

## Benefits of Council Membership

- ⊕ An opportunity to become part of the world's largest, Catholic, and fraternal organization.
- ⊕ A great way to make a personal contribution to the Catholic Church and community through charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.
- ⊕ Active participation in Council activities serves as a "school of leadership" which will enable you to develop qualities that enhance your strengths and abilities.
- ⊕ A sense of "belonging" in an organization that shares your religious beliefs and brings together like-minded men joined in a common cause.
- ⊕ Concerns for your family and your retirement years can be addressed by the Order's optional, low-cost life insurance.
- ⊕ A sense of pride, knowing that the Knights of Columbus is second to none in support of our Holy Father, our Bishops and Priests, and our fellow man.



### How to Join Council 11759

Any practicing Catholic male, 18 years of age and older, is eligible for membership in Council 11759. A registration form (Form 100) is available in the Church office or from any Knight. After the registration form is approved through the Church office and the Council at its next regular monthly meeting, the candidate is invited to a First Degree Exemplification (scheduled every two months or as needed in the district).

Upon receipt of the First Degree, the new Knight can attend all council meetings. First Degree members are encouraged to receive their 2nd and 3rd (Major) Degrees followed by the patriotic Fourth Degree.

Council initiation fee is \$15. Membership dues are only five dollars per month (\$15 paid quarterly or \$60 paid yearly).



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## COUNCIL 11759

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
BRYAN, TX**



## About the Knights

The Knights of Columbus (KofC) is a lay Catholic family fraternal service organization. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to all practical Catholic men, age eighteen and over, in communion with the Holy See. The term practical Catholic implies that a person accepts and abides by the Commandments of God and the precepts and tenets of the Catholic Church.

On October 2, 1881, Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor at St. Mary Church in New Haven, Connecticut, brought together a group of lay persons to discuss his dream for a Catholic fraternal benefit society. It not only would assist widows and orphans of deceased members through its life insurance program, but also would boost members' sense of pride in their Catholic religion, then frequently challenged in the anti-Catholic climate of 19th-century America. Father McGivney and his associates met several more times over the next several months to continue planning, and the new organization – the Knights of Columbus – was formally launched in February 1882.

The new Catholic organization chose the name Knights of Columbus to honor Christopher Columbus, the Catholic discoverer of America. The Order has evolved into a service organization with a strong family orientation.



## About Council 11759

Knights of Columbus Council 11759 was founded April 1996 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church at Preston and W. J. Bryan streets in Bryan, Texas. Monsignor John McCaffrey, the council's Chaplain, was instrumental in encouraging the men of the parish to form a Council. Founded with 60 charter members, the council now includes more than 200 Knights. The council's primary mission is to assist in the work of the Knights of Columbus, particularly in Charity, Family, Church, Youth, Community, and Pro-Life activities.

Council 11759 is a member of District 117 of the Diocese of Austin and is 100% in support of State Charities. It has attained Star Council status for many years.

### COUNCIL 11759 WEB SITE

<http://www.stjosephbcs.org>

### STATE COUNCIL WEB SITE

<http://www.tkofc.org>

### SUPREME COUNCIL WEB SITE

<http://www.kofc.org>

## About Council Meetings

Council 11759 officer-director meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center at St. Joseph Church in Bryan. All Knights are invited.

Regular monthly meetings of the membership are held on the third Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center at St. Joseph Church. A meal is served prior to the meeting.

## About Council Activities

KofC Council 11759 is highly active year-round within and outside of St. Joseph Parish.

Significant fundraising activities to support youth scholarships and seminarians include:

- Sportsman's Banquet (major fundraiser)
- Omelet Supper on Ash Wednesday

Family and social activities to support fraternity include:

- Christmas party for Knights families
- Spring Free Throw basketball
- Summer family social
- Summer swim party for parishioners

Charitable activities include:

- Coalition for Life / Good Samaritan
- Stand and Pray at abortion clinic
- Clergy Appreciation Banquet
- Seminarians (two or more)
- College and trade school scholarships
- St. Joseph Catholic School
- State Council Charities