



State Update

State Deputy's Message—Recruiting Tools

In the past couple of months we've stood up another Spanish-language Admission Degree team and a new Spanish-language Formation and Knighthood Degree teams. We plan on keeping these men busy and if we do so, it will be a wonderful thing.

Have you ever been to a Spanish-language Mass at Sts Peter and Paul, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sacred Heart, or Our Lady of Lourdes in Magna? If you want an eye-opening experience, go. What you will see is a full church and more. At Sts Peter and Paul not only is the church full, but so is the hall, with a TV showing the Mass that is being celebrated 50 feet away. At Our Lady of Guadalupe the hallways are also full, full of people sitting if they are lucky, kneeling when they have to, and fathers holding their young children. At Sacred Heart, the hall is directly under the church and both are full to overflowing, to the point that the stairwell leading downstairs is full too. At Our Lady of Lourdes, for the English-language masses the church proper is mostly full. For the Spanish-language masses, a sliding door is opened and not only is the church full, but the hall next door is also very full. Our mission churches, like St. Lawrence in Heber City experience the same crowds.

It is the men who attend these masses who we want to, need to, attract. They stand up for the entire Mass, often holding a child the entire time. Look around your council, how many men do you have that would do that? Many of these men work multiple jobs to support their families. These men demonstrate what it means to be Knights without being members. They are faithful Catholics. They are dedicated family men. They are hard workers.

Some accommodations might need to be made. Did we make accommodations when we got married? Did we make accommodations when we were raising our children? We all did. Are we better off because we did? Certainly. These new Knights might need some additional hand holding, perhaps a translator at your meetings. Their schedules could be a little different than your existing Knights, but that is to be expected with their differing schedules. But, make them feel welcome and you, your council, and your parish will gain a treasure.

By being welcoming to Spanish-speaking men, we have councils that have shown tremendous growth in numbers, and with it the inevitable growth in charity and good works for the church by their new members. Some might have issues paying dues. I know when I was Grand Knight, I would have gladly taken 10 men who worked hard and not paid dues. One breakfast or a portion of a bingo could easily cover their dues and look at the ongoing reward you and the church will receive.

Attend a Spanish-language Mass some time. It is not only eye-opening but very interesting as well to see the Mass you are used to in a different language. There are also masses held in Latin, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Polish, and other languages around the state. I think doing this might help you see, appreciate, and love our Mass even more. You will also better understand the universality of our faith and our order, a fraternity that spans cultures and languages because of what we share; faith, family, and fraternity.

Vivat Jesus!

Andy Airriess
Utah State Deputy

Holy Father's Prayer Intention

Evangelization – The Mission of Laity:

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

Offered in Solidarity with
Pope Francis



Inside this issue

- Fourth Degree News and Views ..2
- State Secretary's Corner.....3
- Safe Environment Program3
- Connecticut Catholics Raise Awareness of Plight of Middle East Christians3
- Membership Memo4
- Mercy and Forgiveness.....4
- Happenings4
- Membership Quotas & Status5
- Membership Spotlight.....5
- Insurance Assurance6
- Upcoming Degrees7
- 52 Years of Knights of the Year....7
- Recruiting Incentives8
- Star Council Requirements.....8
- Columbian Featured Programs....8
- State Convention Info.....8
- State Programs Update8
- For the Good of the Order.....11



“TO WHAT DEGREE” Fourth Degree News and Views

Birthday Wishes: As the Utah District Master and behalf of all the Fourth Degree Sir Knights, we want to wish our Faithful Friar of the Fourth Degree, Fr. John Evans a Happy Birthday. If you see Fr., wish him a Happy Birthday.

21 April 2018 Exemplification Update: On Saturday, 21 April 2018, We held a Fourth Degree Exemplification at St. John the Baptist Church in Draper. The Merit Award was presented to Gunny Stephenson. This was my fourth Degree Exemplification for the Fraternal Year 2017-2018. The class honoree for this Exemplification was Msgr. Moore. We also held a Clergy Exemplification on 25 April 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Congratulations to the 21 new Sir Knights who joined the Patriotic Degree of our Order.

Veterans Remembrance Service: On Tuesday, 27 March 2018, a Veterans Remembrance Service was held at the VA Hospital Chapel in memory of and in honor to all. The Honor Guard members present for the service were:



Utah District Master, V.J. Simonelli, Msgr. Moore, Frank Carmona, Grand Knight & Faithful Navigator, and William Kelly, Faithful Comptroller.



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



District Master

V.J. Simonelli, MFD
vjs198@yahoo.com
801-661-6341

Father Dominguez Assy. #1144

Serving Councils: 602, 5214, 6739, 7961, 8350, 9731, 10304, 11812, 14764

Father Escalante Assy. #1146

Serving Councils: 1136, 8606, 9561

Monsignor Cushnahan Assy. #1429

Serving Councils: 777, 5347, 6010, 9849, 12959, 14399

Carbon Assy. # 1570

Serving Councils: 2611, 5663, 6147, 7401

Bishop Scanlan Assy. #2393

Serving Council: 10733

Reverend Thomas J. Meersman Assy. #2577

Serving Councils: 6966, 11479, 12181, 13297, 13646, 14239

Padre Pio Assy. #2636

Serving Councils: 1129, 14764, 15418

St. John Paul the II Assy. #3501

Serving Councils: 11246

Rev. Msgr. Robert C. Pollock Assy. # 3586

Serving Councils: 5502, 12264, 15741, 16006

- V.J. Simonelli, Utah District Master
- Gunny Stephenson, Color Corps Commander
- Dick Hall, PFN
- Dave Yarbough, PFN
- David Hughes
- Robert Diaz

Sir Knights of the Year Award: It’s time again to select the “Sir Knights of the Year”. Please don’t confuse the Sir Knight of the Year Award with the Utah State Council Knight of the Year Award. This award is strictly for a Fourth Degree Knight. Nominations are open for the Sir Knight of the Year Award. Deadline date is May 30th. To qualify for this prestigious award, the Sir Knights must meet the following criteria:

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

Special Prayers: We are all grateful that our Lead Color Corps Commander Gunny Stephenson did not have to have open heart surgery. Gunny spent a week at the VA Hospital in the Telemetry Critical Care Unit. It’s appears that our God listen to our prayers and granted Gunny a full clean bill of health. Welcome back Gunny from all your Brothers and Sir Knights.

We pray for the protection of our family members and friends serving in the Armed Forces.

To all Veterans, thank you for your service.

Yours in Christ,
V.J. Simonelli
Master of the Fourth Degree

State Secretary's Corner

Preparing for the Upcoming Elections

First, the guidelines from Supreme. Section 128 of the Laws of the Order states that officers are to be elected by ballot at a regular business meeting held starting May 1st up to and including June 15th. Immediately after the election of officers, the financial secretary should report the officers-elect to the Supreme Council using the Member Management Application located in Officers Online on the Knights of Columbus web site or by using the Report of Officers Chosen for the Term (#185) which is available at KofC.org/forms. Also, the candidate must have completed his 3rd (Knighthood) degree exemplification before taking office.

A quick refresher on the council offices to be filled. The elected officers are the Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, Recorder, Treasurer, Advocate, Warden, Guards, and Trustees. The appointed positions are Chaplain, Financial Secretary, and Lecturer. The detailed assignments and job description of each office can be found at KofC.org in the Leadership Resources document, duties of Council officers section. For additional information, refer to the Duties and Responsibilities of Council Officers and Directors (#4241).

Depending on the particular position of the Knight who could be nominated to fill the various council positions, here's 10 questions to ask when considering council officers;

1. Are they committed to the mission of the council?
2. Do they demonstrate ethical character?
3. Do they communicate effectively?
4. Do they have a teachable heart?
5. Are they flexible?
6. Are they team oriented?
7. Do they lead by example?
8. Do they demonstrate accountability?
9. Do they have influence within the membership?
10. Do they have a heart to serve?

We all have various backgrounds and life experiences, and fulfilling all the above considerations would be difficult at best. However, it's never too early to begin seeking candidates to replace those who will be completing their assignments or changing roles within your council. Helping your council spot potential candidates now and discussing role(s) with them will give them time to consider the roles offered. Best wishes as your council undertakes the process of electing next year's officers.

Vivat Jesus



Greg Keller
Utah State Secretary

Safe Environment Program

Recognizing that children are a precious gift, Knights of Columbus has always made their safety and well-being the highest priority in the Order's programs and activities.

In partnership with Praesidium, the Order continues its strong tradition of maintaining the highest standards regarding the protection of young people. Through this partnership, the Order provides youth leaders with access to the most up-to-date resources to keep children safe, including Praesidium's Armatus® online training, background screenings, and an exclusive hotline to report child safety concerns (1-844-KOFC-SAFE (844-563-2723)). All materials are available in English, Spanish and French to make the content accessible to all members who will be asked to fulfill organizational requirements. Please note that the Praesidium Armatus online platform is an English site, but each training course is available in both French and Spanish.

Continued on pg 5 (Safe)

Connecticut Catholics Raise Awareness of the Plight of Middle East Christians

ARCHDIOCESE AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PARTNER TO ASSIST TOWNS DEVASTATED BY ISIS

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Connecticut Catholics – including high school students – are coming to the aid of persecuted Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East in partnership with the Knights of Columbus. This work was highlighted Sunday at a special Mass in New Haven offered by Archbishop Leonard Blair.

The effort by the Archdiocese of Hartford has included the participation of Catholic students selling olive wood “solidarity crosses” made in the Middle East and supplied by the Knights. The money raised will be used to help assist Christian towns in Iraq and Syria that were devastated by ISIS and fighting involving the terrorist group.

“We are very grateful to the Archdiocese of Hartford for its support of those who have been persecuted for their faith in the Middle East, and we have been truly inspired by these high school students who have taken time and energy to learn about this important issue and raise money to help,” said Knights of Columbus CEO Carl Anderson. “We hope this program will be the first of many of across the U.S. and Canada.”

All nine high schools in the archdiocese have made efforts to familiarize students with the genocide of Christians in the Middle East and have each adopted a “Sister Town” in the region to keep in their prayers.

Sunday's Mass was held at St. Mary's Church in New Haven. The Chaldean Catholic Bishop of Canada Bawai Soro was the homilist and also proclaimed the gospel in Aramaic, the language spoken by Jesus. Bishop Soro is a native of Iraq who has ministered for many years to the Iraqi Christian community in North America.

Continued on pg 7 (Middle East)

MERCY AND FORGIVENESS

The inner form of Christian familial love is mercy like God the Father who is "rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4).

Meditation

From Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia

Once we allow ill will to take root in our hearts, it leads to deep resentment. ... The opposite of resentment is forgiveness, which is rooted in a positive attitude that seeks to understand other people's weaknesses and to excuse them. As Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Lk 23:34). Yet we keep looking for more and more faults, imagining greater evils, presuming all kinds of bad intentions, and so resentment grows and deepens. ... Something is wrong when we see every problem as equally serious; in this way, we risk being unduly harsh with the failings of others. The just desire to see our rights respected turns into a thirst for vengeance rather than a reasoned defense of our dignity.

When we have been offended or let down, forgiveness is possible and desirable, but no one can say that it is easy. ... All this assumes that we ourselves have had the experience of being forgiven by God, justified by his grace and not by our own merits. We have known a love that is prior to any of our own efforts, a love that constantly opens doors, promotes and encourages. If we accept that God's love is unconditional, that the Father's love cannot be bought or sold, then we will become capable of showing boundless love and forgiving others even if they have wronged us. Otherwise, our family life will no longer be a place of understanding, support and encouragement, but rather one of constant tension and mutual criticism.

Considering that Jesus forgave his persecutors from the cross, what does God's mercy in the scriptures teach us about how to forgive our family members?

Why is it important to be forgiven by God? Why must we trust in his forgiveness in order to forgive others properly?

Do any of us find it hard to forgive? What holds us back from forgiving? Is it resentment based on ill will, unduly looking for faults, an excessive concern for our rights, the inability to forgive ourselves or to accept our own limitations? Or is it something else?

Membership Memo—The Gift of Membership

How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. Since becoming a state officer and the state membership director I have gained a new perspective in regards to membership growth. At the council level and when I was Grand Knight I knew membership growth was important for the council but didn't think about the big picture or membership for the state. I just focused on what I was doing and my local council and the needs of the state or the entire order for that matter weren't as important to me. I'm not suggesting not focusing on the local level, in fact just the opposite. Knowing that the local council membership growth is what makes up the big picture, this is the one bite at a time. I encourage all the councils to look at the big picture and realize where they fit in. It is vital for every council to grow so that we as a state and the entire order will be successful and the Knights will continue doing good works and helping the church and men be better. Achieving the goal of our membership growth for the state can feel unattainable, the elephant. But when you break it down one bite at a time it is very attainable if we all do our part and know we at times may have to do more to make up for others.

In some ways, at the council level achieving the membership goal can feel like an elephant. I just heard from the Grand Knight at St Thomas More about how they recruited one guy from RCIA, one from a fish fry, and another from a personal contact he had. This is the one bite at a time approach and is what is needed. Again, I encourage all councils to take this approach, everything you do is a recruiting opportunity and if it is done throughout the year one bite at a time you will attain your goal.

"How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time."

We are now in the home stretch of the fraternal year and we still have a way to go to achieve our goal, please do all that you can in these last two months. I have talked with several Grand Knights and councils over the last couple of years and many wait for a church drive to recruit or wait for something else stating this is how they do it. The something else or time is now to get those men in, the wait is over and we need them. But also the time is now to start changing "how we do it," look at next year and start planning your one bite at a time approach for the future of your council, our state, and our order. Thank you for all you do and keep up the good work!

Vivat Jesus!



Nick Nielson
State Treasurer, Membership Director

Happenings

Fr. James Blaine Retirement Celebration

St. Peter Parish, American Fork

Monday, May 14, 7 p.m.

During the evening, Fr. Blaine will celebrate his final Mass at the parish. Cake and coffee will follow. All are welcome.

Special Olympics of Utah—Summer Games

June 8th—9th 9am-4pm

For more information, visit www.SOUT.org or call Knights of Columbus Utah Special Olympics Coordinator David Matyjasik at 801-967-3198

St Ambrose Golf Tournament

Sat June 16 Old Mill Golf Course

Contact Dick Hall 801 891 9792

Membership Quotas and Status

Council % of Membership Goal as of 04/24/2018

COUNCIL	GRAND KNIGHT	% QUOTA	COUNCIL	GRAND KNIGHT	% QUOTA
9731	Gabino Chacon	280%	12264	Steven Gibson	25%
602	Jaime Gomez	225%	14239	Chris Titus	25%
7401	Larry Zubel	200%	12959	Keith Koskan	20%
11246	Patrick McDonald	143%	14399	Gary Girres	17%
8350	Joe Vrazel	100%	5502	Paul Tinker	13%
9561	Laurence Chafe	100%	777	Ron Shick	0%
10733	Gene Coryell	100%	1129	Chuck Hodell	0%
15418	Dick Hall	100%	1136	Jim Arguello	0%
15741	Nery Fajardo	100%	2611	Cole Stapley	0%
14764	Benjamin Frost	75%	6147	Tim Peczuh	0%
12181	Frank Carmona	68%	6739	Barry Stine	0%
5214	Phil Garcia	60%	6966	John Wainscott	0%
16127	Al Gibson	50%	7961	Michael Anglin	0%
11479	Chuck Grahmann	42%	8606	Gary Currier	0%
6010	Joe Neid	38%	10304	Pete Sorensen	0%
9849	Wayne Bauer	33%	11812	Benjamin Trujillo	0%
13297	Michael Derrick	29%	13646	Martin Walsh	0%
5347	Leobardo Galvan	25%	16006	Jose Ozaine	0%

District Deputies % of Membership Goal as of 04/24/2018

DISTRICT	NAME	% QUOTA	DISTRICT	NAME	% QUOTA
8	George D'Apuzzo	164%	4	Unassigned	13%
2	Ray Salazar	141%	7	Art Grant	7%
3	Dan Reading	76%	1	Joe Garcia	0%
10	Unassigned	64%	6	Greg Costello	0%
5	Jerry Hanten	45%	11	Frank Lesar	0%
9	Billy Sandoval	45%			

Safe (cont. from pg 3)

All members of Knights of Columbus, especially youth leaders, grand knights and faithful navigators, are required to report any suspicion of sexual, emotional, physical abuse or neglect of a child participating in Knights of Columbus programs. If you have direct or indirect knowledge of or have reasonable cause to suspect abuse or misconduct against a minor participating in any Knights of Columbus program, including Columbian Squires, regardless of whether the incident occurred recently or in the past, report any and all information immediately to: 1-844-KOFC-SAFE (844-563-2723)

All information submitted is maintained in strict confidence. Knights of Columbus prohibits retaliation against those who have direct or indirect knowledge of or have reasonable cause to suspect abuse or misconduct against a minor and who make a good faith report of such abuse or misconduct.

For questions or concerns relating to the Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program, or to receive a handbook containing Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program policies and procedures, please submit your request to Quianna Richardson at 203-800-4940 or youthleader@kofc.org.

General Agent



Kenneth Huard, FICF
General Agent
1925 Dominion Way #103
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
www.kofchuardagency.com

Your Agents



Tom Pinelle
Phone: 801.472.1074
tom.pinelle@kofc.org

Councils: 1136, 2611, 6147, 6739, 7961, 8606, 9561, 9731, 10304, 11479, 14239

Doyle Johnstun
Phone: 801.390.4991
doyle.johnstun@kofc.org

Councils: 5347, 5502, 6010, 11812, 12264, 12959, 13646, 14399, 14764, 15418, 16127

Carlos Lira
801.637.4900
carlos.lira@kofc.org

Councils: 777, 6966, 8350, 9849, 12181



Gene Trombetti, FIC
435.962.5545
gene.trombetti@kofc.org

Councils: 602, 1129, 5214, 7401, 10733, 11246, 13297, 15741, 16006



Insurance Assurance—Disability Insurance Awareness Month

Not only does the month of May host many important holidays including Mother’s Day and Memorial Day, but it is also Disability Insurance Awareness Month. Even though disability isn’t a pleasant topic, it’s unfortunately a very real issue — one that everyone should be aware of. The truth is, a disability can happen to anyone. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 1 billion people, which makes up 15% of the world’s population, have some form of disability.

Of course, most of us think that a disabling illness or injury will never happen to us. This is very apparent in a recent survey conducted by the Council for Disability Awareness. The study found that 9 out of 10 individuals underestimate their own chances of becoming disabled. However, according to the following ten statistics, those 9 out of ten individuals couldn’t be more wrong.

10 Statistics About Disability

1. One in three working Americans will become disabled for 90 days or more before age 65.
2. The average group long-term disability claim lasts 34.6 months.
3. The average individual disability claim lasts 31.6 months.
4. Medical problems contributed to 62% of all personal bankruptcies filed in the U.S.
5. About 1 in 4 of today’s 20 year-olds will become disabled before they retire.
6. One in 8 workers will become disabled for five years or more during their lifetime.
7. Over 37 million Americans are classified as disabled; about 12% of the total population.
8. As of 2013, 8.8 million Americans were disabled.
9. Around 64% of Americans believe their chances of becoming disabled are much lower than the actual odds.
10. Almost all disabilities (90%) are caused by illness, not accidents.

“Almost all disabilities (90%) are caused by illness, not accidents.”

FIVE WAYS TO PROMOTE K OF C INSURANCE

1. Actions speak much louder than words. When you buy a Knights of Columbus Insurance product, you send the message that you entrust the protection of your family to the Order’s top quality insurance products.
2. Invite your agent to all council-sponsored events. This gives him the opportunity to get to know brother Knights and potential members, and to build relationships with them.
3. Communicate regularly with your council’s agent, and help him communicate with everyone else. Encourage him to write for your newsletter or website. Include this statement at the end of every council communication: “Is your family protected? Your dedicated field agent is available to provide a complimentary, comprehensive analysis to assess your family’s situation and provide a solution that fits your budget. Contact him today.” Be sure to always link to his contact info, webpage or Facebook page.
4. Promote testimonials from your brother Knights (especially council leaders) about the ways they personally benefit from Knights of Columbus Insurance products. Ask your agent if he can share testimony from a Knight’s family, either at a council meeting, in an email or on the council webpage.
5. Immediately send a copy of all new members’ Membership Documents (#100) to your council’s agent. Be sure to give all new members your agent’s business card as well!

Did You Know?

\$8.78 billion in new insurance sold sets Knights of Columbus record in 2017

The Knights of Columbus recorded its 17th consecutive year of growth in insurance sales in 2017 with \$8.78 billion in new life insurance sold — an increase of more than \$245 million over the previous year. The K of C now has more than \$109 billion of life insurance in force, signifying a \$39.5 billion increase in the last decade due to record sales.

Upcoming Degrees

Admission Degrees

- 4/30 —Blessed Sacrament, Sandy. 7pm-8pm, candidates arrive at 6:45pm.
Confirm with John Wainscott 801.550.6677
- 5/1 —St. Francis of Assisi, Orem. 7pm-8pm, candidates arrive at 6:30pm.
Confirm with Jim Arguello 801.404.2716 (mobile)
- 5/19 —St. George, St. George. 6:30pm-7:30pm, candidates arrive at 6pm
- 5/23 —St. Vincent de Paul, Holladay. 7pm-8pm, candidates arrive at 6:30pm

Formation & Knighthood Degrees

- 5/19 —St. James, Ogden. 12:30pm-3:30pm, candidates arrive at 12pm
RSVP to DD Joe Garcia 801.549.7444 or Clark Harris 801.940.2791

Patriotic Degrees

- 6/30 —St. Joseph the Worker, West Jordan—Details TBD

Utah State Council—Knights of the Year

The Utah Knight of the Year is only one of several awards presented at the banquet. The Utah Family of the Year, Utah Chaplain of the Year, and council awards for church, community, council, family, culture of life, and youth activities. The international winners are selected from the winning entries submitted by each jurisdiction (e.g., state).

Year	Name	Council	Year	Name	Council
2017	Todd Holzhauser	11479	1991	Frank A Scavo	2611
2016	J. David Loftus	12181	1990	Benito Vialpando	777
2015	John Wainscott	6966	1989	Rholand E. Lange	5347
2014	Larry Page	11479	1988	Louis T. Sayre	5502
2013	Eddie Springer	5214	1987	David Nicholson	6966
2012	David F. Matyjasik	10304	1986	Steven Moran	8350
2011	Karl VanMaren	12181	1985	Donald Hickenbotham	6010
2010	Steven Cross	17033	1984	Frank J. Peczuh	6147
2009	Frank Torina	11479	1983	Thomas O'Grady	5347
2008	Rayfel M. Bachiller	11479	1982	Joel P. Barry	5214
2007	Tom Giesing	11246	1981	Robert Lavery	5347
2006	Roger E. Mares	6966	1980	Victor Herbert	1136
2005	Frank Bernal	777	1979	Michael T. Cosgrove	5347
2004	Robert E Smith	6966	1978	Wilson Thomas	1136
2003	Joseph B. Ligori	6966	1977	George Brewer	1136
2002	Melvin J. Rennemeyer	5347	1976	Donald Doty	1136
2001	Kenneth R. Burns	6966	1975	Henry Carlson	777
2000	Frank Bernal	777	1974	Michael J. Lemieux	5502
1999	Francis P.J. Remkes	9849	1973	Rudy Sanich	5663
1998	Richard A. Kane, P.S.D.	10304	1972	Frank Becker	1136
1997	Joseph A. Colosimo	6147	1971	Bishop Joseph Lennnox Federal	(unlisted)
1996	Edward R. Schulfer	6010	1970	Tranquelion Otero	5214
1995	Robert E. Sorenson	10304	1969	Ted Comins	5502
1994	James N. Leccia	10304	1968	Monsignor Joseph Moreton	(unlisted)
1993	Orlando Miera	8350	1967	Toni Ori	2611
1992	Wayne A. Rennemeyer	5347	1966	A Jay Caputo	602

Middle East *(cont. from pg 3)*

Bishop Soro explained that the Christians of Iraq would not have survived the past four years without the help of fellow Christians from around the world.

“The message that I have for the Knights of Columbus is one of admiration, that you are amazing. We thank you,” the bishop said. “We are encouraged by your model, please continue. I know many of the good things that have been done have been influencing us and I know that what you see publicly is only 10 percent of the things that the Knights have been doing. We pray that this will continue and God bless you all.”

The Mass was followed by a reception and a question-and-answer session that included Stephen Rasche, counsel to the Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese in Erbil, Iraq, Archbishop Blair and Bishop Soro, and Andrew Walther, vice president for communications and strategic planning for the Knights of Columbus.

“Our mission is to preserve the word and example of Christ in the Middle East, and this we are committed to do, whatever the cost,” said Rasche. “In this, we are grateful for the support and solidarity we have received from our brothers and sisters in CT and elsewhere.”

As part of its advocacy on behalf of persecuted religious minorities in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region, the Knights led a major campaign urging the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Department of State to declare ISIS’ terrorism an act of genocide. To support the cause, it produced a nearly 300-page report on ISIS’ atrocities against Christians that was used by the department to support its 2016 finding that a genocide was, indeed, taking place.

In addition, the K. of C. has urged the U.S. government to ensure that communities targeted for genocide not be overlooked in its aid programs and applauded Vice President Mike Pence’s announcement last fall that the Trump administration would begin providing aid directly to religious minorities impacted by ISIS’ genocide.

Columbian Award “Featured Programs”

Church—

REFUND SUPPORT VOCATIONS PROGRAM (RSVP)

RSVP allows councils and assemblies to “adopt” one or more seminarians or postulants and provide them with financial assistance and moral support.

The intent of RSVP is to demonstrate support for individual seminarians. RSVP support is not solely financial aid, and councils are asked not to base their support on the financial needs of the seminarian. All seminarians are worthy of support through RSVP by virtue of the fact that they are discerning a religious vocation, not because of their financial situation.

Please remember that with RSVP, Knights provide more than financial support; members write letters to the seminarians or postulants, sponsor dinners for them, invite them to join the council and, most importantly, pray for vocations.

Participating councils and assemblies receive a \$100 refund for every \$500 donated to an individual. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported per year.

Community—

GLOBAL WHEELCHAIR MISSION

For every donation of \$150 received by the Global Wheelchair Mission, it can deliver a brand new wheelchair which would cost over \$500 in a medical supply store.

They are shipped in containers of 100 to 280 wheelchairs each directly from the factory to the destination countries at no cost to the recipients.

Report your activities to the Supreme Council with the Global Wheelchair Report (#10071) or for Canadian councils the Global Wheelchair Report (#10071-C).

If the council, working with the parish, raises the funds to purchase 100 or more wheelchairs, the council would fulfill all four of the programming requirements in the Community Activities category for the Columbian Award.

Continued on pg 9 (Featured)

Supreme and State Recruiting Incentives

– The first eight (8) Knights who recruit two (2) new members each in the remaining two months of the fraternal year will receive a copy of the book “By Their Deeds” a coffee table book about famous Knights of Columbus members. The books will be presented at the State Organization meeting on July 7th. This book retails for \$52.

– World Meeting of Families trip to Dublin Ireland in August 2018: beginning December 1st, 2017, every time that you recruit a member into the Order through June 30th, 2018, your name will go into a drawing and on July 1st, 2018, ten names will be drawn at random. If you are a winner, we will notify you and your wife immediately so you can plan this once in a lifetime opportunity to interact with families from all over the world. When you return, you can become a beacon of light for other families in your council, community, and state.

– Supreme Convention Delegate Trip: For every member you recruit your name will be put in a drawing to go to Baltimore and be a delegate for Utah

Star Council Award

Prior to the end of the fraternal year on June 30, make sure that your council achieves the requirements to qualify for the Father McGivney, Founders’, Columbian and Star Council Awards. There are no application forms for the Father McGivney and Founder’s Awards.

Columbian Award

This award recognizes excellence in your council’s programming and charitable outreach. Complete and submit the Columbian Award Application (#SP-7). Councils must conduct and report at least four major programs in each of the Service Program categories: Church, Community, Council, Family, Culture of Life, and Youth. Completed applications must reach the Supreme Council office by June 30.

In addition to meeting the traditional Columbian Award requirements – conducting at least four programs in each category – each of the six Columbian Award categories also has at least one featured program. By meeting all requirements for a featured program activity in a particular category, a council fulfills all requirements for that category. The six categories and the featured programs for each are as follows:

- Church – Refund Supports Vocation Program (RSVP)
- Community – Habitat for Humanity, Global Wheelchair Mission
- Council – Special Olympics
- Culture of Life – Ultrasound Initiative, March for Life
- Family – Food for Families
- Youth – Coats for Kids
- Founders Award

Father McGivney Award

This award recognizes excellence in your council’s membership growth. Your council must meet or exceed its yearly membership quota to be eligible. The quota for councils is 7 percent increase of the council’s membership as of July 1. The minimum quota is 4 and the maximum is 35. Councils that attain Star Council status and achieve 200 percent of their net gain goal will receive the Double Star Council Award. If they achieve 300 percent of their net gain goal, they will receive the Triple Star Council Award.

Founders’ Award

This award recognizes excellence in your council’s promotion of our top-rated and exclusive insurance products. Your council must meet or exceed its yearly insurance quota to be eligible. The quota for councils is a 2.5 percent net increase in insurance membership as of July 1 for the fraternal year. The minimum quota is 3 and the maximum is 18.

(Note: all membership and insurance transactions must be received, processed, recorded and released at the Supreme Council office by June 30.)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, Christian organization founded in 1976 that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness one family at a time. The organization assists in providing quality-built, affordable homes to needy families by cooperatively involving the future homeowner with community volunteers and suppliers to build or renovate the home. To date, Habitat for Humanity has provided more than 6.8 million people with safe, personal shelters by completing over 800,000 houses in more than 100 countries with a goal of a million homes around the world.

If your council or assembly donates both \$1,000 and 200 man hours to Habitat for Humanity, it will fulfill all four requirements for the community activities category of the Columbian Award (SP-7).

Council—

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Knights of Columbus believe that the Special Olympics are nearly unparalleled in their ability to show the intrinsic worth and dignity of every single human being. These games don't just build strength and character in the athletes and participants; it only takes a few moments with the competitors to be inspired by the force of their determination, and the true sense of God's love.

Although the Special Olympics have grown in recent years, they still need our continued support. We encourage chapters and parishes around the world to organize fundraisers, events, and donation drives that will continue to benefit this magnificent event. The Special Olympics are too wonderful to overlook, and the Knights of Columbus are committed to bringing the games to all corners of the globe.

If your council or assembly raises \$2,000 and contributes 200 man hours, your council would fulfill all four requirements for the Columbian Award in the Council Activities category

Culture of Life—

ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE

Through the Ultrasound Initiative, when a state or local council raises 50% of the cost of an ultrasound machine, the Supreme Council will provide the other 50% of the cost to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound machine that will help a PCC to provide for the health of mothers and their unborn children.

Councils or Assemblies that raise 50% of the cost of an ultrasound machine would fulfill all four requirements for the Columbian Award in the Culture of Life Activities category

MARCH FOR LIFE

The annual March for Life, held on or around January 22 in Washington, D.C., commemorates the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion on Jan. 22, 1973. This year, the March for Life will be held on Friday, January 19, with the theme, "Love Saves Lives." All Knights and their families, particularly those in the greater Washington, D.C., area and nearby states, are urged to join the march. Councils planning bus trips to Washington should book their charters early. Knights should carry council banners and K of C posters, wear jackets with the K of C emblem, and walk together to show the Order's support for the right to life.

Knights who cannot go to Washington can participate in local or state pro-life demonstrations. State pro-life chaircouples will have information on local activities sponsored or supported by Knights in their jurisdictions.

Councils or Assemblies meeting minimum participation requirements will fulfill all four activity requirements in this category

Family—

FOOD FOR FAMILIES

The Knights of Columbus is committed to ending hunger in local communities by asking local councils to participate in the Orderwide Food for Families Program.

To encourage local Knights of Columbus councils to participate in this worthwhile program, the Supreme Council offers financial rebates to councils and assemblies that donate food or money. For councils or assemblies, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 for every \$500 donated, or for every 1,000 pounds of food that a council contributes to a parish food pantry, community food bank or soup kitchen - up to a maximum of \$500 per council/assembly per fraternal year. Reported contributions of food and/or monetary donations should be cumulative for the fraternal year and there is no need to send in a refund request every time a contribution is made. However, to be eligible for the rebate, the cumulative total of contributions of food/money needs to reach a minimum of \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food for councils or assemblies.

In addition, the Supreme Council recognizes that participating in this program can be time consuming for the local council. Should a council choose to participate in this program, this will fulfill all four of the Family Activity requirements for the Columbian Award.

In order to qualify as fulfilling all four requirements, the council must collect and donate a minimum of 1,000 pounds of food and council members must contribute a minimum of 100 man-hours in the program.

Youth—

COATS FOR KIDS

Through our Coats for Kids program, 1,780 local councils distributed 87,906 coats to children in need throughout the United States and Canada in 2016. Since the program began in 2009, nearly 400,000 coats have been distributed.

Councils or Assemblies meeting minimum participation requirements will fulfill all four activity requirements in this category

State Convention Silent Auction

Brothers, District 8 is hosting the 2018 State Convention in Park City May 4 – 6. We will be holding a silent auction for passes to many of the local golf courses and a chance for you to enjoy beautiful weather, beautiful scenery and southern Utah hospitality.

Following is a list of the courses and passes and minimum bids:

CORAL CANYON GOLF COURSE:

2 PASSES FOR 2 PLAYERS 18 HOLES. (PASSES VALID SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY: NOT VALID ON CALENDAR HOLIDAYS) minimum bid \$115 per pass

ENTRADA GOLF COURSE:

4 PASSES FOR 1 PLAYER EACH 18 HOLES. minimum bid \$82 per pass

GREEN PRINGS GOLF COURSE:

2 PASSES FOR 1 PLAYER EACH: 18 HOLES: minimum bid \$55 per pass

LEDGES GOLF COURSE:

1 PASS FOR 4 PLAYERS 18 holes: minimum bid \$325

SAND HOLLOW GOLF COURSE:

1 PASS FOR 4 PLAYERS (VALID SUNDAY THRU WEDNESDAY AFTER 12 PM: EXPIRES12/31/18)minimum bid\$ 325

SKY MOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE:

4 PASSES 1 PLAYER EACH 18 HOLES: minimum bid \$55 per pass

ST GEORGE CITY COURSES:

ST GEORGE GOLF CLUB:

1 PASS FOR 2 PLAYERS: 18 HOLES minimum bid \$50

SUNBROOK GOLF CLUB:

1 PASS FOR 2 PLAYERS: 18 HOLES: minimum bid \$75

State Convention Info

The 111th Utah State Convention of the Knights of Columbus will be held in Park City on May 4-6, 2018 Hosted by District 8 (Council's 10733—St. George, 11246—Cedar City)

Agenda

Friday, May 4th

6:30pm Past State Deputies Dinner—Social
7pm Past State Deputies Dinner

Saturday, May 5th

7am—9am Breakfast
7:30am Committee Meetings
9am Opening Session (Guests Invited)
9:20am Morning Session (Closed Session)
11am Break
11:10am Morning Business Session (cont.)
12pm—1pm Lunch
1pm Afternoon Business Session (Closed Session)
2:30pm Break
2:45pm—3:45pm Afternoon Business Session (Closed Session)
5:30pm Mass—St. Mary's of the Assumption
6:45pm Social (Cash Bar)
7:15pm Banquet Dinner

Sunday, May 6th

7am—7:30am Mass
7:45am—8:30am Breakfast
8:30am Morning Session (Closed Session)
8:45am Election of State Officers
9:45am Remaining Business
10:45am Close of Business

Ladies' Activities

Please consider bringing a donation for the Pregnancy Resource Center. We will collect diapers, baby clothes, etc. at the hotel and take them to this center where the Knights have already provided an ultrasound machine.

Between 10:00-4:00, the options for a women's activity are listed below. Note: the 3rd activity requires going to their website to reserve a spot as soon as possible, as it is very popular.

- A downtown historic museum tour of Park City's mining past to present-day skiing . <http://parkcityhistory.org/>
- A tour of the Olympic Park (one hour with a museum to visit afterwards). <http://utaholympiclegacy.org/activity/park-guided-tours/>
- The "Paint Mixer" a painting activity, Sat. May 5th at 10:30. This requires registering early so please follow these instructions: To see the piece you will be painting, "Napa Valley", go the "Gallery" link on the upper left of their homepage: thepaintmixer.com It will be listed alphabetically. The fee of \$35.00 covers all materials needed and you will have your 16"x 20" painting to take home. Since this session will also be open to the public it may fill up, so register soon at <https://app.getoccasion.com/p/n/muywmvwy6ec53mheddjsca> Please let me know that this link worked and you were able to register.
- Park City's Factory Outlet Mall: <http://www.tangeroutlet.com/parkcity>

For more information, contact Giselle Airriess: gairriess@msn.com

State Programs Update

New Requirement for Columbian Award: To earn the Columbian Award, councils must now conduct at least six (6) Domestic Church activities. Visit kofc.org/domesticchurch to find resources that will help your council conduct them.

- Church - The featured program is the Refund Supports Vocation Program (RSVP).
- Community - There are two featured programs, Habitat for Humanity and the Global Wheelchair Mission.
- Council - The featured program is Special Olympics.
- Culture of Life - A council can satisfy all requirements for the Culture of Life Activities category by participating in either the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Initiative or a local, regional or national March for Life.
- Family - The featured program is the Knights of Columbus Food for Families program.
- Youth - Participating in the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program meets all requirements in the Youth Activities category.

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.

Remember the new criteria for Domestic Church, a minimum of four (4) of these programs must be designated as Domestic Church activities. Domestic Church activities can be attributed to any category and there can be multiple Domestic Church activities conducted in a single category. Please visit kofc.org/domesticchurch for a list of qualifying programs.

May is recruiting your next fraternal year officers, nominations in May with voting in June, do you have a good transition plan to ensure your chosen officers get off to an outstanding new year. Let’s make sure we have a solid team with a solid plan for next year so all Councils can earn Star Award!

FEATURED PROGRAM – Mother’s Day. Councils should partner with their parishes in sponsoring a Mother’s Day event like giving out red roses to all mother’s or some other item to acknowledge our mother’s in the parish like a special prayer at mass.

The Gift of Fatherhood (#10168), Knights of Columbus rosaries (Rose-1) or other resources for families to use together. Councils can list the Mother’s day and Father’s day events as a Family program and Domestic Church activity on their Columbian Award Application.

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

For the Good of the Order

Condolences

Mother of Raphael Castillo

Please pray for the repose of the soul of the mother of our worthy Hispanic Development Coord., Raphael Castillo, who recently passed away.

Prayers

Richard Vigor—6966

Richard continues to battle leukemia, and is doing much better after a bone marrow transplant.

Edie Dover

Prayers for the mother of PSD, FVSM and current State Advocate Charles E Dover, Jr.

Lori Simonelli

Please pray for Lori Simonelli, wife of our 4th Degree District Master VJ Simonelli who is Riverton Hospital following emergency surgery.

For Men and Women in Uniform

We pray for the protection of our family members and friends serving in the Armed Forces and as first responders. To all men and women in uniform thank you for your service.

Please include these members and their families in the Good of the Order portion of your monthly council meetings.

If you are aware of a Brother Knight that should be included in this list, please forward his information to the editor: trever.hinckley@outlook.com