

Newsletter of The Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Knights of Columbus – July 2026

Celina Coldwater St. Henry Fort Recovery Sidney Versailles Greenville Russia
Covington Wapakoneta St. Marys Minster Russells Point McCartyville Springfield
Urbana Bellefontaine Fairborn Eaton Huber Heights Vandalia Englewood Piqua Troy
Tipp City New Carlisle Dayton Xenia Beavercreek Centerville Kettering Oxford
Hamilton Fairfield Harrison North Bend Monroe West Chester Carthage Sharonville
New Burlington Norwood Shandon Wilmington Morrow Mason Lebanon Milford
Loveland Springfield Middletown Miamisburg Franklin Trenton Cincinnati Ripley
Fayetteville Hillsboro West Union Waynesville



A Brand New Fraternal Year Begins!

Congratulations Brothers we reached every goal to achieve Circle of Honor for the third year in a row due to all of your hard work! Although I am still awaiting the official letter from our Worthy Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly, we reached our goals handily.

BIG Changes to the Columbian Award (SP-7) this Fraternal Year.

I hope you were able to attend the 2026 State Tour stop at Dayton 500 this past weekend. We ran a bit longer than we have in the past but that was due to so much information to pass along. We were also honored to have with us both weekends our Worthy Regional Growth Specialist, Gary McKeone from Connecticut (pictured). Here are the important highlights:



Supreme Regional Growth Specialist Gary McKeone speaking at the Dayton 500 Tour Stop

- 2030 New Members
- 86 Star Councils in the State (previous year 61)
- 33 Star Councils in the Arch alone
- Councils Established at Akron & Walsh Universities
- \$149,424 in total ASAP donations (as of May)
- Arch #1 with 25 Evangelization & Faith Formation Directors in the Archdiocese out of 85 in the state.

2026-2027 Star Council Award Requirements

1. Earn the McGivney Award

Attain 6% intake growth based on July 1st council membership, Minimum 5 / Maximum 15

2. Earn the Founders' Award

A number equal to 10% of **Associate** members on the July 1 council roster must meet individually with a field agent to complete a family service review. Minimum 5 / Maximum 15 GK submits Form 11077 as these meetings are completed.

Contact your field agent for details.

3. Earn the Columbian Award (Requirement #1)

Donate at least \$500 as part of one of the following Faith in Action programs:

- ASAP (dollars or item value)
- Food for Families (\$ or 1,000# food)
- Participate RSVP
- Participate in Coats for Kids.

Columbian Award (Requirement #2)

Complete 4 Faith in Action programs:

one in each of the following categories:
Faith, Family, Community, Life.

Columbian Award (Requirement #3)

Complete either Option A or B:

Option A - Complete 3 programs / activities:

- 1) One to bring men closer to Christ
- 2) One to build fraternity
- 3) One to support your parish or community.

Option B – Host 12 Cor Gatherings:

Conducting Cor satisfies all three of the option A programs / activities. To qualify, councils must offer Cor gatherings that feature prayer, formation, and fraternity at least twelve occasions during the fraternal year to all men of the parish. You must register an EFF director for your council. Visit kofc.org/cor.

4. Complete Administrative Requirements

- Form 365 Due July 1
- Form 185 Due July 1
- Form 1295 Due August 15
- Form 1728 Due Jan 31
- Safe Environment Compliant
- In Good Standing with Supreme

All forms are now **SUBMITTED ONLINE** including the SP-7 and Annual Council Audit.

Brothers there is no doubt we could have 40 Star Councils in the Archdiocese alone. Thank you for all that you do, Vivat Jesus!

Michael J. Felerski – State Deputy

We Are Called



Now is the time to put together a plan for growth in your Council

We know that growth in our Order and specifically our councils is vital to our survival. We had an exceptional year last year bringing in 519 new brother Knights into the councils of the archdiocese. That is the second best year in the last eleven years. We had the best July intake in eleven years along with the best March and best June. Let's build on that momentum. What is the state goal for this fraternal year, well we're going to call it:



- Every Council Actively Inviting
- Growth 365
- Be *Fishers of Men*
- eMembership is the KEY
- Be Relevant

How do we get there? The Brandon Chambers Church Derive: THE runaway success story of the past Fraternal Year!

- TIGHT integration with our Fraternal Benefits Teams
- creates a powerful Invitation process!
- EASY to implement!
- EASY to follow up on!
- Almost MAGICAL results!



Relevancy

Judging the readiness of a Catholic man
to listen to and act on our invitation to join the Order;
Handing a man a brochure does not
mean you've connected with him!
Exposure ≠ Engagement

Contact your Field, Assistant General or General Agent TODAY to learn how easy it is to implement the

New Church Drive (a.k.a. BCP)

Kits are available from Supreme and your Agent can provide all of the training you need to implement this amazing process to invite men to join our Order

Remember – Inviting it's a mindset, not a date!

Support Our Seminarians 2025-26

CINCINNATI ARCHDIOCESE
45 Councils out of
90 Active Councils (50%)
Contributed \$23,564

CINCINNATI Top Councils \$

Council	#	Total Check Amount
Archbishop Elder	1195	\$2,305.81
Coldwater	1991	\$1,518.48
Fr Andrew Kunkler - Minster	2158	\$1,500.00
Fr Francis Hoffer - Centerville	14504	\$1,500.00
Joseph Cardinal Bernardin	12359	\$1,498.00
St John - Tipp City	5129	\$1,400.00
St Columban - Loveland	13813	\$1,200.00
Eaton	3698	\$1,000.00
St Joseph of the Three Rivers	11550	\$1,000.00

2026-27 GOAL
\$30,000

Pass the Jug for
Seminarians
Let's Help Father Willig



As you can imagine there needed to be a number of changes to the State General Program based on the changes to the Supreme Faith in Action program: Updated Administrative requirements. New state requirements based on revised Founders Award. No double point Supreme Featured programs. Finally as the SP-7 (Columbian Award) is now exclusively submitted online the state will no longer be generating an SP-7 PDF for submission to Supreme. NEW State General Program booklets are available online at kofcoho.org/pubs-resources/

1

We Are Called State General Program



Administrative Activity Requirements

- 185 Report (25 points)
- 365 Report (25 points)
- Pay State Per Capita (25 points)
- 1295 Annual Audit Report (25 points)
- Council EFF Director (25 points)
- 1728 Annual Fraternal Survey (25 points)
- Youth Compliance (25 points)
- SP-7 Columbia Award (25 points)



2

We Are Called State General Program



Membership Activity Requirements

- 1 Growth Drive & Recruit a Member (25 points)
- 1 Council Choice & Recruit a Member (25 points)
- 1 In-Person Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity (25 points)
- Reach 75% of Supreme Founders Award (25 points)
- Attain Council Growth Percentage by May 1 (0 to 100 points)



3

We Are Called State General Program



FAITH



FAMILY



COMMUNITY



LIFE

Faith in Action Activity Requirements

- Honoree of the Year (25 points)
- At least 1 Faith in Action Activities (25 points)
- Up to 2 Council Choice Activities (25 points each, max 50 total)
- Faith in Action plus Council Choice max out at 75 total



4

We Are Called State General Program

Reports will no longer be graded as
Supreme Featured Program!
Please describe the activity and
attendance when submitted.



5

The Supreme Form #10784 will still be used for submitting activities to Supreme for the following:

- Family of the Month
- Special Olympics

IMPORTANT: Make sure to submit a 10784 when you support Special Olympics. Supreme will make a donation to Ohio Special Olympics based on our collective statewide annual support.

6

Submit your council programs for the State General Program Awards presented at the 2027 State Convention by going to:

kofcoho.org/program-reporting/

The State Deputy is asking that EVERY council submit an SP-7 this year and submit an EFF Director for your council even if you are not actively hosting Cor gatherings. Submit and EFF Director even if your council members attend a Cor gathering at another council as your EFF Director can provide communications to the council membership on upcoming Cor events.



Guard. Grow. Give.

The Knights of Columbus can help you plan for financial security and generosity. Guard your family, grow your assets and give charitably with us.

Take the Next Step to Financial Literacy

Let us help you build a strong and stable future.

It's Never Too Late to Get Started

Reach out to your Field Agent or visit:

www.kofc.org/live-your-faith/guard-grow-give/



Around the Arch

Faith in Action

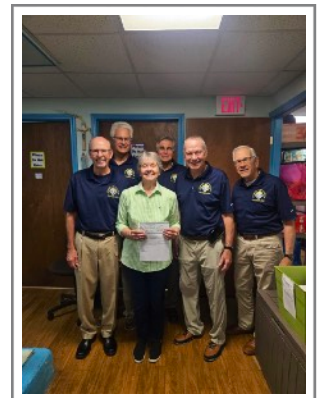
Members of Knights of Columbus Council 13429 - St. Margaret of York, presenting a check to Chapman Giles, Outreach Director of the Women's Care Center of Cincinnati. The check was in the amount of \$14,211.00.



This donation was matched by an Anonymous Donor so that the final number totaled \$28,422.00. SMOY Knights of Columbus would like to thank our members and generous Parishioners who contributed to our multiple fundraisers, and golf outing to make this donation possible.

Archbishop Elder Council #1195 in Madeira presents a check for \$13,400 to Martha Spaeth of Old St. Mary's Pregnancy Center in Cincinnati on behalf of the generous parishioners of St. Gertrude parish.

These funds were collected from our annual Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle collection in April. Supreme will add an additional \$400 to the total from the ASAP program. Pictured are Grand Knight Bill Shefcik, PGK Phil Motz, PGK Pete Marcello, Life Director Kevin Graham, and PGK Tom Hahn.





Congrats to Salve Regina Council #14834 and DD14 Tom Marvel for achieving their 2026-27 Growth goal of 6 new members on July 6th!

DGK and Membership Director Charles Miller organized a CUF degree on Monday night as part of the Ulma Family Relics event. 6 new members that were recruited during June Brandon Chambers Blitz recruiting drives were exemplified. They are pictured at St. Mary-Hyde Park with State Deputy Mike Felerski and Fr. Jonathan Kalisch, O.P. who brought relics of both the Blessed Ulma Family and Blessed Fr. McGivney from New Haven.

Charles is aiming for a Triple Star repeat for the council this year. Anyone else gonna give him a run for his money?



State Tour Stop: Service Recognition

During the Cincinnati Archdiocese 2026 State Council Tour Stop in Dayton on July 19th Diocesan District Deputy Coordinator Thomas Hahn and State Deputy Michael Felerski presents John Brown with his Former District Deputy pin and Certificate for outstanding work and leadership as a district deputy for his five years of service in that capacity for or Order. Congratulations brother John!



State Tour Stop: State Level Growth Award

Elder Council received the We Are Called Ohio State Council PSD Charles Riesbeck Award for the highest growth intake in the entire jurisdiction for the 2025-2026 fraternal year. Pictured here is Diocesan District Deputy Coordinator Thomas Hahn, State Deputy, Michael J. Felerski, and Deputy Grand Knight Dr. Jim Swift.



More from the 2026 State Council Tour Stop: Super Cash Bonanza Top 5 Councils

State Treasurer and 2026 Super Cash Bonanza Chairman Christopher Sarka presents a rebate check to Ken Gardner of Saint Dominic Delhi Council #15533 in the amount of \$4,489.00. Saint Dominic sold 2,190 tickets or 35.32 tickets per member for total sales of \$10,950.00. Brother Gardner is the council financial secretary and the former State Membership Director "Ohio Jones" for the Helmstetter and Girt administrations.

Cincinnati Archdiocese

Quick Reference Guide 2025-2026



Web Sites...

State Council Website: www.kofcoho.org
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/OhioKnightsOfColumbus/
Dayton Chapter: www.daytonkofc.org
Cincinnati Chapter: www.cincykofc.org
Facebook Page: Search for: ArchCincykofc

About The Arch...

A newsletter featuring relevant news and information for Knights in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati published twelve times a year! It can be viewed and downloaded at: www.daytonkofc.org/DayCh_Arch_Newsletter.html

To subscribe for delivery directly to your email inbox, please contact Michael Thomas at: michaeldthomas@aol.com

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PRAYER



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GET YOUR MATCH by
Mailing your Check on
August 30th

Will Return in
September 1

Wrapping Up
for 2026: Send
in checks

See you in 2027

2026-2027
Invoices have
been emailed

Check Presented
on State Tour

Your Church Drive &
eMember Experts!

They are ready to
help you with your
growth efforts.

*Make Checks payable to:
Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus