

# Knights of Columbus

## Core Values

All the good works we do are informed by our four core principles:

**Charity** – Our Catholic faith teaches us to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Members of the Knights of Columbus show **love for their neighbors** by conducting food drives and donating the food to local soup kitchens and food pantries, by volunteering at **Special Olympics**, and by supporting, both spiritually and materially, mothers who **choose life** for their babies. Knights recognize that our mission, and our faith in God, compels us to action. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

**Unity** – None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus all know that – together – we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So we stick together...we support one another. That doesn't mean that we always agree or that there is never a difference of opinion. It does mean that – as a Knight of Columbus – you can count on the support and encouragement of your brother Knights as you work to make life better in your **parish and community**.

**Fraternity** – Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, in large part, to provide assistance to the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died – often prematurely. The Order's top-rated **insurance program** continues to do this today, as do the good works of individual Knights, who gave more than 75.6 million service hours in 2017, illustrating how Catholics serve each other in fraternity and mercy.

**Patriotism** – Members of the Knights of Columbus, be they Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Cubans, Filipinos, Poles, or Dominicans, are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both. Whether it's in public or private, the Knights remind the world that Catholics support their nations and are amongst the greatest citizens.