

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

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

Resolved, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake; state and federal holidays established in his honor; and, public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus' lead ship on that historic 15th century journey

The Committee Voted No Action

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, in 1492 Christopher Columbus obtained permission and financial support from the King and Queen of Spain to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean in search of new trade routes; and

WHEREAS, on October 12 of that year, Columbus' expedition landed in what is today the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, immediately erecting a cross and naming the island San Salvador, in honor of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World; and

WHEREAS, Columbus set forth a policy that his men were to treat the native people in the new world with respect and sentenced to death men who disobeyed this order, which resulted in his own arrest and return to Spain in chains; and

WHEREAS, the 16th century historian Bartolomé de las Casas, who exposed terrible abuses of native peoples, defended Columbus' motivations saying, "...I knew him well and I know his intentions are good;" and

WHEREAS, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' first voyage to the Americas, Pope Leo XIII reflected on Columbus' strong Catholic faith writing, "it is fitting that we should confess and celebrate in an especial manner the will and designs of the Eternal Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching," and ordered the celebration of Solemn Mass of the Most Holy Trinity in honor of the occasion; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison similarly commemorated the anniversary by declaring a national Columbus holiday that year to provide, "expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer, and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people;" and

WHEREAS, following this anniversary of Columbus' voyage, memorials and celebrations in honor of Columbus became popular in the United States as ways to celebrate the Catholic history of the Western Hemisphere and to speak out against anti-Catholicism in the United States; and

WHEREAS, at the height of the nativist and anti-Catholic sentiment of the late 19th century, Columbus was chosen as the Order's namesake because he was one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history, and because the founding members of the Order believed the explorer symbolized that faithful Catholics can also be patriotic American citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 1906 the Knights of Columbus advocated for the construction of a



monument in Washington, DC in honor of Columbus and, when it was completed in 1912, President William Howard Taft presided at the dedication ceremony which was attended by several foreign ambassadors, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and thousands more interested spectators leading to the observation that “every possible vantage point was filled;” and

WHEREAS, several states began establishing holidays in honor of Columbus and, following the strong urging of the Knights of Columbus and several civic organizations, the United States declared Columbus Day a federal holiday in 1937; and

WHEREAS, the strong Catholic identity associated with Columbus Day led the Ku Klux Klan to denounce the celebration of the holiday as a “papal fraud” and even burn a cross at a Knights of Columbus celebration of Columbus Day in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, to further accomplish its anti-Catholic goals in the United States, the Klan, and other nativist forces, began the trend of disparaging Columbus suggesting he was not a hero of western history, but rather just another foreign conqueror who was guilty of genocide, slavery, and oppression; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, these claims have been repeated leading to the propagation of further misinformation about Columbus and actions to abolish references to Columbus and remove monuments and commemorations to Columbus’ life—many of which were first established by Catholic immigrants seeking to establish their place in American culture and fight discrimination.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake; state and federal holidays established in his honor; and, public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus’ lead ship on that historic 15th century journey; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted for adoption to 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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution HONORING PAST SUPREME KNIGHT CARL A. ANDERSON

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

Resolved, the Knights of Columbus extends its profound appreciation and gratitude to Carl A. Anderson for his lifetime of service to the Catholic Church and his more than 34 years of service to the Order; and we also extend our gratitude to Mrs. Anderson, and their whole family, for their commitment to the Knights of Columbus and their support of Past Supreme Knight Anderson's lifetime of service

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: **Christiaan Van Nispen, GK, FDD**

Council: Potomac Council #433

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

HONORING PAST SUPREME KNIGHT CARL A. ANDERSON

WHEREAS, Carl A. Anderson has dedicated his life to the support of the Catholic Church through the promotion of its social teaching, the education of thousands in its theology, and through evangelization of the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, in the earliest days of his career as an attorney and civil servant, he worked to establish policies such as the Hyde Amendment, the Helms Amendment, and the Mexico City Policy which serve to the present day as the gold standard for protecting the lives of unborn children throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, he served the Government of the United States with distinction as a congressional aide where he helped to establish the Bipartisan Congressional Pro-Life Caucus; as Counselor at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and, as a senior staff member within the Executive Office of President Ronald W. Reagan; and

WHEREAS, in 1987 he joined the Supreme Council staff of the Knights of Columbus as Vice President for Public Policy representing the Order before federal and state governments, and as a clarion voice in Washington supporting the Church's social teaching; and

WHEREAS, from 1990 to 2000 he served as a Commissioner on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights where he brought a full understanding of the human person to the Commission's mission to ensure equal protection under the law for all; and

WHEREAS, since 1983 he has been associated with the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, a school of theology committed to promulgating its saintly patron's extensive teachings, serving first as a Visiting Professor at the Institute's Rome Session and, in 1988, working with the Knights of Columbus to establish the Washington Session of which he has served as Vice President since its foundation and as its Dean from 1988 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, he is a Past Grand Knight of Potomac Council 433, a Sir Knight of James Cardinal Hickey Assembly 2534, and served in various state-level offices in the District of Columbia including State Deputy; and

WHEREAS, he began his service as a Supreme Officer in 1997 as Assistant Supreme Secretary and later as Supreme Secretary; and

WHEREAS, he was elected the Order's 13th Supreme Knight in 2000 and dedicated the Knights of Columbus to Our Lady of Guadalupe whose appearances and miraculous image helped spur the evangelization of the New World; and



WHEREAS, during his term as Supreme Knight, the Knights of Columbus launched many charitable initiatives that responded to terrible disasters including the Heroes Fund that supported families of those first responders who lost their lives in the attacks of September 11, 2001 and the Healing Haiti's Children program, which has provided approximately 1,000 young victims in Haiti with prosthetic limbs in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake; and

WHEREAS, he continued to build on the Order's decades of commitment to the pro-life cause and, in 2010, launched the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative which has placed more than 1,300 ultrasound machines—valued at more than \$60 million—in pregnancy care centers throughout the United States, Canada, and other countries where they are saving thousands of lives each month; and

WHEREAS, during the height of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria's (ISIS) atrocities, he took action to protect Christianity's ancient home by facilitating the on-site collection of victims' first-hand accounts that ultimately formed the factual basis of his testimony before the U.S. Congress and the United Nations as well as his advocacy for the U.S. Department of State's historic declaration of genocide against ISIS; and

WHEREAS, in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the genocide, he established the Order's Christian Refugee Relief Fund which has raised more than \$28 million to support projects such as McGivney House in Erbil and the re-construction of Karamles, a predominately Christian town on the Nineveh Plain; and

WHEREAS, at the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic, he provided the leadership necessary for the Order to respond to this public health crisis by launching the Leave No Neighbor Behind initiative focusing on both local, community-based response from councils and national-level support of food banks and charitable entities by the Supreme Council; and

WHEREAS, he vigorously promoted devotion to our founder culminating in Pope Francis' beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney on October 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, his encouragement to brother Knights to offer membership to every eligible Catholic man has seen the Order surpass two million members and extend into France, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Korea, and Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, he oversaw an expansion of the protection the Knights of Columbus provides to Catholic families by continuing to grow the Order's insurance program which has now passed \$1 billion of life insurance in force; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, he published a book *These Liberties We Hold Sacred* about the power of religious freedom in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2021, he retired as Supreme Knight marking the end of a more than 20-year tenure that was 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; and

WHEREAS, his service to the Church and the Knights of Columbus was supported at all times by his wife Dorian, whose witness to the Gospel and service to the Order provided a perfect example of spousal love and support at the center of the Domestic Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus extends its profound appreciation and gratitude to Carl A. Anderson for his lifetime of service to the Catholic Church and his more than 34 years of service to the Order; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus also extends its gratitude to Mrs. Anderson, and their whole family, for their commitment to the Knights of Columbus and their support of Past Supreme Knight Anderson’s lifetime of service; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus congratulates Carl A. Anderson’s new published book *These Liberties We Hold Sacred* which contributes to the dialogue on Religious Liberty in our Country; and

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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution CONGRATULATING SUPREME KNIGHT PATRICK E. KELLY

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

Resolved, that the Knights of Columbus wholeheartedly welcomes Patrick E. Kelly as its 14th Supreme Knight and extends its prayers and best wishes for a long and successful tenure of service; and we offer our best wishes for his wife Vanessa and their three daughters as he begins his service as Supreme Knight

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: Christiaan Van Nispen, GK, FDD

Council: Potomac Council #433

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

CONGRATULATING SUPREME KNIGHT PATRICK E. KELLY

WHEREAS, Patrick E. Kelly has spent his professional career in service to the United States and the Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, for twenty-five years, he served on both active and reserve duty in the United States Navy Judge Advocate General Corps including a tour of duty as the Commanding Officer of the International Law Unit at the U.S. Naval War College before retiring with the rank of Captain in 2016; and

WHEREAS, following active duty in the Navy, he served on the staff of the U.S. House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and at the U.S. Department of State on the staff of the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 he joined the Supreme Council staff of the Knights of Columbus as Vice President for Public Policy representing the Order before the federal and state governments and providing oversight of the Order's ultrasound initiative beginning in 2010; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 he was named the first Executive Director of what is today the Saint John Paul II National Shrine transforming the facility into a world-class pilgrimage site and center for the New Evangelization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, he is a Past Grand Knight and current member of Potomac Council 433, a Sir Knight and former officer of James Cardinal Hickey Assembly 2534, and a Past State Deputy of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, he was elected to the Knights of Columbus Board of Directors in 2013 and later elected Assistant Supreme Advocate; and

WHEREAS, in December 2016 he was elected Deputy Supreme Knight and, during his four years in office, provided leadership for many of the Order's charitable and fraternal programs including the Leave No Neighbor Behind initiative, the Order's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2021 the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus elected him the Order's 14th Supreme Knight recognizing his decades of public service, his commitment to Holy Mother Church, and his exemplification of the Order's core principles; and

WHEREAS, he currently serves as a consultant to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops committees on Pro-Life Activities, Religious Liberty, and Defense and



Promotion of Marriage in addition to previous service as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund and on the Board of Directors of the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast and the National Catholic Bioethics Center.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus wholeheartedly welcomes Patrick E. Kelly as its 14th Supreme Knight and extends its prayers and best wishes for a long and successful tenure of service; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus offers its best wishes for his wife Vanessa and their three daughters as he begins his service as Supreme Knight; and

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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

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, 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 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

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: André Luiz D. Kühner Grand Knight

Council: 14823 St Michael

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 2/24/2021

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"; and,

WHEREAS, the decree recognizes 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 the Knights of Columbus prays 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 the Knights of Columbus prays 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 the Knights of Columbus commits itself to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue and prays for brother knights to follow his courageous example in their vocations, families, parishes, communities, and work; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus honors 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 | | | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

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, 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 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

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: André Luiz D. Kühner, Grand Knight

Council: 14823 St. Michael

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 2/24/2021

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 the DC State Council expresses to the Most Reverend Timothy Paul Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop of the Military Services, USA, its 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 the DC State Council also express its 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 |
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| X | | | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

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, we reaffirm our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms; and 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 their families; and 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

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: André Luiz D. Kühner, Grand Knight

Council: 14823 St. Michael

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 2/24/2021

RESOLUTION HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus (“the Order”) 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, the Order’s 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 the Knights of Columbus reaffirms its 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 the Knights of Columbus continues never its steadfast 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 the Knights of Columbus prayerfully support and encourage the families of those servicemen and women who are deployed overseas; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus continues 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 the Knights of Columbus now pays tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious combat injuries and prays 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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR BISHOPS AND PRIESTS

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

Resolved, the Knights of Columbus expresses our gratitude and appreciation for the many wonderful and gifted bishops and priests who have labored in our parishes and in our various dioceses; and 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

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: **Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary**

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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, the Knights of Columbus was founded by a parish priest whose own life and ministry mirrored that of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests, 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 expresses its 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 the Knights of Columbus calls upon its brother knights and their 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.

Merrill Armstrong
State Advocate

Christopher Pierno
State Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|----------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| X | | | |



Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

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

Resolved, 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 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

The Committee Voted No Action

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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 call on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to maintain robust religious and moral exemptions in its contraceptive mandate; 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 always speak out against any effort to impose religious tests on candidates or nominees for government positions; 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

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|-------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | | X | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN AFRICA AND EAST ASIA

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

Resolved, 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 the Knights of Columbus pledges to continue providing assistance to those who are victims of atrocities, especially those Christians who have faced violent persecution because of their faith

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS IN AFRICA AND EAST ASIA

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has aided prosecuted Christians in its domestic jurisdictions and abroad including ethnic and religious genocide by totalitarian regimes as part of this support for a Culture of Life program; and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (“IRFA”) that established the Office of International Religious Freedom which charged “with promoting religious freedom as a core of U.S. foreign policy.” Id. Moreover, the Office of International Religious Freedom has classified several countries of particular concern for their prosecution of minority religions. See International Religious Freedom Report for 2015; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged government leaders, non-governmental organizations, and people of goodwill to respond to the persecution of Christians; and

WHEREAS, persecution of Christians in Africa continues unabated, especially in Nigeria where the terrorist organization Boko Haram, the West African branch of ISIS, and other anti-Christian entities have murdered more than 52,000 Christians since 2010 and, over the past several years, been responsible for 7 in 10 of faith-based murders of Christians worldwide; and

WHEREAS, religious persecution in East Asia is enabled by dictatorial regimes that reject the tenets of religious freedom and enact laws that ban religion, decree certain practices illegal, or subvert religious observances in favor of fealty to the state; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus dedicated its 18th Marian Prayer Program to Our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians, and encouraged 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.

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 commends those nations providing support to religious minorities seeking to rebuild their lives after persecution and call on all governments to follow suit; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus pledges to continue providing 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 submitted for adoption to 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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution IN SOLIDARITY WITH CHRISTIANS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Resolved, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Christians in the Middle East who are suffering from violent persecution and commits to continue providing support while calling on all Christians and people of goodwill to do the same; and we call on the Government of the United States to take quickly the following three steps: (1) continue to demand that the United Nations assist the communities that have suffered genocide by including them in humanitarian and reconstruction aid; (2) demand that the appropriate international body prosecute those guilty of genocide in Iraq and Syria; and (3) continue to work with the international community to defeat ISIS and similar terrorist groups

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

IN SOLIDARITY WITH CHRISTIANS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged government leaders, non-governmental organizations, and people of goodwill to respond to the persecution of Christians; 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 \$28 million; and,

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus dedicated its 18th Marian Prayer Program to Our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians, and encouraged 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

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 were 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, the Knights of Columbus has provided critical advocacy, research, and technical assistance to change U.S. policy, thereby helping to end what was tantamount to de facto discrimination against the most vulnerable victims of ISIS; and

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 Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson established 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



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Christians in the Middle East who are suffering from violent persecution and commits to continue providing support while calling on all Christians and people of goodwill to do the same; 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 call on the Government of the United States to take quickly the following three steps: (1) continue to demand that the United Nations assist the communities that have suffered genocide by including them in humanitarian and reconstruction aid; (2) demand that the appropriate international body prosecute those guilty of genocide in Iraq and Syria; and (3) continue to work with the international community to defeat ISIS and similar terrorist groups; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted for adoption to 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 to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution IN RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS AND OTHER CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT AGENTS

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

Resolved, that we thank our Foreign Service officers and other civilian government agents for all their efforts to preserve peace in the world

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: *Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary*

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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, a member of the United States Foreign Service, gave his life in this service of peace.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus thanks the U.S. 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.

Merrill Armstrong
State Advocate

Christopher Pierno
State Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|-------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| X | | | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution SUPPORTING A CULTURE OF MARRIAGE

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

Resolved, that the Knights of Columbus renews its commitment to supporting the Catholic Church's teaching on marriage

The Committee Voted No Action

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: **Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary**

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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 131st 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.

Merrill Armstrong
State Advocate

Christopher Pierno
State Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|-------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | | X | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

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

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 we reiterate our support provisions that prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to directly pay-for or subsidize abortions and call on all governments to ensure these protections are maintained; and we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance 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.”

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: ***Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary***

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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, ethnic and religious genocide, foreign and domestic terrorism, racial injustice, 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 1,350 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

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 the Knights of Columbus will continue to speak out to elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus reiterates its support for the Hyde Amendment, the Helms 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 all governments to ensure these protections are maintained; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus believes 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.

Merrill Armstrong
State Advocate

Christopher Pierno
State Secretary

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|----------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| X | | | |

Resolution to Be Considered at the Annual Meeting

(Return with your Council seal to State Secretary Pierno by Wednesday, February 24th, 2021)

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 24th, 2021.

Resolution Title: Resolution DECENCY IN THE MEDIA AND ON THE INTERNET

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

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

✓ *(Please check as needed)* Further Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Supreme Council for consideration at the 2021 Supreme Convention.

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

Fraternally,

Name/Title: **Tim Saccoccia, PSD, State Executive Secretary**

Council: DC State Council

[Imprint Council Seal]

Date: 3/18/2021

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 the Knights of Columbus commend those in the entertainment and retail industries who produce and/or sell family-friendly media products; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus 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

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDATION

| Adopt | Reject | No Action | Refer to State Executive Committee |
|-------|--------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| X | | | |