State Update

State Deputy’s Message

Mid-Year Membership Report and Keys to Membership Recruiting Success
With half of the fraternal year behind us, here’s a quick recap of our year to date membership intake status.
Members; Gain – 60, Loss – (110), Net – (50). Insurance; Gain – 14, Loss – (35), Net – (21). We already have nearly a dozen councils who are well on their way to becoming Star Councils. However, let’s not dwell on the negative, but concentrate on what is needed to move forward during the second half. Our members are the life blood of the Knights. Without new members we will not survive. In case you haven’t heard, Supreme has combined the first three ceremonials into one half hour ceremony. The ceremony combines all the best of the three previously separate degrees and can be witnessed by family members. The new ceremonial video will be presented to all gathered at 4:00 PM at the upcoming Midyear Meeting on 11 January at St Ambrose Catholic Church following the regular meeting session.

So what can we all do to bring more men into the Order to provide more hands to perform our good works? Glad you asked. Here’s some ideas for consideration.

1) Talk about your positive experiences as a member of the Knights of Columbus and share your enthusiasm for your council. Convey a sense of enthusiasm, excitement and pride when talking about the great things your council accomplishes and the people who are being helped. Offer some personal stories of how volunteering has helped you grow in your faith and what being a Knight means to you.

2) Talk to the prospective member and his wife about the ways his joining your council benefits their family. Presenting the good works a man can help accomplish when joining the Knights, the opportunity for spiritual growth and the fraternal benefits offered to a prospective member, his wife and family, can help convince him to join. Point out that volunteering and council social activities, as well as many benefits such as scholarships, the insurance program, and others, are open to the member’s entire immediate family.

3) Approach recruiting in a different way. Instead of asking, “Would you like to join my council?” ask a prospective member: “Would you be interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus and our local council?” This offers the opportunity to explain the benefits of joining to the prospective member in a more flexible way.

4) Promote your council’s spirituality. Place emphasis on your council’s involvement in the spiritual life of your parish. Promote council corporate communions, retreats, family Mass, Eucharistic adorations and any other activities conducted by your council that promotes and strengthens our Catholic identity.

5) What to say when the answer is “I don’t have time.” Many prospective members, when they are approached to join the Knights of Columbus, comment that “they are too busy”, have “too much work”, involved with my “children’s hectic school schedule”, and similar reasons. Be prepared with a simple answer, like “the amount of time you put in is completely up to you. Even one or two Saturdays a year would be a big help. Also, with the family oriented activities we offer, you’ll have more opportunities to spend time with your family.”

Hope this helps with our recruiting efforts as we continue to grow the Order.

Vivat Jesus!

Greg Keller
Utah State Deputy

Holy Father’s Prayer Intention

Listen to the Migrants’ Cries

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

Offered in Solidarity with Pope Francis

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Special points of interest

The 2020 State Convention will be Friday May 1st through Sunday May 3rd in Ogden, UT
“TO WHAT DEGREE”
Fourth Degree News and Views

Happy New Year!!!

Sir Knights is a New Year and a time for reflection. Reflection on the things we did right and the things we did wrong. Time to improve the things we did wrong and also capitalize on the things we did right. It is also time to remember all our Brother Sir Knights we lost in 2019. We are remembering the good times we spent with our departed brothers and some bad also but always keeping them near our hearts. May 2020 bring success, love, and health to accomplish our goals as Knights of Columbus. Remember, we are vessels for God, and we are here to serve him and his people. God bless you and your families in 2020. Viva Christo Rey!!!

SOCKS FOR HEROES!!! (4th-Degree District Project No. 2)

Socks for Heroes were a success, we were a bit low in the donation department this year, but we made it work. On 7 January, we distributed over 2500 pairs of socks to our US Veterans at the SLC VA Hospital. Many Veterans were thankful to see us again and that we gave out free, warm winter socks for them. “There is nothing more important than a fresh pair of socks,” a Veteran stated. Keep up the great work, Brother Knights!!!

$1000 Scholarship Tickets on Sale Now! (4th-Degree District Project No. 3)

The Utah State Convention is just around the corner, and we need to give away a $1000 Scholarship a deserving young graduating high school student. How can we do this, you ask? Easy! We sell tickets for the opportunity to win prices: 12 for $10. The leadership of the Utah Fourth-Degree voted at the biannual meeting in 2018 to adopt this project and move it forward. FVSM Chuck Dover is spearheading this project along with your District Marshals and Faithful Navigators. Please contact them to receive your tickets or to turn in sold ones. Remember there great opportunities to win. Let’s sell them at bingo, church gatherings, work, VA, and any other place people carry money on them. Good luck Sir Knights and happy selling.

“Peace be with you.”

-John 20:19

Yours in Christ,

Francisco “Frank” Carmona
Master of the Fourth Degree

“Sir Knight is more than a title...it’s an honor.”

Patriotic Degree Exemplifications

WHEN: March 21, 2020
WHERE: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
725 S 250 E, Hyde Park, UT 84318

WHEN: June 13, 2020
WHERE: Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church
4501 West 5215 South, Kearns, UT 84118

Clergy Only Patriotic Exemplification

WHEN: April 22, 2020
WHERE: Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic Church 1375 Spring Ln, Salt Lake City, UT 84117

Please invite all Deacons, Priest, MSRs, and other Clergy members that are no part of the Patriotic Degree. We will provide dinner after the Degree. Open to all current 4th Degree Members to witness the degree. Faithful Navigators and Grand Knights, please accompany your Clergy to this ceremony.

Requirements to advance to the Patriotic Degree are current Third (3rd) Degree Knight in good standing, $70 fee, wear a dark suit or tuxedo, tie, black shoes, dress shirt, and a completed Form 4 (NO JEANS or POLO SHIRTS).
Reflection and Resolutions
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We made it brothers to the halfway point of our fraternal year; with it being the halfway point and the start of a new calendar year it’s a great time to reflect and make resolutions. So, where are you at this fraternal year? Where do you want to be by the end? Are you on track with membership? With insurance? With your programs? Are all your forms submitted that needed to be and are you ready for upcoming due dates on others?

I want to recognize the councils that are on track. 602 at the Cathedral has 45% of their membership. 5214 in Kearns has 45% of membership and 75% of their insurance. 5347 in Brigham City is at 75% of membership. 6739 in Tooele is at 100% of membership and 33% of insurance, they also have their form 365 in and are safe environment compliant. 7961 in West Jordan is at 100% of membership, has their form 365 and are safe environment compliant. 9731 in Magna has 33% in both membership and insurance, their form 365 and are safe environment compliant. 12264 at St. Patrick’s is at 75% of membership. 13646 is at 40% of membership. 14764 at St Catherine is at 100% of membership. 15418 at St Ambrose is at 50% membership and has their 365 and are safe environment compliant.

Congratulations to these councils, some are still missing some paperwork or need to complete their training to be safe environment compliant but are on track to finish the rest of the year. If I didn’t list your council, there are just a few things you need to do and you’ll be on track as well.

Here are the councils still missing their Form 365 (Program Personnel Report): 602, 1136, 2611, 5347, 7401, 8606, 11812, 12264, 12959, 15741, 16006. In order to be safe environment compliant this form needs to be submitted and training completed (speak with Bill Kelly to find out who needs training).

Here is a list of councils that are still missing their Form 185 (Chosen Officer Report): 2611, 11812, 12959, 15741, 16006. Here is a list of the 10 councils that still need to complete the last semiannual audit (Form 1295): 777, 2611, 5502, 7401, 11812, 12959, 13646, 15741, 16006, 17140.

Now that we are in January the Financial Secretaries should be compiling the service hours to complete the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728), this is due January 31st. And shortly after that the 2nd semiannual audit for the fraternal year is due February 15th.

Lastly, I recommend starting to fill out your Columbian Award application (Form SP7). This form isn’t due until June 30th... so why do I recommend starting it now? That way you can see what all you have completed so far and see what programs you may be missing before it’s too late.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Mid-Year Meeting; I hope it proves to be informative and beneficial. If you need any assistance with any of these forms please reach out to me, to your DD, or to any of the State Officers. We are here to help you! You can also check our state website on the "New Council/District Tracker" under the Recruiting sub menu to see where you are at. Here is the link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Dbc1lQzl_iJAM71LSfT-PD7xZvYB-7Erg0RM80uApK7E/edit#gid=0

Vivat Jesus!

Nick Nielson
State Secretary
FROM SUPREME—'A New Era for the Knights'

by John Burger

THE BASEMENT OF ST. MARY’S CHURCH, site of the first council meetings in Knights of Columbus history, hosted another “first” on New Year’s Day. In the very place where Father Michael McGivney founded the Order in 1882, more than 50 men became Third Degree Knights — witnessed, for the first time, by their wives, children and other guests.

This was the debut of the combined exemplification of charity, unity and fraternity, the new public ceremony that can now be used instead of individual First, Second and Third degree ceremonies. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, who announced the combined ceremony at the midyear state deputies meeting in November, was on hand for the historic event and greeted Knights and their families afterward.

“It’s the beginning of a new era for the Knights of Columbus,” Anderson told those gathered Jan. 1 at St. Mary’s in New Haven, Conn. “We’ve been talking for many years now about the Knights being a family-oriented organization, by which Catholic men joining our brotherhood become better Catholics, better husbands, better fathers. And that’s the point of this exemplification of the three principles; that’s the point of having family members witness your promises.”

ROOTED IN TRADITION
Twenty-nine councils brought candidates and members to take part in the New Year’s Day exemplification, which was organized by the Connecticut State Council. A degree team made up of state leaders conferred degrees on 52 men — 10 new recruits, six online members and 36 First Degree Knights. Through the half-hour ceremony, all became full members of the Order.

Separate degree exemplifications — in which candidates are conferred with the First Degree during one event and later devote several hours to the Second and Third degree exemplifications — can be an impediment to joining for time-pressed family men, said Connecticut State Deputy Gary McKeone. “I’ve been a member since 1988,” McKeone said. “If I were to join now, I would have gone through the First Degree but wouldn’t be able to give up a full Sunday to go through the Second and Third degrees. I wouldn’t want to spend the time away from my family.”

Another reason behind the change is a decline in the manpower needed to form degree teams. Members often have to wait long periods of time to advance to the Second and Third degrees, and some lose interest before they can do so.

To make the Order more inviting and accessible to a new generation of Knights, a simpler ceremony was developed by state leaders, Supreme Officers and experienced ceremonialists. This new streamlined ceremony “stay[s] true to our traditions while addressing the needs of our times,” Supreme Knight Anderson told state deputies in November. “It presents a fuller and richer understanding of who we are, what we stand for and what we are called to be.”

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson delivers remarks at the historic event, organized by state leaders, including Connecticut State Deputy Gary P. McKeone (seated third from right). Photos by Stephen Mieczkowski The most groundbreaking change is that the new ceremony can be held in the presence of family and friends, whether in a council chamber or in a church. As a result, the condition of secrecy, which was a component of the earlier form, has been lifted. Nearly 200 guests witnessed the first exemplification at St. Mary’s, more than double the number organizers expected.

Michael Shea, grand knight of St. Francis de Sales Council 9 in Bristol, Conn., observed that the new exemplification ceremony is more precise, while combining essential elements from each degree. “I also like how it incorporated our families,” Shea said. “As Knights, that’s one of our key duties: bettering ourselves, our families and parishes. The new ceremony emphasizes this from the first moment.”

A SPECIAL DAY
Lisa Gamsby of East Haven, Conn., was one of the guests; she watched with her mother and her 2-year-old daughter as her husband, Jason, advanced to the Third Degree, and her father, Glenn Stokes, became a new member of the Order. Both men are members of Our Lady of the Rosary Council 3300 in East Haven. “It was really beautiful to see such a community of people coming together for something good,” Lisa Gamsby said. “There was a good family atmosphere, with people supporting each other. It was like a community you get to know within your own parish.” For Jason, a 39-year-old trial lawyer, the presence of his family was meaningful, as was taking the degrees in the very hall where the Order was founded.

(Continued on page 6)
Supreme Chaplain’s Monthly Challenge

WHAT IS THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN’S MONTHLY CHALLENGE?

Each month, Archbishop William Lori – Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus – selects a brief passage from the Gospel reading of one of the Sunday Masses of the month.

Archbishop Lori shares a brief reflection on the passage and issues a challenge for men to live for the month.

The next month, men undertaking the challenge as a group gather and share their experiences living the challenge.

The Supreme Chaplain’s Monthly Challenge is ideally done during monthly Knights of Columbus meetings, but can be done in a separate group or individually.

By taking up the Supreme Chaplain’s Monthly Challenge, men take direct, concrete action to grow in their faith and help their brothers do so as well.

This Month’s Challenge

February 2020

“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.” — Mt 5:13

Imagine that you’re at a steakhouse, and your plate finally arrives. Then, just as you are looking for the salt, you learn that the restaurant has completely run out of it. It’s easy to see that without salt, our food can be bland and tasteless. Turning to the words of our Lord, has your life of faith become bland and insipid? Jesus did not die for our sake in order that we might offer the world a mediocre reflection of his life. As we embark on our Lenten journey, may we strive to be men who season the world and our communities with the salt of an authentic and inspiring Christian life.

This Month’s Challenge

This month, I challenge you to sharpen your Christian witness by saying grace before meals at home and in public. Second, as you begin your Lenten journey, I challenge you to develop your “saltiness” through spiritual reflection, either with the Faith in Action Spiritual Reflection program or on a more informal basis.

Questions for Reflection

When was the last time you intentionally brought up your faith in a conversation? How did saying grace in public differ from saying it in the home? Practically speaking, what would you need to do to take your Christian “saltiness” to the next level?

Example Opening Prayer: Come Holy Spirit. We thank you for guiding our lives and pray that we may have the courage exemplified by Venerable Fr. McGivney to live our faith to the fullest through our council, our families and in society. May our words today give glory to your Sacred Heart and if we struggled this past month in living our faith, help us to never stop turning to you and always try again.

Example Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for this time together with our brothers. We ask you to have mercy on all those people and intentions we prayed for. Give us the perseverance to live next month’s challenge and to remember that we are united with our brother Knights around the world in doing so.
New Ceremonials in Utah

As announced through the Utah Leaders Google Group, the new “Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity” has been officially released (in English, French and Spanish). The scripts are available online (PDF format), and the helpful FAQs are also available in each language. If you missed it at the midyear meeting at Saint Ambrose in January, the video with the introduction from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson showcases the new ceremonial; it’s for leaders/members, not candidates.

State Deputy Greg Keller has approved the immediate use of the new ceremonial (once you have the necessary supplies). The former ceremonials are also allowed, if needed in the short term. The necessary supplies are available from the usual sources: KofCsupplies.com, KnightsGear.com, and Supplies Online. The gold/white ceremonial baldrics are the same ones that have been used for the last several years so many councils already have them. For example, my council started using them in 2007. Given their versatility, a council may want to order them for all of the officers for their council officer installation ceremonies. Remember, these are not the same as the fourth degree baldrics! The crucifix is available from either of the supply websites (different sizes/costs), or you could find one from another supplier (just make sure it has the corpus on it). The same for the cable and fibers, as long as it meets the requirements, you’re welcome to use any source. Supplies Online is probably the only place to get the McGivney canonization prayer cards, and I do recommend having extras available to share with the guests, visitors and members for the closing prayer.

Just remember that EVERY candidate needs a “First Degree Kit”, as they will ALL receive a pin and rosary. The Financial Secretary should issue their third degree membership card after the ceremonial. We’ll hold the new ceremonial in English on February 20th at Saint Thomas More in Cottonwood Heights; registration at 7:00 PM, ceremonial at 7:30 PM, and everyone is headed home by 8:15 PM.

(Continued from page 4)

FROM SUPREME—Continued

“I appreciated that I could invite my wife and daughter to come and see the process of becoming a Knight,” he said. “Gathering where Father McGivney started the Knights, right there at St. Mary’s, for the first exemplification of its kind — and then with Supreme Knight Carl Anderson being there to show his support — made the day extra special.” Also present for the historic degree ceremony was the pastor of St. Mary’s, Dominican Father John Paul Walker; Father Jeffrey V. Romans, Connecticut state chaplain, who took the part of chaplain on the degree team; and Father Alphonso Fontana, pastor of St. Francis de Sales in Bristol, Conn. Supreme Knight Anderson acknowledged that the new ceremony represents a major change. But, he added, “What is not changing is our commitment to charity, unity and fraternity.” He continued, “What is not changing is our understanding of Catholic discipleship as envisioned by Father McGivney, that this brotherhood of Catholic men — mostly laymen — is the way to live out one’s life as a dedicated Catholic, to strive to be better as a Catholic individually and to be better as husbands and fathers; to strive to be better as parishioners, to engage in the parish, to strive to be better citizens, bringing the influence of our Gospel values into society.”

JOHN BURGER writes for Aleteia.org and is a member of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Council 16253 in New Haven, Conn.
Utah Ceremonials—Continued

Grand Knight 6010 Dennis Martinez said his council didn’t have any trouble switching to the live ceremonial from using the DVD previously. Since there isn’t a memorization requirement, it should be simple for all councils to have a ceremonial team (who reviews their lines in advance, so we do make a good impression on the new members and their family and friends).

If you have any questions, please let me know. Later this month, the state council will have a two (2) traveling ceremonial kits that has the necessary ceremonial supplies (six ceremonial baldrics, a crucifix, prayer cards, the cable and fibers). They will be available to councils as needed as councils budget and order their own supplies.

Vivat Jesus!

Karl VanMaren

Karl VanMaren
2019-2020 Ceremonials Director, Utah

See all the upcoming activities and events going on in the state. http://utahknights.org/
What is it?
Long-term care insurance helps you pay for your extended medical needs in a nursing home facility or in the comfort of your own home.

Who needs it?
Long-term care insurance should be an important part of every family’s planning. While we’d like to think that we will never need long-term care, or that we could easily afford it the statistics suggest otherwise:

- 70 percent of people over age 65 will need some type of long-term care services during their lifetime.[1]
- 3 years is the average duration of long-term care needed per individual.[2]
- $91,250 is the average annual cost of private nursing home care.[3]
- $80,300 is the average annual cost of at-home nursing care.[4]

Traditional medical insurance programs and government medical insurance programs don't usually provide enough help. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, Medicare only pays for long-term care services for a maximum of 100 days, with a copay after the 20th day, and only if you meet certain criteria. Medicaid does pay for long-term care, but only if your income is below a certain level, and you meet state requirements.[5]

How does it work?
Knights of Columbus Long-Term Care insurance policies establish a pool of money (also known as a maximum lifetime benefit), which is determined by a number of options that you choose from (see below). That pool of money is then available for you to use to cover qualified long-term care expenses. When the pool of money is exhausted, your long-term care policy ends.

The Knights of Columbus also offers a spousal discount program, through which spouses who apply for long-term care insurance coverage together are eligible for up to a 30 percent discount.

What options do I have?
Coverage Type

- Comprehensive Coverage – Comprehensive long-term care insurance allows you to use the policy to help cover expenses at home or in a skilled nursing facility.
- Facility-Only Coverage – Facility-only long-term care insurance helps cover expenses in a skilled nursing or assisted living facility.

Benefit Period

- 3-Year – Establish a maximum lifetime benefit designed to help cover three years of long-term care expenses.
- 5-Year – Establish a maximum lifetime benefit designed to help cover five years of long-term care expenses.
- 10-Year – Establish a maximum lifetime benefit designed to help cover 10 years of long-term care expenses.

Daily Benefit

Working with your Knights of Columbus field agent, you establish the daily benefit amount that the policy provides, based on your budget and your projected need. Your daily benefit amount, combined with your benefit period, will determine your maximum lifetime benefit, all of which will affect your premium.

Elimination Period

Long-term care insurance policies come with an elimination period, which serves as your deductible or out-of-pocket amount. You can select a 30, 90, or 180-day one-time, lifetime elimination period, after which time your benefits will begin to be paid.

Additional Features and Benefits

A number of special features and benefits – often called riders – are available on Knights of Columbus long-term care insurance products. An example is the compound inflation rider, which will increase your maximum lifetime benefit annually.

Contact your Knights of Columbus field agent today to learn more about our long-term care insurance products and the safety and security that we can help provide.