

## Benefits of Council Membership

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



## How to Join Council 11759

Any practicing Catholic male, 18 years of age and older, is eligible to become a member of Council 11759. A registration form (Form 100) is available in the Church office or from any Knight. After the registration form is approved through the Church office and the Knights at a regular meeting of the membership, the nominee is invited to attend a First Degree Exemplification.

After attaining the First Degree, the new Knight is allowed to attend the regular meetings of the council. First Degree members are encouraged to receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees of membership.

Initiation fee is \$15 (fifteen dollars). Membership dues are \$5 (five dollars) per month (paid quarterly or in full).



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## COUNCIL 11759

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
BRYAN, TX**



## About the Knights

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

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

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



## About Council 11759

Knights of Columbus Council 11759 was founded April 1996 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church at Preston and W. J. Bryan streets in Bryan, Texas. Monsignor John McCaffrey was instrumental in encouraging the men of the parish to form a Council. Founded with 60 charter members, the council now includes more than 160 Knights. The council's primary mission is to assist in the work of the Knights of Columbus, particularly in the areas of Charity, Family, Church, Youth, and Community.

Council 11759 is a member of District 117 of the Diocese of Austin and is 100% in support of State Charities. The Council attains Star Council status each year.

### COUNCIL 11759 WEB SITE

<http://www.stjosephbcs.org/kofc.shtml>

### STATE COUNCIL WEB SITE

<http://www.tkofc.org>

### SUPREME COUNCIL WEB SITE

<http://www.kofc.org>

## About Council Meetings

Council 11759 officer and director meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the conference room of the Parish Activity Center near St. Joseph Church.

Regular membership meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center near St. Joseph Catholic Church. A pre-meeting meal is served beginning at 6:30 p.m.

## About Council Activities

Council 11759 is very active year-round within and outside St. Joseph Church.

Significant fundraising activities to support youth scholarships and seminarians include:

- Sportsman's Banquet
- BBQ Chicken and Sausage sales

Family and social activities to support fraternity include:

- Summer swim party for parishioners
- Christmas party for Knights families
- Valentine social and dance
- Hoop Shoot basketball free throw
- Family social & membership recognition

Charitable activities include:

- Coalition for Life / Good Samaritan
- Stand and Pray at abortion clinic
- Father & Son Retreat
- Clergy Appreciation Banquet
- Seminarians (two to three)
- College or trade school scholarships