



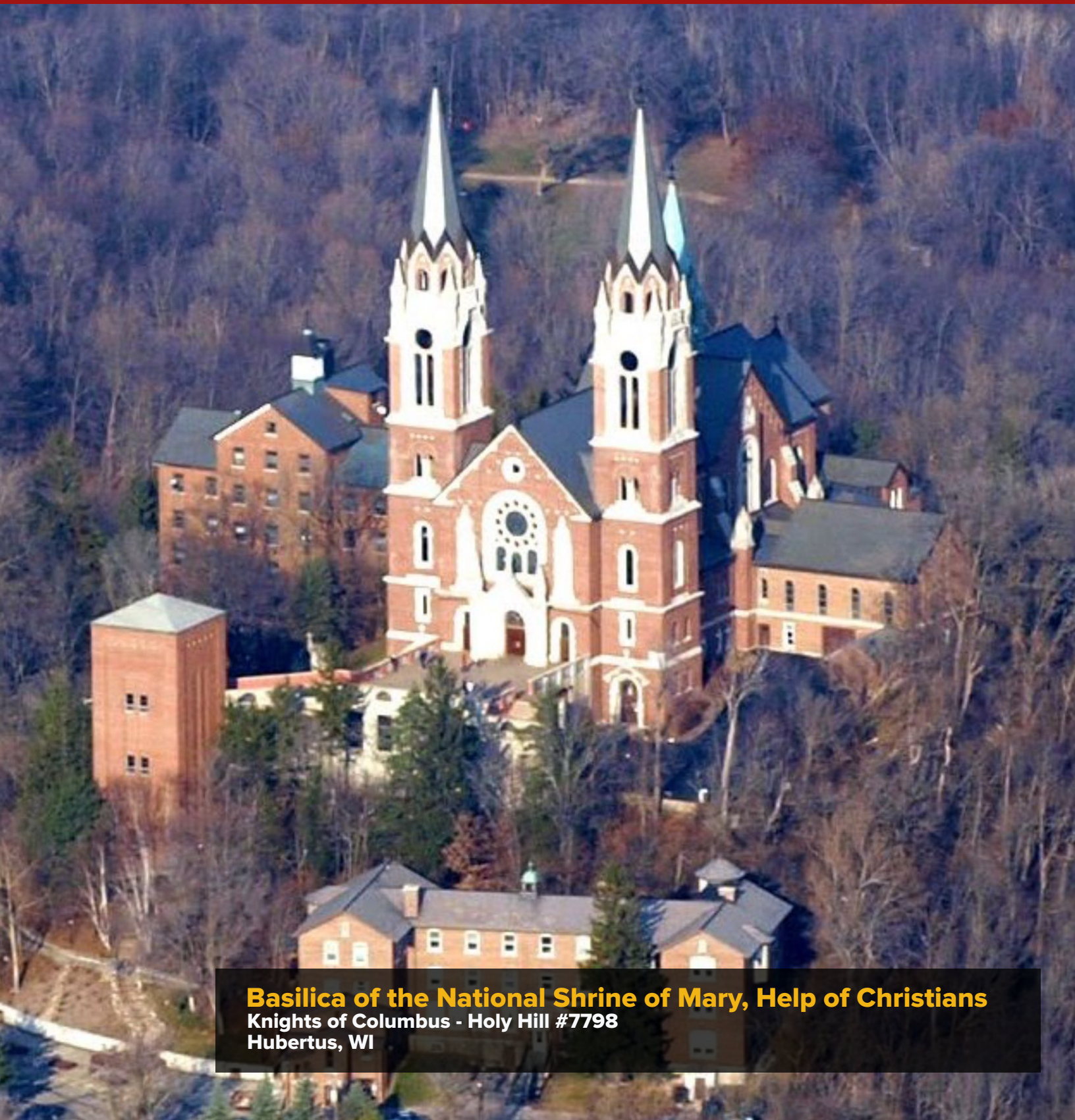
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

# Wisconsin

 KC STATE NEWSLETTER

"DEFEND US IN BATTLE"

JULY 2024



**Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians**  
Knights of Columbus - Holy Hill #7798  
Hubertus, WI



**BROTHER KNIGHTS ALL** of the Wisconsin Jurisdictions, it's finally official that, as of July 1st, 2024, I step full-time into the role of Wisconsin State Deputy.

I pledge to each of you my total commitment as the 66<sup>th</sup> CEO of the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus to devote the necessary time and resources required to properly train and lead our great state team of dedicated Officers, Directors, Coordinators, and District Deputies in the mission first set forth by Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney in 1882.

My sincere thanks and appreciation go out to our now Immediate Past State Deputy John Huttenhoff, his Lady Linda, and his entire State Team of Officers for their dedication and leadership over the past two years.

While in New Haven to be installed as State Deputy, in June our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly spoke of the Five Key Virtues required of all of us to be effective leaders. These five virtues apply to all levels throughout our order from State Officers, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and all individuals in a leadership capacity. We imitate and follow Christ in the exercises of these five key virtues.

### **HUMILITY**

- ▷ Be a man with humility – it's the most important part of building a strong team.
- ▷ Humility is being other-centered, not self-centered.
- ▷ The humble leader focuses on others and the mission, not on himself.

### **INTEGRITY**

- ▷ Be a man of integrity – it's how you will earn trust.
- ▷ We must be leaders who people can trust.
- ▷ We must conduct ourselves in a way that is consistent with the mission.

### **MORAL COURAGE**

- ▷ Be a man of courage, especially moral courage to make tough decisions.
- ▷ We must build strong Knights of Columbus teams – not simply enlisting unqualified friends.
- ▷ Moral courage helps us have tough conversations and make tough decisions.
- ▷ Leaders with moral courage don't say, "We have always done it this way."

### **UNITY**

- ▷ Be a man of unity, unity is the most precious resource we have as Knights.
- ▷ Be loyal to the Knights of Columbus mission; loyal to Supreme Council; loyal to the state council; loyal to Brother Knights.
- ▷ Keep Knights united with each other.

### **FORESIGHT**

- ▷ Be a man of foresight. Don't focus on yourself, focus on the Order's future.
- ▷ Father McGivney built the Knights to last. He built it so Knights are not dependent on any one leader or personality.
- ▷ We live and work in the present, but we anticipate future challenges and aren't afraid to innovate.

I am looking for men throughout our five dioceses, who follow these five Virtues, have a passion for what the Order stands for, and would be willing (With Training) to step forward in a leadership role to assist us in the mission of Blessed Father Michael McGivney.

If you are such an individual or know of such an individual, please contact me or any of our State Officers for more information on what is available.

*Vivat Jesus!*

**HUMILITY**

**INTEGRITY**

**MORAL COURAGE**

**UNITY**

**FORESIGHT**





**DEAR BROTHER KNIGHTS** and Sir Knights, as we embark on a new fraternal year, let's take this moment to commit ourselves more closely to the Gospel message. In Revelation 12:11, we hear that the saints conquer by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. Why are you a Christian? We work to add members to the KCs. A man considering joining the Knights will want to know why you chose to become a Knight. Can you tell him what Jesus Christ has done for you? Ask Jesus to show you how to share the reason for your hope in Jesus Christ.

Pope St. Paul VI said, "The world today would rather listen to witnesses than to teachers, and if to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus. Consider how you have been set free from sin by the Precious Blood of Jesus. Do you know how much Christ loved

you from the cross? Are you fully alive in freedom from your sins? God is still writing our testimony for us. Go to confession. Surrender yourself often to the mercy of Jesus. Pray. When you pray, listen. Jesus is speaking.

As we begin this new fraternal year, I want to congratulate our new team led by State Deputy Patrick Reiff. Let's all pray for them and do all we can to help them in the renewal of the Knights of Columbus. I would like to also thank Immediate Past State Deputy John Huttenhoff. During this year of Eucharistic revival, John helped promote Eucharistic Adoration. He also lived his faith with a strong commitment to daily mass.

When people ask us for our testimony, there is so much we can share. But really in a matter of a few minutes, we can talk about a way that our Catholic faith makes the difference. Talk about your Catholic

marriage and how the KCs have supported you in leading a Christ-centered family life. Discuss our faith programs such as COR and the Men of the Word Bible study. Even our fraternal benefits are an opportunity to give testimony because they represent our values and the love that motivates us to take care of our own with prudence and foresight. Our worthy General Agent leads daily with his faith. I am grateful to serve with the worthy KCs of Wisconsin. Our team works diligently as we persevere in the faith together. That's a testimony I'm happy to share.

*Vivat Jesus!*





**WORTHY BROTHERS,** AS we enter the new Fraternal Year, it is crucial that we Start Strong and prepare for success in 2024/2025. Each Council should have submitted a Form 185 and 365. It's also essential to review Safe Environment Compliance. Each District Deputy must submit a Form 944 before September 15 for each of his councils. With these completed, we are all on our way to the Strong Start. Our Worthy State Deputy Patrick asked that we keep active with Programs and to keep actively recruiting.

Looking ahead, we'll see State Leadership in September and plan a comprehensive strategy for this year, covering Exemplifications, Church Drives, Faith, Family, Community, and Life Programs. Engage new members by assigning them as program chairs and meet with Father to meet his expectations well in advance.

Let's actively involve more brothers, particularly our younger members, in leadership roles to build a strong future for our Councils, Districts, and State. Filling open positions will inject new energy and vitality into our organization.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your State Secretary. I hope to build on our great history, both the traditions and the successes. So, together, we will strengthen the Knights of Columbus in Wisconsin today and for tomorrow.

*Vivat Jesus!*





**“NOW THE JOURNEY BEGINS.”**

This phrase was the motto we chose during my time as State Deputy from 2020-2022. This was chosen as was the State pin depicting the “Walk to Emmaus” as trying to “emerge” from the COVID pandemic during this period was going to be a “challenge” and it may require ‘faith’ to open our eyes to our potential and the path that was needed to be followed.

In the Fraternal Years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, the Wisconsin Council was able to achieve ‘back to back’ Circle of Honor recognition from the Supreme Council. This recognition was well-earned by our Councils, and unfortunately, we were unable to have a reign of 3 consecutive years.

As I remain on again as State Membership Director, I am inspired and motivated much like back in 2020 when I came on as State Deputy to get Wisconsin back on track, receiving the highest honor from Supreme once again! It was a daunting task, as our membership goal we have to bring in this coming

year will be the highest since COVID, back to goals we had almost 6 plus years ago, of having to bring in almost 1,250 men.

As we just completed our organizational meeting for District Deputies this past weekend, they were challenged to meet this task of growing each of your councils. Supreme, along with our State, will have specific incentives once again to promote growth—and these will be shared with each of your Council leaders at your District meeting, as well as specific e-mails that I will be sending to you in the coming month (July).

A ‘Fast Start’ which is defined as bringing in 20% plus of our new members in the first 3 months of the Fraternal Year, has consistently been a challenge for Wisconsin. We must break this pattern.

Councils that take the ‘Summer off’ from Meetings, need to realize that Membership growth is a 365-day-a-year task—there is never a day off from ‘inviting’ a new member to join our great order!

If each of our Councils in our State took the **PERSONAL INITIATIVE** to bring in at least one new member between now and September 30th, not only will our State Council get off to the much-needed **FAST START** but your council will be well on its way towards achieving their membership goals as well!

This Fraternal Year marks another new beginning, another **FRESH START**.

I am excited to serve State Deputy Pat Reiff as our State Membership Director, and our team of Diocesan Directors, Diocesan Membership Coordinators, and your District Deputies and Field Agents are here to serve you. Please let us know how we can help you achieve your goals and we look forward to working with each of you, once again, this upcoming Fraternal Year!

*Vivat Jesus!*



# Knights of Columbus®



**BROTHERS, THANK YOU** for the opportunity to serve as your State Deputy for the last two years, and as a State Officers for the last six years. It seems like it was just a few weeks ago that I was elected State Deputy. Time just flew by. *Tempus Fugit*. While we accomplished a great deal over the past two years, there is still much work to be done. Some accomplishments include:

- ▷ Over 1900 new members joined the order in Wisconsin.
- ▷ Councils significantly increased both Donations and Volunteer hours – We are helping more people.
- ▷ We introduced Diocesan Directors to provide additional support for Council Leaders – we currently have 3 Dioceses filled. We still need to fill Superior and Green Bay.
- ▷ We launched the YouCat Bible Sacramental Gifts Program, distributing approximately 3000 bibles to confirmation students in just the first 2 years of the program.
- ▷ We leveraged a Supreme matching program to significantly increase the number of Coats for Kids being distributed in Wisconsin, with over 7000 coats distributed last fall.
- ▷ We added 5 new Councils in Wisconsin.
- ▷ We introduced Cor in Wisconsin.
- ▷ We trained 35 New District Deputies
- ▷ We redistricted the Madison Diocese in support of the Into the Deep initiative that realigned parishes and the majority of the clergy in the Diocese.
- ▷ We were recognized in the Supreme Knights Circle of Honor for the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year.
- ▷ Wisconsin continues to be in the Top 5 Jurisdictions in both grants and dollars in the ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) program.
- ▷ Wisconsin continues to be in the Top 5 Jurisdictions in support for Seminarians through the RSVP program.
- ▷ Bishops and Diocesan Offices asking for help with various projects, not just donations.

While we accomplished much over the past two years, we still have a number of areas that are in need of improvement as we move forward.

- ▷ We need to find ways to Improve Communications to the Membership - We use Flocknote to communicate with DD's, GK's, and FS's, but do not have a mechanism to communicate with the other 32K members in the State.
- ▷ We need to improve maintenance of our Website. Too often information is missing or out of date.
- ▷ We need Leadership Stability and Growth at the Council, District, Diocesan and State Levels. We need to build a bench so that brothers are not filling two or more roles. Having a bench is especially crucial when you consider that ten State Officers over the past ten years chose to not run for another term. It is also worth noting that we replace about 25% of our DD's annually, with an additional 20% of Districts that go without a DD.
- ▷ With more and more parishes supporting Hispanic Ministry, we must find ways to better support our Hispanic Councils, as well as developing new ones. We truly need a team in each Diocese that can support this effort. Over time, we need to elect a few bilingual brothers to our State Officer team.
- ▷ As we see more and more need in our Communities, we need more Councils to focus their Community Programs on helping people in need through Coats for Kids, Helping Hands, Beds for Kids, Food Packing events, and Disaster Response.

As we continue to focus on being *First in Faith, First in Charity*, I know that we will find ways to adapt our programs to continue to help more people.

As Immediate Past State Deputy, I look forward to working with our new team of State Officers, State Deputy Pat Reiff, State Chaplain Fr Brian Dulli, State Secretary Ross Larson, State Treasurer Ernie Reinhart, State Advocate Dr. Dave Kreutz, and State Warden James Vosters, as we continue to work to grow the order in Wisconsin.

*Vivat Jesus!*



# EFFECTIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR YOUR COUNCIL

Effective public relations (PR) are crucial for Councils to build awareness, engage supporters, and foster community trust. Here are key strategies to enhance your PR efforts:

## **DEFINE YOUR MESSAGE AND AUDIENCE**

Clearly articulate your Council's mission, goals, and values. Tailor your message to resonate with your target audience, whether they are potential donors, volunteers, community, or parish partners. Consistency in messaging helps reinforce your Council's identity and purpose.

## **LEVERAGE SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media platforms offer cost-effective tools for outreach and engagement. Regularly post updates, success stories, and event announcements. Engaging content like photos, videos, and infographics can capture attention and encourage sharing. Interacting with followers by responding to comments and messages builds a sense of community and trust.

## **DEVELOP A COMPELLING NARRATIVE**

People are drawn to stories. Share impactful narratives about the individuals or communities your Council serves. Highlighting personal stories and testimonials can humanize your council and make your cause more relatable and compelling.

## **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL MEDIA**

Cultivate relationships with local journalists and media outlets. Send out press releases about significant events, achievements, or initiatives. Offering exclusive stories or access to key events can enhance media interest. Positive media coverage can significantly boost your Council's visibility and credibility.

## **ENGAGE IN COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Participate in local events to increase your Council's presence in your parish community. Hosting workshops, informational sessions, or fundraising events can provide opportunities to connect with potential supporters and

stakeholders. Face-to-face interactions often leave a lasting impression.

## **COLLABORATE WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

Partnering with other non-profits, businesses, or community groups can amplify your outreach efforts. Collaborative events, campaigns, or projects can reach a broader audience and demonstrate a unified commitment to community betterment.

## **UTILIZE EMAIL MARKETING**

Regular newsletters and email campaigns can keep your audience informed and engaged. Share updates, success stories, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities. Personalizing emails and including calls to action, such as donation requests or event RSVPs, can enhance engagement.

## **MONITOR AND EVALUATE YOUR EFFORTS**

Track the effectiveness of your PR activities through metrics like social media engagement, website traffic, and media mentions. Collect feedback from your audience to understand what resonates with them. Use this data to refine and improve your PR strategies continually.

By implementing these strategies, your council can effectively raise its profile, attract support, and achieve its mission-driven goals.

*Vivat Jesus!*





**HAPPY 4TH OF July**, otherwise known as Independence Day. For every American, Independence Day is an important day to celebrate. It is a time to reflect on the blessings of freedom and remember the sacrifices made by the nation's founders and the countless Americans who have fought and died for their country. Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnival, fairs, picnics, family reunions and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is a National Holiday of the United States marked by patriotic displays.

Members of the Patriotic Degree of the Knights of Columbus — the Fourth Degree — will often be found turning out in full regalia at these ceremonies. Patriotism is a love for everything to do with our native land: its history, its traditions, its language, its natural features. Patriotism has been one of the four principles of the Knights of Columbus since the Fourth Degree was established in 1900, with a ceremony on February 22. The Fourth Degree is the visible arm of the Order. The Honor Guard is seen at many church and community events and celebrations such as greeting veterans coming home from the Honor Flights. Eucharistic Processions, parades, Special Olympics and my favorite, the Knighting of a Priest at the end of a Mass in front of his parishioners. The time is now to join the Fourth Degree. We have two Exemplifications scheduled on October 12, 2024, in Green Bay and October 19, 2024, in Platteville.

*Vivat Jesus!*







## State Officers

### State Chaplain

Rev. Fr. Brian Dulli  
2947 Thinnes Street  
Cross Plains, WI 53528  
H 608-798-0100  
frbriandulli@wikofc.com

### State Deputy

Patrick Reiff  
PO Box 270411  
Milwaukee, WI 53227  
C 414-403-7504  
preiff@gmail.com

### State Secretary

Ross Larson  
PO Box 291  
Edgar, WI 54426  
H (715) 551-0714  
rlarson@wikofc.com

### State Treasurer

Ernie Reinhart  
8323 66<sup>th</sup> St.  
Kenosha, WI 53142  
(715) 551-0714  
ereinhart@kofc.com

### State Advocate

Dr. David Kreutz  
Kenosha, WI 52094  
(847) 456-7330  
dkreutz@wikofc.com

### State Warden

James Vosters  
90 Northbreeze Dr.  
Appleton, WI 54911  
(920) 850-4999  
jvosters@wikofc.com

### Immediate

#### Past State Deputy

John P. Huttenhoff  
310 Merryturn Road  
Madison, WI 53714  
C 608-347-7914  
jhuttenhoff@wikofc.com

### State Office Manager

Steve Geishirt  
4297 W Beltline Highway  
Madison, WI 53711  
(608) 274-5750 office  
sgeishirt@wikofc.com



**BROTHER KNIGHTS, PRAISE** be to Jesus! These are the words that fill my heart as our Order continues to “refocus” our mission back to its roots, which is to evangelize Catholic men and help them grow closer to Jesus Christ and his Church. This mission to evangelize is also basic to our calling as baptized Catholics.

The Order has always evangelized (*and will continue to evangelize*) through the charitable works that we do as part of our **Faith-In-Action** programs. But not only are we called to show God’s love by our charitable actions as Knights, we are also called to help others to grow into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ who is the sole reason for all the charitable works that we do. In other words, we must be ready, as Knights, to help make **disciples** of Jesus Christ. In the words of our Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, “Knights must be **first in faith** as they are **first in charity**.”

The purpose of the Cor initiative is to help make disciples of Catholic men in our councils, parishes, and surrounding community. Therefore, every council should prayerfully consider if they can participate in the Cor initiative in some way.

At our recent State Convention, I was able to present some results of a survey that was conducted just before the convention. We had a great participation rate with 40% of all the councils in the state having at least one person respond to the survey! This is an outstanding

participation rate for any survey! Thank you! A survey like this just doesn’t happen on its own. Therefore, I would like to offer a special thanks to Brother Justin Knapp, Diocesan Director, EFF-Madison for his significant contributions in developing the survey and to help lead the Cor initiative in the Madison diocese.

One of the highlights of the survey was determining that there are (18) councils currently conducting Cor and (16) others who are planning to implement Cor. This is a very good start for Cor in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, the survey also indicated that 41% of respondents knew little or nothing at all about Cor. Clearly, this is an area for improvement!

In future KC State Newsletters, I hope to provide information, recommendations and insights that may be helpful in implementing Cor in those councils that feel called to do so. I also hope to share testimonials from various councils who are conducting Cor. As always, detailed information on Cor can be found [here](#).

If you would like assistance with Cor or discuss obstacles that you may be experiencing, please feel free to reach out to me or Justin Knapp at one of the following:

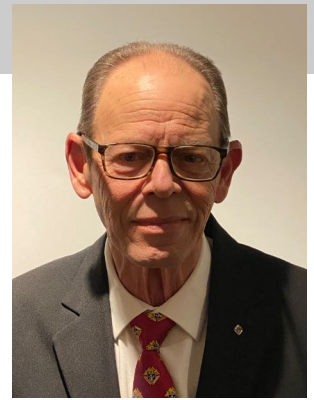
- ▷ [Andy Orgoven](#) | 262-844-6817
- ▷ [Justin Knapp](#) | 262-994-0319

*Vivat Jesus!*



# Knights of Columbus®





**FINANCIAL SECRETARIES, GRAND Knights, District Deputies, Brother Knights** all, as you review my State Newsletter article, please keep the following points in mind:

- ▷ Supreme's Fraternal Year End E-member Target Goal for Wisconsin is **423 new E-members**.
- ▷ As of June 27<sup>th</sup>, we have received a total of **430 online applications or 101.7% of our quota**.

My thanks to all of you that have taken advantage of the online application process.

It's a quick & efficient means of bringing in new members on a timely basis. New members get posted to your roster in days vs weeks when using the old form 100 and sending to Supreme.

We need more councils to avail themselves of this system.

This is my last article as State Online Membership Chairman, as I will be assuming the position as your new State Deputy on July 1st. 2024.

Our new Immediate Past State Deputy John Huttenhoff will be taking over this position.

Although we exceeded our application goal, we only converted to council rosters 306 or 71% of those 430 men.

Of the 124 remaining applicants, 55 chose not to transfer at this time and we will follow up with them as we move forward. But that still leaves 69 applicants that are still pending joining councils. I urge the WGK's WFS's and WDD's to expedite the process of reaching out to these men on a timely basis. If there are issues let us know.

As you are doing your programs & church drives, be sure to include the E-membership online invitation app. in your invitation process to potential members.

***Bottom line: 430 new members have already utilized the online process. IT WORKS!***

WGK & WFS please frequently review your council's PROSPECT tab and if you are having difficulty in

making contact, or any other issue, let us know we will gladly assist you with reaching a remedy.

**Together, Let's get it done!**  
*Vivat Jesus!*





# Officers Online Access

Members in a role permitted access to Officers Online will be emailed an invitation code once the Supreme Council receives the appropriate form from the state council, local council, or assembly indicating the election or appointment, and records this information. If you do not receive an invitation code within a reasonable time, click "Account Assistant" on the sign in page and follow the instructions.

If you previously held a role with access to Officers Online, you do not need a new invitation code. Your access will automatically be reactivated once the appropriate form is submitted.

If you do not remember your log on credentials, click "Account Assistant" or "Password Reset" on the sign in page and follow the instructions. If additional assistance is required contact our Customer Service Department at 800-380-9995, option 2 and provide your membership number and role.

Applications by Roles	Role Description										
	Officers Online	Officers Desk Reference	Office of Youth Protection	Home Corporations	Member Management	Member Billing	By Laws Online	Knights Gear	Supplies Online	Prospect Tab	Candidate Tab
<b>Jurisdiction/ State</b>											
State Deputy	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
State Secretary	X	X	X	X				X	X		
State Treasurer	X	X	X	X				X	X		
State Advocate	X	X	X	X				X	X		
State Warden	X	X	X	X				X	X		
Immediate Past State Deputy	X	X	X	X				X	X		
Executive Secretary	X	X	X	X				X	X		
State Membership Director	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
State Program Director	X	X	X	X				X	X		
State Round Table Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Council Reactivation Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Council Retention Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Member Retention Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Insurance Promo Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
NCD Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Ceremonial Chairman	X		X	X				X	X		
Hispanic Council Growth Coord.	X		X	X				X	X		
Online Membership Chairman	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
Additional Membership Roles	X		X	X				X	X		
Online Membership Coordinator	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
State Trainer	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		
<b>4th Degree / Provincial</b>											
Vice Supreme Master	X	X	X	X				X	X		
District Master	X	X	X	X				X	X		
<b>District</b>											
District Deputy	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
<b>Council</b>											
Grand Knight	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Financial Secretary	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Advocate	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		
Deputy Grand Knight	X	X	X	X				X	X		
Treasurer	X	X	X	X				X	X		
Membership Director	X	X	X	X				X	X		
<b>Assembly</b>											
Faithful Navigator	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Faithful Comptroller	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Faithful Admiral	X		X	X			X	X	X		
Faithful Pilot	X		X	X			X	X	X		
Faithful Purser	X	X	X	X				X	X		





## ULTRASOUND PROJECTS

We have **three** ultrasound projects brewing. One for A & A Alexendrina Center in Green Bay, another for St. Gianna Clinic in DePere, and one for Our Lady of Hope Clinic in Madison. I don't have council names, numbers/contacts yet, so keep your eyes peeled. St. Gianna Clinic is so busy, they have maxed out the number of appointments for the ultrasound machine we bought for them in 2021 – they are training up ultrasound techs **right now** so they will be ready when the 2nd ultrasound machine arrives! Praise God! **One** council in Green Bay is considering taking on both projects; **pray** for them! And then, send them money when we get all that figured out.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Have you helped with a Special Olympics of Wisconsin (SOWI) event? Be sure to report your hours to your GK so Wisconsin can get credit (and the funds from Supreme Council) – [go here](#) to submit your Form #10784!

The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have agreed to have boots on the ground for all Special Olympics of Wisconsin (SOWI) statewide events. If they need us to flip pancakes, that's what we will do! If they want us to man a table for sign-ups, that's what we will do! We are there to **help** with manpower! There are five events (Fall Games, Bowling, Winter Games, Spring Games, Summer Games). We look forward to seeing your council at one of their statewide events!

**UW-Whitewater was a great success!** Thank you for all of your help! All of us that volunteered are now EXPERTS in officiating Cornhole! What a fun game – but WOW – those kids play for keeps! Very competitive! It was so amazing to watch them compete in real time! For every volunteer hour that is

reported to Supreme Council through the 10784, Special Olympics of Wisconsin gets a certain dollar amount donated to them from Supreme Council. If you log-in/volunteer for a Special Olympics' event through their volunteer portal – we can track your volunteer hours back to your council to be sure we are maximizing the AMAZING Fraternal Benefit through the Knights of Columbus.

## ASAP GRANTS

Hopefully the month of June left your council's checking account **empty** after giving away all your money to pregnancy centers in your area! For every \$500 (up to \$2,000) you gave to a maternity home or pregnancy center, Supreme Council will give that non-profit entity another \$100! But, you have to apply for it! Always best to apply online! If you need help with that, let me know and I'll help walk you through it. OR ... you can give me the information and I will apply for you online!

## CHOOSE LIFE WISCONSIN GRANT FUND

Any pro-life pregnancy center or maternity home can apply for a grant from Choose Life Wisconsin – the Choose Life Plate People! [Apply here](#) any time.

*Vivat Jesus!*



## THE BLESSED

## MICHAEL J.

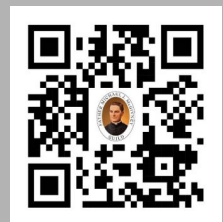
## MCGIVNEY GUILD

### *Are you a member?*

The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Blessed Michael J. McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God.

Wisconsin has only 1,264 out of 179,000 plus members registered in the Guild. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. The Blessed Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter is published quarterly and is sent free to Guild members.

Scan the QR Code above to register today! **It's FREE!**





#### TEAM WISCONSIN 2026 DRIVE:

I am pleased to report that we have received **\$100,310.44** as of June 26, 2024, Thank you! I continue to challenge councils to take part in the Team Drive so that we can reach \$200,000.00 before the 2026 convention. **What a challenge!**

Keep up the good work. The more we can raise, the more athletes we can send to the National Games in Minneapolis, MN in 2026.

#### BECOME A VOLUNTEER

There are many opportunities coming up in the next few months. See list below. If your Council is in the area, please volunteer. If you cannot help, stop in at event and cheer on the athletes. We are asking for more **member participation** with Special Olympics at events. I list events on this article months prior in order to give Councils and members sufficient time to plan ahead. Click on the **Become A Volunteer** to sign up for an event.

Councils should report after **each** and **every** time you make a



## Special Olympics Wisconsin

contribution or volunteer at a event or a local agency or do a project. Report Man Hours and Members involved as well as money. **Please** remember Special Olympics monies can come from a fundraiser, council donation, charity account or any other ideas.

#### Honor Guard Information:

Opening Ceremony will be Friday night, September 6, at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Right now, we are tentatively scheduled for a 7 p.m. start time. If they'd like to arrive early and do a walk-through, they can do so prior to 6:30 pm. I believe the room opens to us around 5 pm.

We will be doing a Breakfast again and need volunteers for that as well as helping at the games. Pancake Breakfast, will be Sunday, September 8.

*Vivat Jesus!*



BECOME A  
VOL♥  
UNTEER

**What do you for the least of my brothers, you do for me.**

### Volunteers are needed at all events.

Click on "Become a Volunteer" or go to Wisconsin Special Olympics web page or phone Nicole Christensen, 608-442-5670

Sep 6-8, 2024	State Fall Games	Wisconsin Dells
We will be doing a breakfast and we need volunteers for that as well as at the games.		





**BROTHERS, AS WE** begin the 2024-25 Fraternal Year, we would like to see all Councils get off to a fast start in July and August with their Faith in Action and Youth programming. It's easy to do so and get a jump start on the Community portion of your next SP-7 in the process. Here's how you do that:

1) Plan now for where, when you'll be doing your Coats for Kids Drive and make arrangements with that church, school, shelter, organization, etc. accordingly. Get your funding in order. Determine where you'll get your coats from, about how many you'll need including signs. Do likewise for any other items you may be handing out as well (scarves, mittens/gloves, hats, snowpants, boots, etc.). Hold needed fundraisers for the capital you'll need to do this.

2) Likewise, summer's a great time to do a brat fry, pancake breakfast, bowl-a-thon or golf outing, ice cream social, etc. to raise money for Global Wheelchairs, a Habitat for Humanity project or a local Council in need of money as a result of recent storms or floods.

It's only \$150 per wheelchair so a lot can be done there. Get the brothers together to work a day or a week at a nearby Habitat project or their Re-Store facility. Contact your State Disaster Prep Chair Paul

Shepherd, the grand Knight of Councils where recent disasters took place or State Office to see where your donations are needed. You can also check to see that plans and supplies for disaster preparations and reaction in your parish or community are in order.

3) Check with your pastor or parish leadership team if you haven't already done so at your annual or semi-annual Evaluation and Planning Meeting with them, to see what projects around the parish, school need doing that you can lead or assist with. Likewise, do so with your community leadership or other civic organizations. This can go along way toward fulfilling your Helping Hands program needs.

4) During these summer months, it's not at all too early to run your Punt, Pass, Kick and/or Soccer Challenge contests rather than waiting until September. Diocesan Contests will again be held in mid-October and the State Finals, while still TBA, will likely be held in De Pere on either Nov. 2 or 9.

The theme for this year's Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest has been announced by Supreme. It is "What are the 2 most important virtues for an elected leader to possess and why? How can you determine if the leader has those virtues?". Order your materials now from Supplies



Online for the contest and arrange to get them and needed information to your schools, religious education and homeschool programs by Labor Day or before. The contest runs October 1 to November 30 with essays due to Councils no later than December 15. Winners are due to Diocesan Program Coordinators by December 31.

If you can get these things accomplished as outlined above, you'll be off to a great start for the new Fraternal Year and well on your way to doing a great job for your Community Faith in Action and Youth programs for 2024-25. As always, new programs and ideas are always welcome. Feel free to contact me or your Diocesan Program Coordinator anytime with questions, suggestions, requests for assistance, etc. Have a great July!

*Vivat Jesus!*



# NEWSLETTER SURVEY

**WORTHY BROTHER KNIGHTS**, it has been an honor to create and produce our monthly state newsletter for your councils. My hope is that you are finding the same joy reading it that I do editing it. However, even good things can be made better, and I always welcome your feedback regarding this publication. I can be easily reached by the email listed in the side note on this page.

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to Brother Jack Wrbanich for helping me put together a Google Form that contains the survey. It would be very appreciated if you could take a couple minutes to complete it. All you need to do is scan the QR Code with your phone or click on this [link](#). I will take each response seriously so that I may continue to provide high-quality newsletters for the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus councils.

Furthermore, I'd like to remind you all that I am featuring your councils on the cover of each newsletter. So far, I have not received any requests, and have had to randomly search our directory for locations to feature. It only takes a few extra minutes, but it is difficult to find high quality images. That's where your help comes in! If you would like to feature your council on the newsletter cover, please see the side note.

Brothers, thank you for all you do to continue growing this wonderful, fraternal organization. It is a privilege to be work alongside you all!

*Vivat Jesus!*



## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Each month in our 2024 newsletter for will feature one of our council's churches throughout Wisconsin. If you would like your council's church featured in future issues of the newsletter, please send me your parish's name, city, council #, and a high-quality image. Submissions may be sent to [jjhoppermusic@gmail.com](mailto:jjhoppermusic@gmail.com).

*On the cover...*

Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians  
Knights of Columbus - Holy Hill #7798  
Hubertus, WI



**In service to One.  
In service to all.**

