



A Knight's Tale



March 2026



Message from the Grand Knight

Brother Knights,

It is March already! All the catch phrases—"How Time Flies", "Need to Stop to Smell the Roses", "Don't Wait Until Tomorrow", etc comes to mind. Just like all other sayings, they are true. The Lenten Season is allows us to embrace these thoughts. I bet you did not see that one coming. How can you tie this into the Lenten Theme—Good Question. Let me ask you a question—How would you celebrate Lent? There are three traditional pillars of Lent, which can be broken into the "3R's" of Lent, Reflection (Prayer), Repentance (Fasting) and Reconciliation (Giving). Let's take a look at these.'

- [Links in Newsletter](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [40 Days of Lent](#)
- [Stations of the Cross](#)
- [Soup Dinner](#)
- [Recognitions](#)
- [Rosary](#)
- [Spaghetti Dinner](#)
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Reflection. What is reflection. Many times we use prayer and reflection as synonymous terms. In some cases they are. We pray to God, reflecting on our sins, asking for forgiveness, saying the Rosary, participating in the Stations of the Cross, signing up for an hour of reflection. All these are meant to build our relationship with God and how He is in every fiber of our lives. But I challenge you to reflect on your sins, and who you have aggrieved. [Matthew 5:8](#) states, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.", and in [Acts 3:19](#), "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord." Praying to God and reflecting on your sins, asking for forgiveness, brings us to the 2nd "R".

Repentance. How do you repent? The easy answer is using the sacrament of Confessions, which is correct; The sacrament is designed for absolution, declaring the sins are forgiven by God. During your reflection, you identify what and how you sinned, and you seek God's forgiveness. The missing question is, did you ask the individual harmed for forgiveness? [Matthew 5:23-24](#)²³Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift." Tells you to seek forgiveness from your fellow man before you seek forgiveness from God. This is showing sorrow for your sin—a regret of your action—a change of mind and heart, resulting in a change of direction towards God. [John 20:23](#) states, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Now how do we reconcile our sins.

Reconciliation. The goal of reconciliation is to mend broken relationships, not just clear your own conscience. When you go to confession, you do not just say the Rosary as fast as you can, to receive God's Grace, and if you do that, you not only miss the point, but will not receive His Grace. You should be reflecting on your actions, and asking God to give you the strength to refrain from committing those sins again. We usually link penance with a prayer, versus the action to correct the sin again an individual. We think of almsgiving, but giving money is not the means to correct a grievance. We must be forgiving by those we harmed to truly heal and repair the relationship on earth before we repair the relationship with God.

Forgiveness is freely given by God, with absolution requiring repentance and true faith, Each of us needs to reflect on our actions, as we repent our sins to God, seeking reconciliation with our brothers and sisters.

Thank you for all you do!
I am proud to call you a Brother Knight.
Vivat Jesus
GK Casey Carr



- [Springfield Council Website](#)
- [Prayer Requests](#)
- Password Protected Links**
- [Council Webpage](#) (Members Only)
- [Nominations for Knight and Family of the month](#)

External Links

- [St Bernedette Parish](#)
- [St Bernadette School](#)
- [Virginia Knights of Columbus](#)
- [State Council](#)
- [Knights of Columbus Supreme](#)





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March 2026

Calendar Events

Council Events

11 Mar: Insurance Event—Open to All / Council Business Meeting
7PM Rosary/7:30PM Meeting

18 Mar Rosary
 7PM Church (Open to all)

25 Mar: Council Plans Meeting
 7PM Rosary/7:30PM Meeting

1 Apr Rosary
 7PM Church (Open to all)

8 Apr: Council Plans Meeting
 7PM Rosary/7:30PM Meeting

Upcoming Events

6/13/20/27 Mar Stations of the Cross
 11 Mar Council Insurance Event
 13 Mar Soup Dinner
 14 Feb Spaghetti Dinner
 28 Mar Chaplain's Appreciation Dinner

29 Mar Palm Sunday
30 Mar Holy Monday
31 Mar Holy Tuesday
1 Apr Holy Wednesday
2 Apr Maundy Thursday
3 Apr Good Friday
4 Apr Holy Saturday
5 Apr Easter Sunday

Holy Days / Feast Days

March—The Month of St Joseph
 March 3: [St. Katharine Drexel](#)
 March 4: [St. Casimir](#)
 March 5: [St. Manuel Míguez González](#)
 March 7: [Sts. Perpetua and Felicity](#)
 March 8: [St. John of God](#)
 March 9: [St. Frances of Rome](#)
 March 15: [St. Clement Mary Hofbauer](#)
 March 17: [St. Patrick](#)
 March 18: [St. Cyril of Jerusalem](#)
 March 19: [St. Joseph](#)
 March 23: [St. Rafqa](#) and [St. Turibius of Mogrovejo](#)
 March 24: [St. Oscar Romero](#)
 March 25: [Annunciation of the Lord](#)
 March 27: [Bl. Francesco Faà di Bruno](#)

Lenten Observances

Fasting: Food equivalent to one regular meal, one small meal: Ash Wednesday/Good Friday
Abstinence: No meat – ALL Fridays
Fridays
Parish Soup Suppers : 6pm
Stations of the Cross: 7pm in English, 7:45pm in Spanish, in the church
Adoration: 1/2/3 March

Lent Confessions

Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm
Saturdays, 3:30-4:30pm
Please plan confessions early in the season to avoid running out of time
Penance Service: Tuesday, Mar 24, 6:30p





40 Days of Lent

18 Feb—4 Apr

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As Catholics and as Knights, it's an opportunity to grow closer in our rela-

What are your priorities in life right now?

Lent is an invitation to rearrange your priorities—to focus on what matters most and leave behind what matters least.

Lent is the season where the Church prepares for Easter. Starting with Ash Wednesday, Lent spans 40+ days until Holy Thursday. In the fourth chapter of Matthew, Jesus spends 40 days in the desert, fasting, praying, and preparing for his mission. Lent is your opportunity for that same focus.

Lent is your invitation to take your spiritual life seriously.



This lent may be a good time to ask oneself, "What kind of fruit do I bear?" How can we spend lent in working on bearing better fruit? The easy answer to this question, if we want to bear good fruit is to pray, fast, and give alms.





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Stations of the Cross

6/13/20/27 March—Stations of the Cross
Fridays: 7pm in English / 7:45pm in Spanish

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus carries His cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His Mother
5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls a third time
10. Jesus' clothes are taken away
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb

The tradition of the Stations of the Cross began to take root in the fifth century, when churches started replicating holy places for those who were unable physically to walk the Via Dolorosa. The chapels at the monastery of San Stefano, for example, were commissioned by St. Petronius, Bishop of Bologna, and highlighted several of the places Jesus walked, as well as other important shrines in the Holy Land. The practice evolved further when Ottoman Turks outlawed pilgrims from stopping at any of the stations in the Holy Land. As the practice spread, Pope Innocent XI permitted all churches to erect the Stations of the Cross, and he gave the same indulgences to the Franciscans and their affiliates who participated in them as though they had taken the pilgrimage. In 1731, Pope Clement XII set the stations number to 14. In 1975, Pope Paul VI approved a Gospel-based version of the stations (removing events not found in the Gospels), and Pope John Paul II wrote his own version, the "Stations of the Cross for Life."





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March 2026

Soup Dinner



Council Date
13 Mar



Please show up at 5PM to help set up cafeteria
March Donations will go to Work Camp

Every Friday at 6:00pm in the school cafeteria

Soup Supper prepared by different Ministries
—It is a simple meal of meatless soups and bread in a spirit of penitence and fraternity.

Give to the poor what you might have spent on dinner!

Following Soup Supper we go to the church to celebrate the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm

Stations of the Cross in Spanish are celebrated at 7:30pm

Week 1 (Feb 20)
Coffee & Donuts, Greeters, Arimatheans, Ushers

Week 2 (Feb 27)
Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers

Week 3 (Mar 6)
Music Ministry

Week 4 (Mar 13)
Knights of Columbus, National Junior Honor Society

Week 5 (Mar 20)
School Community

Week 6 (Mar 27)
Women's Group, Friends in Need, Walking with Purpose





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CONGRATUALTIONS !!



February Knight of the Month

Franklin Mendoza

SK, PGK Franklin Mendoza's dedication to this Council and especially the Spanish community has been nothing short of Amazing! A true leader of this community and a Shepard to this Council, as he unites this parish in everyday support and caring for his fellow man.

November Family of the Month

The Ortiz Family

The Ortiz family have been a pillar in the St. Bernadette's parish and community for over a decade. They are integral in community support, religious education, chapel ministries, and the Youth Ministry programs.



Photo Not Availa-

Please continue to support the Knight and Family of the Month Programs. Nominations are submitted on the "Member's Only" (not the jacket) uKNIGHT website, <https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/membersOnly.asp?CNO=6153>

NOMINATE KNIGHT AND FAMILY OF THE MONTH



MAKE YOUR NOMINATIONS

Let us know if you need assistance

March Birthdays

James P Ahern	Donald P Loren PGK
Thomas P Smith PGK	Dr Tony C Butera
Mr Francis Aboagye Nyame	William A Edwards
Richard A Kowalski	Mr Juan Bonilla
Edward M Egan	Christopher A Gentile
Dominic S Francis	Michael J Gross
Jeffrey A Crisci	Timothy M O Brien
Mr Robert Green	Mr Ross F Hammerer

October Golden Knights Fraternal Anniversaries



John M Harrison	52
Joseph M Mundy	51



NOTE:

Will Recognize Annual over 50 Years / and at 5-year intervals

John P Thomas 35
Matthew H Barrick 20
Jacob L Downer 15





Rosary Program



On the 1st / 3rd / 5th Wednesdays of the month at 7PM in the back of the Church on the side of the St Bernadette statue, there are 3-5 Knights who pray the Rosary. They take the prayer requests and other individual requests and pray for God's divine blessing and support. This is one way that Catholic Gentlemen can get together and support not only each other, but the community as well.

Prayer requests can be submitted at any time on the Council's website. The requests will be included at each Council Meeting's prior to the Rosary and Meetings as well as at the weekly Rosaries: [Springfield Council #6153](#)

Prayer Requests from the Council website

- FOR the repose of the soul of SK, PGK Franklen Mendoza's Mother, Victoria Castro Guerra. who passed on 24 Feb
- FOR Cassi Smith- SK Tom Smith's daughter-in-law treatment and recovery, and their family
- FOR Tom Smith's mother-in-law who is ill
- FOR Daniel Tobat who is receiving Chemo treatment at Walter Reed for multiple myelomas
- FOR Brother Richard Caralos and family's speedy recovery from a home fire that has damaged their home.
- FOR Rebecca Porral, Marianne Crisol, and Lilley Sloniker healing from cancer and strength to persevere through treatment
- FOR: Ethan Angelo, Miriam Joyce, and Elnora Caralos' medical treatment plan, safe surgical procedure, and steadfast healing.
- FOR Dan Mador's job search that will allow him to thrive in his profession
- FOR The sick and distressed; recovery and healing of our Brother Knights and community
- FOR Pope Leo's intention of the month—For families in crisis.
- FOR Spiritual renewal and repentance, drawing us closer to God through the "three pillars" of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.
- FOR Christian sand Catholics around the world who are persecuted for their faith
- FOR Peace in Russian/Ukraine war and in Gaza





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March 2026

Spaghetti Dinner
X Feb 2026
14 March 2026



=
Postponed
due to
power
outage



All Proceeds
will be Donated
For School
Scholarships





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March 2026

28 March Clergy Appreciation Dinner



WHO: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, #6153

WHAT: Annual Clergy Appreciation Wine & Cheese – **CURRY DINNER**

WHEN: Saturday, 28 Mar —NOTE THE DATE CHANGE, 6:15 PM

- Following the evening 5pm Mass

WHERE: 6403 Bridge Creek Court, Springfield

WHY: In order for the Springfield Council to show our deepest appreciation for the support and fellowship our Sant Bernadette Clergy

Coordinating Instructions: **HOSTED BY FRANK AND LINDA GUEST.** They will maintain the roster and list of what each knight will bring Please send your information and selected items sooner rather than later

Please RSVP with your contribution No Later Than Monday, 23

March to fbguest@aol.com or call or text to 703-980-2526

Editor's Note

My wife said I should put this in, because I have a strange mind...

Picture explanation: Curry + Wine = Clergy Appreciation Dinner





Council Officer Slate

Volunteers Needed for the Following Positions

Chancellor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the members' interest in council activities - Recommended to serve on the council's Admission Committee
Recorder	Responsible for keeping a permanent record of all actions of the council and maintains all correspondence of the council
Lecturer	Responsible for providing suitable educational and entertaining programs under the "Good of the Order"
Inside / Outside Guard	Attend the doors of the council chamber, checking for current membership cards and allowing entrance

Position	FY 25-26 Current Officer	FY 26-27 Current Office
Grand Knight	Casey Carr	John Staten
Deputy Grand Knight	John Staten	Don Mannenbach
Chancellor	Don Mannenbach	
Financial Secretary	James Caldwell	Matthew E Schmitt
Treasurer	Michael Candolor	Michael Candolor
Recorder	Eric Neuyou	Richard M. Caralos
Lecturer	Cedric D'Cruze	
Advocate	Frank Guest	Frank Guest
Warden	James Womack	James Womack
Outside Guard	Mark Downer	
Inside Guard	Greg Bearce	
3rd Year Trustee	Sean Lenahan	Sean Lenahan
2nd Year Trustee	Franklin Mendoza	Franklin Mendoza
1st Year Trustee	Alphonse Bankard	Alphonse Bankard





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Program Directors

Programs Director—Deputy Grand Knight

Volunteers Needed for the Following Positions

Faith Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for all Faith based councilmember should be consulted before any action is taken programs - Keeps accurate records of the council's Faith programs including Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)
Family Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for all Family based council programs - Keeps accurate records of the council's Family programs including Food for Families and Family of the Month/Year, if applicable - Must complete all required Knights of Columbus Safe Environment training (kofc.org/safe) and must also pass a background check
Community Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for all Community based council programs - Keeps accurate records of the council's Community programs including Coats for Kids and Global Wheelchair Mission, if applicable - Must complete all required Knights of Columbus Safe Environment training (kofc.org/safe) and must also pass a background check
Life Director	SK, PGK Mike Candolor will remain as Life Program Director
Membership Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborates with the grand knight and council leaders on council membership goals - Ensures that Membership Applications(#100) are transmitted by the Financial Secretary to both the Membership Records Department at the Supreme Council

			
Faith	Community	Family	Life
SK Don Mannebach	SK John Cosgrove	SK, PGK Sean Lenahan	SK, PGK Mike Candolor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ RSVP ✓ Rosary ✓ Our Lady of Guadalupe ✓ Chaplain Dinner ✓ KCIC Cards ✓ KCIC Poster Contest ✓ Citizenship Essay ➤ Soup Dinner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Soccer Challenge ✓ Free Throw Challenge ✓ Coats for Kids ✓ Council Branding ✓ Fundraising ✓ Christmas Tree Sales ➤ Teacher Recognition ➤ Softball Team ➤ Youth Baseball ➤ Golf Scramble ○ Vow Renewal Mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pancake Breakfast ✓ Breakfast with Santa ✓ Perish BBQ ✓ Council Christmas Party ➤ Spaghetti Dinner ➤ Mother's Day ➤ Council Dinner Dance ❖ Knight Out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 5-K Run ✓ Box of Joy ✓ Can a Week ➤ Youth of the Year ➤ KOVAR ➤ Project Manger





Committee Chairs—Need your Support

					
Charity SK, PGK Mark Price	Need New Committee Chair	Sports SK, PGK Mark Price	Need to Verify for 2026	Dinner / Dance SK Don Mannenbach	Will Assume when assume DGK
					
Fraternal Rick Downer	Will Maintain Committee	Adult Softball SK, PGK Mark Price	Need to Verify for 2026	SK SK, PGK Tom Smith	Need to Verify for 2026
					
Golden Knight SK, PGK Frank Guest	Will Maintain Committee	Youth Baseball SK, PGK Gabe Ortiz	Need to Verify for 2026	Communications Richard Caralos	New for 2026-2027
					
Mentor SK, DGK John Stanten	Will assume when assume GK	Golf Scramble SK, PGK Mark Price	Need to Verify for 2026	Fundraiser Richard M. Caralos	New for 2026-2027

A Committee Chairman is appointed by the Grand Knight and is the Knight responsible for managing specific projects or permanent service area

Core General Responsibilities

Every chairman is expected to:

- Schedule Event Rates: Deconflict event dates with council and parish activities
- Set Clear Goals: Define the overall objectives for the committee and ensure members understand expected outcomes.
- Lead Committee Meetings as required: Organize and preside over committee meetings, ensuring they stay on track and respect the members' time.
- Assign Tasks: Recruit and organize a committee of at least three members to help implement programs.
- Plan Resources: Develop and update required resources. Update budget accordingly
- Maintain Records: Keep accurate logs of activities / volunteer hours for mandatory reporting on the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) & Columbian Award Application (#SP-7).
- Communicate Success: Update the council at scheduled meetings, provide input to the monthly Newsletter and Parish Bulletin.





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March 2026

Springtime Sporting Events!



**Golf Scramble—
Coming this
April...
See SK, PGK
Mark Price**



Council 6153 needs you for the Council Softball Team! See SK, PGK Mark Price





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March 2026

Council Awards and Dinner Dance

SAVE THE DATE

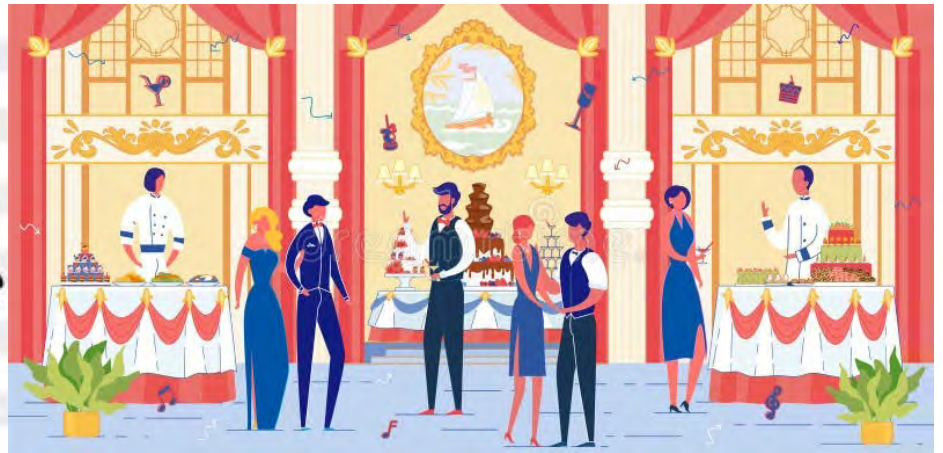


Springfield Golf & Country Club

**8301 Old Keene Mill Road
Springfield, VA 22152**

Saturday, May 30, 2026

From 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



IN SERVICE TO ONE, IN SERVICE TO ALL



A Knight's Tale



March 2026

Thought of the Month: How we Follow

Brothers,

Last month we discussed the importance of being a leader in our eco systems—family, parish and community. Being a good follower builds trust and confidence in your family and team. It develops partnership in the group and promotes self value and trust. It reduces conflict and cultivates future leaders. In my opinion, most importantly, it develops your listening skills. Hearing is an automatic function of the body. Your body hears noises. Listening is brain actively engaging and analyzing and understanding what is heard. Listening is a key leadership trait and a skill that needs to be honed because it is a foundation of inclusion that encourages innovation through respectful interest in thoughts and ideas.

Why is this important? Well, I am glad that you asked. If only leaders speak, there is no development of the community, there is no interaction, diversity of thought and a loss of confidence and trust. We discussed that Catholic Gentlemen are Shepherds as stated in [1 Peter 5:2-3](#)² “Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”

St Paul tells us to set the example. St Matthew tells how. [Matthew 20:26-28](#),²⁶ “Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Just as Paul writes to the Philippians, we should not seek glory, but to help others, [Philippians 2:3-4](#)³ “Do nothing out of selfish ambition³ or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above your selves,⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

We should listen to St Paul in his letter to Timothy, [1 Timothy 4:12](#)¹² “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” On the flip side, because we encourage, we need to listen as St James tells us [James 1:19](#), “My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.”

But why listen to me, listen to the King Solomon, who God granted unparalleled wisdom. He writes in [Proverbs 12:15](#), “The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice”. . We need to listen to everyone. And, [Proverbs 18:13](#), “To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.” [Proverbs 18:2](#), “Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions.” Translated, we do not know everything. Everyone has valued input. To be a good leader, you must be a good follower—and listen with your heart and mind

God Bless

Vivat Jesus,

GK Casey





Who We Are



On 28 April 1969, the Supreme Board of Directors granted the Springfield Council their charter and Council number of 6153. The official Charter presentation was made on 23 January at the Springfield Country Club by the Worth District Deputy Patrick J O’Driscoll to the Founding Grand Knight Manuel “Manny Marks. The Council was formed to support growth of the Richmond and Arlington Dioceses in the Springfield area. With over 500 families in the St Bernadett’s boundaries, it was the perfect centralized location for the new council. The Council doubled its member within the first 3 months. Currently, the Council has over 250 members

The Knights of Columbus
are Catholic Gentlemen who are proud of our Catholic Beliefs, and support our family, parish and community in our walk with Christ

Our Core Principles

	 FAITH		 FAMILY	
	 COMMUNITY		 LIFE	



Do you know anyone that should be a Knight?
Do you want to pass on the Spiritual Gift?
Everyone should be answering **“Yes!!!”**
Please send the QR code to these individuals
and help them only their path

Join the



KNIGHTS

