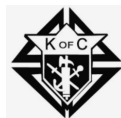


The Oklahoma Knight

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Don't forget about recruiting

Brothers

Brothers, when you read this, we will have concluded the first quarter of our fraternal year (Jul-1 to Jun-30) and I have to offer my heartfelt thanks to those councils that have already held Church Drives or have at least scheduled one. These recruiting mechanisms have been crucial for other jurisdictions that have had tremendous success growing their ranks. We have been pushing them very hard this year and you have responded resoundingly. Currently, Oklahoma ranks 14th out of 75 jurisdictions in member intake. While that may seem impressive, remember, we still have three more quarters to go. If you haven't had a drive yet or haven't at least scheduled one, please get with State Membership Director Chris King soon. It is our job at the state level to help you ensure your council's health and viability by assisting you in whatever way we can. From guidance on best practices to materials suggestions, all the way up to supplying supplemental manpower for putting on your drive – give us a call.

Also, those brothers you sign up as eMembers first, get them to a degree ceremony – either live or video – as soon as possible. Then transfer them into your council and get them involved. The longer you wait to get them in, the higher the likelihood they will lose interest and drift away. We have signed up 133 eMembers this year but only 38 have been transferred into councils. I know some guys are content to remain eMembers but I have a hard time believing over two-thirds do. Grand



Chris Victor

From the State Deputy

Knights, Membership Directors – please check your “Prospects” tab in Officers Online and get your eMembers converted. If you're unsure of what to do, give us a shout. We'd be glad to help you get your eMembers into the fold, so to speak.

Of course, key to retaining those members is what we can do for them. Some join for our highly-rated insurance and financial products and services. Some join to get involved in “generous service to their neighbor”. Some join because they believe in our mission but can contribute nothing more than their dues, which is no less important than any other reason. But one thing some are looking for that has been lacking for too long has been something that seems like it would be an integral part of any religious organization: faith formation. We have failed to recruit or lost many new members because we have been only a brotherhood of doers.

Well, at this year's convention in Orlando, Supreme officially rolled out a program intended to address this shortcoming. Known as “Cor ad Cor” (Latin for “Heart Speaks to Heart”), or just Cor for short, this initiative is less a program and more a way of life for our parish communities. It is intended to provide our members and all men of our parishes a way to grow and share their faith with other like-minded men. Recognizing that many parishes and/or councils already have existing faith formation programs, Supreme encourages their continuation. Cor is not intended to replace or compete with programs already in place – if it aint broke, don't fix it. But for those parish communities without a program, the

Knights offer several options to help get something started – A bible study series, a video series, study booklet collections, and more.

Even though it is not a program per se, we are being asked to provide “Evangelization & Faith Formation” (EFF) directors, not only at the council level, but also at the state level. Deputy Grand Knight Joseph Slape from Church of the Madelene Council 17383 has graciously agreed to take on the State EFF Coordinator role. His job will be to provide direction, coaching, and support to all your council EFFs. You will be hearing more about Cor at the upcoming winter meetings in January. But please keep in mind that faith formation as a Knights program is new for many of us. There are bound to be growing pains so please be patient.

Before I close, I would like to bring up a topic you might remember from this fraternal year's first issue of the Oklahoma Knight – Leadership. Specifically, we are still in need of several district deputies as well as program directors. We have added a few since I last wrote but if you have had even the remotest inkling that you might be inclined to assist at a higher level than your council, now is the time to pray about it and come forward. None of the openings require an inordinate amount of your time but they do require a desire to go above and beyond. Please contact me about District Deputy possibilities or State Program Director Jim Jeffcoat about state directorships. The pay is terrible but the rewards make it all worthwhile.

And the final thought, if you're reading this, it means you've found the Oklahoma Knight on the state website. If you hadn't

See Victor, Page 2

State Council Leadership

Official State Council Web Page www.okkofc.org
Supreme Council Web Page www.kofc.org

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Editor's Note

Brother Knights & families

Everyone please have a blessed Christmas.

Vivat Jesus
Steve Gust Okla. Knight editor

Victor

From Page 8

heard, we voted at the State Convention in April to reduce the number of printed issues of this publication from the usual four per year to three to help ease the enormous deficit we have been incurring lately due to postage increases. We have several options for our beloved Oklahoma Knight ranging from going all electronic to increasing the Public Relations levy assessed to your councils that pays for printing and postage to mail out this newspaper. More to come on that in the near future.

Thanks for reading this far, brothers. Vivat Jesus!
Chris

Upcoming Events

Silver Rose Transfer to Texas	Nov 18	Marietta OK
State Midyear Meeting	Dec 2	Shawnee OK
Winter Workshop - West	Jan 6	Okarche OK
Winter Workshop - East	Jan 13	Tulsa OK

Order donates 1 millionth coat

Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly celebrated the donation of one million coats through the Knights' Coats for Kids program, with the distribution of nearly 1,000 new coats to underprivileged children in five Denver Catholic schools. The schools include Annunciation Catholic School, St. James Catholic School, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Academy, St. Therese Catholic Classical School and Guardian Angels Catholic School. In recognition of the historic milestone, Supreme Knight Kelly also announced the donation of \$10,000 on behalf of the Knights of Columbus to each school, for a total of \$50,000.

Supreme Knight Kelly distributed coats to children at Annunciation Catholic School and was joined by Father Charles Polifka, Pastor, Annunciation Catholic School; Deb Roberts, Principal, Annunciation Catholic School; Major League Baseball player and Knight Ty Blach; leaders from the Colorado state Knights of Columbus Council and local council members.

"The Coats for Kids program has become synonymous with the Knights of Columbus mission of charity, as first established by our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, more than 140 years ago," said Supreme Knight Kelly. "The generosity of our donors and the work of our local councils to distribute one million coats to some great kids in need is proof that where there's a need, there's a Knight. T

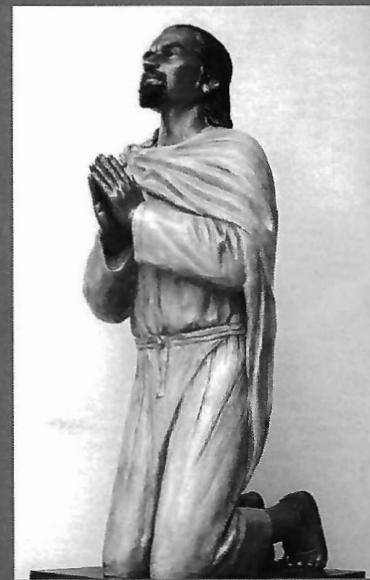


TEPEYAC HILL

at the BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER SHRINE

The Knights of Columbus and the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine join in the efforts to spread the gospel and make disciples. This Tepayac Hill and the images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and San Juan Diego will be a sacred place for all.

The shrine's Tepeyac Hill will feature statues of Our Lady of Guadalupe and San Juan Diego. This hill will be a place for all to venerate Our Lady, San Juan Diego and Blessed Stanley Rother, and to ask for intercessions for deepened faith, conversion of heart, the unborn and the Americas.



“

Just as St. Juan Diego found peace in the tender heart of Our Lady of Guadalupe, so too did the poor and marginalized encounter the love of God in the pastoral charity of Blessed Stanley Rother. The Tepeyac Hill project is a worthy endeavor, and it is fitting that Blessed Stanley Rother be memorialized at his Shrine alongside Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego.

”

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

Put your trust in our Lord

My dear fellow Knights, wives, family, and friends,

Many things are happening in the world today causing much concern and anxiety in our hearts. The attack on Israel, the worsening of our economy, the auto workers strike, our southern border, and many other personal issues have cause for all of us to be worried and concerned each day. Sometimes, these atrocities cause us to lose hope and question whether God is even present. I want to tell you unequivocally that He hears our prayers and answers them if we place our faith and trust in Him.



Fr. Jim Caldwell

How can we be sure of this? It is certain because God has always given us confidence in His presence and love. He always encourages us to trust that no matter what happens, He is in charge and bringing good about through tragedy and struggles. He helps draw us closer to Him through faith and confidence that good will triumph over evil. In the book *Cultivating Virtues*, October focuses on "Confidence." These confidence garners us a deeper awareness of God's grace and mercy pouring over us

like oil on our heads. It stirs up in our hearts a desire to develop child like trust in God's presence. It is not the smug self-sufficiency of doing things on our own. Rather, it is the humble awareness of our need for God. It is an inner peace and tranquility that comes from our relationship with Him. This is called prayer and the more we use this prayer-this communication with God-to share our thoughts, fears, feelings, and struggles, the more we hold on to His hand with all we have and the more peace we find in our heart. This is the confidence of learning to be more dependent on Him for our strength and well-being.

Tied into confidence is the gift of our faith. Faith requires action. We can have the knowledge of faith in our minds and hearts, but until we practice our faith daily and even on a minute-by-minute basis, we cannot grow in confidence of God's graces and blessings He gives us. When we are faithful in small matters, we are entrusted with more. The faithfulness in small matters lies in our courage to live the Gospel well. It is loving God first above all, and then loving our neighbor, and ourselves. God gives us faith, strengthens it through trials and tribulations and then deepens our faith consistently and constantly through our confidence in His wisdom and guidance.

Finally, it is paramount that when we have confidence in God, He will be with us. We can

grow in our own faith as we share every aspect of life with Him. We recognize that every one of us is part and parcel of God's plan of salvation for all and with confidence that He will lead us, we will go and follow with the assurance of our goal: eternal life with Him. No matter what the world throws at us: the good, the bad, and the ugly, we know that goodness has already won. We are called to persevere in the faith and confident awareness God is always with us.

If you are feeling anxious about the world and its state of affairs, do so with the virtues of confidence and faith of God who is in charge of it all, and know through our faith and confidence in Him how to trust in His mercy and grace He pours out freely on us. In doing so, we bring the light of faith and confidence to those around us. We stir the hearts of others to a greater depth of trusting and loving God by the peace we share with others from the heart.

Fr. Jim Caldwell

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. Jim Caldwell
State Chaplain

Honor our Order's Patroness and don't forget to pray the rosary Daily

Please help donate to Tepeyac Hill



Tepeyac Hill is located at the new Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine. The hill feature's a twelve-foot-high statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe and an eight-foot-high statue of San Juan Diego on his knees looking to Our Lady. These statues were blessed on Dec 11 on top of Tepeyac Hill at Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine. Here's a quote from Pope St. John Paul II "Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the first and new evangelization of America. To her I entrust the pilgrim Church and I fervently ask her to guide her children, so that they will enter the third millennium with faith and hope" If you would like to help pay for the hill, please scan the symbol to the left.