

# Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

November 2020

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



## ***'Are we Prepared for the Flood? A time of Thanksgiving and Charity'***



Throughout the past few months, our State Officer team has met with our Bishops—offering our support and asking how we can better assist their parishioners and priests. One common theme among the Bishops was help of 'welcoming' back and finding ways to engage Parishioners. We all have struggled with this current pandemic in one way or another—but we can no longer sit idly by.

To try and assist with getting all councils active—our State Officer Team is requesting every council in the State partake in at least one activity over these next 2 months. What better way to help celebrate the season than to take our

energy and talents to provide to those in need?

We are asking each council in the State to conduct either a Blood Drive, Coats for Kids or a Food Drive at your Parish. All 3 of these activities can be done in a 'distanced' format, allowing you to not risk any sort of unneeded health risks to members. At this same time—we need to look upon our Faith. Over the month of October, the State Officer Team conducted various different pilgrimages to the Shrines across our State. Moving forward—our State Officer Team will be conducting various different Faith events between Thanksgiving and Christmas—from a 'Virtual' Holy Hour to the 'Posada' along with a few virtual rosaries. We are conducting these virtual events to show councils how easily they can take these various different faith based programs and conduct them at their Parishes virtually. Our Priests are looking for ways to engage their parishioners during this time—we hope by showing you the way our councils will follow.

Now you may be wondering why the title of this entry is: Are we prepared for the Flood? Much like Noah was challenged by God; the Covid pandemic has challenged each of us to find new and innovative ways to continue doing our works as Knights. We have had 8 plus months now to prepare—we cannot go another 8 months without action. No one knows what the future holds with respect to this virus and a potential vaccine. We must remain prudent and diligent in what we do—trying to find new ways to continue our works of Charity and embracing and supporting our Parish Priests. We can't wait for this current pandemic just to 'end' or become 'eradicated' before we take action again—as whether it is a few months or a few years—the members that we have in our State will be lessened if we don't do programs and try to grow our membership. Not to sound too dire—but in a way, the very livelihood of some of our Parishes may hang in the balance of what we do as Knights over these next few months—as if people walk away from the Church during this time for an extended period of time, it has a higher likelihood that they do not return back. One of the common complaints I have heard from council leaders over the past few years was what has happened in the past—something that we can't change. We cannot change the fact that over the last few decades, many younger individuals and other families have left the Parish....but we have direct control over the future narrative. As Knights we need to be men of ACTION—assisting our Parish priests in welcoming people back to Mass and showing them that it is not only safe to attend Mass, it is also something we need. We have the power to adapt to new ways and work with our Parish Priests to help them embrace Parishioners welcoming them back. We have the tools and resources of tens, sometimes hundreds of members in a council to do virtual programs and works of charity behind the scenes.

You know how you reverse course of the history we have been faced with? You step out of your comfort zone to be leaders of Charity and Faith for men and families that most need it now! Our actions during this time will be remembered not only by our Parish Priests, but by our Parishioners. Don't you think many Men would be interested in being involved in our Fraternity when we showed courage under fire? Being men of action?

There's a reason that our Bishops across the State are requesting us to assist—as they know that we are reliable and dependable! Men of Charity. Men of Action. Bound together by our Faith—we strive to protect Life and our Charitable works have a direct impact on improving the lives of others!

We have many things to be thankful for as Knights and as Catholics. Let's ensure our Parish Priests are thankful the same that they have Knights of Columbus members to count on when times are tough.

One of the honors that we have to be thankful for this next year as Knights of Columbus is the Beatification of our founder, Father Michael J. McGivney. What a tremendous opportunity for us to not just share with our members—but with our Parish Priests and Parishioners. Our founder is being exalted to the Sainthood—this isn't a 'one-day' celebration on October 31<sup>st</sup>—but something that we should be embracing with all of our Parishes over this next year! Not only will this be a tremendous opportunity for all of us to encourage men to join our ranks as Knights—it will also help educate our Parishes not only on what the Knights of Columbus stand for—but why our Founder is so deserving of being called a Saint!

I challenge each and every council to find ways to promote this unique event over this next year to your Parishes. What better opportunity than to have a conversation with our Parish Priest this next month over how you can celebrate this with their parishioners?

Corey Christopher Coonen  
State Deputy

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## **A time to pray for Those who have gone before us.**

November is a special time in the Church where we remember those who have gone before us. As we have passed through the month of October, I hope everyone came to realize that we should be praying the Rosary every day. I hope that many of you have picked up your Rosaries and done your best to pray for the good of our country and culture. In this month we can continue with the Church's call to pray for the departed. By our efforts to pray for the souls who have left this world we aid those who have gone to make their way to the place our Lord Jesus Christ has prepared for them.

A simple way for us to pray for souls on their way to their rest in the peace of Christ is to say a little prayer for them as we pass a cemetery. This is something I do driving my car around to various places. First it takes an effort to recognize a cemetery and second an effort to pray for the departed. Every time I see a cemetery I pray, "Eternal rest grant unto them Oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them." after that I pray a Hail Mary and then say, "May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest

in peace." This reminds me that we as the Church are all in this together. By doing this I am helping the Church Suffering, those in purgatory, as they will become the Church Triumphant, those in heaven. With that in mind it also gives me comfort that as they become the Church Triumphant, they will become our helpers through their prayers for us the Church Militant, those fighting the good fight here on earth.

Please consider this practice in this month of November, it helps all of us to grow into the full love of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely, Fr. Andrew Kurz  
State Chaplain

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### **Beatification Father Michael McGivney**



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.

The Guild membership is now more than 176,000 members! We have just over 35,000 Knights in Wisconsin with only 1,173 Guild members! Why are so many hesitant to join the Guild? The Guild depends on you to further the message of Father McGivney. Membership in the Guild is FREE! Please consider joining today! Visit <https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/join-the-guild.html> today!

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## 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**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - 2021 F150 XLT Super Cab or \$50,000**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Harley Davidson Motorcycle or \$25,000**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 100<sup>th</sup> - \$500**

**Tickets \$5.00 each**

Drawing Saturday May 1, 2021  
Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI

Bernie Heit, Charity Director  
[bernieheit@gmail.com](mailto:bernieheit@gmail.com)

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### Membership

**What's been happening this October? What's going to happen this November?**

- I was inspired and thrilled to watch our Founder, **Fr Michael J. McGivney's Mass of Beatification** on October 31<sup>st</sup>. There are definitely a lot of people throughout the world praying to Father McGivney for help, for protection and in thanks. **Canonization should come soon!**
- **MCGIVNEY2020 is Back!!** Our new prospects can join the order ONLINE for FREE by using the Promo code **MCGIVNEY2020** – it is case-sensitive, so use ALL CAPS please. Here is the link to use: <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html> With this incentive in place and others being established by our State Council, we are poised to make strong growth in November/December 2020.
- Wisconsin is still well behind our goal, and unfortunately getting farther behind our Beloved Brothers in the Land of 10,000 Small Rodents (Minnesota). Wisconsin is at **178 new members / 15.21% of goal** while Minnesota is at 185 new members / 17.62% of goal. Because we are both so far behind our goals, it's sorta like picking the prettiest cow in the barn. **We need to pick it up a bit!!**

In October, we had a number of DD's, RMC's and GK's attend the "Even More OUTSIDE the Box Ideas" seminar to help us grow our membership. Some ideas discussed included:

- ✓ Talking with FATHER and our members on "Who do you know that OUGHT TO BE a Knight?"
- ✓ **Prospecting parish groups** (parish council, school parents, event organizers, RCIA & Religious Ed)
- ✓ Planning a successful **Open House/Info Session** which is LIVE or ONLINE or BOTH
- ✓ **On-Boarding New Members through Mentorship** and helping them find their PASSION
- ✓ Finding our "Secret Weapons" in prospecting... DD's, RMC's GA/FA's and other local councils

Our **Regional Membership Coaches** (RMC's) are communicating with their Districts & Councils, ready to assist them in planning successful membership drives. We embrace **Regional Trainer Jon Olson's** efforts in encouraging councils to take the **PROGRAMS** they are already running and incorporate **MEMBERSHIP Prospecting** into them. Covid cannot stop us if we use the tools and the contacting we are still doing (drive-thru, online, phoning, PLUS our LIVE opportunities at masses) and make contacts with prospects, turning them into Brother Knights.

#### What can we all do to help our Order grow?

- ❖ **Take EVERY program we run and talk to participants** about who we are and what we do.
- ❖ Go through your phone and address book to **identify "Who ought to be a Knight?"**
- ❖ **Volunteer to help our Pastor** in any way we can (at mass, at school, in the parish)
- ❖ **Embrace "No Neighbor Left Behind"** by staying in touch with our members and our parishioners
- ❖ **LEAD BY EXAMPLE... Ask a one least man to become a Knight each month**

*Now the Journey Begins!*

**Rick Raulin** – State Membership

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## Online Membership



Supreme has reinstated the FREE online membership code **MCGIVNEY2020** valid through December 31, 2020. This supersedes the state 50% off code that had been in use. Online membership is just one more tool you may use to process new members into your council and grow membership in your council and the Order. Note: To properly access the Prospect tab of Officers Online (OO), please disable any pop-up blockers and restart your browser before logging in.

What has happened with Online Membership? Here is a quick rundown:

Date	Total Online Membership	New e-members this period	Avg. age
7-1-19	95	? (I started as SOMC)	44
1-1-20	102	38	41
7-1-20	102	2	42
7-28-20	108	7	42
9-1-20	144	39	40
9-29-20	137	5	41
10-20-20	142	6	41

What total should we be looking for? We should be looking to convert ALL the online members into council members, so the total should realistically be near to zero. But, why is the total growing? Because councils are not contacting the new online members AND having them participate in a degree AND following up by transferring the member into the council. This is your (GK & FS) responsibility as leaders of your council and your DD should help you.

How is this done? The GK, FS & DD are notified by email: When a new online member chooses their council when signing up; When I as SOMC assign the online member to a council; or When an online or new member participates in an online degree ceremony. It is up to YOU Worthy Grand Knights and Worthy Financial Secretaries to follow up by contacting (or have your Membership chair contact) the e-member. Then, follow the procedures I outlined in the September newsletter (vetting & voting). After this, have the member participate in a degree ceremony. This may be done [On Demand at Supreme](#), or your own in-person or online degree. Here are invitation letters for you to send to your candidates for upcoming November Supreme degrees in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

I challenge all Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and District Deputies to check the Prospect Tab of Officers Online regularly, contact the men on your listing and get them into a council. Please help me reduce the number of existing online members. This is meant to not only utilize this tool by encouraging men to sign up online, but to ensure **follow-up and get these men into a council**. As of today, there are 68 assigned e-members just waiting to be a council member. It is up to YOU, Council Officers, to use the tools made available to you.

Here are some upcoming online degrees:

11/7/2020	Sat	<a href="#">State Nov 7 7:00 PM CST</a>	11/1/2020	Sun	<a href="#">Supreme Nov 1 2:00 PM CST</a>
11/17/2020	Tue	<a href="#">State Nov 17 7:00 PM CST</a>	11/7/2020	Sat	<a href="#">Supreme Nov 7 2:00 PM CST</a>
12/3/2020	Thu	<a href="#">State Dec 3 7:00 PM CST</a>	11/21/2020	Sat	<a href="#">Supreme Nov 21 2:00 PM CST</a>
12/19/2020	Sat	<a href="#">State Dec 19 7:00 PM CST</a>	11/22/2020	Sun	<a href="#">Supreme Nov 22 7:00 PM CST</a>

Share these links with your new member candidates and existing members wanting to advance to 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.

State Online Membership Coordinator

William G. Hitt



## Programs

Brothers,

As we move into November and toward “the Holidays,” I want to congratulate those Councils who have remained active in spite of the COVID pandemic and found ways to conduct programs, not only virtually, but by drive bys and other innovative techniques, as well as live programs where possible. However, we have many other Councils who have not even or barely met since March, let alone done much of any programming! Now, for the Holiday season, we ALL need to get moving.

To help with that, we are asking ALL Councils to strive from November 1-December 31 to do at least 1 of these statewide programs from the 4 areas of our Faith in Action initiative:

Faith – Virtual Rosary, Holy Hour

Family – Consecration to the Holy Family (Dec. 26-27), Journey to the Inn (Posada), Christmas Caroling, Keep Christ in Christmas yard signs, Christmas Posters, Food for Families

Community – Coats for Kids, Christmas Cards to the Homebound, parish food drives

Life – Blood Drives

These can be done at parishes, at home or Councils with families, virtually, in larger numbers or small – we can do this! There is great need out there and it’s up to us all to see that it is met.

Fr. Andrew Kurz, our Worthy State Chaplain, will be arranging for virtual statewide Holy Hour and Rosary programs. There may also be a statewide virtual Posada as well. Stay tuned for more information as it develops!

In addition to the programs listed above, let me also remind you of these present ongoing program dates:

- 1) Sentiments for Seminarians – Be sure you gift cards for seminarians (gas cards and store cards from national brands or chains or pre-paid Visa/MasterCards, etc.) are to your State Officer in Charge of your Diocese by December 5.
- 2) Essay Contests – Council winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in each grade level) are due by December 15 to your State Program Director or Youth Academics Coordinator for the Supreme Catholic Citizenship Contest; and to your Diocesan Program Coordinator for the Culture of Life Contest. Be sure they have proper, complete, accurate entry forms for each essay – both contests.
- 3) Poster Contests – State True Meaning of Christmas Council winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> place) are due to your Diocesan Program Coordinator by January 1. Supreme Keep Christ in Christmas Council winners are due to the State Program Director or State Academics Coordinator by January 15.

These entries also require proper, complete, accurate entry forms in order to be considered for further competition (both contests).

- 4) Knowledge and Free Throw Contests – Results for the survey for these 2 contests are still coming in. Please return yours (Councils, DDs) soon. We'll let you know the decision on the date for the higher levels of these contests as soon as we can. However, Councils are still encouraged to run them whenever and however you can – at school, at parish, at community center, in classes or families, combined with 2 or more Councils or Districts together, daytime, evening, weekend, whatever you can arrange anytime from now through mid-February.

We also urge you to do all you can to continue to fulfill the aspects of the Leave No Neighbor Behind Initiative – Council, parish, family and community. Seek the intercession of our Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney for the strength and wisdom to accomplish these great goals in the 2 months ahead.

Have a blessed, happy, wonderful Thanksgiving with family and loved ones!

Fraternally,  
Bill Frayer  
State Program Director

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## **ID Director Don – Update on Tootsie Roll Drives** 26 October 2020

Brother Knights,

The clock is still ticking and I hope to receive more checks from councils for their Tootsie Roll Drives. For those who chose not to run the drive, please keep in mind that you still must pay for the Tootsie Rolls that you ordered. Please submit these as soon as possible to reduce the amount of billing reminder that will need to be sent out.

To date we have only received 4 grant requests from organizations, needless to say this is significantly less than normal. I suspect to get a flood of them shortly.

If your council submitted funds to me for your drive by Nov 1 our hope is that your checks will be ready at the time of the December DD meeting.

Please stay safe.

Vivat Jesus!

Don Schoenherr  
WI KofC  
Helping Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities - Director

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## SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM WISCONSIN

Brother Knights, with the Covid pandemic going on, the donations towards the Team Wisconsin Drive for 2022 has come to a near halt. At the present we have only collected \$77,463.83 towards our goal of \$125,000.00. With only 17 months left to raise these funds, it will take all Councils to put forward some type of effort to meet our goal. Whether this comes from a donation from your Charity Account, or a fund raiser of some type. Another way would be to put a notice in the Council newsletter explaining that the drive is to cover travel expense for the athletes going to the National games in 2022, and asking members to give personal donations. Checks should be made to Wis KofC Charities with memo SOWI Team. Also a note referencing their council number for recording would be appreciated. Donations can be mailed directly to me. My information is in the directory. Another suggestion would be to have the Financial Secretary include a voluntary donation line on membership billing.

Please remember to also help the local organizations that your Council supported from the Tootsie Roll drive, as locals are struggling also.

John Benisch  
Wisconsin Special Olympics Coordinator

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### General Agent Message

Dear State Family,

Over the past few weeks, the Agency office has received numerous calls from all parts of the State and we are blessed to be able to help so many with their policy needs. The Agents in the State continue to look for ways to serve you in these times of difficulty. The Mission of Father McGivney burns brighter now than ever before. With his Beatifications on October 31st we feel a renewed vigor to invite more and more men and their Catholic families into the Knights of Columbus. Being a Catholic Parish Priest, Father McGivney knew that there was a need for strangers to be strangers no more but instead brothers and sisters on a mission to serve and protect one another. Being doers of the word as St. James wrote and not just hearers of the word, shows us that there is a call for us more today than ever before in our long History.

I am looking forward to the accomplishments that our membership will achieve in the future as we fight for the values of our faith and look to further shape the parishes' we serve. Supporting our Parish Priests should be a paramount goal for each member and every council. We know that they, our Priests, know the needs to which we should focus in order to become doers of the good we are meant to be doing. I encourage you all to make November a month of Thanksgiving with a renewed emphasis on your families. May the prayers we say around the table remind and strengthen our Holy Family's to continue to grow and serve.

Happy Thanksgiving &  
Vivat Jesus!

Tim J. Nowak, GA

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## 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. **We have consolidated the 10/20 and 10/28 FS Basic Training Sessions into one evening. This was done in order to allow more attendees to participate, give you ample time to pass the word, plan, and register for the training.** 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.

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](http://www.KofC.org/training) and look at the resources available. If you need help navigating the website, please contact me.

I am also interested in the training you consider important to you. Please send any suggestions to me at the contact information below.

### Schedule

#### Financial Secretary Basic Training

Wednesday, November 11th, 7:00 pm **NOTE – Rescheduled session**

#### Financial Secretary Member Dues Billing Training

Tuesday, November 17th, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 2nd, 7:00 pm

Please see the Flocknotes that will be sent out with registration information. If you are not on Flocknote yet, please contact me.

If you need any further assistance, please email me at [wi-dd10-crohrjr@hotmail.com](mailto: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

**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.

**Delta drive training Monday 11/23/2020 at 6 PM CST**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5758505644054371856>

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## Ultrasound Project Update

We currently have 3 active Ultrasound Projects in Wisconsin. Ripon Council has already fully funded theirs! Praise God! That leaves 2 active ultrasound projects in need of funding. As you know, raising funds in these times is extremely difficult, so we are casting the net into the deep and could really use your help! If your council has funds set aside for ultrasound projects, here is your chance to save hundreds, if not thousands of babies, from abortion.

The two active ultrasound campaigns are:

Oconomowoc Council #2487  
Financial Secretary Jim Houk  
P.O. Box 82  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-0082

Msgr Heim Council #15665  
Financial Secretary Mark Mandry  
513 Lewis St  
Burlington, WI 53105-1021

If you have individual donors who want a tax credit, they can send their donation through the WI KofC 501(C)(3):

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc  
Memo: Council #(*insert council number*) Ultrasound  
4297 W Beltline Highway  
Madison, WI 53711-3859

Once these two ultrasound campaigns are funded, Wisconsin Knights of Columbus local councils and Supreme Council will have purchased 43 ultrasound machines for our precious Wisconsin babies! Vivat Jesus!

Through Christ,



Dan Miller  
State Director  
Culture of Life Committee  
State Council – Knights of Columbus  
Oconomowoc Council #2487  
4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly #1304  
[Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org](mailto:Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org) – 262-993-6262

## Culture of Life Donations

The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus thanks all the Madison area recipients of the grants, distributed on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, for applying for the 2020 State Culture of Life Grant Fund. The Knights consider it an honor to participate in this way in the life-affirming work of the worthy recipients. Working together, the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus raised more than \$105K to provide grants to numerous Pro-Life agencies throughout the state to help fulfill our shared mission – cultivating a culture of life.

We are especially grateful to General Agent Tim Nowak and Field Agent Steve Rammer for taking the time to represent all those whose good work protecting Knights of Columbus families has made it possible for the placement of more than 40 ultrasound machines in Wisconsin alone, and many hundreds more throughout our nation! Half of the cost of every machine is covered by a charitable contribution from our Supreme Council headquartered in New Haven, Connecticut, with funds made available through our not-for-profit Fraternal Benefit Society. Brother Knights Tim and Steve were joined by Mark Lessner, our Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Committeeman representing the Madison Diocese, and Past State Deputy Ron Faust.



Ron Faust, Tim Nowak, Brian Preisler, Mark Lessner, Steve Rammer

Brian, as part of the FOCUS ministry, is helping to promote a culture of life on the UW Madison campus, working with students and helping them grow in a deeper understanding of what it means to respect all people as children of God and that each child is a gift from God.



Steve Rammer, Brenda Collins, Mark Lessner

Pregnancy Helpline of Madison provides a full range of services, from crisis pregnancy counseling to helping families with resources such as diapers, clothes and other material needs, so that when a family chooses life for their child they have the support to care for that child.



Steve Rammer, Mary Mead, Mark Lessner, Ron Faust

The Diocese of Madison works with Rachel's Vineyard and Project Rachel to provide women and men with post-abortion healing. The wounds of abortion can, and often do, damage people for months, and even years.



Mark Lessner, Karissa DeTrana, Sharon Kuiper, Steve Rammer are pictured with the latest ultrasound machine placed by the Knights of Columbus.

The Women's Care Center, providentially located directly across the street from Planned Parenthood, is on the front lines of promoting a culture of life and giving hope to those who are facing an unplanned pregnancy. They provide a full range of free services both before and after the birth of a child, including ultrasounds, counseling, parenting classes and material support.



Mark Lessner, Julaine Appling, Steve Rammer

The Wisconsin Family Council administers, with Pro-Life Wisconsin, and at no charge, the Choose Life License Plate program, through which they make grants to crisis pregnancy center grant applicants.

Each of these worthy recipients passed the rigorous scrutiny of our Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Committee, as appointed by State Deputy Corey Coonen, and led by Director Dan Miller. Their applications were carefully reviewed and independently scored using a system designed to ensure both adherence to our Catholic Faith and prudence with the use of the funds entrusted to them.

Respectfully Submitted by Past State Deputy Ron Faust

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## Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

September 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/9294902>. Check it out!

### Supreme

Wisconsin is still in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the order (**but not by much**) with 41 FOMs representing **10.6%** of all FOMs received by Supreme. The Supreme family of the month is the **Patrick and Beth Griffin Family** (Council 2487, District 63, Milwaukee Diocese). Please read about them in their article in this newsletter.

### Diocese

Madison Diocese led with **77%** district participation and Green Bay Diocese lead by submitting 13 families.

Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month. Read about them in Flocknote link above.

<b>Green Bay</b>	James and Ann Dier	<b>La Crosse</b>	Gary and Sue Moran
<b>Madison</b>	James and Lonie Caya	<b>Milwaukee</b>	Jeff and Michelle Valeri
<b>Superior</b>	Alan and Loree Nauertz		

### District

58% of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Two districts submitted three or four families and six districts submitted two families.

### Council

There was one new council submitting a family of the month. Welcome **All Saints Council 4240** from Menominee Falls!

October Family of the Month deadline is November 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 **39** Golden Family Councils that submitted for the months of July through September. 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

On Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup>, the Milwaukee Diocesan Family of the Year Dick and Elaine Garvey was honored at the 4:30 mass at St. Jerome's in Oconomowoc. Check out the pictures and videos on the State Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WISKOFc/>

## 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

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## Supreme Wisconsin September Family of the Month – Pat and Beth Griffin

*Council 2487, District 63, Milwaukee Diocese*

Pat and Beth Griffin are solid Catholics and Americans. Pat, a US Marine veteran, saw active duty and had a distinguished career. When he married his “best friend”, Beth, they decided that he would remain home to raise their children while Beth continued to grow in her career as a business executive.

Pat taught their two girls, Shannon and Grace, the truths of the faith in all that he did. He took his family to Mass routinely (Pat in a suit and tie every Sunday) and to adoration on a consistent basis. Whether being present as a father to support the girls at all their activities or praying for them at Catholic retreats, Pat set the standard of what it means to be a Catholic father.

Beth, a member of Opus Dei, encouraged the young ladies to attend retreats themselves and directed in them what it means to be Catholic woman in today's world.



While raising the children, Pat also remained active in his church and community. As one of the founders of Men of Christ in Milwaukee, Pat was instrumental in starting and growing the largest annual Catholic men's conference in the country.

At St Jerome parish Pat has been a sounding board for the Pastor, Fr Tom, reads regularly at Mass, attends the Friday morning men's group and has been a guest speaker at the Sunday catechism hour. Today, Shannon is attending Catholic University of America and Grace is preparing to attend Drake University. Beth continues to be a leader in not only her business environment, but in the Opus Dei community as well. Pat continues to encourage men and sons to grow in their faith with faith-based sports activities at their home in Merton, WI and hosts a monthly men's faith circle.

## State Council Membership Incentive

The State Council is offering a Membership Incentive from October 30th-December 15<sup>th</sup>.

If the Councils of a Diocese meeting the intake numbers specified below, then \$1,000 will be donated to a food pantry in the diocese.

- Milwaukee: 60 new members
- Green Bay: 50 new members
- LaCrosse: 50 new members
- Madison: 45 new members
- Superior: 30 new members

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## Saint Lawrence Seminary High School

Dear Fellow Brother Knights,

I am humbled to provide you with this important and significant information about an incredible institution supported by the Knights of Columbus and located here in Wisconsin – Saint Lawrence Seminary High School (SLS). As one of the last remaining Catholic boarding high schools for boys in the United States, we are privileged to have it here “in our backyard”. (There is one in TX, NY and IN.) With that privilege comes a responsibility for us as members of the Knights of Columbus to support it through **prayer, advocacy** and **funds**.

Since many of you may not know much about Saint Lawrence Seminary (SLS), let me give you a quick overview. Much more information can be found on our website: <https://www.stlawrence.edu/> or at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee website for Diocesan Catholic high schools: <https://www.archmil.org/Schools/St.LawrenceSeminaryMt.CalvaryB51.htm>

For starters, Saint Lawrence Seminary High School has a word in the middle of its name that you don't often hear: seminary. Now that word usually makes us think of a school for priests. At our school, students don't necessarily study to graduate as priests. Rather, they study to prepare for college and whatever it is that God is calling them to do with their lives whether that is as a priest, brother, deacon or lay leader. The whole mission of SLS is to provide boys with a college focused education deeply intertwined with the Catholic faith.

One of the most unique features of our school is that the student body is entirely made up of Catholic boys who come from all around the world, from different cultures and walks of life. SLS is a boarding high school; and it's a really cool thing to be able to live, study, and play all the time with your friends. In fact, classmates become such good friends they refer to each other as brothers by the time they graduate.

As an overview, let me begin with the following “bullet points”. In the months ahead I will provide more details and “stories” of actual current students and alumni to better acquaint you with the mission and values embedded into the culture at Saint Lawrence Seminary and its 160+ year tradition of never turning away a qualified applicant due to financial constraints of his family.

**STUDENT LIFE:** Life at a seminary school is more than just an education. Students can choose from over 20 clubs and athletic programs to enrich their time. They benefit from our unique Spiritual Direction program which helps them deepen their Catholic faith and give back to the community.

**ACADEMICS:** Saint Lawrence Seminary prepares each youth for college and beyond. Our students know more than just how to pass a standardized test - our college preparatory courses ensure that our students truly understand what they're learning and how it applies to the real world.

**ADMISSIONS:** Inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the example of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Lawrence Seminary School provides a residential college preparatory education in a living Catholic community nurturing mature, well-rounded men of faith, who prepare for a life of ministry as priests, religious and lay leaders in the Church and world.

So, let me end this month's "letter" with my first request – your **prayers**. Please pray that God continues to bless us with a Covid-19 free community, and that more families come to understand the value and opportunities that exist here at Saint Lawrence Seminary High School (SLS) for their sons, grandsons, nephews and others currently in middle school. I will address my other requests for **advocacy** and **funds** in future articles.

Blessings & Vivat Jesus,

Tre Waldren

State Youth Membership Coordinator, District #11 RMC & DD, SLS Donor Relations Officer

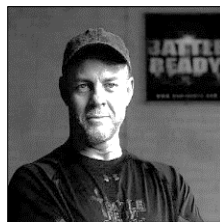
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## Advent Men's Retreat - Spiritual Reflection Program Opportunity

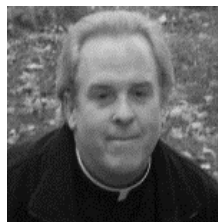
Recognizing the difficulty, during these times, of conducting large gatherings for extended periods of time, here is a condensed option for an Advent Men's Retreat with FIVE great speakers you can bring in virtually.



**Bishop Donald Hying** came home to be Bishop of the Diocese of Madison. Previously: Bishop of Gary, IN; Milwaukee Archdiocese Auxiliary Bishop.



**Doug Barry:** Husband, father, and founder of BATTLE READY, a Catholic apostolate focusing on encouraging and strengthening men, women and youth.



**Father Rick Heilman:** Author of "Church Militant Field Manual." Creator of the "Combat Rosary." Leads the United States Grace Force.



**Kevin O'Brien:** Dedicated father, husband, and founder of Men of Christ, Catholic Men's Leadership Alliance and Unite our Nation.



**Jason Simon:** President of The Evangelical Catholic. He enjoys equipping local Catholic leaders to not only be disciples, but disciple-makers.

It can be done in as little as 3 1/2 hours, if needed, or expanded, as suits your parish priest. Please contact your parish priest and ask if he would be open to the idea of a mini retreat for men on the First Saturday of Advent, December 5<sup>th</sup>. And ask if he would be OK with inviting men from surrounding councils/parishes, as not all parish schedules will be able to accommodate the December 5<sup>th</sup> date. The idea is to reach as many men as possible with this gift of spiritual enrichment.

The proposed format contains only four required elements: Mass, Confessions, Adoration and the speakers. With that, here is a sample agenda. Adjust as you need for your parish.

7:00 – 9:00 Confession/Adoration

(confession during MASS- get cooperation from another priest to be in confessional)

7:30 – 7:50 Rosary

8:00 – 8:45 MASS (first Saturday Devotion/Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion))

9:00- 11:00 Speakers – located at Church/School facility

15 to 20-minute talks with 5 to 10-minute discussion after each

a.) **Kevin O’Brien** – Men of Christ introduction/background

a.) **Jason Simon** – Why am I Catholic? (Conversion story)

b.) **Father Rick Heilman** – The Power of Grace and Spiritual Warfare

c.) **Doug Barry** – Husbands responsibility to lead their families to Heaven

d.) **Bishop Donald Hying** – Taking back Sunday

11:00 Confession – for men who missed earlier confession times

### **Miscellaneous things to consider:**

Have Water available/fasting – no food due to Covid

Have guys there to set up chairs for talks – socially distanced

Have someone set up big screen and computer hook up to broadcast speaker videos

You will receive a link to the videos well before the December 5<sup>th</sup> event

Have masks required - based on state directives

Announce the event in bulletin for the next few weeks/Priest announcements at MASS

Free will money offering – recommended for your parish expenses