

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

July 2019

Wisconsin KC website



Editors: Mike Tomsyck & Rob Christianson



State Deputy Musings



Half Measures

In a recent article by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop Lori, titled "Half Measures," Archbishop Lori began by telling the story of the oil change. "Suppose it's time to change the oil in your car. The owner's manual specifies

that the engine requires five quarts of oil, but you put in only two and a half. Some days later, the engine light comes on, and your car stalls in traffic. Listening to a chorus of angry horns and epithets, you think to yourself: "Maybe I should have put in the full five quarts."

I am sure you can think of many examples of "Half measures" that you or even your council has made, only to realize that taking half measures makes things worse than better. Archbishop Lori's article further describes how prone we are in taking half steps with our Catholic faith. He explains how mass attendance is low, men are leaving the faith, parishes that are stagnant and shrinking, parish leadership only taking half measures in a feeble attempt to draw families back to the church. So, what is the answer?

The mission-centric model of Faith in Action is designed to offer men and their families the opportunity to grow in their faith, engage their family in mission, serve their parish and community, defend the dignity of human life and evangelize through Action. As I stated, last month growth requires change. And change requires behaving, thinking, and even feeling different than what you have been doing. The new **Faith In Action** model from Supreme brings new ways to think about membership, presenting men and their families to the benefits of being a Knight, and requires us to feel a little differently, act with passion, and purpose. To be successful, will require everyone to be "all in," while not taking half measures. It's hard, but certainly not impossible. As we move into this next fraternal year, let's keep "Nunc Coepi" as our motto, and remember, that we begin again, knowing that all things are possible with God by our side.

Vivat Jesus,

Jack V. Wrbanich
State Deputy

Chaplain's Corner



A Great Idea for Pilgrimage

What is the difference between a great idea and a good one? When I first began to think about an idea for a walking pilgrimage like the Camino de Santiago in Spain, but here in Wisconsin I thought it might be a good idea although a little crazy. After pursuing this idea and trying to develop it I have found what I believe is to be more than just a good idea but a great one. This is because I now believe through my experiences that the source and inspiration for this idea is supernatural. One of many experiences that I had was a dream, while sleeping, that lead me to a little chapel hidden in the hills of Stienthal Wisconsin, a town which is so small that finding it on Google maps takes some doing. Most of my other experiences had to do with God's providence. The "coincidences" that have

helped me and others to discover how this idea has been waiting for Wisconsin to discover this gift of pilgrimage have been so abundant that when strange things happen or things just line up we are not surprised. What makes this Wisconsin Way Pilgrimage a great idea and not just a good one is the guidance of Our Lord and Our Lady.

The great idea for a walking pilgrimage in Wisconsin primarily consists in three very special Marian Shrines in our state. Practical and spiritual reasons exist for making this journey with its beginning at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, in Champion, then going on to the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians, Holy Hill, and completing the journey at the Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse.

On the practical level you would start with the

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humble architecture of the shrine in Champion while setting out on simple farm roads as you make your way down to Holy Hill. Eventually find yourself on the Ice Age Trail going through Wisconsin's Kettle Moraine State Forest. When you come to the Neo Romanesque style of Holy Hill's shrine you feel you have most certainly arrived. Following some more Ice Age Trail and possibly taking an inspiring pilgrimage into Milwaukee before getting onto the Glacial Drumlin Trail and other bike trails leading west to La Crosse this pilgrimage has more adventure to discover. At its completion the amazing basilica styled architecture of what I like to call Guadalupe north is awe-inspiring and gives us a sense of what heaven must be like. The total distance of a full pilgrimage would be similar to the distance walked by pilgrims in Spain on the Camino de Santiago and this is a daunting challenge but will need to be done by those in the future who are inspired by the Holy Spirit and hearty enough to walk 10 to 15 miles a day.

On the practical end of developing this pilgrimage it will take people to drive it first. Taking a few days to drive it could also be very inspiring especially if you take back roads through small towns to slow life down and get away from the pace that the world calls us to run. The idea is to build up the journey with a sense of simple adventure and learning as you go.

On the spiritual level the way starts with the humble message of the Blessed Virgin Mary that she gave from the shrine in Champion. Many do not know that this shrine is the only approved Marian Apparition site in the United States and Mary asked a young lady, Adele Brise, to gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for their salvation. With this I see the first step in what needs to be done for us to see a new evangelization. We need a catechetical encounter and pilgrimage provides that opportunity. With the message we hear at the shrine in Champion we should be inspired to seek the truth of God as we journey. The next major stop along the Wisconsin Way is the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians. Notice, Help of Christians, this is not just help for Catholics. In this shrine I see a second step towards a new evangelization and that step is true ecumenism through the Our Blessed Mother. If Jesus is our brother than

Mary is our Mother and as Christians this gives us a sense of true family unity and concern for one another. I believe Mary is the key to true ecumenism and we should not be ashamed to talk about her as our Mother and the Mother of all Christians. For it was Christ, form the cross, who gave her to all the disciples he loved. The third major step on this pilgrimage which I believe will lead us to a new evangelization is found in the meaning of Our Lady of Guadalupe. What is she all about, if not a transformation of culture? Human sacrifice is a bigger problem than we would like to admit and we don't like thinking about abortion, contraception, pornography, and human trafficking but it something we need to confront and we can only do it through Our Lord and Our Lady. The culture of death is just as or even more prevalent in our present time and place then it was in the time and place of Saint Juan Diego. Our Lady visited that Saint in Mexico with the intention of transforming that culture into a Christian culture of life and with the Lord's grace she did it. Now I believe it is time for us to put forth the effort to make a pilgrimage to our Lady's shrines in order bring understanding and unity to our culture so that we can come to a point where together as a Nation we can love and respects life. This is a spiritual goal to bring God's grace into our time and place by making a pilgrimage to Our Lady for Jesus Christ Our Lord.

I am just a simple priest and could have never have come up with this idea on my own. This Wisconsin Way Pilgrimage is a gift from heaven, something I am continually discovering and hope others will come to discover. I have only given here an outline of what it is because it would take many more words to go into greater detail about the Monasteries, Marian Chapels, and other inspiring places to visit that all happen to fall between the three key shrines. I want to thank all the Knights of Columbus who have been supportive of my efforts to bring pilgrims along the Wisconsin Way and I hope to see more active participation from the Knights in Wisconsin to make this a more visible reality in our state.

Sincerely, Your State Chaplain, Fr. Andrew Kurz

P.S. Pray with Mary, Walk with Jesus!

MARIAN PRAYER - OUR LADY HELP OF PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Spread devotion to Our Lady and pray for our brothers and sisters of faith who are at risk around the world through the Marian Prayer Program. As the new Marian image is brought on pilgrimage through the jurisdiction, councils will host the Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians icon for a prayer service at their parish. Learn more by visiting

<http://www.kofc.org/en/programs/faith/marian-icon-prayer.html#/Resources>

BOWLING TOURNAMENT– 2021 BIDDING

LOOKING FOR BIDDERS FOR OCT 5TH MTG IN PLOVER, WI AT FALL MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT BILL PLANTE



FOR INFORMATION ON BIDDING FOR 2021 TOURNAMENT.

June 10, 2019

William A. Plante

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(715) 570.0751 cell

planteb@live.com

INVITATION TO BID ON HOSTING THE 2021 STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Worthy Grand Knight:

Article V - Section 1 of the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus State Bowling Committee, Structure and Guidelines, states that any subordinate Council may present a bid for a future bowling tournament. Said notice must be in writing, signed by the Grand Knight of the Council and forwarded to the Secretary of the State Bowling Committee prior to May 1.

Each Council shall have the privilege of appearing before the Committee to present its claim as to the advantages of its respective Council for holding such a tournament and shall be heard alphabetically according to cities. "Only literature from bidding Council or Chamber of Commerce material shall be brought to the meeting. No other gifts or gratuities will be allowed distribution at any time.

The Committee shall at the Fall Meeting to be held on Oct 5, 2019 at Comfort Inn, 1560 American Drive, Plover WI, 54467, decide by a majority vote where the 2021 Annual Tournament shall be held.

Bidding will begin about 11:30 am. The State Committee Meeting will start at 9am, Please plan to be there by 9am or arrive after 10:30 am.

If after making application you find that you cannot host the event for any reason you must contact the State Bowling Committee Secretary prior to the spring meeting.

William A. Plante

Bowling Committee Secretary/Treasurer

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION PRIOR TO BIDDING FOR THE
WISCONSIN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

*A minimum of 16 bowling lanes available in one or two bowling centers. But it is recommended that 24 to 30 or more lanes makes running the Tournament easier.

You will need to have all facilities available for 8 -10 weekends.

Dates should run from early February through April.

Note: Bowling shall run continuous weeks except during the EASTER Triduum.

Accommodations must be available nearby that match the number of bowlers and guests each weekend.

Councils may team up with another council for joint bids

The number of volunteers needed to have a successful tournament is substantial.

Your clubrooms should be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday each weekend of the tournament.

There is no bowling scheduled to begin later than 3:00 p.m.

* Revised at Tournament Opening Meeting 2/9/2013

2019 BOWLING TOURNAMENT—OCONOMOWOC

Manitowoc Council 710 and Two Rivers Council 1957 is thrilled to welcome you to the lakeshore for the 2020 Knights of Columbus State Bowling tournament. Come Friday and enjoy a fish fry at the Two Rivers Council Clubhouse. After bowling your best, you can have a great time in our area. There are many great restaurants and outstanding establishments where you can have an adult beverage. This year's tournament will be held at Meadow Lanes North in Manitowoc starting February 8th and going through April 4th, which is Palm Sunday. Entry forms are on the state website and watch for your packets from your District Deputy this fall. This year's early bird deadline is December 31st, so get your forms in early.

STATE CHARITY RAFFLE

Winners of the \$115,000 state raffle have their checks in hand! Congratulations to them and to those councils who sold their tickets. We came in ahead of schedule on this 10-week process. On the web site is a new file, **2018-2019 Council Charity Ticket Sales and May 1 Form**, which shows how much each council sold and whether I have the council's Charity Fund Request Form for this year. DD's should call those that say "Missing" or they will not get their appropriate share in a few months. Write to me directly with these missing forms. The amount that they requested is not particularly important, as I use it as a placeholder. If councils have issues with the amount sold, they should write to me with all deposit dates and details, which I will confirm with the Charity Committee Diocesan Representative.

I also wanted to start a rumor that the number of prizes has increased to 100 and the dollar amount of prizes has also increased this coming year! We plan to distribute raffle tickets at the September Diocesan meetings again this year so that sales can start early

Welcome your new State Officers for the new Fraternal Year 2019-2020

At the 118 Annual Wisconsin State Council Knights of Columbus Convention held at the Red Lion Hotel in Appleton, the following State Officers were elected:

State Deputy, Jack Wrbanich, State Officer in charge of the entire Wisconsin Jurisdiction
State Secretary, Michael Tomsyck, State Officer in charge of the Madison Diocese
State Treasurer, John Huttenhoff, State Officer in charge of the Arch Diocese of Milwaukee
State Advocate, Corey Coonen, State Officer in charge of the Green Bay Diocese
State Warden, Miles Casey, State Officer in charge of the Superior Diocese

Introduced by State Deputy is our new State Chaplain, Fr. Andrew Kurz,
former Green Bay Diocesan Chaplain

Serving as Immediate Past State Deputy, Ronald Faust, State Officer in charge of the La Crosse Diocese

PROGRAMS



Congratulations to those Councils who met their membership, insurance and programming goals, along with their Child Safety requirements in order to earn Star Council and/or McGivney, Founders, Columbian Awards and Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award. They'll be announced in August. Congratulations also to those who reached 100% of their quotas for PKD and Culture of Life Fund support. They will also be announced in August.

If you fell short of these or forgot about them, now you know what you need to do to get there. It's time to plan to get a fast start in the 2019-20 fraternal year so you can reach that goal. So, be sure that you hold your meeting with your pastor, chaplain and parish leadership team to determine their priorities/needs and how you as a Council can work best to help meet them. You can also show how Faith in Action and other State or Council programs can fit in with those priorities.

If not already done, you also need to soon hold your Officer/Director Evaluation and Planning Session to go over what you did in 2018-19, determine what went well or poorly and where you can move forward in 2019-20. Do both of these sessions regularly (at least every 3-6 months) for this fraternal year and beyond.

Be sure that your Form 185 is in, 365 and Summer Audit are in early! If you have not yet turned in your Wisconsin Outstanding Council Report form for 2018-19, download it from the State website and turn it in now. Also, promise yourselves that when you complete Supreme or State Program, that you'll get your Fraternal Programs Report form (#10784) or other forms directly associated with Supreme or State programs in soon after they are finished. This will undoubtedly help with your future planning and with future completion of Columbian Award forms, Fraternal Surveys, etc.

Finally, in this 2nd year of our "Faith in Action" program, let's do all we can to show that faith and practice it in all that we do – at home, at church, with our Council, in the community. It really is our faith put into KC action 24/7/365.

Have a great summer! Vivat Jesus! Vivat Cristo Rey! Nunc Coepi!

Bill Frayer
State Program Director

Membership

Would you like to hand your Bishop \$5?

As we begin a new Fraternal Year, it serves as a good time to begin new for your Council. Did your council struggle with membership last year? That is okay, as we are beginning fresh on July 1. On July 1 we are taking a fresh look at membership. We are asking all Councils to be Net/Net Positive (Intake minus Deaths minus Suspensions equals +1). How can we do this? Ask yourself and your Council very simple questions:

How many members are we planning on suspending?

How many members are going to die this year?

How is my Council planning on covering those losses?

We have expanded the Membership Team giving a Membership Coach to each District to help them explore how each Council and District **can be successful**.

One incentive program the Membership Team is implementing this year, is for each Council that is Net Net Positive on the last day of each month, their Bishop will receive \$5. Each Council could earn \$60 for their Bishop over the next 12 months! What a great reason to schedule a First Degree in July. Your Council is more than likely not going to suspend anyone in July and possibly none of your members will die. **Simply by bringing in 1 member in July, your Bishop could get \$5!**

The Wisconsin Membership Team and all the Membership Coaches are here to help you and your council.

Together we will meet guys where they are at and we will all succeed.

Thank you for all you do for the Order.

Mark Jelinek -WI Membership Director



Faith in Action – Family of the Month

Hello Brother Knights! Thank you again for a **great** May! Below is a quick summary of our progress to date. All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/4153725> . Check it out!



Supreme



Embarrassingly, we are only tied with Louisiana for 1st place. I say it this way because I forgot to confirm all state FOM forms were sent to Supreme like I normally do. We could have beat Louisiana by 10 FOMs had I remembered to do this. **Wisconsin submitted 32 FOMs to Supreme.**

52 of the 82 jurisdictions (63%) submitted 343 FOMs, down 20% from April. Wisconsin submitted 9% of them!

Here are the Supreme Families of the Month that will be receiving a nice certificate and letter.

Charles and Joyce Chouinard	John and Beth Mortensen	Chris and Kriss Mosconi
Bernard Severin	Jeff and Shawn Werth	Timothy and Carrie Labinski

Diocese

Here are the Diocesan families of the month that will be receiving a certificate and letter from the state. Please click on the link above to download the PDF that contains the amazing story of each of these families!

Green Bay	Charles Rohr and Veronica Solis	La Crosse	Marvin and Judith Hughes
Madison	Darrell and Jane Kreul	Milwaukee	Eugene and Pat Gross
Superior	Curtis and Jacene Silvas		

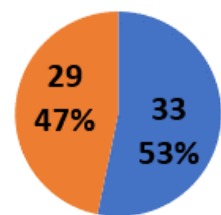
District

May-19	District Deputy	Diocese
4	2 - Chris Mosconi	Green Bay
2	13 - Daniel Grillo	Green Bay
2	15 - Charles Grom	Green Bay
2	21 - Paul Zimmerman	La Crosse
2	46 - Paul Quigley	Madison
2	49 - Paul Romanelli	Madison
2	65 - Les Kostera	Milwaukee

This month's District Deputy leader is **Chris Mosconi**. Here are the other amazing District Deputies that have more than one Family of the Month in their District. Thank you, worthy District Deputies! Your leadership is greatly appreciated!

Our district participation **increased** by 1 from last month to 33 putting us at 53.0% participation.

62 Total Districts



Worthy Brothers. **Can we continue to find at least ONE family in the 12 parishes in each district that deserves to be honored for all they do for our parishes, community and councils? I believe we can!** Let's set our goal to having **55% district participation next month** with our eye on the goal of reaching **100% districts by the end of December 2019!**

Council

We had **three** new council that submitted a Family of the Month. Welcome to the program!

Abbot Pennings Council 3955	Msgr. Basche Council 4505	St. Pius X Council 16582
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We had 37 fantastic families submitted to the state! Every council should be striving to submit **at least one** family of the month before the end of 2019, so they can choose them as the council Family of the Year. The family can then be considered for the Diocesan family of the year, State family of the Year and International Family of the Year.

Please click on the link above and download the PDF containing the list of all these amazing families!

Closing

Through this awesome Family of the Month program, the Knights of Columbus has the privilege to bring joy to families for thanking them for all they do on behalf of everyone. The benefits are:

- The family is grateful for the recognition
- Everyone else is grateful to the Knights for stepping forward to honor the family
- The perception of the council increases for taking time to serve the parish in a very visible way

It is a win-win-win situation!

I am grateful that your councils are willing to take the time to choose a family, give them the recognition they deserve and submitting them for the Family of the Month.

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 Uchytel
Wisconsin Family Coordinator



WOMENS CARE CENTER FUNDRAISER - Save the date August 10th

This year's Knights of Columbus Family Day will be held in honor of Brother Knight Tom Okey. Much of what we have been able to donate to the Women's Care Center through the years has been possible due to his amazing generosity. Through his business, the Okey Family Market in Cassville, WI, he and his wonderful family have donated all of the meat (and more!) for our picnic! Our Brother Knight Tom went to his eternal reward April 14 at the tender age of 59. May his generous legacy live on in all of us.

Regrettably, another man true to his faith, Samuel Cathy, dared to publicly proclaim his religious belief that marriage is the sacramental form that we also believe. Because of that, the Mallards will no longer have the business he founded as vendors. They are excluded because some people have difficulty tolerating his/our views on marriage. Our Brother in Christ Samuel Cathy has also gone to his eternal reward, but his witness remains. May ours also.

As a defender of the faith, Trustee of KofCAWCCCF, Sir Knight Charles Kazmer, has issued the following statement:

It has been a very difficult last 2 weeks and we have come to the decision of the KofCAWCCCF Board of Directors, the Women's Care Center, the Knights of Columbus State Council, the agents and general agents to remove our family / charity event from the Mallards for this year, at least.

We are at a point in history where the Bill of Rights are being assaulted on a regular basis. Freedom of speech, freedom of religion and the freedom to assemble are under assault on a daily basis. We, as Knights of Columbus and citizens of the United States, have a right and an obligation to stand up for our faith and values and for what we believe in. We have tried to keep politics out of this event and been respectful of the business which is the Mallards and their existence in the city of Madison.

Due to circumstances beyond our control we will not be having the Mallards baseball game this year. However in honor of Tom Okey and his family. We will be having a picnic/party & celebration at either Warner Park or another park yet to be determined. All the funds raised at this event will go towards the Women's Care Center. Anyone or any council which has purchased tickets for the game, may still attend or they can request a full refund. Just contact Eric Shuerman at the Mallards. (eric@mallardsbaseball.com 608-246-4277)

Your in our Lord Jesus Christ,
Charles R. Kazmer
Trustee KofCAWCCCF
phone: 608.297.1766

