

July 2026



On Course

WITH THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

DISTRICT 8 COUNCILS 1150 - 4715 - 4894 - 9839 - 9906

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FOURTH DEGREE: Meets 4th Tuesday of Month

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District 8 - District Deputy Message



Brian Rodgers

Worthy Brother Knights,

Since I have the honor to have traveled with the Catholic high schools annual Rome pilgrimage this year, I am writing this from the University of Mary's campus in the eternal city. Even though I am thousands of miles away, the reach of the Knights of Columbus and their contribution to the Church remains the same.

The Knights of Columbus have played a significant role in supporting the preservation and communication efforts of the Holy See through substantial charitable contributions to important Vatican projects. Their commitment reflects the organization's long-standing mission to strengthen the Catholic faith, promote charity, and preserve the Church's spiritual and cultural heritage for future generations.

One of the most notable recent contributions from the Knights of Columbus was their support for the cleaning and restoration of Saint Peter's Basilica, one of the most important churches in Christianity and a symbol of the Catholic faith worldwide. Over centuries, dust, pollution, and environmental factors had diminished the brilliance of many of the basilica's architectural and artistic features the building is massive, and

it literally took decades to clean. Through it all, the nights were there supporting as needed. The Knights' donation helped fund efforts to carefully clean and conserve these treasures, ensuring that pilgrims and visitors can continue to experience the basilica's beauty and historical significance.

The Knights also contributed to the restoration of Gian Lorenzo Bernini's magnificent Baldacchino, the monumental bronze canopy that stands above the high altar and the tomb of Saint Peter. Completed in the seventeenth century, the Baldacchino is one of the masterpieces of Baroque art and architecture.

Restoration work addressed the effects of aging and environmental wear, preserving this iconic structure for future generations while enhancing its visual splendor within the basilica.

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St. John the Apostle Council 1150

Brother Knights,

I pray this note finds you and your families well. Welcome to Fr. Shane Campbell, the new Pastor at St. John the Apostle Church. Knights of Columbus Council 1150 looks forward to working with you.

On June 7th, Fr Luger and the Northern Knights Roundtable led a Eucharistic Procession at St. John's Church in Mohall. It was wonderful seeing the Knights and their families support the procession and members of the Fourth Degree Assembly provide an Honor Guard. It was pointed out to me this was one of 3 Honor Guards Assembly 787 on June 7th at approximately the same time. Well done, Sir Knights.



I would like to thank Brother Mitch Ledoux and Brother Mark Fitzpatrick for joining me as last-minute entries into the 2026 Big Smoke to represent St. John the Apostle Church. We didn't win but we learned a lot and had fun. Obviously better planning will be required when we try this again. Thank you to all the other teams and the Sierra Club for putting together a successful event to support our seminarians.

We held our Council elections at our June meeting. All of the current officers are maintaining their positions except for our Treasurer. Regrettably, Brother Rorick Kennedy is stepping down as Treasurer. Fortunately, Brother Matt Meyer agreed to step up to the Treasurer position.

The Minot Knights of Columbus Councils and Assembly will have a float in the North Dakota State Parade on July 18. There is room on the float for Brother Knights and their families to ride. If you wish to participate, please let me know so I can let you know where to meet us for the parade.

As a reminder, there will not be a meeting on July 7. However, I do look forward to seeing you at the August 4 meeting at 7:00pm. Please continue to pray for our country and our leaders.

Vivat Jesus!!

Dan Heald
Grand Knight, Council 1150

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St. Michael Council 4715

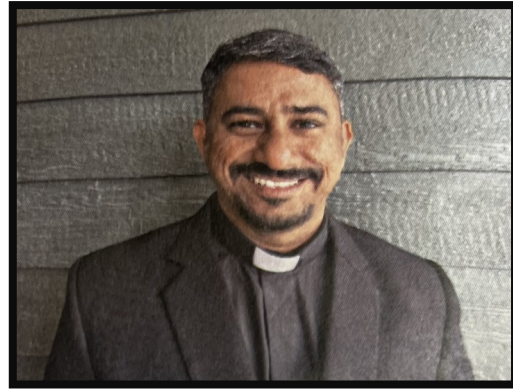
Brothers Knights,

Thank you to all the Knights and Serra Club members who participated in the Big Smoke event in Minot, June 21st. It was a great day of fellowship with friends, family, brother priests, and seminarians. I noticed many of the Serra Club members are brother knights. What a great example of service to supporting the Catholic Church with financial support for religious vocations. Well Done!

St. Michael Council 4715 will not meet in July or August but we will continue supporting our parish and parish priests and caring for church grounds and facilities.

I would like to mention that Chaplain, Fr Christy has a fellow priest from India working with him. Welcome Fr. Fostin Fernandez if you see him in your community. Fr Fostin did attend the Big Smoke event with Fr Christy and was able to meet many of you brother Knights and your priests.

Summer activities are cranking up and our day to day lives are very busy. Remember to take time with Jesus and communicate your needs and let him communicate his desires of you.



*Welcome, Fr. Fostin Fernandez
to the Bismarck Diocese*

Remember as Knights we can be mentors for our children and other men in our day to day lives. St Joseph Pray for us.

Vivat Jesus,
Travis Klein
Grand Knight



Pope Leo XIV's July Prayer Intention

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Our Lady of Grace Council 4894

Dear Brother Knights,

Summer is upon us and America is celebrating its 250th anniversary. We are grateful to all our veterans and for those active military service members that work to protect the freedoms we enjoy today. May God Bless all of you and God Bless America!

Congratulations to one of our own from Our Lady of Grace, Fr. Garrett Aberle, who was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Fargo in June. Fr. Garrett was able to celebrate his first mass on June 7 at Our Lady of Grace with friends and family.

In June, we elected new officers and I will be starting

my position as the new Grand Knight for Council #4894. Although I am looking forward to this new role, I'm still not sure what I'm getting into. However, one thing I do know is "Jesus, I Trust in You" will be my mantra for the next couple of years. We have a great group of Knights at Our Lady of Grace and I am confident in their support for me and our council as we move forward with new chapter.

VIVAT JESUS,

Brian Oswald
Grand Knight

Msgr. Joseph J. Raith Assembly 787

SIR KNIGHTS and LADIES,

I hope all is well with each of you. It's been a busy month for the Honor Guard. First there was Father Aberle's Thanksgiving Mass at Our Lady of Grace and then the Ordination of Father Colton Steiner. There was also the funeral of Benny Mosser. I want to thank everyone who participated in these stands.

Congratulations to the Serra Club for putting on the Big Smoke. It was a good time for all and money was raised for the Seminarians. Also the Knights of Columbus Foundation has raised, to date, \$594,000 for the Seminarians.

Please keep in your prayers Father Chad and for a new Bishop for our diocese. Also keep in your prayers all the

Clergy and individuals who have strayed away from the church.

Congratulations to the new officers for the Assembly and please continue to support them and the Assembly.

The Knights of Columbus Float will be in the State Parade on July 16th. Decorating of the Float will be on July 15th at Our Lady of Grace Parking lot. Volunteers are welcomed to help.

Please be safe and have a Happy Fourth of July.

GOD BLESS AMERICA.

JIM WEAVER
FAITHFUL AVIGATOR



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Little Flower Council 9839

Family, Friend, and Brother Knights

I hope that you all are enjoying your summer so far and gearing up for America's 250th birthday celebration on July 4th. We must remember though that it is not just a day we get off from work to hang out and blow off fireworks. It is a day to celebrate and really appreciate what a great and wonderful country we do live in, especially and I think most importantly having our religious rights. Every year as I grow more deeply in my faith I come more to appreciate being able to freely practice my catholic faith. We should truly be blessed that we are able to celebrate mass, being able to visit a parish anytime anywhere, and being able to pray. So do celebrate this year with family, friends, fireworks, and fun but with more appreciation and love for our great country!

I want to thank our fellow knights for making donuts again this year for dads on father's day at the parish. Everyone loved the taste treats our knights served up while enjoying each other's company and fellowship on father's day!

The big smoke competition was this past month and it was so great to see all the parish families and parishioners come out to enjoy delicious BBQ and support our Serra Club. It is great to see all the parishes and brother knights come together to help out and make up

the teams for the event and enjoy each other's company and fellowship while having a friendly competition. We want to especially thank our Serra Club members for organizing such a great event, we know it's a lot of work and know we greatly appreciate everything you do for us and our vocations.

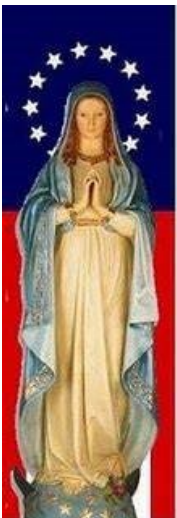
Lastly the Knights of Columbus fraternal year is coming to an end and with the start of a new year we are excited and ready to start off the new fraternal year with new members in our council and ideas for KC events. We look back on our past year and we're truly blessed with all the volunteering and fundraising we did and want to let everyone know that the guys and I thank everyone who showed there support to our parish KC council and know we are looking forward to another year!

Our knights want to thank those for all that they do and are truly blessed that they are part of our parish family and will be praying for them.

Thank You and Godbless!

Happy 4th of July!

Luke Audet ,
Grand Knight



Mary Immaculate Patroness of Our Country - *Pray for Us*

Heavenly Father, We thank You for the gift of our homeland, for the freedoms we cherish, and for the blessings You have poured upon our people.

Guide our leaders with wisdom rooted in truth, protect those who serve in defense of peace, and inspire every citizen to act with justice, compassion, and integrity.

May we be united in love for one another, regardless of differences, and may our hearts always seek Your will above all.

Through the intercession of Mary, Immaculate Patroness of our nation, keep us steadfast in faith and generous in service.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Leo the Great Council 9906

Brother Knights,

Summer is finally here and it's a great time to celebrate. Not only the 250th Anniversary of our country on the 4th of July, but also the many blessings we have received over the past year. Please stay safe this summer and don't forget that God comes first.

We had a short meeting for June to elect new officers resulting in a new Grand Knight, Bryan Robertson. Congratulations. I know the council made an excellent decision. Bryan has served our council and our Parrish without question for several years now. Thank you for stepping up.

Bob Richter, financial secretary, is still working hard to collect past and current membership fees. Please support his efforts and contact him or drop your dues in the collection at all the masses. Simply insert in an envelope and mark it KC Dues.

Please be safe, have a great Summer and let us all keep our Families, Parishes, Churches, Country and the World in our prayers and continue to pray for Pope Leo XIV, our brother Knights and their families.

Vivat Jesus!

Rob Lowe
Grand Knight

District Deputy Message

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In addition to supporting physical restoration projects, the Knights of Columbus have provided substantial assistance to Vatican media initiatives. Their financial support has helped expand the Church's ability to communicate its message through modern forms of media, including television, radio, digital platforms, and multilingual news services. By supporting Vatican communications, the Knights help ensure that papal messages, Church teachings, and coverage of significant religious events reach audiences around the world. **(Picture is of a truck sitting in Vatican City that helps to broadcast events from Saint Peter Square.)**



Saint Peter's Basilica

Through these efforts, the Knights of Columbus continue to demonstrate their dedication to preserving the Church's heritage and advancing its mission in the modern age.

God Bless,
Brian Rodgers,
DD District #8

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