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Our Lady of Lourdes is a title of the Blessed Virgin Mary in honor of the Marian apparitions which took place before Bernadette Soubirous, her sister Toinette Soubirous and a friend Jeanne Abadie on 18 occasions around Lourdes, France.

On February 11, 1858, Bernadette, a 14-year-old peasant girl admitted to her mother that a "lady" spoke to her in the cave of Massabielle, (a mile from the town) while she was gathering firewood with Toinette and Jeanne. Bernadette described Mary "She has the appearance of a young girl of sixteen or seventeen. She is dressed in a white robe, girdled at the waist with a blue ribbon which flows down all around it. A yoke closes it in graceful pleats at the base of the neck. The sleeves are long and tight-fitting. She wears upon her head a veil which is also white. This veil gives just a glimpse of her hair and then falls down at the back below her waist. Her feet are bare but covered by the last folds of her robe except at the point where a yellow rose shines upon each of them. She holds on her right arm a rosary of white beads with a chain of gold shining like the two roses on her feet."

Mary's message is one of penance, humility, mercy for sinners and compassion for the sick.

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes is February 11th.

ABOUT OUR COUNCIL

The Knights of Columbus or (KofC) is a Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization that upholds the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Members of KofC are men of faith, character, and conviction who are driven by love of God and love of neighbor to do meaningful works for the Church and community.

In Council 11241, we integrate ourselves and our families into the sacramental and social life of our parish. Our Council members and their families participate in "Community Service and Church, Youth, Family and Council Activities."

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic men's fraternal organization in the world. It has built Catholic communities, fed the poor, and defended the vulnerable. Love of the church and country define who the Knights of Columbus are. Charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism are the watchwords of this organization. We at Our Lady of Lourdes Council #11241 organize functions to raise money to support our church, the church ministries, and the community with donations, and volunteer our services to make other church and community organizations succeed in their missions. To all men of our parish: you will like this fraternity. We are a very active council and we always welcome new or transferred brothers.

ABOUT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Who Are The Knights?

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.7 million members. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people.

The Knights were formed to render financial aid to members and their families. Mutual aid and assistance are offered to sick, disabled and needy members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted among members and their families through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

Member Benefits

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you and your family enjoy many benefits, including 12 free issues annually of Columbia magazine, the world's largest Catholic family magazine, eligibility to join the Knights of Columbus top-ranked life insurance program, and many more family and personal benefits.

How To Join

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practicing Catholic men in union with the Holy See, who are at least 18 years old. A practicing Catholic is one who lives up to the Commandments of God and the precepts of the Church. Application blanks are available from any member of the Knights of Columbus.

Please contact our **Chancellor, DeLisle Callender (845-269-9986)** for more detailed information and to submit a membership application for approval by the Officers of the Council.

Why Join

Joining the Knights of Columbus is a decision we do not regret in our faith as Catholic men. Imagine being a part of an organization that fills your heart and mind with the joy of giving to others, the feeling that is experienced with making a difference.

Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place, while supporting their church. Becoming a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community, it is supporting your local church, it is enhancing your own faith, it is about protecting your family life and all of its values. Please come and join us to see what we are all about in our communities.

Fourth Degree

4th Degree Emblem - Any Third-Degree member in good standing, one year after the anniversary of his First Degree, is eligible for membership in the Fourth Degree. The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship and a love of and loyalty to the Knights' respective countries through active membership in local Fourth

Degree groups (called "assemblies"). Certain members of the Fourth Degree serve as honor guards at civic and religious functions, an activity that has brought worldwide recognition to the Knights of Columbus.

History of the Knights

Thanks to the efforts of Father Michael J. McGivney, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Haven and some of his parishioners, the Connecticut state legislature on March 29, 1882, officially chartered the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society. The Order is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

The history of the Order shows how the foresight of Father Michael J. McGivney, whose cause for sainthood is being investigated by the Vatican ~ brought about what has become the world's foremost Catholic fraternal benefit society. The Order has helped families obtain economic security and stability through its life insurance, annuity and long-term care programs, and has contributed time and energy worldwide to service in communities.

The Knights of Columbus has grown from several members in one council to more than 14,000 councils and 1.8 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam and Saipan.

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It is appreciated if you would report any errors to him