



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
District of Columbia State Council

**121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

**(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)**

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title:** Resolution for the Cause of Vincent R. Capodanno, MM

**Resolution Text:** *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved,** \_\_\_\_\_  
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*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Merrill Armstrong/State Advocate

**Council:** \_\_\_\_\_

*[Imprint Council Seal]*

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **RESOLUTION FOR THE CAUSE OF FATHER VINCENT R. CAPODANNO**

**WHEREAS**, on September 4, 1967, Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno, a United States Navy chaplain assigned to a Marine Corps infantry unit during the Vietnam War, was killed in action while tending to the spiritual needs of wounded and dying Marines in the midst of battle; and,

**WHEREAS**, Vincent Robert Capodanno, born on February 13, 1929, in Staten Island, New York, was the tenth child of Italian immigrants, Vincent Robert Capodanno, Sr. and Rachel Basile Capodanno. Through the example of his parents, Vincent Jr. experienced the dignity of hard work, pride of family, strength of ethnic solidarity and most especially, love of their Catholic faith. These values sustained the family during the Great Depression and following the sudden loss of their patriarch on young Vincent's tenth birthday. He graduated from Curtis High School on February 4, 1947, and attended Fordham University for a year while also working as an insurance clerk. In 1949, he entered the Maryknoll Missionary Seminary in Ossining, New York, which included extensive studies in Illinois and Massachusetts. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest by Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York on June 14, 1958; and,

**WHEREAS**, his first assignment as a missionary was with aboriginal Taiwanese in the mountains of Taiwan, where he served in a parish and later in a school. After six years, he returned to the United States for leave and then was assigned to a Maryknoll school in Hong Kong. Shortly after, he requested to serve as a military chaplain in Vietnam as the American presence escalated; and,

**WHEREAS**, On December 28, 1965, Capodanno received his commission as a lieutenant in the Navy Chaplain Corps. He then requested and was assigned in April 1966 to the 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division in South Vietnam. As the chaplain for the battalion, his immediate focus was the young enlisted troops or "Grunts." Later transferred to a medical unit, Father Capodanno was more than a priest ministering within the horrific arena of war. He became a constant companion to the Marines: living, eating, and sleeping in the same conditions of the men. He established libraries, gathered and distributed gifts and organized outreach programs for the local villagers. He spent hours reassuring the weary and disillusioned, consoling the grieving, hearing confessions, instructing converts, and distributing St. Christopher medals. ; and,

**WHEREAS**, In June 1967 after a one-month leave, he returned to Vietnam for a voluntary six-month extension, and in July was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. In August, he was assigned to H&S Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. he was widely known for his willingness to share the hardships of suffering Marines – "Radiating Christ" to those around him, in the terminology of Father Raoul Plus, a World War One chaplain studied by Maryknollers – or simply the "Grunt Padre"

**WHEREAS**, the decree recognizes that It was during his second tour on September 4, 1967, with the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines that Father Vincent Capodanno made the ultimate sacrifice. When he heard that two platoons of M Company from his battalion were taking casualties and about to be overrun by the enemy, He went among the wounded and dying Marines of Second Platoon, helping them and giving last rites. After hours of heavy fighting from a North Vietnamese ambush, Father Capodanno, himself seriously injured and refusing medical evacuation, sighted and ran to the assistance of a wounded corpsman and the Marine he was assisting who were pinned down by an enemy machine gunner where he administered medical and spiritual attention. Despite being unarmed, the enemy opened fire and Father Capodanno, the victim of 27 bullet wounds, died faithfully performing his final act as a good and faithful servant of God; and,

**WHEREAS**, Secretary of the Navy Paul Ignatius notified the Capodanno family that Lieutenant Capodanno would posthumously be awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Chaplain of the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Reinforced), FMF, in connection with operations against enemy forces in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam; and,

**WHEREAS**, USS Capodanno (FF-1093) was named in honor of Lieutenant Capodanno, commissioned November 17, 1973, and became the first ship in the US fleet to receive a Papal Blessing when it was blessed by Pope John Paul II on September 4, 1981, the anniversary of the chaplain's death; and,

**WHEREAS**, the decree affirms that Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno showed tangible concern for the conditions of the Marines he served, and exhibited both the practice of the virtues and a ready response to the action of grace, which in every age signifies holiness; and,

**WHEREAS**, On May 19, 2002, Father Capodanno's Cause for Canonization was officially opened. In May 2004, the initial documentation was submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. On May 21, 2006, Father Capodanno's official designation as a Servant of God was announced in Washington D.C., by Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA and, on October 1, 2013, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio presided over the formal renewal of the opening of the Cause for Beatification

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we will pray for the beatification of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno, and encourage all Brother Knights and their families to become active members of the Father Vincent R. Capodanno Guild; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will pray for the intercession of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno for our needs and the needs of all our loved ones, and report any favors received; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes and our places of work; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will honor the vision of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno through a commitment to charity, unity and fraternity that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## District of Columbia State Council

121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title:** Proposed rule change to TOTAL DISABILITY GUIDELINES

Resolution Text: *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved, An application (Form 1831) for relief of dues payments because of TOTAL disability will be acted on and upon acceptance, there will not be requirement for annual reapplication. Only TEMPORARY disabilities will require ANNUAL reapplications.**

*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Everett Crosson, FS

**Council:** Keane Council #353

**Date:** February 24, 2020



[Imprint Council Seal]

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## District of Columbia State Council

121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title:** Proposed rule change: Reconciling the Orders Program and Fiscal Years

Resolution Text: *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved, Recognizing the need to reconcile our Fraternal organizational year (July through June) with our fiscal year of January through December, we resolve to make the years co-existent at July 1 through June 30.**

**Our college councils are impacted through the academic year arrival and departure of students much in the same manner as our election of officers. With each incoming class of officers there should be expectations of setting their own program and financial goals instead of having leftover program and financial obligations/expectations.**

**Further, there is a current constraint on the ability to print membership cards because the system is geared to a December startup.**

**This change will enhance the Order's fraternal mission.**

*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Everett Crosson, FS

**Council:** Keane Council #353

**Date:** February 24, 2020

[Imprint Council Seal]



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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
	X		



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
District of Columbia State Council

**121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

**(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)**

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title:** Felicitations and Gratitude to the Archbishop of the Military Services, USA, and Brother Bishops

Resolution Text: *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved,** \_\_\_\_\_  
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*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Merrill Armstrong/State Advocate

**Council:** \_\_\_\_\_

*[Imprint Council Seal]*

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FELICITATIONS AND GRATITUDE TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA, AND HIS BROTHER BISHOPS**

**WHEREAS**, the Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church, as successors of the Apostles, define the magisterial teachings of the Church and are charged with leading their churches for the greater glory of God; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus form the, “strong right arm of the Church,” and, as such, stand together in support of our bishops; and,

**WHEREAS**, the District of Columbia State Council has pledged itself, in a particular way, along with the Order at-large, to serve the Archdiocese of the Military Services, USA, whose headquarters is located within our territorial boundaries, but whose archdiocese is spread throughout the world.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we express to the Most Reverend Timothy Paul Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop of the Military Services, USA, our gratitude and affection for his pastoral care and leadership of the Church with special recognition of his concern for the welfare and growth of the Catholic military chaplaincy throughout the world; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we also express our felicitations and support for the Auxiliary Bishops of the Military Services, USA: Most Rev. William (Bill) Muhm, Most Rev. Frank Richard Spencer, Most Rev. Neal James Buckon, and Most Rev. Joseph L. Coffey.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
District of Columbia State Council

**121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

**(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)**

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title:** Resolution Honoring our Armed Forces

**Resolution Text:** *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved,** \_\_\_\_\_  
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*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Merrill Armstrong/State Advocate

**Council:** \_\_\_\_\_

*[Imprint Council Seal]*

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **RESOLUTION HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES**

**WHEREAS**, Knights of Columbus support for the armed forces dates back to the early 20th century, most notably with the establishment of the Knights of Columbus morale centers supporting the welfare of Allied troops during the First World War; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Order operated centers in more than 100 locations throughout Europe serving the physical and spiritual needs of soldiers under the motto, “Everybody Welcome, Everything Free,”; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Order’s support for the armed forces continues to the present day, most notably with the distribution of 500,000 military prayer books, including an English and French version, to U.S. and Canadian troops around the world; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus maintains 64 active military councils around the world and have five war-zone roundtables in Iraq and Afghanistan with another in the war-torn Horn of Africa; and,

**WHEREAS**, our Brother Knights, along with thousands of other servicemen and women, are presently deployed in hostile and unstable regions around the world in efforts to combat terrorism, maintain order and promote peace; and,

**WHEREAS**, the families of those courageous servicemen and women now deployed are praying for their safe return; and,

**WHEREAS**, many of these men and women have heroically given their lives or sustained serious or debilitating injury while deployed in the service of their country; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus is committed to “serving those who served” through the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services program, with Brother Knights donating more than 100,000 hours of volunteer service at over 136 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers last year.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will never waver in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on Active Duty, in the Guard, in the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we prayerfully support and encourage the families of those servicemen and women who are deployed overseas; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we continue to pray for the mission success and the safe return of all military personnel, especially those deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, and other combat zones throughout the world; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we now pay tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious combat injuries, and we pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the service of their country; and be it,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

# RESOLUTION

## NOMINATING CARL A. ANDERSON TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**WHEREAS**, Carl A. Anderson is currently serving a three-year term as a Supreme Director of the Knights of Columbus and was most recently elected to that position in August 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, he is a Past Grand Knight and current member of Potomac Council 433 located in Washington, DC and is also a Past State Deputy of the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, he currently serves as Supreme Knight and his tenure as Supreme Knight has been marked by a vigorous fidelity to the principles of the Order, a tenacious support of the Holy Father, and a renewed vitality in the Knights of Columbus around the globe.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the membership of the Knights of Columbus expresses to Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson our gratitude for his leadership and inspiration in furthering the cause of Columbianism and in providing unwavering support to our Holy Father, bishops, priests, and the teachings of the Catholic Church; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District of Columbia State Council whole-heartedly endorses and hereby nominates Carl A. Anderson to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

District of Columbia State Council

**121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

## **Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

**(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)**

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

**Resolution Title: Resolution in support of persecuted Christians in Nigeria by terrorist groups.**

Resolution Text: *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved, See attached.**

*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

**Name/Title:** Godwin Ugbor, Grand Knight &  
Dr. Emmanuel Ukwandu, IPGK

**Council:** Blessed Tansi Nigerian Council  
#11496

*[Imprint Council Seal]*

**Date:** 02/24/2020

## **Resolution in support of persecuted Christians in Nigeria by terrorist groups.**

**WHEREAS**, BOKO Haram, a terrorist group and its affiliates target Christians in Northern Nigeria and elsewhere; and

**WHEREAS**, Boko Haram continues to slaughter, murder and kill Christian men, women, children and pregnant women; and

**WHEREAS**, these terrorist groups rape both women and children of these vulnerable Christian victims and sold some into slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, these groups have driven the Christians away and have burned down their churches, homes and places of worship and in some cases killed their priests and pastors; and

**WHEREAS**, these Christians having escaped death and survived by either a husband, wife or child (ren) are now desperately in need of shelter and food; and

**WHEREAS**, these killings and displacements by Boko Haram has created refugee crises of orphans of more than 1.4 million and counting in most parts of Nigeria; and

**WHEREAS**, the local and private responses are lacking due to mass poverty to extend aid in a measurable scale to alleviate the suffering of these victims; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has urged the international community to respond to these human tragedies and Christian persecutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus Refugee Relief Fund can assist in no small measure to aid these victims, and

**WHEREAS**, the Nigerian government's inaction and or limited resources to deal with these crises abound; and

**FURTHERMORE**, we call on governments around the world especially the Nigerian government to take concrete measures to resolve these crises; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Blessed Tansi Nigerian Council #11496 of Knights of Columbus call on all Councils and Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus to pledge their support to seek out these orphans and extend aid to them in their orphanages especially in Eastern Nigeria and elsewhere; and stand in solidarity with all Christians around the world who suffer from persecutions because of their faith, and call on all people of goodwill to do same.

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Merrill Armstrong

State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno

State secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

<b>Adopt</b>	<b>Reject</b>	<b>Refer to State Executive Committee</b>
<b>X</b>		



Washington Council #224

 [Kofc224@gmail.com](mailto:Kofc224@gmail.com)  
 @WashintonCouncil224  
 @kofc224dc

5034 Wisconsin Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
Tel No.: (202) 363-8222

Website: <http://www.uknight.org/224>

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **On promoting greater understanding on Human Dignity and Palliative Care in light of *Death with Dignity's* campaign to legalize Euthanasia throughout the United States**

**THIS RESOLUTION**, is hereby executed, declared and made by the undersigned officers, on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, the Two Thousand and Twentieth Year of Our Lord (2020),

**WHEREAS**, Washington Council #224 (“the Council”), chartered on April 25, 1898 by the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus (“Supreme”), is a Catholic fraternal service organization dedicated to putting its core principles of charity, unity and fraternity into action for the greater glory of God and its local parishes, D.C. community, and members.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council’s members desire to promote fraternity among its members and beyond its members to all human persons is part of our shared human nature and Christ’s great commandment “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22:39.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council’s members are going more distributed with the on-going movement to legalize euthanasia in the United States which seemingly conflicts with the principles of charity, unity, and fraternity.; and

**WHEREAS**, currently the states of California, Colorado, Oregon, Vermont, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, Hawaii, and Washington as well as the District of Columbia have legalized euthanize by legislation or judicial intervention under the campaign entitled *Death with Dignity*.; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Death with Dignity* campaign maintains that the human person has the autonomous “right to medical aid in dying to a small number of qualified terminally ill individuals while protecting all others against coercion and abuse.” Remarks to the Maryland General Assembly, Peg Sandeen, Executive Director *Death with Dignity*, January 28, 2020.; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Death with Dignity* campaign now seeks to legalize euthanasia throughout the entire United States of America including its states, commonwealths, territories and districts in order to codify their belief in an autonomous “right” to medical suicide.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Catholic Church teaches that, “discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be

*Serving the oldest and most historical parishes in Washington, D.C. since April 25, 1898  
Holy Trinity Catholic Church (1787), Annunciation Catholic Church (1846),  
St. Ann’s Catholic Church (1869), and the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament (1911)*

Washington Council #224

Resolution on \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

legitimate; it is the refusal of ‘over-zealous’ treatment. Here one does no will to cause death; one’s inability to impeded it is merely accepted.” Catechism of the Catholic Church, § 2278.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Catholic Church further explains that, “even if death is imminent, the ordinary care owed to a sick person cannot be legitimately interrupted...[so long as]...death is not willed as an ends or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable. Palliative care is a special for disinterested charity. As such it should be encouraged.” Catechism of the Catholic Church, § 2279.; and

**WHEREAS**, some Council members have expressed that *Death with Dignity* may be rooted in good intentions of palliative care but misunderstands the importance of human dignity granted to each human person by the Divine.;

**WHEREAS**, the Council members seek to broaden further understanding on the issues involving the dying person and palliative care in light of human reason and divine teachings as part of our mission to promote charity, unity and fraternity to all persons especially those in favor or promoting the *Death with Dignity* campaign.

**IN CONSIDERATION, THEREFORE**, of the forgoing premises which are incorporated herein, the By-laws, Rules and Regulations Committee has recommended for the Council’s approval the following resolutions. Upon review of the forgoing, the Committee’s recommendations, and discussion among the members, the Council, upon proper motion, duly seconded, and approved by a majority of the eligible members on the 25th day February, 2020 present declares, publishes and makes known that:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council supports the dignity of the human person as understand by human reason and the teachings of Christ at all stages of human life, including the inevitable death of the person through proper palliative care to help persons facing the inevitability of death by means of painkillers, counseling, and other appropriate medical aid to ameliorate pain, anxiety and worry arising from dying.; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that the Council maintains that the *Death with Dignity* campaign, albeit perhaps well-intended, fails to properly understand the dignity of the human person as a gift from the divine and not an autonomous right created by legislation or a judicially constructed personal liberty right from “the penumbras of the Bill of Rights” *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 152 (1973).; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that the Council requests the D.C. State Council and the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus to promote further education and discussion on the topics of human dignity and palliative care among its members in order to combat the on-going legalization of euthanasia and help all people reach the universal truth on death and human dignity.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we set our hands and seal to affirm on the forgoing date.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES P. STRAHOTA

Washington Council #224  
Resolution on \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

(Council Seal)

Grand Knight

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREW A. GORMAN, PGK  
Financial Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



Washington Council #224



5034 Wisconsin Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
Tel No.: (202) 363-8222

Website: <http://www.uknight.org/224>

## **RESOLUTION**

### **On promoting greater understanding on Pope Francis' *Querida Amaonia***

**THIS RESOLUTION**, is hereby executed, declared and made by the undersigned officers, on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, the Two Thousand and Twentieth Year of Our Lord (2020),

**WHEREAS**, on February 2, 2020, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, his Holiness Francis, Bishop of Rome, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church, and our Holy Father has published his post synodal apostolic exhortation entitled *Querida Amazonia* ("Beloved Amazon") in Rome from the Cathedral of Saint John Lateran to us to read, consider, understand and practice.; and

**WHEREAS**, previously, his Holiness convened the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Regional ("the Amazon Synod") that was held in Rome on October 6-27, 2019 to discuss how to evangelize in the Amazon region including its indigenous peoples, how to improve the quality of life for the peoples in the Amazon area; and how to better protect the Amazon ecology and environment from consumerism and globalization.; and

**WHEREAS**, during the Amazon Synod, the Bishops considered other measures regarding marriage priests, the ordination of women to the diaconate and other innovated means to address the problems of evangelization in the Amazon region.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Amazon Synod has received criticism for consideration of this topics. Moreover, critics have conflated these issues with the current text of our Father *Querida Amazonia* which does authorize or modify the Church's current stance on married priests and women ordination movements.; and

**WHEREAS**, in his exhortation, our Holy Father grants us "a framework for reflection that can apply concretely to the life of the Amazon region...that can help guide us to a harmonious, creative and fruitful reception of the entire Synodal process." *Querida Amazonia* ¶ 6. Moreover, our Holy Father invites us to contemplate four great dreams for the Amazon Region, to wit: "A Social Dream," "A Cultural Dream," "An Ecological Dream," and "An Ecclesial Deam.;" and

**WHEREAS**, our Holy Father, aware of the criticisms of the Amazon Synod and its final reports, "encourages everyone to read [the Synod's Final Report] in full." Id. at 3.; and

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Holy Trinity Catholic Church (1787), Annunciation Catholic Church (1846),  
St. Ann's Catholic Church (1869), and the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament (1911)*

**WHEREAS**, the current exhortation before us challenges us as the reader to consider the broader and difficult questions on how to evangelize to the Amazon's indigenous people who have a multitude of different languages and customs in far and distant rural and forest areas outside of Western Civilization's "global network;" how the Church can help preserve the customs, language and cultures of the indigenous people; how to "preserve [the Amazon's] overwhelming natural beauty and the superabundant life teeming in its rivers and forests;" and how to "incarnate" the Church and her teachings into the Amazon region. Id at 7.;

**WHEREAS**, the Washington Council #224 ("the Council"), chartered on April 25, 1898 by the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus ("Supreme"), is a Catholic fraternal service organization dedicated to putting its core principles of charity, unity and fraternity into action for the greater glory of God and its local parishes, D.C. community, and members.; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Thomas Aquinas teaches us that "charity is the friendship of man for God" because with God because the human person as a spiritual being is called into fellowship with the Divine through Jesus Christ. Summa Theologiae, Second Part of the Second Part, Q. 23, Art. 1.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council's members continue to seek understanding of God's ways in our world through charity which includes the Amazon region and all peoples of the earth. Moreover, the Council's members have long maintained to not cause scandal of the Holy Church and seek truth, goodness and beauty in all aspects of the world.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council members seek to broaden further understanding on the issues presented by our Holy Father in *Querida Amazonia* as part of our mission to promote charity, unity and fraternity to all persons including those in the Amazon Region.

**IN CONSIDERATION, THEREFORE**, of the forgoing premises which are incorporated herein, the By-laws, Rules and Regulations Committee has recommended for the Council's approval the following resolutions. Upon review of the forgoing, the Committee's recommendations, and discussion among the members, the Council, upon proper motion, duly seconded, and approved by a majority of the eligible members on the 25th day February, 2020 present declares, publishes and makes known that:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council welcomes the Supreme Pontiff's latest exhortation *Querida Amazonia* and his framework of four major dream to the Amazon Region, to wit: "A Social Dream," "A Culture Dream," "A Ecological Dream," and "An Ecclesial Dream" as written by his Holiness without any \_\_unsaid or self-imposed prejudices not addressed in the exhortagaion."

Washington Council #224  
Resolution on \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we set our hands and seal to affirm on the forgoing date.

(Council Seal)

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES P. STRAHOTA  
Grand Knight

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREW A. GORMAN, PGK  
Financial Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## District of Columbia State Council

**121st State Convention - April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting**

**(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Tuesday, February 25, 2020)**

Worthy State Secretary:

In accordance with the established rules and by-laws of our Order, the following resolution was duly approved by this Council for consideration at the annual meeting of the District of Columbia State Council to be convened Saturday, April 25th, 2020.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE COUNCIL WELCOMES SUPREME CONVENTION-2020  
**Resolution Title:** THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE COUNCIL WELCOMES SUPREME CONVENTION-2020

Resolution Text: *(Please write or type the text of the resolution below or attach a separate sheet)*

**Resolved,** WHEREAS, THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOLD THEIR SUPREME ANNUAL CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ON AUGUST 4-6-2020,  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE COUNCIL, WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EXTENDS ITS WELCOME AND GREETINGS TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL, MEMBERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL, WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC on August 4-6, 2020.

Attested by the placement of the official seal of this Council.

Fraternally,

VENANTIUS OKEM ONUNAKU, ADVOCATE,

**Name/Title:** ID# 2502714

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES COUNCIL # 9386  
**Council:**

**Date:** 02-21-2020.

*Ray Pierno F.S.*  
2.24.2020

[Imprint Council Seal]

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

## IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

**WHEREAS**, the Second Vatican Council declared in *Dignitatis Humanae* that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which requires that all people are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no one should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

**WHEREAS**, the right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance, which can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has called religious freedom “a fundamental right of man,” that is “not simply freedom of thought or private worship” but “the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly;” and

**WHEREAS**, since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has worked to defend religious freedom for all people and has done so out of a commitment to our faith and our unshakeable belief that religious freedom is a basic human right; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order’s work on behalf of religious freedom included efforts in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, which affirmed the right of children to a Catholic education in opposition to the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan; and

**WHEREAS**, our work for religious freedom also included protesting the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s; efforts to combat the anti-religious worldview of Communism; and the inclusion of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance to distinguish the United States from anti-religious governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has urged the Knights of Columbus to draw the attention of Catholic Americans “to contribute to the reasoned defense” of religious freedom and reminded us that “to the extent that this right is menaced...there is a need for a mobilization of consciences on the part of all those citizens who, regardless of party or creed, are concerned for the overall welfare of society.”

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that as citizens and as Knights of Columbus, we will remain steadfast in our support for the free exercise of religion as it is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we stand firm in our conviction that the full guarantee of religious liberty cannot be limited to “freedom of worship” as some have claimed, but must include full “freedom of religion,” which necessarily encompasses the public dimension of religion, the freedom from persecution or discrimination on the basis of conscience and belief, and the fact that believers are called to play an active role in building the social order; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we applaud the actions of the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to issue guidance and promulgate regulations designed to enforce robust religious freedom protections in federal law; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will always speak out against any effort to impose religious tests on candidates or nominees for government positions and applaud the unanimous passage of Senate Resolution 19, sponsored by Senator Ben Sasse of Nebraska, that renews the Senate’s support for the prohibition against religious tests for public office enumerated in Article VI of the Constitution of the United States; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the U.S. Congress to pass the Conscience Protection Act and thereby codify in law that no person can be forced to participate in abortion against his or her will; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call upon all government officials in all of the countries where we are active to enact legislation that will protect the right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we will remain steadfast in our opposition to future governmental actions or policies that force institutions and individuals to violate their most deeply held religious beliefs; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

## EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR BISHOPS AND PRIESTS

**WHEREAS**, the call to the priesthood is a holy call from God that should be encouraged, nurtured and celebrated by Catholic families and the entire Catholic Church community; and

**WHEREAS**, from November 10, 2018 through June 13, 2019, the Knights of Columbus sponsored a national pilgrimage of the incorrupt heart of St. Jean Vianney to promote prayers for the priesthood and Holy Mother Church; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus was founded by a parish priest whose own life and ministry mirrored that of St. John Vianney and has inspired our Order's long history of support for the priesthood as part of our critical mission of service to the Church.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus and all expresses our extreme gratitude and appreciation for the many wonderful and gifted bishops and priests who have labored in our parishes and in our various dioceses; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call upon all Knights of Columbus families to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and for all councils to support those in formation for the priesthood through the Refund Support Vocations Program with the hope that more young men in the mold of St. John Vianney come forward to guide the faithful and become the future leaders of our Church; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

**IN RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS AND OTHER CIVILIAN  
GOVERNMENT AGENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the United States operates embassies and consular offices throughout the world which are staffed by professional foreign service officers who work hard every day to represent our country to the outside world; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States government relies on the dedicated service of many civilian agents throughout the world whose service is critical to the preservation of peace and the American way of life; and

**WHEREAS**, these Foreign Service Officers and civilian agents put their lives on the line every day and, in some cases, pay the ultimate price in defense of American ideals and peace; and

**WHEREAS**, many members of the Order are current or former Foreign Service Officers or other civilian government agents; and

**WHEREAS**, in at least in one instance Former District Warden and State Ceremonials Director Brian D. Adkins of the District of Columbia, gave his life in this service of peace.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we thank our foreign service officers and other civilian government agents for all their efforts to preserve peace in the world; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

### STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

dopt	A ject	Re Action	No Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

## IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

**WHEREAS**, Christians are the group most targeted for persecution around the world according to the Pew Research Center, and have been a target of a genocide by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has urged the international community to respond to this immense humanitarian tragedy; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Holy Father has expressed his appreciation to the Knights of Columbus for our support of those “brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world suffering from...violent persecution” through our Christian Refugee Relief Fund, which has now committed more than \$25 million; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus developed the nearly 300-page report detailing the genocide being waged against Christians and other minorities, and undertook massive publicity, advertising, and advocacy efforts which led to the U.S. Secretary of State’s official declaration of genocide in March 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order’s advocacy and report was not only decisive in securing this declaration of genocide, but also in securing the unanimous passage of two bi-partisan resolutions, H. Con. Res. 75 and S. Con Res. 33, both expressing the 114th U.S. Congress’ belief that a genocide was occurring and that the international community must respond; and

**WHEREAS**, advocacy, research, and technical assistance from the Knights of Columbus has been instrumental in changing U.S. policy to help end what was tantamount to de facto discrimination against the most vulnerable victims of ISIS; and

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

### STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

dopt	A ject	Re Action	No Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus has signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Agency for International Development to collaborate on relief efforts and to share information to help increase the effectiveness of the government's response to this crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Congressional testimony by the Supreme Knight laid the blueprint for the introduction of H.R. 390, the Iraq and Syria Refugee Relief and Accountability Act, bi-partisan legislation sponsored by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) and Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), which is designed to help ensure the U.S. Government take the necessary steps to aid these targeted communities and bring the perpetrators of this genocide to justice; and

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 390 passed both the House and the Senate unanimously and was signed into law in December 2018 by President Donald Trump in a ceremony attended by the Supreme Knight and other faith leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Knight and members of the supreme office staff have travelled to Iraq and seen firsthand the sufferings endured by the Christian communities there; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2019 the Supreme Knight addressed senior government officials from around the world on this issue at the State Department's Ministerial on Religious Freedom.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with all Christians around the world who are suffering from violent persecution, and we call on all Christians and people of good will to do the same; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus has dedicated its ongoing 18<sup>th</sup> Marian Prayer Program to Our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians, and encourages all Knights of Columbus families to pray that the Blessed Mother intercede on behalf of all those persecuted for their faith in her divine Son; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend those nations providing support to religious minorities seeking to rebuild their lives after persecution by ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and call on all governments and legislative bodies around the world to recognize this genocide against Christians and other religious minorities and to assist these persecuted communities; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend the Government of the United States for its changes in policy designed to assist these vulnerable communities and for its promise of assistance to them, and call on it to direct the designated funding to these communities with all possible speed; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the Government of the United States to take quickly the following three steps: (1) continue to demand the United Nations assist the communities that have suffered genocide by including them in humanitarian and reconstruction aid; (2) demand the appropriate international body prosecute those guilty of genocide in Iraq and Syria; and (3) continue to work with the international community to defeat the Islamic State and similar terrorist groups; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus pledges to continue to provide assistance to those who are victims of atrocities, especially those Christians who have faced violent persecution because of their faith; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

### STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

## **SUPPORTING A CULTURE OF MARRIAGE**

**WHEREAS**, marriage is a natural institution, pre-dating the state, that is based on ancient human values and that has been recognized over time as a unique and deeply rooted social, legal, and religious institution; and

**WHEREAS**, marriage reflects the natural biological complementarity between a man and a woman, which is woven into the social and religious fabric of every major culture and society; and

**WHEREAS**, on numerous occasions, Pope Francis has reminded us of the importance of the Order's role in the protection and promotion of marriage, including in his message to our 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in San Antonio, his first as pope, and invited all Knights "...to bear witness to the authentic nature of marriage and the family...and the beauty and truth of human sexuality;" and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis declared in his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* "that only the exclusive and indissoluble union between a man and a woman has a plenary role to play in society as a stable commitment that bears fruit in new life."

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus renews its commitment to supporting the Catholic Church's teaching on marriage; and,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

### STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

dopt	A ject	Re Action	No Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

## **BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE**

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus has a deep and historic commitment to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order supports programs that provide women facing crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects that provide spiritual support to those women suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

**WHEREAS**, our Ultrasound Program has provided a window to the womb by placing more than 1,200 ultrasound machines in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and a growing number of Canadian provinces; and

**WHEREAS**, we reaffirm our commitment to building a “culture of life” by promoting policies that favor the family, and by recognizing that it is within strong and healthy families that moral values are taught and the spiritual heritage of the nation is transmitted; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting marches and rallies for the cause of life in the countries where we have a formal presence; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Benedict XVI reiterated that “Catholic politicians and legislators, conscious of the grave responsibility before them, must feel particularly bound, on the basis of a properly formed conscience, to introduce and support laws inspired by values grounded in human nature;” and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has called abortion the product of, “widespread mentality of profit, the throwaway culture, which has today enslaved the hearts and minds of so many;” and

## **DECENCY IN THE MEDIA AND ON THE INTERNET**

**WHEREAS**, pornography, sympathetic depictions of promiscuity, excessive violence, and profanity in the entertainment media and on the Internet are leading to a coarsening of our cultural life; and

**WHEREAS**, the ready accessibility of pornography on the internet and the pervasive presence of objectionable sexual content, excessive violence, and profanity in movies, the music industry, the video game industry, and on television and radio are making it more difficult to raise children in a healthy atmosphere that protects their innocence; and

**WHEREAS**, pornography, objectionable sexual content, excessive violence, and profanity in the media offends the dignity and integrity of the person and have a destructive impact on marriages and on family life; and

**WHEREAS**, pornography is frequently connected to other criminal activity and is often a contributing factor leading to the crimes of human trafficking and the sexual abuse of children.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus condemns pornography, objectionable sexual content, excessive violence, and profanity in the media and calls upon the entertainment industry, the video game industry, and internet providers to maintain high standards of decency that will protect children and promote healthy family life; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend those in the entertainment and retail industries who produce and/or sell family-friendly media products; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we commend and thank those law-enforcement officials who enforce laws against child pornography, human trafficking; and selling adult rated materials to minors; and

***FURTHER RESOLVED***, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			

**WHEREAS**, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminded us that, “Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development;” and

**WHEREAS**, in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, the Holy Father reiterated that “Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion;” and

**WHEREAS**, in remarks to the leadership of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis reiterated that “protection of the unborn is a preeminent priority” and it is not first a religious issue, but rather an issue of human rights.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we reiterate our support for the Hyde Amendment, the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, the Protect Life Rule, and other such provisions that prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to directly pay-for or subsidize abortions and call on the all governments to ensure these protections are maintained; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we applaud actions by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that individuals in their care are not subjected to the harm of abortion and that no American is forced to participate in an abortion against their conscience; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we believe women deserve better than abortion and will continue to support crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects which provide spiritual support to those women and men suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church's authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato Si'*, and other documents; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said "yes" to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a "culture of life;" and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be submitted for adoption by the Supreme Council.

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Merrill Armstrong  
State Advocate

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Christopher Pierno  
State Secretary

**STATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt	Reject	No Action	Refer to State Executive Committee
X			