



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
*St. Michael the Archangel Assembly 3410*  
*Snellville, GA*  
**The Assembly Voice**



Vol. 14

May 2026



**FROM THE HELM OF:**

**THE FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR**  
S.K. Tony Arrinelli



**Brother Sir Knights**

As I write this, we are heading into Memorial Day weekend. Yes, I'm running a little behind on this column; be grateful you don't have my workload. Unfortunately, the weekend weather isn't looking great. But even with the rain putting a damper on outdoor plans, the Knights march on.

Like the USPS (but without the lost mail), neither rain nor sleet nor anything else stops us from carrying out our patriotic mission. This weekend we will distribute more than a thousand flags to raise funds for **Wreaths Across America**. On Tuesday, we will staff the **USO Lounge** at the airport. And as we look ahead to July 4th weekend, we will again be giving away flags—but the highlight will be something truly special.

**A First for Our Assembly**

At the request of Fr. Henry, we will provide Color Corps and Color Guard at every Mass at St. Lawrence that weekend:

- Saturday Vigil: **5:00 PM**
- Sunday: **8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:30 PM, and 5:00 PM**

We have been asked to lead the procession with the **U.S.** and **Papal** flags. This is a first for our Assembly, and it is an honor we must rise to meet.

**We Need Your Help**

- Executing the July 4th events will require significant participation, especially since we currently do not have a full Color Guard to carry the flags. Here's how you can help: **If you have a uniform:** Please consider serving at one or more Masses.
- **If you don't have a uniform:** We still need you—especially to help distribute flags.
- **If you know Sir Knights in other Assemblies:** Invite them. We will be reaching out as well.

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**Introducing Our Faithful Navigator**  
**For the 2026-2027 Fraternal Year**  
**SK Robert Barnard**



**An Encouraging Message for the**  
**Upcoming Fraternal Year**

Worthy Sir Knights, as I prepare to serve as your incoming Faithful Navigator, I do so with deep gratitude, humility, and confidence in what we can accomplish together in the coming fraternal year. The Fourth Degree calls each of us to live our vocation with visible faith, courageous patriotism, and steadfast devotion to the principles that define the Knights of Columbus. I am honored to walk beside you as brothers who love God, serve His Church, support our priests and parishes, and stand ready to answer the needs of our community and nation.

As we begin this new year, I encourage every member of our assembly to remain active, engaged, and hopeful. Each meeting attended, each honor guard served, each charitable effort supported, and each prayer offered strengthens the bond we share as Sir Knights. No contribution is too small when it is given in a spirit of brotherhood and love. Our assembly is strongest when every member knows that he is needed, valued, and called to participate in the mission before us.

The Patriotic Degree reminds us that our witness must extend beyond words. We are called to be visible signs of reverence, charity, and faithful citizenship. In a world that often seems divided and uncertain, we have the opportunity to lead by example—with dignity in our conduct, generosity in our service, and fidelity to Christ in all we do. Whether we are supporting veterans, honoring our clergy, participating in civic and parish

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We are exploring whether we can assemble a small Color Guard of our own for the weekend. It's a big task with a short timeline, but if we need to at least try.

### A Call to Service

Over the past year, we have become more organized, more focused, and clearer about our patriotic mission. What we need now—what we *urgently* need—is **you**.

Most of the help we ask for is small: Hand out flags after one Mass. Wear your uniform and participate in a procession. Some tasks, such as volunteering at the USO, require more time.

Small or large, all our activities matter. I ask each of you to look into your heart and see where you can contribute. Our programs only succeed when we stand together.

### Looking Ahead

We have additional events planned for the second half of the year, and I will leave those details to our Faithful Navigator-Elect, Robert. I also want to congratulate our newly elected officers and wish them every success in the coming fraternal year.

**Thank you, Brother Sir Knights, for all you do. Let us continue to honor our faith, our country, and our Order—together.**

(Continued from Page1) events, or standing together in prayer, we demonstrate that true patriotism is rooted in faith, virtue, and sacrificial love.

In the year ahead, I hope we will continue to grow not only in numbers, but also in spirit. Let us welcome one another more intentionally, invite eligible brother Knights to advance into the Fourth Degree, and encourage newer members to discover the joy and purpose of assembly life. Let us also look for meaningful ways to serve our councils, our pastors, our families, and our wider community. When we work together with trust and enthusiasm, we become a stronger force for good and a more powerful witness to the values we profess.

I ask for your prayers, your support, and your continued commitment as we enter this upcoming fraternal year. Let us move forward with trust in God, confidence in one another, and renewed dedication to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. May we never lose sight of the privilege we have to serve as Sir Knights, and may our assembly always reflect the honor of our Order and the light of Christ. I look forward to serving with you in the months ahead. Vivat Jesus!

## SK Robert Barnard Incoming Faithful Navigator

### RSVP SUCCESS STORY

Over the years St. Oliver Council Knights of Columbus has been sponsoring a seminarian, and it is with great pleasure that we received the following invitation to the ordination of Fred Williams, the son of Brother Micky Williams.

Fr. Fred will be the celebrant at the 11:15 a.m. Mass at St.

With praise and gratitude to Almighty God, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Savannah joyfully announces the Ordination of

***Fredrick Moses Williams***  
to the Holy Priesthood through the imposition of hands  
and the invocation of the Holy Spirit  
by The Most Reverend Stephen D. Parkes  
Bishop of Savannah

Saturday, June 6, 2026, AT 10 A.M.  
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist  
222 E. Harris St., Savannah, GA 31401

Oliver's on June 14, 2026, and will be assigned to St. Joseph's in Macon. A reception will follow the Mass, offering our parish and Council community an opportunity to congratulate him and celebrate this joyful occasion together. This is a special moment not only for Fr. Fred and his family, but also for all of us who have watched and supported him on his journey toward the priesthood. I strongly encourage all Brothers to show their support, offer their prayers, and encourage Fr. Fred as he begins this sacred ministry of service to God and His people.

### Why Is May the Month of Mary?



For Catholics around the world, the month of May holds a special place in our hearts as the Month of Mary. As spring brings new life, blooming flowers, and renewed beauty to the world around us, the Church invites us to honor the Blessed Mother, whose faith and obedience brought Christ into the world.

The tradition of dedicating May to Mary, mother of Jesus dates back centuries. Christians began offering flowers, prayers, and special devotions to Mary during this season as a symbol of love and gratitude. Over time, these customs grew into the familiar May devotions we know today,

including Rosary prayers, May Crownings, and Marian processions.

As Knights of Columbus, we look to Mary as a model of faith, humility, and service. Her example reminds us to place our trust

in God, care for our families, and serve others with compassion. During this month, we are encouraged to pray the Rosary, spend time in reflection, and ask for Mary's intercession for our Church, our nation, and our families.

One way is to pray the Rosary regularly. During the Month of Mary, it is fitting to increase our devotion to Our Lady. But there are few devotions as beloved as the Holy Rosary.

In this excerpt from *20 Answers: The Rosary*, Tom Nash traces the origins of the Rosary and explains how it developed into the form Catholics know today. Until recent centuries, illiteracy was widespread. Things began to change in the mid-1400s, when Johannes Gutenberg invented a printing press that allowed for mass production of literature with associated major cost savings. Prior to that, those who read the Bible were the educated few, including many Catholic clergy.

Praying with Scripture—especially the Psalms—dates back to the time before the Incarnation, when Jews prayed the Psalms at set times each day and also read other passages from Scripture. The early Church continued this practice, which gradually developed into the Divine Office, or Liturgy of the Hours, collected in a book known as the breviary.

In time, beginning in the 800s and particularly with uneducated Irish monks, a “poor man’s psalter” or breviary developed for those who couldn’t read and understand Latin. It consisted of the repeated praying of the Our Father or, in Latin, Paternoster. The term psalter derives from the 150 psalms in the book of Psalms. The monks and lay faithful would use prayer beads to keep track of the number of Our Fathers prayed.

Devotion to the Blessed Mother also increased over time, with the “Marian Psalter” becoming more common in the 1100s, and the praying of 150 Hail Marys mirroring the Paternosters prayed in the poor man’s psalter. Also, fifteen Our Fathers were added in short order to divide the Hail Marys into sets of ten or decades.

Then, in 1208, in Fanjeaux, France, according to the longstanding pious tradition, to which popes have attested for centuries, St. Dominic received from Our Lady the mandate to combine the recitation of the Marian Psalter with preaching and meditation on the key mysteries of her divine son’s life.

The timing was providential, because Dominic and other leaders in the Church were combating the Albigensians, a

heretical group whose members believed that the spiritual aspect of man was made by a good god and thus morally good, whereas the body was made by an evil god and thus morally bad. Consequently, mysteries of our Lord’s life that countered this dualistic error—e.g., the Incarnation and Christ’s passion, death, resurrection, and ascension—enabled Dominic and his confreres to form the faithful well through preaching and related meditation.

Some critics have countered that the tradition that Mary gave St. Dominic the rosary originated only in 1470, the miscreation of another Dominican, Blessed Alan de la Roche. In addition, these critics have argued, Dominic the Prussian, a Carthusian monk, actually started the meditative rosary—versus simply praying Hail Marys—earlier in the 1400s.

However, in the mid-20th century, French Dominican Mathieu Gorce cited an early-fourteenth-century document by a fellow Dominican describing the prayer of the Hail Mary accompanied by meditation on the mysteries of the faith—a method of preaching and prayer believed to have been entrusted to St. Dominic as a heavenly mission. Then, in 1977, Andreas Heinz, a historian at the University of Trier in Germany, discovered another early-fourteenth-century manuscript describing the rosary prayed with meditations on the life of Christ.

The last portion of the Hail Mary, in which Mary is prayerfully invoked, dates to the mid-1300s, as a response to the Black Plague that ravaged Europe. Though variations on the mysteries developed over time, the fifteen traditional mysteries would become standardized, beginning with the rosary revival Blessed Alan de la Roche started in the 1400s and which Pope St. Pius V authoritatively reaffirmed in his papal bull.

In 2002, Pope St. John Paul II instituted the Luminous Mysteries, which cover the period of Christ’s life from his adolescence to the beginning of Holy Week.



Over the past few months, I have been writing about the dangers of A.I. I have focused the article on families and the dangerous influence Artificial Intelligence poses.

The Vatican’s latest guidance on artificial intelligence reminds us that technology must always remain at the service of the human person, never as a substitute for him. While AI can offer valuable assistance, it can never replace human compassion, moral discernment, or the inherent dignity bestowed by God on every person. The Church urges us to approach these emerging tools with wisdom and responsibility, always safeguarding the vulnerable and advancing the common good. For us as Knights of Columbus, this is a timely reminder that even in an

increasingly digital age, we are called to uphold human dignity, live our faith, and show Christlike compassion in our families, parishes, and communities.

The following is an excerpt from “[Will AI marginalize the faithful? Catholics call for ethical oversight](#)” found on EWTN News.

Catholic leaders in Europe are warning that people of faith risk being pushed to the margins as artificial intelligence policy becomes dominated by technical and commercial interests rather than moral reflection. At a recent COMECE “Ethics of AI” dialogue in Brussels, advisers noted that “marginalization risk exists when guidance is shaped primarily by technical, commercial, and regulatory actors”, especially as the EU’s AI Act classifies high-risk systems in areas like employment, migration, and healthcare Current page. Failures in medical AI—such as diagnosis tools or robotic surgery—could lead to “serious injury or death”, underscoring the need for ethical oversight. Recent controversies, including investigations into X’s AI chatbot Grok for generating harmful deepfakes involving minors Current page and a U.S. trial on whether social-media algorithms harm children, highlight the urgency. Professor Philip McDonagh emphasized that faith communities reach “84% of the global population” and that excluding them widens gaps in ethical oversight and AI literacy. He and other leaders call for ongoing dialogue rooted in human dignity, pointing to Article 17 of the EU Treaty as a path for continued engagement Current page. They also note alignment between Vatican initiatives—such as the *Rome Call for AI Ethics*—and India’s MANAV vision, both urging AI that “supports rather than replaces human decision-making”. For Catholics, this moment is a reminder that the Church must help ensure technology serves the human person and the common good.

Pope Leo XIV’s *Magnifica Humanitas* teaches that in an age shaped by artificial intelligence, the Church must safeguard the God-given dignity and “magnificence” of the human person, warning that the deepest danger is not job loss or biased algorithms but the temptation to see ourselves as projects to be optimized rather than persons made for relationship and communion. The encyclical affirms that human limits—illness, aging, vulnerability—are not defects to erase but places where wisdom, solidarity, and God’s presence are discovered. AI, therefore, should support truth, education, authentic relationships, justice, and peace rather than efficiency as an ultimate value Current page. Drawing on Scripture—from Babel’s warning against technocratic self-assertion to Nehemiah’s model of communal, responsible building—the document calls all people, not only Catholics, to discern how technology can serve the common good without redefining humanity itself. (Read more at [Ascension Press](#))

## [University of Nebraska–Lincoln Issues Apology After Drag Performance Mocking the Mass](#)

~~More than a year after a drag show that openly mocked the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL) has formally apologized and met with Bishop James Conley to address the scandal and outline reforms. The April 12, 2025, event—titled the “*Mass of Perpetual Indulgence*”—included parodies of the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei, prompting widespread outrage among Catholics and Church leaders.~~

In an April 24 pastoral letter, Bishop Conley reported that he met with UNL President Jeffrey Gold and members of the Board of Regents to review how the university has responded to the incident. University officials acknowledged failures in oversight and communication and confirmed that new “guardrails” and review processes have been put in place to prevent similar offenses in the future Current page.

Among the reforms is the creation of an advisory group composed of ethicists, attorneys, and academic leaders to guide the university on sensitive or controversial projects going forward. President Gold also affirmed that additional oversight measures are now active, according to reporting cited by the bishop Current page.

Bishop Conley previously condemned the performance as “disturbing and appalling” and a “blatant public display of faith-based discrimination”. While the university’s apology and reforms mark a positive step, the incident remains a reminder of the ongoing need for vigilance, respectful dialogue, and courageous witness to the dignity of our faith in public life.

For Knights, this moment underscores our mission: to defend the Church, promote respect for the sacred, and stand firmly for religious liberty—always with charity, clarity, and conviction.

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## [Religious Freedom Case Emerges in Vidalia, Georgia](#) [The Catholic World Report](#)

A developing case in Vidalia, Georgia, highlights growing concerns about religious liberty, free speech, and parental rights in public education. For eleven years, Rev. Gady Youmans, a Baptist pastor, offered a voluntary release-time religious education program for high-school students—an arrangement fully permitted under U.S. law since the Supreme Court upheld such programs in *Zorach v. Clauson* (1952). Students attended off-campus classes with parental consent and received elective credit Current page.

The Vidalia City Schools superintendent abruptly terminated the program after Rev. Youmans posted Facebook comments critical of a proposed school tax increase and aspects of public education. When

questioned, officials shifted explanations and cited vague concerns about his Christian perspective, despite the program’s voluntary nature and long record of student participation Current page.

Represented by Alliance Defending Freedom, Rev. Youmans has filed an eight-count federal lawsuit alleging violations of his First Amendment rights—including free speech, free exercise, protection from compelled speech, and due process—along with claims under Georgia’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

The article argues that the school board’s actions amount to a “two-fer” infringement on both religious freedom and free speech, noting that Youmans was a private citizen, not a school employee, and that officials attempted to influence the content of his religious instruction—something the Supreme Court has repeatedly forbidden.

Georgia may soon require all school districts to adopt release-time policies under the pending Student Character Development Act, underscoring the statewide significance of the case.

As Knights, this case invites renewed reflection on our duty to defend religious liberty, support parents’ rights to direct their children’s formation, and remain vigilant when public institutions overreach into matters of faith.

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### [Angelic Answers: Rediscovering the Church’s Teaching on Angels and Spiritual Warfare](#)

In today’s culture, angels are often reduced to cute decorations, sentimental figurines, or vague symbols of comfort. While these images may be harmless, they miss the profound and awe-inspiring reality of what angels truly are—and why the Church takes them so seriously. In *Angelic Answers*, Fr. Mike Driscoll invites readers to rediscover the Church’s authentic teaching on angels, demons, and spiritual warfare, drawing deeply from Sacred Scripture and the rich theological tradition of the Church.

Everything You Need to Know About God’s Heavenly Messengers, Guardians, and Guides Since the beginning of time, they have attended the Holy Trinity with unending praise, and at the Bible’s pivotal moments they were present. They convey God’s saving messages and assist in his continual ordering of the cosmos. Some are hell-bent on our damnation; others intercede tirelessly for our salvation. And there is one assigned just to protect *you!*

They are the *angels*, the order of created spiritual beings: ubiquitous, uncountable, and yet for most of us a great mystery.

### **Pope Leo XVIII And The Rosary**



On his anniversary, Pope Leo XVIII reflected on how his choice of the papal name Leo connects him to Pope Leo XIII, who championed devotion to the rosary.

“Having chosen the name Leo places me in the footsteps of Leo XIII, who among his other merits, also developed an extensive Magisterium on the Holy Rosary,” the Pope said.

In his homily, Pope Leo XIV reflected on the importance of praying the rosary.

“The Hail Mary is an Invitation to joy,” he said, “it tells Mary and through her, all of us – that upon the ruins of our humanity, tried by sin and therefore ever prone to oppression, abuse, and way, God’s caress has come, the caress of merch, which takes on a human face in Jesus.”

Re described the repetition of Hail Mary in the prayer of the rosary as an echo of the angel Gabriel’s greeting at the Annunciation, an echo “that spans the centuries and directs the believer’s gaze to Jesus, seen through the eyes and heart of his Mother.”

In the rosary, he said “Jesus is adored, contemplated, and assimilated in each of his mysteries, so that with St. Paul we may say: ‘It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me’ (Gal 2:20).”



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### **Father McGivney: Founder’s Desire For Charity Built Knights Of Columbus [As seen in the Georgia Bulletin](#)**

Father Michael J. McGivney, a young Irish American priest serving in New Haven in the late nineteenth century, founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 as a charitable and fraternal society dedicated to helping Catholic immigrant families facing poverty and anti-Catholic prejudice. Before reaching the age of 30, he brought together 80 laymen in the basement of St. Mary’s Church to begin what would grow into the world’s largest Catholic men’s organization, now nearly 2 million members strong. McGivney’s vision responded to both material and spiritual needs: providing financial support for struggling families while offering a faithful alternative

to anti-Catholic secret societies that often preyed on vulnerable immigrants.

The article situates McGivney’s work within the massive wave of 19th-century Catholic immigration and the intense nativist backlash that included violence, discrimination, and public suspicion of Catholics loyalty to America.

America. His choice of the name “Knights of Columbus” was itself a rebuttal to anti-Catholic bigotry, highlighting that a Catholic—Christopher Columbus— had played a foundational role in American history.

Despite early struggles and criticism, McGivney’s persistence sustained the fledgling order, even as he carried a heavy pastoral workload in multiple parishes.

He died young at 38 after contracting pneumonia, but his legacy grew dramatically.

The Knights expanded into a global, ethnically diverse organization known for large-scale charitable giving, strong patriotism, and a clear commitment to Catholic moral teaching, especially on life and marriage issues

Father McGivney was beatified in 2020 after a Vatican-recognized miracle, and his cause for canonization continues.



### Comical Closure:

A parishioner told Father, “That was a wonderful sermon!”  
Father replied, “Don’t thank me — it was the Holy Spirit.”  
The parishioner said, “Well, it wasn’t that good.”  
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Father asked the children, “Why must we be quiet in church?”  
One child answered, “Because people are praying.”  
Another said, “Because Father is sleeping.”

