



Wisconsin

Knights of Columbus

December 2018 Newsletter



A little trivia to start the month off – who was elected Deputy Supreme Knight in 1927? Answer: PGK of Green Bay Council 617 (and the first Grand Knight) John Martin. Brother John was Master of the Fourth Degree, Marquette Assembly as well as a degree team member who traveled throughout the Midwest and Canada initiating members and establish new councils of the Order. John died on November 11, 1939. The Badger State has a direct tie to the Cristero War of 1926-29!

According to Wikipedia -

The Cristero War or Cristero Rebellion (1926–29), also known as La Cristiada [The kris'tjaða], was a widespread struggle in many central-western Mexican states against the

secularist, anti-Catholic and anti-clerical policies of the Mexican government. The rebellion was set off by enactment under President Plutarco Elías Calles of a statute to enforce the anti-clerical articles of the Mexican Constitution of 1917 (also known as the Calles Law). Calles sought to eliminate the power of the Catholic Church and organizations affiliated with it as an institution, and also suppress popular religious

celebration in local communities. The massive, popular rural uprising was tacitly supported by the Church hierarchy and was aided by urban Catholic support. US Ambassador Dwight W. Morrow brokered negotiations between the Calles government and the Church. The government made some concessions, the Church withdrew its support for the Cristero fighters and the conflict ended in 1929.

Mexican bishops suspended public religious services in response to the law, and supported an economic boycott against the government. Violence soon erupted, as bands of Catholic peasants battled federal forces. Priests were shot and hung, Church property seized, and many religious institutions closed. The Cristeros' battle cry was "Viva Cristo Rey!" ("Long live Christ the King!"). During the three-year war (1926-1929), approximately 90,000 people were killed. There are a total of 35 Martyrs who have been canonized.

The Role of the Knights of Columbus in Response to the Cristero War began in August of 1926, days after the

Calles Law took effect, the U.S. Knights of Columbus passed a resolution to support the Church in Mexico. They established a fund that raised over a million dollars to offer relief services for those exiled from Mexico, to provide for exiled seminarians to continue their priestly formation, and to educate the American public about the true situation. The Order printed and distributed five million pamphlets about the Cristiada and two million copies of the Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Episcopate of the United States on the Religious Situation in Mexico. Mexican Knights were targeted by the government and many were expelled from their homes, according to Msgr. Ramiro Valdez, executive secretary of the commission to promote the canonization of 25 Mexican martyrs, including six Knights of Columbus members.



We face some of the same challenges our brothers faced in the early 1900's, you could argue that even bigger challenges are in front of us, that is why recruiting, and retention must be our number one priority in every council and must become a priority of every member. Become "Membership Recruitment and Retention Conscious." Each of us knows how it feels

to be part of this great organization, we know the rewards of membership, both personal and social, we know what is at stake. I would challenge each of us to share our experiences with other Catholic men and their families, invite them to become a part of The Knights of Columbus Family. For those members who you have not seen in a while, invite them back!

Lisa and I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Nunc Coepi!

Long live Christ the King!

Vivat Jesus!

Jack Wrbanich

State Deputy Wisconsin State Council

Where Do You Get Your News?

I was recently challenged to watch CNN for an hour, then immediately switch to Fox News for an hour. The challenger dared me to do that and tell him we were not a divided country; living in two different worlds.

Then something else happened. I began working with our Catholic Hispanic community. It was, and because I do not speak the language, it remains, somewhat intimidating. But the rewards of reaching out are well worth it! Our Catholic Brothers and Sisters in Christ reassured me with their smiles and their warm hospitality. The language of the heart is universal.

Recently, a good man, and soon to be a new Brother Knight, and I shared a laugh that we could not find anyone better to sponsor him than Rufino! Rufino laughed too. Humor, like our Church, is universal.

But what about our deep, political divisions? Have you noticed that, whenever you log in to KofC.org the stories are all about putting our Faith in Action? I thank God for you, my Brother Knights, for being a power for unity by never hesitating to pour your charity into a divided world. You are a tremendous gift to all who encounter you; and through you, Christ. (At least on our best days!)

And so, I ask you, as I did in October, what is your plan for sharing this great gift with others? And how is your plan working for you? Have you tried any elements of the 3-point plan presented last month? In case you missed it, we will repeat it at the end of this month's article. But first, this month's tip of the hat!

TIP OF THE HAT!!



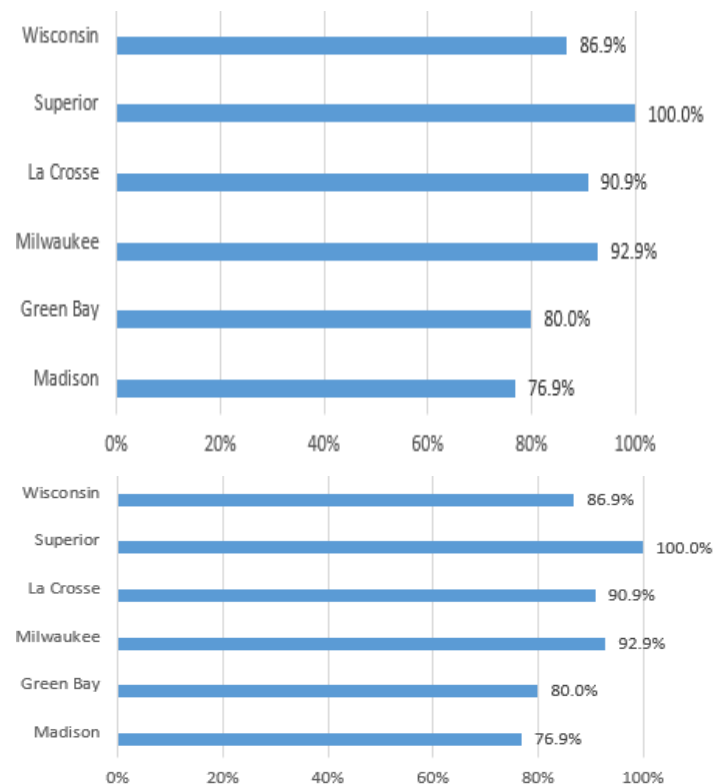
This month's tip of the hat goes to District 11 Chilton Council 2556! They went from ZERO to 100%! How did they do it? They tell me it was all in the follow through. Rather than invite interested families to an information night, **they visited those families in their homes!**

That gives the Green Bay Diocese two of the top three councils in the state. District 1 Crivitz Council 4671 is at 125% as is District 30 Abbotsford Council 17035, one of our new Hispanic Councils. FYI – that Abbotsford Council is also a state leader in Insurance Member Growth, at 167%. They trail only Loyal Council 4963, also in District 30, which weighs in at 200%!!

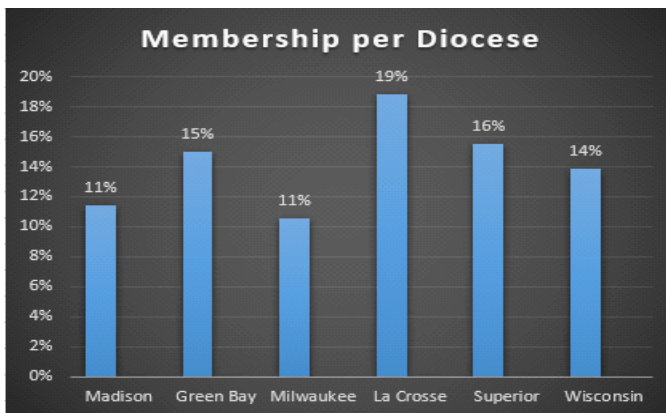
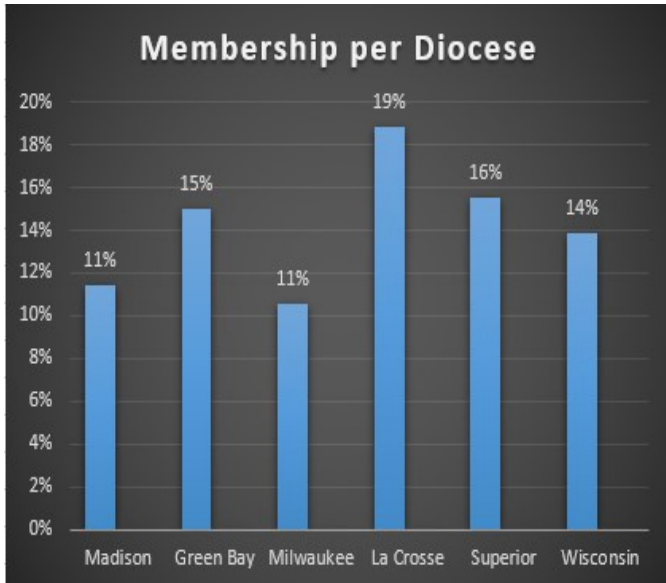
There are some interesting things going on every week in every diocese. Read all about it in FlockNote. What? You don't get FlockNote messages? Take care of that in less than 3 minutes:

<http://www.kofcknights.org/StateCouncilSite/article.asp?ID=88>

DIOCESAN RACES CONTINUE TO HEAT UP!!



In the "Every District Active Race", Superior is the first to 100%. La Crosse and Milwaukee each need only one more district, while Green Bay and Madison are trying to compete with three of their districts still on the sidelines!



GO!! WISCONSIN!! GO!!

Once again, here is a 3-point plan for success in growing our order:

- 1) Maintain and build relationships with our Brother Knights and their families. And where they are already lost, restore them; and where they have been broken, repair them. Just as our Lord and Savior never gives up on us, let us never give up on our Brother Knights. Click on Retention Letter at this link: <http://kofcknights.org/StateCouncilSite/StateCouncilForms.asp?CN=US&ST=WI>

Plagiarize it! Use some version of it with your dues notice. And follow up the letter with personal contact. United in Charity, we Knights bring a Light of Hope to the world.

- 2) Schedule your Council Growth events. Those could be church drives or any other program. But make it intentional. Have Council Ambassadors on hand to invite men and their families to consider, or reconsider, the good they can be part of in their world and the world around them. There is not too much good in the world! Ambassadors (we can all be ambassadors!) should ask them if anyone has ever taken the time to tell them about the opportunity they have to build a better life with their family and with all families. For some great tips in how to do this, click on:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1799246/E96179BB528C0C25DD672324304A00B9?mode=login&email=ronaldfaust@reagan.com>

Do not be dissuaded by the title, “Church Drives that Really Work.” The training offered applies to all programs. You may need to register to view the content. IT IS WORTH IT! It is very well done. Please take the time to view it. And commit to the in home visits.

- 3) Invite the Young Adult Membership Team (Y.A.M.T.) to help you, directly when possible,

La Crosse is getting a little competition! Green Bay and Superior are closing on them. Will they respond? Or will they be overtaken? And will Madison or Milwaukee make a move? There are three days left in October! Don't wait a month to know how your diocese finishes October – keep an eye on FlockNote!

Factoid: So far in October, Green Bay and Milwaukee have combined for 37 of our 63 new members. No one else is in double digits.

Scan and send form 100s to:

membership@kofc.org

Don't forget to copy:

forms@wikofc.com

carry your compelling message to young families. Young families are attracted to other young families. This can open their eyes to a world of opportunity they may fail to recognize otherwise. The leader of this initiative in Wisconsin is none other than your Worthy State Warden, Corey Coonen. His contact information is:

SK Corey Christopher Coonen
corey.christopher.coonen@gmail.com
Cell 920 819 9409



Whatever your plan is, you can make it better if you add the secret sauce! What is the secret sauce? TEAMWORK! Teammates do not let each other down, they lift each other up.

“Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork!”

Every Council Growth event is different; but they are all also the same. Each shows the parish community that the local council is alive and well. Be a good teammate. Help another council succeed. Attend their event and be an ambassador for our Worthy Order. Your Brother Knights will return the favor.

Teamwork really does make the dreamwork!

Congratulations Jon Olson



Jon Olson has accepted a position with Supreme as Regional Training Director. Jon will be working with the Regional Growth Directors like Joe Ramirez, to be a resource for them and the jurisdictions in the order in achieving their goals in growth and expanding their knowledge in different positions at the state, district and councils levels.

The Newsletter is going through a transition.

Please send all articles to markmjelinek@gmail.com.

Mark Jelinek currently serves as the Helping People Intellectual Disabilities Director and will be serving as the Editor of the Wisconsin Knight of Columbus Newsletter. All articles need to be turned in by the 25th of each month to be in the next months newsletter. 2019 will have a newsletter published each month. We will stay with our State Deputies motto concerning the 2019 Newsletters:

Nunc Coepi!

Thank to all of the Knights for your support and assistance during the transition.

A Gift of Life Insurance?

The initial reaction for many people when you mention life insurance as a gift is a quick step back and a questioning stare. “How morbid,” they think. While it may seem that way when you first mention it, life insurance is really a thoughtful gift that can be a financial life preserver in tough times.

The problem with life insurance is the general perception. Many think of death instead of the great benefits it provides, and the security that it offers – even while you’re alive. Life insurance should be thought of as a precautionary protective measure for a family unit. The purchase of this product can mean saving your home, sending your children to college, and preserving your spouse’s quality of life in the event of your death.

One of the times you may want to purchase life insurance for someone is when a family has a new baby. It’s a great, low-cost way to set money aside for the future (i.e. college tuition, housing, business start-up, etc.). Of greater importance, it ensures these children will have insurance as adults, in case an illness later in life makes him or her uninsurable.

Newlyweds are also ideal recipients for life insurance. As they join their lives and financial responsibilities, young couples need to make sure that their early investments are fully protected. If something were to happen to one of them, the other may be faced with serious financial hardship. A life insurance policy is an ideal way to ensure their future and protect their assets.

As nontraditional as it may be, life insurance is a wise and caring gift to purchase for many people.

To learn more, contact us today.

Southern WI Agency

Joe Molosky, 262-378-4854

Joseph.molosky@kofc.org

Western WI Agency

Ludger Borger, 715-551-0228

Ludger.borger@kofc.org

Eastern WI Agency

Jerry Pickett, 906-828-2526

Jerome.pickett@kofc.org

Bill Frayer

State Program/ Community Director

Here it is, December, and we reach the halfway point in our 2018-19 Fraternal Year. It's time to take stock of where you are in your plans and goals for the year, make whatever revisions are necessary and prepare yourself for success in the coming new year. Are you halfway or better in meeting your membership recruiting and insurance member goals so that you can earn Star Council? (Better yet Double or Triple Star) Have you completed at least 2 of the 4 required programs for your Columbian Award (Spiritual Reflection Program, Consecration to the Holy Family, Helping Hands and Novena for Life)? In addition, have you completed half or more of the 16 total programs needed for that Columbian Award (Be sure to use the new SP7 Form!)? Are your Safe Environment Program requirements completed (GK, Program, Family, Community Directors trained; background checks for Family and Community Directors)?

Are your Form 185, 365, July Audit in as they should be? Time to get going on your Fraternal Survey (1728) and Special Olympics Participation form so that they are in by January 31. Again, be sure to use the updated 1728. Your 185 and 365 needed to be the updated forms as well. There is also a new Supreme Report form (#10784) that can be downloaded from the Supreme website. It should be sent in when you complete any of the 32 Faith in Action Supreme recommended programs to assure proper credit for them.

On a State level, you should download from the State website the new Wisconsin Outstanding Council report form. Start checking now on what you have completed and what you need to do to earn the award; then plan accordingly! Now is also the time to decide who you will nominate for the Medallion Award, Family of the Year and start getting those nomination forms ready for that February 15 deadline for submission to State Office.

Remember also to put those finishing touches on your 2018 History Books, due to your DD by February 1. State "True Meaning of Christmas" Poster Contest Council winners are due to your Diocesan Program Coordinator by January 1 (Madison, La Crosse, Green Bay). In Superior Diocese, they should be sent to Charlie Silver or Jim Michaelson. In Milwaukee Archdiocese, they should be sent directly to me. For the Supreme "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest, all Council winners should be sent directly to me. Proper entry forms MUST be attached to the back of each entry!

There is also a new State Service Program Award Form that needs to be downloaded from the Supreme website (#STSP) along with a new instruction booklet. So, pick out your 4 best programs for this fraternal year, fill out those applications and be sure to get them in to State Office by March 1.

Finally, continue to do all you can to support your parish and work to improve your participation in ongoing programs such as Charity Raffle, PKD, Culture of Life donations, Special Olympics, Marches for life, Coats for Kids, Food for Families, etc. If you need help or advice for any programs, feel free to contact me, your Diocesan Coordinators or State Coordinators any time.

My family and I wish you a Blessed, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful New Year!

Vivat Jesus!

Nunc Coepi!



Faith In Action

October Family of the Month

Hello Brother Knights!

WOW! You guys are amazing!

In September, there were 18 families submitted to the State. In October, you submitted 34! **This is an 89% increase over last month! Well done!**

Diocesan Families of the Month

The Diocesan families of the month are:

Diocese	Families Submitted	Winning Family	Council
Green Bay	9	William and Carol Currier	7895 – Msgr. Gehl Council
La Crosse	7	Tad and Corine Stepan	5488 – John F Kennedy Council
Madison	7	David and Peg McCarthy	1909 - Highland Council
Milwaukee	6	Fred and Cheryl Wachtel	12588 – St. Peter Council
Superior	5	Alan and Loree Nauertz	5397 – Holy Trinity Council
Total	34		

The Grand Knight will be receiving the awards in the mail by the end of November.

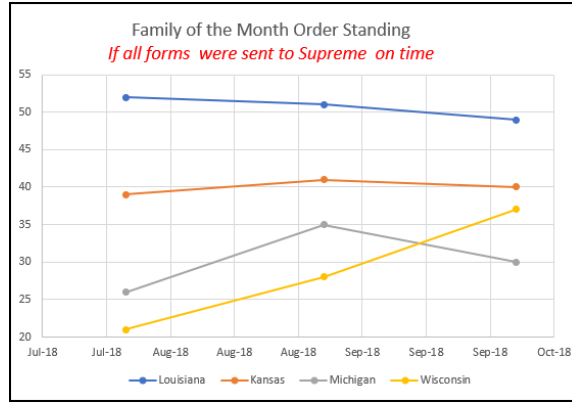
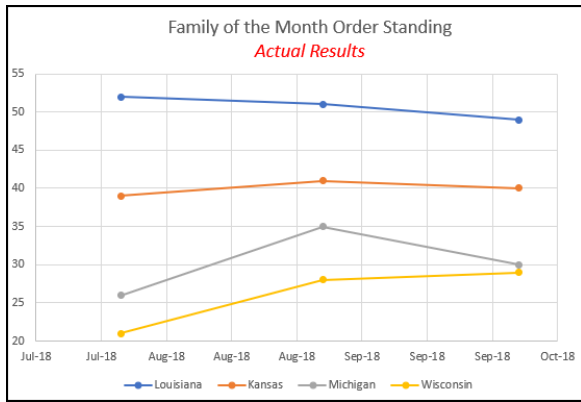
Supreme Families of the Month

Supreme chose the following families as the Supreme Families of the Month. Supreme will be sending them a nice certificate and letter.

- **John and Kathy Spaeth**, Heart of St. Croix Council 7030, Hammond, Superior Diocese
- **Carl and Brenda Karcheski**, St. Bronislava Council 13880, Plover, La Crosse Diocese

Order Status

Guys, we are so close to taking 3rd place in the Order! This month Michigan had 30 FOMs and Wisconsin had 29 FOMs. Unfortunately, we had **eight** councils send their forms to the state but either forgot to also send it to Supreme or sent it in late. If they would have sent their forms into Supreme, we would have not only taken 3rd place, but we would have made Kansas start to sweat!



Guys, we have a great run going! Let's look past Michigan and **set our sights on Kansas.**

Can we get more than 40 FOMs in November? I believe we can!

Guess what? If every district would submit one FOM, we would be in first place of the order!

Let's make it happen!

Welcome to the Family of the Month Program!

We had **three** new councils that submitted Family of the Months. Welcome to the program!

Council	Grand Knight	District Deputy
1647 – Lake Geneva Council	Robert McCormick	73 – Brian Daniel
5798 – Elizabeth Ann Seaton Council	Norbert Baumann	12 – Andrew Nadler
7895 - Msgr. Gehl Council	Darwin Hostettler	5 – Luke Rasmussen

Every council should be striving to submit **at least one** family of the month before the end of 2018, so they can choose them as the council Family of the Year. The family can then be considered for the Diocesan family of the year, State family of the Year and International Family of the Year.

Training Videos

I created the following training videos that are posted on the state website.

- How to install Chrome
- How to add links to the Chrome Bookmark Bar
- How to install Adobe Reader
- How to Organize Family of the Month Data
- How to Download the Supreme FOM form, fill it out and submit it back to them

Diocesan Family of the Month Awards

As part of accepting the Family Director role this past July, I learned that we needed to select a Diocesan Family of the Month each month. I did my best to ensure this was completed for the past several months but was recently reminded that the family should receive an award. **How embarrassing.** I wasn't aware of what award was used so I tracked it down.

I will be sending the diocesan family of the month awards to the Grand Knight of the winning council around the 20th of the following month. It will look something like the following.



Please forgive me everyone for not sending these out sooner. I will get the October 2018 winners out this week (November 26th) and will get the July, August and September winners out after the DD meeting.

Thank you to all councils for submitting your awesome families in your councils and parishes.

Vivat Jesus!

SK Joe Uchytel
Wisconsin Family Coordinator

Resolutions Notice

All Resolutions must be received by the State Advocate no later than February 15th, 2019

Resolutions to be considered at the State Council Meeting may only be submitted by a Subordinate Council, State Deputy, State Officers as a group, or by standing State Committees. Resolutions submitted by standing State Committees must pertain to the work of their committee.

As required by Wisconsin By-Laws, the following individuals are members of the Resolutions Committee in connection with the forthcoming Annual Meeting. Chairman John P. Huttenhoff, State Advocate Madison, Very Rev. Cyril Guise State Chaplain Hubertus, Jack Wrbanich State Deputy Green Bay.

State Deputy Jack Wrbanich will appoint the remaining members from Past State Deputies, District Deputies and Grand Knights prior to the first formal meeting of the Resolution Committee, scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2019. The deadline for receipt of all resolutions by the State Advocate is February 15, 2019.

All resolutions must be prepared in writing by and sent to:

State Advocate John P. Huttenhoff
310 Merryturn Road
Madison, WI 53714-2750
or email to jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com

Wisconsin K of C State Charity Raffle

We hope and pray that your charity raffle tickets are distributed and sales well under way! The number of tickets sent to each council was changed this year to be a number that was more than twice the number sold in either of the last two years rather than based on the number of members you have. Some councils were selling 20% of what they had been sent and some were selling 150%. Like the parable of the talents, we gave to councils based on their historic abilities. We need to be smarter about how we sell to keep the costs down. I believe that we should be selling at least 40% of what we print. If you need more tickets or posters, please check with your DD or State Charity Diocesan coordinator first before requesting them of the state director since this will save postage in many cases. We may run out this year for the first time, and if so, I will reach out to all the DD's who seems to have some yet. Posters can also be printed from the forms pages of the state web site.

Your State Charity Diocesan coordinators are:

Green Bay Jeff and Lily Janssen 920-489-0790 jcjracer@gmail.com (the directory is wrong listing last year's coordinators);

La Crosse Dan and Joan Spencer 715-305-0398 spencer5062@outlook.com;

Madison Bob and Colleen Pizur 608-285-0175 anrca@charter.net;

Milwaukee Jim and Beth TenPas 920-207-6007 sapnet@charter.net;

Superior Dennis and Doris Berends 715-265-4186 dennisberends@centurytel.net.

Mark Kohls, WI Charity Committee Director 920-639-4991 mark.kohls@att.net.

Intellectual Disabilities

Late November into December is the calm before the storm for the Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities Program. The applications for State Grants have all been received and are being read over carefully by the ID Committee of: Green Bay-Bob Peters, La Crosse-Greg Sutton, Madison-Jim Vogt, Milwaukee-Dan Castle, and Superior-Pat Becker. The committee will meet on January 12 to discuss/debate how to most responsibly use the state portion of the ID Drive funds. If you see any of these gentlemen, please thank them for all they do to assist the intellectually disabled in Wisconsin. All Councils will be receiving in their Winter Packets several forms about the 2019 ID Drive. Please review them with your DDs and your Councils. The sooner we get every Council to get their orders in for Tootsie Rolls, the sooner we can get the candy in your hands to do good works. It is not too soon to start setting your Councils Drive dates. The suggested dates are April 26-May 12 but please move the dates around as is best for your council and town. By starting early considering a date it gives you time to see what else may be going on in your area on those weekends and will that help or hurt the drive. Over the next few newsletters I will go over who was awarded the State Grants and a change on the Disbursement Form and the need for this change.

Thank you for all you do for the Order.

Mark Jelinek Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities Director



November 21, 2018 Memorial of the Presentation of Mary

To all District Deputies,

Per the directive of Supreme we have another prayer initiative for the next couple fraternal years here in Wisconsin. They have replaced the Holy Family Prayer program with the icon of Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians. You are familiar with this program in the past years which has been successful in bringing together not only our councils but the church community which our councils serve. We hope with your kindly support and efforts that this program will continue to be an important outreach that we as Knights of Columbus can lead in our churches and community to build up our church.

This program has a focus on devotion to Our Lady and prayer for our brothers and sisters that are at risk around the world. We come together with these prayer services to strengthen ourselves and those at risk for the battle that lays ahead in our world today..

Great works in our organization should always be informed with a deep and well cultivated faith. Today, our church is in great need of men who are men of prayer. We are men of works informed by faith. Let this time of prayer opportunities in our districts and councils be a time of reflection, personal conversion and action in our world today.

I have enclosed a document from Supreme that outlines the basics to preparing and hosting successful services that will give dignity and honor to Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians and the whole prayer program. You will receive the icon and materials (briefcase) that accompany the program. If you should need additional materials to fill the cases please contact me or the state office. Also, if there is questions regarding the transfer of the icon to the next district or other program related inquiries feel free to contact me.

God's blessings to you and your families as you continue to serve the Knights of Columbus in serving our church and families.

Vivat Jesus,

Kevin Blau
Marian Prayer Program Coordinator- Wisconsin
blaufamily11@gmail.com-608.697.9758

Schedule

Icon #1

Icon #2

Icon #3

October 1, 2019 through October 28, 2019

District 72

District 10

District 88

October 29, 2019 through November 25, 2019

District 49

District 14

District 81

November 26, 2019 through December 23, 2019

District 50

District 9

District 21

December 24, 2019 through January 20, 2020

District 48

District 8

District 22

January 21, 2020 through February 17, 2020

District 51

District 7

District 29

February 18, 2020 through March 16, 2020

District 47

District 13

District 25

March 17, 2020 through April 20, 2020

District 42

District 4

District 26

April 21, 2020 through May 18, 2020

District 45

District 12

District 23

May 19, 2020 through June 15, 2020

District 43

District 11

District 46

June 16, 2020 through July 20, 2020

District 52

District 61

District 30

July 21, 2020 through August 17, 2020

District 40

District 62

District 24

August 18, 2020 through September 14, 2020

District 41

District 60



Faith In Action – Family Program Next Steps

Hello Brother Knights!

Here is a quick summary on how to keep informed of urgent information and Family programs with urgent timelines.

Family Director Flocknote

To keep up to date with new and urgent information, it is critical to have your council's Family Director join the **Family Director Flocknote Group**. I also recommend the District Deputy and Grand Knight join this group as well.

Consecration to the Holy Family

This is the required program for the Family category of the Columbian award and fulfills one category point.

Supreme suggests ***Although this consecration is traditionally celebrated around the Feast of the Holy Family (December 30th, 2018), councils are encouraged to hold this program at any time during the year.***

[Action Steps: https://kofc.org/en/programs/family/consecration-to-the-holy-family.html#](https://kofc.org/en/programs/family/consecration-to-the-holy-family.html#)

Urgent Specific Action Steps:

- Working with your pastor, obtain his permission and recommendations on conducting a Consecration to the Holy Family in your parish.
- **By now, you should have the prayer cards.** If not, order a good quantity of **Consecration to the Holy Family Prayer Cards (#10371)** through Supplies Online, the supply ordering portal available on Officers Online.
- Assign a Knight to lead this event

Our Marriage Prayer

This fulfills one Family category point for the Columbian Award. This event is ideally celebrated on World Marriage Sunday, February 10th, 2019.

[Action Steps: http://www.ourmarriageprayer.com/Knights-of-Columbus](http://www.ourmarriageprayer.com/Knights-of-Columbus)

Urgent Specific Action Steps:

- Watch the training video (Link above)
- Ask the priest/parish for permission to celebrate the Our Marriage Prayer, preferably on the weekend of February 10th, 2019. If that weekend doesn't work, it is fine to celebrate on a different weekend.
- Order prayer cards **as soon as possible** to ensure availability up to the event. Spanish and English prayer cards are available.
- Assign a knight to lead the event

SK Joe Uchytel
Wisconsin Family Coordinator

October Diocesan Families of the Month

Brother Knights!

It is with great honor for me to present to you our October Diocesan Families of the Month!

Green Bay Diocese – William and Carol Jean Currier

Bill and Carol Currier have been lifelong contributors to their council, parish and community. Bill has been a Knight for 58 years. Over the years, Bill has been a district deputy and held all officer positions including being Grand Knight of two different councils. He is a charter member of our council and is currently our council's Lecturer. As a 4th degree member, he has held the offices of Purser, Captain and is currently the Faithful Navigator of the Allouez Assembly 1199. Bill has received the Medallion Award from the State. Bill started the Lambeau Field Fundraiser that is one of our largest sources of council income. Bill and Carol raised 4 children and their son James is a 4th degree Knight. Bill and Carol have been Eucharistic ministers, attend adoration for four years at 6 AM on Fridays and they both lead the rosary. Bill is a church lector and has taught CCD for 10 years. Carol has played the organ including for the High Mass many years ago. Bill and Carol trained communion distributors and lectors and Carol makes out the schedule for rosary leaders, extraordinary ministers and lectors. Bill and Carol have taken communion to shut-ins for 42 years. Carol has been president of Vicariate 3 of the CCW. Carol has been involved with Junior Women's Organization, president of Wisconsin Dental Hygienist Association and both volunteer for Leven. Council 7895 from district 5 are proud to choose Bill and Carol Currier as our family of the month.

La Crosse Diocese – Tad and Corine Stepan

The Stepan family is totally involved in the activities at St. Paul Parish including dinners, garage sales, fund raisers for the youth programs, and school board. Trent and Kade are acolytes at Mass for 10 years. They participate and excel in basketball, baseball and football. They have served meals at the Jubilee House for the needy and senior citizens homes. They make trips to these places to play games, sing Christmas Carols and serve meals. This family adopted a child through a Mission from Guatemala which they supply funds for food. Cori is a Eucharistic Minister for 13 years while Tad is an usher for 14 years. She is Secretary on the Board of Wisconsin Association of Surgical Technology 7 years. Tad is the Parish go-to person. He managed the of building a Parish garage, carpentry maintenance in the Rectory and school. They have snowplowed the Church parking lot as needed for 10 years. Council 5488 from district 28 are proud to choose Tad and Corine Stepan as our family of the month.

Madison Diocese – David and Margaret McCarthy

David and Margaret (Peg) are active members of the SS Anthony and Philip parish. Peg is an organist and Dave sings in the choir. The both participate in church fundraisers. Peg also teaches music to the CCD classes and during the summer Bible School. Dave is an active KC member. He has held offices of Grand Knight, Past Grand Knight several times. He has also been a Trustee. He has been chairman of the Fish Fry in March, Summer Picnic and Steak Supper. He recently was chairman for the Punt, Pass and Kick contest. His daughter helped with the paperwork for this contest. Council 1909 from district 52 are proud to choose David and Margaret McCarthy as our family of the month.

Milwaukee Diocese – Fred and Cheryl Wachtel

Fred and his wife Cheryl are very active in our church. They just finished the setting up of our church pictorial for 2018 and had all their children help when the pictures were taken. Cheryl organized the many group pictures of the different groups serving or church and Fred was the expert picture taker. Both Fred and Cheryl teach the second-grade religious education. Cheryl is chair person of the Pastor Council, a lecturer and Eucharistic Minister. She is involved with so much. The twins Andrew and Kiley have served mass for many years, help their parents with teaching the little ones and are active with Slinger High School. For the last two years, Andrew helped with the Tootsie roll drive at our local store. I have known the Wachtel's since they moved to Slinger and watched their family grow and belong to St. Peter Catholic church, they always have the front pew. God bless this family. Submitted by Ron Awe. Council 12588 from district 60 are proud to choose Fred and Cheryl Wachtel as our family of the month.

Superior Diocese – Alan and Loree Nauertz

Al is our council's lecturer and is very active in pro-life activities. He also is a driving force of a men's group and youth ministry. Loree is a leader for youth programs, confirmation, youth group, extreme faith camp and Steubenville retreats. Al and Loree lead the natural family planning ministry for our parish cluster. The children are very active in school activities like sports, music and academics. They are leaders of church youth activities. Mark served one year as a Net team youth team member. Council 5397 from district 87 are proud to choose Alan and Loree Nauertz as our family of the Month.

A Call to Action

Brothers, **it is critical** that we identify the outstanding families that are in your parishes and honor them as being your council's family of the month. By doing so, we are thanking them for all they have done and encourage them to continue being a great Catholic family. Their example provides inspiration to the other families in our parishes. **But more importantly**, they are teaching our children how to become a great Catholic family so that one day, they too can pass this example down to the next generation.

Thank you, gentlemen, for honoring the families in your parishes. You are raising their candles up for all to see!

Vivat Jesus!

SK Joe Uchytel
State Family Coordinator

Supreme will no longer charge dues for seminarians!

That's right - when your local seminarian is home for Christmas he can sign-up, online if that works better for him, and he will not be charged the \$30 to become a member. All he needs to do is check the Seminarian box and he is in for free! (Just an idea, but how about letting Father sponsor him. Put Father's member number on the "Born a Man, Become a Knight" card.)

If you don't know Father's member number, ask your FS. And if Father is not a member of your council, let me know. Our former MPC and now RGD, Joe "The Dude" Ramirez will be happy to help!

A Blessed Advent to all!!