



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Michael the Archangel Assembly 3410
Snellville, GA



The Assembly Voice

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FROM THE HELM OF: THE FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR S.K. Tony Arrinelli



Having just returned from my mother's 90th birthday celebration in Michigan, I'm a bit behind and trying to catch up. Instead of sharing my thoughts this month, I'd like to share an observation from our Supreme Master, Micheal McCusker, which he shared at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC last week.

At the Supreme Convention, Sir Knights participate in the Honor Guard during mass. Some Sir Knights in the Honor Guard escort the Eucharist and the priests who will be distributing it to all those in attendance. One Sir Knight, who walked with a cane and moved rather slowly, escorted the Eucharist and his assigned priest to his station and helped direct families to the station. After everyone was served, the Sir Knight began escorting the Eucharist and the priest back to the altar. Since he was walking very slowly, the priest passed him as they went to the altar. Despite the priest having already returned to the altar, the Sir Knight continued to walk all the way to the altar before returning to his seat.

This Sir Knight completed his mission. After the priest passed him, he could have turned around, but he kept going because he was responsible for ensuring the Eucharist returned to the altar. This is the dedication we should all have every time we put on our uniform. We dress to serve our Lord and complete our mission. That is why we do this, and that is why we put our all into properly representing the Knights when we wear the uniform.

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For those of you with uniforms, please note that we have a new version of the Fourth Degree Color Corps Drill Manual. The manual number is 808, and it's dated May 2025. This manual covers everything related to the uniform, including protocols for processions, mass, and funerals, as well as the proper handling of the sword (please don't carry it like a musket), and much more.

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From the Desk of the Faithful Captain SK Robert Barnard:



Embracing Charity as Our Guiding Light

A Message to Our Knights of Columbus Assembly

As I sit at my desk reflecting upon our sacred mission and the path laid before us by our founders, I am compelled to write to you about the first and greatest principle of our Order: Charity. In the tapestry of our Catholic faith and the noble traditions of our brotherhood, charity is the golden thread that binds us together and gives our works eternal significance.

The Heart of Our Order

Charity, as taught by Christ and cherished by the Knights of Columbus, is not simply an act, but a way of being. It is the living pulse of our council, the foundation from which all other virtues spring. When Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney established our Order in 1882, he chose charity as its cornerstone, understanding that the true measure of a Catholic man is found not in his words, but in his deeds of selfless love.

Our council's successes—past, present, and future—are rooted in our ability to give generously of ourselves. Whether we are supporting local families in need, hosting fundraisers

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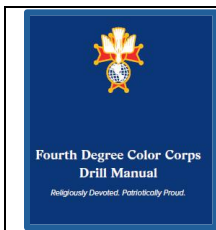
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You can find the manual on our Supreme website, kofc.org, by entering 808 into the search box. Or you can use this link: [5-25 Drill Manual](#)

for parish initiatives, or volunteering at food pantries, we are answering the call to live out the Gospel message: “Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40).

Charity in Action

In practical terms, charity is more than the dollars we raise or the hours we log. It is the compassion we show to the lonely and forgotten, the hand we extend to a struggling neighbor, the courage to speak for those who have no voice, and the willingness to serve without counting the cost.

In recent months, I have witnessed with pride how our council has brought hope to our community. From organizing coat drives for children shivering through winter, to providing meals for families facing unforeseen hardships, to supporting our seminarians and clergy, your works of mercy have been a beacon of Christ’s light. Each act, no matter how small, ripples outward, touching lives in ways we may never fully see.

Stories That Inspire

Allow me to share a brief story that illustrates the power of our collective charity. Last winter, a single mother in our parish lost her job and was unable to pay her heating bill. Through the solidarity of our council, we quietly gathered resources and ensured her children would not face the cold. She later wrote a note of gratitude, not only for the warmth of her home, but for the hope rekindled in her heart. This is the heart of Knights of Columbus charity: humble, faithful, and transformative.

Building a Culture of Charity

Yet, brothers, our call to charity does not end with material assistance. We are called to foster a culture of charity within our council and beyond, nurturing an environment where every member, young and old, feels valued, supported, and encouraged to grow in faith and service.

This begins with how we treat one another at meetings and events—with patience, kindness, and respect. It extends to welcoming new members, mentoring those who seek guidance, and including the perspectives and talents of all. Charity is found not only in grand gestures, but in the daily acts of encouragement, listening, and accompaniment. (Next Month - Charity and Our Family, Challenges,

Charity and Our Mission, Looking Forward, and Conclusions)

As we did last month we continue describing the Duties And Responsibilities of various offices within the Assembly. This month’s focus is on the Faithful Captain.



Robert Barnard
Faithful Captain
2025-26

The Faithful Captain shall: In the absence of the Faithful Navigator, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Faithful Navigator. It is also the responsibility of the Faithful Captain in order to assure a good attendance at meetings and other functions of the assembly to take direct charge of all activities social and otherwise under that portion of the order of business known as the Good of the Order.

Next month the focus will be on the Faithful Pilot.



August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, highlighting her purity, strength, and maternal love.

The devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary serves as a profound source of hope, spiritual strength, and guidance for Catholics, especially during challenging times. This devotion emphasizes prayer, imitation, and reparation as ways to deepen faith and commitment.

Fatima’s Promise: Our Lady’s message at Fatima, where she promised that her **Immaculate Heart** would triumph and bring peace.

We know this is more important now than ever today because Our Lady came to us at Fatima in 1917 specifically to say so.

Our Lady at Fatima asked for reparation and devotion to her Immaculate Heart, promising, **"In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. ... a period of peace will be granted to the world."** But why does her Immaculate Heart matter so much to our particular portion of history? What's the connection between an immaculate heart and peace?

Mary's heart stands as the embodiment of spiritual strength, having endured suffering with perfect love and serving as a model of holiness and virtue. The beauty, humility, and pivotal role of Mary in salvation history have been poetically praised by Saint Faustina in her Diary.

Reflecting on Our Lady’s message at Fatima, we are reminded of the immense hope she offers us: her promise that her Immaculate Heart will ultimately triumph and bring peace to the world. In your own spiritual journey, you can respond to this call by praying the Rosary and nurturing a devotion to her Immaculate Heart.



The crowd at Cova da Iria looking towards the Sun on 13 October 1917

NEWS FROM THE VATICAN:

The following is an excerpt about the Jubilee of Youth Summit. You can read the full story [HERE](#)

My awakening: How Gen Z's relationship with religion is changing

By Colm Flynn
Aug. 4, 2025

When someone told me it was going to be like the Catholic version of Woodstock, I laughed.

But as soon as I got there, I thought: OK, now I get it!

As I walked through the 237-acre Tor Vergata grounds just 10 miles east of Rome, around me were hundreds of thousands of young people from all over the world, setting up their tents, blowing up air beds, singing and dancing as Christian music pumped from the speakers. It was a hot Roman day, around 90 degrees, and some of these pilgrims had walked for up to eight hours to get here. But still, the heat was no deterrent to the joy in the air.



What was extraordinary about this event, the Jubilee of Youth, was that while there were well-known Christian artists performing, the young people hadn't come to see them. They were waiting to pray. Yes — pray!

And when, at 7:30 p.m., the roar of a helicopter was heard overhead, the crowd erupted. The white papal chopper had made the short journey from the Vatican and circled the crowd twice. "Viva Papa," they cheered.

Generation Z is showing a renewed interest in Catholicism, seeking deeper spiritual fulfillment and meaning beyond

materialistic pursuits. This shift contrasts with the religious disengagement seen in their parents' generation and is highlighted by the massive youth participation in the Jubilee of Youth event near Rome.

Hundreds of thousands of young people traveled to the Tor Vergata grounds near Rome, many enduring long walks and heat, to participate in a vibrant spiritual event filled with prayer and Christian music.

Pope Leo XIV, the first American pope, led a two-hour prayer vigil that deeply moved attendees, especially during the Eucharist when a profound silence and collective devotion were observed.

Young attendees expressed a desire to find lasting happiness and truth beyond fame, fortune, and social media popularity, turning to Catholic tradition and culture for answers to life's fundamental questions.

Despite past challenges and cultural shifts, Catholicism is experiencing a resurgence among young people who view it as countercultural and meaningful, encouraged by a contemporary pope who addresses modern issues like social media and artificial intelligence.

Hundreds of thousands of young people made a pilgrimage to the Tor Vergata grounds near Rome, braving hours of walking and intense heat to take part in an energetic celebration of faith through prayer and Christian music. The event was marked by the inspiring presence of Pope Leo XIV, the first American pope, who led a two-hour prayer vigil that touched the hearts of those gathered—especially during the Eucharist, when a profound silence united everyone in devotion. Many of the attendees shared that they were searching for lasting happiness and truth, looking beyond the allure of fame, fortune, and social media to find deeper meaning in Catholic traditions and culture. Despite evolving social landscapes and past challenges, Catholicism is now experiencing a revival among the younger generation, who see it as both countercultural and significant. This resurgence is further encouraged by a modern pope who speaks to contemporary issues such as social media and artificial intelligence.

As darkness fell over Tor Vergata, the choir sang, "Jesus Christ, you are my life," as the papal helicopter once again roared into the air and turned back toward Vatican City. One of the most powerful messages the pope left the young people with was, "Aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less."

Pope Leo XIV presided over a final mass in Rome for over one million young people on Sunday, the culmination of a pilgrimage that has drawn Catholics from across the world.

"Aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less," Pope Leo IV



Watch The Address [HERE](#)

Pope Leo XIV commends on work of Knights of Columbus in message to Supreme Convention

By Tyler Arnold, Catholic
News Agency Washington
D.C., Aug 5

Pope Leo XIV extolled the work of the Knights of Columbus in a prerecorded message for the Catholic fraternal organization's 143rd Supreme Convention, which is being held in Washington, D.C., Aug. 5–7.

"I commend your efforts to bring together the men in your communities for prayer, formation, and fraternity, as well as the many charitable efforts of your local councils throughout the world ... which brings hope and healing to many and continues the noble legacy of your founder," Leo said in his message.

The Holy Father specifically commended the Knights of Columbus for their "generous service to vulnerable populations, including the unborn, pregnant mothers, children, those who are less fortunate, and those affected by the scourge of war."

Pope Leo tied his message to the convention's theme "Heralds of Hope," which was chosen to reflect the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, which was promulgated by Pope Francis.

The pontiff said that the Jubilee Year of Hope "encourages the universal Church and indeed the entire world to reflect on this essential virtue, which Pope Francis described as the desire and expectation of good things to come despite or not knowing what the future may bring."

"As Catholics, we know that the source of our hope is Jesus Christ, and he has sent his followers in every age to bring the good news of his saving paschal mystery to the entire world," the Holy Father said. "The Church has always been called to be a sign of hope through the proclamation of the Gospel in words as well as in actions."

Leo added that during the holy year, Catholics "are called to be tangible signs of hope to those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind," noting that the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael McGivney, "understood this well."

"The Knights of Columbus, each of us, is proud to stand with His Holiness Pope Leo XIV," Kelly said.

"In his first homily, he called Catholics to missionary outreach and at his Mass of inauguration, it felt like he was speaking directly to the Knights of Columbus," Kelly continued. "He centered his message on love and unity,

and he urged us to build fraternity — charity, unity, fraternity, these are the principles that define us, and the Holy Father has told us to take them to everyone we encounter."

During his speech and report to the convention, Kelly spoke about the charitable work of the Knights of Columbus, including efforts in war-torn countries like Ukraine and relief provided to people suffering from natural disasters. He also spoke about the growth of the Knights, the organization's support for clergy formation, and its outspoken support for the unborn.

At the conclusion of the report, attendees recited a prayer for Pope Leo XIV, asking God to "preserve him, give him a long life, make him blessed upon the Earth" and that "the Lord not hand him over to the powers of his enemies."

Pope's August prayer intention: For mutual coexistence

**By Christopher Wells
Vatican News**

Pope Leo XIV releases his prayer intention for August 2025, inviting us to pray "that societies avoid internal conflicts due to ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons" and encouraging us to "seek paths of dialogue" and "respond to conflict with gestures of fraternity."

"Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons," Pope Leo says in his prayer intention for August 2025.

In the prayer that follows, Pope Leo recalls that we stand in Jesus' presence, in need of His peace.

"We live in times of fear and division," the Pope says.

"Sometimes we act as if we were alone, building walls that separate us from one another, forgetting that we are brothers and sisters."

He calls on Jesus to send the Holy Spirit "to rekindle within us the desire to understand one another, to listen, to live together with respect and compassion."

The Holy Father goes on to ask the Lord for "the courage to seek paths of dialogue, to respond to conflict with gestures of fraternity, to open our hearts to others without fear of difference."

"Make us builders of bridges, able to overcome borders and ideologies, able to see others through the eyes of the heart, recognizing in every person an inviolable dignity," Pope Leo prays, before concluding, "Help us to create spaces where hope can flourish, where diversity is not a threat but a richness that makes us more human."

Promoting peaceful coexistence

In the press release accompanying this month's prayer intention, Father Cristóbal Fones, S.J.—the **International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**, which publishes the Holy Father's prayer intention each month—explains that “all of us can promote peaceful coexistence.

This, he said, entails, “the necessity of working on oneself first of all; to rid one's heart of pride, and the expectations and negative words that hurt and kill. As Pope Leo XIV teaches us, **peace is built in the heart and from the heart.**”

Secondly, it is necessary to set aside prejudices and to acknowledge the fear of those who are ‘different’. “We need to respectfully approach others to listen since they always something unique to contribute,” Father Fones continues. “**Through dialogue, it is possible to seek what unites us** and open up ways to work together for the common good.”

Lastly, Father Fones reminds us that “Pope Leo XIV also points out that **government leaders need to work toward building harmonious and peaceful societies.** This can be done by: investing in the family; safeguarding the dignity of every person, especially the weakest and most defenseless; exercising justice; seeking to remedy inequalities; defending the truth, which is the basis on which authentic relationships can be built.”

Finally, within the context of the **Holy Year 2025, The Pope Video** acquires special relevance since through it we know the prayer intentions the Pope holds in his heart. To properly receive the graces of the **Jubilee indulgence**, it is necessary to pray for the Pope's intentions.

Gallup: Americans united on immorality of adultery, divided on abortion

Transgenderism, abortion, and same-sex relationships are some of the most polarizing moral issues among political parties, while US adults generally agree that adultery, cloning humans, and suicide are the most immoral behaviors, a recent Gallup [report](#) found.

According to the July 23 report, 71% of Democrats and 9% of Republicans said it is morally acceptable for a person to “change” their gender. Abortion was nearly as widely disputed, with 78% of Democrats and 20% of Republicans considering it morally acceptable. Democrats were also more likely than Republicans to accept same-sex relations (86% vs. 38%).

Gallup asked respondents to rate the morality of 17 other issues and behaviors and found that Democrats and Republicans had similar levels of perspectives that three issues were immoral: cloning humans (9% vs. 5%

approving), medical testing on animals (45% vs. 49%), and adultery (11% vs. 4%).

Gallup also noted that Democrats were more likely than Republicans to say that sex between unmarried men and women, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and teenage sex are morally acceptable. Republicans were more likely than Democrats to morally approve of the death penalty and of buying and wearing fur clothing.

Regardless of political party, the action US adults were most likely to say was immoral was adultery (89% disapproval). Cloning humans (87%) and suicide (71%) were the actions that were the second- and third-most commonly deemed immoral. The majority found that birth control (90%), divorce (75%), and sex between unmarried men and women (68%) are moral behaviors.

Medical testing on animals was a contested subject, with no clear majority of respondents morally approving or disapproving of it.

Gallup noted that though 49% say abortion is morally acceptable, the percentage is down from 54% who said the same thing in 2024, which was the record high.

U.S. COURT DECISIONS:

Little Sisters of the Poor are still fighting ObamaCare—as states force nuns to violate their faith

The ObamaCare mandate is authoritarian and unconstitutional. The Supreme Court's narrow ruling in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* did little to protect religious liberty. The attacks on religious organizations will continue until the Supreme Court upholds the First Amendment.

Catholic Charities adoption agencies have closed in numerous states due to laws requiring them to place children with same-sex couples. The Little Sisters of the Poor have spent years in court, fighting to avoid providing contraception, including abortifacients, to employees. Despite winning protection twice, states like New Jersey and Pennsylvania continue to sue them.



The Religious Freedom Restoration Act requires the state to have a compelling interest and use the least restrictive means when burdening religious practice. However, the

state is demanding citizens engage in activities against their faith. The Affordable Care Act mandated employers, including nonprofits like the Little Sisters, to pay for contraceptives as an essential health benefit. This mandate is a social engineering project aimed at coercing religious organizations to adopt progressive values.

The Little Sisters' struggle is reminiscent of Jack Phillips, the Colorado baker who refuses to create cakes for gay weddings. The state continues to hound religious organizations in court, bolstered by unlimited taxpayer funds.

[Federal judge orders government to keep funding Planned Parenthood, despite new law | Catholic News Agency](#)

Regardless of the Supreme Court's recent decisions that significantly impacted the authority of federal district courts.

The Court has ruled that district courts likely lack the authority to issue universal injunctions blocking presidential actions nationwide, a federal judge has blocked a provision of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act that sought to defund Planned Parenthood by freezing Medicaid reimbursements for certain services. The ruling requires the federal government to resume these payments while legal challenges continue, citing likely constitutional violations in the legislation.

The legislation, signed by President Donald Trump on July 4, included a one-year freeze on some abortion facilities receiving Medicaid reimbursements for non-abortive services. Judge Indira Talwani ruled on Monday, July 28, that the provision likely targets Planned Parenthood, which violates the Constitution.

Indira Talwani, a United States district judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, decision orders the federal agencies and employees must "take all steps necessary" to ensure that Planned Parenthood facilities receive Medicaid reimbursements "in the customary manner and time frames." Planned Parenthood's lawsuit against the federal government is still ongoing, but the ruling is meant to prevent "irreparable harm" to the abortion giant while the matter is under review in court.

In her ruling, Talwani found that even though the bill does not mention Planned Parenthood "by name," it is written in a way to ensure that the defunding provision only affects facilities that are affiliated with Planned Parenthood while leaving other entities untouched.

White House spokesperson Harrison Fields criticized the ruling in a statement provided to CNA, saying the bill was "legally passed by both chambers of the legislative branch and signed into law by the chief executive."

"The judge's decision to grant the injunction on the basis that defunding an entity is an unconstitutional criminal punishment is not only absurd but illogical and incorrect," he said. "It is orders like these that underscore the audacity of the lower courts as well as the chaos within the judicial branch. We look forward to ultimate victory on the issue."

The Jesus Prayer

"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner," dates back to the fifth century and is found in various forms etched in caves throughout the Egyptian desert. It aims to match the power of reciting Jesus' holy name with the rhythm of our breathing, taking seriously St. Paul's injunction to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17). The prayer recalibrates our understanding of prayer from something we do to something we become, filling our day with the awareness of God's presence and gratitude to Him.

The Jesus Prayer is based on the power of Jesus' name, which is exalted above every name (Phil. 2:9-11). Angels rejoice in this name, and demons fear it. Its repetition reminds us of our belonging to Jesus and His mastery over our souls. Praying in Jesus' name opens our souls to receive God's gifts and answers our doubts (John 16:23-24).

The Jesus Prayer may also be considered a form of white or hidden martyrdom. It is a hidden way of denying yourself the way of the world by not always indulging your senses in shallow pursuits. Instead of using that brief moment at a stoplight to check text messages or scroll through social media, for example, let the Jesus Prayer rise again to your consciousness and become a moment of divine intimacy before the green light calls you back to your normal activities. Unbeknownst to the world, recitation of the Jesus Prayer becomes a sweet asceticism, a casual but powerfully hidden intimacy between you and the Trinity alone.

The prayer allows the Holy Spirit to breathe in and out of us, conforming to our being. It becomes a part of our busy days, offering a hidden intimacy with the Trinity. The Jesus Prayer is a form of white martyrdom, denying worldly pursuits and indulging in divine intimacy. It helps us stay vigilant (Matt. 24:42) and unites mundane moments with God's presence and providence.

Defending the Faith: The Knights of Columbus

By Bradley Vickers

[Defending the Faith: The Knights of Columbus - The Southern Cross](#)

Knightly virtues such as strength, courage, and service to God are embodied in the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal order founded in 1882. These modern-day knights uphold principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, with charity being the foremost.

Pat McMahon, a board member of the Knights of Columbus Charities of Georgia, highlights their charitable activities, including supporting military seminarians, the Special Olympics, and aiding disaster victims. The order also funds pilgrimages for wounded veterans, participates in scholarship programs, and offers life insurance policies to its members.

The Knights have four degrees, with the Fourth Degree representing the highest ideals. McMahon, a Fourth Degree marshal and West Point graduate, takes pride in their public displays of patriotism and Catholicism. Founded by Bl. Michael McGivney in 1882, the Knights quickly expanded beyond Connecticut. The "Mother Council of Georgia," established in 1902, played a crucial role in supporting the Catholic Laymen's Association of Georgia and combating anti-Catholic propaganda.

The Knights have a history of promoting a Catholic view on public policy issues and combatting discrimination. They were the only American fraternal society that did not prohibit African American membership and provided racially integrated facilities for troops during World War I.

Throughout the 20th century, the Knights became the largest Catholic fraternal organization, with over 2.1 million members worldwide as of August 2024. Notable members include President John F. Kennedy and Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito.

The Knights aim to make men better Catholics, husbands, fathers, and community members. Their future goals include growing membership and supporting the Diocese of Savannah's evangelization efforts.



Comical Closures

A mother went to wake her son for church one Sunday morning. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going!" "Why not?" asked his mother. "I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me. Two, I don't like them." His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why YOU WILL go to church. One, you're 47 years old. Two, you're the pastor!"

Jonah and the whale:

One day, a teacher was talking to her first grade class about whales when a little girl had a question.

Little Girl: "Do whales swallow people?"

Teacher: "No, even though they are much bigger than a person, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton.

Little Girl: "But Mrs. Thurston says Jonah was swallowed by a whale."

Teacher getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people."

Little Girl: "Well, when I get to heaven I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale."

Teacher, still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?"

Girl: "Well, then you can ask him."

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"Devil in church" Devil walks into church one day, sits right down in the front row seat. Scares the whole congregation. Everybody flees out all the exits, leaving only two people in the church beside the devil. The Pastor and an old man, a farmer. The devil says to the Pastor, now I know why you're not afraid of me, because God protects all his preachers, but the devil says to the old mad the farmer. But Sir I can't figure out why you're not scared of me. So, the old man, said to the devil, "Well why should I be scared of you" I've been married to your sister for 47 years.

A man is praying to God, saying I follow all your commandments, I don't live in vain, could you please grant me one wish: God says, what would you like my son? The man says build me a bridge from California to Hawaii and back. God says: That's kind of a tall order.

Can you give me something much easier?

The man says, okay God tell me everything there is to know about a woman and why she thinks the way she thinks:

And Goes says, "So do you want a two lane or a four lane bridge!"

