

The Oklahoma Knight

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EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

OCTOBER 2021

Back to the basics for the Order

Brothers

Once again, it's time for the season to change and to move our clocks back to standard time. It is also time for us to move our hearts and souls forward with evangelizing in our communities by contacting members of our parishes we haven't seen in church for a while and inviting them back to church. Our priests need us to help get the pews filled back up.



Dennis Kunnanz

Does your council have a team of men or families calling to see how your members of the parish are doing? If not, it's time you contacted your Grand Knight and get a team started.

The time is now to get back to basics of our Order by inviting all Catholic men in your parish to join the Order. Visit with your pastor often to find out how your council can help around the parish. Do charity work in your community, help with Special Olympics, volunteer to work at a food kitchen or pantry, visit with the elderly, and have family activities in your council. Extend an invitation to all parishioners to join you on these projects.

When men join our Order, they are looking to both grow their faith and find fulfillment doing volunteer work to assist others. Take a close look at your council. What does it have to offer men and their families to help them become closer to God?

A lot of parishes have increased the number of bible study groups, men's groups, women's groups, and young adult groups, which can provide a lot of opportunities for you to be active in your parish. Wouldn't it

From the State Deputy

be great if your council sponsored several of these programs in your parish?

One great program is Into the Breach, which could be offered to young men in your parish. Find a time that works for them and consider finding a program for the women to attend as well. Another great program that the men's group I currently attend is using is The Search, which can be viewed on Formed.

For our first council membership contest, we had twenty councils that recruited new members from July 1st through September 30th. These are the councils that won a webcam and tripod for signing up new members. Congratulations to Councils 5168 Duncan, 11237 Edmond, 13313 Tulsa, 17383 Tulsa, and 17559 Tulsa.

I recently introduced our next membership contest for the councils with a chance to win a Pit Boss pellet grill. You can find the details on our state website at www.okkofc.org by scrolling down to membership contest. Your District Deputy also has the contest information. Grow your council and win a grill!!

The Silver Rose will be traveling through Oklahoma from now until until November 20th when it will be transferred to Texas. Please plan to attend a Mass or prayer service near you. You can find the schedule on our Facebook page, our state website at www.okkofc.org, or contact your District Deputy.

We are hearing a lot about being Pro-Life. Remember, it is not just about the unborn. Being Pro-Life should be about the support of all life, no matter if they are in the womb, disabled, elderly, or prisoners on death row. All lives are important. If you truly believe in



Volunteering, and helping others, is what the Order is all about.

Life for All, please email, write, or call your elected officials in your voting area and let them know where you stand. When it comes time to vote please take the time to consider how the person you want to vote for is going to respond to all Pro-Life issues!

And there are many more issues to look at, including immigration. The Knights of Columbus will not recommend a candidate for election but may ask you to consider contacting your elected officials about concerns regarding current and proposed legislation.

May this season of thanksgiving bring many blessings to you and your families!

Vivat Jesus
Dennis Kunnanz
Oklahoma State Deputy

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Official State Council Web Page www.okkofc.org
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Editor's Note

Brother Knights & families

We are not far away from Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please remember to express gratitude to the Lord for your many blessings and graces. Also, help to celebrate Christmas with a gift to those in need. God bless each of you. And, as always, Please pray Our Lady's rosary every day. Our world would be a much better place if all prayed Our Lady's rosary.

Vivat Jesus

Steve Gust Okla. Knight editor

Catholic Charities helping Afghan families re-settle

State Council needs help with fundraising

Both state Catholic Charities offices are helping to settle Afghanistan Refugees, with about 2,000 families coming to Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Knights of Columbus are helping them by supplying coats for the kids.

The Supreme Council will be helping us with this project. The Oklahoma Council needs to raise \$10,000 to pay for this program. Please pray about helping with this great project of providing a warm coat for kids. You can make your check out to Oklahoma State Council and mail your check to Oklahoma State Council, 4129 S Tamarack Ave, Broken Arrow

OK 74011 in the memo list Coats for Kids or CFKS. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Catholic Charities Oklahoma City catholiccharities.org

Catholic Charities Eastern Oklahoma is also collecting furniture please check their website to donate www.cceok.org

Catholic Charities OKC serves the Diocese of Oklahoma City. Their website is www.catholic-charities.org.

Catholic Charities Eastern OK serves the Diocese of Tulsa. Their website is www.cceok.org.

NOTE: Catholic Charities of Eastern Okla. is also collecting furniture. Please check website for condition information.

Please don't forget to help The Center of Family Love

Please call 405 263-4658 ext. 1040

Note: The notice above was published in the last edition, but it's still a good idea to remember the CFL and our brothers and sisters at the very special and wonderful center. .

Knights help out after quake

Following the August 7.2-magnitude earthquake, the leader of the Knights of Columbus, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, offered his prayerful support for the people of Haiti and made an initial commitment of \$250,000 to assist those suffering on the island nation. "Our prayers are with our neighbors in Haiti as they recover from yet another tragedy and seek once again to rebuild," the Supreme Knight said.

"Just as we reached out to provide aid following the 2010 earthquake, the Knights of Columbus will again reach out in charity to help our neighbors in need in Haiti."

After the 2010 earthquake, the Knights of Columbus became active in the nation, providing over \$1 million dollars in financial assistance to Haitians in need, but particularly by way of restoring mobility to injured Haitians.

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To be held in Edmond

State bowling tournament Jan. 21-23

The bowling tournament is scheduled for January 21st – 23rd at AMF Boulevard Lanes in Edmond. Bowling forms will be posted on our website (okkofc.org) by Oct 30th. This year tournament will be held in Edmond hosted by council 6477. Hotel arrangements have been made at the Sleep Inn in Edmond for the nights of January 21st and 22nd. Hotel is located at 3608 S Broadway Ext phone number is 405-844-3000. The council has secured a rate of \$71.00 a night.

This year we will be offering a Friday afternoon option for bowlers 65 and older to bowl their single's set from 4pm to 5pm. This is only for senior bowlers 65 and older that feel they want to spread the pain over three days. There will be a spot on the form to mark and list DOB. All other procedures and rules will remain the same as previous years.

All forms must be sent to the State Secretary Chris Victor by Dec. 15th with full payment to be registered for the tournament. If you have any questions please contact Matt Maly at 405-708-1978 or email at mattmaly602@gmail.com



Creative courage & doing what's right

My dear Brother Knights and family:

As this new fraternal year kicks off, and the new State Officers assume their duties, we focus in our beloved fraternal charitable organization, we have as our standard the three ideals by which Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus: Charity, Unity and Fraternity. We talk about these three all the time and when a new man joins our ranks, the first three degrees are now, generally, conferred simultaneously in the same ceremony.

I recently recruited a good friend and helped him join the Knights and was present at his induction into our ranks. It was a beautiful ceremony conducted by the teams of the two Edmond Councils.

Within two weeks of being initiated into the Knights, at only 41 years of age, he suffered a stroke and was hospitalized, and then moved to rehab for three weeks. Blessedly, due to much prayer and because he was in excellent health prior to the stroke, he is out and recovering well.

Now none of this is news per se, but what is newsworthy is the manner by which the local council have shown and demonstrated the principles of our beloved Knights of Columbus. We use the term "exemplification" of the principles of our organization. However, the manner in which Council #11237 reached out to its newest member in this moment of physical challenge definitively "exemplified" the truest meaning of the ideals of charity, unity



**Fr. Price
Oswalt**

and fraternity. They were calling, texting, sending cards and notes. The Grand Knight, Sir Shawn Dowers, and the Council truly showed their care for their newest member, even though most of the Council had yet to meet him.

When one member is affected, so is the body as a whole. It is then that we need to reach out. Our charity is shown by how we love each other, through Christ, and show our care and concern for one another. In our unity for one another we demonstrate that when we know that the Council stands together as a body, even when a new member has joined us and been united to us, he becomes a very integral part of whom we are because he has taken our oath and joined our brotherhood. That unity is demonstrated in how we treat each other in good times and in bad, in our bond of unity for one another. In and through it all we see the Fraternal aspect knowing that we are brothers joined together and that as Brothers we stand for and with one another.

Our Supreme Knight speaks to us about "creative courage." When one brother is in trouble it is then that we see creative courage come alive. It is then that we stand to do the right things when one of our brothers is down and out; when one member of the fraternity is hurting. It is in those moments that we stand united, putting forth our charity to make sure the brotherhood stands strong. That is creative and that is courageous and it is only exemplifying what we know so well and what we do so well.

Vivat Jesus

**Father M. Price Oswalt
State Chaplain KOC**

Join The Father McGivney Guild

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

Please print in block letters

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

ZIP CODE _____

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.



R.J. Schulte, a longtime supporter of the CFL

Another round of thanks for those who help the CFL

Editor's Note: In the last edition of the Oklahoma Knight, we covered the fundraising success once again experienced with more than \$860,000 raised during the annual Gift of Love Virtual Celebration. Again everyone who played any kind of role in the effort is truly thanked. Helping the Center of Family Love in Okarche remains a goal for everyone in the state council.)

The CFL also presented its highest honors on two exceptional community leaders, with Richard "RJ" Schulte of Edmond receiving the Harold J. Wittrock Humanitarian Award and Jeanne Sullivan of Tulsa receiving the Carol and Bill Brown Community Ambassador Award.

Among the key contributors helping CFL to achieve this fundraising record included Kurt and Brooke Bollenbach, Ron and Nancy Carel, Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund, Knights of Columbus Our Lady of the Rosary Council #1287, Ovintiv, Republic National Dis-

tributing Company and Rep. Mike Sanders of Oklahoma.

Capping off the Gift of Love Virtual Celebration was an announcement by CFL that it would be undertaking the largest and most ambitious phase of growth in its history with a capital campaign to raise funds for the highly anticipated Newfield Community Education Center. The new facility, designed from the imaginations of residents, will provide a space for them to grow and make their dreams come true.

Everyone who helped with the raffle is also thanked for their generous and selfless support.

About Center of Family Love:

Center of Family Love is an Okarche, Okla.-based non-profit organization whose mission is to provide quality lifetime care for adults with intellectual and physical disabilities. For more information or to donate to CFL, visit www.centeroffamilylove.org. With Christmas, nearing please consider giving a gift.



Praying Our Lady's rosary

Earlier in October, brothers marked Oct. 7 as Our Lady of the Rosary. The Knights of Columbus places a special importance on devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary; every man who joins a K of C council receives a rosary and is encouraged to seek Our Lady's intercession by praying it regularly. If you haven't prayed the rosary in some time, make time today. If you don't know how, here's a helpful guide:

<https://bit.ly/3oGOU68>

Also Brother Jim Jeffcoat reports that the Knights in Oklahoma pray the Rosary online every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. central time. Please click on this link just before 8 each Wednesday to participate:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88421460347...>

Editor's Note: Please contact Brother Jeffcoat on Facebook in case the link doesn't respond.

Remembering Father Hung Le

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Hung Le.

Fr. Le, 62, passed away earlier this month at Ascension St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. A number of family members were present at the bedside keeping vigil.

May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

In the heart of the deputy and hope, the Bishop and the family of blood sympathizers would like to report to the Father, the Male and Female Priest, and the Community

Please everyone join in prayer for Peter's father and the blood family in this time of pain.



Father Le

Mike Maggio battles virus with help from many

Brother Knight grateful for prayers & support

To My Brother Knights, the Catholic Community at St. Monica, and all those around the world who have been praying:

As I begin writing this letter, I have come to realize that there is nothing that I can say that even begins to describe my gratitude and love for you. My family and I owe you all so much. The prayer and the generosity that you have all shown me and my family has been so incredible.

As you know, I contracted COVID the last weekend in July. I tried to fight it at home, but after about a week I took a serious nosedive and began struggling to get enough oxygen. On Wednesday August 11th my oxygen levels had gotten so low that my wife called an ambulance, and they took me to Integris Baptist. I was admitted as critical ICU, and remained ICU status for about a week, before improving enough to be "stepped down" gradually on oxygen needs and eventually moved to intermediate hospital care status. By the Grace of God, and through the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney, and by the power of your prayers, I returned home to my family on Sunday Aug 22nd.

During my time in the hospital, I became aware of how much help my family was receiving. I want to personally thank my General Agent Kevin Pierce and his wife Amanda for sending out the rally cry and getting a meal train started.



Mike

This enabled my wife to focus on taking care of herself and our three children, as they battled COVID at home. This was incredibly difficult for Mallory to deal with, and my being in the hospital brought this to a new level.

I want to thank my brother Knights. You heard the rally cry, and you showed up! You answered the call, and you came to my family's need. The meals, the generosity, the prayers. I am so incredibly impressed. I and my family cannot begin to repay you for the magnitude of your generosity. You shined a very bright light on who we are as an organization, on what we do. This is what we do! The love and unity you all have shown is the example of what the Knights of Columbus can do when one of our own is in trouble. You and your wives and your entire families! I know there were multiple councils involved in this effort, and I thank you all!

To our Catholic Family at St. Monica. Thank you too! I know there were many of you who are not currently Knights who were involved in helping my family. You are very special to me, and I thank you. Your sacrifices and your prayers got us through this. Thank you so much! Father Hamilton and Father Bali, thank you both so much for praying. I know my Aunt was in touch with you early on, and I know that you were in front of the Blessed Sacrament offering prayers on my behalf. Thank you so much!

To my brother agents. You truly are my brothers, and your family is my family. I know this month was hard for you. With losing our

brother Troy Snow, and with the stress that came with my being in the hospital and the unknown, I know this month has been difficult. Thank you for continuing to fight, and for continuing to take care of our members the way we should. Let's continue to answer Blessed McGivney's call to make sure that if the worst happens, our members and their families will be on solid ground. Thank you for all the support you have shown me and my family. Your encouragement and challenges to fight kept me determined every day.

To all of you who were praying around the world for me. Thank you! I have been told that there were people throughout several continents, nations, and states all over the US all praying and offering masses for my healing. You stormed heaven for me! I am convinced that it was your prayers that kept me alive. It was your prayers, your sacrifices that got me to the right hospital, got me the right doctors, sent me the nurses who took such good care of me, and got me a priest to hear my confession and anoint me. Your prayers saved my life and got me home to my family. Thank you all so much!

I will have quite a bit of recovery at home, and so continued prayers are certainly welcome. I am on the mend, and I pledge to you that I will do everything in my power to get back to health soon! Thank you all so much, may God Bless You!

With Much Love and Admiration, Your Brother in Christ,

Mike Maggio

Remembering the legacy of Brother Troy Snow

(Editor's Note: The following is the obituary written over the summer for Troy SSnow, a brother Knight and iKOC insurance agent in the Tulsa area. May Troy rest in God's eternal peace and our condolences to all.)



Troy

Troy Kent Snow, aged 51, died in the arms of his wife on August 13th, 2021 after a valiant battle with COVID-19.

Troy was born March 12th, 1970 in Minot, ND at the USAF Regional Hospital to Billie and Martin (Duke) Snow. Soon after the family was moved to RAF Lakenheath, England. Upon Duke's retirement from the Air Force, the family settled in Oklahoma in the community of Berryhill. Troy began his education in Berryhill where he was a member of the band program and learned to play the trumpet. Through diligent study, many times outdoors to the delight of the neighbors, Troy earned numerous awards and honors as a result of his trumpet skills. Following his graduation from high

school in 1988 he continued his education at the University of Tulsa where he was a music education major and member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Again, at the university level, Troy once again excelled as a musician, earning the honor of performing with the faculty brass quintet and distinguished himself further by performing a senior recital which was not required and was a prodigious undertaking while completing the requirements of a music education degree. Troy furthered his education with a Master's in Educational Psychology at Okla-

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Troy

From Page 6

homa State University earning membership in Phi Kappa Phi.

Troy's 18 year music education career took him to Eufaula and McAlester before returning to the Tulsa area to teach at Jenks. Not only was he frequently called upon as a free-lance musician, his student groups earned multiple honors and he was a part of a nationally competitive program at Jenks for 12 years where he impacted many young people by teaching them beauty is found in the cultivation of skill. In 2012 Troy, with Maria, decided he would make a career change to become a Field Agent for the Knights of Columbus, a position he viewed as a calling and vocation for over 9 years.

In January of 2003, through mutual friends, Troy began his relationship with his wife, Maria, who is a fellow brass player and TU music education graduate. They were married in December of 2004 which was preceded by his Catholic conversion and Confirmation so that he could receive the Eucharist at his wedding Mass. They were married in the first place they attended Mass together at the Newman Center at the University of Tulsa on December 9th, 2004. Together with Maria's son, Justin, they settled in Tulsa. Justin knew Troy as his father from then on of his own volition. They grew close in the course of Justin's high school years because in addition to being his father, Troy also provided many car rides to and from school as they both had band early every morning and they spent even more time together on band trips, contests, concerts and

more. Troy is so proud of Justin for his marriage to his wife, Ashley, and of becoming a grandfather to their son, Logan.

In November of 2007, Troy and Maria were given the prognosis of never being able to conceive a child together due to complications with Maria's health. Then on March 11, 2008 a viable uterine pregnancy was pronounced and in October they joyously welcomed their first son together, Will. He was soon followed by brothers, Jacob and Nicholas, and a sister, Elizabeth. One more child came to be and was lost in January just as they learned of the pregnancy.

Troy loved being a father and leading the formation of all five of his children in the Catholic faith. He viewed it as a sacred duty and treated it seriously, using the conference room of his office as a classroom to teach his children religion and the Baltimore Catechism last year until their return to school. For the last twelve years, Troy could be seen every week, alone with the growing number of children, guiding them through the celebration of Mass while Maria sang in the choir loft. Music was an important part of the experience of life for Troy and he encouraged the musical development of his family as well, first with Justin on percussion, then with piano lessons and brass instruction for the younger set. Troy loved being the leader of his Domestic Church and loved being able to help other Catholic men through his position with the Knights of Columbus. It wasn't sales to him, but an actual zeal for service, and he did this by cultivating relationships.

On more than one occasion he would come home very late after having conversations with his members about the faith. He relished conversations like this and would take every opportunity to engage with a member or any other person, Catholic or not, in a deep spiritual and intellectual exchange. Proverbs 27:17 comes to mind. Troy touched many families with his warmth, intellect, kindness, and humor as both an educator and Field Agent. It is entirely fitting that Troy's legacy is tied forever to that of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, passing as he did on Blessed Father Michael McGivney's first feast day.

One of Troy's favorite things was to travel with Maria on the annual trips provided by the Knights, the favorite being Ireland and Scotland. He also enjoyed Trail Life with the boys and all the time they got to be together through this activity, as well as witnessing and supporting their growth as young musicians. He has successfully passed on his love of Star Wars and Star Trek to all of his young children. He has been filled with so much joy at the success of Justin in his marriage and career as a police officer. Troy's devotion to the faith of the Church and the Sacraments continue to cultivate the same for all his children. The life he built with Maria and their 5 children will always be indelibly marked by his example of a Christ-like sacrificial love for his family.

Holy Family Cathedral was the site of a rosary for Troy and, later, his Funeral Mass on Aug. 20. Many brother Knights were present to remember him.

Order's insurance program & elite recognition

Knights of Columbus Insurance has been named to the Forbes America's Best Insurance Companies 2022 List. The award is presented by Forbes and Statista Inc., the world's leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider. America's Best Insurance Companies 2022 were identified in an independent survey based on a vast sample of over 16,000 U.S. citizens with at least one insurance policy. Knights of Columbus ranked #6 on the Forbes list among life insurers who issue permanent life insurance. The awards list can currently be viewed on the Forbes website.

"Knights of Columbus Insurance is excited to be recognized by Forbes and Statista for our industry-leading insurance products and the

Contact local agency to know what's offered

For more information on the insurance, please contact **Kevin Pierce** at Kevin.pierce@kofc.org or call 1-877-707-0752 or 203 843-4207.

quality of service we deliver to our members and their families," said Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly. "As a Catholic fraternal benefit society, the Knights of Columbus is uniquely positioned to offer an array of top-quality insurance products that align with our members' needs and values."

The survey considered customers' overall rec-

ommendations, their general satisfaction, and five sub-dimensions: financial advice, customer service, price/performance ratio, transparency, and damage/benefit ratio. A loyalty score was calculated based on a series of questions about the customer's likeliness to keep their insurance policy under different circumstances, and the total length of time that consumers have held policies with the same insurer. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across seven insurance product categories.

For additional information about Knights of Columbus Insurance please visit www.kofc.org/insurance.



Council 11237 St. Monica's Edmond Supports Willow

St. Monica's Council 11237 in Edmond conducted a baby supplies drive during the month of August, 2021, to benefit Willow Pregnancy Support, a pro-life pregnancy resource center. Parishioners were encouraged to drop off items at the church, or to use an Amazon gift registry set up by the council. We collected diapers, formula, baby wipes, onesies, and sleepers -- a total estimated value of \$2,615.

Pictured: Debbie Collins of Willow Pregnancy Support accepts the donations from Grand Knight Shawn Dowers.