

# knights of columbus Ocean City Council #9053

9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland, 21842, 410-524-7994

## who are the knights?

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.6 million members. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people.

We are an organization like no other. We are KNIGHTS; Guided by four core principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Men committed to acting on our faith and helping the world. Men whose strong dedication to their Church back in February 1, 1882 accepted Father Michael J. McGivney's invitation to gather in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Ct. His hope was to unite men in their faith and provide for Catholic families in times of need. Other Catholic men soon followed suit and helped lay the foundation that has allowed the Order to flourish. You can view a timeline of the life of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, watch a video about him, post a prayer petition, enroll in the Father McGivney Guild free of charge and receive a regular newsletter by visiting the Fr. McGivney website, [www.fathermcgivney.org](http://www.fathermcgivney.org).

We are men of faith, guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but also by our belief in each other and in ourselves. We are the Knights of Columbus.

We are looking for the new generation of Knights, young men of character and conviction who are driven by both faith and conscience to do truly meaningful things. Men who are ready to be leaders in their communities. Men who are ready to be Knights. If you were a Knight many years ago, we are encouraging you to re-join and/or transfer your current membership into our council.

The Knights of Columbus have four basic steps of Degrees, First Degree, Second and Third. If you wish, you can become a Fourth Degree Knight. When you read the rest of this webpage you will see that there are six separate activities groups. You will also see that they cross over at times. All of these activities are aided and supported by the Ladies Auxiliary.

## how to join

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practicing Catholic men in union with the Holy See, who are at least 18 years old. A practicing Catholic is one who lives up to the Commandments of God and the precepts of the Church. For more information on how you can become a Knight, contact - Rick Fairbend, PGK - Membership Director, Council #9053, Ocean City, Md., Ph. 302-258-3615 or 410-524-7994.

## Council Activities

Business meetings are held twice a month during the Fall, Winter and Spring on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday, at 7:00 pm, at the Council House. During the Summer months, meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Council House.

Our council hosts a large number of council activities throughout the year. These include: Bingo on Friday evenings; Crab dinners on Tuesday evenings, the Sunday breakfast buffet, fish fry, beef-on-the-bay, crab cake platters, and fried chicken dinners.

Annual activities include: New Year's Eve Party, St. Patrick's Day party, Christmas Party, Easter Egg Hunt, hosting the annual Knights of Columbus Convention, conducting the Tootsie Roll drive, operating the local Hoop Shoot contest together with Ocean City Elks Club, Christmas Bazaar, participation in the March for Life in Washington, D. C., and an annual Super Bowl party.

## Family Activities

The Family Activities Committee has one basic goal and that is to strengthen family life. We attempt to do this by nourishing wholesome home life through the sponsorship of activities involving entire families on a scheduled and continuing basis. We attempt to encourage communications and routines which involve family members within their own homes, and bring families together in social and recreational events in the community. Some of the family activities that Council 9053 has promoted and would like to expand on are:

- The annual marriage vow renewal program
- Commemorate National Family Week
- Maintain contact with widows and dependent
- Sponsor the annual Easter Egg Hunt

## Youth Activities

Over 1800 youths take part in one or more of our programs. Awards range from certificates, plaques, trophies, soccer balls, baseballs, to saving bonds. Participants are recognized at the celebration of Mass, on the sport field of competition, or at the Knights Council Home. Volunteers who help with our youth activities donate four to six hours of their time. This is an activity where the father of young children along with others can enjoy a sports activity with young children and all will be involved in an activity related closely with a Catholic Men's Organization. Some of the activities are: Easter Egg Hunt, Free Throw Contest (conducted jointly with the Ocean City Elks), the Soccer Shootout, and Substance Abuse Poster Contest. Joseph Hook, PGK, Youth Director, (410-641-6744) is in charge of the program.

## Council Information

Ocean City Council #9053 is located behind St. Luke's Church at 99th Street on Coastal Highway in Ocean City, Maryland. The **Grand Knight** for 2010-2011 is **Thomas Cetola**. You can contact the Knights by phone at 410-524-7994, or by email to [koc9053@comcast.net](mailto:koc9053@comcast.net).

## Church Activities

Knights of Columbus members assist their churches in many ways. Some enjoy serving as ushers, lectors, cantors, choir, Eucharistic Ministers, and parish council members. Others give time to grounds keeping, painting, and janitorial tasks. As a Knight you could be involved in social concerns such as St. Vincent de Paul. There is a role for every Knight, regardless of your choosing. You will find the Knights to be a great service oriented organization.

## Right to Life Activities

Knights have a long history of supporting the Right To Life for all of the unborn for over thirty Years. They have marched each year on January the Twenty Second so that Law Makers will enact legislation that will bring an end to abortions. We need to get all of the facts out to the public about the short and long term effects of abortions. The Knights of Columbus can use your help. We along with thousands of others have marched in Washington, D.C., for the right of unborn to be born and nourished and become one of GOD'S children here on earth.

## Community Activities

The Knights of Columbus has been active throughout our Community as well as supporting state and national volunteer efforts. Where there is a need, and the Knights can help, the call will go out and volunteers will follow. The Tootsie Roll Drive is one activity that is held between July and August. You may have seen us with our yellow vests with red lettering collecting donations from people going to and from different stores in the area. In 2009, the Knights collected over \$17,000 for The Worcester Co. Development Center. Another event that we conducted was the Light the Night Walk to benefit the fight against ALS. We also showed our Respect and honored our Police, EMS, and Firemen as well as the Teacher of the year.

## Other Council 9053 Fund Raising Projects - Past and present

- ALS Walk for Life
- Coastal Hospice
- College Scholarships
- Cub Scouts
- Holy Savior Church
- Leukemia-Lymphoma Light the Night Walk
- Little Sisters of Mary - Joseph House
- Little Sisters of the Poor
- March of Dimes Walk
- Most Blessed Sacrament School
- Our Lady of Peace Statue - Delaware
- Saint John Neumann Church
- Saint Luke Church
- Saint Paul by the Sea
- Saint Vincent DePaul Society
- Saturday Morning Juniors OC Youth Bowling
- Seminarian Support
- Sister of Notre Dame De Namur
- Student Support in the Holy Land
- Thanksgiving & Holiday Food Drive (Diakonia)