



# STATE UPDATE

## UTAH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

### State Deputy's Message

The convention is almost on us. The lead-up to the convention can be a very busy time, what with preparation for council elections, Easter week immediately behind us, the school year wrapping up, and all the normal busyness of life thrown in. It is easy to start winding down the fraternal year too, but that would not be the right thing to do.

The needy don't stop needing help. Parish life does not end. Our brothers still need our hands for assistance. It is easier to keep a car moving than it is to bring back to speed one that has slowed down or even start one that has come to a stop. If you are continuing on in your office slowing down now will lead to additional effort when the new fraternal year starts. If you are leaving office, someone will be taking over for you. Will you have a smooth transition or leaving your successor a stopped car? How have you helped them and your council to keep humming along? Will those whose prayers your council answers have to wait?

Each of us who have taken on the responsibility of leadership hold that office, then we let it go. The office is not ours, we are simply its caretakers. As much as it is our responsibility to leave the office in better shape than when we took it over, it is also our responsibility to ensure that whoever succeeds us can hit the ground running so no opportunities for charity are missed.

This is also the time for wrapping up incomplete tasks such as your Columbian award applications. If you have been keeping your posters up to date this will be a piece of cake. If you are using your fraternal planner it won't be quite as easy, but since your programs are all listed in there month by month, it should go quickly. Alternatively, use your council

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### District Master's Note

#### **Thank You**

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the Sir Knights in regalia who participated in the funeral Mass for Deacon Airas and also those who participated in the Chrism Mass. Both services were held at the Cathedral.

#### **Upcoming State Convention – Need Sir Knights to Attend**

Also, the 2017 Utah State Convention is fast approaching and will be here in less than a week. I would encourage all of my Brother Sir Knights to take an interest in and be an active participant at this year's convention. As we are in most circumstances, we are the most visible part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree and our participation sends a message that we are one Order and part of and not apart from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degrees of the Order. This is an opportunity to meet with the councils in the District as well as contact with councils that you, as an assembly, represent and draw your membership.

Participating in the State Convention will provide your assembly myriad contacts throughout the state and ability to gain ideas and support for both old and new programs alike. Who knows, you may gain a contact or idea that energizes both your assembly and the councils that support your assembly. You may not be able to get all the time off from work that would allow you to attend the entire convention, but I would encourage as many of my Brother Sir Knights to make every effort to spend a night or two at the convention, stay and gain or regain the feeling of fraternalism and unity.

Growth of our Order is paramount for survival for

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## State Deputy's Message (Cont.)

budget or checkbook to find projects that might have slipped under your radar. If you are still a couple of projects short of completing your Columbian applications, write some checks, no matter the size. There are programs like the state wheelchair, ultrasound, MS Walk, vocations, and various youth funds to which you can donate. Your parish could certainly use some financial help too. Your Columbian Award application can be completed prior to these checks being written and can be submitted early. There are some peculiarities surrounding the entries. If you have any questions, send a copy of your Columbian application to a state officer and we will review it. As a Grand Knight I made this mistake myself and did not submit my council's application for review, then had it denied by Supreme.

Winning an award is important for your council. It is a thank you and a pat on the back to your council members. This is particularly true of the Star Council award. With Supreme's program of eliminating the Supreme Per Capita, this could be worth hundreds of dollars to your council in addition to the goodwill it builds in the parish and your council.

Let's sprint to the finish line and get a great head start on the next fraternal year. The people who we serve deserve nothing less from us.

Vivat Jesus!  
Andy Airriess



Utah State Deputy

## 110<sup>TH</sup> UTAH STATE CONVENTION

5-7 May: 110<sup>th</sup> Utah State Convention. Hosted by District #7. Event will be held at the Park City Marriott. 5 May – Past State Deputy social, followed by the State Convention on 6-7 May.

## District Master's Note (Cont.)

the future. We can only do that through the unity of purpose and unity of service. Take an interest in the workings of the State in both the Councils and Assemblies. I pray that you will take to heart the principles of our Order and unite as one.

### Next Fourth Degree Exemplification

Our next Fourth Degree Exemplification will be hosted by Padre Pio Assembly #2636 at St. Ambrose Church in East Salt Lake City on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Further information is posted on the Utah State KofC website [www.utahknights.org](http://www.utahknights.org).

### Nominations for Sir Knight of the Year Award

This is a new award established by the District Master. Nominations are open for the Sir Knight of the Year Award. To qualify for this prestigious award, the Sir Knight must meet the following criteria:

1. Years of Service
2. Must be an active and committed member in their assembly.
3. Must be involved in their parish.
4. Current involvement in Patriotic Programs.
5. Past or current officer position held.
6. Participate in the Honor Guard and/or Color Corps.
7. Demonstrate leadership.

Send your nomination in PDF file format to the Utah District Master via e-mail at [vjs198@yahoo.com](mailto:vjs198@yahoo.com) no later than May 29, 2017.

### Closing Prayer

“He is Risen” celebrates the Resurrection. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

“Sir Knight is more than a title...it's an honor!”

Yours in Christ,  
VJ Simonelli  
Utah District Master

## State Secretary's Corner

Fr. McGivney has entrusted us with the challenge of bringing all Catholic men into the greatest Catholic Men's organization in world. After our Admission Degree our attention must turn to the retention of these new Knights. We can do this by keeping them involved in the council business and activities. I suggest the proposer bring the new member to the first few council meetings and introduce him to everyone. When they become comfortable ask for their opinions and ideas. Try to get them involved right away. Make every attempt to make them feel wanted and appreciated. Like all of us they joined for a reason. As Knights we want to help our church, our parish priests and the less fortunate in our society. It's our duty to learn their strengths and motivation.

Sometimes it's not enough to just put a request for help with a project, it may be necessary to make some phone calls. When doing this, do not call the same men all the time. Reach out to members that don't usually come to meetings. Strive to keep ALL members involved and engaged.

The month of May reminds me of a few years ago when I was membership director and membership theme for that month of May was **May is for Ray**. Well I can tell you Ray wasn't too excited about this and it took a lot of prodding before he gave me his blessing.

Everyone rallied in the Order and his brothers honored him with new men during that month and set a record of men joining the Knights of Columbus. I remember Ray was ecstatic and I reminded him of all his good qualities with just a few being: you held us accountable, he was gracious, and humble; and I could go on and on. I certainly don't want to embarrass Ray.

I have had the honor of working with Andy for the last several years and I have a deep admiration and respect for Brother Andy. He has a lot of those same qualities and he always has the best of the order foremost in his mind along with his actions.

I recently had a conversation with Andy when we were headed together somewhere on state council business. We discussed various things and I made the comment that I would never have his speaking skills. His comment to me was speak from the heart. With that in mind I would like to see us rally and honor Andy with a recruitment push and make the month of May for Andy.

From the Book of the Profit Isaiah. "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and homeless; clothe the naked when you see them and do not turn your back on your own".

As Knights of Columbus this is what we do. **As Brother Andy would say we need more hands!**

Vivat Jesus!  
Rick Kump



Utah State Secretary

### Upcoming Degrees (Please see State website calendar for degrees)

- Admission Degrees – **5/3/2017**, 7 PM Blessed Sacrament, Sandy – **5/9/2017**, 6 PM St. Francis Xavier, Kearns – **5/16/2017**, 6:30 PM St Francis of Assisi, Orem – **5/24/2017**, 7 PM St George
- Formation and Knighthood Degree – **5/13/2017**, 12:30 PM St Ambrose, Salt Lake City
- Patriotic 4<sup>th</sup> Degree – **6/10/2017**, 12:15 PM registration 1:30 PM Degree, St Ambrose, Salt Lake City

## Insurance Assurance

***LTC Is an Important Piece of the Puzzle*** There are many financial consultants and retirement authorities who emphasize the need for a long-term care (LTC) product for estate preservation and family protection. While many commercial life insurance companies have gotten out of the long-term care business, the Knights of Columbus considers LTC a very important piece of the family protection puzzle. The Order has been actively offering our members this product for nearly 15 years without a premium increase on current policyholders. Members who wisely purchased an LTC plan from the Knights in 2000 are still paying the same premiums today. Even better, our LTC coverage is backed by the full strength of the Order, which remains rooted in our strong Catholic values. Talk about stability when it counts. If we have not spoken about your need for LTC coverage in your family portfolio, please take some time out of your schedule to meet with an agent. Remember, long-term care policies are underwritten based on your health, and you most likely will never be any healthier than you are today.

### State Program Updates

See all the upcoming activities and events going on in the state. <http://utahknights.org/>

- 12-22 May: Call From the Crucified Heart: A Program with Relics of the Passion (Relics tour Utah). The Knights of Columbus sponsored Tour of the Relics is coming to Utah May 12th through May 22nd. The tour will begin with a presentation at St Joseph's in Ogden on May 12th and then travels to St Marguerite's in Tooele on May 13th. The last stop will be in St George on May 22nd. For a complete list of dates and locations, view in "Calendar" section of state web site.
- 3 June: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Swap Meet and Car Show sponsored by St John the Baptist Church in Draper. Details on state home page.

**PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – Star Council Award.** Ensure that your council is on track to earn the Star Council Award. Check the status of your council's progress toward earning the Father McGivney Award (membership), the Founder's Award (insurance) and the Columbian Award (programs) using the Form SP-7 Application due June 30 [https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/columbian\\_awardap\\_p.pdf](https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/columbian_awardap_p.pdf).

**FEATURED PROGRAM – Father's Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows.** Councils should partner with their parishes in sponsoring a Father's Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows during or immediately following all Masses celebrated the weekend of Father's Day, June 18. During these events, Knights and their wives, along with all the married couples of the parish, will have an opportunity to affirm their commitment to their marriage vows and bear witness to the importance of Christian marriage as the building block for strong families and parishes. After the event, councils should host a reception to thank each couple for their witness to marriage. Some councils may wish to hold a brunch or supply simple light refreshments; others may wish to supply a wedding cake in honor of the ceremony.

Resources for the event, including the *Affirmation of Wedding Vows booklet* (#30003), are available at [kofc.org/fathersday](http://kofc.org/fathersday). You might also distribute *The Gift of Fatherhood* (#10168), *Knights of Columbus rosaries* (Rose-1) or other resources for families to use together. Councils can list the *Father's Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows* as a *Family program and Domestic Church activity* on their Columbian Award Application.

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