

The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message



State Deputy Meynard Infantado

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Good day!

I was reading the gospel today and it coincides with one of the most impressive verses in the Bible, John 15:13, "No one has greater love than his, to lay down one's life for one's friends." By no means, I am not a Theologian; although I took some classes in high school and college so allow me to give my reflections in a simple way.

The message is clear, in every suffering, there's a lesson and we learned from it. Suffering will make us strong to be able to love our enemies; to forgive and forget. In suffering, as brother Knights, we help someone in need and in distress. We ask the Lord to help us prepare for his coming Lent.

Here's of the gospels for this week is Luke 9:22-25

Jesus said to his disciples:” The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.”

Then he said to all,” If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?”

Thank you!

The Silver Knight Newsletter is a production of the Knights of Columbus Nevada State Council

Editor: David Varon
varond@ymail.com

When we pray we speak to God; but when we read, God speaks to us.

St. Jerome

Has your Council helped a Seminarian?

The big question is, has your Council taken advantage of the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) and helped a Seminarian this fraternal year?

Remember if you send a check for \$500 to a Seminarian, and then send the canceled check to Supreme, you will receive a rebate check back for \$100.

So, the \$500 becomes \$600 in seminarian support, assuming you use the \$100 to buy Seminarian Raffle tickets with it.

As the State RSVP Program Coordinator, I keep asking for Councils to provide me with the names on the Seminararians supported, so I can include that information in the report promised to both Bishops.

If your Council has helped a Seminarian, please let me know.

Vivat Jesus!

Ken

Kenneth J Sawyer, 4th Degree, District Master (LV Archdiocese)
NV State Council, Chief of Staff

Resolutions of Support

If you wish to run for State office, please submit your Resolution along with a letter bearing the signature of your Grand Knight as soon as possible. All candidates will be nominated and elected at the State Convention in May. Votes will be cast by the two Delegates from each council and by current State Officers.

Note: Councils who have not paid their Per Capita to the State will not be allowed to vote.

Membership Growth Report

Brothers,

I want to thank our members for their hard work and dedication to growing the order. We have moved back into fifth place in the order. We are now only eleven members away from our state goal of 7250 members in Nevada. We should surpass this goal this month but that does not mean we can stop inviting men to join our council and order. Order wide we have added 52,482 members to our order, but this number does not replace the average of over 56,000 that we lose each year to deaths and suspensions. We need to invite younger men into the order and yes, they will join. When I am at a delta drive, I first look for younger men with families. It does pay off as this last weekend I signed up seven new members of which four were under the age of thirty and the youngest was just nineteen. I also signed up older men with the oldest being seventy-seven. If I can do it so can every knight in Nevada. You only need to invite them to join.

We had a busy time in Las Vegas this last weekend with five councils having delta drives and over twenty-five men filling out form 100's or signing up online.

We still have eight active councils who have not added one new member this year. I hear all the time it is just about numbers. Yes, it is about growing our order, so we have more men to do God's work. If we stopped inviting men to join, we would be like other fraternities who are losing members. I found this online:

Fraternal organizations have witnessed a substantial drop in membership during the 1980s and 1990s. Membership is down significantly in such groups as the Lions (off 12 percent since 1983), the Elks (off 18 percent since 1979), the Shriners (off 27 percent since 1979), the Jaycees (off 44 percent since 1979), and the Masons (down 39 percent since 1959). In sum, after expanding steadily throughout most of this century, many major civic organizations have experienced a sudden, substantial, and nearly simultaneous decline in membership over the last decade or two.

It is a tribute to the leadership of the Knights of Columbus, at all levels, we are not one of the above as we have grown our order consistently over the years by inviting Catholic men to join us in fulfilling the vision and mission of our Founder Blessed Father McGivney. Something we need to embrace and be proud of and celebrate, not something to complain about.

Thanks again to all my brothers who were part of the delta drives this last weekend. A special thanks to Trent Schafer who set up and participated in the delta drive at St John Neumann. Trent is the deputy grand knight and the youngest knight in the council at nineteen. He is also a teacher for the conformation students in the parish. An example for us all to emulate.

God Bless

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM
State Membership Director

*Ignorance of the Scriptures
is ignorance of Christ.*

St. Jerome

Note from the State Historian

This Year Our Order is 143 Years in Service Schedule More Exemplifications!

*Plan to Attend the 114th Nevada State
Convention at Suncoast Hotel and Casino,
Las Vegas, May 3-5, 2024*

Council updates are as follows:

Council updates:

- 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 Deputy Meynard Infantado 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: historian@nv-kofc.com 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.

*The Scriptures are
shallow enough for a
babe to come and drink
without fear of drowning
and deep enough for
theologians to swim in
without ever reaching the
bottom.*

St. Jerome

Knights in Nevada History

Blessed Michael McGivney's Feast Day Celebration is August 13th

As we prepare for the Fiest Day Celebration of Blessed Michael McGivney this year with Masses and reflections on his life and give glory to God for the example of one remarkable parish priest, and with great confidence we call upon him as our intercessor in heaven. August marks the time of our Supreme Convention at which time we gather to remember and celebrate the vision of the founder and look to the future ways in which the Order might strengthen the Church and our faith and serve the needs of others.

Keep in mind, as you plan this Fiest Day, that the Reno Diocese now has a Reliquary of Blessed Michael McGivney that is available, for loan by arrangement, at the Diocese office.

When we look carefully at the life and work of Father McGivney, we are struck by his constant self-giving at great personal cost. For him, love and the care of others always involved sacrifice. No matter how tired, no matter how many demands were upon him, all witnesses attest to his patience and loving attention to families burdened with financial hardship or domestic struggles. He was no stranger to the suffering of the poor, the unemployed, or those caught in the grip of alcoholism or other addictions. He was a man of compassion and self-sacrifice, with his own health suffering consequently.

The ability to forget one's own needs to serve others is the Christian call to perfect love, and perfect charity.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Remember: The message Blessed Michael McGivney has for us is 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!

Pray that Pope Francis I will Canonize our Blessed Michael McGivney!

*Make knowledge of the
Scripture your love ...
Live with them, meditate
on them, make them the
sole object of your
knowledge and inquiries.*

St. Jerome

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

Sir Knight Matt Mareno, PGK and FDD

I was born in Los Angeles in May 1989 where my family lived for less than a year before moving to Reno for work. While not technically a native Nevadan, I still have a very strong connection to this state and I am one of the long-term parishioners of Saint Albert the Great. I'm the oldest of three with a sister Megan and a brother Michael. I am a third-generation knight and was involved in parish events long before I was old enough to join the Knights.

At a fairly young age, my sister and I charmed citizens of downtown Reno while collecting donations and donning yellow tootsie roll drive smocks that were several sizes too large and contained language that would not be considered politically correct in today's societal landscape – some readers may remember the old smocks. As a child, I served my parish as an altar server and occasionally sang in the choir. I was a member of the Cub Scouts pack and Boy Scouts troop sponsored by council 7322. I grew up enjoying parish functions put on by the knights like monthly parish breakfasts, the annual Easter egg hunt, ham and turkey bingo and the free throw challenge - to which I can proudly report that I am a past champion. As I got older, I was able to help at the annual memorial golf tournament and Reno Air Race fundraisers.

My mother is also entrenched in the church. She has served as the director of the Child Development Center at Saint Alberts for decades and now also serves as the parish life director. My first job, along with both of my siblings, was working the after school program and summer camp at Saint Alberts. Many of our family friends (nearly all with children my age) were forged through my father's participation in the Knights, leading me to a stronger connection with the church community at Saint Albert's.

When I decided that I needed an outlet for further volunteerism and a deepening of my faith, I knew just the organization that would be able to provide me with these opportunities. I attended my first-degree ceremonial and joined Christ the King Council 7322 in 2011 fresh from graduation from the University of Nevada, Reno with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. I then attained second- and third-degree membership less than three weeks later. As the youngest active member in the council at the time, I was quickly moved into the youth director role and relayed my activities in the confirmation core team and leadership in the parish youth group while also picking up the youth programs put on by the council. My success in this role lead my brother Knights to elect me Deputy Grand Knight for Fraternal Year 2014-2015 where I was fortunate to serve for two years and absorb as much information as I could before becoming my council's youngest Grand Knight in Fraternal Year 2016-2017 where I served the council and the order for an additional two years.

(Story continues on page 20)

*Be at peace with your
own soul, then heaven
and earth will be at
peace with you.*

St. Jerome

Message from the State Chaplain

Dear Brother Knights,

The season of Lent is a time for soul-searching. It is a time for intense prayer, meditation, and fasting, not only from food, but also from all the things that impede us from having a closer relationship with God, with our own family, with our brothers in the Order and with the community. It is a time to increase our desire to become generous to those who are in need and to do acts of charity. It is a time to grow in faith and to live a more Christ-filled life.

As we dedicate our time to the Lord during Lent, we are invited to spend time to do a Holy Hour, to adore Jesus in the Holy Eucharist as a singular gift of God's presence, to continue our "COR" initiative in every council and to participate in Prayer, Formation and Fraternity with our eagerness to invite all men in our parish. This is our response to Church Synodality of listening, communion, participation and walking together as committed disciples and missionaries of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

We are also called to redirect our lives to God's merciful presence and walk with Him on the life-giving journey of conversion and renewal throughout the weeks of Lent. I look forward to praying with many of you as we seek God's healing grace during this time.

As your State Chaplain, I humbly invite and encourage everyone to pray for each brother for the upcoming State Convention and the election of new State Officers. I invoke the guidance of the Holy Spirit to free us from politicking and to discern well for the good of the Order. This we pray:

Almighty and loving God, as our State Convention approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our State Council. In the desert of our hearts, we recognize that You are ever faithful and present, particularly amid the challenges that envelop our broken world and fragile lives.

Being a Knight of Columbus, we humbly inspire to follow in the footsteps of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, to dedicate our time and talents to care for the family, orphans, widows and youth and, most especially, to care for the poor and service to Society and the Church. We too ask you to give us more strength to hear the cries of the abused and to defend the abandoned and the unborn.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose State Officers as Servant-leaders who will bring us closer to your kingdom, as living examples of love and keeping your ways of truth. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Do not let your deeds
believe your words, lest
when you speak in
church someone may say
to himself, "Why do you
not practice what you
preach?"*

St. Jerome

(Story continues on page 23)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #12690, LAUGHLIN NEVADA
SPRING SWING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Los Lagos Golf Club

Saturday March 23rd, 2024 8:00 am

4 person Scramble Tournament, \$100 entry fee



Everyone Welcome!

Prizes, raffles, closest to the pin, 50/50!

Tee sponsorships available.

To sign-up or for more information, contact:

Ron Survillas (928) 404-4444 survillas@gmail.com

Gabe Nunez (760) 217-0454 gabefive8@gmail.com

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41st Annual Diocesan Conference Held in Sparks



The 41st Annual Diocesan Conference was held at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks on January 5-6. Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg offered a broad range of workshops and keynote speakers that provided rich Catholic content with focus on the Eucharist, parish leadership, prayer, liturgy, and worship.

Ponderosa Council assumed its traditional leadership role with twenty-four (24) of its members and family volunteering over 238 hours in service from event setup on January 4th (including the iconic water fountain pictured above), concierge services on Friday and Saturday, ushering the Bishop's closing mass, and event tear down immediately following. It was a great start to the new year.

- GK George A. Minter

*There are things in life
that are bigger than
ourselves. Life is short,
live it well.*

St. Jerome



FOURTH DEGREE

PATRIOTIC DEGREE OF THE ORDER

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHT

April 27, 2024, FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

SCHEDULE: 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM Registration of Candidates
 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM Exemplification
 04:00 PM -05:00 PM Mass at Christ the King
 05:00 PM -07:30 PM Social & Dinner follows Mass

LOCATION: **Christ the King, Catholic Community**
 4925 S. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89118

THE HONOREE FOR THIS DEGREE IS:
PSD, FVSM, Sir Knight David M. Ryan

Candidates must be in proper attire: Black Tuxedo, or Black, Dark Blue, or Dark Gray suit, Dress Shirt & Tie, and black dress shoes. No colored or printed shirts please.

Faithful Comptrollers: Report to the lead Marshall by 12:30 with completed form 4's and a check from the assembly for \$70.00 for each candidate. Your Exemplification fee includes your dinner.

We encourage you to invite your family to the dinner. Guest dinner tickets are \$30 each.

Make checks payable to **Ken Sawyer, Master**.

Signatures needed on the Form 4 are: Your Council Financial Secretary, the Assembly Faithful Navigator, and the Faithful Comptroller of the Assembly, and note the number of the Assembly you are joining.

Brothers in your Council and or your new Assembly should be able to help you get these signatures. If you are unable to collect all the signatures, please attend the Exemplification; we will gather the signatures later.

If you have any questions, contact 4th Degree Master, SK Ken Sawyer, 702-203-7403
Ken.J.Sawyer@COX.NET



April 20, 2024, FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION

SCHEDULE: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Registration of Candidates
11:30 AM – 2:45 PM Exemplification
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Mass at Immaculate Conception
6:30 PM – Dinner

LOCATION:

Immaculate Conception Church 2900 No. McCarran Blvd Sparks, NV 89431

Candidates Attire: Dark Suit and Tie.

Sir Knights attending the Exemplification may wear tuxedo or dark suit, with social baldric. Fourth Degree Uniform may be worn without beret or sword unless participating in Color Guard.

All Candidate Form 4's along with a \$80.00 check payable to Daniel Dexter Master for the exemplification and Dinner. Reservations should be completed and received by April 15, 2024. Spouses and guests are \$40.00 per person for Dinner.

For any question contact: William Sousa, at 775-544-0514 or email at williamsousa@me.com.

Council 12877 Valentine's Day dinner & dance



*Instead of speaking
saintly words we must
act them.*

St. Jerome

Love one another as I have loved you. John 13:34

There was nothing but love in the air at Council 12877's Valentine's Day dinner and dance at Immaculate Conception Parish in Sparks on Saturday, February 10. SK Terry Walsh and his crew served a choice of salmon or chicken with the fixings to 190 people including 20 couples who have been married 50 years or more.

Worthy State Warden Leo and Lady Connie Carew along with knights from other councils, including SK GK Ritchie Matoza from Council 12877 and SK GK George and Lady Joyce Minter from Ponderosa Council 4928 all enjoyed the night.

After dinner, CJ Urbani and his band played classic rock and roll. Father Philip stayed as long as he could, but he had to be up early for Sunday Mass. Next up for Council 12877 is the St Patrick's Day dinner, Saturday March 16 at ICC.

(For more pictures see page 19.)

Note from State Advocate, John D. Long, Esq.

To the Councils in the Archdiocese of Las Vegas:

Confidentiality

For those council and assemblies in the LV Diocese of the LV Archdiocese HEADS-UP# 1: Parishes there are required by Archbishop Tom to review compliance with LV Diocese Safe Environment (e.g., Child Safety) program. AS SUCH, the LV diocese parishes are beginning to review the Safe Environment compliance (training, fingerprinting, etc.) status of all parish volunteers including those from respective Knights councils. If the parish requests a council's roster of Knights, ONLY THE NAMES should be given and no other personal information (e.g., emails, addresses, phones numbers, etc.). Do not give them the entire council rosters. The Knights as an Order are very protective of Knights personal information. If there is an issue/question, get a hold of me.

Special Use Agreement

For those council and assemblies in the LV Diocese of the LV Archdiocese HEADS-UP #2: The risk management office of the LV Diocese is requiring Special Use Agreement on the parish level to be signed whenever parties use parish grounds for events. The basis for this requirement is making sure that 3rd parties using the parish grounds have insurance (e.g., purchase insurance from the Archdiocese LV's insurer Catholic Mutual.) Knights will have to get the Special Use Agreement from their respective parish WHENEVER the knights have an event on parish property where the PARISH IS NOT INVITED-(e.g., Monthly general council meetings [but not Council Office /Business meetings that are open to the public]; Wives Appreciation Dinners, Knights only parties (council Christmas parties, etc.). If you need to sign off on a Special Use Agreement

*Be ever engaged, so that
whenever the devil calls
he may find you
occupied.*

St. Jerome

Passing of Sir Knight Larry Levee

Brother Knights,

It is with deep and heartfelt sorrow that I am letting you all know that Brother and Sir Knight Larry Levee passed away on Friday, January 5, 2023, at the age of 67. Br. Larry transferred into our Council in 2019, coming from Council 3052 in Bellflower, CA. He previously served as a Guard, as Warden, and as Chancellor of Council 4828, and was currently serving as our Deputy Grand Knight. Br. Larry also coordinated our Council's annual Tootsie Roll drive during Columbian years 21/22 and 22/23. He was also a member of Father Sauveur "Sam" Dominique Tambourin 4th Degree Assembly 2739 in Fallon. Br. Larry will be missed by the members of our council and assembly, by our fellow parishioners, and by his friends and family. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

Jim Shurtliff, PGK Financial Secretary Fallon Council 4828 and
Faithful Navigator, Fr. Dominique Tambourin Assembly 2739

Thank you from Catholic Charities of NN



The Knights of Columbus, donated to us this winter a large number of coats.

The men of St Rose of Lima Parish conducted a coat drive, engaging the public, at Doughboy Donuts in South Reno.

The men of Our Lady of the Snows donated two cases of warm new adult coats.

Holy Cross Ponderosa Council purchased new coats for toddlers and and donated a generous check to our Elevating Families program.

These coats are greatly appreciated by our clients.

Thank you so much to each Council!



If then you remain constant in faith in the face of trial, the Lord will give you peace and rest for a time in this world, and forever in the next.

St. Jerome



Thank you from Living Grace Homes

January 31, 2024

Knights of Columbus
PO Box 81799
Las Vegas, NV 89180



Dear Treasurer,

Thank you for your 2023 donation of \$400 to Living Grace Homes, of which \$400 may be tax deductible. Your generous support has been invaluable, this year and every year. Thanks to your donations, the young women of Living Grace Homes learn how to care for their children and themselves, in a supportive atmosphere, where they are encouraged to move from dependency to empowerment.

In the 17 years we have been open, Living Grace Homes has assisted more than 800 young women. 2023 was another year of learning and growing. With your help we were able to continue finding new ways to provide assistance to moms in need. With expanded partnerships, Living Grace Homes has been able to help even more residents than in previous years, and those partnerships continue to grow and flourish. We have exciting plans for 2024, and we look forward to sharing them with you!

Thanks to your donations, we will continue to meet our mission of providing shelter and services for the current and future residents of Living Grace Homes.

Living Grace Homes is non-profit 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization (#26-3911446) and this is your tax receipt for your donation for the year.

Your generous donation is tax-deductible as provided by law. If you have any questions regarding the portion of your donation that is tax-deductible, please contact your tax professional.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Sincerely

Kathleen Miller
Executive Director

So valuable to heaven is the dignity of the human soul that every member of the human race has a guardian angel from the moment the person begins to be.

St. Jerome

Family of the Month for January 2024



For the month of January, Ponderosa Council recognizes SK Thomas Tighe Jr. and Lady Teresa as their Family of the Month. Both Thomas and Teresa bring years of support to the Church and to our fraternal order. Both are Eucharistic Ministers.

Teresa is also a Lector, a member of the Council's Ladies of the Knights auxiliary, and she frequently teams with Tom in service initiatives including

most recently, the Corporate Communion with Bishop Daniel.

SK Tom is a three-time Past Grand Knight from California with 55 years of active service in the Knights. During the Christmas season, he helped prepare and serve breakfast to families at the Breakfast with Santa event. He also serves as a Council Trustee and is one who actively attends and participates in council meetings when not vacationing on the road in an Airstream Travel Trailor with Lady Teresa. was the Council's Program Chair.

*We must love Christ
and always seek Christ's
embraces. Then
everything difficult will
seem easy.*

St. Jerome

Knight of the Month for January 2024

This month Ponderosa Council 4928 recognizes Past Grand Knight SK Robert Bertschinger as the Council Knight of the Month for January.

Robert has been a knight for 54 years and he just celebrated his 89th birthday,

At Holy Cross parish, Bob frequently serves as a Greeter, as an Usher and/or as a Eucharistic Minister at the



5 p.m. mass on Saturday. He frequently participates in Council meetings. In addition, he volunteered at the Reno Air Races selling cooler ice, and actively promoted Tootsie Roll sales during the Council's annual Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities drive at the Walmart Supercenter in Sparks. To Robert, age is just a number.

A Roadmap to Growing your Council

By Al S. Pena State Program Director

Evangelization: A Roadmap To Growing Your Council - Introducing COR.

I had the pleasure of attending the State Program Director on boarding Webinar conducted by Worthy Supreme Program Director Tyler Lomnitzer that was held on July 19, 2023. There are a number of things that I picked up which I would like to share with you. The discussion essentially centers around what we covered at our State Organizational meeting but is worth repeating and cannot be over emphasized.

In many of the previous articles that I wrote, I mentioned the ways we engage our members and motivate them to exercise their faith and positively contribute to the welfare and well being of their Church community.

E - Engage your members - Tell them the active programs that you have. What they can do to help. Who benefits from the program.

E - Evangelize - Putting into action what you learn from the readings of the Scriptures and the teachings of Christ.

S - Satisfy - Keep track of your total volunteer hours you earned, the number of items you have processed (i.e. sandwiches for the poor), the amount of money raised, the number of people served. This feedback Information is essential to getting your members engaged and satisfied. Letting your members know the value of their contribution is key to satisfaction. **BE GENEROUS IN REWARDING AND CELEBRATING SUCCESS. SCHEDULE VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION.**

WHAT IS EVANGELIZATION?

“The New Evangelization calls each of us to deepen our faith, believe in the Gospel message and go forth to proclaim the Gospel. The focus of the New Evangelization calls Catholics to be evangelized and then go forth to evangelize. In a special way, the New Evangelization is focused on re-proposing the Gospel to those who have experienced a crisis in faith. Pope Benedict XVI called for re-proposing of the Gospel “to those regions awaiting the first evangelization and to those regions where the roots of Christianity are deep but who have experienced a serious crises of faith due to secularization.”

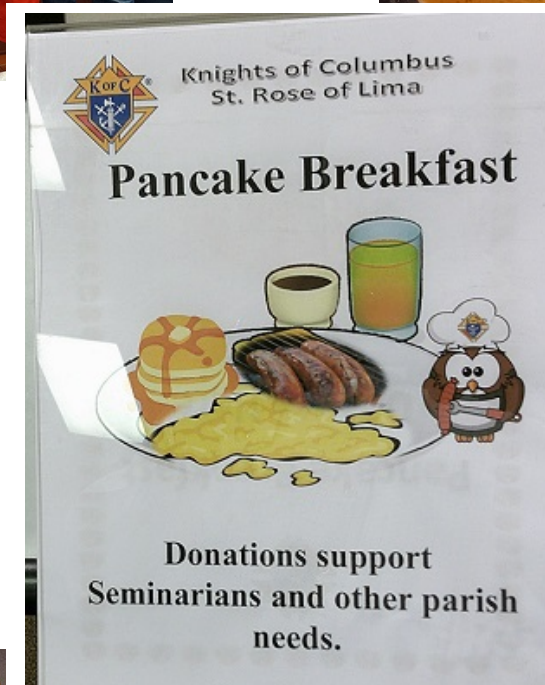
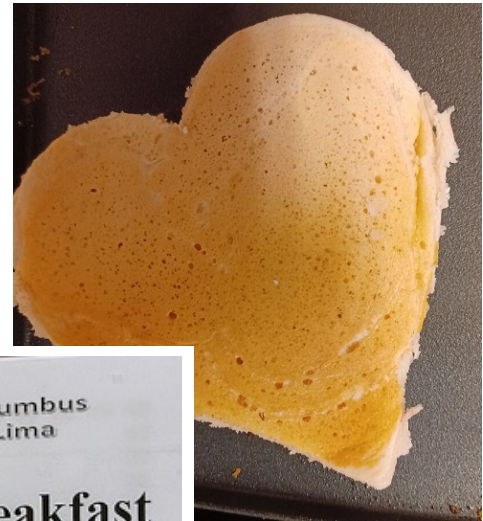
(Story continues on page 21.)

A man who is well grounded in the testimonies of the Scripture is the bulwark of the Church.

St. Jerome

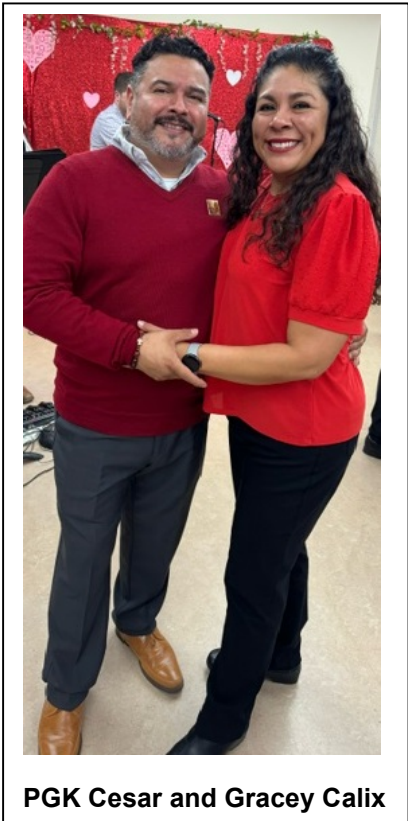
This Month's Photos

Council 13842 Hosts a Valentine Pancake Breakfast



This Month's Photos

Council 12877's Valentine's Day dinner and dance



Knight in the Light

(Continued from page 6)

In my two years as Grand Knight, my council was able to achieve the Columbian award both years and took home a couple state service program awards as well while coming one member short of star council in my second year. I then served as a council trustee for one year.

Upon hearing of the vacancy in the District Deputy position left by my fellow council member, John Long when he became State Advocate, I volunteered to take on that role. I felt uniquely qualified to serve the councils in the district as I had already worked with them in my coordination of our district-wide Great Reno Balloon Race fundraiser and knew I could consult John whenever necessary. I was officially appointed to the position by then State Deputy Toni Pascua in Fraternal Year 2019-2020. I served as district deputy for four years and my councils helped me earn Star District for Fraternal Years 2019-2020 and 2022-2023. I also was honored to receive the District Deputy of the Year award in fraternal year 2020-2021. The state council relied upon my tech-savviness in helping run semiannual meetings and upon my attention to detail in appointing me Parliamentarian for many State Conventions. The accomplishments that meant the most to me in my service as District Deputy were getting my councils through the pandemic with solutions for virtual meetings as well as forging great relationships district-wide with other great Catholic men and sharing lessons learned among them giving each council the best chance for a successful year

After four years as District Deputy, I made the difficult decision to step back from involvement at the state council level and focus my available time on my local council as Treasurer and my career where I serve as a Senior Engineer with NV Energy's Business Energy Services Energy Efficiency Incentive Program where I've been for 7 years. Believe it or not, my team pays NV Energy's commercial customers to use less of its product through lighting retrofits, process improvements, automation, variable frequency drives, high-efficiency heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment, and many other solutions. As our state continues to grow, paying consumers to use less energy is less expensive than building new power plants to serve the added loads. My role on the team is leading a group of engineers in northern Nevada in estimating energy savings for energy retrofits or new construction better than applicable energy code. An interesting program I've been able to help Saint Albert's take advantage of is an NV Energy grant where up to \$7,500 is available annually to help nonprofit agencies pay for facility improvements that result in energy savings, typically through lighting retrofits. If your church or any other 501(c)(3) organization is an NV Energy customer and in need of an energy retrofit, know that these funds may be available. I am a Certified Energy Manager (CEM), Certified Measurement & Verification Professional (CMVP) and a member of the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) and the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). Feel free to reach out with any questions in this arena.

Joining the knights has been one of the best decisions of my life and has allowed me additional motivation and outlets for deepening my faith and helping the community. I am very honored to be recognized as Knight in the Light and more importantly hope that my work stimulates other Knights' involvement in leadership in their councils and statewide.

Vivat Jesus!

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Knights at the Aces Game 2024

Brothers,

It's time once again to head out to the Greater Nevada Field for the Annual Knights at the Aces Baseball game. The game will be played Thursday, July 4. We are once again back on the Third Base side in Section 101.

I'm asking all Grand Knights to either appoint a contact person or, if they are so encouraged to do so, take on this task themselves. Please have your point of contact email me directly at tonyg_s@sbcglobal.net

Only 200 tickets are available, please let everyone know that we will probably sell out sooner rather than later. Ticket price is \$22 per seat, and everything is pretty much the same as in years past.

Looking forward to another great year!

Tony Stephenson, PGK FDD
Knights at the Aces Coordinator

A Roadmap to Growing your Council

(Continued from page 17)

A successfully executed program tends to lead to more evangelization. Like the parable of the mustard seed it spreads and grows on fertile soil. People in your community see what you are doing and the impact of the good you're doing to the community. They see you as Catholics exercising your faith which leads to evangelization, increased membership recruitment and retention. It brings back memories of when I was a student and unit organizer of the Student Catholic Action. We talked about the "Cell Technique." The unit we organized are called "Cells" A "Cell is comprised of 25 to 20 members. The members can start their own "Cell" and grow it to 15 to 20 members. The more "Cells" that were created the more opportunity there is for recruitment and evangelization which leads to growth.

PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

These are programs and resources available to Council Program Directors.

Faith & Family - Jason.porrello@KofC.org

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A Roadmap to Growing your Council

(Continued from page 21)

1. Keep Christ in Christmas Posters - due February 28 K 1-2 ; 3-4
2. After Support After Pregnancy
 - A.) For every \$500 raised by the Council, Supreme will give you back \$100.
 - B.) For every \$2,000 raised by the Council, Supreme will give you back \$400.
3. Ultrasound Machine - There are 1,700 machines already installed and is continuing to save over 200,000 lives.
4. March for Life - Support our effort through March for Life. The KofC contributed \$82-Million.
5. Silver Rose Program - Make your reservation early and take the opportunity to schedule a visit of this ICON in your Church.
6. Special Olympics - Support the Special Olympics. Tootsie Roll Drive supports this program. To date the KofC had contributed \$128 Million to this program. SK Rick Sherman of St. Viator is very much involved in supporting the Special Olympics. Contact him to learn more and how you can help.
7. RSVP - Seminarian - Your support by selling raffle tickets are helping educate Seminarians. Last year our State Council raised \$82,000.

Community Programs

1. January 15 - Soccer
2. February 15 Essay contest: Grades 8 to 12- To write an essay: How can the parish evangelize in this digital age? Submit it to Supreme to determine the winner.
3. Coats for Kids - winter is approaching. Kids will be needing winter coats to protect themselves. The cost for 12 pieces is \$247.28 or \$345.00 including Shipping. Order yours now as supplies are limited.
4. Wheelchair a donation of 10 wheelchairs gets the Council 2 credits toward your Columbian award.

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A Roadmap to Growing your Council

(Continued from page 22)

STATE SPONSORED BOWLING TOURNAMENT

To All My Brother Knights:

We thought about a great way to bring everybody together and have fun while raising money for a good cause (ASAP). The Knights of Columbus is well known as an organization of hard working brothers trying to make a difference by helping the widows and orphans, the needy and the outcast.

We are so wrapped up to this idea that we forget that we also do things that promotes our faith, friendship and camaraderie. This is one example. This Tournament will allow us the opportunity to meet and interact with other members of the Knights from other Councils and perhaps strike a lifelong friendship.

Wait a minute there is more. You have a chance to compete and display your bowling skills and win a prize. There is also a raffle of gift prizes that will take place all in the spirit of fun.

Make this a family affair. Enjoy. The Knights had negotiated a great deal. Take advantage.

Councils that participates gets 2 credits toward your bid for a Columbian Award. (The first step toward getting your Star Council Award.)

Message from the State Chaplain

(Continued from page 7)

St. Augustine said, "Prayer is the raising of one's heart and mind to God." Therefore, together we offer prayers to strengthen our relationships with God and others. We are open to love and to live as committed disciples for Christ and for His Church.

Please know that our prayers can affect our wish for a fruitful observance of Lent and a blessing in preparation for the coming of Easter and for our State Convention. Finally, I encourage all of us to avail ourselves of the Lord's mercy and healing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and other significant devotions for holiness.

God bless us.

Fr. Arlon M, Vergara, OSA
Nevada Knights of Columbus State Chaplain