



Knights of Columbus Newsletter



Charity ~ Unity ~ Fraternity ~ Patriotism

Official Newsletter of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri

VOLUME 7, NO 9

"We are Knights of JOY - Jesus Only You!"

MARCH 2021



**STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
LUCAS VOLKMAN**

Brother Knights and Ladies:

I hope that you all are having a prayerful Lent. During this season of Lent we will all prepare ourselves through prayer and penance for the Resurrection of Our Lord at Easter. But as there are some in your parish who are preparing to join our Catholic faith through the RCIA, consider

reaching out to those men and women to help them with their journey to our faith. Any men who are becoming Catholic might well make excellent Knights – so ask them to join after Easter.

One of the things that Supreme is doing is consolidating forms. Hence, all of the individual forms that you used to need to report your activities are now largely obsolete. Instead, use the form 10784 to report your activities to Supreme. In the future they hope to eliminate more forms and consolidate more into the 10784 to limit the amount of work everyone has to complete.

On the council forms page on the Supreme Council website you will find the State Council Service Program Awards Entry Form. We encourage every council to fill out the form and submit it to either me or the State Deputy. Your council has a program or two that you are quite proud of, and this is an excellent opportunity to show off that program. The winners will be announced at the state convention and their applications will be submitted for the international competition. Now, before you say that this contest is pointless as my council is too small to ever win, keep in mind that councils of all sizes in Missouri have won the state level awards. Multiple councils have even won international awards with Supreme as well! So please do submit something by the end of the month.

Thanks for all that you do! Please ask for the intercession of Our Lady and our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, for the success of your councils and parishes. Vivat Jesus!



**FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR
CHUCK PAQUETTE**

Good Friday Family Promotion

Good Friday is a central role in the heart of Christianity. Councils need to encourage participation in Good Friday services through this promotional campaign. Setting an example in our community, Knights need to attend Good Friday services with

their families and work with their pastors to encourage parishioner involvement at these liturgies. In conjunction with these efforts, councils need to work to educate their parishes about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land.

Continuing our Faith in Action I encourage all Knights to go to our supreme website and challenge yourselves to complete this family promotion. <http://kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/family> Make it simple go to kofc.org click on the header "What we do" choose "Programs" from the header then once there choose "Family". Scroll down to the "Good Friday Family Promotion" everything is here to guide you to have a successful promotion.

To gain credit for your program complete the associated reporting forms. After you completed the program please report this on form #10784. This will complete one credit for your #SP7.

To get your second credit, while you are at the supreme site look up the Food for Families program.

Food for Families program

This is a very important program that we need to be doing year around. This program is very easy to do and can be done during this pandemic. If your council has not been a part of this program, I encourage you to climb on board. The more food we can provide means fewer families that go hungry on any given day. For information go to our supreme website: <http://kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/family/food-for-families.html> or email Bill Lee Jr at foodforfamilies@mokofc.org

There is a lot of fantastic programs on the Supreme website please check them out KOFc.ORG then "What we do" then explore the options to keep your council's spirit in the right mind.

Website address: <http://www.mokofc.org>



**STATE LIFE DIRECTOR
BRIAN ZIEGLER**
"Defending Life with JOY"

Greetings Brothers

March is upon us and that brings us closer to our State Convention in April. I for one and really hoping to see everyone in person at the Capital Plaza.

With the approach of the convention, all councils need to make sure that if they have had a Brother Knight pass away during this year that the information was relayed to our Sympathy Card Chairman. So that he can not only get a sympathy card to the family, but also so that the deceased brother's name can be read aloud at the Memorial Mass at the State Convention.

We just recently held the 2nd Annual State Corn Hole tournament benefiting Special Olympics. Although team numbers were down due to COVID, we will still be able to make a decent donation to Special Olympics.

Please plan ahead now for next year's Roses for Life Weekend as there were several late orders this year and some that were so late, they couldn't be filled.



BOB HAWKINS-DISTRICT MASTER
749 Ridgeside Dr., Apt. B, Ballwin, MO 63021 636-391-6443

Brother Knights

The Missouri Jurisdiction of the 4th Degree will be conducting an On-line Virtual Exemplification of the 4th Degree (Patriotism) on Monday evening March 29, 2021 beginning at 7:00 pm Central Time. The Exemplification will be conducted via Zoom Conference. Log in will begin at 6:30 PM

This is a unique opportunity for brother Knights to receive the honors of the 4th Degree and apply them as Faithful Catholic Citizens. During this time, we are unable to conduct live Exemplifications and gather as a large group in a public setting, so we will go virtual. We have already had to postpone several Exemplifications and there will be no scheduled in person Exemplifications until at least September.

We are also, able to reduce the cost from the normal rate of \$70 (plus optional \$10 for suspender baldric upgrade) to \$40 (plus optional \$10 suspender baldric upgrade).

If you wish to participate in the Virtual Exemplification, you will need to obtain a Form 4 (application to 4th Degree) from your Grand Knight or the Faithful Navigator of your local 4th Degree Assembly. The Faithful Navigator will get the proper signatures on the application and forward it to me with your application fee (as listed above). Once I receive the application and fee, I will register you for the Exemplification and you will receive an email explaining how to participate in the Degree.

If you do not have access to your Grand Knight or Faithful Navigator, feel free to respond to me and I will mail you the application form, if needed. I will need to have your application and fee no later than Monday, March 22nd so that I can register you and get you a confirmation email.

PLEASE INCLUDE E-MAIL ADDRESS

Checks Should be made out to: Missouri District K of C

Please let me know if you have any questions.



**STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
MICHAEL AUCHLY**

Congratulations to our new College Council located at Truman State University in Kirksville! They have received Council Number 17660. A special thanks to Chairman Bernie Panther and all of the rest of the Knights that worked so hard to make this new college council a reality. Please welcome these new Knights into the order and we look forward to good things coming from Northern Missouri. Hopefully this helps prove the point that recruiting and inviting men to join the Knights is possible even during a pandemic and might help spur growth in other parts of the state. Again Congratulations!!

Now is the time to be conducting your Spring Church Drive, possibly during the week of Founders Day in March. We ask to do some sort of recruiting event at your parish whether it is a pulpit announcement, Delta Church Drive or a traditional church drive. Maybe your pastor will talk about the Knights at the end of the services. If not, make sure you at least have something in the bulletin welcoming the men and their families of your parish to join the Knights.

As many of the councils are coming out of their hibernation to work hold fish fries, make sure to ask any non-Knight parish members and their families to join the Knights. Are you placing stickers or labels on your fish fry to-go containers announcing the MCGIVNEY2020 free membership? Do you have a table set up with information about the Knights and a member that can answer any questions of those interested? You are very visible in the parish and in the community during this time period and you should take advantage of the publicity.

As we progress our way through the Lenten Season ask your membership to consider a Lenten Devotion to reach out and bring men in the Knights. Wouldn't be great to do something you haven't done in years and bring in a new member to the Knights? Look at growing the order as your own personal Lenten Journey! Not that this wouldn't be reward enough but the State Council is also offering the following incentives as well. During the months of March and April, every Unified Degree hosted by a council will be entered into a drawing for \$300 and there will be a total of four winners drawn. You're Form 450 must be received in order to qualify for the drawing.

I want to thank everyone for their work on membership as we have seen an increase in the number of new members during the past month. With four months remaining in the Fraternal Year, we still have a lot of work to do in order to reach our Circle of Honor goal. The next three months are traditionally our strongest recruiting months in Missouri so let's keep that momentum going! Just about every council has at least one e-member that they can convert to Council membership just by asking them to join the local Council.

Now is the time to make this happen as Missouri Knights being one of the premiere jurisdictions in the order need to show how it can be done. As always, please remember to Celebrate Everything!

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**STATE FAITH DIRECTOR
CHRIS TEEL**

Hello and Happy Lenten Season from your Faith Activities Team. I hope this finds everyone healthy and doing well, af-ter concluding 2020.

I would like to provide some information for a new program that our Worthy Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly announced last month, the *Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour*.

For the remainder of the 2020-21 fraternal year, this prayer hour can be used as a substitute for the Pilgrim Icon program. This program is in the Faith category of the Faith in Action.

Celebrate the beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney through a special prayer hour open to the whole parish. Built around the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, the prayer hour features writings from recent popes and reflections on the life of Blessed Michael McGivney. The prayer hour is a way to invoke the intercession of the blessed Founder of the Knights of Columbus and to be inspired by his life and legacy.

Action Steps:

1. Identify a program chairman to oversee all action steps and delegate tasks, as needed.
2. In conjunction with your pastor, select the date for your Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour well in advance.
3. Determine the prayer hour setting (council or entre parish).
4. The prayer hour can also be offered remotely through video streaming or video conferencing.
5. Order a good quantity of Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour Booklets (#11157) through Supplies Online.
6. Build public interest for the event and promote it!
7. Conduct your Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour, according to Booklet (#11157).
8. Consider hosting a brief gathering following the conclusion of your event. Have the council membership director bring brochures and membership documents (including Prospect Cards #921A). This event can be a great opportunity for men who would benefit from membership in our Order to see what council activities are like.

Resources:

1. #11157- Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour Booklet
Please remember a personal donation to the State Council - Missouri Knights of Columbus using the new online system at <https://www.continuetogive.com/>. Prayfully consider a donation to the many Knights Programs we have here in Missouri. It is very easy to join, please try!!
- The Team members with Faith Activities are always here to serve you. “*Strengthening Our Faith, Journeying with Our Families*”. I pray for All to be healthy and an end to this pandemic soon.
Thank You All and God Bless!



**STATE RIB DIRECTOR
MIKE TESMER**
Enriching our Faith through JOY

At the beginning of February, Eric Bruns sent out letters to the Financial Secretaries and Auxiliary Presidents whose Councils and Auxiliaries have not yet reached at least 125% of their RIB quota. Checks need to be sent to Eric by March 31st in order to earn the Circle of Honor certificate along

with the other awards. The other awards are: Highest percentage per member, Highest gross amount donated by an individual council and Highest dollar amount donated over quota. Please note that you can still achieve the other awards by reaching at least 100% quota by June 30, 2021. So, if your Council or Auxiliary has not sent in your RIB funds, please do so soon!

This month I’d like to focus on the two programs that are being used in the Archdiocese of St. Louis from RIB funds. The first is the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation – (VLCFF) which is an online initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation via the internet. This past year they had over 500 people take courses from VLCFF with almost every parish of the 179 parishes in the Archdiocese being represented. The other program is Virtual Faith Formation for Families. Covid-19 has hit schools, religious education programs, and parish families hard. To help strengthen family faith formation during this pandemic, the Archdiocese has partnered with CatholicBrain to give free access to anyone in the archdiocese wanting to use this online resource to engage students/children and involve parents/grandparents in faith formation. Also, schools and religious education programs are using SIGNS OF GRACE through the Augustine Institute to engage and support families by digital sacramental preparation.

Remember that if you want to make a personal donation to RIB, you can do it on our website at www.continuetogive.com/rib. We are encouraging a donation in honor of our founder and parish priest Fr. Michael McGivney who gave so much for others in his parish work. Your donation will emulate the great works that our funds are doing in parishes today to the great works that he accomplished in his short years of service. Look for the Spring personal appeal letter coming soon!

Blessed Michael McGivney Pray for Us! Vivat Jesus!



**STATE LADIES
AUXILIARY
CHAIRCOUPLE
RON & AMY MATHIAS**

Amy and I hope you are all staying warm in this freezing cold winter. We also hope this is finding you healthy and happy. I have been informed by the State Deputy Michael Grudzinski we will have the State Convention in person this year. Please make plans to attend as Amy and I would love to see a huge Ladies turn out this year. We will also be giving out last years and this years Lady Of The Year Award. We felt this was to big of an honor to just mail it, so we held on to it for this year to present in front of you all.

During our time as State Chairpersons we hear of the strong support from everyone that is thoughtfully given in order to do these wonderful services. These could not be accomplished without you all working together and knowing there is a greater purpose for us all. Please continue to do these awe-inspiring acts of Charity.

• Auxiliary Reports: End of Year Ladies Auxiliary Report, Due. Newsletter Award submittal, Lady of the Year submittal, all Due in March. We would like to highlight an award especially for the K of C Councils, Ladies Auxiliaries here in Missouri. This would be the Outstanding Ladies Auxiliary/Assembly Award, fraternal year 2020- 2021. Please see below the award guidelines for the Lady Auxiliaries.
Missouri State Council Ladies Auxiliaries/Assemblies
“Helping Knights, Help Others”

- Hot Pink Sheet mailed/postmark by June 1, 2021
 - RSVP and attend a Ladies Auxiliary Area Meeting
 - Participate in the Missouri Religious Information Bureau (R.I.B.) State Program (Minimum \$35 donation)
 - Participate in two Pro-Life Activities
 - Participate in the Drive for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
 - Participate in the Missouri Religious Vocations Fund (MRVF), (100% participation, \$0.50 per member)
 - Plus, two activities in **each** of the following five categories:
 - Church • Community • Auxiliary
 - Family • Youth
- These activities are to be submitted on the **End-of-the-Year Report** due to the State Auxiliary Chairpersons by March 15, 2021.

Remember Knights and Ladies, we are here for you ALL, God Bless.



**STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR
PETER NICASTRO**

Knights and families: conditions are *improving* throughout the state. First, it’s March, and that means spring starts this month. Covid cases are down sharply as more and more adults are vaccinated, allowing Missourians to feel more comfortable about going out and serving others. Finally, the entire month of March is in Lent this

year, and every Friday there’s a fish fry nearby. Our community programs give us as Councils and individuals to put a hand on our neighbor’s back. District Deputies reported 61 Councils holding 113 community activities in the 2nd fraternal quarter, in addition to the 183 Councils which participated in the Drive for Developmental Disabilities.

The next *Mariner* deadline is March 5, so there is still time to submit pictures of Council programs and District Deputy reports to Ken Wehmeyer for publication. Show us, please, what your Council is doing to support your community. We’d also like to have your post on our **Facebook** page, *Knights of Columbus Missouri State Council*.

I saw a dad joke a few days ago about motivation: when you do something, give your all... unless you’re donating blood. We’ve had more recorded blood and **blood drives** donated this year than ever, but an important part of **Leave No Neighbor Behind** is to continue to save lives through blood donation. If your Council can host a drive at your parish or at your Council hall, all the better; if not, encourage your Brother Knights and eligible family members to make an appointment to donate at other venues. All blood drives should be reported to Matt Gray.

Essay Contest entries have wrapped up, with more than 500 essays and 17 schools participating under our topic this year, “What is Our Duty to the Poor?” The deadline for entries was January 31. I’m excited to read our winning submissions. Bill Lueckenhoff and a team of learned judges will wield their red pens, and we’ll publish the winning entries across our communication platforms.

Coats for Kids has also wrapped up for the season, with a total of 188 cases of Supreme’s coats purchased. If your Council leveraged of end-of-season sales or other arrangement to get third-party coats for distribution, now or later, please let John Myers know about your coats program. The most important outcome is to keep kids and families warm this winter. Non-Supreme coat distributions are still eligible as a Community program for the SP-7 Columbian Award application. Likewise, Aaron Wood is interested if your Council had a **Basketball Free Throw Contest**.

Finally, we need your Council’s, and your individual support, for the **Wheelchair Mission** and for **Prison Concern**. The Wheelchair Mission provides a stock of wheelchairs – please contact Matt Gray if you know of someone in need – available to anyone in Missouri, and sends additional stock to those in need internationally. After a year of quarantine, I have a closer appreciation for the strain of lacking mobility. Donations for either of these programs, as well any of our state charitable programs, should be sent to Columbian Charities Treasurer Ralph Cupelli.

**2021 Missouri Knights of Columbus
State Bowling
Tournament
Tournament hosted by
O’Fallon Council #2269**



Tournament Dates: March 13-14, 2021
Locations: O’Fallon Bowl and Frontier Bowl

Three Separate Events

Singles, Doubles (Saturday at O’Fallon Bowl)
Team (Sunday at Frontier Bowl)

Cost: \$17 per event per member, \$85 for 5 person team
Tournament open to ALL Knights of Columbus Members and their immediate families. This includes wives, adult children (including step-children), and in-laws.
No league or USBC membership required, open to ALL skill levels

For more information, contact Tournament Director Kevin Hudnut

at 636-978-3639, or visit us Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/mokofcbowling>.

Lanes Sponsorships for your Council or other businesses are available for only \$100, with proceeds going to Special Olympics and local charities!!



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