



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

## KC May 2026 Newsletter

### Council Events in May

- The KC Men's Choir sang at the 9:00 Mass on May 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. Brother Gerald Murnane led the choir and was joined by members of St. Charles KC Council. The KC Men's Choir is scheduled to sing at the 9:00 Mass on the first Sunday of each month. The KC Men's Choir sing again on Sunday June 7 – Body and Blood of Christ at the 9:00 Mass.
- On Sunday May 3, forty-three KC family members enjoyed a couple hours of family bowling at Bronx Bowl on 127 Street, organized by Brother Pat Burant. A good time was had by all participants.



- As noted on the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton website ([2026 March for Life: 'Do No Harm' – The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton – CAEDM](#)):

*Neither rain, nor wind, nor unseasonable temperatures could stop participants in the 2026 March for Life from taking their message of hope to the stairs of the Alberta Legislature today, May 14. The day began with Mass at St. Joseph's Basilica, celebrated by Archbishop Stephen Hero and his brother bishops from Alberta. The Rally and March followed at noon at Violet King Henry Plaza near the Alberta Legislature. Pro-life supporters from across the province came to hear inspiring testimonies by medical professionals, pro-life politicians, abortion survivor Melissa Ohden and many other voices dedicated to protecting the dignity of human life. The 'Do No Harm' theme of this year's march reflects the principle of love and human dignity that shapes opposition to abortion and euthanasia. Pro-life Christians and people of goodwill believe that care for others includes protecting and respecting human life at every stage, from conception to natural death.*



- Our Council Life Director Joseph Yong provided the following report regarding the Alberta March for Life in Edmonton on March 14:

*Dear brother Knights, greetings from your Prolife Director Joseph Yong. Thank God for giving me this opportunity to share 2026 May 14, March for Life.*

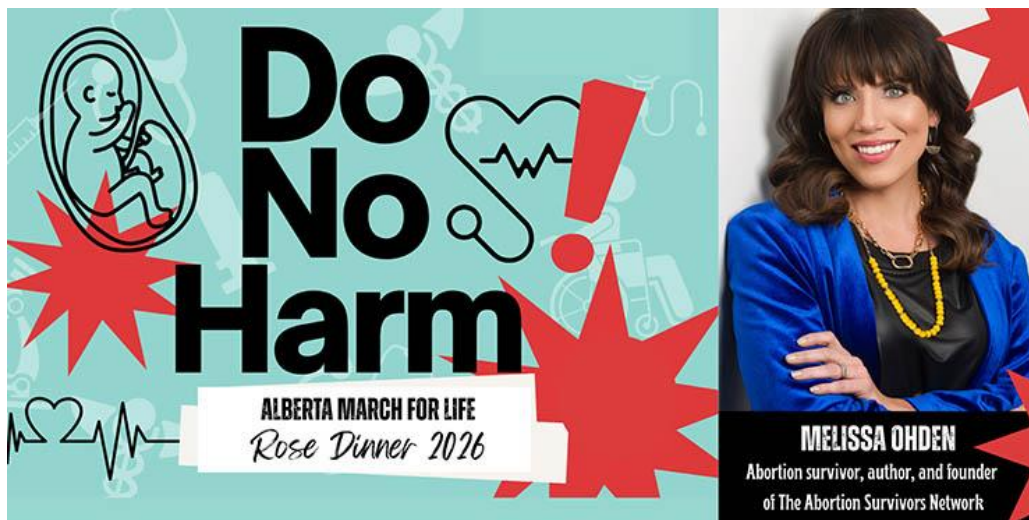
*We began with the Prolife Mass at the St Joseph Basilica at 10 AM Thursday. Our new Archbishop Steven Hero was the main celebrant together with Bishops, priests and deacons, it was packed with Prolife Catholics, and the choir was like angels singing in Latin and English so beautiful singing.*

*After the mass ended, we went to the Legislature grounds to have our Prolife rally and event but because of the strong winds and overcast weather we had only less than six hundred people challenging the bad weather came to the event. There were 8 powerful Prolife speakers from all walks of life including MLAs. The keynote speaker was Melissa Ohden from Missouri, Kansas City, USA. She spoke about the cruelest method of abortion is the saline injection, where the doctor injected saline solution into the womb of her mother to burn ☹️, poison and kill the baby for five continuous days. By the grace of God, she was born alive, but she suffered heart and liver damages. Growing up she was healed by the Lord Jesus and learned how to forgive the mother, father and those who were involved in aborting her.*

*There was the opposition party LBGTO group who came to protest making lots of noise but our sound system drowned them.*

*At least we have our Grand Knight Pat Roth and Steven Lai who were there. I do encourage you to come next year to the March for Life on May 13, 2027.*

*Overall, this year's March was still a success, being the voice for the voiceless and supporting Prolife. We hope next year more people will come out to support this rewarding event. God bless you for reading my report and being part of the Prolife community.*



- The Alberta March for Life Rose Dinner guest speaker Melissa Ohden is the Founder and CEO of The Abortion Survivors Network, the only advocacy organization for abortion survivors and their families worldwide. She is the Co-Founder of the pro-life storytelling advocacy initiative My Body, My Voice and the host of the Life Beyond Abortion Podcast. She is a master's-level prepared Social Worker and the author of the award-winning book featuring her life story, "You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir," and most recently, the co-author of "Abortion Survivors Break Their Silence". Melissa is a frequent contributor to pro-life and conservative news outlets and a regular guest on radio and television programs worldwide.

Although Melissa has a heart for providing help and hope to all impacted by abortion, she also strives to humanize the unborn and abortion survivors through activism. She is recognized worldwide as an expert on abortion experiences and has testified before Congressional committees numerous times. Melissa and her family reside in Kansas City, Missouri.

- Grand Knight Pat Roth attended the Rose Dinner on May 14 and provided his perspective of the event and of abortion survivor Melissa Ohden:

*The keynote speaker, Melissa Ohden, who herself was an abortion survivor, told her life story. She knew she was an adopted child living with a wonderful family, but at 14 she learned that she was an abortion survivor. This brought on many struggles. She eventually started searching for her biological parents, especially her mother. So many secrets, so many suffering with guilt and silence. What struck me the most above all her struggles, was her admission that with God's help, her love, understanding, and the immense forgiveness she had for her biological parents and family kept growing stronger year after year. To hear her story simply search her name. There are a lot of videos and information you can see firsthand. It's worth spending time hearing her remarkable story.*

- Another KC Family Movie Night was held on Saturday May 9 featuring the movie, James and the Giant Peach. There were over twenty-five people in attendance, including about fifteen children. Popcorn, chip snacks and drinks were provided free to all. The next movie night is in the fall of 2026 – October 17.



- The Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 10 – Mother’s Day was very successful. Just over 320 parishioners attended breakfast – about 200 after the 9:00 Mass and about 120 after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday. Over twenty-six volunteers over the two shifts cooked and served pancakes, ham and eggs. Strawberries and whipped cream were also provided for this special day honoring mothers. The next Pancake Breakfast is on Sunday June 14.



- The KC council also conducted the Mother's Day Rose Sale on May 9 and 10. The KC sold 600 roses after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday and the two Masses on Sunday morning. We collected about \$1,537 from the rose sale and provided the profit funds of \$881 topped up to \$1,200 to the [Gianna Centre - Pregnancy Support Services](#).



- At the KC State Convention in April, the council received the following awards from KC State Council including:
  - Certificate of Appreciation for the Pennies for Heaven program.
  - Certificate of Appreciation for the Coats for Kids program.
- At the KC meeting on May 11, the following executive were elected and selected for the 2026-2027 Columbian Year:

Elected Officers

Grand Knight	Gerald Murnane
Deputy Grand Knight	vacant
Chancellor	Pat Roth
Recorder	Fred Churchill
Treasurer	Gary Byrtus
Advocate	George Pouliot
Warden	Keith St. Louis
Inside Guard	Lawrence Bacque
Outside Guard	Doug Dixon
Trustee Three Years	John McIntosh
Trustee Two Years	Ken Dufresne
Trustee One Year	Dan McDonough

Appointed Officers

Chaplain	Fr. Marc Cramer
Financial Secretary	John Grabow
Lecturer	Pat Roth
Membership Director	John Mommersteeg
Program Director	Robert Bouvier
Faith Director	Steven Lai
Family Director	Moe Roy
Community Director	Keith St. Louis
Life Director	Joseph Yong
Social Media Director	Rob Fortier

- Seminarian Marc Berube is coming to stay at the rectory this year and will be serving our parish. A group of Knights freshened up his bedroom at the St. Charles Rectory before his stay. Pat Roth, Pat Burant, Ken Dufresne, George Pouliot, and Gerald Murnane painted and replaced the baseboard and door casings. The work was done over two days – May 27 & 28, with lots of good stories told and lots of laughter.





## Council Events for June 2026

June 1	Mon	19:00	Canada Men's Soccer
June 7	Sun	09:00	Men's Choir
June 14	Sun	08:00	Pancake Breakfast
June 15	Mon	18:00	Installation of Officers
		18:30	Combined Executive/General Meeting
		19:00	Yearend BBQ/Party
June 20	Sat	14:00	CFL – Montreal vs Edmonton
June 21	Sun		Father's Day
June 30	Tue		Columbian Award Application due

### Faith in Action

The KC Faith in Action model recognizes the changing needs of men in the twenty-first century. It seeks to balance all their key priorities for Faith, Family, Community and Life. The simplicity of Faith in Action is that it limits the number of required programs to earn the Columbian Award and, most importantly, allows councils to concentrate on implementing quality faith-filled family programs. Our goal is for men to lead their family in service — not leave their family for service.

More information is on the Knights of Columbus website at [Knights of Columbus | Catholic Fraternal Organization \(kofo.org\)](https://www.kofo.org/).

FAITH	COMMUNITY
RSVP	Coats for Kids
Into the Breach	Global Wheelchair Mission
Spiritual Reflection	Habitat for Humanity
Holy Hour	Disaster Preparedness
Pilgrim Icon Program	Free Throw Championship
Building the Domestic Church Kiosk	Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
Rosary Program	Soccer/Hockey Challenge
Sacramental Gifts	Helping Hands
FAMILY	LIFE
Food for Families	March for Life
Family of the Month/Year	Special Olympics
Family Fully Alive	Ultrasound Initiative
Family Prayer Night	Pregnancy Center Support
Keep Christ in Christmas	Christian Refugee Relief
Family Week	Silver Rose
Consecration to the Holy Family	Mass for People with Special Needs
Good Friday Family Promotion	Novena for Life

### Facts about the Knights of Columbus

- Founded in 1882 by Father Michael J. McGivney at Saint Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut.
- The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world.
- The four principles of the Order are: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.
- The KC is chartered to serve and provide financial aid and assistance to members and their families.
- The Order has grown to more than 16,799 councils.
- KC total membership exceeds 2.1 million Catholic families.

- Last year, KC members contributed over \$197 million to countless charitable efforts.
- Last year, KC members devoted over 77 million volunteer hours to their communities.
- The St. Charles Council is now 43 years old as it was chartered on March 24, 1983.
- The St. Charles Council has 176 members currently. The council did lose another member last month. Brother Raymond Hakes passed away on April 6, 2026 after his battle with prostate cancer.

### **Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney Founder of the Knights of Columbus**

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to 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 Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Knights of Columbus Online Membership**

Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their Church. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; it is supporting St. Charles Catholic Church, while enhancing your own faith; it is about protecting and enhancing your family life. Knights follow the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, initiating and operating numerous programs and services directed towards the benefit of parishioners and the community at large.

For you to join the KC and obtain a membership number, please do so via this KC website: [Join Us | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](https://www.kofc.org).

For you to become a council KC member, please do so via the KC website. Here is the link: [You're Invited \(kofc.org\)](https://www.kofc.org). Our KC council number is 8325. When you complete the noted online exemplification, we will get an online certificate via email. Please forward the email and certificate to [john.mommersteeg@gmail.com](mailto:john.mommersteeg@gmail.com).