

# STATE UPDATE



## UTAH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS

www.utahknights.org

April 2015

### State Deputy's Message

Brothers,

Easter Sunday is now past but the Easter Season is not over. Easter lasts until Pentecost and is a celebration of the Risen Lord walking among us. How do you think this experience could change your life if you knew Jesus was walking among you? The charity we bring is a way to emulate the great gift Jesus gave to us by giving of ourselves. The gift of money is always welcome and easy to transport but when we are there personally promoting charity, doing the fund raising, putting ourselves out there, we are the best we have to give.

I just received award submittals and it will be hard to select the best of the best. These awards are a way the State Council can show the appreciation we have for the work you do. The councils are the front lines of our charitable giving and your submittals are your way of telling your council you appreciate their work. Most councils can submit their Columbian Award right now so why wait until the last minute. We know we are doing the work but it isn't over until the paperwork is done.

We continue to grow in our charitable demands. Park City is planning on being the next site for an ultrasound. We have recently had several fund raisers for Fisher House. The MS Walk is coming at the end of the month on April 23rd. Our acts of charity continue and to keep it going, we need more hands and more feet on the ground.

Founders Day was celebrated on March 29 and March is when we promote church drives to recruit members. We have an influx of men from our RCIA classes who just became Catholic at Easter Vigil. These men are looking for a way to practice their new faith and what better outlet than the Knights of Columbus. We need to make sure we are talking to the members we already have so they have the opportunity to fulfill their goal of charity which is why they joined. New ideas and new energy is what these men can bring so listen to what they say and find out the goals they would like to set.

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### Master's Musings

The vision and goals of the Patriotic Degree are:

- Standing Firm in Support of the Order – Knights of the Patriotic Degree are dedicated to the personal development and continued honor of brother Knights. We are always there to offer leadership, guidance, and encouragement.
- Proudly Serving the Country – Knights of the Patriotic Degree glorify God by serving our communities and nations as though Christ were the one being served.
- Unwavering Support of the Faith – Knights of the Patriotic Degree hold unwaveringly to what is right and honorable, working to keep God in the civic arena, serving the life of the Church, and defending laws that recognize the sanctity of life and true religious liberty.
- Honoring the Legacy of Knighthood – The Color Corps is an elective division of the Patriotic Degree that presents a visible reminder of our service to the community,

Our next 4th Degree Exemplification will be on April 9, 2016 and will be held at St. George – Kuzy Hall, 259 West 200 North, St. George, Utah. We have forms and information for download on the 4th Degree website at <http://utahknights.org/fourth-degree/>. This is one of only two remaining Exemplifications that will be held this Fraternal Year. The other is scheduled for May 21 in Bountiful, Utah. The event is formal and each candidate and observer is required to wear a traditional black tuxedo without tails, no vests, and a lay down collar shirt with black bow tie.

Remember that March 29 is the 134th Anniversary of the Knights of Columbus (1882). We are all Soldiers of Christ. "Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Jesus Christ." ~ 2 Timothy 2:3. Soldiers are identified by their uniforms. Spies and undercover agents disguise themselves, hoping to slip in without being noticed. The LORD does not need undercover Christians. He needs those who wear His uniform and proudly identify themselves with Him

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## State Deputy's Message (cont.)

Do not hesitate if you plan on going to the State Convention on May 7 and 8 in Park City. Book your rooms early because after April 20 the rooms go to their normal rate. We also need to have your meal selections because if you show up at the last minute you may not get a dinner. The form is online when you go to the Utah Website - utahknights.org.

Have you talked to your pastor for his vision of the parish and the direction he wants it to go? You will have a very important ally if you are helping him fulfill his vision. That is what we mean when we say "Building the Domestic Church". If you are in competition with the parish and are trying to go in a different direction, then you will only have friction. If the pastor understands what we do and how he can use the Knights in supporting the parish it will be that much easier to put forth you goals and help get his vision to include your programs.

Continue on with the celebration of Easter and build the charity. We still have a quarter of our year to go so its not time to start coasting. With better weather the opportunities are there to help at the parish and build good will. Many parishes are doing fundraisers which the knights can take a lead. Help get your members focused on charity and bring your inactive members into the fold by giving them something they want to do. It is easier to recruit when men can see the charity we do

Vivat Jesus!



Jerry Hanten  
Utah State Deputy

### MS Walk

On April 23rd in downtown Salt Lake City, the MS Walk will take place. If you have been on the walk you know how much of a good time it is. If you haven't, well, you're just going to need to find out. Efforts like ours have gone a long way. Research, where the money we raise goes, has come a long way since our involvement in the walk began a few years ago. People with MS all over the world are now living longer, healthier lives because of the money we raise. If you have not already contributed to the walk, send a check to your state secretary today

## Master's Musings (cont.)

Do you act as a "secret believer" – one who unveils your Christianity only when it is non-threatening? In hostile situations do you cover up your true identity? This kind of clandestine discipleship makes it easy to deny the LORD in difficult times. When the apostle Peter tried to secretly follow the LORD at a distance, on three occasions he denied that he knew Jesus. To come out of your foxhole, you must first decide to be identified with Jesus Christ as your LORD and Savior. No more secrecy, no more undercover discipleship. Straightforwardly proclaiming your allegiance to the LORD is practical evidence of your faith. ~ Carman, adapted from Raising the Standard.

Do your friends and coworkers know that you are a Catholic? Do they know you are a Knight? Are you a clandestine Knight in hostile situations? When people hear us speak God's word, they marvel at its beauty and power; when they see what little impact it has on our daily lives, they laugh and poke fun at what we say. ~ a 2nd Century Christian

Vivat Jesus and God Bless America!

Bill McCauley

District Master - Utah.

## Culture of Life News

Euthanasia and assisted suicide promoters profess to be "so sensitive" to the pain, discomfort, and emotional distress of elderly and ill people. They demand that society allow people to have "medical care" to help them die before they have to suffer any more.

Yet those same promoters ignore, even suppress, the pain and suffering of babies born alive during abortions. An article in One News Now tells of more than 216 abortion survivors who were set aside, without care, to die. This was done so they would not be convicted of murder by actively killing the babies. How can it be that we can kill by neglect and be doing a good and can kill actively by assisted suicide and also be doing a good?

Reason, morality, and compassion have gone astray. Promoting and accepting the unacceptable are becoming a part of the fabric of our society.

We are the opposition and, with God's help, we must prevail.

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## State Secretary's Corner

When things are at their worst . . .

. . . we are at our best. From natural disasters that affect thousands like typhoons, earthquakes and tornadoes to personal tragedies like cancer, homelessness, and poverty, when there is a shortage of faith or a surplus of discord, from myriad pleading voices to the emptiness of a stomach wanting to be filled, we are there. Money, wheelchairs, high-five lines, ultrasound machines, coats, rosaries, inspiration, food, sympathy, support, we give it all out of love for our fellow man.

Recently at a funeral for a family member of Knights, there was sorrow aplenty. But the overwhelming emotion there was love. The love of brothers supporting brothers, the love of a family brought together surrounded by those who care, where love truly poured forth like the sun through the gates of the day. It was beautiful, enriching, consoling, and all-encompassing. It is the love that God has for us that was expressed in a way we can comprehend.

It is also the love that we share every time we spend time doing His good work on earth. There are times when we get to see that love in the eyes of a mother getting a new coat for their child or in the grateful, stoic nod of a father loading his basket with food for his family. But the love expressed at a funeral is something special. It is the hope and trust in an existence surpassing ours, the faith that a plea made will be answered, the stateliness and solemnity of an honor guard, the extended and continuous support of brothers in Christ whose laying on of hands help keep those in pain upright and moving forward.

It is at times like this when we are at our lowest that our brotherhood means the most. It is at times like this that I am most proud, most happy, most in awe of my brothers and in the order to which we belong. Thank you for everything you do, everything you are, and the love you express every day

Andy Airriess  
State Secretary

## Culture of Life News (cont)

### How Can it Be?

The New York Times reports that “about half of suicides” are done with guns. In their effort to reduce the number of suicides, they recommend various actions and restrictions. Their thrust is clearly to note that such suicides are sad and that we need to do our best to curb them. However, their report on assisted suicide comes to a very different conclusion. Highlighting the burdens, difficulties, and illnesses which people experience, they abandon helping the person to ease or overcome the problems and turn to promoting “right to die” and “compassion and choices”. They end the column with this pathetic attempt at justification, “Her inability to help him die humanely is a situation no spouse should have to face.”

How can it be that a person contemplating suicide with a gun can be treated as a life worth saving, but a person contemplating suicide with a drug can not?

### Pro-life America

The national review reports that there is a New Normal in the abortion debate. For over a decade the “normal” has shifted and established a profoundly pro-life direction.

The story we hear from the media is just that, a story. A Knights of Columbus-Marist poll shows the continuing trend for life affirming attitudes and the pro-life nature of American society.

It is sad that the media promote and successfully present the opposite view.

That the pro-life gains and changing views are not openly displayed is a serious flaw in what is supposed to be an unbiased media.

*These articles come from the pro-life newsletter, edited and distributed by Sir Knight Richard Riddell*

## Delegate Forms

The forms that you use to identify your councils' delegates to the upcoming state convention have been emailed or mailed to the financial secretaries of each council. It is critical that these forms get returned by April 15 as it takes time to get all the names entered and to print all the materials for the convention, particularly the balloting.

To date, we only have the forms for seven councils. For a smoother convention experience, please get your convention delegate forms to the state secretary as soon as possible.

## Building the Domestic Church

Today, the Knights of Columbus is providentially positioned to play a key role in the new alliance between the Church and the family called for by Pope Francis ... What is necessary now is our greater involvement in the renewal of parish and family life.”

*-Supreme Knight Carl Anderson*

“It is in the parish that one becomes engaged with the Church community, learns how to become a disciple of Christ, is nurtured by Scripture, is nourished by the sacraments, and ultimately becomes an evangelizer. Successful evangelization and catechetical initiatives must be focused on the parish.”

- *United States Council of Catholic Bishops* Supreme Knight Carl Anderson announced that, through the Order’s wide-reaching new Domestic Church initiative, Knights and their families will have greater opportunities to participate in a variety of activities that promote the New Evangelization, strengthen our parishes and grow the Order.

### Building the Domestic Church

Knights of Columbus has always been an organization dedicated to the well-being and support of Catholic family life. The family is the first and primary place where we experience and are formed in our Catholic faith. By building upon our current programs and activities, the Knights of Columbus continues to promote the family as a “domestic church” where husbands and wives, parents and children, grow in their knowledge and practice of the Catholic Faith. In order to perform its important mission of evangelization, each family needs to find support in the sacramental life of the parish.

### Strengthening our Parishes

Knights of Columbus councils have always responded to the most urgent needs of the Church, particularly through charitable and social outreach. In order to support the evangelization of family life today, our councils must be even more fully integrated into our parishes. As the world’s largest Catholic fraternal and family organization, we have a responsibility to dedicate our time, talent and resources to ensuring that our parishes are beacons of the new evangelization.

## State Program Updates

**MS Walk** Coming up at the end of April. This is a great event and our fundraising for it has helped lead to wonderful things happening in developing treatment. You or your council can donate. Or, show your support by just enjoying a walk with some of your fellow Knights and their families. More details on this event will be coming soon from Community Director Nick Nielson.

**State Convention** Park City, May 6, 7, and 8 in Park City. See the state web site for details and reservation info. Rooms not reserved by April 20 will be available at full price after that date.

**State Video Contest** The forms are under the last item in the "Programs" menu on the state web site. Thanks to Council 14399 at Holy Family parish in South Ogden, the awards has been doubled!

**State Organizational Meeting** St Therese of the Child Jesus in Midvale. Saturday, June 25th

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