April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Father Randal Kasel, Pastor frkasel@bevcomm.net

Josefina Meyer & Sara McNamara, Staff

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BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE All articles for the bulletin are due by noon on

Wednesday. Please e-mail Saint Paul articles to stpauls@hcinet.net and Saint Michael articles to stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. The business office reserves the right to edit articles as time and space allows.

From Father Kasel

Praised be Jesus Christ through Mary!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

The month of April is dedicated to increasing devotion to the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Spirit. Let us strive to grow in heart-felt Love for our Lord Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament and the best friend of our souls, the Holy Spirit!

This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday. I share with you a reflection on Jesus' entry in Jerusalem, just before His Passion. I encourage you to reflect over this message a few times this week:

"Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem: The solemn, yet simple entry into Jerusalem.

Come, and as we make our way up to the Mount of Olives, let us go out to meet Christ, Who is returning today from Bethany, and of His own Will makes haste towards His most venerable and revered Passion, whereby He will bring to fulfillment the mystery of the salvation of mankind. (St. Andrew of Crete, Sermon 9 on Palm Sunday)

Jesus leaves Bethany very early in the morning. Many fervent disciples of His had gathered there since the previous evening; some were natives of Galilee who had come on pilgrimage to celebrate the Passover, others were inhabitants of Jerusalem who had been won over by the recent miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus. Accompanied by this large gathering, as well as by others who joined them on the way, Jesus once more sets out along the old road from Jericho to Jerusalem towards the tiny summit of the Mount of Olives.

The circumstances favored a great reception, because it was customary for the people to go out to greet the larger groups of pilgrims, who would enter into the city with songs and demonstrations of joy. Our Lord showed no opposition to the preparations for this jubilant entry. He Himself would choose the sort of mount He would ride in on - a simple donkey which He had asked to brought from Bethphage, a village very close to Jerusalem. People of importance had used the donkey as a form of travel in Palestine as far back as the time of Balaam. (cf. Num. 22:21 ss.)

The procession was organized quite quickly. Some people spread a blanket on top of the animal and helped Jesus to mount upon it; others came forward to lay their garments on the ground to form a carpet for the donkey to pass over; many others ran along the roadside following the procession as it moved towards the city, laying down bits of green foliage along the route and waving olive and palm branches torn off the trees close by. And as they drew close to the city, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King Who comes in the Name of the Lord! Peace in Heaven and glory in the highest!' (Luke 19:37-38)
Jesus makes His entry into Jerusalem as the Messiah upon a donkey, just as had been prophesied many centuries before. (Zach. 9:9) The people, also, acclaim Him in clearly messianic fashion. The pharisees knew these prophecies very well, but so also did the common people,

people, also, acclaim Him in clearly messianic fashion. The pharisees knew these prophecies very well, but so also did the common people, and they were visibly overjoyed. Jesus accepts this homage and tells the pharisees, who were trying to dampen this demonstration of Faith and joy: *I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.* (Luke 19:39)

In any case, the triumph of Jesus is a simple affair, He makes do with a poor animal for a throne. I don't know about you; but I am not humili-

Welcome to the Churches of



We are happy that you are here! If you are new to our parishes, please call or stop at the Parish Office. We would love to meet you and answer any questions that you might have!

SACRAMENTS

Confession - Saturday 4:00pm at St. Michael; Sunday 8:25am at St. Paul and 8:00am before daily weekday Holy Mass at both parishes.

Baptism - Please contact the parish office.

Matrimony - Please call Father Kasel at least six months prior to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick - This is for someone who is seriously ill, dealing with major surgery or infirm. Please contact Father Kasel to make arrangements.

WEEKEND HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

Church of Saint Paul - Sunday Confessions at 8:25am, Rosary at 8:20am, Mass at 8:45am

Church of Saint Michael - Saturday Confessions at 4:00pm, Rosary at 4:35pm, Mass at 5:00pm

Church of Saint Michael - Sunday Mass at 7:00am, Rosary at 10:05am, Mass at 10:30am

WEEKDAY HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Church of Saint Paul - Tuesday and Thursday

Confession 8am & Mass 8:30am, Rosary at 8:10am before Mass

Church of Saint Michael - Wednesday and Friday

Confession 8am and Mass 8:30am

ated to acknowledge that in the Lord's eyes I am a beast of burden: 'I am like a donkey in your presence, but I am continually with you. You hold my right hand,' (Ps. 72:23-24) you take me by the bridle. (J. Escriva, Christ is Passing By, 181)

Jesus also wants to enter triumphantly into the lives of men today, riding upon a humble animal; He would like us to bear witness to Him in the simplicity of our work done well, showing forth our cheerfulness, our serenity and our sincere concern for others. He wants to be close to us through the circumstances of normal human dealings. We too can tell Him on a day like today, *Ut iumentum factus sum apud te... I am like a little donkey before You. But You are always close to me, You have taken me by the bridle and brought me to do Your Will; 'et cum gloria suscepisti me', and afterwards you have (continued on page 3)*

WALK WITH JESUS THIS HOLY WEEK!

Additional Individual Confession times for Lent:

Wednesday, April 16 4:00-4:55pm St. Michael Wednesday, April 16 7:00-8:30pm St. Michael Holy Thursday, April 17 4:30-5:00pm St. Paul Holy Thursday, April 17 after the 7:30pm Holy Mass St. Michael Good Friday, April 18 4:30-5:30pm St. Michael Good Friday, April 18 after evening Liturgy St. Michael



Holy Week and Easter-2025

Thursday, April 17 -Holy Thursday Mass of Our Lord's Last Supper 5:30pm St. Paul

7:30pm St. Michael (Latin) - Church open for prayer after Holy Mass Friday, April 18-Good Friday Stations & Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion 12:00pm St. Paul - Stations of the Cross

3:00pm St. Michael (Latin)-Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion 7:00pm St. Michael -Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion Saturday, April 19 - Easter Vigil St. Michael 8:30pm

Sunday, April 20 - Easter: regular Sunday Holy Mass Schedule Divine Mercy Sunday - April 27, 2025 2:00-4:00pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island

The next Holy Hour and Social for Men: Sunday, April 13, at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Michael. Fr. Kasel will give a talk on: *The Relationship between Faith and Works*. All men are invited!

CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL NEWS

CHURCH OF St. Michael FAITH FORMATION:

Confirmation/Youth Group Retreat! All confirmation candidates and youth, grades 7-12, are invited to a retreat on Wednesday, April 30, from 6:30-9:00pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. The evening will begin with a meal and include spiritual talks, adoration, and confession. Confirmation I and II students are required to attend (anyone with an unavoidable conflict—please contact the parish office as soon as possible). Please RSVP to our parish offices.

Save the dates! St. Michael Homeschool Co-op for Spring, 2025: The Church of St. Michael is offering an opportunity for children ages 3-14 to participate in a Homeschool Co-op on five (5) Fridays: April 25 and May 2, 9, 16, and 23. More details will be available soon. Contact the Office at 507-356-4280 or stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net. Registration forms are in the Church entry.

WORDS TO LIVE BY:

"Why did You suffer for me, dear Jesus? For Love! The nails... the crown... the Cross... all for the Love of me! For You I sacrifice everything willingly. I offer You my body with all of its weakness, and my soul with all its Love." St. Gemma Galgani

"Whoever truly wishes to venerate the Passion of the Lord should contemplate Jesus crucified with the eyes of his soul, and in such a way that he identifies his own body with that of Jesus." St. Leo the

"It is good for us to try to understand better the meaning of Christ's death. We must get beyond external appearances and clichés. We need to put ourselves really and truly into the scenes which we are re-living; to witness the sorrow of Jesus, His mother's tears, the disciples' flight, the courage of the holy women, the daring of those two Joseph and Nicodemus who ask Pilate for the Body of Our Lord." St. Jose Maria Escriva

"He who desires to go on advancing from virtue to virtue, from Grace to Grace, should meditate continually on the Passion of Jesus... there is no practice more profitable for the entire sanctification of the soul than the frequent meditation of the sufferings of Jesus Christ." St. Bonaventure

"Let us, above all, come close to Jesus in His death, close to His Cross which stands out in silhouette above the summit of Golgatha. But we must approach Him sincerely and with the interior recollection that is a sign of Christian maturity. The Divine and human events of the Passion will then pierce our soul as words spoken to us by God to uncover the secrets of our heart and show us what He expects of our lives." St. Jose Maria Escriva

"The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory. In taking upon Himself the death that He found in us, He has most faithfully promised to give us Life in Him, such as we cannot have of ourselves." St. Augustine

"If it were only possible I would like to feel all that You feel. But You are perfect Man and Your sensitivity is so much greater than mine. At Your side I see, yet again, that I don't know how to suffer. And so I am amazed by Your ability to give everything without reserve. Jesus, I must tell You just how cowardly I am. Yet seeing You nailed to the Cross 'suffering all that can be suffered, Your arms spread in one gesture of an Eternal Priest." St. Jose Maria Escriva

Institute of Catholic Culture Lecture Series:

ABIDING IN GOD—A Study of the Epistles of St. John Three rich, yet often overlooked, New Testament books are I, II, and III John. These "hidden" gems reveal fascinating insights about life in the early Church and impart apostolic wisdom on topics such as prayer, holiness, the sacraments, and the nature of love. Above all, they call us to place Christ at the center of our lives.

"So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." -1 John 4:16 Details: Thursdays, May 8, 15, & 22, 2025

Pre-Class Discussion: 7:30pm EST Lecture: 8:00pm EST Instructor: Scott Powell, Ph.D. Registration is required. Visit to register: https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/events/abiding-in-god

WEEKLY TITHING April 5-6, 2025

3,085.50 Sunday Envelopes: Plate: 910.30 EFT: 3,895.00 Total: 7,890.80

The Divine Mercy Novena will begin this coming Good Friday, April 18, and end Saturday, April 26. Please see Novena bulletin insert this weekend of April 12-13.



Easter Flower Donations: Help to beautify our sanctuary and remember a loved one through a contribution for Easter Flowers! There is an envelope contribution packet for Easter flowers. The suggested donation is \$13. Please consider making a donation and

put it in the Sunday collection or return to the office by Sunday, April 13. Thank you!

Quilting Bee Cause will meet Tuesday, April 15, at 9:00am in the church hall. Come and join us. Everyone is welcome. Any questions call Bea Rauen 507-356-4858.

PRO-LIFE QUOTES:

"Give us the grace - When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life." St. John Paul II

"Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life." Catechism of the Catholic Church 2270

Craft and Bake Sale! Saturday, April 26, from 9:00am-2pm at the Pine Island Senior Citizen Center (109 3rd St. SW). There will also be cinnamon rolls and coffee; donations accepted.

Catholic Services Appeal for 2025:

Giving is Faith in Action!

It is such a great reminder of what the Lord has done and calls us to do. Your continued generosity to the Catholic Services Appeal and your faith in our ministries are proof that by offering the Lord what we can, He will provide what we need. The way the Lord gave of Himself for us is a great reminder that we are united as one Church that when we come together and support our ministries we can do so much good. Each of us has benefited from our ministries.

GIVE ON-LINE: https://www.archspm.org/catholic-services-appeal

Pine Island Food Shelf: items requested for April: Personal Hygiene; such as toothpaste, soap, lotion, and female hygiene products.

HOLY MASS TIMES

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am Holy Mass

9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:30pm (Latin) Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Last Supper

Friday, April 18, 2025 (No Holy Mass in the morning)

3:00pm (Latin) Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion

7:00pm Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion

Saturday, April 19, 2025

8:30pm Easter Vigil Holy Mass

Sunday, April 20, 2025

7:00am Latin Holy Mass

10:30am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS



April 16, 2025 Ivan Ocariz (Carolyn Ocariz)

April 17, 2025 All priests of Jesus Christ, living & deceased

April 19, 2025 †Sarah Murray April 20, 2025 **Parishioners**

April 20, 2025 †Helen McDonald-Phalon (Abby Slater)

CHURCH OF SAINT PAUL NEWS

(From Father Kasel, from page 1) given me a big hug. (idem., A. Vazquez de Prada, The Founder of Opus Dei, Madrid) Ut iumentum... I am like a donkey before You, Lord... like a beast of burden, and I shall always remain close to You. This could be an aspiration for us to use today. Our Lord has entered triumphantly into Jerusalem. A few days later, in this same city, He will be nailed to a Cross.

Correspondence to Grace: The triumphant procession of Jesus has now made its way from the top of the Mount of Olives and proceeds down the western slope towards the Temple looming ahead of them. Jesus can now see the whole city stretched out before Him. On seeing this scene Jesus wept. (Luke 19:41) This weeping, amidst so many shouts of joy and such a solemn entry, must have been totally unexpected. Seeing Jesus, the disciples were completely at a loss. In a single moment all their joy was abruptly shattered.

Jesus sees how Jerusalem is sunk in sin, ignorance and blindness, Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. (Luke 19:42) Our Lord sees how other days will fall upon it which will no longer be like this present day of joy and salvation, but rather of misfortune and destruction. A few years later the city will be razed to the ground. Jesus weeps over the impenitence of Jerusalem. How eloquent these tears of Christ! They are full of Mercy, sorrowing over the city which has rejected Him. Every means had been tried, including miracles, actions and words, sometimes in a tone of severity, at other times with leniency, ... Jesus had tried everything with everyone, in the town and in the countryside, with simple people and with the learned doctors of the Law, in Galilee and in Judaea. Today, as well, and in every age, Jesus offers the riches of His Grace to every man, because His Will is always to save. In our lives also, every means has been tried and every remedy has been made available. On so many occasions Jesus has sought those little encounters with us! How very many ordinary and extraordinary Graces have been showered upon us in our lives! For, by His Incarnation, He, the Son of God, has in a certain way united Himself with each man. He worked with human hands, He thought with a human mind. He acted with a human will, and with a human heart He loved. Born of the Virgin Mary, He has truly been made one of us, like to us in all things except sin. As an innocent lamb He merited life for us by His Blood which He freely shed. In Him God reconciled us to Himself and to one another, freeing us from the bondage of the devil and of sin, so that each one of us could say with the Apostle: the Son of God 'loved me and gave Himself for me' (Gal. 2:20). (Second Vatican Council, Gaudium et Spes, 22)

The story of each man is the story of God's continual watchfulness over him. Each man is the object of the Lord's special Love. Jesus was ready to do everything for Jerusalem, but the city was not willing to open up her gates to His Mercy. This is the deep mystery of human freedom which always retains that sad possibility of rejecting the Grace of God. Free man, subject yourself to a voluntary servitude, so that Jesus won't have to say of you what He is said to have told Saint Teresa about others: 'Teresa, I was willing. But men were not.' (J. Escriva, *The Way*, 761)

How indeed are we responding to the countless promptings of the Holy Spirit, Who seeks to make us holy in the midst of our ordinary duties and surroundings? Each day how often do we say 'yes' to God and 'no' to our selfishness, to our laziness and to everything that amounts to a lack of love, even if it is only something small.

The joy and sorrow of this day: The children of Jerusalem welcomed Christ the King. They proclaimed the resurrection of life, and waving olive branches, they loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. (Liturgy of Palm Sunday. Hymn to Christ the King) We now realize that for many people this triumphant entry was very short-lived. Just five days later the enthusiastic hosannas gave way to angry shouts of Crucify Him!. What accounts for such a sharp turn-about, and such inconsistent behavior? If we are to understand at all, perhaps we only need to look a little into our own hearts.

How different the cries, St. Bernard comments, 'Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him,' and then 'Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest!' How different the cries are that now are calling Him 'King of Israel' and then in a few days time will be saying, 'We have no king but Caesar!' What a contrast between the green branches and the cross, between the flowers and the thorns! Before they were offering their own (continued on page 4)

WEEKLY TITHING April 6, 2025

Sunday Envelopes: 1,910.00 Plate: 108.00 EFT: 1,415.00 **Total:** \$ 3,433.00

The Divine Mercy Novena will begin this coming Good Friday, April 18, and end the Saturday, April 26. Please see Novena bulletin insert this weekend of April 12-13.



Stations of the Cross at the Church of St. Paul:

Tuesday, April 15 at 5:30pm and Friday, April 18 at noon

All Ladies of the Parish are invited to attend! Church of St. Paul CCW Madonna Dinner on

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:00pm Brief CCW meeting with installation of Officers

6:00pm Holy Mass with Fr. Kasel

6:30pm Lasagna Dinner

7:00pm **Speaker**: Deb McManimon of St. Paul Street Evangelization "10 Great Ways to Share Your Faith"

7:30pm Dessert

Please **RSVP** to the Parish Office for the meal by April 29 by calling 732-5324 or emailing stpauls@hcinet.net. Pray, dine, connect in friendship, and be inspired!



Easter Flower Donations: Help to beautify our sanctuary and remember a loved one through a contribution for Easter Flowers! There is an envelope contribution packet for Easter flowers. The suggested donation is \$13. Please consider making a donation and put it in the Sunday collection or return to the office by Sunday, April 13. Thank you!

CHURCH OF St. Paul FAITH FORMATION:

Confirmation/Youth Group Retreat! All confirmation candidates and youth, grades 7-12, are invited to a retreat on Wednesday, April **30**, from 6:30-9:00pm at the Church of St. Michael, Pine Island. The evening will begin with a meal and include spiritual talks, adoration, and confession. Confirmation I and II students are required to attend (anyone with an unavoidable conflict-please contact the parish office as soon as possible). Please RSVP to our parish offices.



†ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT†

Can you spend an hour with Jesus? Adoration is held at St. Paul, Zumbrota on Tuesdays from 9am-5pm and St. Michael, Pine Island on Wednesdays from 9am-5pm.

Want to grow in our Catholic Faith? You can learn about our Catholic Faith online at any time through FORMED! You will have access to thousands of enriching Catholic movies, programs, audio, & books instantly on FORMED when you sign up through our parishes. There is no cost for you! Just follow these easy steps: 1. Visit: signup.formed.org 2. Enter your parish zip code or name (St. Michael 55963 or St. Paul 55992) 3. Grow in our Catholic Faith!

HOLY MASS TIMES

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

8:00am Confessions/8:30am

9:00am-5:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, April 17, 2025 (No Holy Mass in the morning)

5:30pm Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Last Supper

Sunday, April 20, 2025

8:20am Rosary/8:25am Confessions

8:45am Holy Mass

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS



April 15, 2025 †Marvel Oxley

April 17, 2025 All priests of Jesus Christ, living & deceased

April 20, 2025 **Parishioners**

NEWS FROM SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT PAUL

(from page 3) clothes for Him to walk upon, and so soon afterwards they are stripping Him of His, and casting lots upon them. (St. Bernard, Sermon on Palm Sunday, 2, 4)

The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem asks for loyalty and perseverance from each one of us, it calls us to deepen in our faithfulness, and for our resolutions to be more than just bright lights that sparkle for a moment and then fade away. There are some striking contrasts in the depths of our hearts, for we are capable of the very greatest things and also the very worst, and so if we wish to possess the Divine Life and triumph with Christ, we need to be constant and through penance deaden within us anything that separates us from God and prevents us from following Our Lord unto the Cross. The liturgy of Palm Sunday puts these words on our lips: 'Swing back, doors, higher yet; reach higher, immemorial gates, to let the King enter in triumph!' (Antiphon during distribution of palms.) Anyone who barricades himself in the citadel of his own selfishness will never come down onto the battlefield. But if he raises the gates of his fortress and lets in the King of Peace, then he will go out with the King to fight against all that misery which blurs the eyes and numbs the conscience. (J. Escriva, Christ is Passing By, 82) Also in Jerusalem is Mary, wanting to be close to her Son in celebrating the Passover. It is to be the last Jewish Passover and the first Passover in which her Son is both Priest and Victim. Let us stay close to her. Our Lady will teach us how to remain constant, how to struggle in little things, and to grow continually in love for Jesus. May she be close to our side as we contemplate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of her

Through the intercession of Mary, Mother and Queen of all hearts, St. Joseph, St. Michael and St. Paul, may we all grow in our devotion to the Passion of our Lord!

Son. We will not find a more privileged place." (From: In Conversa-

In Christ through Mary,

Fr. Kasel

Kitui Living Water Project: Please remember to return WATER (your water bottles for the Living Water Project to the Church or the Parish office this week. We thank you for your donations and your generosity. God bless you!



Thank you from the Retirement Fund for Religious:

"On behalf of our religious sisters and brothers and religious order priests, I thank you for your donation from the [Church of St. Michael \$1,293 and Church of St. Paul \$584] to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your combined parish contribution will help enable many religious communities to meet their pressing retirement needs and also support newer religious communities with their retirement planning. Together the faithful of our Archdiocese have raised \$430,635.54 for the annual campaign that kicked off in December 2024. What a beautiful testament to how much we love our consecrated religious! Please be assured of the prayerful gratitude of consecrated religious. With gratitude and prayer during these holy days of Lent.' Nicole Bettini, Delegate for Consecrated Life, RFR Coor.

The Annual Archdiocesan Chrism Holy Mass:

The Chrism Holy Mass will be Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 10:00am at the Cathedral of Saint Paul. The faithful of the Archdiocese are invited to attend for the annual Archdiocesan Chrism Mass. During this Holy Mass, Archbishop Hebda will bless the Holy Oils that will be used throughout the Archdiocese. Also, during this Holy Mass all priests renew their priestly promises.

Holy Land Appeal: Friday, April 18, 2025: Good Friday is the annual Holy Land collection. Please help support Catholics in the Holy Land, which also includes Damascus. Funds directly support efforts to maintain sacred shrines, parishes, faith formation programs, Catholic schools, and basic humanitarian aid. Thank you for your generous assistance to your brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. God bless you!



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Safe Environment: The Archdiocese of St. Paul/ Minneapolis requires all volunteers who interact with minors or vulnerable adults to complete the Essential 3 (background check, Code of Conduct, and VIRTUS training) before beginning their service, and to renew every three years while serving. Please contact the Safe Environment Coordinator for details on how to register for a VIRTUS class, complete the Essential 3, or do updates.



Residential & Light Commercial Serving Zumbrota & Surrounding Communities

Parish Safe Environment Coordinator: Sara McNamara St. Michael: 507-356-4280 stmichaeloffice@bevcomm.net St. Paul: 507-732-5324 stpauls@hcinet.net

St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocese Victim Assistance **Program Hotline:** (651) 291-4475







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Brother Knights of our Council invite you to join us. Contact the Parish Office visit: www.kofc.org/join