



The Knights of St Columba

An invitation to join the Order



Why would you want to join ?

✦ If you have a vocation to serve the Church and to serve God as a layman we recommend that you become a member of the Knights of St.Columba.

✦ You will feel that in doing this you are fulfilling that vocation.

✦ You can count yourself as....

A LABOURER IN THE VINEYARD





WHO ARE THE KNIGHTS ?

MODERN TERMINOLOGY....some

FAQ (Frequently asked questions)



Background ~ an introduction of the Order.

A more complete history ... www.province30.co.uk/Roots.html

- ✦ We are a Fraternal Federation of Catholic men dedicated to **Charity, Unity and Fraternity**.
- ✦ The Order was set up on the 14th May 1919 in Glasgow and blessed by Mgr John Ritchie.
- ✦ Today it extends throughout England, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands, and is affiliated to the International Alliance of Catholic Knights (IACK) and to similar Orders in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, South Africa, USA, the Gambia, West Africa, Austria and The Knights of St. Thomas Moore, Belgium.
- ✦ The Governing Body is headed by the Supreme Grand Knight, four Supreme Officers and four other Directors, all elected by Supreme Council for a limited period.
- ✦ The basic unit of the Order is the Charter Council. Councils are grouped in Provinces, and where practicable correspond with Diocesan boundaries with each Province having its own Provincial Officers and Provincial Council.
- ✦ Province 23 was created in 1954 when a re-organisation of larger Provinces took place.
- ✦ The Provincial level manages an area, similar to a Borough boundary. A number of local Councils report to it. Province 23 looks after Oxford, Slough, Windsor, Reading, High Wycombe, Staines, Ascot and Didcot. Each one of these Councils is then active in the Parishes in its own area.
- ✦ All the Parishes 60+ are shown on www.province23.co.uk The Member Councils website.





PRESENT DAY



- ✦ Recruitment has slowed down – current membership 5000+
- ✦ 340 Councils in UK, Channel Isles and IOM.
- ✦ Our membership needs rejuvenating, several Brothers are now Senior Citizens. Council numbers need to be grown.
- ✦ We urgently need to generate activists in ALL the parishes we look after.
- ✦ With the current shortage of clergy, Parish Priests will find the Knights are there to take delegation from them on things they want done.
- ✦ We work with all the established parish groups and enhance their work.
- ✦ We need you to enhance Community work in the parishes. An opportunity to serve and assist.



THE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



In Church

Assist the Clergy

Readers

Catechists

Collectors

Altar service

Choir singers

Prayer groups

Ministers of Communion



In the Community

Service in the Community

Run fundraising events

Organise cleaning rotas

Organise old people support

Collect housebound

Help with youth

Charitable work

Do maintenance work



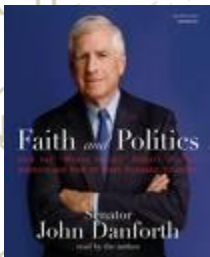
This is in no way an exhaustive list.



AT NATIONAL LEVEL

KEY ACTIVISTS FOR

- 🐝 **Catholic moral values of Christian life.**
- 🐝 **Full support for the Catholic education for our children.**
- 🐝 **Unequivocal support for the right of the un-born child.**
- 🐝 **Outright opposition to euthanasia in all its forms.**
- 🐝 **Care for the elderly in their homes and hospices.**
- 🐝 **Ongoing support for 3rd world nations**





ACTION (what we do) **is KEY** to everything. **That's why we are asking you to join !**

**If you like getting out and meeting like minded people to organise activities and events, or
Involving yourself in fundraising ~ helping others & supporting charities, also**

- Transporting elderly parishioners to Sunday Mass.
- Organising School Christmas poster competitions.
- Helping the hospices project
- Supporting the Samaritans
- Fundraising for CAFOD
- Organising race nights
- Running a children's bowling competition or a 5-a-side tournament & much more...
- Supporting Lourdes Groups.
- Wells for water project
- Clinicare
- The Bishops Bursary fund
- Writing to your MPs
- Organising Barbecues



Who can join and how ?

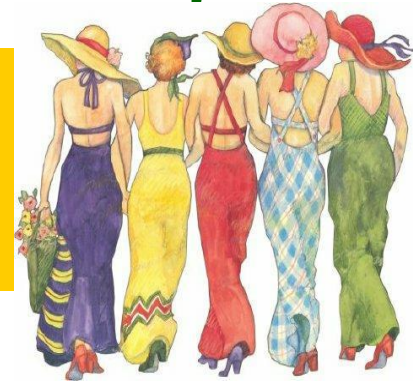
- ✿ All practicing Catholic men over the age of 16.
- ✿ Just speak to one of the Knights or Email: province23@hotmail.com
- ✿ That Knight will help you complete an application. There will be an annual sub.
- ✿ You'll be invited to drop in at a meeting. "Come in and see" what we do.
- ✿ Councils meet once a month, in the evening at a church hall.
- ✿ One of the Brothers will help you settle in.
- ✿ When you feel ready, you'll be asked to undertake some aspect of the Council work.
- ✿ After 12 months you will be initiated a Full Knight.
- ✿ Council offices are assigned through annual elections depending on what you like doing. You may volunteer for such work as Treasurer, Action, Welfare, Social etc, The Grand Knight is head of Council. A Deputy Grand Knight is also elected annually.
- ✿ Council members are encouraged to volunteer to sit at Province.



SIMPLE..... WHY DON'T YOU DO IT RIGHT NOW !



FINALLY...What about the Ladies ?



- ✦ The Knights are a family Order. Family members are always welcome to our events.... But the Ladies are key to our success.
- ✦ Councils often have ‘Eating out’ evenings with partners.
- ✦ Province has an annual “Ladies dinner” at some appropriate and local venue.
- ✦ As Brothers don’t bake and cater, it is often the wife who prepares that plate-offering, or helps in the kitchen on the odd events.
- ✦ They also get to meet the other ladies and form friendships.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO LADIES’ PARTICIPATION.



THE KNIGHTS SAINT COLUMBA ^{of} BA



COME ON IN – YOU'RE WELCOME.

www.province23.co.uk or www.ksc.org.uk