

The Oklahoma Knight

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EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

JANUARY 2019

Silver Rose run again a success

My Brother Knights:

The running of the Silver Rose in 2018 marked the 59th year of the program that began in 1960 as a project of the Columbian Squires of North America to honor the Blessed Virgin under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas.

On Oct 13, 2018 the Oklahoma jurisdiction received the Supreme Silver Rose from the Kansas jurisdiction at Sacred Heart Church in Miami. Oklahoma State Chaplain Reverend M. Price Oswalt celebrated Mass and Sacred Heart Council 3167 hosted a banquet following Mass. The Supreme Rose was then transferred from council to council along a route through eastern Oklahoma culminating in its transfer from the Oklahoma jurisdiction to the Texas jurisdiction on Nov. 10, 2018 at a Mass celebrated at St. Mary Church in Gainesville, Texas.



John Pierce

Concurrent with the running of the Supreme Rose through eastern Oklahoma, the Provincial Rose assigned to District Master Fred Crump traveled along a route through western and central Oklahoma. The running of the Provincial Rose commenced Oct. 27, 2018 at St. Peter Church in Guymon, Okla. and concluded Nov. 27, 2018 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Lawton.

Former District Deputy Chris King served as the 2018 program chairman. Chris planned the routes through Oklahoma for both Roses and scheduled the special Masses celebrated at numerous Oklahoma parishes.

In December 2018 a delegation from Oklahoma consisting of Vice Supreme Master David Roewe, District Marshal Rick Miller and his wife Laura and me and my wife Cheryl traveled to Laredo, Texas to participate in the transfer of the Silver Rose from the Texas jurisdiction to Mexico. On Dec. 8, 2018 a Mass was celebrated at the San Agustin Cathedral in Laredo followed by a procession of over 100 Knights and their families to the center of "Bridge 1 - Gateway to the Americas," where the Rose was transferred to Mexico. Bridge 1 is an international bridge over the Rio Grande River, that marks the border between the United States and Mexico. Along with Mark Evans, Texas State Deputy, I had the honor of carrying a Silver Rose for presentation to the delegation from Mexico at the center of the bridge.

In 2001 Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson shaped the Silver Rose program as a culture of life effort at the 119th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in Toronto. This annual activity "is a perfect program for the Knights of Columbus," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of



Photo taken after the Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Miami of the Kansas and Oklahoma delegations.

From the State Deputy

the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order's dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses."

This year will mark the 60th anniversary of the Silver Rose program. A special celebration is being planned for the transfer of the Rose to Mexico in Laredo in December 2019. The detailed planning for this celebration is ongoing. All members and their families are invited to attend this special anniversary celebration. As the details are finalized the State Council will keep everyone informed. I recommend that members prayerfully consider making a commitment to participate in the program in 2019. This participation can be by volunteering as a runner in Oklahoma, attending Silver Rose Masses in Oklahoma and/or making a pilgrimage to Laredo to attend the 60th anniversary celebration.

**Venerable Michael McGivney, Pray for Us,
Blessed Stanley Rother, Pray for Us.**

**Vivat Jesus!
John Pierce**

State Council Leadership

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

STATE CHAPLAIN

Rev. M. Price Oswalt
St. Joseph's Cathedral OKC okiechaplain@gmail.com (405) 343-5505

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY bobmel98@windstream.net (918) 850-2203

Robert Melko
4604 S. Birch Ave.
Broken Arrow, OK 73013

STATE DEPUTY (Cheryl) (405) 317-1020

John T. Pierce
12111 N.E. 164th St
Jones, OK 73049-8897 john.pierce@sbcglobal.net

STATE SECRETARY (Dee) (405) 708-1978

Matthew Maly
P.O. Box 851476
Yukon, OK 73085-1476 mmaly1@cox.net

STATE TREASURER (Ladine) (405) 315-7082

Dennis Kunnanz
1213 Scrambler Ln.
Edmond, OK 73025 dkunnanz@ymail.com

STATE ADVOCATE (Sharon) (918) 461-0434

Chris Victor
5819 S 83rd E PL
Tulsa, OK 74145
918-688-9579 cmvictor1@cox.net

STATE WARDEN (Amy) (505) 604-7730

Miguel Grijalva
329274 E. 1070 Rd.
McLoud, Okla. 74851 mgrijalvakc@gmail.com

VICE SUP. MASTER 4th Degree (Melani) (405) 250-3305

David Roewe
2020 Aspen Way
Guthrie, Okla. 73044 droewe@cox.net

DISTRICT MASTER 4th Degree (Peggy) (405) 948-0230

Fred M. Crump (405) 556-9215
3300 Windsor Terrace fmc Crump@sbcglobal.net BC (405)-637-9817
OKC, OK 73122

Editor's Note

Hi.

Hope everyone is having a great winter.

I'd like to encourage everyone moving to please let Supreme know of your new address as soon as possible.

Also, please make plans to attend the Catholic Men's Conference on March 9. Please see the article on Page 3 for more details. Usually there is a very large contingent of Knights at the conference. God bless.

Steve Gust Okla. Knight editor



The Provincial Rose, and a rosary, on display at St. Peter's in Guymon during the Running of the Rose. See article, Page 1.

A tremendous web site that always prays the rosary

Was one of your New Year's resolutions to pray the rosary more often? www.comepraytherosary.org

If not, then it should have been. And by the way, it's still not too late. I found a real great web page for those who want to honor our Order's patroness, the Blessed Mother, and ask her to petition her beloved Son Jesus for us and others.

The site is called www.comepraytherosary.org. If that's too much to remember then simply hit "Come Pray the Rosary," on your browser.

From there you'll be led into a 24/7, 365 days a year praying of the rosary. It's like joining a group rosary prayer at any time. A priest leads the rosary at his parish in California.

In addition to the prayer you have a choice to watch scenes from the Middle East Holy Land or from the faithful in California.

There is also a prayer board where you can list prayer intentions for the Blessed Mother or those who come to the site and pray. I highly recommend this site and, like most Knights, I recommend regular praying of the rosary. It's truly a wonderful devotion to our Blessed Mother as well as our beautiful Catholic faith.

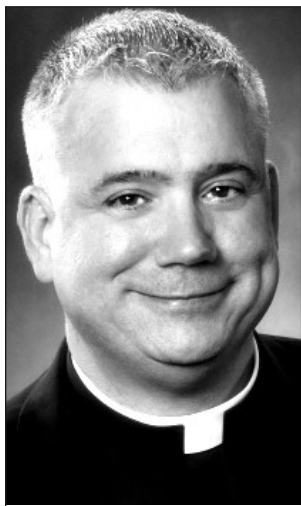
STEVE GUST

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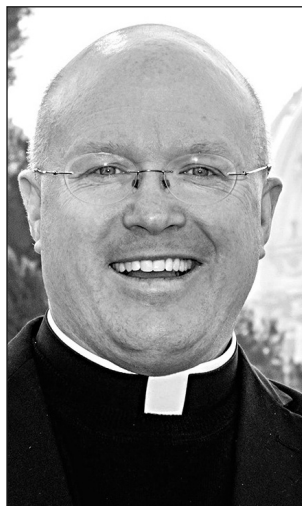
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Editor; Steve P. Gust, 107 S. Broadway., Edmond, OK (405)246-5037.



Fr. Richards



Fr. Landry



Leonetti

Catholic men's conference in Norman on March 9

By John Helsley

Father Larry Richards broke into writing with his 2009 book "Be a Man! Becoming The Man God Created You To Be."

Richards' message, ongoing still, comes to Norman for the 23rd annual In the Father's Footsteps Oklahoma Catholic Men's Conference.

The event, titled Building the Bridge Between Repentance and Faithfulness, is set for March 9, from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Embassy Suites Conference Center and Hotel, 2501 Conference Drive.

Richards, a noted speaker, preacher, retreat master and author, as well as the pastor of St. Joseph Church/Bread of Life Community in Erie, Pa., is among four featured speakers highlighting a day of faith, renewal and evangelization.

He will be joined by Catholic author and speaker Jason Evert, Father Roger Landry of Fall River, Mass., and popular Catholic radio host Jon Leonetti. The conference will also feature Steve Angrisano, a Catholic musician and composer offering his worship and praise talents.

"Our conference day will begin with a powerful examination of the lives we live - our challenges, temptations and obstacles," said Ray Haele, conference director. "We'll gain

insights and tools throughout the day and move toward a clear vision of how to claim the lives we're called to live; lives forged by the way and the truth, built upon bedrock values and placed in service to God, family and faith."

Evert will open the conference with a message entitled "Porn Detox." Richards will follow with his talk, "Knowing God's Mercy." Following lunch, Leonetti will present his talk, "Back to the Basics - A 3-Step Action Plan to become a Saint."

Fr. Landry will close with his talk, "Coming to the Father by Faithfully following Jesus the Way, Believing Jesus the Truth, and Receiving from Him the Life He's Received from the Father."

There are also opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation and to attend mass at the end of the conference, led by the Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The cost of the conference is \$59 if submitted by Feb. 11, \$69 thereafter, and includes breakfast, lunch, beverages and afternoon snacks. There are discounts for younger attendees: \$29 for high school students, \$39 for college students.

Tickets are available at www.catholicmen.net.



Okla. State Advocate Chris Victor

Time to get ready for state convention

Brother Knights, the 2019 State Convention is right around the corner, April 26-28th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edmond.(2833 Conference Drive, 73034)

If you are planning to run for state office, please send your resume and intent to run letter to State Secretary Matt Maly. You will also need to be nominated and seconded from the floor at the State Convention. You must be a Third Degree Knight to run for state office.

All Third Degree Knights are eligible to run as a delegate to the Supreme Convention which will be held in Minneapolis, MN the first week of August. We will be electing both insurance and associate members as delegates. If you plan to run as a delegate, please send your letter of intent to run to State Secretary Matt Maly. You will also have to have someone nominate you and second your nomination from the floor at the State Convention.

I would also like to remind you about becoming a lifetime member of the 365 Club. The donation you would need to make is \$365. Please send your check to your Financial Secretary. Financial Secretaries will need to send funds and a list of those receiving a plaque to State Secretary Matt Maly by March 15th, 2019.

Address any of the above-mentioned correspondence to:

State Secretary Matt Maly
4201 S Choctaw Rd
Choctaw, OK 73099



Fraternally,
Chris Victor
State Advocate

U.S. Senators attack KOC

Editor's Note:

The following was an editorial I wrote earlier this year in *Edmond Life & Leisure* newspaper, where I have been the editor for many years. The attacks on this Order were totally out of line.

By Steve Gust

Toward the end of the year it was disappointing to witness an attack on a federal district judge nominee.

Brian Buescher was under fire for being a member of the Knights of Columbus. It's a Catholic fraternal service organization and heavily involved in charitable causes.

In full and complete disclosure, I'm a member as well. Two Democratic senators, Mazie Hirona of Hawaii and Kamala Harris of California made an issue of Buescher's membership in the group. As the *National Review* put it, "the Knights are as controversial as the Rotary Club."

Hirona said the Knights took many "extreme positions," on issues. In her mind they're extreme. Most people in Edmond would probably think Hirona and Harris are extreme. (*They are.*)

The two senators also urged Buescher to drop his membership in the Knights and recuse himself from cases in which the Knights had voiced an opinion.

Why didn't Hirona and Harris simply say "Catholics need not apply."

In fact Hirona and Harris should consider resigning from the U.S. Senate because many of our senators have the same opinions as the Knights on controversial issues. Should Harris and Hirona be working with, and associated with, senators taking "extreme positions?"

Someone should remind these senators that President John Kennedy was a fourth degree Knight. In fact President Kennedy was also a member of the National Rifle Association.

Why should someone have to agree with one party's platform before they are allowed to sit on the court?

Now it's true you wouldn't want to have an overt racist judge or someone with ties to a crime group. But the Knights of Columbus? The group regularly donates millions upon millions of dollars helping people. And they don't ask about people's politics before they do either.

Hirona and Harris may not agree with everything the Knights believe but millions of other people do. The Knights of Columbus are not an extreme group and if they are, then more people in this world need to be extreme.

(Steve Gust may be reached at news@edmondpaper.com)

Response by the Supreme Knight

Dear Brother Knights,

There have been times in our country's past when uninformed or prejudiced people questioned whether Catholics could be good citizens or honest public servants. That's why Father McGivney chose the name "Columbus" for our Order — because the discoverer was the Catholic figure from American history most admired and accepted at the time. In fact, from our founding in 1882, until the election of Brother Knight John F. Kennedy in 1960, many still held that Catholics were unfit for public office. Throughout that time, the Knights of Columbus worked to counter such prejudice.

Sadly, it seems that in some quarters, this prejudice remains. [i] First, in 2017 a Notre Dame law professor was deemed unfit for a federal judgeship by a United States Senator who feared that "the dogma lives loudly within you." Now, two more senators have questioned a Brother Knight's fitness for the federal bench precisely because our Order holds firm to the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life and marriage.

Such attacks on the basis of our Catholic faith are hardly new. The Knights of Columbus was formed amid a period of anti-Catholic bigotry. We stood against that then, and we do so now. We have spoken out against persecution around the world for nearly a century. At the same time, here at home we stood against the Ku Klux Klan, including its attempts to ban Catholic education, and we published books on the black and Jewish contributions to American history decades before the Civil Rights movement. More recently, we stood with the Little Sisters of the Poor in their fight for religious liberty and have worked with both the Obama and Trump administrations — and both sides of the aisle in Congress — to help Christians, Yazidis and Shi'a Muslims targeted for genocide by ISIS.

From our very beginning, the Knights of Columbus has been an organization adhering to the teachings of the Catholic Church. As with the Church, our primary motivation in everything is Christ's great commandment, that we love God completely and our neighbor as ourselves.

As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church explains, "Jesus Christ reveals to us that 'God is love' and He

By Carl Anderson

teaches us that 'the fundamental law of human perfection, and consequently of the transformation of the world, is the new commandment of love.'"[ii]

This love impels us to our great charitable endeavors on behalf of those in need. From inner cities in the United States to refugee camps in the Middle East our Order's donations over the last decade — more than one billion dollars and hundreds of millions of hours in volunteer work — are the result of this faith.

These works of charity have practical impacts that transform lives as we help people here at home and around the world. Our charity helped typhoon victims in the Philippines rebuild their lives and livelihoods; it brought prosthetics and rehabilitation to thousands of Haitian youth after the earthquake there; it puts coats on poor, cold children in some of our country's most impoverished neighborhoods each winter; it gives wheelchairs to those who otherwise could not afford them in countries like Vietnam and Mexico; and it provides education, housing and medical care to AIDS orphans in Africa.

This love also motivates us to stand with the Church on the important issues of life and marriage, precisely because the Church's teaching reflects and is based on that love. We stand with our Church because we believe that what our faith teaches is consistent with reason, is timeless and transcends the changing sentiments of any particular time or place.

We do not stand alone.

In his first message to our international convention, Pope Francis asked "each Knight, and every Council, to bear witness to the authentic nature of marriage and the family, the sanctity and inviolable dignity of human life, and the beauty and truth of human sexuality."

And our positions on life are not new. My two predecessors as supreme knight spoke out forcefully to defend the rights of the unborn. In 1973, Supreme Knight John McDevitt wrote that *Roe v. Wade* was "a mortal blow to all who consider human life sacred." He urged the Order "to initiate or increase efforts to offset the harmful effects of this lamentable decision."

Great Catholic retreat held

The Knights of Columbus Retreat for all Catholics was held at the Pastoral Center in October.

Father Lance Warren, Pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in El Reno and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Union City, was the speaker.

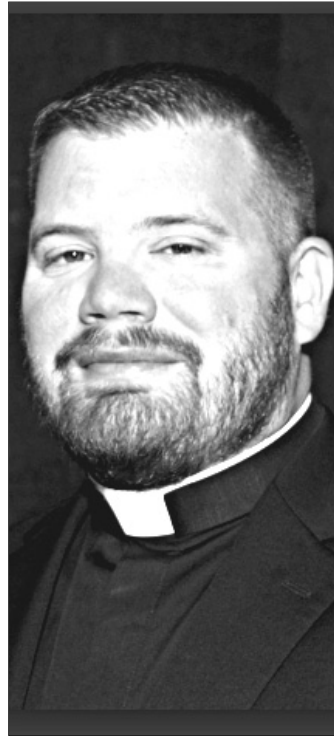
Father Warren's topic was "What is Evil," and no the good guy does not always wear a white hat and the bad guy doesn't always wear a black hat.

Father spoke of the problem of evil, what evil is not and the Goodness of God.

"He (Father Warren) was and is a wonderful speaker," said Michael Zink, KOC state retreat chairman west. "He was spot on in his presentation and with the answers he provided from questions from those in attendance."

Zink went on to call the day a "wonderful" event and noted he had received many compliments on Father Warren's presentation, knowledge and skills as well as his light hearted humor.

"Please keep your eyes and ears open later this year when the Knights of Columbus will plan another retreat," Zink said. "The date and presenter will be announced later."



Fr. Lance Warren

Work Day set at Abbey

On Saturday, March 2 the next Work Day will be held at Clear Creek Abbey. Mark your calendars now and more information will be forthcoming.

The website is open for registrations at www.abbeyworkday.com.

Work guides and group leaders can begin making contact with us now should they already know they will be participating.

What is Work Day? Click at abbeyworkday.com to see a beautiful video about Work Day featuring one of the Brothers and many other workers.

For additional information please e-mail bianchi.chad@gmail.com. Our Lady of the Annunciation of Clear Creek Abbey or Clear Creek Abbey is a Benedictine Abbey in the Ozark Mountains near Hulbert in Cherokee County, Oklahoma, under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Tulsa.

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Kevin Pierce

General Agent
SKC

Office: 877-707-0752
Cell: 405-514-7660
kevin.pierce@kofc.org



Chad McAuliff

MDRT, SKC
918-284-0685
chad.mcauliff@kofc.org
Councils: 962, 1104, 4721, 6606, 9668, 9737, 13828



Bobby Stevens

MDRT, SKC
405-534-0397
bobbystevens@kofc.org
Councils: 1018, 1038, 4026, 4598, 5160, 5396, 16048, 16214



Troy Snow

MDRT, SKC
918-798-0012
troysnow@kofc.org
Councils: 775, 1677, 7392, 10388, 11194, 11959, 13313, 15834, 11633



Trey Welker

MDRT, SKC
405-850-4092
trey.welker@kofc.org
Councils: 3220, 10822, 11237, 12669



Devon Soukup

SKC
405-505-6030
devon.soukup@kofc.org
Councils: 767, 916, 3101, 5440, 8633, 9901, 12605, 14744



Lance Dufour

SKC
918-550-0886
lance.dufour@kofc.org
Councils: 1302, 3167, 4519, 4804, 7395, 8433, 11734, 14220, 14248, 14448, 15785



Michael Dalby

405-638-1274
michael.dalby@kofc.org
Councils: 965, 1287, 2604, 4889, 5168, 9900, 11909, 11648, 12819



Robert Blakely

405-243-8324
robert.blakely@kofc.org
Councils: 9334, 2974, 3309, 1537, 1044, 1533, 3113, 13366



Mike Maggio

405-697-8820
michael.maggio@kofc.org
Councils: 949, 1044, 1053, 1533, 1537, 3113, 3309, 3336, 4042, 5266, 13366



Max Yardley

405-570-2179
max.yardley@kofc.org
Councils: 4601, 6477, 8204, 12518



Chris Basco

405-973-4980
chris.basco@kofc.org
Councils: 5759, 6478, 8523, 12108



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Why prayer to Our Lady is so vital

It was the German Lutheran pastor, Martin Niemöller, who wrote these famous words in a poem, after World War II, about the apathy of the German people as Nazism was taking over his country:

First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a socialist.

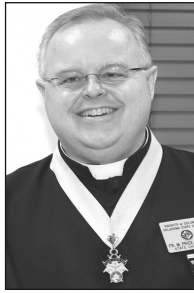
Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me — and there was no one left to speak for me.

These infamous words echo across time and into the hearts of anyone who has a well formed social conscience ... or at least they should. We are all citizens of both the world, our local communities, our local parishes and our families. We are responsible for one another in so many ways, but most of all for our common baptism.

The annual celebration of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which the Church just celebrated, is a moment to reflect upon our common baptism. In that moment of time when the water was poured over us, so many things happened, but most of all, we became Children of the Eternal Father, brothers and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ, co-heirs of everything that He has inherited as God's only begotten Son; temples of the Holy



Fr. Oswald

From the State Chaplain

Spirit. What is more, we became brothers and sisters to each other, and thus responsible to one another, and called to care for one another.

So as St. Paul points out in his letter to the Corinthians when he speaks of the suffering of the body: "If [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy." (1 Cor. 12:26).

When one part of the body of Christ hurts, we all hurt. When one part of the Body of Christ is in pain and suffering, we all should be concerned. For the last few years, the Body of Christ in the Middle East, especially in places like Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria have been suffering terribly under the ISIS terrorists. The destruction of historic places, cities, villages, cathedral churches, parish churches, bishops houses — not to mention, just families houses, is beyond comprehension. We simply do not have any experience of it in our lifetime, nor in our hemisphere.

At recent Supreme Conventions, we have had the opportunity to listen to the bishops of these places and to hear of the atrocities committed against our brothers and sisters and know of their immense sufferings. The Supreme Council has launched a new "Marian Icon" program to help us all be in solidarity with the Church in the Middle East and to help them in some way.

Most of us can not run off and fight ISIS, nor do we need to. That is left to others, but what we can

do is very simple. When the program comes to your district, to your Council, to your parish — PARTICIPATE! Pray for our brothers and sister who are suffering so severely at the hands of extremists who want nothing more than the total destruction of Christianity in the Middle East. They would rather behead people rather than co-exist with them. They would rather destroy and destruct rather than tolerate.

In our Christian charity, we must strive to find love for our enemies as Christ has commanded. We must pray for understanding and attempt to comprehend the incomprehensible.

While these things are considered and attempted, let us earnestly do our part, here in the Sooner State, as members of the Body of Christ in both the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and in the Diocese of Tulsa, to be in peace with one another and in harmony with the bishops of our dioceses and in unity with the bishops of these beleaguered dioceses in these troubled areas of the world. May Christ the King triumph again; may Christianity be freely practiced and may Our Lady of Persecuted Christians wrap her mantle around us all, and bring us to the peace of the Kingdom of Her Divine Son.

In closing let me remind you of these famous words, often attributed to Edmund Burke, who may have said, "all that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

Well we can do something — we can join each other in prayer before Our Lady of Persecuted Christians.

Rev. M Price Oswald, State Chaplain

Join The Father McGivney Guild

Please print in block letters

If you and your family are not members of the Father McGivney Guild, please complete the coupon and mail to:

**The Father McGivney Guild
Knights of Columbus
1 Columbus Plaza
New Haven, Ct. 06510-3328**

Register online at www.kofc.org

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City _____

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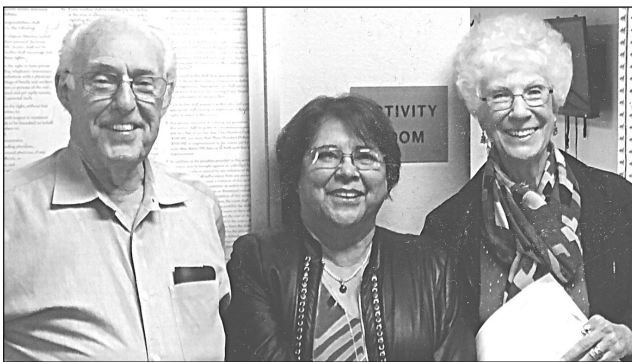
Guild members receive a bi-monthly newsletter on the status of the sainthood cause, a special prayer card and additional materials as they are developed. Members may also submit prayer and Mass intentions to the director of the Guild. KOC membership does not make one automatically a Guild member. **PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY EITHER** with this form or online.



Helping give gifts were, from left, Helga Spain, Shirley Warren and Kathy Houk.



Residents opening gifts at the center in Okarche, Okla.



From left are Bill Vanlandingham, treasurer, Sylvia Vanlandingham and Mary Blake.

Council 5759 spreads cheer at Center of Family Love

Council 5759 of Oklahoma City visited the CFL in December and gave gifts to the residents. They also gave two gifts of \$500 and \$250 for special projects at the CFL. Knights and friends also enjoyed singing Christmas songs.

Information, photos provided by Michael Zink.



Santa (Dick Vitale) with residents of the center. Since 1981 the Knights have sponsored the work at the CFL to help developmentally challenged adults.



Presenting a check to the center are, from left, Ruth Giddeons, president of the ladies auxiliary, Lee Ann Carpenter of the CFL, Sister Veronica and Terry Neidel, DGK.

Calendar

(Editor's Note: There are dates with degree work listed. Please obtain more information on each from your GK or your district deputy.)

February

Feb. 6

Rose Day at the State Capitol in OKC, annual pro-life effort.

Feb. 9

— Formation and Knighting degree, Yukon, 6478.

Feb. 11 Admissions degree, Host 12108, Norman.

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day.

Feb. 17 Admissions degree, Host 11237 St. Monicas.

Feb. 23 Formation & Knighting, Lawton, 11909.

Reminders

March 6 is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. March 17 is St. Patrick's Day. Easter Sunday is April 21 and the state convention is April 26 to April 28.

Council briefs

Council 1044, Enid

GK **Adam Treman** reports another successful Thanksgiving dinner for the Enid community by the Order. About 200 Enid residents were helped. The brother also participated in a Christmas party for residents at Center of Family Love. A recent Knight of the Month was **Dwayne Posey** and a recent Family of the Month was **Joe and Carlene Maly**.

Council 13366, OKC

Editor's Note: Michael McNutt of St. Joseph's Council 13366 in OKC reported the following .

We mourn the passing of **Ryan Meyers**, a charter member of Council 13366. He died Nov. 21 at the age of 44. Ryan transferred to Council 11237 at St. Monica Catholic Church in Edmond.

Keep in your prayers his wife, Susan, and his children, Daniel, 11, and Sarah, 10.

Ryan was an organ donor. At least 15 people's lives were saved or changed for the better because of his organ donations.

As a result, he is still making this Earth a better place.



PHOTOS PROVIDED/MIGUEL GRIJALVA

The Honor Guard of the Order was present at St. Peter's in Guymon for the Mass of the Provincial Rose. The program, honoring our beloved patroness the Blessed Mother, has been in place for many years. Celebrating the Mass was Father John Paul Lewis.

