

STATE Affairs

ALBERTA-NWT STATE COUNCIL



COVERAGE OF NEWS FROM
AROUND THE JURISDICTION

WEB SITE: www.kofc.ab.ca

March 2021

Message from the State Deputy

Message from the State Chaplain

“Changing of the Guard”



Vince R. Reyes

It is a fact of life that even the greatest things come to an end! To illustrate, there was a “changing of the guard” in the Knights of Columbus which happened on March 1, 2021. After more than 20 years of selfless, faithful stewardship and service, Past Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson turned over the rein of authority and leadership to the 14th Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly. By the same token, changes in leadership at the Supreme, State and Councils levels will also occur in the upcoming fraternal year in the entire Order. That said, the only consistent in life is change!

Similarly, in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic health restrictions and protocols which caused undue hardships and sacrifices on each one of us, there is light at the end of the tunnel! After a difficult 12 months, there is hope for the future due to the roll out of the vaccination program. Hope springs eternal! If all the stars are aligned properly, who knows, we might even have an in-person State Convention- if not in April but May?

As the current fraternal year draws to a close, let us muster our manpower and resources together. If you have not yet done so, please comply with the required reports that must be completed and sent to Supreme. Specifically, Form #s: 185, 365, 1295, 1728 and 944. As well, ensure that all Safe Environment appointments be made no later than May 1, 2021. All requirements must be completed within 30 days of appointment. Furthermore, generic

(Continued on page 9)

“Spring is on the way.”



Fr. Jim Corrigan

My dear Brothers in the Lord. I write this article in the better late than never mode. This first weekend in March was for me, a sure sign that spring is on the way. For that reason, I write with a note of gratitude in my heart. All of us would agree that as we sail past the one-year mark, since the arrival of the Covid-19 virus in Canada, that it has been a long and challenging road. Many people of good will have been affected in a negative way, whether it be physically, spiritually, emotionally, or economically. Covid has really taken no prisoners.

Yet, my Brothers here we are. Some of you will have been vaccinated by now, the temperature was in the teens on the weekend, (even in Edmonton) and it felt really nice to be outside with only one layer of clothing on. All this to say, that we are getting through this. The winter is getting worn out, the snow is melting and with the good Lord willing, we will be on the golf course in the next month or two. The hope is that we may even all be vaccinated by the end of June. Now, I am a closet optimist. Does this mean I will be able to fly to Phoenix in the summer and enjoy numerous rounds of golf in the triple digit temperatures? To be honest with you, just the hope of getting away makes my old heart sing a little cheerier tune.

We are in the midst of our Lenten journey, and my prayer for you is that you will come away from Lent a better version of yourself than you were at the beginning of Lent. In my weekend homily, I noted that New Years and Lent are similar in that they both offer us opportunities for growth. To become better versions of ourselves, created in His image and likeness. New years and Lent are not moments where we strive for perfection, they are moments when we strive for personal growth. Whether

(Continued on page 10)

From the IPSD

By Ron Schuster

Early Christians felt the importance of Easter called for special preparations. The first mention of a 40-day period of fasting in preparation for Easter is found in the Canons of Nicaea (AD 325). It is thought that the tradition may have grown from the early church practice of baptismal candidates undergoing a 40-day period of fasting in preparation for their baptism at Easter. Eventually, the season evolved into a period of spiritual devotion for the whole church. During the initial centuries, the Lenten fast was very strict but relaxed over time.

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. The Lenten season is a time when many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ—his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection.

Many Catholics or other Churches that observe Lent, celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Traditionally, pancakes are eaten on Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday) to use up rich foods like eggs and dairy in anticipation of the 40-day fasting season of Lent. Shrove Tuesday is also called Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, which is French for Fat Tuesday. During the six weeks of self-examination and reflection, Christians who observe Lent typically make a commitment to fast, or to give up something—a habit, such as smoking, watching TV, swearing, or a food or drink, such as sweets, chocolate, or coffee. Some Christians also take on a Lenten discipline, such as reading the Bible and spending more time in prayer to draw nearer to God.

Strict observers do not eat meat on Fridays, often opting for fish instead. The goal of these spiritual disciplines is to strengthen the faith of the observer and develop a closer relationship with God.

So my Brother Knights, ask yourself “What will I give up for 40 days during the Lent Season”? By the time you have received our newsletter, Lent is on its way but I have no doubt that you have observed the importance of the Easter Season.

I would like to take this time to wish each and every Brother Knight and their family a Blessed and Holy Easter. God Bless you and your Family.

Vivat Jesus!

Brother Ron Schuster, IPSD

From the State Secretary

By Gaston Launière

OUR DEEPEST FEAR IS NOT THAT WE ARE ADEQUATE. OUR DEEPEST FEAR IS THAT WE ARE POWERFUL BEYOND MEASURE.”

- Marianne Williamson

Dear Brother Knights,

Although it is still winter, I can already feel that spring is upon us. As we are now completing the 3rd quarter and starting the last quarter of 2020-21 Columbian Year, let us continue to offer ourselves to more projects and activities coming our way as well more charitable deeds to accomplish ... during this Pandemic time... whenever possible.

The 111th Annual State Convention is fast approaching and by now, all Convention Delegates must have received the Convention package and has or are about to send their registration by the deadline.

All 3rd Degree members in good standing are eligible to attend the Convention and the Council must have paid their Per Capita in full to both Supreme and State.

Grand Knights, please remember that your **District Deputy** is our State Deputy's personal representative and it is important that all Council Officers and members familiarize themselves with the respect due to the District Deputy.

The **District Deputy** should always be properly attired (*shirt and tie*) when attending meetings (*Virtual(V) or Regular(R)*): should be seated in front near the Grand Knight(R): should always be called upon to speak and all members should rise when he is introduced (R). He should always be seated at the head table at any Council function even if he is not on the speaking program (R).

The **District Deputy** should be in regular contact with **all Grand Knights** in his District and he should ensure that he is available to you when you call upon him for assistance.

Please ensure you do not forget any **State Board member** who may be a member of your Council or any Board member who may be in attendance at your meeting.

As stated in your Grand Knights Manual, a **District Deputy** or **State Board Officer** should be given the same courtesies as those recommended for the State Deputy (*Sec A-1, p.1 & Sec A-2, p.1 &2*).

(Continued on page 9)

From the State Treasurer

By John Onyskiw

Welcome my Brother Knights. We are at the quarters mark of this Columbian Year and even though a new calendar year is upon us we are still straddled with a very serious pandemic.

Several Councils have not had any meetings since the first shutdown in March 2020. Many other Councils have ventured into cyberspace and are hosting virtual meetings using collaborative tools such as Zoom, Google Meets and others. Our State Board has met via virtual meetings and will continue to do so until there are significant signs this pandemic is finally under control.

The 2021 State Operating Budget is completed and will be sent out as part of the documents distributed for the Annual State Convention. This year's budget will be similar to the 2020 budget as our revenues and especially our expenses were significantly reduced. I will discuss this more in my Year End Financial report that will be included with the documents distributed for the Annual State Convention.

The Per Capita and Insurance invoices were prepared and mailed in January to all Councils in our Jurisdiction. To assist Councils during these difficult times the Per Capita rate was reduced for this year only by \$4.00 to \$15.00. As I cannot forecast future events or how this pandemic will play out, we will revisit this temporary reduction towards the end of this calendar year. Please forward your remittance at your earliest convenience to our State Office in Red Deer and make your cheques payable to the Alberta State Council.

In early January, you were requested to complete your semi-annual audit report and forward this to Supreme. This is a one-page report of your assets and liabilities completed by the Council's Financial Secretary and submitted to the Trustees for review. Now would be a good time to complete and send this report to Supreme if you have forgotten.

Also due at this time is your Survey of Fraternal Activities, which is required to maintain our Charitable status. The accuracy of this report is crucial to ensuring your Council gets credit for all the time and money that it has contributed to various causes. I

(Continued on page 8)

From the State Warden

By Rufus Awharitoma

Brother Knights, greetings from our lord Jesus Christ in whose mercies we are privileged to see this day. Brothers, the pandemic has restricted our ability to gather physically in his presence as a Council. As men of faith, we are in solidarity spirituality with all faithful's. Despite the physical restrictions, we are able to connect virtually to remain active as a Council.

While we journey together in this unprecedented time, lets remember that our attitude towards observing Council protocol at our virtual meetings is what ignites the fire of charity, the spirit of fraternity, the love of unity, and the joy of patriotism amongst our members. Brothers, lets try to be formal during all our virtual Council and executive meetings.

- Dress appropriately, including jewel of office if possible.
- Be aware of your surroundings, i.e., proper lighting and background noise.
- Mute microphone when not talking, but when permitted to speak, that is after gaining the permission of the GK, salute with the traditional greeting "Worthy Grand Knight".
- Speak up, and keep your comment and contribution short and straight to the point.
- Avoid the temptation of eating while Council meeting is in progress.
- Be present, pay attention and minimize side distraction.
- Allow for all present to say something and go round to ask members about their welfare and how they are doing personally before adjourning the meeting.
- Remember to thank all present at the meeting.
- Ensure the good of the order, is taken and delivered to the Chaplin, if not present at the meeting.
- Ensure that the minutes of the meeting are sent out to all members within 7 days after the meeting.

Brothers, lets remember to always support our parish and priest, by making ourselves available to volunteer during and after the celebration of the holy mass in our respective parishes.

Rejoice for he has risen, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah. Happy Easter, and Vivat Jesus!

S/K Rufus Awharitoma
State Warden

From the Agency

By Marc Bouchard General Agent

Welcome 2021!

Could we be any prouder of our nurses, doctors, aides, respiratory therapists, and all those at the tip of the spear in this fight against the corona virus? Thanks to all of them. How about the teachers? They retooled and kept their students learning in a virtual world! How about you members and spouses that pitched in in local communities and made sure that you would Leave No Neighbor Behind? Thanks for all you are doing to make this world a better place, where we take care of our brothers and sisters. Of course the new year brings us to...making resolutions. That is a good thing! But being cooped up and working from home for the better part of the year have given all of us plenty of time to think about the things we need to change. All of us want to resolve to do those things that will lead to happier, healthier lives. Many of my friends think more about quality time...quality time spent with their family and friends; those that are most important in their lives.

As you think about family, one resolution your K of C Financial Advisor can help you keep is to update your Family Service Record and take stock of your financial goals. Are you where you want to be? Do you have a plan? We have a brand new tool to use to help analyze your financial needs; Profiles Professional. With this tool you can see if there are any gaps in your coverage and how close you are to achieving your goals and aspirations.

Some members are not aware of all the products we have to offer: Life insurance, long term care insurance, disability income insurance and retirement annuities. These products can help protect your family in all the financial situations where you might find yourself. Life insurance protects your loved ones financially if you are not here to help provide. And with the pandemic, many are taking stock of what they have to protect those they love. Disability income insurance provides a paycheck if you are sick or hurt and can't work. If your company offers some, do you know how much, for how long and is it taxable? Your agent can help sort that out. Long term care insurance

protects those assets you've worked so hard all your life to accumulate. Don't deplete all your savings for a care event when the Knights can take on that risk. With all the concern about market volatility, our fixed rate annuities guarantee a minimum interest rate for life, a company investment strategy based on Catholic teaching and an income stream you cannot outlive.

What's most important to you and your family? There is no cookie cutter answer. That's why our Advisor's meet with members and their spouses... and they can meet virtually over the computer...to first determine what issues are of most concern to you. From there he can help analyze where you are in relation to your goals and develop a strategy to get you where you want to go. All done with a virtual appointment over your computer and at your convenience.

Your field agent is a brother taking care of brothers. Resolve today to meet with him and ensure that at the end of this new year, you will be closer to your goals.

Vivat Jesus!

Marc Bouchard, General Agent, AB/NWT.

For the name of your local Advisor, call 403-343-2242 or email: bouchardagencymail@kofc.org

From the State Advocate

By Andy Soshalski

Dear Brothers,

I wish a happy and blessed Easter to you all and your families! Let Our Lord bless you in this difficult and strange time!

Let me start with some personal news. Year 2020 was hard for my family. In spring Natalia and I had the coronavirus flu which lasted rather long, because of our asthma. Thanks to God, we fully recovered and were able to work, including work in the garden. Then one of my best friends died from cancer in the old country. Then Fr. Dmitry Smirnoff, a priest who baptized me in Russian Orthodox Church 40 years ago passed away from the consequences of COVID, and finally in France passed away Monsignor Paul Collin who converted our family to the Catholic Church. That was a year when I felt how

(Continued on page 7)

From the Program Director

By Sal Ficaccio

Worthy District Deputies, Worthy Grand Knights and Worthy Brothers all the “**Faith in Action Programs**” are very important to our Order. Without these programs we would not have a Family, Fraternal, and Charitable Organization. It was the wish of, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney that we provide these Programs for our Brother Knights.

We are grateful to see that many of our Councils are taking positive and more active roles in these programs. Hope that many of you have submitted your State program Award entries and wishing you all the best of luck.

Worthy Grand Knights, many of the Councils have achieved the Fr. McGivney Award for membership growth and the Founders’ Award for insurance to attain the Star Award.

The final steps and other criteria must be met before June 30, 2021.

- **Be compliant with training and background checks with safe environment requirements (refer FIA booklet pp8)**
- **Submit the Program Personnel Report #365 due August 31, 2020**
- **Submit the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity #1728 by January 31, 2021**
- **Submit the Columbian Award Application #SP 7 by June 30, 2021**
Note: Council is required to obtain 16 program credits to earn the Columbian Award (see FIA pp 10-11)
- **Remain current with assessments from Supreme Council headquarters.**

“**Leave No Neighbor Behind**” has been a successful program in keeping our Brothers in touch. Make the phone call which is much appreciated.

Worthy Grand Knight take a few minutes of your time to comply and submit the required forms, therefore achieving honor for your Council and fellow Brothers for their accomplishment in the Order.

Good luck and may God always guide you and

(Continued on page 11)

From the Charitable Foundation

By Willis Winter, President



Greetings to my Brother Knights. The Foundation Board of Directors held their first on-line meeting of the year on January 9, 2021. I am pleased to welcome Brother Ken Kluchky as our newest Board Member. He replaces Past State Deputy Wally Streit who resigned from the Board effective December 31, 2020.

We owe a huge thank you to Bro Wally for his tireless efforts on the Catch the Spirit Campaign which added \$ 1 million to our long term capital. The ACF received the final pledges from the campaign in 2020.

Our investment portfolio has done quite well despite the volatility in the Canadian and US markets. The market value is now about \$ 3.17 million and is up about \$ 70,000 from the September 30, 2020 market value. We have added \$ 63,000 to the long term capital fund from the last campaign pledges and the ACF share of the Charities Appeal raffle proceeds.

Your Foundation disbursed \$ 103,050 in 2020 to charities compared to a total of \$ 94,700 in 2019. In 2021, we expect to disburse about \$ 111,500.

ACF Directors continue to make on-line visits to Councils and Chapters. This provides information regarding the Foundation to all Council members on its program and activities.

All of us are certainly aware of how the Covid-19 pandemic has severely curtailed the traditional fund raising activities that we used to support charitable works.

To support and enhance Councils’ charitable works, the ACF is continuing its matching donation program in 2021. The ACF will match Council / individual donations at up to 50% to a maximum of \$500 in ACF funds per donation. For this program, donations must be made to a registered charity that embraces Catholic values.

The ACF has set aside a total of \$20,000 for 2021 matching donations to support the fund raising efforts of Councils and individuals. You can find further information and an application form on the State website at: <https://kofc.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2020/06/FundraisingSheetRequest.pdf>

Together, we can help extend works of charity throughout our jurisdiction.

Vivat Jesus!

Willis Winter,

President, Alberta Charitable Foundation

From the Membership Director N

By Leo Sosa

Recruitment Campaign Plan for 3rd Quarter 2021

Amidst the pandemic, we are scheduling the 3rd Quarter "Prospect Name Drive" in the parishes to assist the local Councils in each of the specific parishes. With the permission of Parish Pastor and the strict compliance to safety protocol as stipulated by the Archdiocese and Alberta Health Services, the State Membership Team will go to your parish and conduct the "Membership Prospect Name Drive". Your Council will have to choose specific date of Sunday Masses for the State Membership Team to assist your Council to set up and conduct the drives. The State Membership Team will also supply the Councils with the recruitment materials during the drives.

After the conduct of the church drives and the Councils have the list of prospects, the next step is for the State Membership Team to take back and call each of the prospects that were obtained during the drives to do a complete interview of the prospects. The sooner the team calls them for interview and giving Council information, the more chances to convince them to join the Council or become an e-Member. Usually, the team will have to call each one of the prospects within the 2 weeks from the recruitment campaign date. For any that qualify and demonstrate sufficient interest, the team will have to encourage the prospects to complete the required information for them to register to an on-demand online exemplification or becoming an e-Member. The team also provides status reports to remind the Councils to follow up the prospects to attend the on-demand online exemplification. Follow up is key.

Brothers, we should exert efforts to recruit new members and together with the "active" members, form a core group to start creating an atmosphere of visible, vibrant fraternal brotherhood within the parish community even in the midst of the COVID19 pandemic. Let us recruit new members and together with the "active" members start this

(Continued on page 11)

From the State Life Director

By Gregory Amerongen

Dear Brother Knights, I hope that all is going well as we step into Lent with ever-brighter and warmer days with Spring and Easter on the horizon. Despite the health regulations as a result of the Corona virus, we fraternally encourage you to undertake participation in the Life programs.

Novena for Life and other prayers

Our esteemed State Deputy has graciously requested that all Councils pray the Life novena for the unborn using Zoom.

March for Life (Featured)

The Alberta March for Life is planning to have a pro-life mass as well as a small rally at the Legislature along with a virtual march. More details to follow.

Special Olympics (Featured)

This has been on hold due to the conditions.

Christian Refugee Relief

Help **persecuted and at-risk Christians** facing genocide all over the world, particularly in the Middle East. The Knights of Columbus strives to bring awareness and support to those who have suffered for their faith through various parish-based programs and fundraisers. Brothers, have your Councils raise funds for persecuted Catholics around the world!

Mass for People with Special Needs

This has been on hold due to the conditions.

Pregnancy Center Support (Featured)

Change hearts and minds about abortion by showing that the Knights of Columbus loves both mother and child before and after birth. Councils can provide material, financial, labor and other support to pro-life pregnancy centers that help women during pregnancy and following the birth of their newborn children.

Brothers, please support your local pregnancy center such as the Back Porch and Catholic Social Services' Gianna Center in Edmonton. I would appreciate if any Knights could advise me of the

(Continued on page 8)

Double Star Council Award Presentation to St. Peter Council #7070



From left to right: Worthy District Deputy #15 Alfred d'Souza, Worthy State Deputy Vince Reyes, Worthy Grand Knight Marlon Ursulum & Worthy Council Chaplain, Rev. Fr. Patrick Baska, Parish Pastor, St. Theresa Catholic Parish, Ed-

From the Mini-Prospect name Drive hosted by St. Peter Council #7070



Front Row: Long time members of St. Peter Council #7070
Back Row (left to right): PGK Phil Birch, WGK Marlon Ursulum, WSD Vince Reyes, WDD Alfred d'Souza and PGK Bob Newman, the Council General Program Director

Church Drive at St. Dominic Savio to reactivate Council #12457



State Membership Team, from left to right, Nestor Coso, Emmanuel Pana, SMD South Leo Sosa, Rev. Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss and SD Vince Reyes

(Continued from page 4) Andy Soshalski, State Advocate
small and vulnerable we are, and how helpless we are without our Lord and Redeemer.
As you all know, because of the pandemic K of C activities were substantially reduced, but we made the most important thing in the present circumstances – we reached all the needy brothers, we contacted the lonely and aged members of our fraternity, we collected coats for kids – so, generally speaking, we did our best to keep our charges of charity, unity and fraternity.

Last year we had to hold a virtual State Convention. This year we do not yet know what format the Convention will be, but I think the State Board is now ready for any formats. We just held a Resolutions Committee meeting, and very soon the Councils will get the resolutions package mailed to them. This time only seven resolutions are drafted, and most of them were drafted last year, but because of the pandemic restrictions we, following the Supreme recommendations did not put all of them to vote at the last Convention. Now all the resolutions drafted by the Councils will be discussed at the Convention. We are planning for the last weekend of April, but there might be some changes due to the new circumstances.

I don't have enough words to thank you, brothers, for your patience and hard work during these hard times. Let's pray and hope that the epidemic will fade away, and we will be able again to meet face to face and enjoy our comradery. I miss so much visiting the Councils, especially in the Southern Alberta which has become a sweet home for my family of five.

Once again, let me congratulate all of you with the coming Easter. Natalia and I wish you the happiest holiday, and let me use the traditional Byzantine greeting: ХРИСТОС БОЖСРЕС! CHRIST IS RISEN!

Yours, in Risen Christ the Lord,

Andy Soshalski,
State Advocate

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION CALGARY WESTIN HOTEL
(DOWNTOWN) APRIL 23, 24 & 25, 2021**

(When applying for Athletic events, please use the specific form. Forms can be found in the GK Manual in Section F-1, pages 2-3.)

(Continued from page 3) State Treasurer

understand this past year posed challenges in performing any Fraternal Activities but for those Councils and members who did please complete this form and send this survey form in to your Council.

A few items of note that all Councils must be aware of.

Our Order’s constitution explicitly states Councils are not to own property. I suggest this was intended to mean land and buildings, while owning office equipment, grills, etc. for your kitchen are probably permitted exceptions from the no property rule.

Our constitution also requires that all Council holdings be recorded and tracked by the financial secretary. This means that your Council is not to have committees or groups with bank accounts that are not under the direct control of the financial secretary.

Any breach of these rules puts your Council in jeopardy of suspension by Supreme. Assets owned by a legally registered Columbus Club or similar entity are not subject to our constitution and therefore is not part of our audit.

Stay safe and practice the proper health protocols during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Yours in Christ
John W. Onyskiw
State Treasurer

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers:

Please keep in your prayers the family of Father Mike McCaffery who passed away in Edmonton on January 12, 2021.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed
Through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

(Continued from page 6) Gregory Amerongen, State Life Director
pro-life centers in Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Calgary, in Lethbridge, et al.

Silver Rose Alberta: February 29 - March 28, 2021

The Silver Rose program is now continuing as scheduled. **Live-streamed prayer services remain the recommended option for the program.** Councils should continue to abide by any local civil or diocesan guidelines currently in place.

Dear Brother Knights!

Although our activities have been modest during this Columbia year, I’m sure that stories of excellent programs exist that might warrant publication. As a reminder, we look for two main types of stories:

1. Council events that are scheduled at least two to three months from when I would receive your submission. They should be characterized as very impressive and remarkable events that would attract the attention of other Canadian Knights throughout the province.

2. Council members who have served in extremely remarkable ways and whose lives reflect our principles to an unparalleled degree. They are our unsung heroes.

Vivat Jesus!

Br. Gregory Amerongen
Alberta-NWT State *Columbia* Chairman



(Continued from page 2 Gaston Launière, State Secretary)

Here are some deadlines for the forms to be completed and program activities for this coming year:

January 31, 2021

State Resolutions for the betterment of our jurisdiction.

January 31, 2021

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) [**For your Star Council**].

February 14, 2021

Your Annual Reports to be printed in the Convention Business Sessions [Book](#).

February 15, 2021

Semi-annual AUDIT Report (#1295).

*PS. - Please note that the BOND from Supreme for Treasurers and Financial Secretaries becomes **null and void** if the Trustees have not completed the audit for **two years**. Therefore, it is important to get this in, on a regular basis.*

February 28, 2021

Applications for nominations to elect members to the State Executive Board and also to elect Insurance & Associate Delegates to the Supreme Convention (Denver, Colorado), if there is one.

February 28, 2021

Deadline for State Council Service Programs Awards (Faith / Family / Community / Life).

April 16, 2021

Deceased Member Form (period April 24, 2020 to April 16, 2021).

April 23-25, 2021

State Convention à Calgary Westin Inn (if any).

April 30, 2021

SUPREME Scholarship (*Pro Deo & Pro Patria*).

May 31, 2021

STATE Council Scholarship (*for our Jurisdiction*).

August 3-5, 2021

Supreme Convention à Denver, Colorado (if any).

Please feel free to call on me at any time if you require more information.

Vivat Jesus!

Gaston Launière

Secrétaire d'État / State Secretary, Alberta + TNO/NWT

(Continued from page 1) Vince Reyes, State Deputy

emails will no longer work but only personal emails. At the end of the day, compliance will show healthy, active and vibrant Councils – which will be a huge benefit for our jurisdiction!

In addition to the current two raffle draws awarded to Councils by submitting Prospect Name list and actual membership recruitment, our State Membership Team launched the initiative “Every Council Membership Active.” As each Council in the Supreme list with no new member additions recruits at least one new member before May 31, 2021, the Council will be entered in a special draw. There will be two draws, one in the North and one in the South. The Grand Knights of the winning Councils and their wives will be invited to a special dinner hosted by the State Deputy and his wife. Out of the 105 Councils with no recorded member additions, 13 Councils have already qualified for this special draw. With two and a half months still to go before the deadline, we expect to get more qualifiers!

As our Councils continue to conduct programs in strictest adherence to existing health regulations, the need for membership growth is more evident than ever before. As you know, program and membership come hand in hand. Thank you to our Grand Knights and District Deputies for encouraging our Chaplains to allow us to conduct “Parking Lot Church Drives.” On February 28, we were at St. Dominic Savio. With Fr. Saga’s desire, we will try to reactivate Council 12457.

Please mark your calendar: Town Hall Meetings on Wednesday, March 24 at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 27 at 9:30 a.m., and Monday, March 29 at 7 p.m. More details to follow.

In conclusion, as a source of inspiration to all of us, let us heed the advice of Mother Teresa: “I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.”

May God bless us and our families!

Happy Easter!

Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally,

Vince R. Reyes
State Deputy

By Jesubala Gnanamuthu

Dear Brother Knights,

Greetings!

I hope you and your family are doing well and staying safe.

We have been remarkably successful with **FREE Online Membership** initiatives and were able to onboard lots of good souls into our order. It is not about the numbers, but it is important to note how many of our brothers are looking for ways to **build their families and the Catholic faith**. In a way, we all are part of God's call, and he chose us precisely to what we are trying to achieve with the help of our Councils. Always remember that our God is by our side and working with us together to fulfil the purpose.

As we are getting ready to celebrate Lent season, remember to work with your Council and plan how to promote "**Good Friday**" and other charity activities in your Church.

Do not forget to connect with RCIA coordinators in your Church and ask them if they need any help. If there are opportunities, you could get in and spend 5-10 minutes of an information (virtual) session with the candidates to explain who we are and what we do for our Church and the Community. Please note that the RCIA candidates will be Catholic officially after the baptism ceremonial on Easter day. The info that we provide now will help them understand and know that there is a way to continue their lessons through Knights of Columbus. I passionately believe that this is one of our opportunities.

Example Role Play – Recruiting After Mass or at Council Activity

Knight: Hi, my name is Gary Hoppe. What's your name? Have we met before?

Prospect: I don't believe we have. My name is Charles.

Knight: Are you folks new in the parish?

Prospect: About two years now.

Knight: Welcome. What a beautiful family you

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 1) State Chaplain

that is becoming more disciplined ourselves, or whether it is assisting those who will benefit from our sharing of our Time, Talent and Treasure. At the end of the day, we can say I really do want to make this world a better place. If each of us do our little bit, from a personal or global improvement perspective, we will succeed. Our world did not get like it is overnight and we will not fix it overnight. However, each of us sharing our God-given gifts with the world will certainly have a positive, gradual effect in making our world a better place to live.

When I see the sun shining and the snow melting, I am refreshed. It reminds me that the Lord has been walking with us this entire time, and that He wants only good for us. Imagine how this pandemic might have played, out if it had happened forty years ago. Most of us would have been around for the experience, but I cannot imagine the communication challenges we would have faced. It has not been exactly a joyful journey, but the good Lord made sure we had what we needed to manage in a fairly effective way. The timing of this unforgettable experience was such that, for the most part we were able at least from a distance to stay in touch with our loved ones. All this to say my dear Brothers. God knows well what we need, and He wants only good for us. May our loving God bless you and your journey into the spring of another year in His beautiful vineyard.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. Jim

State Affairs is published by the Alberta/Northwest Territories State Council. Material submitted for publication remains the property of the Alberta/Northwest Territories State Council unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided. Deadline for submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to publication.

Direct all inquiries and letters to:
 State Affairs Editor:
 State Council Office, #4, 5579 – 47 Street,
 Red Deer, AB T4N 1S1
 Office: (403) 341-4848,
 Toll-Free: 1-800-656-0042
 Fax: (403) 340-3404
 Email: stateoffice@kofc.ab.ca



(Continued from page 5) State Program Director

strengthen your faith for the greater glory of God and the Knights of Columbus.

On behalf of myself and my wife Betty, we wish you and all your loved ones a Peaceful and Healthy Easter, **Christ has Risen**

See you all at the Annual Knights of Columbus Convention in Calgary.

SAL FICACCIO
Program Director

(Continued from page 6) State Membership Director North Leo Sosa

approach with them. This is creating reasons for our “inactive” members to come back to the Council. It may take longer, but we have to start somewhere. This will take time as it is a transformation of culture within the Council, but when this stage of Council renewal is past, different outlook, purpose and interest will be created and will flow a more fraternized Council. Let us build a reason for our Brother Knights to come back to our Council, a place to enjoy each other’s company and be felt as a Catholic gentleman’s home where he will find fulfillment and hope in the service to his parish and community at large. New blood will help bring about renewal within the Council with substantively changing dynamics within our membership ranks. We have to create that enthusiasm for our mission of service and Catholic faith into our Councils.

Thank you in advance for your efforts to bring the new members into your Councils, District and in the Jurisdiction. God bless us all.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Blessed Holy Week!

Leo Sosa
Membership Director North

(Continued from page 10) State Online Membership Director

have. Is this your wife?

Prospect: Yes, meet Mary. And these are our four children - John, Joe, Lisa and Amanda.

Knight: You know, I was just wondering, have you had a chance to become a member of the Knights of Columbus family yet?

Prospect: No, (Mary comments) I thought the K of C was a men's organization.

Knight: Oh, my no, Mary. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic, family, fraternal service organization that was started in 1882 by a parish priest to benefit the family if something prematurely happened to the husband and father. Yes, the men are the members, but the family is the real reason we exist. You see, just by being a member, you and your husband both get a free accidental death benefit policy, as well as your family receives the Columbia magazine, the largest Catholic publication in the world. Say, why don't we give the Knights a chance to include your family? (pause) What do you say we start by filling out this application? Thank you!

If you need help, you could collect the name and phone number of the prospects and let the State Membership Team know and we will connect with the prospects to complete the online enrollment process. Our team members are happy to help. For questions about online membership, reach out to me at 587 372 7070 and leave a message if it goes to voicemail. I will return your call as early as possible or before the end of the day. Also, you could reach me at jesukofc@gmail.com.

I wish you all a blessed Lenten season and a Happy Easter. *Jesus Never Fails! Vivat Jesus!*

Jesubala Gnanamuthu
Online Membership Director

Scan this barcode using any smartphone camera to get Join Us link & Promo Code



From the Community Director

By Ross Szentmiklossy

Brother Knights,

I hope all is well with you and your family. We are past midway through the Knight's year which ends June 30. There's still much you can do to help your Council earn the Columbian Award and perhaps the Star Council award.

For community you are required to have 2 of the following; Coats for Kids, Habitat for Humanity, Global Wheelchair Mission and Leave no Neighbor Behind. These are listed under community in Officers online. You can also think outside the box using your own activities.

One box of coats costs \$325.00, Habitat for Humanity requires a \$1000.00 donation, Global Wheelchair \$150.00 donation, Leave no Neighbor behind requires Council members to contact other members to see how they are keeping.

How does our Council raise funds to afford these community activities? The church is only allowed minimal occupancy due to covid spacing. We are not having pancake breakfasts or other fundraisers to cover the costs of these activities.

Some Councils have taken advantage of bottle drives. The Boy Scouts, Ringette and hockey teams are not having bottle drives due to covid. People are still drinking out of recyclable containers, perhaps more as they have more time.

Our Council advertises in the parish website, we park a trailer in the church parking lot on a Saturday/Sunday and have Knights take a 1 hour shift. The Council earns about \$1300.00. Basketball Free Throw and Soccer are still on hold during these covid times. Hopefully next Columbian Year will allow the Knights to hold these functions.

Brother Knights remember to go out in your community and help when and where you can. Keep your distance, wear a mask and your Knight's emblem.

Vivat Jesus!
Ross Szentmiklossy

From the State Pennies for Heaven Chairman

By Brian Strawford

Worthy Brother Knights,

On behalf of Pennies for Heaven, I would like to thank all Brother Knights from Councils, Assemblies, Edmonton and Calgary Chapters for their generous support. For the year 2020, 17 Councils, 1 Assembly and the Chapters raised \$7,203.30. The total for the past 46 years is now \$760,750.30.

Our Bishops appreciate this program in assisting our seminarians. The Pennies for Heaven is very important program and deserves the support of all Councils.

Please make cheques payable to Alberta K of C State Council Office and mail to:

Alberta K of C State Council Office
#4, 5579—47 Street
Red Deer, AB T4N 1S2

Fraternally Yours,

Brian Strawford
Pennies for Heaven Chairman



The AB/NWT Knights of Columbus would like to thank and congratulate Worthy Past Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, for his 20 years of dedication to our Order.