



**STATES DINNER  
AND  
GAUDIUM ET SPES AWARD PRESENTATION**



STATES DINNER  
OF THE  
143<sup>RD</sup> SUPREME CONVENTION

PRESENTATION  
OF THE  
GAUDIUM ET SPES AWARD  
TO

THE HONORABLE MARY ANN GLENDON

FORMER AMBASSADOR  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE HOLY SEE

LEARNED HAND PROFESSOR OF LAW, EMERITA  
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025  
WASHINGTON HILTON  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

# PROGRAM

Procession of Dais Guests

Procession of National Flags

Welcome

**Patrick E. Kelly**  
Supreme Knight

Invocation

**His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan**  
Archbishop of New York

Dinner & State Songs

Introduction of Dais Guests

**Arthur L. Peters**  
Deputy Supreme Knight

## Greetings

**Most Reverend Roy Edward Campbell Jr.**  
Auxiliary Bishop of Washington

## Award Citation

**Most Reverend William E. Lori**  
Archbishop of Baltimore  
Supreme Chaplain

Vice-President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

## Video Tribute

## Award Presentation

**Patrick E. Kelly**  
Supreme Knight

## Address

**The Honorable Mary Ann Glendon**  
Knights of Columbus  
Gaudium et Spes Award Honoree

## Benediction

**Most Reverend William E. Lori**  
Archbishop of Baltimore  
Supreme Chaplain

Vice-President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



# MENU

## Panzanella Salad

Heirloom Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Olives,  
Red Onion, Arugula, Focaccia Croutons,  
Tomato-Oregano Dressing

## Roasted Filet of Beef

Truffle-Chive Pommes Puree,  
Steamed Asparagus, Confit Tomato,  
Cracked Pepper Mushroom Demi-Glace

## Chocolate Cake

Double Chocolate Fudge,  
Chocolate Biscuit, Ganache

## THE GAUDIUM ET SPES AWARD

Established by the Knights of Columbus in 1992, the Gaudium et Spes Award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to both the Catholic Church and to society.

The award consists of a specially struck gold medal and an honorarium of \$100,000. Mother Teresa of Calcutta was the inaugural recipient.

The Gaudium et Spes Award takes its inspiration, as well as its name, from the opening words of the Second Vatican Council's *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*. The Council Fathers describe the bond between the Church and mankind in these words:

**T**he joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. For theirs is a community composed of men. United in Christ, they are led by the Holy Spirit in their journey to the Kingdom of their Father and they have welcomed the news of salvation which is meant for every man. That is why this community realizes that it is truly linked with mankind and its history by the deepest of bonds. (December 7, 1965)

By placing the Church in solidarity with humanity in all its conditions, *Gaudium et Spes* reveals itself as the key document for the renewal of the Church today. As Pope Paul VI stated at the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, the image of the Church in the modern world is that of the Good Samaritan — the selfless servant of the human person. The Knights of Columbus, in fidelity to the Order's founding principles of charity and unity, has entered into this renewal through its charitable service to humanity, and its close communion with the Church and its pastors.

By honoring the spiritual and humanitarian achievements of contemporary public figures through the Gaudium et Spes Award, it is the Order's hope that all men and women will be inspired by the living example of the honorees to greater charity and service to their fellow man. We pray also that our members and their families, indeed all persons of goodwill, may, as the Council Fathers state in the conclusion to *Gaudium et Spes*, "be aroused to a lively hope — the gift of the Holy Spirit — that some day at last they will be caught up in peace and utter happiness in that fatherland radiant with the glory of the Lord" (93).



OBVERSE



REVERSE

The Gaudium et Spes Medal depicts in bas-relief the crucifix, designed by Lello Scorzelli (1921-1997), which crowns the top of the papal ferula used by each pope since the close of the Second Vatican Council. It is shown on a background of the longitudinal and latitudinal lines of the globe. The reverse features a representation of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael McGivney, comforting the widow and children of a deceased member. Shown with the emblem of the Order in the background, the image is based on the original statuary group sculpted by Stanley Bleifeld (1924-2011) located at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut.





## **The Honorable Mary Ann Glendon**

Former Ambassador of the  
United States of America to the Holy See

Learned Hand Professor of Law, Emerita  
Harvard Law School

Knights of Columbus  
Gaudium et Spes Award Honoree

## AWARD CITATION

*"The joys and the hopes,  
the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age,  
especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted,  
these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties  
of the followers of Christ."*

A true Renaissance woman, our honoree has drawn upon her studies of law, theology, philosophy and diplomacy to make lasting contributions to the Church and society, both nationally and internationally. Working at the highest levels of academia, including an endowed chair at Harvard Law School, her scholarship has spanned more than five decades. Her books have explored our culture's most contentious issues — such as abortion and divorce — and traced the development of civil liberties from Plato's *Republic* to the Age of Enlightenment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Her service to the Catholic Church has included leadership roles in various Vatican bodies, notably as president of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences and being the first woman to serve as the Holy See's Head of Delegation at an international conference convened by the United Nations. In that role she steadfastly opposed abortion and population control efforts at the landmark 1995 UN World Conference on Women held in Beijing. She has defended religious liberty at home and abroad and advised the previous three pontiffs on a range of issues, from the role of women in the Church to reforms of the Institute for the Works of Religion (the Vatican Bank).

Our honoree also has served her country as U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See under President George W. Bush, playing a key role in welcoming Pope Benedict XVI to the United States in 2008 and accompanying President Bush to the Vatican later that year. Additionally, she chaired the U.S. State Department's Commission on Unalienable Rights, was a member of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, and served on the President's Council on Bioethics.

Alongside her teaching, advising and public service, she has authored numerous works, from scholarly academic texts to, more recently, a deeply personal and illuminating account of her years of ecclesial and diplomatic service spanning three pontificates.

There is more — much more — that could be said of our honoree's life and achievements. But let us conclude by highlighting the personal qualities that have earned her universal respect and admiration, as well as the love and friendship of many: a strong yet welcoming presence; a direct yet collaborative style; and an integrity marked by humility and a deep awareness that God is present and at work in every person's life.

Throughout her professional life she has risen to the heights of public and academic service. She has dedicated her formidable intellect and moral authority to advancing the social teachings of the Church, advocating for human rights and liberty not for their own sake, but to defend the dignity of every human person and to promote the common good of all.

The Knights of Columbus is proud to recognize Mary Ann Glendon — a distinguished scholar, diplomat, Catholic leader, and, most importantly, a devoted wife, to her departed husband Edward, and a loving mother to her daughters Elizabeth, Sarah, and Katherine — with its highest honor, the Gaudium et Spes Award.



## HONOREES

Mother Teresa of Calcutta  
1992

His Eminence John Cardinal O'Connor  
1994

His Eminence James Cardinal Hickey  
2000

His Eminence William Cardinal Baum  
2001

His Beatitude Patriarch Michel Sabbah  
2002

His Eminence Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone, S.D.B.  
2007

His Eminence Jaime Cardinal Ortega y Alamillo  
2010

His Eminence Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz  
2010

Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant  
2012

His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
2015

The Little Sisters of the Poor  
2016

Reverend Gerard E. Hammond, M.M.  
2017

Mother Agnes Mary Donovan, S.V.  
2023

The Honorable Mary Ann Glendon  
2025



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Patrick E. Kelly

*Supreme Knight*

Archbishop William E. Lori      Arthur L. Peters  
*Supreme Chaplain*      *Deputy Supreme Knight*

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