some original texts in Latin. Wouldn't that be fun!

OK, maybe you're not thinking about all that excitement of learning Latin, but there are a few really helpful resources I wanted to share. The following links are videos on YouTube where you hear the Lamb of God, Hail Mary, and Our Father in a Gregorian chant style in Latin with the English and Latin text appearing as the words are said. Just simply listening to the beauty of these prayers sung in Latin gives me a greater sense, a calming sense, of God's presence.

Agnus Dei <https://youtu.be/2Eebv0T2wQ?si=jZ6NGmDymWSKoiOb>

Ave Maria <https://youtu.be/CHCNyhOrKYY?si=oY3-axM8nzX2TVjC>

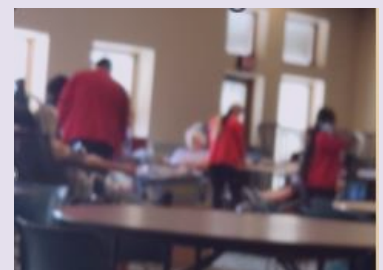
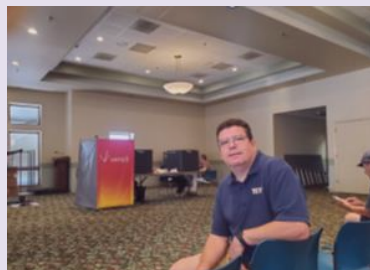
Pater Noster <https://youtu.be/Dil2wDdtVcE?si=v5mR9OXUaMubVrRs>

Perhaps these prayers in Latin will give you a deeper desire to learn more about the language of our Church. Once we master Latin, then we'll move on to Greek!

Memento Mori
John Carzol
Chancellor

3880 MEMORIES

BLOOD DRIVE 8/16/2025



3880 MEMORIES

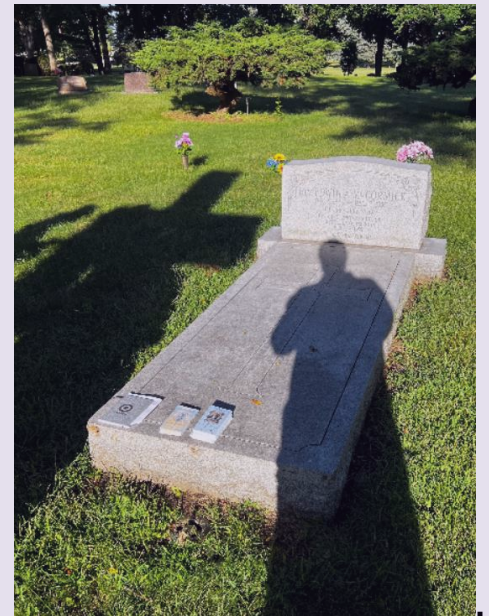
Brat Mobile Cleanup Crew

Family of the Month, Brian Dassenbrock

Knight of the Month, Pat Slowey



Rosary at Fr. McCormick's Grave



Pop-Tops From Pierson St.



PRO-LIFE REPORT

Prolife movement amidst a politically charged environment

Amidst a politically charged environment, the pro-life movement continues to pursue its goals through a multi-faceted approach. Here are some key aspects:

1. Local and state-level focus

- With the overturning of Roe v. Wade, the focus has shifted to the state and local levels, where a significant amount of policy is being shaped.
- Pro-life advocates are engaging in local elections, supporting pro-life candidates for town, county, school, and library boards, and influencing local government decisions, including funding allocations and zoning regulations.
- They are also advocating for the enforcement of existing pro-life laws and working to ensure access to crisis pregnancy centers and related services.

2. Addressing challenges and adapting strategies

- The movement is facing challenges related to misinformation and the framing of pro-life laws as being harmful, according to a YouTube video by the Colson Center.
- Some within the movement are advocating for a more conciliatory approach to bridge divides and address concerns about the practical implications of abortion bans.
- New strategies include reframing the debate around women's rights, human rights, and families, with a focus on a secular approach and avoiding inflammatory rhetoric.
- This also involves emphasizing the importance of support systems for pregnant individuals and parents, addressing issues like racism, classism, and ableism within the context of abortion.

3. Public discourse and advocacy

- Pro-life advocates are actively participating in the public discourse by highlighting legislative victories, challenging media narratives, and organizing rallies and demonstrations to raise awareness and exert pressure on policymakers.
- They are utilizing social media to engage a new generation of activists and foster dialogue, albeit with a focus on respectful communication and a departure from victim imagery or religious arguments.

4. Addressing specific concerns

- The movement is working to prevent federal funding for abortion services and organizations that provide them, such as Planned Parenthood.
- They are also focusing on addressing concerns about medication abortion and exploring avenues to restrict its access.

5. Engaging with different political affiliations

- While historically associated with conservatism, some pro-life advocates are seeking to engage with individuals from across the political spectrum, including "pro-life Democrats," to build broader coalitions and foster more productive conversations.

Overall, the pro-life movement is demonstrating a dynamic approach, shifting its strategies and adapting to the evolving political landscape in pursuit of its goals at local, state, and national levels. Respectfully submitted,

Pete Harren,
Prolife Director
August 2025

PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATIONS



Corporate Office:
2600 State St., Suite E
Alton, IL 62002-5172
(618) 465-BABY
ifrlalton@ifrl-pac.com

Legislative Office:
308 Monroe
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 544-LIFE
legofc@ifrl-pac.com

McHenry County Right to Life:
www.righttolife-mc.org
McHenry County Right to Life PAC:
www.prolife-victory.com

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

SEPTEMBER 2025

Knights Birthdates		Knights Continued		Wives Birthdates	Anniversaries
Rafael Diaz	09/01	Gerald A. Lyons	09/13	Karen Hicklin 09/29	PGK Honorable Marty & Marilyn Zopp 09/08
John M. Scott	09/01	James E. McKinnon	09/13		PGK Michael & Sheri Kebr 09/11
Edward T. Riley	09/02	Gregory J. Heideman	09/14		Robert & Vicki Kosin 09/15
PGK Vince Esposito	09/03	Cornelio Solis	09/16		James & Irene Skaja 09/16
Brian T. Jauch	09/03	Garrett A. Stebbings	09/19		Anthony & Diane Santinello 09/25
James J. Weltzien	09/03	Joseph R. Portiera	09/25		PGK John & Susan Stefani 09/27
PGK Anthony DePippo	09/09	Michael E. Brucker	09/27		
Ernest J. Varrassi	09/09	Miguel Barradas	09/28		
David P. Mazurk	09/10	Steven T. Notaro	09/29		
David F. Jacob	09/12				

FIFTH SUNDAY – AUGUST 31, 2025 – 9:00AM

5th SUNDAY AUGUST 31, 2025

Sunday August 31, 2025 is a Fifth Sunday of the month for which the 9AM Mass is in memory for the Deceased Members of Council 3880 including our namesake Father Edwin A. McCormick. Please consider attending in your Black or Blue Council Shirt and for those Past Grand Knights, the White Shirt as a worthy memento of your service to the Council. But attendance should not limit the moment of prayer on that day. As well as attending or streaming Mass that day, find a place to hear an inner voice or view of His creation and if the weather is conducive, stand outside on that Sunday, long enough to say a decade.



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

And from the gentle repetition of each prayer be mindful of our deceased members, their faith in their clergy, love of Our Lady and how each lived a life in recognition of Tempus Fugit,

Vocation Raffle Tickets

IF you would like Chance Booklets see or call Chancellor, SK, William Bransley (815) 793- 3595



COUNCIL NEXT THREE MONTH CALENDAR

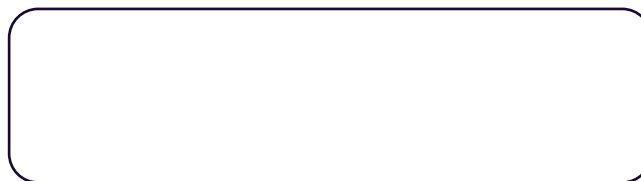


SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025
9/1 Labor Day 9/2 Business Meeting 9/15 1st Day Spanish Heritage 9/17 Caballero de Colon 9/19-20 IDDF Drive 9/21 Breakfast 9/24 Food Pantry 9/27 Johnny Appleseed 9/30 Officers' Meeting	10/4,11,18,25 TMIY 10/4 Octoberfest 10/7 Business Meeting 10/14 Columbus Day 10/15 Caballeros De Colon 10/19 Breakfast + SPRFED Breakfast 10/23 Food Pantry 10/28 Officers' Meeting 10/31 Halloween 10/31 Vespers Mass (Hispanic)	11/1-2 All Saints and All, Souls 11/1,8,15,22 TMIY 11/4 Business Meeting 11/11 Veterans Day 11/14 Daddy Daughter Dance 11/15 Wreath Pick-Up and Sales 11/16 Breakfast 11/19 Caballeros De Colon 11/20 Memorial Mass 11/25 Officers Meeting 11/27 Christmas Tree Sale

Visit us at KofC3880.org

Prayer for the Canonization of Fr. Michael J McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and 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 your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, bless our parish, our Knights of Columbus Council and Lady's Auxiliary. Amen.



Make the Right Choice. Life is not Your Choice. It's Your Responsibility!



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