

Religious Information Bureau

"Changing Lives through Evangelization & Renewal"



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I. The Religious Information Bureau – Missouri Knights United in Evangelization

The Religious Information Bureau (R.I.B.) was founded several decades ago in order to help non-Catholics learn about the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. This was especially important in a time in which anti-Catholic bias was present in both religious and secular media. Today the R.I.B. continues to help others learn more about our Church and its teachings. Non-Catholics might take the Home Study Courses through the Catholic Home Study in order to learn about Catholicism prior to joining the Church. Catholics also take the Home Study Courses in order to expand their knowledge of Church teachings and the Bible. Through the R.I.B. people can obtain informational pamphlets on various topics related to our Faith. All of these things help our Order's evangelization efforts on behalf of our Church. We want as many people as possible take advantage of these materials and services, but with more success comes more expenses. Your donations to the Religious Information Bureau are the key to the continued success of this Program.

II. Our Goal for 2016-2017 is \$285,000, and Everyone Can Help Us Reach this Goal

We ask that every Knight support the Religious Information Bureau by giving at least \$7.50 through his Council, and each Council is assigned a quota based on \$7.50 per member. Each member of the Ladies Auxiliary is asked to give \$3.75. Fourth Degree Assemblies, Columbian Squires, Columbus Girls, and Clown Clubs are asked to donate what they can to this Program. With 100% participation from the roughly 42,000 Knights in Missouri we would raise \$315,000. Add \$15,000 from the Ladies Auxiliaries and the total grows to \$330,000!

III. How Councils and Members can Help Achieve our Goal

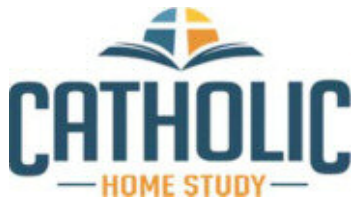
- Have an R.I.B. donation included with your Council or Auxiliary dues. This is the easiest way to meet your quota.
- Dedicate the funds from a fundraiser to the R.I.B.
- Please consider making a gift to the R.I.B. as part of your estate planning.
- Earn a one-time \$50 credit for your Council by displaying a R.I.B. Board at a public event. The application can be found on a following page and on the State Council's web site.
- Do what you can to raise awareness of the R.I.B. Encourage your parish to use the Home Study Booklets and materials for their youth and adult education programs. Hold classes using the R.I.B. materials before, during or after Council meetings. Encourage fellow Knights and others to review the Programs materials.

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Awards for the Fraternal Year 2016 – 2017

- Council Awards:** Each Council achieving 100% of their quota will receive a silver plate and Councils achieving 125% or more of their quota will receive a gold plate to affix to the Council's R.I.B. Achievement Award plaque. Councils achieving 125% of quota will also be honored with the R.I.B. Apostolate Cross pin.
- Special Recognition:** All Councils achieving at least 100% of their quota by March 31, 2017 will be inducted into the Circle of Honor Society for the current year and will receive a Commemorative Certificate of Recognition. The Council's name will be inscribed with all other Councils attaining this award and will be on display at the State Convention. Grand Knights whose Councils have attained 125% of their quota will be honored with the R.I.B. Apostolate Cross pin.
- A “Special Plaque” will be awarded for the following achievements:**
- *Highest Percentage Per Member**
 - *Highest Gross Amount Donated By An Individual Council**
 - *Highest Dollar Amount Donated Over Quota**
- Ladies Auxiliaries:** Each Ladies Auxiliary that meets the quotas established under **Council Awards** will receive the same awards. The exception being that the pin will be the Ladies R.I.B. Apostolate Cross.
- District Deputies:** In appreciation of their efforts, the Apostolate Cross pin will be awarded to the District Deputies whose districts attain at least 100% of their cumulative quota.



***Being Catholic is not
the result of an ethical
choice or lofty idea or
following guidelines
and rules...but the en-
counter with an event,
a person, which gives
life a new horizon and
direction.***

Pope Benedict



July 2016

Dear Knights and Ladies,

The personal encounter with Jesus Christ is what our Catholic faith is all about! Another word for it is, "EVANGELIZATION". The Missouri Knights of Columbus have been leaders in the Church's ministry of evangelization since 1944, when they began offering support to Catholic Home Study (CHS) through the Religious Information Bureau. In the past decade, we have sent an average of 10,000 books each year to people around the world who want to learn about the Catholic faith and encounter Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generous support of the Religious Information Bureau! Please continue that support, and pray for God's blessings on our ministry of evangelization. You are remembered daily in our prayers.

God bless you,
The Catholic Home Study Team



Fr. Ron Hoye
Director



Cheryl



Penny



religious information bureau
missouri knights of columbus



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catholichomestudy.org

WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE?

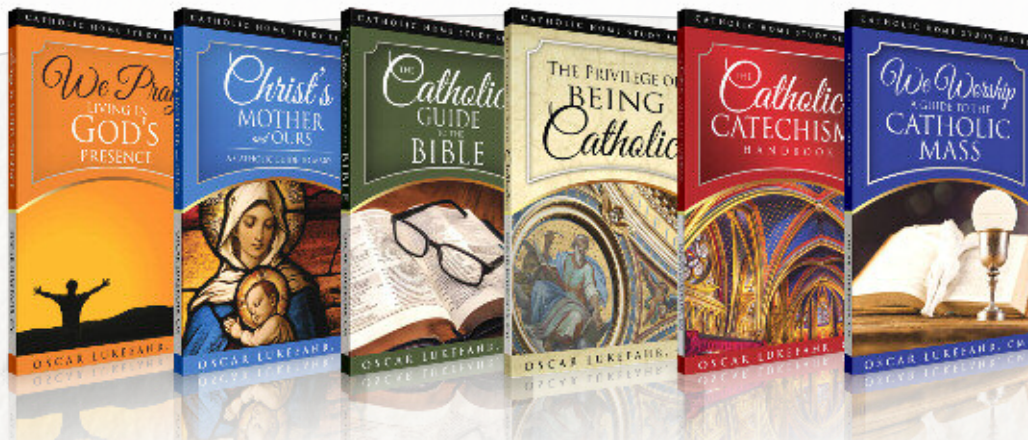
Want to learn more about

Jesus Christ & the Catholic Faith?

At your
own pace

In an easy and
engaging style

In your
own home



Catholic Home Study

PO Box 363
Perryville, MO 63775

Enroll online or mail us this ad with your name and address and tell us which book you want. Either way you will receive the book within 2-3 weeks. Enjoy.

- It's fast, free and there is no obligation.
- You choose the book. We send it.
- Questions as you read? Email us and we'll answer them.
- No one will follow up. You will not be put on a mailing list.
- A free service to those seeking to deepen their faith.

CATHOLICHOMESTUDY.ORG



CATHOLIC
HOME STUDY

A quick history

1935

Catholic Home Study is a Catholic ministry offering free correspondence courses on the Catholic Faith. It is sponsored by the Missouri Knights of Columbus and by a Catholic community of priests and brothers founded by St. Vincent De Paul called the Vincentians. Its origins go back to 1935, when Fr. Lester Fallon, C.M. and Fr. Joseph McIntyre, C.M. began to do street preaching in small towns in Southern Missouri.

There were few Catholics and no priests in these towns, and residents knew little about the Catholic Church. Fathers Fallon and McIntyre would put up posters to announce their coming. They would arrive in a truck equipped with a pulpit and public address system, and would preach for several evenings in front of the post office, courthouse, or general store. They explained Catholic doctrine and answered questions.



Many people who heard the preaching expressed an interest in learning more about the Catholic Church. To help them, Fr. Fallon came up with the idea of offering religion courses by mail. Soon large numbers of people were applying, and Fr. Fallon established Confraternity Home Study Service on Lindell Boulevard in St. Louis. When World War II started, soldiers from all over the world requested the course, and the ministry expanded rapidly.

1944

In 1944 the Knights of Columbus began to offer financial assistance. They sponsored ads in secular magazines reaching most households in the USA. From 1948 to 1971, over six million people responded to the ads, requesting pamphlets or enrolling in the instruction course to learn more about the Catholic faith.

1991



In 1991, the Vincentian Community moved Confraternity Home Study Service to St. Mary's Seminary in Perryville, Missouri, and changed its name to Catholic Home Study Service. The work sponsored by the Missouri Knights of Columbus continues as the Religious Information Bureau.

2016

In an effort to care for the environment and lessen its carbon footprint, Catholic Home Study will also be available online and on digital platforms.