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Illinois State Council Knights of Columbus http://www.illinoisknights.org

Worthy Brother Knight, in 1882 a young Priest had a dream, a dream that has grown to more than two million members throughout the world. Here in Illinois there are more than 68,000 Brother Knights supporting this Dream of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity of Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney. Through works that support our Priests and help those who are less fortunate, our Order continues this Dream today. Our Catholic Faith is being attacked by many outside forces in today's world.

Whether it is by government mandates, legalized abortion or same sex marriage laws, we must be there to defend our Religion and Beliefs. Saint Pope John Paul II called the Knights of Columbus the Strong Right Arm of the Church. Today you are needed, more than ever, to be an active member of your Council.

I am sending you this letter to welcome and encourage you to come back to your Council meetings and join in Council activities. As we emerge from the lockdowns that have been imposed upon us by the Covid 19 pandemic, we must re-engage as Knights of Columbus. A Council can only survive if the membership is active and growing. In this combative world, the Order needs every member to be there for our Church and Community. Please remember that our charitable works also need you so that we can give back to the community.

I am also asking you to invite a Catholic Gentleman to join your Council. It is only through new members that a council can survive and grow.

Your Council needs YOU, The Church and Her Priests need YOU, and your community needs YOU. I am asking "Please Come Join Us!" Let us work together to grow our councils and then we can truly be the Strong Right Arm of the Church.

Vivat Jesus, Stephen G. Mann

Illinois State Deputy