#### The Advisors' Inner Circle Fund III

# **Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund**



I Shares - KCEIX

Annual Shareholder Report: October 31, 2024

This annual shareholder report contains important information about I Shares of the Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund (the "Fund") for the period from November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024. You can find additional information about the Fund at https://www.kofcassetadvisors.org/resources/forms/#tab-1-application--account-forms. You can also request this information by contacting us at 1-844-KC-FUNDS (1-844-523-8637).

#### What were the Fund costs for the last year?

(based on a hypothetical \$10,000 investment)

Fund Name	Costs of a \$10,000 investment	Costs paid as a percentage of a \$10,000 investment
Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund, I Shares	\$198	1.85%

#### How did the Fund perform in the last year?

The benchmark HFRX Equity Market Neutral Index rose +8.14% from October 31st, 2023, through October 31st, 2024, and the widely used S&P 500 benchmark returned +38.02%. The Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund rose +13.72% net over the same period. This performance was achieved despite our gross remaining consistently under 120% and our ex-post realized beta being just 0.16. The headwinds that we faced in FYE 2024 accelerated. Specifically:

- The 10 biggest contributors to the S&P 500 accounted for 47% of the benchmark return.
- ARKK, a common benchmark for low-quality stocks exploded higher, rising nearly 31%.
- · And the trillions of loss-making stocks avoided their day of reckoning as the proverbial can was kicked down the road.

Yet the Fund did well despite the persistence of these headwinds. Here is why:

Long Portfolio: Our longs had over an 80% hit-rate. Without playing in the dangerous names discussed above, we made our money in mispriced blue-chip stocks that offered a significant margin of safety.

Short Portfolio: 2024 was a year where our proprietary mix of fundamental and quantitative risk controls proved invaluable. In our idiosyncratic single-stock book of shorts, our average drag was only -14bps. We view this as a non-trivial accomplishment.

**Outlook:** One of the benefits of working for the Knight's CIO is he is a student of markets, knows it is never different this time, and has a history of sticking with proven but out of favor investment strategies. An investment program helmed by someone with less depth, knowledge and patience fractures the alignment we feel with both the Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors ("KOCAA") and their investors who we are honored to serve. We believe the importance of our strategy's non-correlated returns has never been higher.

As Warren E. Buffett ("Mr. Buffett") builds a \$300bn+ cash pile, we think he sees what we do: an unsustainable decoupling of aggregate valuations. Unlike Mr. Buffett, we do not have \$100s of billions to invest. That allows us to partake in some of the remarkable bargains we see on the long side while pairing this with a mix of shorts that suffer from unsustainable valuations and dubious capital allocation.

Your managers continue to have substantially all our liquid net worth invested in strategies managed by the sub-advisor L2. Your fund managers have well over \$1ml invested in KCEIX, specifically. We look forward to the years ahead and thank you for your continued support.

#### How did the Fund perform since inception?

Total Return Based on \$25,000 Investment

## Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund, I Shares - \$32,819 Bloomberg US 1000 Index (TR) (USD)\* -\$48,635 HFRX Equity Market Neutral Index (TR) (USD) - \$26,647 Bloomberg Intermediate US Corporate Index (TR) (USD) - \$27,072 S&P 500 Index (TR) - \$49,524 \$55,000 \$50,000 \$45,000 \$40,000 \$35,000 \$30,000 \$25,000 \$20,000 \$15,000

# Average Annual Total Returns as of October 31, 2024

		Annualized
		Since
Fund/Index Name	1 Year	Inception
Knights of Columbus Long/Short Equity Fund, I Shares	13.72%	5.69%
Bloomberg US 1000 Index (TR) (USD)*	37.91%	14.49%
HFRX Equity Market Neutral Index (TR) (USD)	8.14%	1.31%
Bloomberg Intermediate US Corporate Index (TR) (USD)	11.02%	1.63%
S&P 500 Index (TR)	38.02%	14.91%

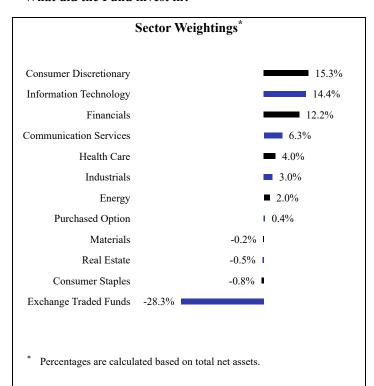
Since its inception on December 2, 2019. The line graph represents historical performance of a hypothetical investment of \$25,000 in the Fund since inception. Returns shown are total returns, which assume the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. The table and graph presented above do not reflect the deduction of taxes a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Call 1-844-KC-FUNDS (1-844-523-8637) for current month-end performance.

\*As of October 2024, pursuant to the new regulatory requirements, this index has been added to represent the broad-based securities market index.

## Key Fund Statistics as of October 31, 2024

Total Net AssetsNumber of HoldingsTotal Advisory Fees PaidPortfolio Turnover Rate\$136,005,12693\$1,460,08951%

#### What did the Fund invest in?



Top Ten Holdings		
	Percentage of	
Holding Name	<b>Total Net Assets</b>	
AppLovin, Cl A	4.3%	
Expedia Group	2.5%	
Synchrony Financial	2.2%	
Meta Platforms, Cl A	2.1%	
Owens Corning	2.0%	
International Business Machines	2.0%	
Corpay	2.0%	
Apple	1.9%	
Airbnb, Cl A	1.9%	
Alphabet, Cl A	1.9%	

## **Material Fund Changes**

There were no material changes during the reporting period.

#### **Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants**

There were no changes in or disagreements with accountants during the reporting period.

#### **Additional Information**

For additional information about the Fund, including its prospectus, financial information, holdings, and proxy voting information, call or visit:

- 1-844-KC-FUNDS (1-844-523-8637)
- https://www.kofcassetadvisors.org/resources/forms/#tab-1-application--account-forms

## Householding

Rule 30e-1 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 permits funds to transmit only one copy of a proxy statement, annual report or semi-annual report to shareholders (who need not be related) with the same residential, commercial or electronic address, provided that the shareholders have consented in writing and the reports are addressed either to each shareholder individually or to the shareholders as a group. This process is known as "householding" and is designed to reduce the duplicate copies of materials that shareholders receive and to lower printing and mailing costs for funds. Once implemented, if you would like to discontinue householding for your accounts, please call toll-free at 1-844-KC-FUNDS (1-844-523-8637) to request individual copies of these documents. Once the Fund receives notice to stop householding, we will begin sending individual copies 30 days after receiving your request.

