

# A Global Call to Carry the Cross

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From Knightline <knightline@kofc.org>

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## News for Knights of Columbus



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*Praying the Stations of the Cross is a traditional Lenten devotion and Knights around the world this Holy Week will organize and participate in living reenactments of Christ's passion and death, seeking to unite their own sufferings with his. In his Palm Sunday [homily](#), Pope Leo XIV emphasized Christ as the King of Peace, even in the face of the violence he endured. "As Jesus walks the Way of the Cross, we place ourselves behind him, following in his footsteps," the pope said. "As we walk with him, we contemplate his passion for the sake of humanity, his broken heart, and his life as a gift of love."*



*Members of St. John Vianney Council 17868 in Sedona, Ariz., hold a wooden cross as their chaplain, Father Ignatius Mazanowski, leads the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, March 29, 2024. (Photo by David Jolkovski)*

## A Global Call to Carry the Cross

Around the world, Knights bring the Stations of the Cross to life in their local communities through processions and reenactments of the passion and death of Jesus. From Canada to Mexico, from the Philippines to Ukraine, the physical carrying of the cross is a powerful expression of our Lenten call — especially on Good Friday — to remember, contemplate and more fully accompany Christ in his suffering.

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*The parable of the Good Samaritan is depicted in a stained-glass window at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center in West Islip, N.Y. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)*

## **'Only Mercy Can Bring Peace'**

Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, recently appointed archbishop of Łódź, Poland, served as papal almoner from 2013 until March 2026, carrying out works of mercy and raising funds for charitable aid on the pope's behalf. As part of his ministry, he made several visits to war-torn Ukraine as a representative of Pope Francis. He recently spoke with *Columbia* about the work of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Service of Charity, the role of charity in the Christian life, and the prospects for peace in Ukraine, the Holy Land and throughout the world.

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*Heather Scheffman and her children look through an album of her husband, Troy — a devoted Knight and father who lost his life in a fire last March.*

## **'A Heart of a Servant'**

Troy Scheffman, past grand knight of St. Gabriel the Archangel Council 12153 in McKinney, Texas, died March 24, 2025, in a fire that destroyed his family's home — after ensuring his children escaped safely. He is remembered by his family, brother Knights and community members for his joyful spirit, generous heart and tireless service. His devotion to the Knights of Columbus lives on through his two sons, both members of Council 12153.

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*Knights take turns carrying a 40-pound cross as they climb Kennesaw Mountain in Cobb County, Ga., during a fundraiser to support seminarians in November 2022.*

## **Carrying the Cross for Seminarians**

Each year, Transfiguration Council 10362 in Marietta, Georgia, hosts the Carry the Cross Challenge, in which participants hike a 6-mile mountain trail while carrying a 40-pound cross. The event combines sacrifice with charity, raising funds for seminarians in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. "To be able to build this cross and carry it in memory of Jesus," said Grand Knight Mike Meehan, "this is the least we can do to help out [the seminarians who will] help us to carry on the sacraments and the life of the Church."

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