

# STATE Affairs

ALBERTA-NWT STATE COUNCIL



COVERAGE OF NEWS FROM  
AROUND THE JURISDICTION

WEB SITE: [www.kofc.ab.ca](http://www.kofc.ab.ca)

September 2021

## Message from the State Deputy

## Message from the State Chaplain

“United in Fraternity for Charity”



Ferdie(FYM) Mendita

**W**arm fraternal greetings to you all! First and foremost, with God’s blessings, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Alberta/NWT jurisdiction as the new State Deputy. As the Supreme Knight’s Deputy, it is an honor and a great privilege that I lead our jurisdiction with a group of Brother Knights who are very willing to continue the works that our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney has started. I can assure you that I will abide with my roles, duties and responsibilities vested in me as the Chief Executive of Alberta State.

My sincere congratulations to the new members of State Executive Board, Directors and Chairmen and I’d like to express my heartfelt appreciation for showing their support and enthusiasm as we begin our duties this fraternal year 2021-2022.

To the District Deputies, thank you for accepting this very important position that serves as the key to success to our mission.

Together, we offer our excellent skills and knowledge to accomplish our goals in all areas such as:

- Membership Growth- Membership, New Council Development/Round Table, Insurance, College Councils, Council Retention and Reactivation and Ethnic Councils
- Faith in Action Program – Faith, Family, Community, and Life

Since we are still living in unprecedented times, we continue to be cautious in making our goals put into action. Our goal is to get our Councils and Parishes back to normal as quickly as possible. Nothing is more important right now to fulfilling our mission of strengthening Catholic families, providing for their financial needs and helping the vulnerable. Equally important is serving the

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Fr. Jim Corrigan

“Open for Summer Campaign”

**M**y Dear Brothers,

A blessed fall of the year to you and your families. It, in many ways was a wonderful summer even if travel was not part of our agenda. Our summer was unseasonably warm for unusual lengths of time, and we hit some pretty warm temperatures a lot more often than is usual. On July 01, we embarked on an **Open for Summer** campaign, that was hopefully the end of an eighteen month walk with Covid, and the challenges that came with it. It was a great summer, and we grew used to not wearing a mask, and even shaking hands with one another. Lots of progress toward what we often have referred to as a normal lifestyle. You know, I am grateful for the reprieve, as that is what it turned out to be.

We are all aware of the rising case numbers, rising hospitalizations and record ICU cases in these recent days. Masking is our new normal at this time, and only the good Lord knows what will be required of us in the weeks to come. In the meantime, Brothers, hang on to that gratitude and the progress we have enjoyed thus far. We may have to take a step back, in order to get a handle on things, but so be it.

I am preparing for my first in person Council meeting this evening. Yes, for the first time in what seems forever. Yes, we will need to wear masks, but you know, it will be good to visit with the Brothers. I challenge you Brothers; we have been away for some time from the practical reality of a meeting and going about what needs to be done, for the good of the order. Perhaps encourage is a better choice of words for me. Attend

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## From the State Secretary

By John Onyskiw

**W**elcome Brother Knights to a new Columbian Year!

Congratulations to everyone who was newly elected or re-elected to direct the affairs of your respective Councils or Districts.

Thank you to Bro. Ryan DeHaan, Membership Growth Director and Alain Cayer, Territorial Growth Director – Canada and to everyone who came out to the recent Edmonton and Red Deer Seminars hosted by Brothers Ryan and Alain 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 when attending meetings, should be seated in front near the Grand Knight, should always be called upon to speak. He should always be seated at the head table at any Council function even if he is not on the speaking program. 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.

And please do not forget any State Board member who may be a member of your Council or any Board member who may attend your meeting. As stated in your Grand Knights Handbook, a District Deputy or State Board Officer should be accorded the same courtesies as those recommended for the State Deputy. A District Deputy or State Board member belonging to your Council may choose not to be introduced and placed at the front near the Grand Knight, but they should be asked prior to the commencement of the meeting. And please remember that during all Council meetings, all members should rise when the Council chaplain or any member of the clergy enters or leaves the Council chamber.

This year we had 44 applicants for the Alberta-Northwest Territories Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program in our jurisdiction. The qualifications of these applicants were exceptional and contributed to the difficulty in selecting the top 15 applicants to be awarded the Scholarships. The unsuccessful applicants were all sent letters thanking

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## From the State Treasurer

By Dave Wilson

**D**ear Brother Knights,  
I pray that you are well and had good summer break to spend time with family and friends.

I am honoured to have been elected as the State Treasurer for the new Columbian Year. I wish to thank John Onyskiw for his role as the Treasurer over the past two years as well as Brother Phil Birch for his hands on work with the accounting system. My goal is to continue to manage the finances and other responsibilities of the role in a prudent and responsible manner. I encourage any Counsels that have questions on this area of the State Executive to contact me at "st2021@kofc.ab.ca".

The Treasurer's role encompasses many facets of the finances. This includes working with the State Scholarship Director on sending the scholarship cheques to the successful applicants, working with the State Lottery Director on the 50/50 draws, making recommendations on membership fees and having input to the State Board on various discussions and motions.

Relating to the State's Finances, we are in a comfortable position this year to date. This is mainly due to the curtailment of actives due to the pandemic; there was very limited travel and cost savings on holding virtual meetings versus physical. We anticipate an increase in expenses over the next six months as we ramp up to attend parish membership drives as well as physical meetings. We will, however maintain diligence in minimizing our operating expenses and focus our funds on the areas that best serve our Brother Knights and their Council activities

As listed in the previous State Affairs bulletin, I will list the Insurance provider for 2021/2022 again for the new Grand Knights and Councils that may require verification of Insurance, It is:

Hendry Swinton McKenzie Insurance Services Inc.

Vince Knight Agent

e-mail: [vknight@hsminsurance.com](mailto:vknight@hsminsurance.com)

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## From the State Advocate

By Rufus Awharitoma

**W**orthy Brother Knights and fraternal leaders,

The beginning of every Columbian year ushers in new fraternal leadership at every level of operation. With this I say, congratulation to all the elected and appointed officers in our Jurisdiction. As fraternal leaders, it is imperative we demonstrate leadership that promotes the good of the order, hence compliance with the requirement of the Knight of Columbus Safe Environment Program in our jurisdiction is of paramount importance in safeguarding children and vulnerable persons in our parishes and communities.

The Knight of Columbus office of youth protection offers training for Council and State Officers through “The Praesidium Armatus”, inline with Section N-1 (7) of the Alberta State Council Statement of Policy (Grand Knight’s Manual).

The following officers are expected to complete this training within 30 days of been elected or appointed into their respective position.

### State Council

State Deputy, State Advocate, State Program Director, State Youth Director, State Family Director, and State Community Director.

### Subordinate Council

Grand Knights, Faithful Navigators (Only if assembly sponsors a circle), Program Director, Family Director, Community Director, and Adult Counselor.

Brothers, lets be diligent and safe in exemplifying the principles of the order through our charitable activities.

Vivat Jesus!

**Rufus Awharitoma**  
State Advocate

## From the State Warden

By W.C. (Bill) Lewchuk

**T**he start of a new fraternal year brings challenges to many of our members. In some cases we have new Council Executives, new District Deputies and new State Board members. Being one of the new State Board members I want to first of all thank all of you who supported me in the recent elections to the State Board position of Warden.

To give you a little background on my experience, I have served as Deputy Grand Knight, Grand Knight, Trustee and currently sit as Membership Director for my Council. So to use a colloquialism, I have “walked a mile in your shoes”. Although each Council has unique challenges you also have unique opportunities. As State Board members we are here to assist you with both. Find solutions for the challenges and embrace the opportunities.

I have been assigned two primary responsibilities by our Worthy State Deputy. The first is to oversee the Retention Directors in this jurisdiction as well as be the Liaison with the AB/NWT Knights of Columbus Bouchard Insurance Agency.

During my nearly 30 years as a Knight of Columbus member, I have met many of you personally. Whether we have met or not, please feel free to contact me with any issues or concerns you may have. I can be contacted via telephone or text at 403-850-5859 or email [sw2021@kofc.ab.ca](mailto:sw2021@kofc.ab.ca)

Fraternally yours,

**W.C.(Bill) Lewchuk**  
State Warden AB/NWT



## From the Agency

By Marc Bouchard General Agent

**I** look forward to this time of year with flowers still in bloom, the trees having just started to change colors and fresh vegetables and fruit are in abundance. I hope your summer went well for you!

I always take stock of all the things that need to be done around the house. But I further suggested that taking stock should extend to seeing where you and your family stand when it comes to financial protection. It's interesting to read about Blessed Michael McGivney's attitude in *Faith and Fraternalism* by Christopher J. Kauffman: "Though he [Fr. McGivney] seems to have been well aware of the value of ceremonials as the binding force for fraternal unity, he spent his energy in promoting the insurance feature." You know the story well; how the untimely death of his father nearly derailed Fr. McGivney's plans to become a priest. As the curate of St. Mary's, he encountered families in similar situations. So, it's no wonder he was so practical when it came to making sure families were financially sound.

In my position I feel a deep kinship with Fr. McGivney in helping to protect Catholic families. I see your local agent as your partner in facing this planning process. You don't have to go it alone. With our new financial needs analysis tool, with cutting edge software, robust and in-depth, you can approach this together with your agent. Since my last message several agents shared their stories concerning members. Let me give you a fictionalized account about two of them. A Field Agent recently met with a brother Knight and his wife who have a couple of young children. Together, they were able to see that based on what this couple wanted for their family, there was a need in two particular areas. One, the brother's group life insurance, while free as a benefit, was not enough to do what he wanted his life insurance to do. He desired more to make sure, if he had an untimely passing, his wife and children could stay in the same home, could still attend Catholic grade school and could afford to make a college education a reality. The other area that he had not thought about was what I call the "death of his earning power." What if he be-

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## From the Charitable Foundation

By Willis Winter, President



**F**raternal greetings to my Brother Knights. I pray that all are well as we enter this fourth wave of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Canada Revenue Agency is considering increasing the 3.5 % disbursement quota for charities in 2022 as a means of increasing support for the charitable sector. They are also asking if the 3.5 % rate maintains an appropriate balance between long term sustainable funding for charities and timely disbursement towards charitable activities.

The Canada Revenue Agency has asked for comments by September 30<sup>th</sup> on the 3.5 % disbursement quota that all charities must meet.

Historically, the Foundation's interest and dividend income is not sufficient to pay its operating expenses and the disbursement quota. As a percentage of its net assets, the Foundation earns 2.6 – 2.7 % in interest and dividend income annually from its portfolio. On the same basis, the operating expenses plus the disbursement quota add up to about 4.75 % and increase with inflation and portfolio growth.

There is a shortfall of over 2% each year. The Foundation relies on donations and the realization of capital gains on the sale of investments to make up the difference.

Without donations, some investments must be sold. We must limit this as reducing the capital base will reduce income in future years and then funding for charities would become unsustainable.

If the disbursement quota is increased, then the Foundation's charitable donations would most likely exhaust the Foundation's capital over time. All donations would then cease.

Your Foundation will be submitting a response as an increase would have a significant and detrimental impact on our operations.

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## From the Program Director

By Joseph Duenas

**G**reetings Brother Knights,  
I hope you all had a great and safe summer. As we embark on this new Columbian Year, let me first congratulate all our elected and appointed State Board Officers, District Deputies, and Grand Knights.

I would like to thank our SD Ferdie for putting his trust in me and appointing me as your State Program Director for this calendar year. Brother Sal Ficaccio did a fantastic job and I hope I could at least equal his time and talent in this stewardship role.

Programs, Membership, and Insurance are the 3 key successes for each Councils in our jurisdiction. You probably know that the making of a Star Council is dependent on achieving Fr McGivney Award for Membership, Founder's Award for Insurance and Columbian Award for Programs. These 3 go hand in hand. Though our State always promotes and focus on Membership, we all understand that strong programs make a good sell to become members. You cannot just invite someone to join until you tell them what's in it for them.

I am having meetings with our State Program Directors and Chairmen monthly. We want to make sure that we get our message across by providing timely information on programs. We ask the assistance of our Worthy District Deputies to disseminate and promote these FIA programs to their respective assigned Councils, then provide us with feedback and if any of these Councils require assistance from us.

We, as a team, will be sending Faith In Action Quarterly Bulletins so that time sensitive programs are communicated and Councils can prepare and plan accordingly. With a lot of our Councils starting their regular meetings in September, budgets are being planned for this Columbian Year and some of our FIA programs can be actioned by simply budgeting Council funds towards donating to such causes. Examples are RSVP, Canadian Wheelchair Program, Ultrasound Program, Coats for Kids and others.

Prayer being so important, it was fitting that one of the first State programs of the 2021/2022 Columbian Year was a Holy Hour. It was hosted on August 12, 2021 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Sherwood Park. The date was significant because it was vigil of the first Feast of Blessed Michael McGivney, priest and founder of the Knights of Columbus, whose beatification was pronounced by Pope Francis on All Hallows' Eve in 2020.

We would like to thank State Chaplain Fr. Jim Corrigan

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## From the State Pennies for Heaven Chairman

By Brian Strawford

**W**orthy Brother Knights,

Pennies for Heaven is a project to raise money for the purpose of promoting vocations in the province. This project started in February 1974 when Emil Matoski was the State Deputy, by Convention time in May about \$300.00 was raised. The Councils found many fun ways to raise the funds, including collecting 500 pounds of pennies (About \$700.00).

Forward to last year, we have raised a total of \$76,950.10. These funds are shared equally with the Bishops. The need for supporting our new seminarians is greater than ever, and all Councils are needed to reach this goal. For this Columbian year, 11 Councils have donated \$4997.29.

I thank you for supporting Vocations and for your generous donations, please make your cheques payable to the Alberta K of C State Council and mail to:

K of C State Council Office,  
#4, 5579 - 47 Street  
Red Deer, AB T4N 1S1

Fraternally Yours,

Brian Strawford  
Pennies for Heaven Chairman



*(Continued from page 2) State Treasurer Dave Wilson*

A gentle reminder if not forwarded as yet, please complete and forward the Semi Annual Audit Report # 1295 which was due August 15 . Also for Brother Knights that are struggling to pay their dues you may refer to Report # 1831 -"Relief from Council Dues"

I would like to encourage all Brother Knights and councils to bring in the new Columbian Year with energy and enthusiasm.. Remember, your State Board is available and wants to help all Councils achieve success.

Vivat Jesus!

Dave Wilson



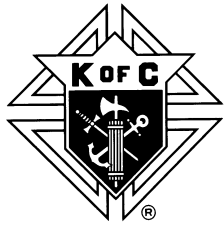
**Kaiden Chase** is the proud recipient of a \$750 Knights of Columbus State Scholarship award. Pictured is Dean Golinowski, Past Grand Knight, making the presentation to Kaiden, accompanied by members of the Knights of Columbus. The qualifications for the Scholarship include academics, athletics, community services, Church services, work experience and need. There are fifteen bursaries available in Alberta and the Northwest Territories. The bursaries recognize the Knight of Columbus commitment to education and the family.



Supreme Territorial Growth Director Alain Cayer and Supreme Membership Growth Director Ryan DeHaan talking to the membership team in the State Office in Red Deer.



State Deputy Ferdie Mendita, PSD Wally Streit, Supreme Membership Growth Director Ryan DeHaan, Supreme Territorial Growth Director Alain Cayer presenting an award to Wally for Top Recruiter.



*Congratulations*  
*Family of the Month*  
*2020-2021*



**April 2021**

Leo & Shirley Klein  
Joffer & Colleen Mahe

St. Bonaventure Council #7432  
Our Lady of the Hill #13064

**May 2021**

Brent & Sandra Boutwell  
Ronald & Regina Bagadiong  
Gilles & Michelle Voyer  
Ian & Lorraine Clark  
Joe & Belinda Halbach

Father Forsythe Council #4748  
St. Peter Council #7070  
Conseil Dandurand #7212  
St. Bonaventure Council #7432  
Our Lady of the Hill #13064

**June 2021**

Rodel & Anna Lynn Canilang  
Warren & Johnalynne Herbert  
George & Catherine Pinckney

Forsythe Council #4748  
St. Peter Council #7070  
St. Bonaventure Council #7432



**Winners of the Holy Family Picture**

**April 2021**

Joffer & Colleen Mahe

Our Lady of the Hill #13064

**May 2021**

Brent & Sandra Boutwell

Father Forsythe Council #4748

**June 2021**

Warren & Johnalynne Herbert

St. Peter Council #7070

*"Stewards of Faith and Action"*

*(Continued from page 1) State Deputy Ferdie (FYM) Mendita*  
church in this difficult time. Our pastors can count on us to help get the parishioners back in the pews, as the Knight of Columbus is rightly known as the strong right arm of the parish priests.

We have started to implement the Covid Recovery Program, the training webinars and resource materials provided by our Training Directors are of great help. Supreme has all the materials required in operating our Councils/Districts.

Supreme Training Directors are working with us in building plans for the Alberta State Team. They visited the Edmonton and Central Region for a week, August 30 - September 5, 2021 and the Calgary and South Region the week of September 13 - 17, 2021. Plans are being made to visit us again in October, November and January, more details to follow closer to the dates.

The 139th Supreme Convention was held virtually on August 3-4 and the events were broadcasted from New Haven Connecticut. The delegates of Alberta/NWT together with special guests gathered at DoubleTree by Hilton in Edmonton to join virtually and participate simultaneously with the Supreme.

The Alberta jurisdiction garnered 3 prestigious International Supreme Awards as follows:

- 1) TOP RECRUITER AWARD - PSD Bro. Wally Streit
- 2) PROGRAM AWARD (LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND) - St. Bonaventure Council No. 7432 PGK William Wolf
- 3) CIRCLE OF HONOR - PINNACLE AWARD - IPSD Bro. Vince Reyes, Former State Membership Directors North - Bro. Leo Sosa & South - Bro. Roone Learmont

Congratulations to the awardees and on Alberta's well deserved success, we should be proud of our accomplishments that are truly inspiring.

I hope that we will continue on, with our great enthusiasm and support with each other to achieve our common goals. Let us work together to have a productive fraternal year 2021-2022.

With the collaboration of all the fraternal leaders and cooperation of the members, we can make things happen. We, the Brother Knights are indeed united in fraternity for charity, we are united for a common good as Brothers.

Thank you and I wish everyone's safety as we are still living in these challenging times. May our Almighty Father guide and bless us always and throughout the years. Have a Happy Thanksgiving Day!

Vivat Jesus!

Ferdie (FYM) Mendita, State Deputy

*(Continued from page 2) State Secretary John Onyskiw*  
them for applying and advising them to re-apply next year. All top 15 applicants were sent a congratulatory letter. Their Scholarship Award cheques were sent to the Grand Knight of the Council that the father or grandfather of the winner belongs to. We would ask that the Grand Knight along with his District Deputy arrange to present the cheque to the winner before or after a Church Mass in their area and that they read the letter that provides information on our scholarship program.

I know this note is early, but Councils should start thinking of any resolutions they wish to submit to the Board for consideration at next year's Annual State Convention. All resolutions must be received by our State Office by January 31, 2022. I would like to wish each and every one success during this Columbian Year!

Stay safe, stay healthy and God Bless.

Vivat Jesus!  
John Onyskiw  
State Secretary

*(Continued from page 1) State Chaplain Father Jim*  
your next Council meeting, renew old friendships, and enjoy the fraternity that drew most of us to the Knights of Columbus in the first place.

It is perhaps a bit ironic, but it is also true to say, that despite Covid we had two of the very best years as a jurisdiction that we have had in many years. Memberships, programming, Faith in Action. We received, not just the circle of honor this year Brothers, but the pinnacle award, achieving, I believe a standing of number three in the whole Order. Well done good and faithful servants. God does indeed have a great sense of humor. Despite Covid, Alberta's light shone bright within the Order. Brothers, thank you for what you have done, thank you for what you will do. May we always hold in our hearts that all we are, all we do, all we can be, is a gift of God's grace for us who desire to cooperate with it. We say thank you dear Lord. Please continue to give us the grace we need to serve You, Your families, and Your faithful.

Vivat Jesus!

Fr Jim



## From the State Life Director

By Gregory Amerongen

### United in Fraternity for Charity

Brother Knights! I'm super excited about this Columbian Year that is already well under way, because we Knights are survivors and thrive in our practice of Charity! True, the situation with Covid-19 presents a challenge, but with God's grace all things are possible; or, as the saying goes, "where there's a will, there's a way." If you haven't already started, meet and schedule your Life Programs into your council's annual schedule.

### Novena For Life

Lead your community in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life. Knights and their families will come together in both public and private acts of prayer to promote the protection of life. Obtain the details from the Supreme website and basically organise your district councils and council members to start praying – lots! ... **for the unborn!** Be innovative and plan to run this as an online program, if you don't do it in person. Work around the present obstacles and let's get it done like Knights have always done! Consider using Zoom - <https://zoom.us/> - to run this program through the internet.

### March for Life (Featured)

Show public support for the right to life. Knights of Columbus councils are encouraged to participate in or sponsor local, state/province, regional or national Marches for Life. Councils that coordinate at least 25 participants or who organize a local March for Life will receive credit for this program. Brothers, the Alberta March for Life intends to hold its first board meeting this September to plan **the Alberta March for Life on Thursday May 12, 2022**. As always, councils should donate funds to support this state-wide event for the unborn that our bishops support in all ways. **Knights need to join them in person at the march.** So, plan to support us with prayer, financial donations, and your presence.

### Special Olympics (Featured)

Celebrate the worth and dignity of every human being through the Special Olympics. Knights of Columbus councils can work with Special Olympics affiliates to determine how best to fund, sponsor or volunteer for events in the local community. Be sure to contact our State Special Olympics Chairman (north or south) and ask him how your council can participate in this worthy activity.

### 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!

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(Continued from page 4) General Agent Marc Bouchard

came sick or hurt and could not work? His employer provided very minimal coverage for a few months, but after that there was nothing. He and the Field Agent explored how the Knights could fill that void and make his family whole. All this from spending time together. The best part for him...and for you, is that this service is absolutely free. Many others in the industry charge fees for this kind of analysis. It's a fraternal benefit that the Agents are happy to provide.

Second, a couple was recently retired. The Field Agent completed a financial needs analysis for them. They were in very good shape financially; had all their proverbial ducks in a row in almost every area. The area that they were concerned with was an extended care event. How could they protect all that they had worked for and saved in the event of needing help with daily living activities? The Agent was able to help them plan for that and shift the financial burden to the Knights. The other issue they looked at was setting aside a little of what they had saved to help their grandchildren. They were able to set up a plan to pass that money tax free to them.

Maybe you have similar concerns; meeting with your local Field Agent, can allay them. He is your partner and the two of you belong to a brotherhood in the Order. That kind of relationship is rarely found elsewhere in the financial services world. Get together with your Field Agent and see where you stand. Contact your local agent, or the regional office at 403-343-2242

Email: [bouchardagency@mail@kofc.org](mailto:bouchardagency@mail@kofc.org)

Fraternally yours,

Marc Bouchard,

General Agent, AB/NWT



(Continued from page 5) State Program Director Joseph Duenas

for hosting us and facilitating the Holy Hour, as well as the AV personnel, Bob and Rita. Thanks also to the Brother Knights, their families, and others who joined us for the Holy Hour, whether in person or by livestream.

Prayer and silent reflection are necessary to foster a deep relationship with God and so we encourage all Councils to organize regular Holy Hour events for their members and their parish communities. If you have never hosted one before, Supreme Council offers some planning resources (e.g. forms #10597 and #10708, available online at [kofc.org](http://kofc.org)) to assist you, or consider contacting State Holy Hour Chairperson Brother Matthew Long ([holyhourchairman@kofc.ab.ca](mailto:holyhourchairman@kofc.ab.ca)) for advice.

The next State Holy Hour will be held at Corpus Christi Parish, Edmonton on December 12, 2021, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. With enough time to plan, we will be asking for participation from other Brother Knights in leading the rosary.

With Brother Greg Amerongen being appointed by our State Deputy as the new Membership Director North, our team is currently looking for a Brother Knight who would be interested in taking up this rewarding State Director position. Please contact me directly at 7808038792. We wish Brother Greg all the best in his new role. Brother Greg will stay on as March for Life Liaison and Ultrasound Program Chairman.

Special Olympics Chairman, Brother Michael Isakeit have also informed me that there will be a Special Olympics Basketball Tournament on May 15- 20 with about 200 athletes participating. 2 day event will be in Calgary and we will be looking for volunteers for the whole event once details are provided. Brother Michael will be looking at providing Councils on where to find Supreme Special Olympics Form so Special Olympic volunteers can send in volunteer hours which count as cash back to Special Olympics.

I would also like to announce that Brother Bahta Yohannes has accepted the position of Mass for People with Special Needs Chairman North. Brother Bahta will work on having a Special Needs Mass in Edmonton in the near future. Weekly Special Needs mass in Calgary at St. Patrick's is on hold until COVID situation is figured out.

Thank you Brothers and I look forward in being of service to one and all! Enjoy the rest of the summer and have a great Columbian Year!

Vivat Jesus!

Bro Joseph Duenas  
State Program Director  
Knights of Columbus  
Alberta/NWT

[programdirector@kofc.ab.ca](mailto:programdirector@kofc.ab.ca)

*United in Fraternity for Charity*

## Columbia Chairman

By Gregory Amerongen

**G**reetings, Brother Knights!  
Relative to the **Canadian content submissions** which Supreme desires to publish in the *Columbia*, please send me any of the following two main types of stories to get our excellent stories into our flagship magazine!

**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.

I look forward to receive more stories to propose to the editorial board of the *Columbia*! Let's get published!

Fraternally,

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

## From the Membership Director N

By Gregory Amerongen

**B**rother Knights! I'm super excited about this Columbian Year that is already well under way, because we Knights need to grow to survive and thrive – and we must be asking *every* Catholic man to join the Knights and, yes, ask the Catholic ladies if they have brothers, fathers, nephews, or in-laws who might consider joining our noble Order! So, let's get to it started, if you haven't already.

Membership Recruitment Drives – in the Church or the Parish Parking Lot

Regarding recruitment, always note that every parish is administrated differently and so please follow the parish priest's instructions about recruiting relative to the parish Covid health directions. Be assured that the State Membership Team will assist any of the Councils and Districts to attain their quota for Columbian Year 2021-2022 and thereby the Star Council Award.

Therefore, please advise me as soon as you would know of a possible recruitment drive date, because we

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(Continued from page 4) ACF President Willis Winter

The ACF Partners in Charity program continues. The ACF will match Council and individual donations at 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.

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>

Stay well, Vivat Jesus!

Willis Winter,  
President, Alberta Charitable Foundation

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(Continued from page 10) State Membership Director N Gregory Amerongen

can't grow if we aren't recruiting. Indeed, we do well to have recruitment on our minds not only when we are planning a drive, but when we are attending regular Sunday mass and even weekday masses. Those fellow Catholic men in the pews are your future brothers – that is, if you will ask them. The Good Lord sent someone to ask you to join and now it's your turn to ask more future brother Knights.

More information will follow soon and I look forward to glorifying God with you by maximizing the number of Catholic men participating within our parish councils so as to optimize the charity that supernatural virtue infused into baptized souls which is awaiting activation under the Order of Venerable Michael McGivney, Our holy Founder.

Vivat Jesus!

Br. Gregory Amerongen  
State Membership Director



## From the State Community Director

By Ross Szentmiklossy

**B**rother Knights,  
Welcome to another year of opportunities to serve your community. We are blessed with Knights who have offered their time and talent as Chairman for Coats for Kids, Wheelchairs, Disaster Relief and Basketball Free Throw.

Coats for Kids has two Chairman in Alberta. The Northern Chairman who operates out of Edmonton is Francis Lajeunesse. The other Chairman is Aldin Abayon for Southern Alberta, he is from Drumheller. The dividing line is Red Deer.

These Knights have done a remarkable job in promoting Coats for Kids. They have sent out information on how to order coats and quantities that are available. Home Assistance and Disaster Relief Chairman is Robert Newman he is from Edmonton. His motto is pre-action and not reaction. Robert wants Councils to allocate funds in a special account to be ready for emergencies as the need arises.

The Canadian Wheelchair Foundation Chairman is Richard Rajotte. He has promoted the Foundation for over 10 years. For as little as \$195.00 Canadian your Council can purchase a Wheelchair.

Basketball Free Throw has been an activity that involves boys and girls ages 9 to 14. I am the representative for State but due to Covid the Knights didn't promote this activity last year and the year prior we cancelled the event. I am hoping we can again have the free throw activity. If your Council or region is able to book a facility to host the event please let me know. There is a form under [kofc@ab.ca](mailto:kofc@ab.ca) to register. The fee was \$100.00 to cover any expenses. Please send all forms and cheques to the Red Deer office.

A special thanks to all Chairman who have volunteered for State. There are opportunities available such as the essay contest, homes for humanity and other Faith in Action challenges should any Knight wish to take on a roll. Contact information is available in the new State Roster that you should have received.

Vivat Jesus!  
Ross Szentmiklossy  
Alberta State Community Director,  
Basketball Free Throw Chairman

## 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.)

### Form #100 Belongs in All of These Places

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!



**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**



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Submit an Article

(Continued from page 9) State Life Director Gregory Amerongen

### Mass for People with Special Needs

Welcome individuals and families who might not feel comfortable participating in a regularly scheduled Mass. Councils will sponsor a distinct Mass, conducted annually, for people with special needs. Brothers, please grant your council members to encourage participation of any disabled Catholics, especially any who normally have difficulty attending mass.

### 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 pro-life centers in Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Calgary, in Lethbridge, and other places.

### Silver Rose Alberta: February 29 - March 28, 2021

The Silver Rose program is raring to get started in the new year, but participating councils should contact appropriate district or state leadership, such as the State Silver Rose Chairman, for their jurisdiction's route details and guidelines. Brothers, last year the participation was somewhat modest, but we can do better this year! Plan to become involved and extend the enthusiasm for this excellent program among your council members and fellow parishioners. May God bless you with the intercession of Venerable Michael McGivney .

Vivat Jesus!

Gregory Amerongen  
State Life Director

*We offer our heartfelt sympathy and  
prayers:*

*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.*