

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Notes

December 2020

[Wisconsin State Website](#)

Editor: SK John Huttenhoff



A Season of Anticipation and Preparation for What is To Come



As I'm writing this month's article, we have just celebrated Thanksgiving and prepare for what is to come, with the first weekend in Advent. A reflection on this past year should find no shortage of things for us to be thankful for. Alas, with every end comes a new beginning. As we enter into this season of Advent, I hope that all of us are focused on the new beginning that we hopefully will soon embark on post Covid-19.

This past year has provided many challenges. Whether a loved one or you has been inflicted with this horrible virus, it has been challenging for individuals and has been challenging for the leaders of our Catholic Church. As I write this article we are almost at the mid-point of our Fraternal Year, having to deal with this virus for the better part of 2020. As Knights we are expected to be leaders in our Parishes, and as such we often feel helpless as to what to do and still find the impact of the virus inhibiting us not stepping 'Into The Breach.'

I ask each of you to reflect on this question: Have I and my council been there for our Parish Priest in this their time of need—asking where the Knights can be of assistance and offering support in potentially their most dire time of need?

Our State Officer team is currently taking a survey of all Parish Priests and Administrators in the State—asking for their feedback on the many programs that the Knights of Columbus can offer and what would be most beneficial to their Parish. I have been excited to see many of the responses from these leaders being positive ways for the Knights to engage their parishioners and also some 'new' ideas that they have that they are looking for support from the Knights—as their strong right arm!

As we look forward towards the 2nd half of the Fraternal year, your State Officer Team is offering an incentive to each council to reach a specific goal of membership intake from January 1st-March 15th. These goals were assigned based off of the size of each council and is very attainable for all! If a council is able to reach their goal, the State Council will waive the per capita dues that would be assessed on April 1st to this Council! This is a tremendous opportunity that each council will be provided with—but it requires 'action' and a 'response' from each council to step into the breach and try to grow their council membership! Truly it is a self-serving incentive, as the Council will have additional funds at their disposal to provide to charity that they deem worthy and also will grow their membership for future activities that they plan to do—something that should always be on our minds!

We can no longer blame Covid-19 for our inability to grow our membership—as there are many different ways for us to do this in the current environment—now is the time to step forward and do it!

I challenge you with this: this week the Baltimore Ravens will play the undefeated Pittsburgh Steelers. Baltimore will be without many key starters, having over 21 players that have tested positive for Covid-19. Baltimore's head coach John Harbaugh isn't 'forfeiting' this game and marking it up as a loss. Already playing an extremely tough opponent, with their backs further against the wall because of the virus—Coach Harbaugh's team may come out with energy and enthusiasm, knowing that they have nothing to lose! Everyone may already be counting them out because of the recent team outbreak—but what's worse than using this virus as an excuse is not trying! Not giving it your all and seeing what the

outcome is. As soon as we start making excuses for what we expect to occur, we are already accepting defeat!

This virus has been around for 9 plus months now—it's time for us to take action and respond! It's time for us to 'stop making excuses' and to focus on what we can do—instead of what we can't.

Our State Council will become stronger together as we emerge from this. We are preparing all of our councils for this with this upcoming challenge and we are anxiously anticipating this outcome!

Corey Christopher Coonen
State Deputy



As we enter into December we enter into a special Holy Day Season for the Church. Though St. Nicholas Day on Dec. 6th may be especially important to young children more important to all God's children here in this Nation should be Dec. 8th, the High Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This for us is not only an important day for the Church throughout the world but it is the Patronal Feastday of the U.S.A. and should hold a special place in the hearts of all Knights of Columbus here in our Nation.

Moving forward through the Holy Day Season and into a New Year with Our Lady should give us great hope and I hope that Dec. 8th will be a day that prophetically shows us the way to the true path to peace true and happiness. As far as our participation in the Triumph of the Immaculate Virgin Mary we should draw close to Her through the praying of the Rosary and follow through with that meditation by drawing closer to the Lord Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Increasing prayer in our lives is always something we as Knights of Columbus should always be considering and I have been recently approached with an idea from one of our brother Knights who has been spiritually inspired with a prayer chaplet for the good of our order. I hope that many are praying the Rosary and practicing their faith by attending the Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice and as Knights I see in this new idea a spiritual exercise that would be uniquely ours. I would suggest that we try to pray this chaplet at the beginning of our council meetings. It may take a little more than ten minutes of our time but in the time that we are given by God we use it most effectively the more we fill it with prayer. The Chaplet Brochure can be found on the State Website at [http://uknight.org/States/Jake's%20KofC%20Brochure%20\(1\).pdf](http://uknight.org/States/Jake's%20KofC%20Brochure%20(1).pdf)

Strive to follow Our Lord with the help of Our Lady and we will have a very Merry Christmas followed by a very Happy New Year.

Sincerely, Fr. Andrew Kurz

Monthly Council Newsletter



A monthly Council Newsletter gains membership support of activities and stimulates interest in your Council.

Grand Knights should look for and appoint an editor for the council newsletter who is organized, can administer a project and has a feel for what is “newsworthy”. His duties should include contacting council officers and committee chairmen to obtain items of interest, soliciting advertisements, writing editorial copy and overseeing the layout of the publication.

When developing articles for the council newsletter, apply the same guidelines used for photos, features and press releases (see Supreme Council Public Relations and Publicity Guide). Additionally send a copy of your newsletter to the Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326 and a copy to Wisconsin State Deputy (forms@wikofc.com).

Suggestions for appropriate content:

Features and press releases developed for local newspapers and magazines

Announcements of planned council events

Special notices on council business such as elections, etc.

A regular column from the Grand Knight

Information received from the Supreme Council, such as Knights of Columbus film being aired on television or a new membership recruitment incentive

A Chaplain’s (or spiritual leader/Lecturer) column

Reports from Service Program directors on scheduled activities

Calendar of coming events

Listings of birthdays, anniversaries, deaths, congratulations, etc.

Membership campaign promotions

A Knights of Columbus insurance column written by a general of field agent

Notice of upcoming Degree exemplifications

Reprints from *Knightline* of news stories and programing ideas that would be of interest to all members

The format of the council newsletter will depend on your budget and the amount of content you have available. Make your newsletter as good as possible. In developing a “layout,” keep the following in mind:

Be sure to indicate the Council name, number and location in a conspicuous place in your bulletin.

Do not try to put too much information on a page - it will be difficult to read. Be sure to leave plenty of “white space” (black space) around articles and artwork.

Do not try to put more than two different typefaces. The use of many different styles creates a confusing look

Photographs and artwork help develop reader interest. Be sure that the photographs and artwork relate to nearby story, and that any photo is clearly captioned.

Other Newsletter Ideas and Tips:

[http://uknight.org/States/Newsletter%20Ideas%20and%20Tips.pages\(1\).pdf](http://uknight.org/States/Newsletter%20Ideas%20and%20Tips.pages(1).pdf)

Happy Thanksgiving - Blessed Advent - Merry Christmas

Hope everyone is staying healthy and appreciating everything they have been blessed with. The beautiful seasons are upon us, **NOW is the time** to bring out those **Knights of Columbus raffle tickets**. To say the least this has been a strange year, but I'm sure most of us can look back to find many things God has blessed us with through this pandemic. I myself was blessed with two granddaughters this year and much more time to spend with family.

Although there are many who have had struggles, brother Knights & Councils have stepped up to apply for grants from the Charity Fund to assist whenever possible. There will be many more opportunities for us to come to the aide of unfortunate families in the days ahead, so watch for your chances to be God's hands. With the restrictions the pandemic has caused, let us be creative in selling more tickets this year.

Remember the Charity Fund is built exclusively on the sales of these raffle tickets. So as you gather with friends, co-workers, and family give them the chance to help out their neighbor by buying a Knights of Columbus **Charity Raffle ticket**. Who knows maybe God will bless them or you with **\$50,000**.

God Bless,
Bernie Heit,
Charity Committee

Official Announcement – Winter District Deputy Meeting

The Winter District Deputy Meeting will be held as a Virtual Meeting the evenings of December 1, 3, and 4. All District Deputies should have received notice via Flocknote. Preregistration is needed for each evening. District Deputies that have not yet registered should contact their State Officer in Charge for assistance.

Membership

My Brother Knights,

I pray you all had a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving, and that you are ready to tackle the New Year with a surge of New Members. Let's get back to work!

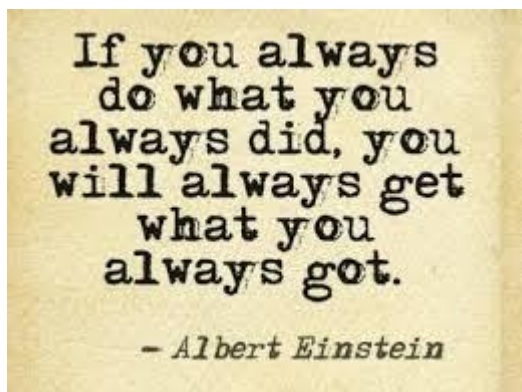


NOTHING of importance ever happens without PASSION and ENTHUSIASM driving it! Right Now, we need to:

- 1) **FOCUS on what we CAN DO**, not on what we cannot do.
- 2) Help our Pastor in every way we can, especially in **“No Neighbor Left Behind”** fashion.
- 3) Get back to our roots by **ASKING FATHER**, **“Who do you know that ought to be a Knight?”**
- 4) **Make our Programs into Membership Opportunities** by handing out materials with the **MCGIVNEY2020** promo code printed on the back.
- 5) **Get our Membership Team ready** to rock when things open up.
- 6) **Communicate** all that we are and all that we are doing, consistently and effectively.

We certainly have the tools to succeed:

- ✓ The **MCGIVNEY2020** promo code continues until **December 31st**, allowing prospects to join the Knights for **FREE**. Here is the link: <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html>
- ✓ For every New Member who **joins ONLINE** by **December 31st**, our State Council will give \$10 to the Proposer – no limits.
- ✓ There is a **January 1st to March 15th** State **INCENTIVE** coming – more about that next month!



From July 1st to November 25th, we added 212 new members, the vast majority of which were added **ONLINE**; this is 18.12% of our goal for the Fraternal year which ends on June 30th.

SOMETHING HAS GOT TO CHANGE!!

It starts with talking to FATHER and talking to our current members to find the men we do not in the Order so we can INVITE them to JOIN US.

Then we combine the list of men we already have with the new prospects and tell them about **MCGIVNEY2020** promo code for FREE MEMBERSHIP. This will include emailing and phoning them, plus any personal contact that is doable and appropriate.

Let's DO OUR PART! Let's MAKE SOME CHANGES!
Let's DEAL WITH WHAT WE CAN CONTROL!
Starting NOW!

Rick Rawlin – State Membership Director

**When God sees
you doing your
part, developing
what He has
given you, then
He will do His
part and open
doors that no
man can shut.**
SPIRITUAL INSPIRATION



Online Membership



I trust all of you have heard or read the story titled 'I'm that guy'. If you haven't and would like to read it, send me an email [e-mail SOMC](mailto:email@SOMC) with 'I'm that Guy' in the subject line, and I will forward you a copy.

For those men who sign up online and never hear from a local council, they ARE that guy.

For those men who participate in a degree but have not been processed into a council, they ARE that guy.

For those men who are already in a council and take their advanced degrees but are not given that status update, they ARE that guy.

How would YOU feel if that guy was YOU?

Would you maintain your membership?

Would you feel welcome?

PLEASE do make the online members feel welcome.

PLEASE do assist them in participating in a degree ceremony (live or online).

PLEASE do encourage your existing members to advance to 3rd degree.

PLEASE do follow through with the necessary paperwork (mostly available to be done online in just seconds).

Online membership is one of your tools to grow your council. It ought not be thought of as a separate and distinct council. Online members are your BROTHERS. They only need be brought into the council.

Check out the latest incentive announced elsewhere. Get a new member to sign up online AND get him through a degree AND into your council before the end of the year.

There are currently 144 e-members in the state, with 67 assigned to councils, 13 of whom joined since my last report. Of these assigned e-members, 38 councils of the 232 which have not yet taken in a new member this year could very easily change that statistic if they just follow up. These men are waiting for **you**. Please note: These men do not count towards State membership numbers UNTIL they are brought into a council.

Here are some upcoming online degrees:

	Anytime	On Demand at Supreme
12/5/2020	Saturday	Supreme Dec 5 - 2:00 PM CST
12/12/2020	Saturday	Supreme Dec 12 - 2:00 PM CST
12/19/2020	Saturday	State Dec 19 7:00 PM CST
12/27/2020	Sunday	Supreme Dec 27 - 7:00 PM CST

You may go to [Online degree info](#) at any time to access links to the Supreme online degrees and invitation letters.

Please share the appropriate links above with your new member candidates and existing members wanting to advance to 3rd degree.

State Online Membership Coordinator
William G. Hitt



Programs

Brothers,

As we bring this trying year of 2020 to a close and look toward turning the page to 2021, I once again urge all Councils to be as active as possible. Whether virtually, live or a hybrid of both, do your utmost to continue your efforts to “Leave No Neighbor Behind” and put your “Faith into Action!” Continue to support your Brothers in need, your parish, reach out in charity and evangelize in your community. All these can still be done during these pandemic times.

Nearly every one of the FiA program can be done virtually. Check out the new Supreme “Remote Programming Supplement” (kofcia/rps) for more information and resources to do this. You can also check the Supreme website to access the November 24 webinar which introduce this new platform and the Supreme resources for virtual meetings and activities.

In addition, continue to try drive-bys and raffles which many Councils are having great success with for everything from Coats for Kids, Tootsie Rolls and LifeSavers, fish fries and pancake breakfasts, food drives, giving trees and poster contest entries, etc. There are so many ways to be active during these trying times!

So, I once again ask all Councils in December, and on into January when we are inclined to hunker down after the Holidays, to do 1 of these ideas from each on the FiA areas however you can get ‘er done:

Faith: Virtual Rosary, Holy Hour (First Saturday), Virtual Men’s Conference or Usher at Mass on Christmas or New Year’s and wear you KC gear.

Family: Consecration to the Holy Family (Dec. 26-27), Journey to the Inn (Posada), Keep Christ in Christmas yard signs, Christmas posters, Family Christmas Caroling, Food for Families or parish food drives.

Community: Coats for Kids, Christmas Cards to the Homebound, Giving Tree (Helping Hands).

Life: Blood drives, Novena for Life, organize for March for Life

All these can be done at home, in parishes or Councils, with families, virtually in small groups or larger numbers as situations permit. We are knights – let us lead!

Just a few reminders:

1) Sentiments for Seminarians – all gift cards collected need to be to your State Officer in Charge or Diocesan Program Coordinator no later than December 15.

2) Yes, the Christmas Poster Contests are still on. They can be done in school or at home. This year we can add entry forms to the posters later as needed as long as something accompanies the poster with complete identification and contact information for student/parent, school name, grade or age of

student. Posters can be picked up by Councils, mailed or sent to them, dropped off to them (drive by), etc. True Meaning posters (grades 1-4) should be judged by Councils and 1st place winners to your DPC by January 1. Keep Christ posters should be judged by Councils and 1st & 2nd place winners to Bill Frayer by January 15.

3) Culture of Life essays should be to Councils by December 15. Councils are to judge them and send 1st & 2nd place winners to your DPC by January 15. Supreme Catholic Citizenship essays are to be to Councils also by December 15. Councils are to judge them and send the 1st & 2nd place winners to Bill Frayer by January 15. As with the posters, entry forms can be added later to the essays as long as a sheet accompanies the essays with complete identification and contact information for student/parent, as well as age, grade, school. Essays can be done at home or in school; can be mailed or sent to council or picked up by Council or dropped off to them (drive by).

4) Knowledge and Free Throw Contests – These are also still on and can be done by Councils however they can between December and April 1. District, Diocesan and State Contests are TBD. More information on this later in December.

Finally, Ginny, my family and I wish you a most Blessed, Merry, Wonderful Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Safe and Peaceful New Year 2021. God Bless!

Fraternally,
Bill Frayer
State Program Director

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have again partnered with Special Olympics Wisconsin to help cover the costs of sending the Team Wisconsin athletes to the 2022 USA games. The games will be held in Orlando, Florida from June 5th to June 12th, 2022.

We have been a proud partner with SOWI Team Wisconsin since 2006 and have supported the athletes since. Our goal is to raise \$125,000.00 for travel expenses. This goal can be met very easily. If we consider our states membership, it amounts to less than \$3.50 per member over a 4-year period. That is .85 a member per year. Let's make this happen.

Please do not forget about Special Olympics during this pandemic period. During this period, we have received less than \$100.00 towards our goal. With the Tootsie Roll drive being put on hold it has reflected on this drive. Councils need to step up and help with our State Team drive, as well as helping their Local groups. As of right now we have collected \$77,463.83 towards our goal. Sounds good, but we only have 17 months to raise \$48,000.00. It will take all Councils to step up and do what they can.

How can we raise this money?

#1 Ask your council members to donate to the cause. Include a notice in your council newsletter, or with dues. Be sure to inform membership what it is for. Have checks made out to WiKofC Charities with memo SOWI TEAM.

#2 Pass the hat at council meetings.

#3 Host a special fund raiser, brat fry, card game, bingo, fish fry, etc, with profits to go to the drive. Advertise the event, again informing people where the profits go.

#4 Monies can be taken from the Councils Charities account to donate.

#5 Tootsie Roll monies can be allocated to Special Olympics. Be sure to indicate if it is for Team Wisconsin or for a local group your council supports.

#6 Any other way that your council comes up with.

You can reach me at johnb45@tds.net, 715-884-3197 home, 715-421-6710 cell, or 4645 State Hwy 80, Pittsville, Wi 54466.

Also please do not forget to help the local groups that you supported other years. They need our help as well. They are struggling to make ends meet. And keep all Special Olympic athletes, coach's, and personnel in your prayers.

Thank You for supporting Special Olympics.

John Benisch
Wisconsin Special Olympics Coordinator



General Agent Message

Dear State Family,

One of the new items for the 2020 year that I wished to address is Fraternal Benefits Night along with the new way we are going to encourage growth in attendance of these events in the future. The time has come for the Knights of Columbus, as a Fraternity of believers, to share our greatest gifts with all of our missions and personal parishes. Benefits with the Knights of Columbus have protected and provided for many families throughout significant times in their lives.

When the breadwinner dies, the Knights have been there with financial support to keep the family housed, clothed and educated for 140 years. Many of these families have benefited by the foresight of Blessed Fr. McGivney's mission: To have Catholics share in each other's lives through or mutual benefits of affordable coverage for all of our insured members. This year we are asking each council to extend the offer to all families of their parishes the chance to come and learn about why the Knights of

Columbus could be the best option for their families. Charity has always started at home, so it is important that we invite members of our home parish community to attend these events to help them understand and hear the story of why we exist and why Popes' like Saint John Paul II advocate for the Knights as a great power of the laity to continue the new Evangelization. Unity in your church and brotherhood in the Knights of Columbus could be what many in your community need the most right now. This year we ask each council to do two Fraternal Benefits Nights and that an invitation be placed in the bulletin for two weeks prior to the event and that a council email blast go out as well. With the potential for more people attending, it is a great recruitment tool as well as a great time to start something new for people just like you and I.

Secondly, with more time to share our story we may also be graced by learning some of the stories of the people in our faith communities' as well. We have all been blessed to be in the Knights of Columbus and your Fraternal Benefits Night might just be the blessing someone else needs now. I know most of us don't like change and we focus on what *could* go wrong. But, in this year when not much went as we thought it should, let's instead put focus into seeing this year be our best when it comes to the growth of our councils. Ask someone to join us and encourage them to share in our JOY.

Sincerely,

Tim Nowak, General Agent

State Training Schedule

Brother Knights I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. We have concluded the training for the first half of the fraternal year but this is not to say it is the end. Please watch flocknote and future State newsletters for upcoming training session topics and dates. If there are any topics you would like to see covered please email myself and or the state officers with your request. Please include the words "Training request" in your subject line.

Thank you and God bless,

Chuck Rohr

State training coordinator

920-540-4486, please leave a message.

ww-dd10-crohrjr@hotmail.com

Ultrasound Project Update

November 24, 2020

We have a special opportunity for your council to get involved in **THREE** ultrasound fundraisers in the great state of Wisconsin. As you know, raising funds in these times is extremely difficult, so we are casting the net into the deep and could really use your help! If your council has funds set aside for ultrasound projects, here is your chance to save hundreds, if not thousands of babies, from abortion.

The three active ultrasound campaigns are:

Oconomowoc Council #2487
FS Jim Houk
P.O. Box 82
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-0082

Msgr Heim Council #15665
FS Mark Mandry
513 Lewis St
Burlington, WI 53105-1021

Ashland Council #832
FS Robert Eaton
1321 6th Avenue West
Ashland, WI 54806

If you have individual donors who want a tax credit, they can send their donation through the WI KofC 501(C)(3). To ensure it goes to a specific ultrasound project, they **MUST** include Council (XXXX) Ultrasound in the memo portion of the check, otherwise those councils will have to apply to the Ultrasound Grant Fund through a WIKOFC Charities, Inc.

Wisconsin Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc
Memo: Council #(*insert council number*) Ultrasound
4297 W Beltline Highway
Madison, WI 53711-3859

Once these THREE ultrasound campaigns are funded, Wisconsin Knights of Columbus local councils and Supreme Council will have purchased 44 ultrasound machines for our precious Wisconsin babies! Vivat Jesus!

Through Christ,



Dan Miller
State Director
Culture of Life Committee
State Council – Knights of Columbus
Oconomowoc Council #2487
4th Degree Assembly #1304
Dan.M@ProLifeWI.org – 262-993-6262

State Council Membership Incentive

The State Council is offering a Membership Incentive from October 30th-December 15th.

If the Councils of a Diocese meeting the intake numbers specified below, then \$1,000 will be donated to a food pantry in the diocese.

- Milwaukee: 60 new members
- Green Bay: 50 new members
- LaCrosse: 50 new members
- Madison: 45 new members
- Superior: 30 new members

Keep Christ in Christmas Magnet Program



On behalf of Council 1547 Berlin, I wish to thank the State Officers over the last fifteen years for allowing us to run our magnet program with their help and approval. We would also wish to thank every Council and Assembly that purchased them over the years. Due to new costs and availability of the magnets, we have decided to terminate the program. Over those last fifteen years we did not keep track of what we gave away, but it was at least \$2000.00 a year, all for our Seminarians in gas cards and RSVP's. We could not have been able to do this without your help! So from us to you all a BIG THANK YOU!! This year's gas cards are \$1200.00 and we have two RSVP'S. A great way to end the program...

Rob Kurczek KCIC Chairman / PDD 44

Faith in Action – Family Programs

Hello Brother Knights!

October continues the great progress for the Family of the Month program. A quick summary is below but click on the Flocknote link below for all the details.

This is followed by information on the **Keep Christ in Christmas**, **Consecration to the Holy Family** and the **Our Marriage Prayer** programs.



Family of the Month

Thank you again for an **amazing** month! All the details can be found in the Family Director Flocknote post <https://knightswisc.flocknote.com/FamilyDirector/note/9810086>. Check it out!

Supreme

Wisconsin is still in 1st place in the order with 54 FOMs representing **12.8%** of all FOMs received by Supreme. The Supreme family of the month is the **Randy and Mary Stange Family** (Council 16937, District 29, La Crosse Diocese). Please read about them in their article in this newsletter.

Diocese

Madison Diocese led with **77%** district participation as well as leading by submitting 14 families. Here are the Diocesan Families of the Month. Read about them in Flocknote link above.

Green Bay	Dan and Collette Tegen	La Crosse	Dan and Jeanette Boehm
Madison	Roger and Mary Ellen Frey	Milwaukee	Matthew and Sophia Von Ruede
Superior	Kent and Kathy Lage		

District

59% of the districts submitted at least one family. **Districts on Fire:** Three districts submitted three or four families and ten districts submitted two families.

Council

There was one new council submitting a family of the month. Welcome **Madison Council 531** from Madison!

November Family of the Month deadline is December 15.

Golden Family Councils

Golden Family Councils are those that submit a family of the month each month of the fraternal year starting in July and ending in the following June. There are **37** Golden Family Councils that submitted for the months of July through October. Thank you, councils, as you are demonstrating true leadership in this program.

Council Family of the Year

Council Family of the year submissions must be a Knight family. If your council has not submitted a Knight family yet, there are **two months** left to

submit them. This is the time of year when each council needs to start looking forward to which knight family they will be choosing as their Council Family of the Year. **The deadline is February 15.** Please use the form <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/family-of-the-month-year/10680-family-of-year-form.pdf>



The Bishop will celebrate mass in their Diocesan Family of the Year's home parish! Be sure to submit your awesome Knight family and the Bishop could very well be coming to your parish!

Supreme News

To simplify form submissions, Supreme would like all councils to begin using the new **online** version of the 10784 form. Here is their training video on how to fill out the form https://players.brightcove.net/802593642001/y6FLiLaOf_default/index.html?videoId=6196175376001.

In January, the online form will be enabled to receive Family of the Month submissions. **Unfortunately, Supreme does not yet have a way for Jurisdictions to know what has been submitted online yet, so please **DO NOT** submit your Family of the Months using the online version of this form yet. I am working with Supreme to get this resolved and will let you know when it is fine to submit your family of the months using this new form.**

Unless you hear otherwise from other state leadership, **please use the online 10784 to submit all other programs** as it will help Supreme understand how to help the organization.

Family Programs

Three family programs are coming up quick: Keep Christ in Christmas, Consecration to the Holy Family and the Our Marriage Prayer.

Here are some things to consider doing soon.

Keep Christ in Christmas

Promote the true spirit of Christmas in homes, schools, parishes, and communities. Councils will evangelize society through their faithful acts, celebrations, and a variety of activities.

Guide Sheet: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/keep-christ-in-christmas/10604-keep-christ-in-christmas-guidesheet.pdf>

- Read through the guide sheet and determine what you need to order
- Order the supplies from Officers Online
- Choose your top two winning posters and send them to our Worthy State Program Director William Frayer by **January 15th**

Consecration to the Holy Family

Revitalize our parishes by urging our parish families to devote themselves to the ideal model of familial love set by Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Invite each family in your parish to consecrate themselves to the Holy Family. **The feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is December 26/27, 2020.**

Guide Sheet: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/consecration-to-the-holy-family/10605-consecration-holy-family-guidesheet.pdf>

- Read through the guide sheet to prepare for the event
- Order prayer cards (and other supplies) from Officers Online (they will go quick)

Our Marriage Prayer

This program comes up quick after the end of the year. If there will be a physical District Deputy meeting in December, I will be there to sell Our Marriage Prayer card to minimize the cost of the prayer cards. If the DD meeting will be virtual, then I will have the prayer cards on Amazon in a way that offers free shipping if you have Amazon Prime. Start planning seeds with gentlemen to see who can lead the Our Marriage Prayer during mass. The event is normally celebrated on World Marriage Sunday which this next year will be on Valentine's Day February 14, 2021. Check out the training video at <http://www.ourmarriageprayer.com/Knights-of-Columbus>

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

Supreme Wisconsin October Family of the Month – Randy and Mary Ann Stange
St. Anthony Council 16937, District 29, La Crosse Diocese

Randy and Mary Ann Stange are a model family that attend mass every weekend. They both volunteer for church fundraising meals and events. Randy is always willing to lend a hand with Knights of Columbus. Randy did most of the work with organizing help and replacing the roof on garage at St Anthony's Church rectory.

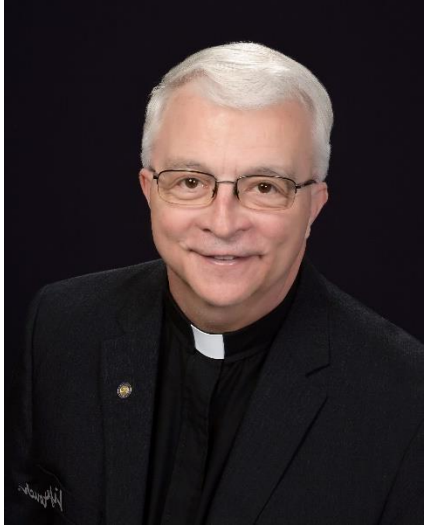
They both are devoted Catholics. Mary Ann attends the weekly bible study group. Their children are involved in mass by either serving or reading.



Saint Lawrence Seminary High School

Dear Fellow Brother Knights,

Last month I was privileged to provide you with a general overview of Saint Lawrence Seminary (SLS), a Catholic boarding high school for boys. I hope you found the information about our incredible institution and ministry to be both enlightening and useful. This month I am pleased to focus on the people – students, staff and alumni. In fact, I will share a personal story that illustrates the importance SLS plays in the future of our Catholic Church.



Father Chris Hoffmann is a 1978 graduate of SLS. He currently is the Pastor at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Deltona, Florida. He is also a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Furthermore, he is the 4th Degree Faithful Friar for Florida and a past Knight of the Year. Here is what he said about SLS and his time there as a student:

St. Lawrence (Seminary) challenged me to see priesthood as much larger than I imagined. Hearing the stories of Capuchins inspired me. We were challenged to understand race and ethnicity can lead to unity or fear. We would stand with each brother seminarian no matter their race or background. I don't think I would have learned those lessons in any other high school. St. Lawrence formed me in so many ways. Boys who grew up

in the city of Chicago or Detroit, those who lived on farms in Wisconsin and Michigan, Native Americans from Montana, and those of us who lived in the suburbs all could pray together, play sports, and see how God was calling us to bring His message of hope and healing to our world, each in our own way. St. Lawrence Seminary still welcomes students today because there is a spirit there that is sparked by the Capuchin charism and God's desire that young men still listen to God's call.

Fr. Chris is now helping me "spread the word" about SLS with his fellow Florida Brother Knights and we hope they will adopt a resolution similar to ours that encourages support of SLS. As our State Resolution states: *"Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the members of the State of Wisconsin Knights of Columbus should help support this vital ministry through a statewide effort: and Be It Further Resolved, that each subordinate council sends a voluntary contribution that each council can reasonably afford to St. Lawrence Seminary, 301 Church Street, Mt. Calvary, WI 53057; and Be It Further Resolved, that each council also strongly encourages all of its members, their families and fellow parishioners to support this vital ministry through their individual prayers, advocacy and contributions in such amounts as they can reasonably afford."*

You can hear several student testimonials at: www.stlawrenceseminary.org/seniors and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wy3Gh_8EuBk

So, let me end this month's "letter" with my second of three requests – your prayerful consideration of a donation. On behalf of Fr. Zoy and our 150+ student seminarians, I humbly request that every Council and Assembly make a grant to SLS in this Fraternal Year preferably in December or January. Furthermore, I ask each of you, my Brother Knights, to consider making a personal gift to SLS before December 31st. This year (2020) the IRS has removed the maximum cap for charitable deductions for those who itemize on their taxes. For the rest of us, we can deduct up to \$300 in charitable deductions on top of taking the Standard Deduction for 2020. These allowances are for 2020 only! Please pray that God continues to bless us with a Covid-19 free community, and that more families come to understand the value and opportunities that exist here at Saint Lawrence Seminary High School (SLS) for their sons, grandsons, nephews and others in currently in middle school.

Blessings & Vivat Jesus,

Tre Waldren

State Youth Membership Coordinator, District #11 RMC & DD, SLS Donor Relations Officer

