



# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 14, 2024

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## **Knights of Columbus Announces Novena for Peace and Healing in Ukraine**

New Haven, Conn. — The Knights of Columbus announced today a novena — nine days of prayer — for peace and healing prior to the two-year anniversary of the violent conflict in Ukraine. The novena will begin on Thursday, February 15, and conclude on Friday, February 23. Each prayer in the novena is accompanied by a video featuring people impacted by the conflict, including a widow who lost her husband, an orphan whose parents were killed, a Catholic priest held in captivity, veterans, medical personnel and internally displaced people.

A young Ukrainian woman developed the reflections contained in this novena. Her unique perspectives illuminate the necessity for prayerful solidarity and the context of the Knights' humanitarian efforts that have helped more than 1.6 million people. Some 10,000 Knights in Poland and Ukraine have distributed over 7.7 million pounds of food and supplies through Knights of Columbus Charity Convoys, along with 250,000 care packages, 4,000 coats to Ukrainian children, 60,000 rosaries and hundreds of wheelchairs, generators and other essentials.

While praying the novena to mark the anniversary of the conflict is certainly appropriate in its timing, it was written so it could be prayed at any time of the year.

Those interested in obtaining the Novena for Peace and Healing in Ukraine and accompanying videos are invited to visit [kofc.org/ukraine](http://kofc.org/ukraine).

### **About the Knights of Columbus**

In 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a young parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut, founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. What began as a small fraternal benefit society has since grown into the world's premier lay Catholic men's organization, with more than 2 million members in over 16,600 local councils. As members of one of the world's leading international charitable organizations, Knights around the world donated approximately 50 million service hours and nearly \$185 million for worthy causes in their communities in 2022. The Knights of Columbus also offers a range of life insurance products to members and their families and was named by Forbes as one of America's Best Insurance Companies 2024 in the permanent life insurance category. Knights of Columbus Insurance currently has more than \$122 billion\* of life insurance in force. In addition, the organization offers investment services in accord with Catholic social teaching through its wholly owned subsidiary, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, which holds more than \$27

billion\*\* in assets under management. Based on the founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus is committed to strengthening Catholic families and parishes, and to practicing faith in action through service to all in need. To learn more or to join the Knights of Columbus, please visit [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join).

\*As of September 30, 2023

\*\*As of December 31, 2023

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