



# Religious Information Bureau R.I.B.

“Enriching Our Faith Through JOY”

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## 2020-2021 Religious Information Bureau Chairmen

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### R.I.B. Chairman

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Welcome Grand Knights, Ladies Auxiliary Presidents and District Deputies to the Religious Information Bureau R.I.B. State Program! Please read through this guide as our hope is that our program will assist your Councils in “Enriching Our Faith Through JOY” (Jesus Only You).

### Religious Information Bureau in the Past

The Religious Information Bureau, R.I.B., was developed in the 1940's by the Missouri State Council to help non-Catholics learn about the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. This was especially important in a time in which anti-Catholic bias was present in both religious and secular media. The Missouri State Council partnered with the Vincentian Priests and Brothers in Perryville who started the Catholic Home Study Service that provided the free courses. Many of the materials were developed by the late Vincentian Father Oscar Lukefahr, a former State Chaplain for Missouri. Non-Catholics might take the home study courses available through the Catholic Home Study in order to learn about Catholicism prior to joining the church. The Missouri State Program was so successful that the Supreme Office developed the Catholic Information Service in 1953 and that program is still very active today and can be a great resource for all the materials you can use to evangelize today. While the Vincentian partnership was immensely fruitful, and with the changing times, the Vincentians ended our partnership in November 2018 to invest more energy in preaching parish missions.

### Religious Information Bureau NOW

At the 118th Missouri State Convention in 2019, a new Religious Information Bureau program was announced. The new program consists of grants provided to each of our four Diocese's to enhance their evangelistic efforts. Each Diocese provided their programs to the Columbian Charities grant committee for acceptance and funding. The new opportunities for the Dioceses to bring enhanced faith programs to their parishioners has been overwhelmingly well received. These programs will reach the four corners of Missouri with 21st century Online Technology at the forefront. Each of the Diocesan programs have given the Missouri Knights of Columbus acknowledgement of sponsorship and financial assistance. We are fortunate to currently have the Director of the Office of the Domestic Church and Discipleship of the Diocese of Kansas City/St. Joseph, Dino Durando, helping guide this program. See page P10 for a synopsis of each Diocesan Program.

### Our Goal - \$285,000

With the new program aligned to the four Dioceses in our State, we have had great financial support the first year that the program changed. We need everyone's help even more than ever so we don't let our Church down. We are continuing to ask each Council to assign a quota of \$7.50 per member. Each member of the Ladies Auxiliary is asked to give \$3.75. Fourth Degree Assemblies are asked to support this program with what they can. With 100% participation from the roughly 43,000 Knights in Missouri, we could raise \$322,500, not to mention the additional from all of the Ladies Auxiliaries as well. Appeal letters will still be going out so any Knight that wants to give more than their quota of \$7.50 can generously do that.

### Online Donations!

New this past year has been the ability to donate online to the Religious Information Bureau. The link is:

[www.continuetogive.com/rib](http://www.continuetogive.com/rib)

Be sure to note the **rib** at the end of the giving site, this will ensure that it goes to this program. You have the opportunity to make a one time donation or a monthly donation. On the giving page, enter your Council number in the Message Section so we can credit your Council. If you forget, we will check the member listings.

## 2020-2021 Diocesan Programs

Below is a synopsis of each Diocesan program. You can see that your donations to R.I.B. are being used effectively. Remember, that without these additional funds, your Churches in Missouri would not be able to have these valuable programs!



**ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS**

The Archdiocese of St. Louis is using the **Virtual Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF)** program offered by the University of Dayton. Adults in 179 parishes may take online courses, allowing for certificates in Catechesis, adult formation leadership, social justice, foundations for leadership in ministry, youth ministry and special needs. VLCFF had 333 course enrolments with the largest group representing over 50 parishes. Based on the need for distance learning they have paid for a subscription to **CatholicBrain.com**. They have 132 teachers, 475 students, and around 40 schools represented. They have also partnered with **McGrath Institute** - another online opportunity for courses for schools and parishes.



**The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau**  
The Roman Catholic Church of Southern Missouri

The Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau is using the **Catechetical Institute Online (Franciscan@home)** program. Franciscan At Home is an online learning platform that provides catechetical instruction and ministry training for people who serve in faith-formation ministries. It also provides online learning for adults seeking to grow in faith and knowledge. By blending online learning with guidance from trained mentors in each parish, the program helps people learn to be competent sharers of the faith, while building community and relationships. The workshops are designed to complement and supplement diocesan formation and continuing education programs. They can be used in adult faith formation, sacrament preparation, the initiation process, clergy enrichment and in many other areas of parish life. To date, they have 532 active learners, working with 47 active mentors. The Diocese also conducted the **Totus Tuus** program in 12 host parishes with an additional 17 parishes attending.



**DIOCESE OF Jefferson City**

The Diocese of Jefferson City is also using the **Catechetical Institute Online (Franciscan@home)** program as described above. To date they have 78 learners representing 32 parishes on the system. There is also 16 mentored learners and 16 active mentors. Along with the Franciscan At Home they are hosting **Totus Tuus** and working with 10-15 parishes. They approximate 1000-2000 children and teens will participate depending on restrictions. Another program they started is **Parish Coaching Cohort**. This program is aimed at building healthy, vibrant and welcoming parish communities. Participating parishes work together to answer important questions about evangelizing and ministering to young people and families in ways that are most relevant to their parish community. So far, 5 parishes have participated.



**DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY-ST. JOSEPH**

The Diocese of Kansas City/St. Joseph is also using **Catechetical Institute Online (Franciscan@home)** To date, they have 382 active learners, working with 48 active mentors. This includes principals and teachers from every Catholic School. They hope to onboard many new parish leaders and teachers in our children's catechetical programs through the summer of 2020 and in the new school year. With the COVID-19 stay-at-home experience, many parishes have come to the realization that they really need this tool and are onboarding for the coming year. Also, the Diocese is using **Amazing Parish Conference Scholarships**. Amazing Parish Conference Scholarships for parishes in need are expected to assist 32 parishes that will attend the conference in October 2020. To date there are 18 confirmed parish registrations. Another program they initiated is **Activate Your Baptism (formerly called Activate: Discovering Your Gifts)**. The delivery of this initiative centers around a website which is currently in production and is expected to go live in late May 2020. This learning platform will be in English and Spanish and will allow individuals to take a simple test to begin to discover their Charisms. It will be usable by individuals, parish groups, even Knights of Columbus parish councils to activate Catholics for service and mission. The website will be [www.activateyourbaptism.com](http://www.activateyourbaptism.com).

# 2020-2021 Religious Information Bureau

“Enriching Our Faith Through JOY”

## How Councils and Members Can Help Achieve our \$285,000 Goal

- Include the R.I. B. donation with your Council or Auxiliary dues notice. This is the easiest way to meet your quota.
- Hold a parish/community fundraiser and donate the proceeds to the R.I.B.
- Promote making a gift to the R.I.B. as part of a member's personal estate planning.
- Earn an annual \$50 credit for your Council by displaying a R.I.B. Board at a public event. The application for the credit is below and on the State Council website. If you need pamphlets for your RIB board, you can obtain them on the Supreme Council website under Catholic Information Services. More information about CIS on page P12.
- Encourage your Parish to use one of the programs that each of the Dioceses are offering. Each of the programs gives information that they are supported financially by the Knights of Columbus. This can also help you in obtaining new members.
- Send out the online donation information to your Council members and your Parish. This is an easier way to either have your members donate \$7.50 or to respond to our appeal letter. The link is [www.continuetogive.com/rib](http://www.continuetogive.com/rib). Be sure to have your members include your Council number in the Message section on the giving page. See screen shots on P12.

## Awards for the Fraternal Year 2020-2021

**Special Recognition:** All Councils achieving at least 100% of their goal by March 31, 2021 will be inducted into the *Circle of Honor Society* for the current year and will receive a Commemorative Certificate of Recognition. The Council's name will be inscribed with all the other Councils attaining this award and will be on display at the State Convention. Grand Knights whose Councils have attained 125% of their quota will be honored with the R.I.B. Apostolate Cross Pin.

**Council Awards:** Each Council achieving 100% of their quota will receive a silver plate. Councils achieving 125% or more of their quota will receive a gold plate. Councils achieving 125% of quota will also be honored with the R.I.B. Apostolate Cross pin.

**Ladies Auxiliaries:** Same criteria as the above Council Awards except the President will receive the Ladies R.I.B. Apostolate Cross for achieving 125% of their quota.

**District Deputies:** In appreciation of their efforts, the Apostolate Cross pin will be awarded to the District Deputies whose districts attain at least 100% of their cumulative quota.

**R.I.B. Awards:**

- \* Highest Percentage Per Member
- \* Highest Gross Amount Donated by an Individual Council
- \* Highest Dollar Amount Donated over Quota



## R.I.B. Display Board Credit Application

**Complete and Submit each Fraternal Year for \$50 Credit towards Council Quota**

Council# \_\_\_\_\_ Council Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Event \_\_\_\_\_ Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

# Pamphlets Distributed \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Workers \_\_\_\_\_ Total Man Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Reception of Booth/Info (Circle One):    Excellent    Good    Fair    Poor

Comments/Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Knight \_\_\_\_\_ Mail completed form to: **Eric Bruns**  
**Secretary/Treasurer R.I.B.**  
**4824 Sigel Avenue**  
**St. Louis, MO 63116**

# 2020-2021 Religious Information Bureau

Online Donations can be made by going to [www.continuetogive.com/rib](http://www.continuetogive.com/rib). Here is what the site looks like:

RIB (Religious Information Bureau)

I Pledge My Support

GIVE

Share on Facebook

Share on Twitter

Follow Now

More about this page

PROJECT

Created for: Columbian Charities of Missouri

More Ways To Help

Create a giving page

Support RIB (Religious Information Bureau) by creating a Giving Page on their behalf.

General Photos Videos Giving Pages

Description:

Over the past 70 years the Missouri Knights of Columbus have been supporting the Catholic Church in Missouri. Currently we are supporting all 4 dioceses in Missouri impacting all the Parishes in the State. Please add your Council number to the Message Section on the Giving Page!

Mission Statement:

"One Family, Learning our Faith, Growing our Faith, Living our Faith"

Once you are on the Giving Page, be sure to enter your Council information in the Message box.

Message

Pamphlets, information and courses can be found on the Catholic Information Services Supreme Council website: <https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/cis.html#gsc.tab=0>

WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO GET INVOLVED NEWS HUB

CATHOLIC INFORMATION SERVICE

Since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has been involved in evangelization. As part of this mission, Catholic Information Service (CIS) seeks to help answer questions about the Catholic faith.

MONTHLY CHALLENGE FAITH IN ACTION

CIS RESOURCES

BOOKLETS & DEVOTIONALS

Learn about numerous topics concerning the Catholic faith and deepen your prayer life with CIS booklets and devotionals.

READ THE BOOKLETS

CIS COURSES

CATECHISM

The Catechism of the Catholic Church allows readers to learn about the teachings of the Church and guides Catholics in fulfilling their mission to proclaim the faith and call people to the Gospel of Life.

LEARN MORE

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

Looking to grow in your Catholic faith? Take on the Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge.

START THE CHALLENGE

THE LUKE E. HART COURSE

Based upon the Catechism of the Catholic Church, this series answers three questions of the deepest importance to any practicing Catholic, or person looking for a better understanding of our faith: What does a Catholic believe? How does the Catholic worship? and How does the Catholic live?

START THE COURSE

FAITH FORMATION ONLINE COURSE

As a search for truth (Veritas), this course addresses a number of topics about the Church, as well as issues facing Catholics around the world today, including guides to prayer, Catholic insights on dating, thoughts on the saints, and much more.

START THE COURSE

CATHOLIC CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

This course is made up of ten booklets which provide a series of readings on the basic beliefs of Catholics. Each lesson comes accompanied by a Lesson Summary and Questionnaire booklet and a test sheet, which is based on the material in the corresponding lesson.

ORDER THE COURSE