



## **Council 8509 Holy Cross Catholic Church**

### **District Deputy:**

Good morning, my name is Pat O'Doherty, I am the District 11 Deputy representing the North Carolina State Knights of Columbus. My district includes Holy Cross Parish in Kernersville and your Knights of Columbus Council #8509. Each year, the Star Council Award is available to deserving councils who have excelled in furthering our founding Father Michael McGivney's mission. Councils earn this prestigious award primarily through their efforts in quality faith-filled family programs, as well as membership and insurance growth. On behalf of the State and Supreme Councils of the Knights of Columbus, I am both pleased and privileged to award Council 8509 the 2025 Star Council Award.

## **Council 8509 Representative:**

Thank you, Pat. As our Council's (Insert Your Role), I am honored to accept this award on behalf of my fellow Knights and our Holy Cross Parish. This represents our second time in four years to achieve Star Council status and I am very proud of the efforts of our Knights. Would any Knights in attendance please stand so that we may acknowledge you [pause for applause]. I also want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Parishioners of Holy Cross without whose support both in time and treasure this award would not be possible. Our fish fries, pancake breakfasts, Coats for Kids campaign and annual golf tournament are but a few of the programs and events sponsored by the Knights that in 2025 alone raised over \$48,000 in funds to support local charities. These charities include Least Among My Brethren, our national charity supporting local children with intellectual disabilities, Coats for Kids, Veterans Helping Veterans Heal, Room at the Inn, Shop with a Cop, Staddon-Cain Catholic education scholarship, Next Step Ministries, Winston-Salem Rescue Mission, Birthright of Winston-Salem, Sheperd's Center, Crisis Control, Samaritan Ministries, and priest retirement and seminarian support. As you can see, we are a very active council and are always looking for new members within the Parish...please see one of our Knights if you are interested in pursuing a future in this worthwhile Catholic vocation. Thank you.