

Dartmouth Knights of Columbus Recognized For Top Award

Knights of Columbus Father Hogan Council #14236 in Dartmouth was recognized for their Star Council Award on May 26th at the Country Club of New Bedford. Individual Knights as well as members of the community were recognized for their efforts and service to the community. The council achieved the Double Star Council award, an international award and the organizations most prestigious one. Its the second year in a row the council received this unique distinction. The award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership recruitment (reaching 200% of quota, thereby making it a "Double Star") and retention, promotion of the fraternal insurance program, and sponsorship of charity service programs. A very small percentage of all councils achieve this award.

Chris Pereira, head of the local council praised the members and thanked them for their service. "Your service, faith and commitment inspire not just the Knights of Columbus but the entire community." He said he was proud to serve as their Grand Knight over the last four years. Mike Medeiros was named "Knight of the Year." St. Mary's parishioner, Amond Hawes-Khalifa was recognized for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Members Bill Boles, Mike Medeiros, Joe Medeiros, Marty Flinn, John Gonsalves & Ed Viveiros were awarded Certificates of Merit for exceptional service. Members Pedro Castanheira, Joe Medeiros & Ed Viveiros were given the Distinguished Service award. Other members earned the Service award for the councils overall charitable efforts and programs. Council Chaplain & Pastor of St. Julies Church, Father Richard Roy, presented a special plaque to Mr. Pereira on behalf of the council. It was a thank you for his leadership as Grand Knight.

This past fraternal year, the Father Hogan council contributed to various charitable causes and assisted many families and

individuals in its parishes and throughout the community. The council was established in 2007 and serves the local parishes of St. Julie's, St. Mary's and the community as a whole. It currently has over 90 members and continues to grow.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, the community, families, and young people. With 1.9 million members in over 15,000 councils around the world, the Knights of Columbus at all levels of the organization raised and distributed over \$173 million to charity and rendered over 71.5 million hours of volunteer service last year.