

Christopher Columbus

The Navigator

February 2026



Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney

Father John E. O'Brien Council #3361
3259 Old Goldie Rd., Oak Harbor

GRAND KNIGHT

Ben Young (*GK*)
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Officers' Business Meeting

1st Tuesday - 6pm

Council Meeting

2nd Tuesday - 7pm

Assembly Meeting

3rd Tuesday - 7pm

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Happy Valentine's Day



Lent

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL AND PREPARATION



Wed, Feb 18, 2026 – Thu, Apr 2, 2026

Grand Knight's Message

LEGACY OF FAITH & FAMILY PROTECTION SEMINAR

The Knights of Columbus in Skagit and Snohomish County are organizing an educational seminar scheduled for 7pm, Monday, February 9th at St. Cecilia Church in Stanwood. This event aims to guide Catholic families through the complexities of aging, faith, and financial reparation. Presentations will feature an elder law attorney discussing family transitions and a priest addressing spiritual obligations regarding life's end. A Knights of Columbus insurance representative will explain protective financial products that honor the charitable legacy of the organization's founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Attendees will learn how to strengthen communal bonds and secure their loved ones' futures through these various legal, spiritual, and fiscal resources. All Catholic families are invited to participate.

SHINING ARMOR AWARD



All Brother Knights can receive the Shining Armor Award. This award is awarded for service to our Council and to our Order with distinction; it is awarded to those men who exemplify a true Knight of Columbus. The award program is designed for members of our Council to engage in and maintain an active level of participation in Council programs and activities.

Grand Knight's Message (cont.)

To qualify for the Shining Armor Award, during the fraternal year, brother Knights must:

- a. Be involved in at least three Council Faith in Action Programs
- b. Attend at least three Council meetings
- c. Attend an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity
- d. Meet with your Council's insurance representative or attend a fraternal benefits night
- e. Sponsor at least one man who becomes a member of the order.

Awardees will receive the Certificate of Recognition, a Shining Armor lapel pin, and have his name published in a special section of the State Bulletin.

If you believe that you are deserving of this recognition, please let your officers know.

Prayer Knight

Monday, February 9th, is the next prayer knight. The "Our Lady of Fatima Rosary" and "Divine Mercy Chaplet" will start at 6:30pm followed a dessert social. Please bring a dessert to share.

All Knights and their family and friends are welcomed.



KofC Pennies from Heaven Fundraiser

Support for Archdiocese of Seattle Seminarians

The Knights of Columbus invite all parishioners to participate in our annual "Pennies from Heaven" fundraiser at all Masses during the weekend of January 31st through February 1st. This special collection is dedicated to supporting the seminarians of the Seattle Archdiocese as they prepare for a life of service to our faith community.



Knights Club Bingo



Knights Club is always looking for volunteers to work Wednesday Night Bingo. Volunteers are needed for the cash cage, callers, verifiers, and kitchen help is needed to bring success for each Bingo night. Bingo games run between 6 to 9pm. Please consider volunteering one week out of the month.

Are YOU a member of the 3361 Club?

Are you ready to be part of the 3361 Club? This exclusive group includes Knights who donate at least \$33.61 to our council's Pennies for Heaven drive.

We Knights are asked for a penny a day and a prayer a day to support vocations. Council 3361 regularly supports three seminarians: two in Washington and one in Uganda. For as long as I have been a Knight, we have donated at least \$3,361.00 each year to the Washington State Council's PFH program. Our former Beggar for Christ, Brother Del Swatosh (may he rest in peace), began recognizing Knights who gave \$33.61 or more as members of the "3361 Club." Following his example, our current Beggar for Christ, Paul Brewer, and his team are bringing the 3361 Club back.

Anyone who donates \$33.61 or more to Pennies for Heaven will receive a limited-edition challenge coin, while supplies last. We purchased only a limited number, and once they are gone, they are gone.



Knight of the Month

Congratulations to Brother Joe Higgins III on his selection as *Knight of the Month* for December 2025.

Joe is a very active member of our council and the St. Augustine Parish. Joe is the chair of the St. Augustine Hospitality Ministry. He is responsible for coordinating the usher teams for all Masses, the Kitchen Angels for coffee and donuts and the Men of the Parish Pancake Breakfast. Joe can be found greeting parishioners at the 8am Mass with a welcoming smile and warm greeting. Joe is also a valued member of the Knights Club Bingo kitchen team where he helps serve our patrons.

A busy man, running his own business, Joe makes his faith and family a priority. Thank you for all you do Joe!

Family of the Month

Congratulations to Brother Kurt and Carlota Bauch on their selection as *Family of the Month* for December 2025.

Friday Fish Frys

Wow, it seems like we've just made it back to Ordinary Time and BAM! Lent is just a couple weeks away! And you all know what that means! It's time for Friday Fish Frys!

This year the KofC will be hosting three (3) Friday Fish Frys after Stations of the Cross at St. Augustine. Our dates will be February 27th, March 13th and 27th. Looking for fellow Knights and Columbiettes to volunteer to help with serving and clean-up after these events. Please mark your calendars and help if you can.

Historically, our Friday Fish Frys are a big draw. Folks come out for Fish and Chips. What we are doing is not about the meal. It is about encouraging people to come to the Stations of the Cross and spend some time reflecting on Christ's sacrifice for us! So, be a Lenten evangelistic missionary and pass the word to fellow brothers and sisters to attend the Stations of the Cross.

The other three Fridays: February 20th; March 6th; and March 20th will be Soup Suppers.

Please chat it up with your fellow parishioners, invite them to the Stations of the Cross. After the Stations of the Cross, enjoy either Fish Fry or a Soup Supper depending on the date.

Lent



Mackerel Snapper Knight



The Patriotic Degree

Worthy Sir Knights,

Thank you to all who attended our meeting last month. We had a nice turn out and a wonderful meal at our favorite South Whidbey restaurant, Patron. We took care of business by electing delegates for the upcoming biennial meeting and moved quickly into good times and conversions.

A special thank you to Fr. Mark McGregor for making the trip up to dine with us, always a pleasure to see him to attend our functions.

Our next meeting is Shrove Tuesday, February 17th. I wish to hold a traditional meeting with opening and closing ceremonies. These are steeped in tradition and meaning for our order and many of our members have yet to experience one such meeting. We, the old guard, owe it to them to let them have this experience. The meeting will be brief so we can move on to a Shove (fat) Tuesday potluck. To our SK's North of the bridge and south of the phone booth, if O.H. is willing to come to you, then... enough said.

March 17th's meeting will be participation in the Oak Harbor St. Patrick's Day parade. It's time to put our Catholic Heritage on display!

Rich M.. Faithful Captain

Commendation for the Faithful Captain

Recognition of Exemplary Leadership and Dedication

I extend my heartfelt commendation to our Faithful Captain for his outstanding service and commitment during my absence as Faithful Navigator.

In a time of uncertainty, our Faithful Captain has stepped forward and embraced the responsibility of leading our assembly. He not only ensured that operations continued smoothly but also fully integrated himself into the role, inspiring fellow Sir Knights to rise to the occasion and come together as one.

His magnetic personality has been a tremendous asset over the past few months. Through his positive influence and unwavering determination, he has motivated Sir Knights to answer the call to service and unity. Without his leadership, it is my firm belief that the Patriotic Degree might have faltered; it certainly seemed that way to me at times.

The Faithful Captain's self-determination and ability to inspire others have rekindled the spirit of the Patriotic Degree. His efforts have reignited the light in many, and with hope, this renewed energy will continue to spread, encouraging more Sir Knights to rejoin and actively participate in the Patriotic Degree.

I commend our Faithful Captain for his dedication, leadership, and the positive impact he has had on our assembly. His commitment serves as a shining example for all Sir Knights, and I am confident that his influence will continue to foster growth and unity within our ranks.

Thank you, my Faithful Captain.





Super Bowl Sunday

Super Bowl LX Potluck Watch Party

Get ready for one of the most exciting events of the year! Super Bowl LX (60) Sunday is right around the corner, and we're thrilled to invite you to our annual council watch party. So, mark your calendar, Sunday, February 8th. The date will be here before you know it!

Date: Sunday, February 8th
Time: Kickoff at 3:30pm (local)
Location: Knights Club of Oak Harbor

Come join us for the 3 F's: Food, Fellowship, and above all—FUN! Whether you're a die-hard football fan or just in it for the commercials there's something for everyone. Enjoy delicious snacks, great conversation, and the excitement of the big game with friends and family.

Super Bowl LX (60) will be played at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, CA with kickoff at 3:30pm (PT). Bad Bunny will be headlining the halftime show. The game will be broadcasted on NBC and streamed on Peacock. Go Team!

Disaster Preparedness

There is still plenty of Winter left ahead of us. While the Winter weather has been moderate, by PNW standards, don't let your guard down now. Don't allow yourself to become complacent. Please look at this checklist from the National Weather Service.

<https://www.weather.gov/media/arx/winter/WinterPrepare.pdf>

The Knights Club of Oak Harbor is considered in the event of a severe weather emergency go to the Knights Club of Oak Harbor.

Disaster Preparedness is a new Community item in the Faith in Action Program.

From the Desk of the Financial Secretary

Membership Billing

Membership billing for 2026 is wrapping up. Currently, 39 Brother Knights have not yet paid their dues, totaling \$1,489.50. The Retention Committee (composed of the Deputy Grand Knight and Trustees) has the list and is reaching out to resolve these balances.

Request for Information

Along with the membership billing mailings, I included:

1. The Membership Information Sheet
2. The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity
3. The Member Experience Interest Survey

These were sent to more than 190 Brother Knights. To date, I have received 8 activity surveys, 16 membership information forms, and 2-member experience forms. I offer a sincere thank you to those who have submitted theirs.

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity

The report to Supreme has been submitted, and the deadline has now passed. There is no longer a need to return these specific surveys.

Knights of Columbus Website Update

The new [kofc.org](https://www.kofc.org) is now live, and access to Officers Online has been restored! We encourage you to explore the site.

From my initial experience, while the "front end" (the homepage and public layers) has been updated, the Member Management layer remains the same. If you are looking for specific resources, you may find the new layout much more intuitive.

As you familiarize yourself with the site, this video can help you get started:

[Watch the Video Walk-Through](#)

WA State Council Links

WA State Council

<https://kofc-wa.org/>
<https://kofc-wa.org/Bulletin>

Form 10784 Online Submission

<https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=10784>

Submit Knights in Action Form

<https://www.kofc.org/en/contact/knights-in-action-news.html>

Fraternal Operations

<https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/fraternal-operations.html?icons=2>

Update Member Contact Info

<https://www.kofc.org/en/contact/update-contact-information.html>

4th Degree Form 4

<https://knights-of-columbus-form-4.pdfFiller.com/>

Degree Apparel

<https://knightsgear.com/>

4th Degree Uniform Packages

<https://www.kofcuniform.com/uniform-packages/package/knights-of-columbus-executive-fit-uniform-package-uniform-package/>

Fr. John E. O'Brien Links

"Join Us" Form

<https://kofc3361.org/Join-Form.php>

"Join Us" Email

joinus@kofc3361.org

Incoming Picture Album

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Sx7yv16dLnVXvX1X6>

Whidbey Island Family of Catholic Churches Upcoming Events



Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother – an 8-week DVD Bible Study featuring Dr. Edward Sri continues every Monday through February 23rd from 10 to 11:30am. The group will meet at St. Augustine in Classrooms 1 & 2. Optional study guide for this DVD series available at [Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother Workbook – Ascension](#)

Joan's Lilies Rosary Making – February 1st after the 9:30am Mass in Classroom 1 & 2; girls in grades 4-12 are invited, moms are welcome too! RSVP to adultff@staugustineoh.org or call 360-215-3049.

Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, February 4th after both St. Augustine Masses in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for hot pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. Bring the family, linger for fellowship, and celebrate Advent with full hearts (and full bellies)! Freewill offering welcomed.

Pro-Life Vigil – Friday, February 6th, St. Augustine's Pro-Life Ministry will hold its next Pro-Life Vigil at SE Pioneer Way and State Route 20 between 3:45 and 4:45pm. Signs will be provided. Contact Mike or Barb Thelen at either (360) 661-0311 or (360) 320-3959.

Baptism Class – Saturday, February 7th is the next Baptism Class. Registration is required for both class and baptism. To Register, either email: adultff@staugustineoh.org or call 360.215.3049.

Religious Education Teachers Needed – We are seeking dedicated volunteers to share faith with our youth. Please contact Rowena Harless at rharless@staugustineoh.org to learn more and discern this calling.

WI Family of Catholic Churches – Jay and Susanne Hoiland, parents of Fr. Chris Hoiland, pastor for the Whidbey Island Family of Catholic Churches, request parishioners to join them for a special occasion to the pastor's milestone anniversary... his 40th birthday! Goodbye 30s!

On Sunday, February 15th at 4pm, a reception to be held in the St. Augustine's Fellowship Hall. What a wonderful opportunity to gather as a faith community, to express our gratitude, and enjoy fellowship together.

Main dishes and beverages will be provided.

Parishioners with their first letter of their last name are requested to bring:

A - M: Snack or Side to share
N - Z: Sweet Treat or Dessert

Birthday cards and notes are most welcome.

The Hoilands look forward in sharing this event with the pastor's parishioners!

Knights of Columbus Insurance

YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE



Fraternal Benefit Night

Each Wednesday of the month, an online event is available for your viewing in both English and Spanish. The Spanish event is available any day of the week.

Fraternal Benefit Night - English - <https://kofcpacific.com/fbn>
Fraternal Benefit Night - Spanish - <https://kofcpacific.com/fbne>

For your council to receive credit, each member will need to fill out a survey at the end of the event: <https://kofcpacific.com/survey>


We currently do not have a survey in Spanish (only English), but we will be adding that during the next fraternal year. Please have your Spanish speaking members fill out as much of the survey as possible. All surveys automatically get sent to GA Cicero Seisedos and the appropriate FA. Once the surveys are completed, an online report form will need to be submitted for credit. Supreme is no longer accepting report documents-here is the link to the online report: <https://www.fbn-form.com/>

Once this report is received by Supreme, it is sent to Cicero for his approval. He will then cross reference the surveys to verify the attendance on the report and submit it. At that point, we can't verify the credit so please reach out to your regular channels for verification.

To sign up a new member, please use the following link <https://www.kofc.org/join> and **Agent Referral Code "MSCHWAB"** for a FREE membership. We will be notified of the new member and help to welcome him to the council.

Lisa Schwab
Administrative Assistant

<https://www.kofc.org/en/contact/update-contact-information.html> / [Book Time with me](#)

  <p>Knights of Columbus®</p> <p>Lisa Schwab <i>Administrative Assistant</i></p> <p>Phone: 360-391-9170 SchwabOfficeMail@KofC.org</p>	   <p>Knights of Columbus®</p> <p>Michael Schwab, FICF, CLTC <i>Field Agent</i></p> <p>Phone: 360-391-9170 michael.schwab@kofc.org</p>
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