

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

October 2020

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



'Love Thy Neighbor'

At times in years such as 2020, this simple task seems easy to overlook and forget. We weren't told just to love those neighbors who agree with our viewpoints, but to love all. It seems as though too easily we come to 'judge' others based off of comments that they make or viewpoints that they have. In this year, it seems that we have division amongst our families, our friends and even within our Parish on issues and individuals in this highly tense politicized climate.

Whatever happened to civility? Whatever happened to having discourse and dialogue with those of opposing viewpoints without 'labeling' or spewing hate rather than love and understanding?

I'm writing this message the week that we had our first Presidential Debate, and I couldn't help but think back to 1992, as a 8 year old kid, who watched intently as 3 candidates discussed the key items affecting America and their platform to leading our Country. I can't help but think what the reaction of those children watching this past week's spectacle would think? Would they think that what occurred at the Debate is what should occur when discussing viewpoints that may be different? We often hear people discuss how society has changed over the years—will this be another pivotal point 20 to 30 years from now if this becomes how 'normal' interactions occur between people with differing viewpoints?

Engaging our Youth and teaching them the differences between 'right' and 'wrong' starts at home and in the classroom. Hopefully this is an opportunity for Parents and Grandparents to take the opportunity this next month to talk with our Youth of how things used to be in the hopes we as a society can return to this civil society.

Look no further back to the 1980's where two political polar opposites could still share a true friendship. President Ronald Reagan and Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill had some fierce battles on their political agenda. "That's just politics, after 6 o'clock we're buddies—we're friends." These two gentlemen, though from different political philosophies still could share a friendship and have a few beers. The first person allowed to Reagan's bedside after his family following the 1981 assassination attempt on him was none other than Tip O'Neill. Political rivals, though civil in their interactions.

Even if the individuals in Washington can't be 'civil' that doesn't give us an excuse to act the same. As Catholic gentlemen, we should lead by example and teach the younger generation. If we want our society to go back to what it once was, it starts at home and we need to lead by example. Much like the youth watching this past week's debate—they are watching all of our actions. Take this month of reflection in October to take your kids and grandkids to a Rosary walk. Take them to a March for Life in your area and talk to them why you value life at all stages. If we don't teach them the way of service, charity and kindness—who will?

'Tempus Fugit, Momento Mori'—time flies, remember death. Let's not waste our time on this earth fighting with individuals of differing viewpoints or minimizing others. Let's teach our Youth—as they are truly our lasting legacy! Regardless of the outcome of an election—they are the ones that will carry this burden into the future, having to deal with the problems of society in these next 50 years! Someday...maybe they will teach their kids the same lesson that you teach them today! Let's 'Love Thy Neighbor' and continually pray that as a society we can once again return to times of civility. Jesus gave us the roadmap—it's on us to follow the path!

Corey Christopher Coonen
State Deputy



Call to Courage

Right now, as we live in this Year of Our Lord 2020 we are being called to live in the virtue of courage. Understanding what this means in its primary sense is important. It is not primarily a call to shout out the truth on social media, unfortunately this can cause bitterness among those who are completely misled. What takes true courage is to first trust in God and what he has given us to fight the good fight in our world today. He has given us the traditions of the Church and the Scripture to hold that Church up. We need to embrace what we have been given and courageously trust in God's Love. As Knights and as Catholics we can start to do this by leading the Domestic Church in prayer. Start with prayer we courageously trust in the power of God. Trusting in God's power we allow Him to bring about a transformation of hearts and minds.

We need to start with pray in your homes, especially the Rosary in this month of the Rosary. With the scripture and meditation of the Rosary you invite God into your home through the intercession of the Blessed Mother. The transformation that can come to your home can then spread to others. Have the courage to pray it is the first step to allowing God to bring His victorious reign to our homes, our parishes, our state, and in our country.

Pray with Mary, walk with Jesus!
Rev. Fr. Andrew Kurz
State Chaplain

Consecrate Wisconsin to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Worthies, I am looking forward to praying the Rosary with all the Knights who are willing to take up their Rosaries at events this October. We will be praying Conversion, Country, and Culture of Life.

- Oct. 3rd at 10 am I will be at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help to lead a Rosary Procession / walk. Meet by the fountain outside the café. 11:00 am mass to follow.
4047 Chapel Dr, Champion, WI 54229
- Oct. 10th at 12 noon. The State Chaplain will be leading a Rosary Procession / walk at Holy Hill. Meet where the road forks to the right. Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill, 1525 Carmel Road, Hubertus, Wisconsin 53033
- Oct. 17th at 10 am we are looking at praying a Rosary with Knights at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, 5250 Justin Road, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
- Oct. 31st we are looking at an all-day event here at St. Paul's Parish in Plainfield as this is the day of Beatification of Fr. Michael Mc Givney. The event will start at 9:00 am and consist of morning mass, Holy Hour, Rosary, Lunch, and watch the Beatification. 622 S Beach St, Plainfield, WI 54966

Hope our plans will come to fruition and give greater honor and glory to God.
Sincerely, Fr. Andrew Kurz, State Chaplain

Pray with Mary, Walk with Jesus!

Meet Administrative Manager, Steve Geishirt



People have been asking, who is this Steve that the state officers keep mentioning? At the end of June 2020, long time Administrative Manager Tony Schreiner retired and Steve Geishirt is his replacement. Steve has been a 3rd degree member of council 6371 in Waunakee since 1983 when his father, as Grand Knight, knighted him. Steve ran the knowledge contest and poster contest for a number of years at his council, and has been a regular volunteer helping out with multiple fundraisers for the council over the last couple decades. He is also a long time insurance member with Knights.

Steve has been married to his wife Therese for 30 years, have four adult children, and are long time members of St John the Baptist Catholic Church in Waunakee. He is also involved in other activities including being a board member for Men of Christ Madison, and co-leader of the Thursday Morning Men's Group at St. John the Baptist in Waunakee. Steve and his son are home brewers making a wide range of beers and grow some of their own hops in the back yard. While Steve feels he has some rather large shoes to fill with Tony's departure, he is enjoying working for the Knights, talking with members who call or email the office and working in this new role to help administrate the many KC charities benefiting people in need.

Wisconsin Councils Recognized in Columbian Magazine

On page 28 of the September 2020 Columbia Magazine it reads:

Father's Garden

Members of the Father John Patrick Slowey Council 2963 in Phillips, Wis., prepared a garden at St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church so that their pastor, Father Madanu Lourdu Raju, could cultivate vegetables native to his home country of India.

On the inside of the back cover, you will notice a picture from the 'Fill the Boat' drive for the Holy Ghost Council from earlier this Summer! This picture fills the entire page!! With the Write up:

'Members of Holy Ghost Council 4648 in Brookfield, Wis., including Father Aaron Laskiewicz, associate pastor of St. Dominic Catholic Church and council chaplain, gather before a food drive in the church parking lot. The council displayed its replica of Christopher Columbus' ship, the Santa Maria--built as a parade float--at several collections to boost visibility, interest and participation.

Materials to be considered for Knights in Action should be sent via the online submission form at kofc.org/knightsinaction. The Columbia online edition, available at kofc.org/columbia, contains many of the features and columns found in the print magazine. A Knights in Action webpage is also updated monthly at kofc.org/knightsinaction with an expansive selection of reports and photos of qualifying projects. The Knights in Action webpage includes frequently asked questions on sending in stories and tips for taking quality photos as well.

Beatification Father Michael McGivney



So, who is this Venerable Servant of God, this son of a poor Irish immigrants, who lived and died more than a century ago? We do know if it not for him, we Knights of Columbus would not be here today, but what else do we know?

By all accounts he was a simple parish priest, deeply in loved by his congregation for his generous spirit and gentle demeanor. Yet his mildness was masked by an unrelenting determination to address the difficulties and frustrations of catholic families of his day.

To be "Catholic" in New Haven, CT, in 1877 was difficult at best. The year that Father McGivney arrived to assume his post as curate at St. Mary's Church, anti-Catholicism was a strong force in society. In face of these difficulties, Father McGivney was particularly devoted to the young families, it was this "up and coming" generation that he addressed so many of his words of inspiration and encouragement. It was a time when many young Catholic men were tempted to escape their poverty by abandoning the faith in favor of social standing by joining one of the many condemned secret societies. Few turned to drink. And not a few died young, leaving behind families who were suddenly destitute. The young Father McGivney made up his mind to do something about it.

Conceiving the idea of a society of Catholic laymen that would unite its members in a Brotherhood to:

1. Strengthen each other in the faith;
2. Provide for the welfare of a members family in the event of his serious illness or death;
3. Restore a sense of pride in the nation's Catholic heritage;
4. Serve the church and the community;
5. Support the Bishops and Priests.

With that dream in mind, in the fall of 1881, he called a group of young professionals and working men to a meeting in the basement of St. Mary's Church where he shared his vision and our Order began.

Through the Knights of Columbus, Fr. McGivney lives on. Interest in the life and holiness of our founder has increased steadily since the order celebrated its centennial in 1982. The momentum of devotion to Fr. McGivney and our serious historical investigation into his life and virtue have given birth to what has long been a desire for many of our members: the promotion of his cause for canonization. December 17, 1997, marked the moment when the church herself, having considered the merits of the case, formally inaugurated the cause for canonization of the Venerable Michael McGivney, in the archdiocese of Hartford, CT. Under the guidance of Archbishop Daniel Cronin and with the enthusiastic endorsement of our then Supreme Chaplain, Bishop Thomas Daily, a process of historical research and theological evaluation was begun in earnest. This painstaking phase in the canonization process was concluded and carried to Rome by Dominican Father Gabriel O'Donnell, postulator for Father McGivney's cause. The sacred congregation concluded its consideration of Father McGivney's cause with a favorable judgment.

In March 2008, Fr. McGivney was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI, who during his visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral cited the "remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus." Now twelve years later, May 27, 2020, Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of our founder declared "Blessed," to the step just prior to sainthood. An additional miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession will be required for his canonization as saint.

There were three miracles submitted to the Vatican. One was in 2004 concerning a religious brother with cancer who was healed after he has touched with a second-class relic. That was not accepted. The second was a fisherman in the Philippines, who was shot by two men, hit 13 times, rushed to hospital, he survived after praying to Fr. McGivney. That too was also not accepted.

The third miracle was an unborn child who was healed in the womb, when the parent's prayed to Father McGivney. The dad is a General Agent. Child is now 5 years old. And named Michael. With the joyous news that, on May 26, 2020, Pope Francis approved this miracle through Father McGivney's intercession, the next step in the process will be a beatification Mass, to be held October 31, 2020, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, Conn. At that time, the founder of the Knights of Columbus will be declared "Blessed" and his feast day will be set. Father McGivney will be the first U.S.-born priest to be beatified who spent his entire priestly ministry in a parish. This is a great boost to the priesthood and to the Catholic Church in America.

The establishment of the Father McGivney guild was certainly a milestone marking the path to our founder's canonization. It operates out of the Supreme Council office in New Haven. The guild serves as a clearinghouse for information regarding Father McGivney, promotes devotion to his memory, develops and distributes materials about his life and virtue, receives reports of favors received through Father

McGivney's intercession, and receives news of possible miracles. Membership in the guild is open to anyone interested in Father McGivney and his cause, including members of the Knights of Columbus and their families. A guild newsletter is sent to members several times a year. All materials produced to promote information and devotion to Father McGivney are automatically distributed to members of the guild and, once a month, a mass is offered at St. Mary's Church in New Haven.

So, what can we do as a council in preparation of October 31st Beatification? As you know, Father McGivney will be beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, at Hartford's Cathedral of St. Joseph. Due to Connecticut's current COVID restrictions on indoor gatherings, very few from outside of Connecticut will be able to attend and although this situation is regrettable, the good news is that the Beatification Mass will be broadcast live on EWTN and other Catholic networks.

- Spread the news about the beatification to your council members, parishes and communities.
- Hold a special mass in honor of Father McGivney
- Conduct a special "Blessed Michael McGivney" membership drive for the Guild. Membership is free, the Guild members receive a quarterly newsletter and have their intentions remembered at a weekly Mass in New Haven! Go to: <https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/join-the-guild.html> to join
- Promote the next two YouTube/Facebook screenings of the new Father McGivney video, on Sept. 26 and Oct. 25, both at 8 pm Eastern. Use the link above for more information.
- Pray the Prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney. It is very important that all Knights pray this prayer and report any favors received to the Guild. We need one more miracle for our founder to reach canonization and sainthood, so you will play an even more important role in that process.

Prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.

Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Resources available concerning Fr. McGivney

Initial Press release on Beatification

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/blessed-mcgivney-pilgrimage-center.html>

Updated Father McGivney/Guild Website

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/fmcgs/en/index.html>

Resources (downloadable imagery)

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/images-for-download.html>

Articles on Father McGivney's Life and Legacy

Praise from a Fellow Priest Who Knew Him

https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/resources/Waterbury%20Evening%20Democrat_June%2011%201900_Formatted.pdf

The Personality of Father McGivney

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/resources/PersonalityofFrMcGivney.pdf>

Father McGivney's Vision

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/resources/McGivneyVision.pdf>

A Priest for the Family

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/resources/APriest4Family.pdf>

The McGivney Letters

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/for-the-media/resources/McGivneyLetters.pdf>

Ten things you didn't know about Father McGivney <https://www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/10-things-kofc-founder.html>

125th anniversary of Father McGivney's death <http://www.kofc.org/en/todays-knights/history/125th-anniversary/index.html>

Homily from Archbishop Lori at the Mass during the 125th anniversary of Father McGivney's Death

<http://www.kofc.org/en/news/releases/homily-mcgivney-125anniversary.html>

Our Founder's intercessory powers

<https://www.kofc.org/en/columbia/detail/our-founders-intercessory-power.html>

A Friend to Families

http://www.kofc.org/en/columbia/detail/2006-01_BrinkleyBook_en.html

10 Facts About Father McGivney

<http://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/articles/ten-things-about-the-founder-of-the-kofc.html>

Inspired and helped by Father McGivney

<http://www.kofc.org/en/news-room/articles/inspired-helped-by-father-mcgivney.html>

Blessed McGivney Pilgrimage Center

<http://kofc.org/en/news-room/articles/blessed-michael-mcgivney-pilgrimage-center.html>

Publications

The Life and Legacy of Father Michael J. McGivney

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/members/programs/family-activities/2045-legacy-mcgivney-6-08.pdf>

A Model for Our Times

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/domestic-church/model-for-our-times.pdf>

Why We Offer Insurance

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/communications/why-we-offer-insurance.pdf>

Prayer for the Canonization of Father McGivney

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/assets/canonization.pdf>

Video

Father McGivney Documentary

<http://kofc.org/en/news-room/articles/free-livestream-dates-for-new-mcgivney-documentary.html>

My Brother's Keeper: The Birth of the Knights of Columbus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-1DYrMPUCc>

St. Mary's Seminary Dedication Ceremony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZTnkWAoHtM>

A Prayer All Knights Should Know

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0EiZyLkqCiY>

Walking in the Footsteps of Fr. McGivney

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbvGT89EfGo>

A Reflection and Prayer for Father McGivney

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbvGT89EfGo>

McGivney Miracle Baby

https://players.brightcove.net/802593642001/y6FLiLa0f_default/index.html?videoId=6177886213001

Charity Raffle Update

The charity raffle tickets were distributed to District Deputies at Diocesan Huddles in September. If your Council has not yet received their Charity Raffle Tickets, please contact your District Deputy, the State Officer for your Diocese, or the State Charity Director.

DO YOUR PART to help Wisconsin families, **SELL, PURCHASE, or TRADE**

Knight of Columbus Charity Raffle

Total Prize List - \$124,000

1st - 2021 F150 XLT Super Cab or \$50,000

2nd - Harley Davidson Motorcycle or \$25,000

3rd – 100th - \$500

Tickets \$5.00 each

Drawing Saturday May 1, 2021

Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI

Bernie Heit, Charity Director
bernieheit@gmail.com

Online Degree Schedule

For online degrees, Supreme has suspended scheduling online degrees, but does include the [On Demand](#) link, to take an online degree at the candidate's convenience. The State officers are also providing regularly scheduled online degrees. See the [Degree schedule](#) page of the State website where you will find links for him to register for the state ceremonies. Candidates may do this at any time by using the [On Demand](#) link to the supreme ceremony and filling the registration form, and watching the ceremony in its entirety. It is encouraged that his family watch it with him (25-30 minutes). Here is the schedule and registration links for the upcoming state degree ceremonies.

10/6/2020	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Register Here for 10/6/2020 Degree
10/13/2020	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Register Here for 10/13/2020 Degree
10/20/2020	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Register Here for 10/20/2020 Degree
10/30/2020	Friday	7:00 PM	Register Here for 10/30/2020 Degree

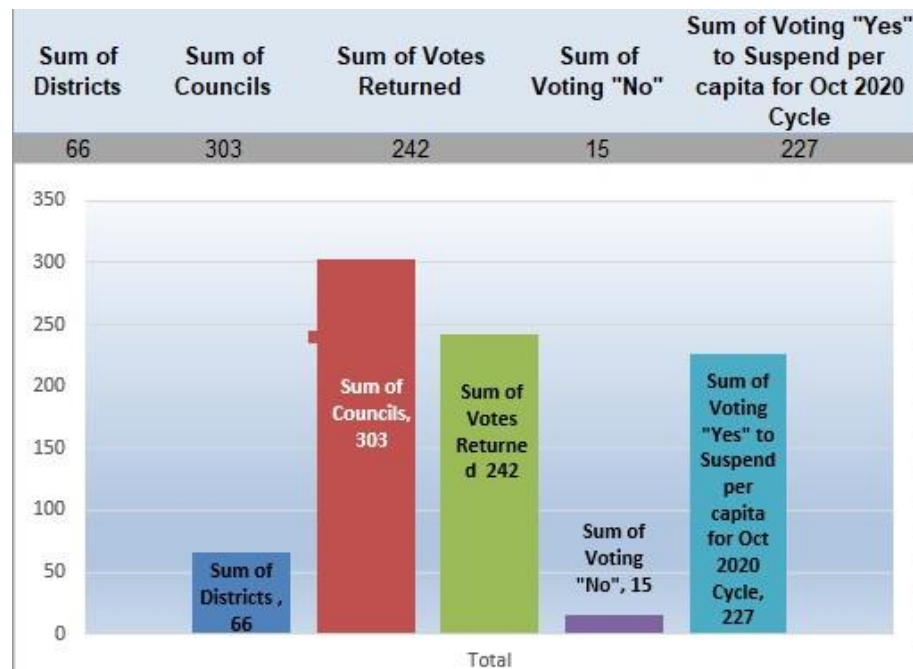
Provide the appropriate link to the prospective member, as the member must do the registration process himself. Be sure to provide him with your council number to enter on the registration form.

State Online Membership Coordinator
William G. Hitt
www.kofc.org/joinus

Per Capita Resolution Update from State Advocate Paul Lang



Brother Knights. We concluded a resolution for suspending our October Cycle Per Capita for the state of WI by the pre-established deadline of Sept 10. I sent the parameters and directions for the vote to each council' GK and FS unless, otherwise, vacant. Surrounding this vote, we required a majority of 2/3rds council responses in favor of suspending the per capita in order to suspend the October Cycle.



Subsequently, as we see by the number of votes returned in the graph above (79.87% of all councils), with 15 voting "No" and 227 Voting in favor of suspending the State Per Capita payment Cycle, and achieving our 2/3rds required majority vote, the State Officers moved to suspend the October Cycle Per Capita.

That stated, this suspension of the Oct Cycle is only for the per capita amount in this cycle. All Councils are still obligated to pay any Per Capita in arrears. COL and PKD assessments are voluntary and are not part of the Per Capita. However, if it is also your council's intention to continue those assessments for the worthy causes they represent, please consider making those current ASAP as well.

Thanks to all of you for your consideration and input for this vote:

Paul Lang
pelang60@hotmail.com
 WI State Advocate

Membership

Who says you can't grow your membership in a COVID environment? Not the UW Council 6568!

They added seven ONLINE members during the “Join For Free” promotion in July/August, then added four more during the “Half – Price” on Membership we enjoy today, then held a LIVE Exemplification on Sept 21st to welcome them all into their council. They have their membership for STAR! **College kids know a bargain!**

Unfortunately, this is the exception... Wisconsin is at only 10.17% of our goal when we should be at 23.6%. We're behind Minnesota and Nebraska right now, but **that doesn't need to be the case!**

There is a **“Half – Price” promotion** for members joining ONLINE (expires on October 31st) which commemorates the *Beatification of Fr Michael J. McGivney*. Let's encourage prospects to join our ranks RIGHT NOW. The link is - <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html>, Promo code **WIKOFC**.

Let's also use the ONLINE Exemplifications that our state hosts to get those new members into their preferred Councils – those dates include **TUESDAYS (October 6th, 13th, and 20th)** as well as **FRIDAY, October 30th, all at 7pm**. Go to the state website, click on the **“Degree Schedule”** tab on the left side and select the **State Online Exemplification** dates under FORMATION / KNIGHTHOOD DEGREES to send your prospects an invitation to attend the Exemplification. Your current 1st & 2nd Degree members can advance online too.

Regional Trainer Jon Olson has recently taught some excellent seminars which describe how to use your own programs as opportunities to invite more men and grow your council. I taught four sessions on “Growing Membership Inside and OUTSIDE the Box” which were attended by some GK's, DD's, and RMC's but very few Council Membership Coordinators. Feedback from these seminars taught us that we need more OUTSIDE the box solutions to getting prospects and inviting them into our councils. We also need to **target Membership Coordinators and GKs to attend then IMPLEMENT what they have learned to GROW their Councils.**

Welcome to **E-MOB** = “Even More OUTSIDE the Box” ideas to prospect and grow membership. The program includes:

- Demonstrating the approaches we need to make with our **Pastors** to help us GROW (*“Father, how can we help you?” / “Father, who do you know that ought to be a Knight?” / “Will you help us put out a ‘Father Wants YOU!’ letter to prospects you know?”*)
- Asking our own members *“Who do you know that ought to be a Knight?”* at a LIVE meeting or ZOOM conference, warning them we will be asking the question so they can have a name list and contact information ready for us.
- Using our current programs to get our message of service out, explain our **“Leave No Neighbor Behind”** initiative and how **“we need good men to do good deeds”** with **Faith in Action**.
- Tapping into parish programs like RCIA, New Parishioner lists, Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, Parishioners, Parish Festivals, and men who help in the liturgy (ushers, lectors, sacristans, servers, etc.) to connect with and invite men to check us out and join our ranks.
- Model Open House/Information Meetings for LIVE or ONLINE presentation, so we can still connect and grow in a COVID environment.

- Dates include **SUNDAY – Oct 4th** at 4pm, **MONDAY – Oct 5th** at 6pm, and **WEDNESDAY, Oct 21st** at 6pm and again at 8pm. (1 hour) Email Rick Raulin to register (rickraulin@aol.com) (608-628-0973)

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Raulin – State Membership

Programs



Brothers,

By the end of this month, we'll be 1/3 of the way through our 2019-20 Fraternal Year. Are you at least 1/3 of the way to achieving your goals for this year – your membership goals; your program goals for Faith in Action, Leave No Neighbor Behind, State and your local parish, Council, community-based programs? Are you well along on the road to Star Council and Wisconsin Outstanding Council status? Do you have your 185, 365 Audit and Roundtable reports in and your Child Safety requirements completed?

If so, great. If not, why not? It's high time to get off square one and start moving again. We are Knights, men who lead – so let's lead! Get back to meeting again – in person, virtual or both; at your parish of hall or somewhere else. Find parish, community and Council needs and do something about it – as much as you possibly can given the considerations necessary with the COVID crisis.

As of this writing, we have over 1/3 (129) of our 315 Councils who don't have their Form 365 in! 93 have one, 2 or more of their last Audits that are missing, not counting suspended Councils. 56 are missing their Form 185. In fact, last year, only about 75 of our 315 Councils ever turned in a SP7 (Columbian Award) form, even though the requirements were dramatically reduced.

Grand Knights, District Deputies, Council leaders – we **cannot** continue on this road. We can't hope to assist, change, lead our parish, community, nation – yes even our families and councils – if we don't get our own ship in order. So, let's do it!

As to programs this month, 1) be sure to order your Coats for Kids soon and plan to distribute them on or around "Black Friday" (Nov. 27-29) as a KC Charitable Outreach effort. You may wish to have 1 or 2 Knights to assist the effort and have the school, community organizations you're working with do the bulk of the distribution. We also will have coats available from Supreme for areas in special need, especially minority areas. If you have an idea where these can be given out where we can perhaps build a new Council or bring in new members, contact your State Officer in Charge of your Diocese or me soon.

2) The Culture of Life Essay Contest and Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest are set to be run from October 1-December 1 this year. You can download all the materials you need for CoL from the State website. Materials for the Citizenship Essay Contest can be downloaded from the Supreme website or

ordered from Supplies Online. These 2 contests have great topics this year! Let's work with schools, teachers, parents, homeschoolers, CCD programs, etc. to encourage and assist kids to participate.

3) The Christmas Poster Contests are set for November and December again, same as usual. Materials can be obtained just like those for the essay contests. Order form for Keep Christ in Christmas yard signs is now on the State website.

4) PPK will not be run this year at the Diocesan and State levels. Councils can still do it locally if they wish. Grand Knights, District Deputies, Diocesan Program Coordinators – look for the survey concerning the Free Throw and Knowledge Contests in October. Please respond to it quickly. Councils are encouraged to run the Free Throw Contest whenever and however you can – in October, November, December if you want.

5) There are many other programs we can be doing – LifeSavers, ID, Charity Raffle tickets, Into the Breach, Blood Drives, etc. Let's just get out there and do it. More on fall/winter programs in November.

Have a great October and, by all means, celebrate the Beatification of our founder, Fr. Michael J. McGivney on October 31.

Fraternally,
Bill Frayer
State Program Director

ID Director Don – Update on Tootsie Roll Drives 21 September 2020

Brother Knights,



Time has been passing by quickly, where has the summer gone? I have received funds from many councils who have held successful Tootsie Roll Drives. Please keep in mind that I must have the money by November 1st if your council hopes to get their checks by December.

To date I have only received one grant request but as always, I suspect they will come rolling in very soon. If you are not running a drive please keep in mind that your council still must pay for the Tootsie Rolls. Please contact me if you are unsure as to the amount you owe.

There is still plenty of time to run a drive so I hope your council will consider doing it. Although traffic was down at our local council's drive, we found that people were more generous in their giving. As you may know the current shutdown from the state ends very soon. I encourage you to take precautions that you feel are needed. Without your council's hard work assistance cannot be given to those in need. Stay Safe!

Vivat Jesus!
Don Schoenherr
WI KofC
Helping Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities - Director



General Agent Message

It is with great humility; I am now responsible for all the membership for Wisconsin and the Upper MI. The reason for bringing this back up this month most of the people in southern Wisconsin will be receiving this letter as part of my General Agent newsletter for the first time as well as it being put into the Wisconsin Badger.

I am excited to report we now have four new agents to help serve across the state as well as having 15 existing Agents, Chris Thelen Green Bay Diocese, Derek Kalschuer Milwaukee Diocese, and Steven Rammer, and Tim Dreger Madison Diocese, we continue to look for Good and Holy men that are on fire for the Knights of Columbus and their Faith. The need is still for 10 more men to serve and provide the charity of service and bring to light all the benefits your family can partake in that are in line with morally responsible investing and protection of life, disability and Long-term care and retirement.

October 15th, at 7pm we will be providing a State wide live event for our councils to have a Fraternal Benefits night which we would like to invite all Catholic's and those considering joining the Church to attend for free!! Go to www.kofcwi.org and then Live events to register for this timely event. It is limited to the first 1000 who register so make sure you don't miss out. Tom Hegna is a world-renowned speaker who help people prepare for retirement. There will be a survey at the end of the event to collect information so councils will get credit for the first fraternal benefits night.

I would ask each of you to prayerfully consider writing letters and sending cards to anyone you know who is a shut in or in a nursing home. During this time, it is hard for family to get in and see those they love and some of these folks don't understand and feel that they are forgotten. A quick note or a card of remembrance could be the one thing that helps someone get through this difficult time. We are seeing an increase in deaths not by covid as much as the isolation as a result of covid 19. I have had many calls of families who experience a loss of a love one who they were surprised by their passing. They have stated that not seeing them was a contributing factor.

We will certainly be doing many many activities as we get back to going to mass and councils start engaging their parishes in a new and different way. I know that we will be a huge factor in restarting our parishes as members of the Knights working to lead re-engagement as our Priest request. So thank each of you in advance for promoting the good works of the order.

Letting your agent come to visit you either Virtual or face to face is both an act of charity an act of protection for those most important to you. We are here to serve and inform membership of what they have already and what is still availability to you.

State Training Schedule

Brother Knights,

With the ever-changing situation we are in, we are looking at doing virtual training through the rest of the year. If circumstances change, and it becomes safe to do so, we will again do physical training sessions. Following is our schedule through the end of the year. There are 2 sessions of each, in the hope that one fits your schedule. They will be Zoom meetings, with graphics being shown. If you are unable to join us on a computer or tablet, please try to find someone you can view with or use the option of joining us by telephone.

The Grand Knight training slides are available on the Wi State K of C website: Home page -> State Forms -> COUNCIL -> [Council Officers Duties and Responsibilities](#) -> [2020-2021 GK&DGK TRAINING SLIDES](#) or use the link: <http://uknight.org/States/2020-2021%20GK%20and%20DGK%20training%20slides%20.pdf>

Please also take advantage of the training being done by our Supreme Regional Trainer, Jon Olson, and Supreme Webinars and presentations archived on the website. Take a minute, go to www.KofC.org/training and look at the resources available. If you need help navigating the website, please contact me.

Schedule

Grand Knight Training

Saturday, October 10th, 9:00 am (repeat of August 29th)

Financial Secretary Training

Tuesday, October 20th, 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 28th, 7:00 pm

Financial Secretary Member Dues Billing Training

Tuesday, November 17th, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 2nd, 7:00 pm

If you need any further assistance, please email me at wi-dd10-crohrjr@hotmail.com, and include the word training to start the subject line. I can be reached by phone at 920-540-4486. Even though the message instructs you not to leave a message, PLEASE DO. I am working from home and do not want customers leaving voice mails on my personal phone. *This message does not apply to you. I want to hear from you!!*

Supreme Training Schedule

We are excited to offer to our council leaders 4 different training sessions in the month of October.

They are *Delta Drive*, *Council Growth*, *Council Experience* and *You are Your Programs*.

Delta Drive: This training session talks about what items should be part of every organized growth drive. It also talks about planning and organizing the drive to make them effective.

Council Growth: This training talks about the "why" of growing your council and how together we can be successful at it.

Council Experience: One secret of successful councils is that they engage their council members. This engagement leads these members to have positive membership experiences leading to more involvement from them and their families, leading to more men becoming interested in the council and ultimately the council's ability to do more for the parish and the community. In this training, we'll break down the five areas of engagement and provide practical, proven tactics for making sure that you engage your members in each of these areas. We'll start with a council engagement so you can see where your council has opportunities to improve so that you can focus specifically on these areas.

You are Your Programs: This is a new training presentation that we start talking about what programs we do and how we are looked at by the community by what program they see.

All these sessions will be under one hour long including a Q & A period. These 4 sessions are designed to compliment each other and make councils look and take action on the whole council success.

Here is the date for the trainings (all times are at Central Daylight time).

Delta Drive: 10/8 @ 7 PM

Council Experience: 10/12 @ 6 PM and 10/13 @ 6 PM

Council Growth: 10/20 @ 7 PM and 10/21 @ 8 PM

You are Your Programs: 10/26 @ 7 PM and 10/27 @ 7 PM

Please sign up via the below link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmHIB9mNYsHb-0SUgDVVsQ7WpDRYw3HkMvvAduLG82O0q9OVQ/viewform>

Thank you, and God Bless all you are doing.

Chuck Rohr

State Training Coordinator

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have again partnered with Special Olympics Wisconsin to help cover the costs of sending the Team Wisconsin athletes to the 2022 USA games. The games will be held in Orlando, Florida from June 5th to June 12th, 2022.

We have been a proud partner with SOWI Team Wisconsin since 2006 and have supported the athletes since. Our goal is to raise \$125,000.00 for travel expenses. This goal can be met very easily. If we consider our states membership, it amounts to less than \$3.50 per member over a 4 year period. That is .85 a member per year. Let's make this happen.

Please do not forget about Special Olympics during this pandemic period. During this period we have received less than \$100.00 towards our goal. With the Tootsie Roll drive being put on hold it has reflected on this drive. Councils need to step up and help with our State Team drive, as well as helping their Local groups. As of right now we have collected \$77,296.83 towards our goal. Sounds good, but we only have 20 months to raise \$48,000.00. It will take all Councils to step up and do what they can.

How can we raise this money?

#1 Ask your council members to donate to the cause. Include a notice in your council newsletter, or with dues. Be sure to inform membership what it is for. Have checks made out to WiKofC Charities with memo SOWI TEAM.

#2 Pass the hat at council meetings.

#3 Host a special fund raiser, brat fry, card game, bingo, fish fry, etc, with profits to go to the drive. Advertise the event, again informing people where the profits go.

#4 Monies can be taken from the Councils Charities account to donate.

#5 Tootsie Roll monies can be allocated to Special Olympics. Be sure to indicate if it is for Team Wisconsin or for a local group your council supports.

#6 Any other way that your council comes up with.

You can reach me at johnb45@tds.net, 715-884-3197 home, 715-421-6710 cell, or 4645 State Hwy 80, Pittsville, WI 54466.

Thank You for supporting Special Olympics.

John Benisch

Wisconsin Special Olympics Coordinator

Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

August continues the great progress for the Family of the Month program. A quick summary is below but click on the Flocknote link below for all the details.



This is followed by information on the **Keep Christ in Christmas**, **Consecration to the Holy Family** and the **Our Marriage Prayer** programs.

Family of the Month

Thank you again for an **amazing** month! All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/8889506>. Check it out!

Supreme

Wisconsin is still in 1st place in the order with 47 FOMs representing **12.9%** of all FOMs received by Supreme.

The Supreme family of the month is **Justin and Jana Dahms Family** (Council 1547, District 44, Madison Diocese).

Diocese

Madison Diocese led with **69%** district participation and lead by submitting 14 families as well. Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month. Read about them in Flocknote link above.

Green Bay	Don and Barb Kroller	La Crosse	Joseph and Jean Diedrich
Madison	Eric and Heidi Breunig	Milwaukee	Mark and Elaine Wiebersch
Superior	Todd and Laurie Edelman		

District

54% of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Three districts submitted three or four families and nine districts submitted two families. There were no new councils submitting families for the first time.

September Family of the Month deadline is October 15.

Golden Family Councils

Golden Family Councils are those that submit a family of the month each month of the fraternal year starting in July and ending in the following June. There are **47** Golden Family Councils this month that submitted for the months of July through August. Thank you, councils, as you are demonstrating true leadership in this program.

Suggestions

The Flocknote article has a whole page of ideas and questions that can be asked to the family in order to gather a more complete summary of all the things the family has done for their parish, community, country and council. Please review them. Please also read the family summaries of the Diocesan Families of the year at the end of the Flocknote article as that is what was submitted by the council about their family.

2020 Diocesan Families of the Year

In the months of August, September and October, the State Officers are honoring the 2020 Diocesan and State Families of the year by having the Bishop of their diocese celebrate mass in their home parish and honoring them with their awards after communion. In most cases, the home council was able to also offer a nice social afterwards. Check out the pictures and videos on the State Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WISKOFC/> The Milwaukee Diocesan Family of the Year Dick and Elaine Garvey will be honored on Saturday October 10th at the 4:30 mass at St. Jerome's in Oconomowoc.

Family Programs

Three family programs are coming up quick: Keep Christ in Christmas, Consecration to the Holy Family and the Our Marriage Prayer. Here are some things to consider doing soon.

Keep Christ in Christmas

Promote the true spirit of Christmas in homes, schools, parishes, and communities. Councils will evangelize society through their faithful acts, celebrations, and a variety of activities.

Guide Sheet: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/keep-christ-in-christmas/10604-keep-christ-in-christmas-guidesheet.pdf>

- Read through the guide sheet and determine what you need to order
- Order the supplies from Officers Online
- Ask your district deputy what the deadlines are in your diocese

Consecration to the Holy Family

Revitalize our parishes by urging our parish families to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Invite each family in your parish to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family. **The feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is December 26/27, 2020.**

Guide Sheet: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/consecration-to-the-holy-family/10605-consecration-holy-family-guidesheet.pdf>

- Read through the guide sheet to prepare for the event
- Order prayer cards (and other supplies) from Officers Online (they will go quick)

Our Marriage Prayer

This program comes up quick after the end of the year. If there will be a physical District Deputy meeting in December, I will be there to sell Our Marriage Prayer card to minimize the cost of the prayer cards. If the DD meeting will be virtual, then I will have the prayer cards on Amazon in a way that offers free shipping if you have Amazon Prime. Start planning seeds with gentlemen to see who can lead the Our Marriage Prayer during mass. The event is normally celebrated on World Marriage Sunday which this next year will be on Valentine's Day February 14, 2021. Check out the training video at <http://www.ourmarriageprayer.com/Knights-of-Columbus>

Gentlemen, it is a **privilege and honor** to serve you and your councils! **Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.**

Vivat Jesus!



SK Joe Uchtyl
Wisconsin Family Coordinator

“LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND”

SACRED HEART COUNCIL 4628
ROTHSCHILD/SCHOFIELD/WESTON, WISCONSIN



Council 4628 Past Grand Knight Ed Flanders is a regular volunteer at the food pantry sponsored by his parish, St. Agnes in Weston. He had made several attempts to buy disinfectant wipes to distribute to food pantry clients but, because stores in the area have been limiting the amount that customers could buy, was prevented from stocking the food pantry.

Ed did a little investigating by checking the label of a canister of wipes that he had at home and discovered that they were distributed by Rockline Industries of Sheboygan, WI. He wrote the company, explaining that he was with the St. Agnes food pantry, and asked for

forty to distribute to their clients. The company called Debra Cherek-Seim, parish office manager, and said they would donate the items, but someone would have to pick them up – a 300 mile round trip. Ed asked Debra how many the company would donate – not really worth the trip if they only gave 40 canisters to the food pantry. Debra said that the company would fill up a car, pick-up truck or even a panel truck if you brought one.

Ed called another Past Grand Knight from Council 4628, Greg Cemke, who has a pick-up truck, and asked him if he was interested in making a run to Sheboygan to pick-up a load of disinfectant wipes for the local food pantries and churches. Greg agreed and at 7 A.M. on Wednesday, September 2nd they left for Sheboygan. They got to the Rockline warehouse by 9:30 A.M. and were loaded and on their way back by 10 A.M. After a stop for lunch and gas, they arrived back at St. Agnes parish by 1:30 P.M. and unloaded the 796 canisters of disinfectant wipes that were donated by Rockline Industries.

796 canisters of wipes are far more than the food pantry and St. Agnes parish could use. Disinfectant wipes were then distributed to the three other parishes that Council 4628 serves - St. Therese in Schofield, St. Mark in Rothschild and St. Florian in Hatley - for parish use and for distribution to the needy. Canisters of disinfectant wipes were also given to the Women’s Community Shelter in Wausau, St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Weston.

Sacred Heart Council 4628 would like to thank Rockline Industries and its staff for their generous donation and cooperation in this effort, especially Betty Warrens and Aaron Marver. Also, the council is very appreciative of brothers Ed and Greg for their efforts in the “Leave No Neighbor Behind” campaign, and covered the cost of their trip.

Submitted by –

Dave Joswiak, Financial Secretary, Sacred Heart Council 4628 and
District Deputy, Wisconsin #28



DIOCESE of LA CROSSE

Office of the Bishop

31 August 2020
Year of St. Joseph

Mr. Corey Coonen
Knights of Columbus
Wisconsin State Council
4297 West Beltline Hwy
Madison, WI 53711-3859

My dear Brother Knights:

May the Lord give you peace.

I extend to you my sincere apology that I was unable to meet with you last Friday. The last months have certainly brought many challenges and an increasing amount of items with great urgency which unfortunately seem to surface on a moment's notice.

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$9,989.36 from your Penny a Knight a Day campaign for Catholic Education. As well as the check for \$990.00 from your membership incentive program. I am deeply grateful for your support.

Please share my sincere appreciation to all of the Knights for the great work they do in promoting the life of the Church in the Diocese of La Crosse. May God bless and reward you.

With personal best wishes and prayers, I am,

Very truly yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan
Bishop of La Crosse

WPC:dfb

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS STATE YARD SIGN PROGRAM

The Keep Christ in Christmas yard sign program is a major Supreme Council Christmas program. Over the years, a large number of Wisconsin councils and a growing number of out-of-state councils have participated in the program.

Twenty-nine years ago, the PGK of Council No. 531, Emmett Schuchardt, started looking for a way to make a major impact in his community with the Keep Christ in Christmas program. His innovative solution led to the creation of an 11" x 28" blue and white yard sign on a steel, "U-shaped" wire featuring the Christ Child and the words KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS. Since then, tens of thousands of KCIC yard signs have dotted lawns throughout Wisconsin and the rest of the country during the Christmas season.

If your council is interested in participating in this year's KCIC yard sign program, please fill out the order form below and return it to state coordinator SK Randy Radtke no later than Oct. 31, 2020. Yard signs and wires will be shipped before Thanksgiving.

2020 ORDER FORM

Cost: \$2.75 per yard sign with wire. Minimum order: 50 signs. Price includes all costs including shipping. Orders can be placed for in allotments of 25 (50, 75, 100, etc.) and councils can combine their orders if the 50 minimum total is too large for one council. **Please submit your order no later than Oct 31, 2020. Signs may also be available in SPANISH. If your council needs signs in SPANISH please call (920) 648-8248.**

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL ORDER INFORMATION.

Council name and number: _____

Council contact person: Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Shipping information: (Must be a residential or business address, no P.O. Boxes please!)

Ship to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Number of signs _____ X \$2.75 = Amount of payment enclosed \$ _____
(There is an extra charge for shipping to Michigan and other non-Midwestern states.)

**Please make your check payable to RJ Enterprizes and send it to:
RJ Enterprizes, 433 E. Washington Street, Lake Mills, WI 53551-1344.**

**If you have questions about the program,
please send your email to keepchristinchristmassigns@gmail.com or
rjenter@charter.net or call (920) 648-8248.**