The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message



Worthy Brothers and Sir Knights,

As we enter this holiday season, I offer each of you and your families my heartfelt wishes for a joyful, peaceful, and truly grace-filled Thanksgiving. This time of year, invites us to pause, reflect, and recognize the countless blessings God has placed in our lives—our families, our councils, our parishes, and the brotherhood we share as Knights of Columbus.

Continued next page

The Silver Knight
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production of the
Knights of Columbus
Nevada State
Council

Editor: David Varon varond@ymail.com

Nothing emboldens the wicked so greatly as the lack of courage on the part of the good.

Pope Leo XIII

State Deputy's Message

Our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, has called us to embrace "the grace of gratitude." His message reminds us that gratitude is more than a polite gesture or just a seasonal sentiment; it is a virtue that transforms our hearts, sharpens our sense of mission, and deepens our relationship with Christ. When we cultivate this grace, we see more clearly the ways God is at work among us—and we become more willing instruments of His love.

I urge every Knight in Nevada to take this message to heart. Let us look with gratitude at what we have accomplished together and let that gratitude inspire an even greater commitment to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism in the months ahead. May our councils continue to be organizations where faith is strengthened, families are supported, grievances forgiven, and hope is shared.

On behalf of the Nevada State Council, please accept sincere appreciation for all you do both as Catholic men and members of the Knights of Columbus. May God bless you and your loved ones with a very Happy Thanksgiving filled with peace, fellowship, and the "grace of gratitude."

Vivat Jesus!

David M. Clarke State Deputy Nevada State Council Knights of Columbus

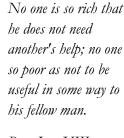
Introducing General Agent John Stice

On January 1, 2026, John H. Stice GA, FIC, IAR will assume the position of General Agent of Nevada and Idaho. Current General Agent Kevin Tuuri is retiring from a successful career in field sale and management. John is currently establishing office space and contact information to make available for all.

John Stice began his career with the Knights of Columbus in 1991 as a field agent in Abilene, Texas. His early years were marked by significant success, qualifying for all but one awards trip from 1991 to 1999, demonstrating consistent performance and dedication. In January 2000, he transitioned to a general agent role in Alabama, expanding his responsibilities. His territory grew to include Tennessee in 2002, and around 2011, Tennessee was changed to Mississippi, where he has remained until the present day.

His agency's success is notable, but John takes pride in his mentorship role. Three agents under his guidance—Mark Stice, Daniel Schachle, and Benji Borrelli—went on to become general agents, highlighting his commitment to developing talent within the organization. This mentorship reflects the fraternal and supportive culture of the Knights of Columbus, aligning with its principles of unity and fraternity.

At the core of John's work is his dedication to Father Michael J. McGivney's mission, founded in 1882, which emphasizes protecting families through financial products, particularly life insurance.





Message from the EFF Director

Open the Door: How Inviting Non-Members to "Cor" Can Ignite Recruitment

Every Knight of Columbus knows the challenge: we need more good men. We see them in our parishes, sitting in the pews beside us, standing at the back after Mass, quietly searching for something more. Many of them want to grow in their faith and serve others—but they don't yet know that the Knights of Columbus can be the brotherhood they're looking for.

That's where Cor comes in.

"Cor" means "heart," and it's the heartbeat of our mission—to strengthen Catholic men in faith and fellowship. The beauty of a Cor gathering is that it's not a business meeting. It's not a pitch for membership. It's a place of prayer, reflection, and brotherhood where men can speak honestly about their faith and their challenges.

When you invite a non-member to a Cor gathering, you're not "recruiting." You're welcoming. You're offering a man something our world is desperate for: a community where faith is alive, men support each other, and Christ is at the center.

Here's what happens when non-members come to Cor:

- ~ They **experience brotherhood** instead of hearing about it.
- ~ They **see faith in action** through authentic conversation and prayer.
- ~ They **realize the Knights are different** —not a club, but a spiritual fraternity.

And often, that encounter plants a seed. Many men who attend Cor as guests soon ask, "How can I join?" because they've felt what we stand for.

So, brother Knights, let's stop waiting for recruitment drives to grow our councils. Let's open the doors of Cor.

Continued next page

The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.

Message from the EFF Director

Invite your fellow parishioners, coworkers, and friends. Tell them, "Come as you are. Just come see what it's like to be among brothers who put faith first."

You may be surprised how quickly one invitation can change a man's life—and strengthen our Order from the inside out.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Melton PGK DD13 Evangelization, Faith Formation Director Nevada State Council (702) 510-5481 Tommelton001@yahoo.com

Peace is built on the foundation of justice.



Note from State Historian

"Veterans Day Celebration and Parades" 4th Degree – Patriotism

Schedule More Exemplifications!

Council updates are as follows:

- I continue to be in contact with our District Deputies and Grand Knights to make sure each Council has a respective Council Historian, for this new Columbian year and going forward. The Council Historian will assist the State Historian in reaching into the respective Council archives for access to the noteworthy events or activities of the Council and Brother Knights. In some Councils this role will reside with the Grand Knight, due to the size of Council membership. Please be prepared to discuss who is best suited for this position on your Council. As always, this is your chance to tell and record your Council's continuing story!
- In concert with Worthy State David M. Clarke and myself, we recommend Councils setting up a "cloud based" storage system for each Council's records, photos, activity accounting, etc. The continuity of record keeping can then be documented/updated over the continuing "Columbian Year" by the Council Historian.
- Please use my email address: <u>imichael_brady@att.net</u> to assist in adding any historic documentation, as indicated above, to capture the Nevada State history of our Fraternal Order. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with you, my Brother Knights

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Remember: The message Blessed Michael McGivney continues to have for us, that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT.

Continue to Celebrate Father Michael J. McGivney's "Blessed" status!

God is not only true, but Truth itself.

History of St. Mary in the Mountains, Virginia City

Early Foundations and First Structures:

The Catholic presence in Virginia City began in the early 1860s. The first Catholic church in Virginia City was built by Father Hugh P. Gallagher in 1860. That initial wooden building did not last long, as a strong wind destroyed it within a few years. Father Patrick "Paddy" Manogue, who later became Bishop Manogue, arrived around 1862 and oversaw the building of a replacement church, dedicated as St. Mary in the Mountains by Bishop Eugene O'Connell on July 17, 1864.

Growth, the Great Fire, and Rebuilding:

The Comstock silver boom brought many immigrants, particularly Irish, Italian, and Mexican Catholics, to Virginia City, creating demand for a larger church. In 1870, a new brick church was completed and dedicated on November 20 of that year. In October 1875, the Great Fire of Virginia City destroyed much of the town, severely damaging the church. It was rebuilt in 1876–77 using parts of the surviving walls. A marker today notes: "Built 1868. Burned 1875. Rebuilt 1876."

Architecture, Features, and Interior:

The rebuilt church was designed in a Gothic Revival style with pointed arches and steep gables. Inside, redwood and white pine were used for the woodwork, including arches, pews, and balconies. Pews had small doors and were once rented to parishioners. A heavy bronze bell weighing over 2,200 pounds survived the fire. Interior ornamentation has evolved through multiple restorations over time.

Later History: Challenges, "Mad Monks," and Restoration:

In the mid-20th century, the church fell into neglect. Between 1957 and 1959, Cistercian monks from Wisconsin briefly managed it, altering much of the original interior. Known locally as the "Mad Monks," they removed stained glass and the choir loft. Father Caviglia regained control in 1959, starting restoration efforts. Later, Father Paul Meinecke expanded the restorations and preserved historic buildings nearby, converting one into an art center. A wine cellar and museum were added beneath the church.

Present Status and Significance:

Today, St. Mary in the Mountains is Nevada's oldest active Catholic church. It functions both as a parish and as a museum featuring artifacts from its long history, including items from the Great Fire and the "Mad Monks" era. It remains part of the Diocese of Reno and a key landmark in the Virginia City Historic District, recognized as a National Historic Landmark. Mass continues weekly, and the church is open to visitors year-round.

The Knights of Columbus St. Ann of the Comstock, Council 13924 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Dayton, NV, manage and staff the museum's operations.

Once the demands of necessity and propriety have been met, the rest that one owns belongs to the poor.

Knight in the Light Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Sir Knight Chuck Davlin, PGK, FDD, PFN, FDM, FVSM, PSD and Supreme Regional Growth Director

I was born in Colorado, but when I was nine, my family moved to Idaho. I am a third generation Knight as my maternal grandfather and my father were both Knights in Nampa, ID. My siblings and I worked on Knights of Columbus projects from an early age with Dad.

I joined the Knights two weeks after I turned 18. I received my Second and Third Degrees the day before my Confirmation. I became a Fourth Degree two years after achieving the Third Degree.



Remember and understand well that where Peter is, there is the Church.

Pope Leo XIII

After college and several jobs, I joined the Canyon County Sheriff's Department in Caldwell, ID as a Deputy in 1992. On my days off from the Sheriff's Department, I worked for 14 years as a part-time contract guard for the U.S. Marshal's Service in Boise. I met my wife Kathy in 2001, and we were married in Nampa in 2003.

After holding many Knights of Columbus Officer and State Director positions --- including Grand Knight, District Deputy for four years (including Star District), Faithful Navigator, State Ceremonials Chairman, State Church Director and several others, I served as the State Treasurer for Idaho in 2003. I was also active in ceremonials having been the Chancellor for the 1st and 2nd Degrees, an O.D. and C.O for the 3rd Degrees and the Historian for the 4th Degree.

Kathy and I were elected Idaho State Deputy in 2005 and 2006. I was appointed Idaho's first Executive Secretary in 2009 and served for 10 years. I was appointed Idaho District Master from 2008-2012 and Vice-Supreme Master for two years for the Blanchet Province in 2017. I retired from the Sheriff's Office in April 2019 and after a two-day retirement, flew to New Haven for orientation as a Regional Training Director in the Knights of Columbus. On July 1, 2019, I was promoted to Assistant Regional Growth Director and was "promoted" again to Regional Growth Director in 2023. My job didn't change, just the title did.

Continued next page

Knight in the Light Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Over the last six years I worked with Jurisdictions in the Northwest and the Pacific: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Alaska, Hawaii, and Guam. This year I am working in the Southwest which includes Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

Over the last 44 years as a Knight and 42 as a Sir Knight, I have worked on many projects including our 20-year Bingo Operation, our food booth at the Western Idaho Fair for many years, and the durable medical equipment shed that my Council has maintained for more than 25 years. I have also Chaired two Idaho State Conventions held in Nampa.

I am a Charter member of my Assembly which was started in 1984. I am a Charter Member in two Idaho Councils that I have helped start in Payette and a Hispanic Council in Nampa. I am also a Charter Member of a "new" Assembly in Boise which started in 2010. In my Parish, when I am in town on weekends, I serve as Usher and as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.

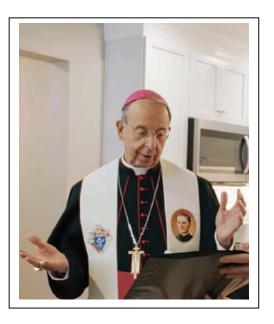
Kathy and I have two children and two grandsons, and currently two dogs. We enjoy traveling to see our daughter and grandsons and camping in our travel trailer in the company of friends.

Being an active member of the Knights has both given me a platform grow my faith and is an invaluable way for me and my family to put that faith into action through our many programs.



All Catholics must make themselves felt as active elements in daily political life in the countries where they live. They should do all in their power to cause the constitutions of states and legislation to be modeled on the principles of the true Church.

Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge



Each month, Archbishop William Lori – Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus – selects a brief passage from the Gospel reading of one of the Sunday Masses of the month. This month we look at Luke 21:17-19 the Gospel for Nov. 16.

"You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

To suffer and to endure is the lot of humanity.

Pope Leo XIII

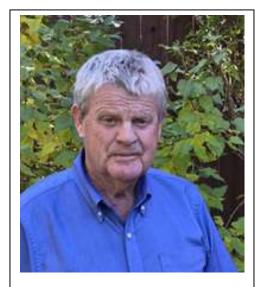
Jesus promised his faithful disciples many things — that he will always be with us, that we will receive if we ask, and that he would give us rest. He also promised that we would be hated and that we would be persecuted for the sake of his name. We must persevere and remain faithful despite the hardships we suffer for our faith. May we always put into action St. Paul's admonition: "Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer" (Rom 12:12).

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori: This month, I challenge you to learn more about the lives of the saints by selecting one or more martyrs to read about and then reflecting on how you can imitate his or her perseverance and hope.

Questions for Reflection: Have you ever struggled with hope when life has brought challenges? Have you ever experienced bigotry, rejection, hostility or hatred on account of your Catholic faith? What are some concrete ways you can seek to grow in perseverance to face life's difficulties?

Introducing Our New Pro-Life Directors

This year we are fortunate to have two Pro-Life Directors -- Dr. Steve Brown, in the North and Mark Gilmour, Esq. in the South.



Dr. Steven Brown

Rehabilitation M.D. for 35 years

Honorary Membership, 4th Degree Knight

Previous St Albert's Respect Life Director

Catholic Board Member of Real Choices Women's Center

Previous 40 Days for Life Organizer

Previous Reno Diocese Walk for Life Organizer

Previous Respect Life Commission Member

Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us, inflame our hearts with love of Thee.

Pope Leo XIII

Lifetime married Catholic, parishioner at St. Thomas More, 2 sons, one of whom is in US Navy

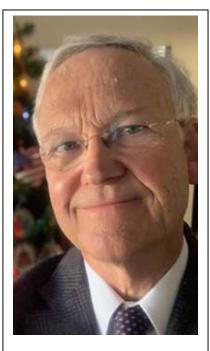
Co-founder, Advocate and Life Director in 3 yr. old Council #17996 in Henderson, NV.

Helped his Council win State Award for Best COR (Faith) Program 2023-2024, serves as a lector, leads a Men's Prayer Group, and COR Catechism.

Three years ago, Mark answered a "call" and helped save a baby's life by praying at an abortion center for the first time. (documented by "40 days for Life").

Retired executive, corporate attorney, and change agent, and helps lead Respect Life initiatives.

Third Degree Knight.



Mark Gilmour, Esq

O Virgin most holy, none abounds in the knowledge of God except through thee; none, O Mother of God, obtains salvation except through thee, none receives a gift from the throne of mercy except through thee.

Pope Leo XIII



YOU ARE INVITED to IGNITE LIFE Luncheon Calling and recruiting all men to defend our families

- Messages of Hope and Faith in Action
- Practical advice for Council LIFE Activities

St. Thomas More Catholic Community in Henderson Saturday, December 13, 2025
Lunch conference 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
We welcome men in Southern NV for fellowship
There is no fee; however, a suggested free will donation of \$10 will be appreciated
Below please find the Signup Genius signup for the Ignite Life Luncheon.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EA9AD22A 0F9C43-60727557-ignite

Breakfast with State Deputy David Clarke



The Catholic Professional & Business Group (CP&BG) holds a breakfast meeting at 7 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Atlantis Hotel Casino. The Catholic Professional Group offers a chance for business networking and the opportunity to hear both lay and religious speakers who encourage and motivate members to live an exemplary Christian life.

On Nov. 12, the guest speaker was Worthy State Deputy David Clarke. He noted how xenophobic the nation has become and recalled discrimination his Irish family suffered when they arrived in New York following the Irish Potato Famine of 1845 to 1852. He recalled his grandfather showing him the classified ad section of the newspaper of the time. Besides a listing of job openings, the paper had a banner across the top that read "Irish need not apply."

State Deputy Clarke also displayed the "Knights of Columbus Mexican Martyr Reliquary." This large cross contains relics of six Mexican Martyrs who were members of the Knights of Columbus. The martyrs were executed in 1929 and canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000. The Reliquary is circulating in several parishes in Northern Nevada.

The Catholic Professional Group encourages its members to contribute ideas and suggestions for potential speakers and topics of interest. Annual membership fees start at \$90. For more information go to https://catholicprofessionals.org/

There is in the Sacred Heart the symbol and express image of the infinite love of Jesus Christ which moves us to love in return.

SROL has its first REVERSE food distribution



Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada announced all week on local radio and televisions stations that it would distribute food at St. Rose of Lima Church on Saturday Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. "Since the government shutdown, we're seeing a 20% increase in the number of people coming to the pantry for food, said St. Rose of Lima's Food Pantry Ministry leader Kerry McKinney. "No matter what the politics, families still need to feed their children." St. Rose parishioners received only two days notice of the food distribution.

On Saturday morning the Catholic Charities food van arrived expecting to give away food to a couple hundred families --- but the parishioners of St. Rose of Lima had a surprise in store. A steady stream of parishioners showed up with bags of canned goods, and boxed food items. Soon the stream became a flood. "We had a food distribution in reverse," said Kerry. "More was collected than given away."

The food van could not hold all the items collected, so Kerry filled up her car for a special trip to the St. Francis of Assisi Food Bank on Monday morning. "It is heart-warming to see the generosity of this parish in action," said Kerry.



People differ in capacity, skill, health, strength; and unequal fortune is a necessary result of unequal condition. Such inequality is far from being disadvantageous either to individuals or to the community.

Council 10780 at Priest Appreciation Dinner



On Oct. 22, members of Knights of Columbus Council 10780 traveled from Pahrump to St. Thomas More parish in Las Vegas to participate in the 77th Annual Priest Appreciation Dinner. "This dinner is a meaningful tradition dedicated to honoring the devoted clergy of the Archdiocese of Las Vegas," said Grand Knight Vern Hee.

The evening brought together Archbishop Thomas of Las Vegas, many of the Archdiocesan priests, and supportive Knights and their families. Council 10780 was proud to show its support by filling a full table. Those in attendance from the council and their families included Grand Knight Vern Hee, John Demko, Tom Schaffer, Ed Bevilacqua, Gary Bird, and Francisco Diaz, accompanied by their loved ones, Terri Hee and Sheila Diaz, and, of course, the council's own beloved Chaplain, Fr. Bruno.

Attendees shared a convivial meal of chicken and lasagna while listening to an inspiring address by Archbishop Thomas. "This event was a powerful reminder of the deep appreciation the Knights hold for the spiritual leadership, dedication, and service of their priests," said GK Vern Hee. "It was an evening focused on strengthening the bonds of faith and brotherhood within the archdiocese community."

We are convinced that the Rosary, if devotedly used is bound to benefit not only the individual but society at large.

Council 10780's Tootsie Roll Drive



WSK Michael Bascon and family

Our own belief is that the renovation of the world will be brought about only by the Holy Eucharist.

Pope Leo XIII

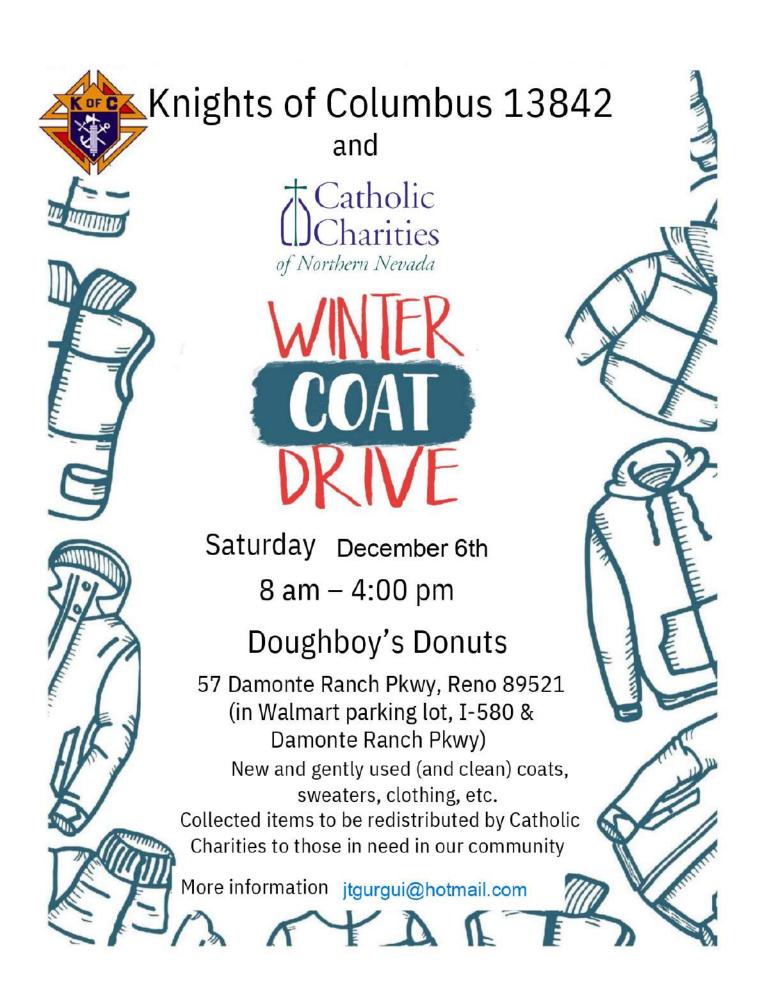
Charlie Wenham and Team Knock it Out of the Park for the Tootsie Roll Drive

The annual Tootsie Roll Drive on Nov. 8 was an outstanding success, thanks entirely to the fantastic leadership of Brother Charlie Wenham and the dedicated team who stepped up to serve!

This drive is essential as the funds raised directly support individuals with intellectual disabilities in our local community. "We are incredibly grateful for the generosity shown by the public and the commitment of our brothers," said Grand Knight Vern Hee.



L to R: GK Vern and SK Gabe Garzia.





Bishop Manogue Assembly 612 Assembly Christmas Party Information / Invite Friday, December 12, 2025 \$30 per person

Share the joy of the season by celebrating Christmas with Assemblies

Sir Knights and their Families.

Attire is "Christmas Casual"

Location
Reno Elks Lodge
597 Kumle Street
Reno, Nv 89509
RSVP with Ricky Harold
(253) 740-9074 or
William Sousa (775) 544-0514





Schedule of Events

5 - 6:30 Social hour 6:30 Blessing and Dinner 7 - 8:30 Social and Raffle

Please RSVP to William Sousa at wsousaKofC@icloud.com or Ricky Harold at (253) 740-9074.

ASAP Grant to Allyfe Pregnancy Clinic



The Allyfe Pregnancy Clinic (formerly Women's Resource Medical Centers of Southern Nevada) is located at 1701 W Charleston Blvd, Ste 130, Las Vegas and offers a wide range of services, including pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, prenatal care and fatherhood mentoring. A patient advocate helps each client navigate options and connect with ongoing support, from parenting classes to financial assistance. All with love and without charge.

Through the efforts of Knights of Columbus St. Thomas More Council 17996, the Allyfe Pregnancy Clinic received a \$400 ASAP grant.

Photo caption (L to R)

Mark Gilmour - Knights of Columbus St. Thomas More Council #17996

Cathy Mainardi - Parish Liaison to Allyfe Clinic

Shelena Trimble (holding check) -Allyfe Clinic

Fr. Edmund Nnadozie - Pastor, St. Thomas More

Fr. Mark Lam Tran - Associate Pastor, St. Thomas More

Not pictured: Cheryl Schwarz - Director Outreach Ministry

"The family was ordained of God that children might be trained up for himself; it was before the church, or rather the first form of the church on earth.

Pope Leo XIII

Flag Retirement



SK Ted Schmidt and FN Jim Shurtliff

Assembly 2739 in Fallon assisted the VFW and the Boy Scouts in a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Veteran's Day on the grounds of VFW Post 1002. More than 200 flags were retired. Assembly 2739 contributed 125 old flags obtained through a Flag Exchange program at the 3 parishes the Assembly represents.



SK John Mataraza



FN Jim Shurtliff and SK Ted Balash



L to R Sir Knights Marlon Clark, Phil Sabatino, Jim Shurtliff, John Mataraza, and Bob Greer

SEAS "Keep Christ in Christmas" Button Contest

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (SEAS) Parish annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" button contest is open to all SEAS parish students grades 1 to 8. This year 211 contest entries were voted on by members of Mother Seton Council 11029, the SEAS Staff, and the Seton's Men's Club. The top three winners were announced at the 8 am Children's Mass on Thursday, November 6.













The 2025 winning entry

Martyrs' Reliquary Visits the Diocese of Reno





This large cross contains relics of six Mexican Martyrs who were members of the Knights of Columbus. The martyrs were executed in 1929 and canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000. The Reliquary is circulating in several parishes in Northern Nevada.









Military Appreciation Dinner



On Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, US Army veteran David Sousa was honored at Bishop Manogue Assembly 612's Military Appreciation Dinner





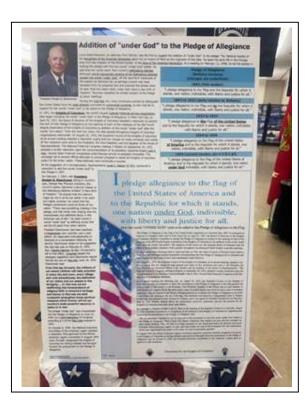




Veterans Day at Immaculate Conception Church











This Month's Photos Veterans Day Parade in Reno











