

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



ARKANSAS STATE COUNCIL

December 2014 Newsletter



Adrian Dominguez, State Deputy

Brother Knights and families,

As we prepare for the coming of our Savior our Lord Jesus Christ during this Advent Season, let us all remember the many blessings we have had this year. Each one of us, with our families and friends, must reflect what we have accomplished and thank God for all the good and not so good that have occurred this year. As we do not know why they occur, although we know it is His will not ours, and He knows the good in all of us.

Christmas is a time of Joy, the time to rejoice the birth of our Savior. It is the time for us to be reborn within our faith, knowing God sent His son to be born within us. Christmas is about giving, helping, sharing, acknowledging, and ensuring we are positive in all we do. The Knights of Columbus' first charge is Charity, as Jesus said, "what you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Let Christmas not be about the tangible, secular world we live in. Let the spirit of Advent fill you and your family with the gift of giving from your heart. Open your hearts to those who you see in the pews of your church and do not know, extend your hand and welcome them, give them the gift you have of being a Knight. Ask someone to be part of our fraternity. Be not afraid.

Our Arkansas Jurisdiction has been blessed to have so many great Knights and families, councils, assemblies, circles, and past and present leaders of the Arkansas State Council. I am blessed and humbled to serve with each and every one of you in our jurisdiction, able to meet more of our Knight family throughout the jurisdiction, and celebrate the Holy Eucharist in so many parishes. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our Lord, His church through all the activities you do in your councils, assemblies, and circles.

Socorro, Kristina, Gabriela, and I wish you a very blessed Advent Season filled with Joy for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. May His birth fill each home and heart with the love for one another. May you have a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

Your brother in Christ,

Adrian Dominguez
State Deputy



Ed Viera, Membership Director

Brother Knights,

Now that the Christmas season is officially upon us, I ask each of you to reflect a moment on what is really important in our lives. I certainly hope with everything that has been going on in the news that we all make an attempt to make this a better nation and world for our children and children's children.

Again, I call of you brother knights to take the step and ask the men of your parish to think about joining the Knights of Columbus by visiting Supreme's website at www.kofc.org. It has a multitude of information on the benefits of becoming a member of our Order in multiple languages. Change your mind set, do you really want the Knights to be a closed organization? Or do you want it to be a vibrant growing "the right hand of the Church" as Saint Pope John Paul II referred to the Knights of Columbus. Give every eligible Catholic man the opportunity to join, not to follow some quota, but because it the right thing to do.

As you look at our current numbers, you can see that we are doing very well in bringing in new members to our Order, but our problem is that we are not doing a very good job of communicating and keeping our brother knights that, for whatever reason have decided to fall from our roles as current members. Please reach out to them, find out why they are no longer involved, find out what has happened to them, find out if they have moved away and more, try your utmost to keep them brother knights in good-standing.

The following are the numbers as of today, November 29, 2014. I have listed all districts and councils that have attained at least 50% of their goals for this 2014 - 2015 fiscal year.

| Council Number & Name | Membership | Council Number & Name | Insurance | Districts |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 01153 Pine Bluff | 83% | 01713 Paragould | 100% | #1 – 75% Membership |
| 01713 Paragould | 75% | 05725 Clarksville | 100% | #6 – 121% Membership & 87% Insurance |
| 06419 Hot Springs | 50% | 06834 Rogers | 125% | #9 – 54% Membership |
| 06834 Rogers | 127% | 10208 Hot Springs Village | 71% | #10 – 75% Membership |
| 06942 Arkadelphia | 100% | 11604 Jacksonville | 60% | #14 – 117% Insurance |
| 06969 Cherokee Village | 50% | 12458 Bentonville | 100% | #16 – 120% Membership |
| 10176 Little Rock | 91% | 14010 Altus | 167% | |
| 10208 Hot Springs Village | 68% | 14609 Rogers | 113% | |
| 11908 Dequeen | 150% | | | |
| 12458 Bentonville | 117% | | | |
| 12778 Heber Springs | 75% | | | |
| 12875 Charleston | 50% | | | |
| 14010 Altus | 40% | | | |
| 14609 Rogers | 200% | | | |
| 14774 Fort Smith | 75% | | | |
| 15453 Fort Smith | 175% | | | |

These are outstanding number, but let us not be satisfied and continue the movement to promote, promote, and promote some more. And again let me restate my belief in recruitment. Do not ask the men of your parish to become brother knights to reach a goal or receive an award, ask them because it is the proper thing to do.

Gentlemen, be not afraid.

Faithfully submitted,

Godwal "Ed" Viera
Merry Christmas & Vivat Jesu



Michael Heathcott, Good fo the Order Chairman

I have become aware that there are Knights passing and the information is not being passed to me to pass on the the order. When I am notified, I will pass the information on to the councils, state officers, state chairmen, past state deputies, and district deputies. I have seen obituaries in my local paper and noone has contacted me.

The reason for the Good of the Order program is to ask for prayers for the Knight and his familty. Many Knights make lifelong friendships with other Knights by attending our annual conventions and other state-wide meetings. Since we are a brotherhood in the Knights of Columbus, a silent prayer for our passing members is a function of our Fraternal partnership.

When notifying me, please add the Knights date of passing, his council number, names of his famitly members, especially the wife where appropriate, and membership in a fouth degree assembly, if any.

Michael Heathcott
Good fo the Order Chairman
mghgolf@gmail.com
479-494-3054
479-353-7774





Presentation of Columbia Award from State Secretary Philip Savage to Grand Knight David Wewers of Sacred Heart Council 12875 in Charleston.



Ed and Jennifer Lemerise, Pro-Life Chair Persons

In the October 27, 2014 issue of America: The National Catholic Review, there is a very informative article entitled, "Identity Politics: What happens when faith is put to a vote?"

The article is well written by Robert David Sullivan and informs us of the way in which those of us in the Catholic faith, here in the United States, vote our conscience on major issues of Pro Life.

The results of a major national survey, clearly expressed in visual aids within the article, reveal that we are a faith community quite divided in our response to the teaching of our Church.

In a depiction of a recent Zogby poll – page 18 – one becomes, at first glance, more than a little alarmed and even a bit shaken. The poll results can be quite disconcerting to those of us that carry ourselves in the world as Knights of Columbus, believing deeply in the dignity of life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death. This belief is our faith and as the "Strong Right Arm of the Catholic Church" – so named by St. John Paul II – the results of this poll call out to us.

The new 2014 poll reveals that 60% of U. S. citizens who declare as Catholics believe they are being "good" Catholics if they vote for a candidate who supports embryonic stem-cell research; 55% if the candidate supports the death penalty; 53% if the candidate supports abortion rights; 36% if the candidate supports euthanasia and 19% if the candidate supports human cloning.

Upon reading the article in its entirety one comes away knowing that the poll numbers do not reflect the values and voting habits of Catholics who attend Mass faithfully. Indeed, many self-declared Catholics in America have not been to Mass in a very long time. Numbered in the millions, effecting local and national elections, these fallen away brothers and sisters of ours are included in what the world sees as our faith's divided and splintered moral compass.

We can help! One person at a time! Each of us can be the hands and feet of Christ by searching for, finding, and bringing back to Mass a brother or sister who is in their "desert experience." We can do no less.

Ed and Jennifer Reis-Lemerise
Arkansas KofC Pro Life Couple 2014-15



Did you know that if you should reach out to a fallen away brother or sister Catholic and bring him or her back to the Church you will "save your soul from death and [that one solitary act] will cover a multitude of sins"? Take a moment then and read James 5:19-20 in our most Holy Bible. "Good News," indeed.

53% of American Catholics believe that they are being a "good" Catholic if they vote for a candidate who supports abortion rights!





State Deputy, Adrian Dominguez presenting Star Council to Council 14609, Mexican Martyrs in Rogers.



Peter McNulty, State Vocations / RSVP Chairman

My Brother Knights All

I hope and pray that all had a blessed Thanksgiving day.

Coming this month is one of the most precious feast days, CHRISTMAS. The time of gift giving, let us all remember we are the recipients of one of the greatest gifts of all, JESUS, God the FATHER'S gift for the salvation of all mankind.

As we enter this season, let us all be mindful of the seminarians that will be the future Priests of our Diocese. Cards and Letters to them will encourage them on their journey to Ordination and their service to us.

Our efforts in the RSVP support is continuing and we are down to one (1) seminarian NOT sponsored. Prayerfully he will be, by the start of the next semester. With the Ordination of Dc. Jack Sidler, Sr. on DEC. 20, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. at Subiaco Abbey, several councils and assemblies will be looking for a new seminarian to sponsor. One council has already contacted me and has committed to sponsor a new seminarian.

My brother Knights – if your Council or Assembly does not sponsor an RSVP, please look to your resources and you may find that there are ways you can! We as knights, are committed to spreading the Faith – help our Church, and support our priests. What better way can we do all three, than by helping the future with a growing number of Priests to be there when we need them. Without them, the Eucharist would not be available.

God Bless you all and have a Blessed and Holy Christmas and have a very Blessed and Prosperous New Year!

VIVAT JESU !

Peter
Cell: 479-567-2186
Home: 479-331-2341



John Bodensteiner, Communications

As part of the Knights of Columbus 'Coats for Kids' program, Council 10208 distributed 96 new coats on November 4 to three area public elementary schools as well as to Our Lady of Fatima in Benton and St John's in Hot Springs. This activity is funded through the sale of Kraemer's Wisconsin Cheese and Sausage.

The traditional Memorial Mass and Dinner was held on November 7 to remember and celebrate the lives of the Council's 140 deceased knights, eight of whom died within the last year. All knight widows living in the area are invited as special guests and honored at the mass and dinner. A video of this special activity will soon be available on the Council's web site (www.hsvkofc.org).

The annual Baby Bottle Campaign recently concluded and set a record with over \$7,000 being raised through the generous contributions of knights and Sacred Heart of Jesus parishioners.

In time for Christmas, gift cards will be presented to deserving families with students enrolled at Mountain Pine School or in the Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) program. This project is supported through the sale of Petit Jean Meat Products which can be picked up at the church or shipped directly to family and friends for Thanksgiving and Christmas festivities.



John Hertzog, Fund Raising Chairman

As of November 20, 2014, 639 Brother Knights have contributed \$25,720 with 9 Councils and 2 Assemblies giving \$650 for Postage. Gifts from \$5 to \$1,000 were donated so no gift is too small. Thank you so much for this GREAT show of support for the State Council's many CHARITABLE recipients. One HUNDRED Percent of your gift goes to the Arkansas State Council's Special Fund for CHARITY; We make a difference!

If you have not yet given, please send your GIFT to:

John Hertzog, Fund Raising Chairman,
120 Windwood Hgts Ln, Cabot, AR 72023
(501) 454-0945

Thank you and God Bless; have a wonderful Christmas - John



Up Coming Meetings

Knights of Columbus Arkansas Jurisdiction

Mid-Year Meeting

January 10th & 11th, 2015

Subiaco, AR

More Information Coming Soon.



Exemplifications

Fourth Degree Exemplification Scheduled for Bentonville at St. Stephen Catholic Church on Saturday, January 24. The fee per candidate is \$70.

For information, contact Newton White, Arkansas District Master, 501-622-0191 cell, nwhite@isiequip.com

We have a 2nd-3rd Degree Exemplification scheduled at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 3045 Spring Street, Hot Springs, Ar., for Sunday, February 22, 2015. Registration/Lunch begins at 11:00 AM.

The fee is \$10 per candidate and \$5 per observer. For information, call Grand Knight Andy Anderson 501-425-9368 or District Deputy Jimmie Rogers 501-940-0482

Searcy Council will be hosting a 2nd/3rd Degree on Jan 25th.

Andy Anderson, Grand Knight of Hot Springs Council 6419, would like to announce an exemplification with information as follows:

Registration 11:30 am
Light lunch 11:45 am
Lineup 12:45 pm
Exemplification in the 2nd and 3rd Degrees 1:00 pm
Conclude 4:00 pm

All First Degree Knights are encouraged to register with Vicki Stanley, PO Box 1679, Hot Springs, Ar 71902, 501 321 5558 office, vstanley@isiequip.com.

Or Grand Knight Andy Anderson, 222 Indian Oaks Drive, Royal, Ar 71968-9550, 501 425 9368 cell, we_anderson1@yahoo.com.

To cover lunch expenses and pay the Degree Team for their travel, there will be a \$10.00 registration fee for candidates, and a \$5.00 lunch fee for observers. Candidates and observers may mail their checks in advance, or may pay at the door, but as a minimum, we need your name and registration information in advance for food and seating planning.

A registration form will be e-mailed to all the Knights in our e-mail data base. Please pass this registration form along to potential candidates and observers when you receive it.

Dress attire is casual. Only Exemplified Knights in good standing may be observers.

On behalf of Grand Knight Andy Anderson,
Fraternally, Newton White
Arkansas District Master
501 622 0191 cell



Father Bill Elser, State Chaplin

Any "Family Man" would probably say that his first responsibility after his relationship to God, is that of caring for his immediate family. If this is done faithfully and well, then this person can (and the Gospel says he should) reach out to the larger family of humanity in a loving, giving way.

As Catholics our first call after our relationship to God is our relationship with our immediate faith family in the parish. If this is done well, then we can reach out to the larger family that includes our brothers in the Knights of Columbus. I am happy to say that three of the four new members of our parish council at Sacred Heart Church are brother Knights. Since we all have a limited amount of time in our lives, I will encourage these men to give their first allegiance to the responsibilities they now have in the parish. Hopefully they can also be regular participants in our Knight's council activities.

One of the requirements of becoming a Knight is that a man be a practicing Catholic and in good standing in the church. I urge all of my brother Knights who are not involved in ministries and/or activities of their parish to take advantage of opportunities to do so, AND also be active Knights either as officers or as regular participants in Knights' activities.

Remember it is a balancing act, which puts first things first and finds time to do the Lord's work in one's parish and as a Knight of Columbus. The rewards of doing so are many AND ARE ETERNAL.

Vivat Jesus



Newsletter Submissions

Please submit newsletter articles by the 15th of the month to:

Alex Martinez

Email: alex.martinez@soltelnetworksllc.com

Office: 479-715-6770

Wireless: 479-544-2769

