



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Ohio
State Council

RESOLUTIONS

125TH STATE CONVENTION

**OHIO STATE COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

COVINGTON, KENTUCKY – MAY 18, 2024

**JEFF KILIANY
STATE DEPUTY**

**CHRISTOPHER SARKA
STATE ADVOCATE**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO.1

WHEREAS Blessed Michael McGivney was a dedicated priest, serving as the pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus with the help of several men of St. Mary's Parish in New Haven in 1882 to strengthen their faith and to provide financial assistance in the event of their death to the widows and orphans they left behind; and

WHEREAS The cause for Blessed Michael McGivney's sainthood was opened by Hartford Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin in December 1997 and was presented to the Vatican in 2000, and is now under review by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints; and

WHEREAS On Saturday, March 15, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI approved a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Blessed Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, and with this declaration significantly advanced Blessed Michael McGivney's process toward sainthood; and

WHEREAS Blessed Michael McGivney joined the rolls of the Blessed on October 31, 2021, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, Connecticut at which time, an Apostolic Letter from Pope Francis was read which recognized Blessed Michael McGivney's humility, charity and concern for the welfare of all people; and

WHEREAS We, the members of the Knights of Columbus, are profoundly grateful for this recognition of the holiness of our founder and the strength of the Knights of Columbus today is a testament to his timeless vision, his holiness, and his ideals.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, will vigorously continue to support the cause for sainthood of Blessed Michael McGivney, and that we continue to offer prayers of support for this noble and caring priest.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO.2

WHEREAS The Ohio Knights of Columbus honor and commend Pope Francis for leading a humble, Christ-like life of prayer, study of God's Word, and compassion for the poor that resulted in his election as the Supreme Pontiff, the Bishop of Rome, the 265th successor of Peter; and

WHEREAS Pope Francis is the spiritual leader of 1.36 billion Catholics world-wide as well as the many non-Catholic believers who prayed for the election of a Pope who would have a servant's heart and set a humble, Christ-like example for all Christians; and

WHEREAS On March 13, 2013, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the Jesuit Archbishop of Argentina, was providentially elected Supreme Pontiff by his fellow cardinal electors; and

WHEREAS Pope Francis has been praised by many for "building bridges" to glorify God, by taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world; and

WHEREAS Pope Francis chose the name Francis after Saint Francis of Assisi because he was a man of poverty, a man of peace, and a man who loved and protected all of God's wonderful creation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That we, the Knights of Columbus, will remain steadfast in our support for the Holy Father as we answer his call to be examples of Christian love and leaders who exemplify the virtue of charity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

The Knights of Columbus stand in solidarity with Pope Francis in praying for the sick, distressed, and impoverished throughout the world and recommit us to serving those in need wherever we are present; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, that the Knights of Columbus will never waver in its commitment to defend the Holy Father and assist him in his pastoral mission of bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 3

WHEREAS Archbishop William E. Lori was ordained to the priesthood on May 4, 1977, and his first assignment was as a parish priest at St. Joseph parish in Landover, Maryland; and

WHEREAS Archbishop Lori was appointed by the Supreme Knight in April 2005 to serve the Order of the Knights of Columbus as Supreme Chaplain; and

WHEREAS Archbishop Lori was ordained to the episcopate as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Maryland; and

WHEREAS Archbishop Lori provides spiritual guidance and direction to more than two million Knights throughout the world; and

WHEREAS He has been active in his support of Pro-Life and Catholic doctrine, serving on the Committee on Pro-Life Activities and the Committee on Doctrine of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; and

WHEREAS He has also worked diligently with the Holy Father to improve the integrity of the priesthood and the Catholic Church throughout the world; and

WHEREAS Archbishop Lori has been an advocate of Catholic education, serving as the chairman of the Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut, and the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, along with its membership continue to dedicate themselves to the principles represented by Archbishop Lori and support him in the promotion of values represented by our Order and our Church and continue to offer our prayers for his good health and well-being.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 4

WHEREAS The members of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus continue to offer our prayers and support for the efforts made by the Bishops of Ohio for their unceasing dedication on behalf of our Order and Church; and

WHEREAS The Bishops of Ohio have dedicated their lives to our Heavenly Father and our Church and have supported the many efforts brought forth by the members of the Knights of Columbus in Ohio; and

WHEREAS As faithful members of the Catholic Church, we brothers show our appreciation for the work of all our Ohio Bishops and for the leadership and spiritual guidance that they provide.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, do hereby pledge our continued support for and cooperation with the Bishops of Ohio in their respective dioceses throughout the fraternal year.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 5

WHEREAS Fr. James Lang was born in 1944 and raised in the faith by Claude and Dorthy Lang in Randolph, Ohio. Fr. Lang served his country from 1965 to 1967 as a member of the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1967; and

WHEREAS Fr. James Lang entered the seminary in 1967 and was ordained by Bishop James W. Malone in 1975. Fr. Lang has served as Associate Pastor or Pastor of several parishes throughout the Youngstown Diocese including Immaculate Conception Parish in Ravenna, St. Luke Parish in Boardman, St. Patrick Parish in Kent, St. Brendan Parish in Youngstown, St. James in Waynesburg, St. Michael Parish in Windham, St. George in Lisbon, St. Phillip in Dungannon, and St. John in Summitville. Fr. Lang also served as Chaplain for the Ohio National Guard and retired with the rank of Major; and

WHEREAS Fr. Lang joined the Knights of Columbus in 1976 where he served as Council Chaplain in Rootstown, Windham, and Youngstown. Fr. Lang retired in 2015 but continues to serve the people of God and the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS Fr. Lang strives to enrich the faith of the Knights in Ohio with timely spiritual messages at meetings in connection with the “Let Us Be Worthy” general program; and

WHEREAS We are truly grateful and appreciative of his time and dedication to serving the Order, the Ohio State Council, and the Knights of Columbus as our State Chaplain.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, offer sincere and heartfelt thanks to Fr. James Lang for his service and dedication to our Order over the past fraternal year.

Thank you, Father Lang!

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 6

WHEREAS, Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly, took office on March 1, 2021, serving as the chief executive officer and chairman of the board of the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization, with more than two million members:
and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly's has had a distinguished career in the Knights of Columbus, the military and public service. For more than 25 years, he has a demonstrated track record of service to Church and country, which serves him well in advancing the Knights' mission of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism;
and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly has served as Deputy Supreme Knight since 2017. Prior to that, he served as Vice President for Public Policy for 11 years, spearheading the Knights' interaction with the White House, Congress, and federal agencies. He has also served as State Deputy in the District of Columbia. As a longtime executive and fraternal leader of the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly served as the first executive director of the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C., and oversaw the renewal of the facility after its purchase by the Knights in 2011. During his tenure, the shrine became a leading pilgrimage site and a source of education and inspiration for Catholics throughout the United States and the world.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Council and its membership send our sincere thank you, congratulations, and warm fraternal greetings to our Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly, for his continuing service to our Order making our Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization the strong force for good that it is;

AND MAY IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky, on May 18, 2024, unanimously adopt this resolution and forward it to the Supreme Council as an expression of our sincere appreciation for his hard work and as an assurance of our continued prayers for the success of the Knights of Columbus under his leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

RESOLUTION NO. 7

WHEREAS, Patrick T. Mason joined the Knights of Columbus in 2008 at Fray Marcos Council #1783 in Gallup, NM where he gained extensive fraternal experience and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Patrick graduated from Thomas Aquinas College in 2003 with a double major in Philosophy and Theology and a double minor in Math and Science. He attended St. John's University School of Law in New York City and graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Law in Albuquerque. Patrick is a partner at the law firm of Mason & Isaacson, P.A., in Gallup, New Mexico, and has been nationally recognized for his work in the areas of federal Indian law and tribal courts; and

WHEREAS, Patrick is also the founder of Hózhó Academy (a New Mexico state charter school focusing on native/Indigenous students), Aequitas Education (a nonprofit promoting high-quality education programs for impoverished populations) and Life Is Sacred (a native/Indigenous pro-life advocacy organization); and

WHEREAS, Patrick joined the Supreme Council staff in 2020 as the Assistant Supreme Secretary after serving as State Deputy in 2016-2018 and was elected to the Board of Directors on March 9, 2021, as Supreme Secretary, the first Native American to serve in this role in the Order's 140-year history where he oversees the Fraternal Mission, Marketing, and the General Office of the Supreme Secretary departments and he also serves as secretary of Knights of Columbus Charities Inc., Knights of Columbus Charities USA, Knights of Columbus Canada Charities, the John Paul II Shrine and Institute, and the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center; and

WHEREAS, Patrick T. Mason (Gallup, New Mexico) is a member of the Osage Tribe, a Midwestern Native American tribe of the Great Plains where he and his wife, Rachel, are the proud parents of seven children.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky, on May 18, 2024, do hereby show by enthusiastic acclamation their appreciation for Supreme Secretary Patrick Mason's attendance at our convention. We, as a fraternal brotherhood, continue to pray for his continued good health and well-being in service to our Order. May God continue to bless him and guide him in His work.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

RESOLUTION NO. 8

WHEREAS Jeffrey T. Kiliany joined the Knights of Columbus on October 01, 1976, at Leetonia Council #1569 and the Patriotic Degree at Father Kermiet Assembly #841 on April 30, 2004; and

WHEREAS Jeff has served his council with extraordinary dedication, and accepting numerous positions and offices of importance; and

WHEREAS Jeff has served in multiple state positions including that of District Deputy, Diocesan District Deputy Coordinator, State Youth Director, State Church Director, State General Program Director, and

WHEREAS Jeff was elected State Warden at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Columbus, Ohio in 2017 and has since served the State Council with exemplary distinction in every state office including that of Advocate, Treasurer and Secretary; and

WHEREAS Jeff was elected to the highest office of State Deputy in 2023 and instituted his “Let Us Be Worthy” state program which has successfully directed our councils and the over 55,000 members in over 400 councils in support of our Catholic tradition and values; and

WHEREAS Jeff and wife Judy were married in 1979 and have three children, Jennifer, Beth Anne, and Patrick, and are proud grandparents of two grandsons and

WHEREAS Jeff and Judy are members of St. Patrick Parish in Leetonia, Ohio and have served as Eucharistic Ministers, Parish Youth Ministry Teachers, Marriage Preparation Sponsor Couple, and on Parish Council over many years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, do hereby congratulate and offer our sincerest thanks to State Deputy Jeffrey T. Kiliany and his team for navigating us successfully through these unprecedented and challenging years, and we offer by enthusiastic acclamation our endorsement of his successful programs and leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

RESOLUTION NO. 9

WHEREAS Mark A Siracusa joined the Knights of Columbus on September 01, 1984, at Bryan Council #1915 and the Patriotic Degree at Bishop Rappe Assembly #824 in 2012; and

WHEREAS Mark has served his council with extraordinary dedication, and accepting numerous positions and offices of importance; and

WHEREAS Mark has served in multiple state positions including that of District Deputy, Diocesan Membership Director, State Community Director, and

WHEREAS Mark was elected State Warden in 2013 and has since served the State Council with exemplary distinction in every state office including that of Advocate, Treasurer and Secretary; and

WHEREAS Mark was elected to the highest office of State Deputy in 2021 and instituted his “Lord, I am Your Servant.” state program which has successfully directed our councils and the over 54,000 members in over 400 councils in support of our Catholic tradition and values; and

WHEREAS Mark and wife Beth were married in 1976 and have one child Jenny and are proud grandparents of two grandchildren and

WHEREAS Mark and Beth are members of St. John XXIII in Perrysburg, Ohio and have served as Eucharistic Ministers, and on Parish Council and as a teacher/coach over many years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, do hereby congratulate and offer our sincerest thanks to Immediate Past State Deputy Mark A. Siracusa and his team for navigating us successfully through these unprecedented and challenging years, and we offer by enthusiastic acclamation our endorsement of his successful programs and leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 10

WHEREAS Sir Knight Edward Ponder of Centerville, Ohio has served as the Vice Supreme Master of the Hennepin Province during this past fraternal year, providing leadership and guidance for the Fourth-Degree membership in Ohio and Michigan; and

WHEREAS Edward Ponder has worked extensively for the good of the Order in his many capacities, showing exemplary dedication to the principles of the Knights of Columbus, to Patriotism, and to the continued success of the Military Chaplain Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS Edward Ponder has been an example of faith and fraternalism for our Order and Church, while promoting Columbianism in both Ohio and Michigan; and

WHEREAS We, the Ohio State Officers, Past State Deputies, and all members from the great state of Ohio are honored and proud to have Brother and Sir Knight Ponder and his lady, Mary Ann, serve as shining examples of the Fourth Degree in our Hennepin Province and wish them continued success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, extend Vice Supreme Master Edward Ponder and Lady Mary Ann our sincere fraternal greetings and best wishes.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESOLUTION NO. 11

WHEREAS The Knights of Columbus is a Brotherhood based on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism; and

WHEREAS Many Brother Knights in this great State of Ohio are veterans of the Armed Services; and

WHEREAS Brother Knights of this great State of Ohio have served in the Armed Services during World War I, World War II, and in military conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq; and

WHEREAS Many of these same Brother Knights have given up their lives for freedom in this great country and around the world; and

WHEREAS There are many veterans of the Armed Services in attendance at this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention; and

WHEREAS Brother Knights Anthony Roark, Robert Burns, David Bowling Jr., Edward Brand, Joseph Friedhof, and Edward Hiehle serve as Chairmen, Representatives, or Deputy Representatives for Center for Development and Civic Engagement (formerly known as VAVs) who sponsor activities to assist our disabled veterans in veteran hospital facilities throughout this great State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS We, as Knights of Columbus and patriotic citizens of this great country, the United States of America, set aside this Memorial Day, May 27, 2024, to honor our fallen service men and women.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Ohio State Officers, delegates, and guests attending this 125th Annual Ohio State Convention in Covington, Kentucky this May 18, 2024, take time to publicly honor our veterans here with us today and to stand for a moment of silence in respect to the men and women who have given their lives for this country in the name of freedom.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

The Ohio State Council Officers

March 16, 2024