

# Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

April 2020

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editors: SK Mike Tomsyck & SK Rob Christianson



## A Message from State Deputy



Greetings,

Lisa and I pray that you and your family are healthy and adapting to this COVID-19 pandemic. Do not lose sight of your faith and remember that Jesus is always with us, even in the midst of a crisis and we will come out on the other side.

As you may know we have had to postpone our State Convention, as of this writing we are planning to hold a "Virtual" Convention, i.e. web-conference. Supreme along with our state team is working hard to ensure we are able to pull this off, and more importantly that none of our councils are not disenfranchised because of the ongoing pandemic; the Annual Meeting will now be conducted with a limited number of staff in person and the balance of attendees, delegates and staff joining on-line. We will continue to use our state website / Convention Registration Portal for registering delegates to attending the Annual Meeting. Rather than a three-day event we will have a modified format, awards program will be shortened, winners will be announced, however, the presentation of awards will take place at a later date, passing of Resolutions, election of State Officers and Delegate to Supreme Convention will take place during the on-line conference.

More information will be coming out very soon, we ask your patience, we will keep you posted as soon as we have everything ready to go. For now, know that there are many people working from their homes to try and put this all together and I ask all of you to continue to pray for our members, their families, the Order and our Church during this time of trial. I also encourage you all to log on to the Supreme website at: [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) where you can see the latest things that the Knights of Columbus is involved with.

We would like to find better ways to keep in touch with you over the next few months. I want to thank each of you all for your efforts and prayers during this difficult time. So many questions and so few answers. I received one email from a Grand Knight who perhaps said it best. *"I have a 9 year old at home and keeping him safe and feeling secure are my priorities at this point as I am sure that you too worry about family and loved ones. I look forward to a better time, but realize that the struggles, challenges, and obstacles of life is what makes us all stronger when we come out the other side of turmoil and strife. May you continue your journey as leaders in the Knights of Columbus to help us obtain a better more deserving image of what God has planned for us. Thank you and bless you."*



Nunc Coepi!  
Vivat Jesus!  
Viva Cristo Rey!

Brother Knights,

I want to make you aware of a letter that I sent to our five Bishops. You will notice that in the letter he asked their excellencies to share the letter with their parish priests to “help us hold each other accountable.” Please share this with your entire council membership so they are aware in the event their parish priest mentions it to them.

The “I AM A KNIGHT” cards referenced in the letter are available free from Supreme as item number 10919. They are free. Get one for each of your members! They are item 10919. Did I mention that they are free? Hint: this is an excellent way to make contact with men you have not heard from for a while and thank them for being a brother knight!

Also, as you read the letter, please consider the following line in light of our new, “public witness” combined ceremonial! Talk about timely!

**“In an age when many stop practicing our faith, or are simply going through the motions, we Knights are dedicated to answering the call to give public witness of our discipleship of Jesus Christ.”**

OK, more than enough preamble. Here is the letter.

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus throughout the State of Wisconsin, and especially throughout the Diocese of La Crosse, I am writing to first thank for your Apostolic service, and then once again pledge the support of your Brother Knights in that service. To that end we are rededicating ourselves to Fr. McGivney’s vision to live out what it means to be a Knight. We are equipping our members with cards that read:

### **I AM A KNIGHT**

**We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith.**

**There is much work to be done in this world.**

**Assisting the sick and disabled. Protecting those who can’t protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path.**

**We do it, to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics.**

**We invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values.**

**Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism.**

**We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world.**

**It’s one thing to say who you are.**

**It’s another to live it. To put your values into action.**

**That’s what we do at the Knights of Columbus.**

For many of us, the first line is the most important. In an age when many stop practicing our faith, or are simply going through the motions, we Knights are dedicated to answering the call to give public witness of our discipleship of Jesus Christ. We do this in a concrete way, by making the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy really present, in the lives of our members and their families, and in the world around us. Dear Bishop, we thank you for your prayers and for your Apostolic leadership. We hope our rededication meets with your approval and that it buoys you for the task at hand; proclaiming the Gospel of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please share this message with your parish priests and invite them to help us hold each other accountable. If there is no council in the parish, and Father would like one, please let him know that we will do whatever it takes to make that a reality for him and for his parish.

Vivat Jesus, Viva Chriso Rey!  
Nunc Coepi

Jack V. Wrbanich  
State Deputy  
Wisconsin State Council  
Knights of Columbus

PS: This letter is being shared with our Knights as one more encouragement of them. Please feel free to share it with your parish priests, especially those who do not have the benefit of a parish-based Knights of Columbus council.

## Membership

March is tough for membership but hopefully it was a good month for your Council.

What do I mean by that?

With everything going on in the world right now and especially in American is has not been socially responsible to physically conduct degrees. April is looking like it might be very similar.

Does this mean you cannot grow the Order? No. There is eMembership which might be a good option for many men in your community to engage. They can become members, receive the benefits and learn more about the Order and when we can responsibly assemble again these men can easily take the degree and become members of your Council. What a great time to get a man in, right before the drive for those with Intellectual Disabilities.

While most of us should be staying at home right now, this would be a great time to send a card or call members of your council, thanking them for being a Knight of your Council. It would also be great to check in with all of your members and widows to be sure they are safe and to see if they need anything: food delivered to their home, trash taken to the curb, or just someone to talk to pass the time.

While March and April are going to be a hard draw to get new members, this is a great time to RETAIN the members you do have by letting them you they are valuable to the Order, the church and your communities.

Together we will be successful.  
Mark Jelinek  
Membership

## CCLS RECEIVES CRANT FROM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



On February 3, the Wisconsin State Council Knights of Columbus awarded CCLS a grant of \$3,239 to purchase and install new carpeting at our community based residential facility in Bayside. This is the second year in a row that we have received funds from this organization. Thank you, Wisconsin Knights of Columbus, for your support again this year!

Service clubs (the Knights of Columbus, Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.) are an excellent source of funds for nonprofit organizations. If you are a member of a service club that is interested in donating to CCLS, please contact Kevin Brown at [kevin.brown@cclswi.org](mailto:kevin.brown@cclswi.org) or (920) 261-1345, Ext. 400.

Kevin's Korner

### Your Donation Makes a Difference!

Welcome to the first issue of the Creative Community Living Services Quarterly Update! The purpose of this publication is to update you and our other donors on what you have accomplished by supporting CCLS. I am very pleased to report that your generosity is making a difference in the lives of people with disabilities across Wisconsin.

Over the past six months, CCLS has received donations from the We Energies Foundation, Alliant Energy Foundation, AF Group, Ixonia Bank, K & K Masonry, and many individuals. These gifts have allowed us to purchase new furniture for CCLS group homes in Waukesha, Brown Deer, Madison, Janesville, and Black River Falls, and to buy new appliances for our facilities in La Crosse, Onalaska, Black River Falls, and Juneau.

Thank you for helping to improve the quality of life for the people we serve! For more information about CCLS and our fundraising program, contact me at [kevin.brown@cclswi.org](mailto:kevin.brown@cclswi.org), or at (920)-261-1345, ext. 400.

*Written by Kevin Brown, CCLS Director of Development and Community Engagement*

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314 E Main St. Watertown. WI53094

<https://www.cclswi.org/>

## A Special Message from the Supreme Council General and Field Agents:

Most of you know us as your Knights of Columbus Field Agents but before that we're Brother Knights and as such we wanted to send you a quick note that reflects the posture of the Knights of Columbus and our own commitment to serve you and your family in these unprecedented times.

As a framework, we want to employ the five pillars that Supreme Knight Carl Anderson has pointed to as characteristics found in men who, in time of crisis, not only survive but lead.

First, **we remain rooted in the truth of the faith.** We pray for one another, for the sick and the dying, and for the Church and world. In this we remain true to Fr. McGivney's vision of protecting families within the sure tracks of the Catholic faith.

Second, the Knights can be counted on to **step into the breach.** When disasters strike, the Knights are there with prayer and work, supporting first responders, providing shelter and assistance to those affected. This time is no different. Working together, we remain united and strong.

Third, **a Knight stays at his post.** We understand that you have concerns about health, finances, job security, savings, retirement, and these have only increased in these days. We are here to help allay those concerns and to answer any questions you may have.

We are ready **to suffer for the good.** It has fallen to us agents and our Supreme Council leadership to roll up our sleeves and get to work so we can remain effective as we work remotely and maintain social distance. To that end, we are employing new technology that allows us to meet "virtually," using a secure video conferencing software. It allows us to see each other, and to share a screen that features forms and other graphics.

Finally, **a Knight maintains humble confidence.** Our commitment to you, our members and families, remains steady and is built not primarily on our qualifications but on the strength of our Order, which has grown and strengthened over more than 135 years. Our Order is strong, and our guarantees remain in place.

As always, we stand ready to help. If you or anyone you know need assistance of any kind during these trying times, please feel free to contact us.

Fraternally,

Northern Agency  
920-462-4100

Southern Agency  
262-378-4854



New Degree Ceremony – Wisconsin Dells – 3/1/2020

First row from left to right : Peter Pauc, Geo Rodriguez, Dan Evans, Jeff Maurer.

Second row (up a step): Jeff Buss, Mike Hess, Larry Gotee, Stan Dzierzega

2<sup>nd</sup> step up: Steve Ennis (ceremonial team), Doug Kolb, Gerald Warmuth, Steve Hesprich (ceremonial team), Jason Diebolt (seminarian), Ron Faust (Immediate Past State Deputy), Benjamin Brandenburg (field agent).

Top row: Mike Horkan (ceremonial team), Pat Moertl (Grand Knight and ceremonial team), Simon Tipps (seminarian and ceremonial team), Fr. Eric Sternberg (Pastor, council Chaplain and ceremonial team), Al Uzzerdo (ceremonial team), **Mike Tomsyck (State Secretary), Jack Wrbanich (State Deputy), Joe Ramirez (Supreme Regional Growth Director).**



Dr. Paul and Trish Skofronick and children Jaiden, Jerry, and Joanne were awarded the Knights of Columbus Family of the Month by the Diocese of La Crosse and were presented the award at the March 12 Soup and Sandwich following the Stations of the Cross at Queen of the Apostles Parish in Tomah.

The Skofronick's were also presented a beautiful and moving replica of the

statue of the Memorial to the Unborn at the Shine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse. Dr. Skofronick is a member of Tomah KC Council 4125.

## State Programs

Brothers,

We are seeing times unseen at least since World War II and the Great Depression if not unprecedented. Let us trust in the lord and hope that things will return to normal relatively soon. Unfortunately, following Supreme and State guidelines, all our KC meetings, programs and activities are on hold for the foreseeable future. The recent messages from the Worthy State Deputy on March 18 and Supreme Knight on March 16 certainly give some great suggestions of things we can do while restricted to our homes! That said, here are a few items of note:

1) The State Knowledge and Free Throw Contest was cancelled and the Diocesan (Regional) Contests in Madison, Superior and Milwaukee as well. A letter and certificate from the State Deputy will be sent to Councils to forward to students who would have otherwise participated in those cancelled competitions.

2) History Books have been graded by the DDs and Diocesan Program Coordinators. Using that information, State Coordinator Charlie Silver will be able to determine the winners of the annual State Deputy Trophies, Preparation and Program Awards. They'll be announced and presented at a to-be-determined date. Books will receive their award stickers and be made available back to Councils also at some future to-be-determined time.

3) The 4 annual Service Program Awards will be determined by the State Officers by April 1 and announced ASAP. They'll be forwarded to Supreme for judging at that level and presented after the Convention in a manner to be determined.

4) Other awards (Membership, Roundtable, Family of the Year, etc.) will be determined and announced ASAP but presented at some other venue than the Convention.

5) State Charity Raffle tickets (stubs, proceeds, report forms) need to be in the hands of Diocesan Raffle Chairs no later than April 24 since the drawing must still be held in Green Bay on May 2. The Council Charity Report Forms (to get your money back from the Charity Raffle) is still due to State Office by May 1!

6) While our programs are on hold, I still remind you to get your PKD and COL donations in to State Office as soon as you can. Be working on filling out your Columbian Award forms and Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award forms so they are ready to go in June. [At this point, I do not know if there will be accommodations made for all the down time due to the COVID-19 in regard to the qualifications for Star Council, Columbian Award, McGiveny or Founders Awards, Wisconsin Outstanding Council Award, etc.] This is also a good time to get on the computer and finish up those Child Safety Requirements! It's also a good time to turn in any of the paperwork you haven't finished for programs you have already completed, either on its own form (eg. RSVP or Coats for Kids) or the new Supreme Form 10784 for other programs you've done.

7) Finally, a reminder that if the virus lifts in April-May, there's still time to do a Soccer Challenge at the Council level. If it goes on beyond that, then you may well wish to do the



## Special Olympics Report

In case you missed it, this year, Wisconsin finished 4th of 12 in the rankings of Division 2 jurisdictions for the Special Olympics program. It was another close year, especially between Wisconsin, Virginia, Iowa, and Kansas.

### Team Wisconsin Polar Plunge

Total for the Team Wisconsin drive as of March 15, 2020 stands at **\$6,7248.04**.

Total Polar Plunge - **\$7,180.23** made up from following, and included in above total.

Total raised from Polar plunge Teams \$5,715.23

Council Donations to Plunge \$950.00

John Benisch Plunge to Charities acct \$515.00

A special “thank you,” to all Brother Knights and Councils, for your donations to Special Olympics and every Councils that submitted their Form 4584.

John Benisch

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus  
Special Olympics Coordinator

**State Deputy Jack Wrbanich and State Advocate Corey Coonen making the Polar Plunge in Green Bay - \$3,500 funds raised! Knights throughout the state raised over \$6,500 in two months doing the Plunge this year!**



## Intellectual Disabilities Report

Brother Knights,

I am certain that all of us are curious as to the future of the current shutdown related to the COVID 19 virus. In Wisconsin we seem to be in the middle of the outbreak with more cases being reported daily. One can only hope that the steps that are being taken will work to slow and eventually stop the spread of the disease. At this time, it is important that we band together and help each other out. If there are elderly members in your community, please check on them and provide assistance as needed. If ever there was a time when we needed to step up to the plate, it is now!

I believe that all districts should have received their Tootsie Roll orders by this time. With the closing of churches and schools' delivery became an issue in some locations. For the time being of course, the drive is on hold. When the crisis subsides I believe we will set a new schedule for the drives and deadlines.

At this time we do have a few councils still looking for Tootsie Rolls due to the fact that they neglected to submit an order. I did contact all districts, who had not submitted an order but still there were some councils who did not submit a request to their District Deputy.

If your council is in this predicament, please contact me. I am slowly locating more cases beyond the spares that I had ordered which can be used to help these councils out. Some of you may have ordered more than needed in order to reach the free shipping level, I can help you to get rid of excess cases so please contact me if this is the case.

For the time being we will be in a holding pattern on the drive and other council activities. Once again please do what you can to help others in this crisis and pray for an end to the spread of the virus.

Fraternally yours,  
Don Schoenherr  
WI K of C, I.D. Director

## State Contest Winners

Accompanying the State Newsletter are three (3) PDF record documents that list the winners of the Citizenship Essay Contest, Culture of Life Contest and the Supreme Christmas Poster Contest. These have also been posted on the State website.

## Faith in Action – Family of the Month

Hello Brother Knights! Thank you again for an **amazing** February! Below is a quick summary of our progress to date. All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/6461821>. Check it out!



### Supreme



Wisconsin is still in 1<sup>st</sup> place with a 42 FOMs, Michigan is in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 35 and there was a three-way tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> place with Kansas, Louisiana and Virginia having 31.

*55 of the 82 jurisdictions submitted 390 FOMs, down 21% from January.*

*Wisconsin submitted **10.8%** of the FOMs submitted to Supreme! **Well done***

*everyone!*

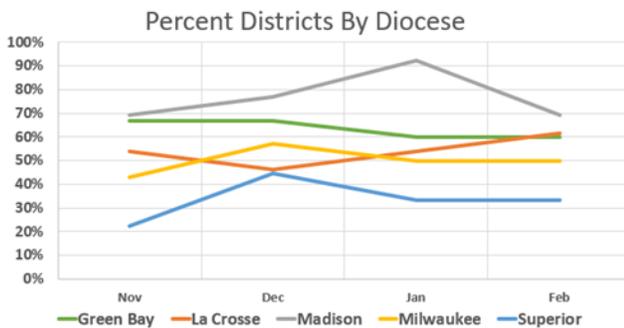
Here is the Supreme Family of the Month that will be receiving a nice certificate and letter.

**Kenneth and Judy Wolf family, Council 4897, District 71, Milwaukee Diocese**

### Diocese

Here are the Diocesan families of the month that will be receiving a certificate and letter from the state. Please click on the link above to download the PDF that contains the amazing story of each of these families!

<b>Green Bay</b>	Greg and Jessica Koshollek	<b>La Crosse</b>	Alan and Mary Laylan
<b>Madison</b>	Paul and Susan Brunner	<b>Milwaukee</b>	Chris and Dottie Thompson
<b>Superior</b>	Joe and Melanie Potaczek		



In support of the goal of having 100% districts submitting ONE FOM each month, here are the percentages by diocese.

Madison stayed in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 69%. La Crosse and Green Bay are essentially tied at 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 62 and 61% respectively. Milwaukee is at 50% and Superior at 33%

## District

This month's leading district deputies are Chris Mosconi, Paul Zimmerman and Paul Krenik submitting three FOMs each!

Thank you, Wesley, Kevin, Dennis, Erin, Paul, Paul, Michael, John and James for having two FOMs each.

We had **12** districts with two or more FOMs!

Thank you, worthy District Deputies! Your leadership is greatly appreciated!

Gentlemen, we are at **58% district participation!**

Worthy Brothers. *Can we continue to find at least ONE family in the 12 parishes in each district that deserves to be honored for all they do for our parishes, community and councils? I believe we can!* Due to Covid-19, let's see if we can maintain **60% district participation through the remainder of the fraternal year.**

## Council

We had **one** new council that submitted a Family of the Month. Welcome to the program!

Monsignor Lederer Council 4549
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**We had 50 fantastic families submitted to the state!** To learn who they were, check out the link at the top of this article.

Every council should be striving to submit **at least one** family of the month before the end of 2019, 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.

Please click on the link above and download the PDF containing the list of all these amazing families!

## Closing

Through this awesome Family of the Month program, the Knights of Columbus has the privilege to bring joy to families for thanking them for all they do on behalf of everyone. The benefits are:

- The family is grateful for the recognition
- Everyone else is grateful to the Knights for stepping forward to honor the family
- The perception of the council increases for taking time to serve the parish in a very visible way

***It is a win-win-win situation!***

I am grateful that your councils are willing to take the time to choose a family, give them the recognition they deserve and submitting them for the Family of the Month.

FOMs	District Deputy	Diocese
3	Chris Mosconi - 2	Green Bay
3	Paul Zimmerman - 21	La Crosse
3	Paul Krenik - 81	Superior
2	Wesley Swisher - 13	Green Bay
2	Kevin Van Den Heuvel - 24	La Crosse
2	Dennis Hampton - 43	Madison
2	Erin Kennedy - 45	Madison
2	Paul Quigley - 46	Madison
2	Paul Romanelli - 49	Madison
2	Michael Tennies - 60	Milwaukee
2	John Flynn - 66	Milwaukee
2	James Nabak - 71	Milwaukee

Gentlemen, it is a **privilege and honor** to serve you and your councils! **Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.**

Vivat Jesus!



SK Joe Uchtyl  
Wisconsin Family Coordinator

### **Council 7827 Holds 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Valentine's Day Dance** (for those with special needs)

On Sunday afternoon Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> the Father Dodge Council 7827 from Holy Family Catholic Church held its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Valentine's Day Dance for People with intellectual disabilities from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM starting with a pizza party with 30 pizzas from Domino's who generously gave our Council a break. The pizzas consisted of 25 large pizzas and 5 gluten free pizzas. In addition, the Council provided 11 2-liter bottles of soda.

The dancing started at 1:00 PM and went to 3:30 PM. The music was provided Larry Dunst from Wildfire DJ service.

There was a turnout of around 90 to 100 including family members and friends and every time the Council this event, something new is added. This time a table of prizes with winners picking out the prize of their choice until all are gone.

Two ladies from Holy Family Catholic Church (Carol Guidinger and Sue Hilgers) volunteered to paint fingernails of the young ladies attending and painted dozens of participants nails.



The Father Dodge Council holds 2 dances a year; one at or around Halloween and one as close to Valentine's day as possible. Participants come from the Lakeland area, Eagle River and Tomahawk. Grand Knight Bob Link drove down to Rhinelander and brought a bus load of dancers and family both to the dance and back to Rhinelander afterwards.

This event is run and paid for by the Council. Every KC member attending can honestly say they have as much fun running it as the people attending the dance.

Each year the Father Dodge Council has a St. Patrick's Corned Beef and Cabbage meal at Holy Family Catholic Church to help raise funds to support this worthy event.

### **State Bowling Committee announcement**

The May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting of the Wisconsin State KC bowling Committee has been postponed at this time due to the COVID-19 orders of the Governor.

This meeting and the Bidding for the 2022 Bowling Tournament will be rescheduled at the time we can finalize the Tournament for 2020 hosted by Manitowoc and Two Rivers Councils.

Any Council interested in Bidding for the 2022 Tournament and/or to receive notification when the meeting will be rescheduled, please contact State KC Bowling Committee Secretary - Bill Plante at [planteb@llive.com](mailto:planteb@llive.com), or call 715-570-0751 and leave a message.

## Upcoming Pilgrimage – National Shrine of Divine Mercy

The Knights of Columbus Divine Mercy Council 16022 from St. Anne Catholic Church in Pleasant Prairie are inviting anyone interested to accompany them on a five-day pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA. The pilgrimage begins Monday, October 19 at 7:00 a.m. from St. Anne and returns Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 6 p.m.

Organized by Grand Knight Richard Mich, the pilgrimage includes a stop at the World's Tallest Our Lady of Guadalupe Statue in Windsor Ohio. Standing 50 feet tall, the massive statue was the vision of Pat and Deacon Ed Heinz, who bought the farm where she stands exclusively to erect the statue.

Ed prayed for divine assistance in amassing the tens of thousands of dollars it would take to build the statue. His prayers were answered by Richard Hyslin, head of the art department at a Texas college, who agreed to donate his services. It was dedicated on August 5, 1995, in front of Mary is a pond, surrounded by a giant strand of white rosary beads and a crucifix, which is lit at night.

On Tuesday, October 20, the pilgrimage continues to Stockbridge where guests will tour the shrine and attend Mass. Thursday, the tour travels to Pittsburgh where pilgrims will attend Mass at St. Paul's Cathedral before departing for home.

Serving as Spiritual Advisor for the Pilgrimage will be Fr. Joe Lappe M.I.C., Associate Pastor at St. Peter Catholic Church and 4<sup>th</sup> degree Knight. "I hope this pilgrimage brings all of us a little closer to our Lord and that it will spread the good news of the many places we have here in the United States without having to go overseas," said Mich.

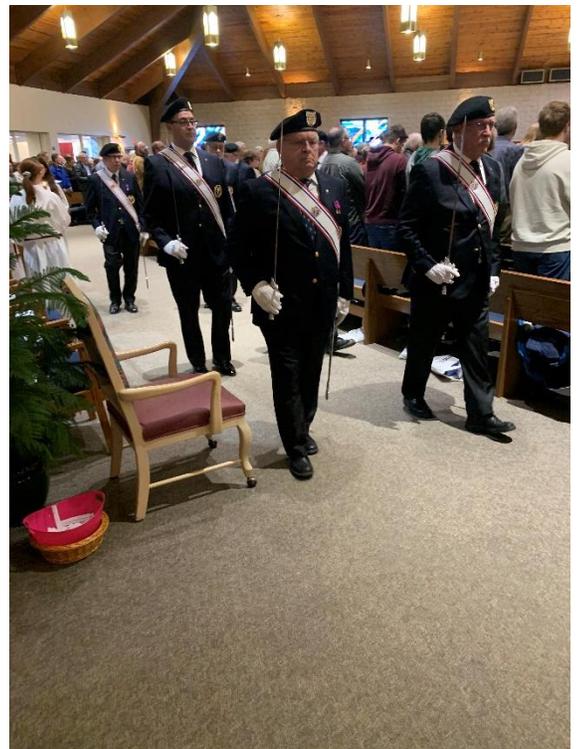
The cost for the bus trip through Lamers Bus line is \$600 per person for a single room, \$800 for a couple, \$350 per person for 3 to a room and \$300 per person for 4 to a room. The cost does not include food, but there is no charge for breakfast at the hotels.

For those interested in attending, RSVP is due by February 14, with a \$100 deposit due on March 15 and the balance due May 15.

## Esto Vir conference



Bishop Ricken, along with State Deputy Wrbanich and State Advocate Coonen at the Esto Vir conference.



4<sup>th</sup> Degree Honor guard assisting with the conference

## State Advocate report

What an interesting past month! Given the current circumstances and the 'known/unknown' being able to 'adapt' to change is important as ever. This applies even to this upcoming year's State Convention wherein we will be doing the Resolutions portion in a 'digital' format along with the rest of the Convention. As more becomes available on this format we will share with you. If you have any questions on the Resolutions that have been sent to you for review, please reach out to me. This will be different for us all, so it is a learning experience for everyone but together we will all be stronger!

The virus also hopefully has strengthened even more for your Council the sense of 'Community' and 'Fraternity' that we have with the Knights. I encourage all of you to remain vigilant in your contact with your members along with fellow parishioners to 'touch base' to see how they are doing and if you can help in any way possible! A great opportunity to reach out to your area schools to see if the Knights can assist with helping the area 'children' learn about helping their community with maybe going about their neighborhoods to help area people with their yard clean ups/spring cleaning as a community service. There are still ways that we can engage our Community and Parish and Schools to 'lead' as Knights. I'd be more than willing to help your council explore different ways that you can be of assistance to others in this time of 'social distancing.'

With respect to the Safe Environment program, we continue to make strides. Since last month, we had another 5 councils complete the necessary training to become a fully compliant council--increasing from 155 to 160 councils that are fully compliant! Through the most recent communications as well as the efforts of the councils and district deputies, we have had another drop in the number of councils still needing to submit forms--a decrease of over 25% of the outstanding councils! As of the last report we had 43 councils still needing to submit Forms 365 and/or 185. As of this writing, we are now down to 30 councils! That means that 90% of our councils are compliant with these necessary forms--outstanding job to you all!

A point that I want to reiterate is that if you are needing to 'resubmit' your form 365, please notify your members of the e-mail that they are to receive to complete this training!

If you would like some help in getting your council fully compliant...please reach out to me! Over this next month, given the restrictions on travel and 'social distancing' I will have time available that I can assist your council members with getting the necessary training completed via a conference call or even a 'ZOOM' meeting, in which they could share their desktop and I can direct them in what is needed to be done!! We are here to help...let's treat this trying time in our history as an opportunity to strengthen our Community and our Council...and strengthen the efforts put forth the Safe Environment Requirements by taking advantage of the down time to complete this training so that this is one less thing to be concerned with in future years--wherein more time can be spent servicing and recruiting members when we are back in 'normal' times!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Corey Coonen  
State Advocate