



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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October 1, 2015

Dear Friends in Christ:

As we know, Catholics are called to a life of service. In a particular way, Catholic men are called to care for their families and to serve their neighbors, their parishes, and their faith communities. With this letter, I am pleased to share with you that a great opportunity exists for a Catholic man to answer this call to serve by becoming a member of the Knights of Columbus.

This exemplary order of Catholic men was founded in 1882 by a parish priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, who had the vision and foresight to begin an organization that would provide Catholic men the opportunity to live their faith through performing charitable works, caring for their families, and defending the Catholic faith. Today, the Knights of Columbus count 1.9 million members in seventeen countries, witnessing to the joy of the Gospel in their communities. In the last decade, this international organization of practical Catholic men donated more than \$1.4 billion and 664 million volunteer hours to charity, in addition to providing its members with the opportunity to share a fraternal brotherhood with men of similar values.

The Knights of Columbus consistently accomplish tremendous work in the Archdiocese of Chicago. However, there is still much that needs to be done. I strongly encourage each man in this Archdiocese, who considers himself to be a practicing Catholic and is at least eighteen years old, to prayerfully consider joining the ranks of this fine organization.

Please take some time to learn more about the Knights of Columbus and to seriously consider joining in their important mission to promote Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Wishing you every blessing, with kind regards I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich  
Archbishop of Chicago