

Nebraska Council Knights of Columbus



2021 - 2022

STATE PROGRAMS

State Deputy Matthew Richardson

State Chaplain Fr. Justin Fulton

State Program Director Brian Hamik

State Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberger

State Membership Director Richard Lowery, PSD, DM

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STATE DEPUTY MATTHEW RICHARDSON

Matthew and Connie Richardson have been married for 22 years. They live in Lincoln with their two children, Nathan 18, and Josh 16. Matthew has worked in the education field for over 20 years and is currently employed by Lincoln Public Schools at Lincoln High School. Connie is a social worker and is employed by Lincoln Public Schools as a Special Education Paraeducator.



Matthew joined the Knights of Columbus in January of 2002. He joined the Fourth Degree in 2008. He has served many capacities within his home councils.

He accepted his first position with the State Council as Health Services Director in 2006. He served in that position for seven years before accepting his position as Program Director for State Deputy Richard Lowery. He then served as the State Warden, State Treasurer and State Secretary before assuming his current role as State Deputy for the Nebraska Knights of Columbus.

STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JUSTIN FULTON

Rev. Justin Fulton is a priest of the Diocese of Lincoln, having been ordained by Bishop James D. Conley on May 23, 2015. He is currently the Vicar General of the Diocese and is on the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Catholic Conference, CHI-St. Elizabeth's Hospital/Nebraska Heart Institute, and Phi Kappa Theta fraternity at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He previously served as Executive Director of Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska, the assistant master of ceremonies for Bishop Conley and as parochial vicar of the Cathedral of the Risen Christ and St. Teresa's Parish.



He was also on the faculty at Lincoln Pius X High School. A proud native of Auburn, NE, he holds undergraduate degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and St. Gregory the Great Seminary, and holds four graduate degrees from Peru State College, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

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 by 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.

STATE ADVOCATE JAMES KORTH

James Korth was born and raised in Hastings, Nebraska. He attended Hastings St. Cecilia High School, from which he graduated in 1996. He attended Hastings College and later the University of Nebraska College of Law, from which he graduated with a Juris Doctorate degree in 2003. He has, since that time, worked as a trial attorney in Ogallala, Nebraska. The current iteration of his law firm is Reynolds Korth & Samuelson PC LLO. James is a former President of the 11th Judicial District and Keith County Bar Associations, a former member of the Nebraska Bar Association House of Delegates, and a graduate of the Nebraska Bar Association's Leadership Academy. He is licensed in both the State of Nebraska and the State of Colorado.



James is married to Kami (m. 2015). They are the parents of Joslyn (b. 2016), James (b. 2018), and Jackson (b. 2020). They attend St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ogallala and James is a member of the St. Luke's Council. James became a Knight of Columbus on July 30, 2015, advanced to the Third Degree on October 29, 2017, and became State Advocate in July of 2019.

Importance of Filing a Form 990

Each year, a tax-exempt organization must file an information return or notice with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), unless an exception applies. Form 990 is the primary tool with which the IRS gathers information about tax-exempt organizations. Any organization that fails to file the required information return (Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF) or e-Postcard (Form 990-N) for three consecutive tax years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. Form 990 is due on the 15th day of the 5th month following the end of the organization's taxable year. For organizations on a calendar year, Form 990 is due on May 15th of the following year.

Resources to assist in filling out the Form 990 are available online [at https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-990](https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-990). This website, maintained by the IRS, presents Form 990 in PDF format, as well as provides instructions for completing Form 990. If you encounter any difficulty in preparing Form 990, it is recommended that you consult a certified public accountant or attorney for assistance.

Liability Insurance for Council Activities

Before hosting any event open to the general public, it is imperative councils procure liability insurance with adequate coverage limits. It is equally critical that councils add the Nebraska State Council as an additional insured, as well as any other entity directly involved with the event in question *e.g.*, church, school, etc.

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has recommended the following firm for your liability insurance needs:

Lockton Affinity, LLC
PO Box 410679
Kansas City, MO 64141
Phone: 913-652-5705

Home or Holding Company

A home or holding company is a company that doesn't conduct any operations, ventures, or other active tasks for itself. Rather, it exists for the purpose of owning assets, such as real estate, and can act as a liability shield protecting such assets from adverse litigation against a related operating entity. As such, any council that owns real estate, such as a building, and wishes to protect that asset from adverse litigation should consider forming a home or holding corporation. A home or holding company may take the form of a corporation, limited liability company, or other qualified entity. Creating a legal entity such as a home or holding company is a complex process with multiple important considerations. Seeking the assistance of an attorney and certified public accountant is recommended.

Resolutions

Each year, the State Advocate issues a letter to all subordinate councils providing a deadline within which all proposed resolutions for that Columbian year must be submitted for consideration at the State Convention. After that deadline has passed, the State Advocate provides all subordinate councils with a list of the resolutions to be considered at the State Convention that Columbian year. At the time of the State Convention, the State Advocate presides over a Resolutions Committee, which reviews all proposed resolutions and determines which resolutions will be recommended for approval by the membership body during the business meeting at the State Convention.

STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY RAY GUGGENBERGER

Starting his 25th year as the Executive Secretary of the Nebraska State Council, Ray is responsible for assisting the State Deputy and State Secretary in the routine, day-to-day correspondence and reports that include per capita assessments and all state meeting coordination and preparation. He lives in Bellevue.



Ray has served in various leadership positions in Columbian Council 6192, including Grand Knight and First-Degree Team member. On the state level, he has served as Administrative Assistant, Retention Chairman, Community Chairman, Reports Chairman, and District Deputy. Ray is a retired Air Force First Sergeant, having served for 23 years. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 36 years.

HELPFUL HINTS FROM RAY

****REPORT OF OFFICERS FORM 185:** You must have a Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Treasurer, Chancellor and 3 Trustees. If filing this report online with the FS Member Management system, pay careful attention to the top of the report indicating which fraternal year you are reporting on. This report is also how you make a change from previously reported information.

****REPORT OF SERVICE PERSONNEL FORM 365:** Provide as much information as you have, the report does not need a name in every position. There are five **required** positions, Program Director, Family Director, Community Director, Membership Director, and Retention Chairman. If filing this report online with the FS Member Management system, pay careful attention to the top of the report indicating which fraternal year you are reporting on. This is also how you make a change from previously reported information.

*****Completion of these two forms will place your officers and directors on Supreme's mailing list to receive the Knightline and other informative items.***

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF AUDIT FORM 1295: This report ensures that your council's FS retains the bond provided by Supreme at no cost to your council. REMEMBER, THE "AS OF DATE" IS NOT THE DATE YOU ARE PREPARING THIS REPORT. Pay special attention to the line where you record the number of delinquent members. The State and Supreme Councils use this information in the processing of any suspension requests from your council.

PRAYER REQUEST GUIDELINES: The State Council has developed database of email addresses for our Councils, Assemblies, etc. We are happy to forward any requests for prayers for our extended Nebraska State Family. We do need to keep the request simple and to the point. As an example:

"Request prayers for Brother X's wife who is having heart surgery. Brother X is from Council XXXX in Omaha."

Requests for these prayers should be forwarded to Executive Secretary, Ray Guggenberger at rguggenberger@cox.net. No other types of solicitations, such as fundraisers, will be forwarded through this email list. We request that each Council, Assembly, etc. forward these requests on to their members. Just think: if every recipient says a few prayers, how many prayers the Nebraska Knights of Columbus members will generate for these special intentions. Please ensure that Ray's email address is in your contacts list or safe senders list.

REPORT DUE DATES

SUPREME REPORTS

- 185 Report of Officers: July 1**
- 365 Service Program Personnel Report: August 1****
- 1295-2 Semi-Annual Audit Report: (June 30) August 15
- SC-KIT Soccer Challenge Kit Order Form: August 15**
- SA-KIT Substance Abuse Awareness Order Kit: September 1**
- EA-KIT Essay Contest Kit Order Form: September 1**
- FT-KIT Free Throw Contest Order Form: November 1**
- 1728 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity: January 31****
- 4584 Partnership Profile Report Special Olympics: January 31**
- 1295-1 Semi-Annual Audit Report: (December 31) February 15
- 2863 RSVP Refund and Plaque Application: June 30
- SP-7 Columbian Award Application: June 30****
- 2630 Annual Report of K of C Round Table: June 30**

** May be submitted online at <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html>

Reports in bold are required for Star Council.

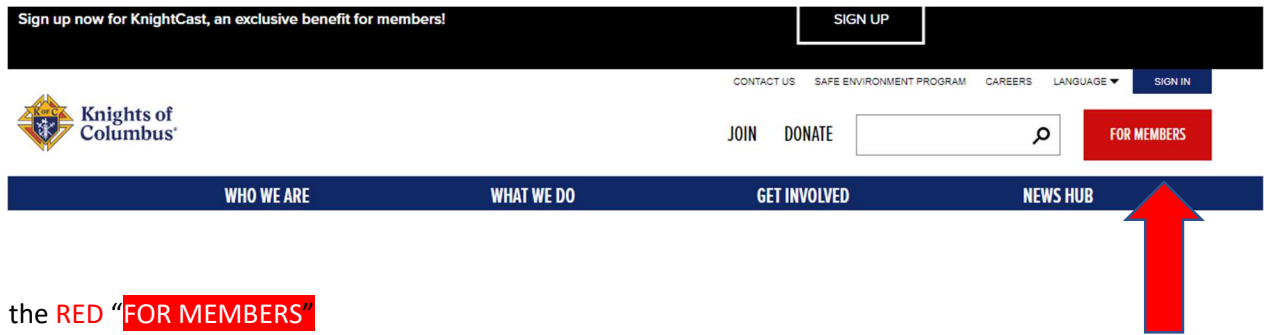
STATE REPORTS

- Nebraska State Per Capita Assessment: September 1
- Supreme Per Capita Assessment: September 1
- Nebraska State Per Capita Assessment: March 1
- Supreme Per Capita Assessment: March 1
- ICC Award Nominations: March 1**
- Chaplain of the Year (CoY) Award: March 1**
- Family of the Year (FoY) Award: March 1**
- Knight of the Year (KoY) Award: March 1**
- Rookie Knight of the Year (RKoY) Award: March 1**
- Nebraska State Directory Updates: June 20

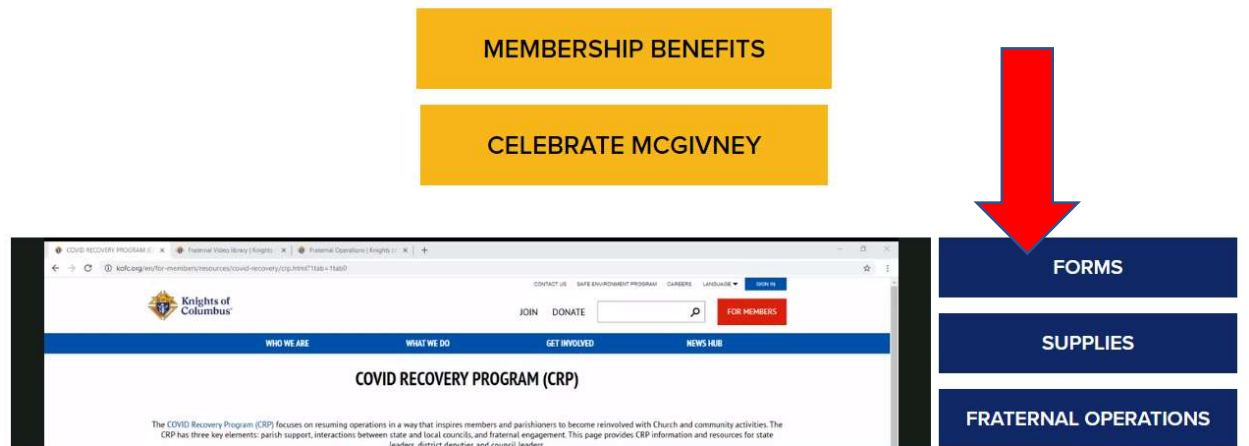
** May be submitted online at www.nebraskakofc.org

WHERE TO FIND THE REPORTS

Start at the Supreme website: www.kofc.org



FOR MEMBERS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Choose what form you need from the BLUE tabs on the right: (Council forms are preselected)


Form Number	Council Form Name	PDF	Online (Preferred Method)	Due Date	FORMS
#365	Service Program Personnel Report	PDF	Online (Preferred Method)	8/1	< COUNCIL FORMS
#1295	Semiannual Council Audit	PDF	N/A	2/15	COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT FORMS
#1295	Semiannual Council Audit	PDF	N/A	8/15	DISTRICT FORMS
#1728	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	PDF	Online (Preferred Method)	1/31	STATE FORMS
					ASSEMBLY FORMS
					FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAM FORMS

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HOW TO FILL OUT THE REPORTS

You will notice on the Supreme website that there are two types of formats for each form printed in blue, PDF and Online. To use the Online version, you need to have Supreme's Member Management Program. Anyone can use the [PDF version](#). To start, click on the blue PDF. When the form opens, you can fill in any field that is shaded in light blue. Once you have it completed, you can save it to your computer. On the upper right-hand side of the form there are two icons you can use to save the completed form. You can then attach the form to an e-mail and e-mail it to the people listed on the bottom of the form. You could also print the form and mail it, but Supreme, the State Deputy and Executive Secretary Ray Guggenberger would rather you e-mail it. You can print it more than once. Be sure to save a copy for yourself.

 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS		REPORT OF OFFICERS CHOSEN FOR THE TERM			
		JULY 1, 20__ TO JUNE 30, 20__			
Council # _____		DATE OF ELECTION _____			
COUNCIL ADDRESS (Streeting Location)		THIS REPORT CAN BE COMPLETED USING MEMBER MANAGEMENT. OTHERWISE PLEASE PRINT -- INDICATE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS			
STREET _____		ADDITIONAL ADDRESS _____			
CITY _____		STATE _____	ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
GRAND KNIGHT	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE		TELEPHONE AREA CODE _____	PHONE NO. _____	EMAIL _____	
CHAPLAIN	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
CHANCELLOR	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
RECORDER	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
TREASURER	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
LECTURER	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
ADVOCATE	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
WARDEN	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
INSIDE GUARD	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
OUTSIDE GUARD	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
TRUSTEE FOR ONE YEAR	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
TRUSTEE FOR TWO YEARS	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
TRUSTEE FOR THREE YEARS	MEMBERSHIP NO. _____	LAST NAME _____	FIRST NAME _____	EMAIL _____	
STREET _____		CITY _____	STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE					
COUNCIL SECRETARY _____		_____			
<p>• THIS INFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR TRANSACTION OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS AND DIRECT MAIL COMMUNICATIONS WITH OFFICERS.</p> <p>• APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL SECRETARY (SECTION 126, LAWS AND RULES): THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME KNIGHT; HE SHALL HOLD OFFICE AT THE WILL OF THE SUPREME KNIGHT.</p> <p>SEND ORIGINAL TO: Membership Records (email: AddressChange@kofc.org)</p> <p>SEND COPIES TO: State Deputy, District Deputy, Council File</p>					

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STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR BRIAN HAMIK

I am truly honored to be asked to be the Program Director by State Deputy Matt Richardson. Being a Knight since 1995, I have served as Chancellor, Deputy Grand Knight, and Grand Knight of Council #1793 Norfolk, as well as the Pro-Life Director for many years. On the State level, my wife, Mary Jo, and I served as Directors of Culture of Life Foundation for 5 years and I have been Assistant Program Director for one year.



We are members of Sacred Heart Parish in Norfolk, NE where I serve as an EMHC, Perpetual Adoration and help lead the Scriptural Rosary before Mass on Sunday. I work for the City of Norfolk, in the Water Division, and Mary Jo is a Project Management Assistant for Beckenhauer Construction. We have been married for 32+ years. We have four sons. The oldest son, Tyler, is in the Navy. He and his wife Giselle and son Nathaniel live in San Diego and is assigned to the USS Teddy Roosevelt. Spencer lives in Lincoln and is employed as a pharmacy technician. Logan lives in Omaha and is employed at Midwest Laboratories. Austin is employed by Fed-Ex and Norfolk 7 Theater.

STATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR RICHARD LOWERY, PSD, DM

Richard is a PSD and current District Master for the Nebraska Jurisdiction. Richard and Gail have been married for 38 years and have four adult sons, one grandson and one on the way. Richard is a Regulatory Compliance Manager for Fiserv, one of the largest financial software companies in the world. Gail works for Lincoln Public Schools in assessment and evaluation. Richard and Gail are both very active in their parish. They have been co-chairmen of the annual parish fundraiser; Gail has been an assistant director and taught CCD while Richard has been chairman of the Acolyte committee for over 25 years as well as finance committee chairman among other projects.



Richard has been a Knight for almost 38 years and a 4th Degree Knight for 36 years. He has served on the State Council in many capacities since 1996. He served as State Membership Director for PSD John Smith where together they achieved Circle of Honor in 2003 and 2004.

EARNING STAR COUNCIL

Earning Star Council status involves doing the things that every good council should do including inviting every Catholic man to join the greatest Catholic lay organization ever, promoting the Insurance program, allowing a Brother Knight to protect his family, recording the great programs that every Council performs each year, remaining current with Supreme Per Capita, submitting required reports, **and being compliant with Safe Environment Training.** The great thing is you don't have to do it alone; you have lots of Brother Knights to help. Your District Deputy has many tools at his disposal to help you with recruiting and programs, your Insurance Field Agent is a great resource not only with the Insurance program but also with recruiting, and your State Program Directors and Chairmen are always ready and willing to help. Make **Star Council** a goal for your Council every year.

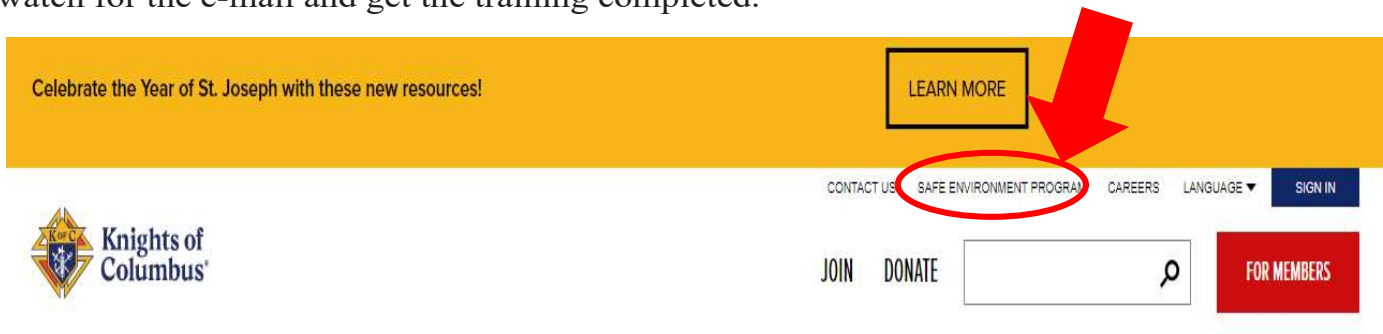
SEVEN STEP CHECKLIST TO A STAR COUNCIL

- ☐ 1. **Supreme Per Capita Paid.**
- ☐ 2. **Father McGivney Award - Membership Quota Achieved**
 - a. 5% net growth, minimum of 3 and maximum of 20 new members.
 - b. Keep in touch with your District Deputy to track your membership numbers.
- ☐ 3. **Founders Award**
 - a. Host and promote two Fraternal Benefit Seminars
 - b. No attendee minimum: however, seminar must be promoted.
 - c. Can do a combined seminar with other councils.
 - d. Use approved presentations.
 - e. General Agent reports completion to Supreme
- ☐ 4. **Report of Program Service Personnel**
 - a. Form #365, due August 1st.
- ☐ 5. **Fraternal Survey**
 - a. Form #1728, due January 31st.
- ☐ 6. **Columbian Award**
 - a. Form SP-7, due June 30th.
 - b. Complete 4 programs in each of the **four** pillars of **Faith, Family, Community, and Life**.
 - c. If the Council meets the requirements of one of the **Featured Supreme programs** in one of the pillars, it counts as meeting two of the four requirements for that Pillar.
Featured Programs are
 - FAITH**: Holy Hour, Into the Breach, Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour, RSVP (Vocations) and Spiritual Reflection Program.
 - FAMILY**: Food for Families, Family of the Month/Year, Family Prayer Night, and Family Fully Alive.
 - COMMUNITY**: Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, and Leave No Neighbor Behind.
 - LIFE**: March for Life, Special Olympics, Ultrasound Program, and Pregnancy Center Support.
- ☐ 7. **Be Compliant with Safe Environment Training and Background Checks**
 - a. Council positions requiring Safe Environment Training are **Grand Knight and Program Director**.
 - b. Council positions requiring Safe Environment Training and Background Check are **Family Director and Community Director**.
 - c. If members in certain positions are not compliant within 30 days of Safe Environment Training notification, they will be removed from those positions and the council will need to submit an updated Form 365.

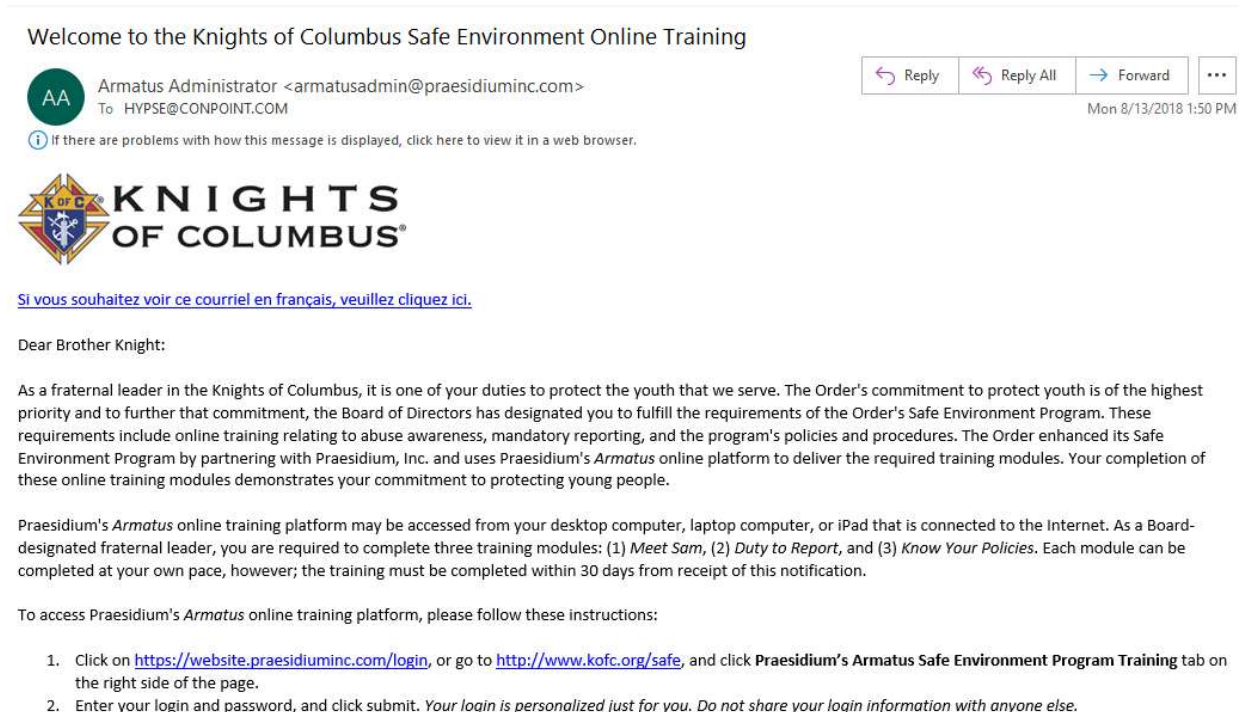
SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM TRAINING AND BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS

When you fill out your [Form 365](#), Service Program Personnel Report, be sure to include the Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director positions, with their e-mail address. Those positions are required to take the Safe Environment Training if they have not done so within the last three years. Submitting the Form 365 will trigger an e-mail to be sent to each one of those positions that will contain a login and password for a website to take the Safe Environment Training. The login and password are only active for thirty days, so Knights need to get it done promptly. If the login and password expire, you will need to submit a new Form 365.

The e-mail you receive will come from Armatus Administrator and will look similar the one below. Praesidium's Armatus is the company Supreme contracted with to administer the Safe Environment Program. The e-mail will contain the link to the training website. There will also be a personalized login, id and password. Again, this login id is only valid for thirty days, so please watch for the e-mail and get the training completed.



Below is a sample of the email you will receive.



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INTER-COUNCIL COMPETITION (ICC) AWARDS

The awards that advance to Supreme for further award consideration are Faith (Church), Family, Community, and Life (Culture of Life). The minimum criteria for Supreme or State Awards in Faith, Community, Life, and Family are as follows:

- **State and Supreme Per Capita Tax paid by March 1**

Below is a list of all State Awards presented at the State Convention. For qualifications, please refer to the ICC Awards Program section found online at www.nebraskakofc.org. You will find all qualifying ICC Awards there. Look for the ICC Champion of the Year Belt Icon.

Congratulations to our ICC Champion for 2020-2021 – Council 10913 Lincoln, GK Daniels Mickells

Category	Award Name	By Division	Places Awarded	Total Awards
Vocations	Vocations Award	No	Up to 2 Equal	2
Life	Major Activity Reports Supreme & State	No	1st and 2nd	2
Faith	Major Activity Reports Supreme & State	No	1st and 2nd	2
Faith	Support of Catholic Education	No	Up to 2 Equal	2
Faith	Chaplain of the Year	No	1st and Runner-up	2
Family	Major Activity Reports Supreme & State	No	1st and 2nd	2
Family	Family of the Year	No	1st and Runner-up *	2
Community	Major Activity Reports Supreme & State	No	1st and 2nd	2
Community	Knight of the Year over 5 years a member	No	1st and Runner-up	2
Community	Knight of the Year less than 5 years a member	No	1st and Runner-up	2
Community	Leonard Feehan Memorial	No	1st	1
Program Director	On-going Projects	No	Up to 3 Equal *	3
Program Director	Special Projects	No	Up to 3 Equal *	3
Program Director	ICC Gold Level	No	Unlimited	
Program Director	ICC Silver Level	No	Unlimited	
Program Director	ICC Bronze Level	No	Unlimited	
Program Director	ICC Champion of the Year	No	1st	1

* Additional awards may be selected

ICC AWARDS PROGRAM CHECKLIST

Purpose: To acknowledge the Councils that best exemplify the Mission of the Knights of Columbus through their service to Faith (Church), Family, Community, and Life (Culture of Life). The ICC Champion of the Year, a traveling trophy, will be awarded to the Council elected by their peers during the Saturday afternoon business meeting at the State Convention.

Eligibility: All Gold level qualifiers will be entered on the ballot according to requirements as cited below.

There are sixteen items required for ICC GOLD.

	CHECK-OFF WHEN COMPLETE	Deadline	Gold	Silver	Bronze
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 185 Report of Officers	1-Jul	Received by Aug 1	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 365 Service Personnel	1-Aug	Deadline Met	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 1295-2 Semi-Annual Audit	15-Aug	Deadline Met	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Council Activity Planner Info	1-Sep	Deadline Met		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 1728 Fraternal Activity Annual Survey	31-Jan	Received	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 1295-1 Semi-Annual Audit	1-Feb	Deadline Met	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Per Capita	1-Mar	Deadline Met	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supreme Per Capita	1-Mar	Deadline Met	Received	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Columbian Qualifier Application	1-Mar	Deadline Met	Received	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Knight of the Year > 5 Years or ICC Knight of the Year < 5 Years	1-Mar	Deadline Met	Received in Lieu of Family of the Year	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Family of the Year	1-Mar	Deadline Met	Received in Lieu of Knight of the Year	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Columbian Faith Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Columbian Community Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Columbian Family Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Columbian Life Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership	1-Apr	75% of quota	50% of quota	25% of quota
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC On-going Project Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Special Projects Award	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Chaplain of the Year	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Support of Catholic Education Application	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Support of Vocations Application	1-Mar			
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICC Leonard Feehan Memorial Community Service Award	1-Mar			

A “Wild Card” may be used to take the place of one of the qualifiers (except Membership, both State and Supreme Per Capita, and any of the Supreme Reports that need to be sent to Supreme).

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ICC FORMS AND REPORTS

For the ICC Awards, the Form 365 Service Personnel, Forms 1295-1 and 1295-2 Semi-Annual Audits, Form 1728 Fraternal Activity Survey, and Form 185 Report of Officers are available on the Supreme website at www.kofc.org. For the Columbian Faith, Family, Community, and Life Activity Awards, we suggest you use the form STSP that is on the Supreme website. Start at www.kofc.org, then click the red “For Members” box, 4Awards” [pdf form](#) can be filled out online, saved, and then e-mailed to the appropriate State Director and the [State Program Director](#). A sample of the form is below.

State Council Program Awards Entry Form

THIS REPORTING FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY EACH COUNCIL AND FORWARDED TO THE STATE COUNCIL.
(A separate reporting form should be completed for each program category.)

CATEGORY (MARK ONE): ☐ Faith ☐ Family ☐ Community ☐ Life



COUNCIL INFORMATION:

1 Council Number: _____ Total Council Members: _____
Grand Knight: _____ E-Mail: _____

PROGRAM INFORMATION (complete all sections):

2 Program Title: _____ Program Date: _____
Participation: _____ + _____ = _____
Members Non Members Total Participants
Total Participants x _____ = _____
Hours Total Volunteer Hours
Program Planning: _____ & _____ Members Recruited: _____ Donations: _____
Costs Time Local Currency

3 Describe program in detail. Use additional paper if necessary. Supplementary material may be submitted along with the nomination. Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, photographs, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, videocassettes, DVD's, display materials, films, etc., as they will not be considered in judging the nomination.
3a) In the space provided below, briefly describe the purpose and goals of this program. This section must be completed.

ICC FORMS AND REPORTS

More ICC Forms and Reports can be found on the Nebraska Knights of Columbus state website at www.nebraskakofc.org. Click on ICC label or on the ICC Belt.



When you click on ICC or the belt icon, you will receive a list of all the ICC Reporting forms. Click on any of the forms, and you can complete them online. It is quick and easy. Fill out and click Submit. The form is emailed to the appropriate directors. And you are done.

File ICC reports

Inter-Council Competition (ICC)

[Instructions on how to use these forms - including email addresses for direct submissions](#)

Note: Download the forms directly from this page. Allowing them to open in your browser and then downloading them may cause the forms to not work. Firefox and Chrome users will download the forms just by clicking on the links. All others will need to right click on the link and select "save link as".

Due September 1

[Council Activity Planner](#)

[Council Divisions as of July 1, 2019](#)

Due March 1

[Chaplain of the Year](#)

[Columbian Award](#)

[Community Major Activity](#)

[Culture of Life Major Activity](#)

[Faith Major Activity Award](#)

[Family Major Activity](#)

[Family of the Year](#)

[Finance and Ceremonial Report](#)

[Knight of the Year](#)

[Leonard Feehan Memorial Community Service](#)

[On-Going Project](#)

[Rookie Knight of the Year](#)

[Special Project](#)

[Support of Catholic Education](#)

SAMPLE ICC FORM

ICC Knight of the Year Greater Than 5 Years

District No. 95 Council No. 987889

Council Name	Fr. McGiviney	City	Funtown
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Grand Knight's name and phone number

Ted Nightly

A. Personal Data

Member's Name	Mr. Do Everything	Membership Number	456789
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Wife's Name Home Address

Home Phone		Alternate Phone	
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Parish Name _____ Pastor Name _____

Parish Address and Phone

B. Knights of Columbus Data

Nominated by council (name & number) _____

City _____

How many years has husband been a Knight? _____ Date Joined _____

Positions (officers/program directorships/ chairmanships/ committee assignments) held:

C. Knights Activities and Qualification Data

Along with this form, please submit Knight of the Year nomination in written form on the next page.

IN FULL DETAIL YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR "WRITE UP"

- Explain why this Knight was chosen as the "model" Knight in your council.
- Why does this Knight deserve the distinction of being named State Knights of Columbus Knight of the Year?
- Explain the Knights involvement in Council, Church, and Community.
- A photo should accompany the Knight of the Year nomination.

Submit

STATE AWARDS

Category	Award Name	By Division	Places Awarded	Total Awards
Publicity	Publicity Award	Yes	1st and 2nd	10
Life	One Rose - One Life	Yes	1st and 2nd	10
Life	Art Contest	No	1st, 2nd, & 3rd	3
Membership Director	Highest Percentage Gain	Yes	1st, 2nd, & 3rd	15
Intellectual Disabilities	Most Funds Raised	Yes	1st and 2nd	10
Intellectual Disabilities	Highest Percentage Increase	Yes	1st and 2nd	10
Community Youth	Substance Abuse Posters	Age 8-11 Age 12-14	1st	2
Community Youth	Keep Christ in Christmas Posters	Age 5-7 Age 8-10 Age 11-14	1st	3
Insurance	Agent of the Year	No	1st	2
State Deputy	Fraternalist of the Year	No	1st	1
State Deputy	District Deputy of the Year	No	1st and Runner-up	2

5 Divisions:

Division 1: Councils with 01 - 60 members.

Division 2: Councils with 61 - 99 members.

Division 3: Councils with 100 - 177 members.

Division 4: Councils with 178 - 269 members.

Division 5: Councils with 270 and above

FAITH IN ACTION CATEGORIES

FAITH	COMMUNITY
Building the Domestic Church Kiosk Holy Hour Into the Breach Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour Rosary Program RSVP (Vocations) Sacramental Gifts Spiritual Reflection Program	Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Coats for Kids Disaster Preparedness Free Throw Championship (Youth) Global Wheelchair Mission Habitat for Humanity Helping Hands Hockey Challenge (Youth) Soccer Challenge (Youth) Leave No Neighbor Behind
FAMILY	LIFE
Consecration to the Holy Family Family Fully Alive Family of the Month/Year Family Prayer Night Family Week Food for Families Good Friday Family Promotion Keep Christ in Christmas (Faith) Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest (Faith)	Christian Refugee Relief March for Life Mass for People with Special Needs Novena for Life Pregnancy Center Support Silver Rose (Community) Special Olympics Ultrasound Program

Supreme-Recommended Program Category Matrix

Bold denotes Featured Programs.

Featured Programs: The Supreme Council has designated select programs as featured programs in each of the program categories. When your council conducts a featured program and satisfies the associated requirements, it will receive two credits toward that program category.

Prayer to St. Joseph

Pope Francis daily prayer.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
 Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 To you God entrusted his only Son;
 in you Mary placed her trust;
 with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
 show yourself a father
 and guide us in the path of life.
 Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
 and defend us from every evil. **Amen.***

DO NOT BE AFRAID

~ 20 ~

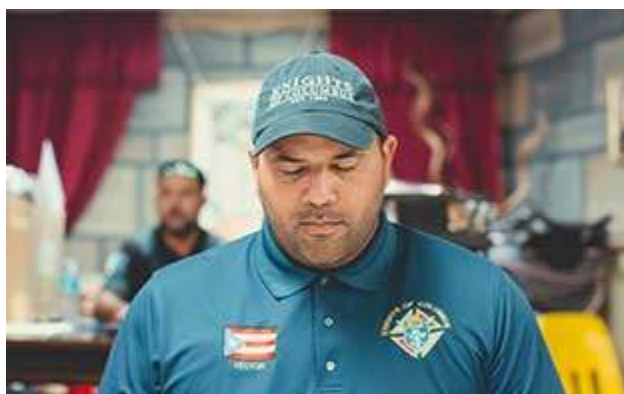
FAITH IN ACTION RESOURCES

Here is a list of other report forms for your council to use. These are a great way for your council to be recognized for all the good works of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity that it does. These are all on the Supreme website at www.kofc.org. Under “**What We Do**,” click on “**Programs**,” then “**Resources**.” Then click on the “**Faith in Action Forms**.”

FAITH IN ACTION - RESOURCES



OVERVIEW & HIGHLIGHTS



FAITH IN ACTION RESOURCES

- [#10907](#) Faith in Action Guidebook
- [#10746](#) Faith in Action Minimum Requirements
- [#10581](#) Faith in Action FAQs
- [#11172](#) Faith in Action Program Forms Reference Guide--NEW
- [#11139](#) Faith in Action Remote Programming Supplement
- [#11089](#) Covid-19/Disaster Relief Poster
- [#1728](#) Fraternal Survey [Enter Online](#)
- [#SP-7](#) Columbian Award Application - [Enter Online](#)
- [#10784](#) Fraternal Programs Report Form - [Enter Online only](#)
- [Fraternal Leadership Training Video](#)

FAITH PROGRAMS

Our goal is to strengthen our men and their families in the faith.

Building the Domestic Church Kiosk

By making the Building the Domestic Church Kiosk (#BDC-K) available in your parish and organizing activities based on its content, councils will educate and evangelize using the rich, faith-based literature found in the Catholic Information Service (CIS) Building the Domestic Church series of booklets. Since 1948, CIS has been the major evangelical arm of the Knights of Columbus. Through multiple booklet series and various media formats, CIS makes our Catholic faith accessible and continually provides tools for catechesis and faith formation. For \$150, councils will receive a Building the Domestic Church Kiosk (#BDC-K) and the first set of 225 booklets of the most popular CIS resources, aimed at helping Catholics to live out the Church's vision for our families. For Building the Domestic Church Kiosk program resources, visit www.kofc.org/kiosk.

Holy Hour--Featured Program

Encourage deep personal encounter with God. Eucharistic adoration in the form of a regularly scheduled Holy Hour is a simple, direct, and meaningful way to address these needs. It is familiar to many, easy to organize, and something everyone can participate in together regardless of age, vocation, stage of life, or membership status. A Knights of Columbus Holy Hour, prepared for the men of the parish, could include a reflection, communal rosary, prayers for intercession by Blessed Michael McGivney or St. Joseph, and various other aspects as decided by the council. For Holy Hour program resources, visit www.kofc.org/holyhour.

Into The Breach--Featured Program

In his apostolic exhortation, *Into the Breach*, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted outlines the challenges faced by men of faith in the world today. Using either Bishop Olmsted's inspirational letter or the Knights of Columbus video series it inspired, councils will prayerfully examine the crisis of religious faith in our world. By discussing the lessons and calls to action found throughout *Into the Breach*, men will begin to devise a personal plan of spiritual battle to strengthen their lives, their families, and their communities. To obtain *Into the Breach* program resources, visit www.kofc.org/breach.

Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour

Celebrate the beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney through a special prayer hour open to the whole parish. Built around the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, the prayer hour features writings from recent popes and reflections on the life of Blessed Michael McGivney. The prayer hour is a way to invoke the intercession of the blessed Founder of the Knights of Columbus and to be inspired by his life and legacy. For Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour program resources, visit www.kofc.org/mcgivneyprayer.

Rosary Program

The Knights of Columbus Rosary Program encourages councils to promote devotion to the rosary in our families and parishes by scheduling regular rosary prayer services on any day of the week, at any time of the year, with the guidance of their pastor. Councils should personally invite each family of the parish and offer attending families a copy of the Knights of Columbus Catholic Information Service's *A Scriptural Rosary for the Family* (#319). Encourage families to read this booklet and learn how their faith can be strengthened through a devotion to Our Lady, while praying the rosary at home together regularly. Kits with rosary rings, rosary prayer guides, and leader books are available for councils to order. For Rosary program resources, visit www.kofc.org/rosary.

Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)--Featured Program

As the strong right arm of the church, Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial, and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Councils are also called to provide their “adopted” seminarian or religious aspirant with moral support and prayers for their success. For RSVP resources, visit [Refund Support Vocations](#)

Sacramental Gifts

The sacraments stand as the most significant events in the life of the domestic church. The Knights of Columbus will be there to support and embrace our parish families at these essential moments of encounter with Christ. As children and adult members become more integrated into the life of the church and their parish, they should know that members of the Knights of Columbus will always be present in a tangible and meaningful way. For Sacramental Gifts program resources, visit www.kofc.org/gifts.

Spiritual Reflection – Featured Program

Create annual opportunities for prayer and reflection together as a fraternity. Under the guidance of their chaplain, councils can attend a retreat or day of reflection together or organize their own event for the men of their parish. In conjunction with pastors, councils and jurisdictions can hold low-cost retreats of their own. These events might be open only to council members or men of the parish – or may be open to entire families. If councils are unable to organize these events themselves, they could attend an existing retreat as a group. For Spiritual Reflection program resources, visit www.kofc.org/reflection.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Father McGivney's vision for family life was not only financial and material aid but also spiritual strength, as holiness is the calling of all baptized Christians.

Consecration to the Holy Family

To help families live out the joy of Christ, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori has composed a prayer through which families will come together to consecrate themselves under the protection of the Holy Family. In this prayer, we ask for the aid or intercession of the perfect son Jesus Christ, Mary the perfect mother, and Joseph who is a model for every father. Councils will guide their parishes and community to understand and offer this important and impactful prayer. Preparing for the Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event. It is choosing a way of life for your family. Through this consecration, each participant is consciously choosing to be a beacon of God's love through His Church. For Consecration to the Holy Family resources, visit www.kofc.org/consecration.

Family Fully Alive--Featured Program

During his visit to the Philippines, Pope Francis cited the need for "holy and loving families to protect the beauty and truth of the family in God's plan and to be an example for other families." The Family Fully Alive monthly devotions are concrete ways that Knights of Columbus, in solidarity with Pope Francis, can support the growth of holy and loving families in the Church. The Family Fully Alive Program asks families to invite God into their homes and cultivates each family as a miniature domestic church. To this end, the program provides monthly themes, scripture verses and activities. Through prayer and reflection, each family has an opportunity to grow in holiness together. This is a flexible program that can be started at any time of the year and continues year-round. For Family Fully Alive resources, visit www.kofc.org/familyfullyalive.

Family of the Month/Year--Featured Program

Each month, the council Family of the Month committee selects one parish family who models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day. Once a year, each participating council also selects one of the previous twelve Family of the Month winners to represent the council/parish as the potential international Family of the Year. The Knights of Columbus Family of the Year is chosen by the Supreme Council and recognized each year at the annual Supreme Convention. For Family of the Month/Year resources, visit www.kofc.org/familyofthemonth.

Family Prayer Night--Featured Program

Catholics often struggle with the reality that they do not have the opportunity to socialize and/or pray with other faith-filled Catholic families. It can be quite a challenge to raise our children in the faith when their only exposure comes from Mom and Dad. Put plainly, the majority of our time can easily be spent in secular circles unless we intentionally create ways to live out the domestic church. Family Prayer Night is an opportunity for children to be exposed to regular people living their faith in a casual setting. Families of council members, as well as other Catholic families within the parish and community, will gather for prayer, dinner, and fellowship. Multiple groups can be formed, and families are encouraged to rotate between these groups. For Family Prayer Night resources, visit www.kofc.org/prayernight.

Family Week

Knights of Columbus councils will dedicate a special week of the year to recognize the vital importance of families as the foundation of our domestic church and to promote Catholic family values. When choosing a week, councils should consider factors that might affect parishioner schedules such as school vacations, holidays, and other local events. Though traditionally celebrated in the summer to commemorate the birth and death of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, this program can take place anytime during the year. For Family Week Resources, visit www.kofc.org/familyweek.

Food For Families--Featured Program

Knights of Columbus are committed to helping end hunger through the Food for Families Program which has donated millions of dollars and millions of pounds of food toward this end. Council and parish families will raise funds to support their local food pantries, food banks, and soup kitchens. For every \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food donated, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 back to the council – up to a maximum of \$500 per council per fraternal year. Though in-kind donation of food is valuable, leaders of hunger-relief organizations often comment that financial contributions can be stretched even further and allow nonprofits to procure the exact items needed by the organization and its clients. For Food for Families resources, visit www.kofc.org/food.

Good Friday Family Promotion

Despite Good Friday's central role in the heart of Christianity, attendance at services remains low. To change this, councils will encourage participation in Good Friday services through a promotional campaign. Setting an example for their community, Knights will attend Good Friday services with their families and work with their pastors to encourage increased parishioner involvement at these liturgies. In conjunction with these efforts, councils will also work to educate their parishes about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land. For Good Friday Family Promotion resources, visit www.kofc.org/goodfriday.

Keep Christ in Christmas

The Knights of Columbus offers multiple activities that promote Christmas and the season of Advent in their proper context: Journey to the Inn, Light Up for Christ, Crèche or Advent Wreath Blessing, and the Christmas Poster Contest. These activities are centered on the example of the Holy Family and the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Program brings all KCIC activities together under one umbrella. It encourages councils to prompt their neighbors to shift from a preoccupation with materialism to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving. KCIC activities include whatever efforts best suit the parish and community of a particular council and do not need to originate from the Supreme Council. For Keep Christ in Christmas resources, visit www.kofc.org/christmas.

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Conducting a Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest is a fun and easy way to put your faith into action and get youth in your community involved in their faith. It is fun to conduct because of the opportunity to witness the creativity and optimism of the youth in your community. It is easy because you can tap into existing structures like schools and do a lot of preliminary work. It can also provide excellent local, and potentially international, publicity for your council. [K of C Poster Contest](#).

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

As Knights of Columbus, we are called to serve our family and our God. Our first principle is Charity, at home with our families or in our communities.

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

The Knights of Columbus sponsors the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest to encourage today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith. The goal of this program is to involve young Catholics in 8th through 12th grade (public, private, parochial, or home schools) in civic discourse and instill in them religious and life-affirming values. The essay should be approximately 500-750 words on a specific subject, changing every other year. Entrants will be judged on grammar, style, and how clearly, they present the theme – which should showcase creativity, imagination, and overall development of the topic. For Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest resources, visit www.kofc.org/essay.

Coats for Kids--Featured Program

To help provide warmth for deserving children during cold winter months, councils across North America can purchase new winter coats at a discounted price. The goal of the Coats for Kids program is to ensure that no child in North America goes without a coat during the winter season. For Coats for Kids resources, visit www.kofc.org/coats.

Disaster Preparedness

From natural disasters to local crises, communities can be brought to a halt when a disaster occurs. Councils can help their communities prepare before one of these disasters strikes. As community leaders, Knights of Columbus will help to ensure that their members, families, and parish communities are prepared, educated, and ready. For Disaster Preparedness resources, visit www.kofc.org/prepare.

Free Throw Championship

Knights of Columbus councils sponsor the Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 to provide an athletic outlet and encourage the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Kids compete within their own gender and age, and progress from local level to district, regional and state/province competition. For Free Throw resources, visit www.kofc.org/freethrow.

Global Wheelchair Mission--Featured Program

The Knights of Columbus has partnered with the American Wheelchair Mission and Canadian Wheelchair Foundation, which falls under the umbrella of the Global Wheelchair Mission, to obtain wheelchairs at a deeply discounted price. These wheelchairs help provide aid to those who lack the freedom of mobility in our communities. The Global Wheelchair Mission is a perfect opportunity to put your faith in action and involve the entire community through rewarding charitable work done by councils. For Global Wheelchair resources, visit www.kofc.org/wheelchair.

Habitat for Humanity--Featured Program

Knights of Columbus councils work closely with Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit Christian organization, to build homes for families in need at substantially reduced costs. Each year, councils throughout the Order donate a considerable number of volunteer hours and dollars to this worthy cause. For Habitat for Humanity program resources, visit www.kofc.org/habitat.

Helping Hands

In the spirit of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, the Helping Hands Program is designed to help those in need by incorporating the important work many councils already do to care for the most disadvantaged members of our communities. Through this program, councils will aid the needy, homeless, and the addicted through the activities they feel best suit their communities, such as serving at or running a soup kitchen, repairing the facilities of a local service organization, or something entirely unique. For Helping Hands resources visit www.kofc.org/helpinghands.

Hockey Challenge

The Hockey Challenge is a great way for councils to engage in their communities with an athletic event for youth between the ages of 10 and 17 that cultivates athletic abilities and virtues of good sportsmanship. Children demonstrate the most important skill in hockey – shooting accuracy on goal. Youth compete within their own gender and age to progress from the local level to district, regional and state/province competitions. For Hockey Challenge Resources, visit www.kofc.org/hockey.

Soccer Challenge

The Soccer Challenge is a great way for councils to engage in their communities with an athletic event for youth that encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Children demonstrate the most important skill in soccer – shooting accuracy on the penalty kick. Youth compete within their own gender and age to progress from the local level to district, regional, and state/province competitions. For Soccer Challenge resources, visit www.kofc.org/soccer.

Leave no Neighbor Behind –Featured Program

As we begin a new Fraternal Year, the Knights of the Columbus continue to step Into the Breach and Leave No Neighbor Behind! As the coronavirus pandemic continues, our duty is to lead our families, protect our parishes, and serve our communities, remembering always that where there's a need, there's a Knight. Past Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson has challenged Knights to take this moment as an opportunity to “deepen our commitment to the very principles which define us: charity, unity and fraternity.” Knights of Columbus order wide are encouraged to serve and sacrifice for those around us. Many, including in our own councils and parishes, are isolated and alone. Food banks, blood centers, and other essential services have been depleted of their vital supplies. There are many people and places that require urgent help. As we look to the coming months, the Knights of Columbus will be on the forefront of helping their communities. The Leave No Neighbor Behind program has been temporarily added as the ninth Community Category option in the Faith in Action model. Leave No Neighbor Behind will count as a Featured Program towards the Columbian Award. <http://kofc.org/en/resources/news-room/leave-no-neighbor-behind-program.pdf>

LIFE PROGRAMS

Both as Knights of Columbus and as followers of Christ, “Catholics must be committed to the defense of life in all its stages and in every condition” (St. John Paul II, 1995).

Christian Refugee Relief

Christians are at risk in areas all around the globe. The Knights of Columbus responded with the Persecuted Christians Fund, which has provided humanitarian assistance primarily in Iraq, Syria, and the surrounding region. Councils will aid this cause by collaborating with their parishes to spread awareness and raise funds to help these Christians and those in their care. Councils are encouraged to utilize Solidarity Crosses as a fundraiser and prayer campaigns in their parishes. For Christian Refugee Relief program resources, visit www.kofc.org/refugee.

March for Life--Featured Program

The Knights of Columbus encourages others to choose life through public support of the pro-life cause. Knights can organize and participate in local/state/province/regional Marches for Life or rallies and/or organize participation of Knights/parishioners/students/etc., in bus trips to the national Marches in Washington, D.C., Ottawa, Mexico City, throughout the Philippines, or in other countries. For March for Life resources, visit www.kofc.org/march.

Mass for People with Special Needs

People with special needs resulting from physical, emotional, mental, or cognitive conditions are all around us in society, at school, at work, and in our families. It can be challenging for these important members of our society to participate in liturgies due to physical and social barriers – or even family-member anxiety. Celebrating a Mass for People with Special Needs can be the first of many steps toward integrating them into regular weekly or even daily Mass – and more deeply into all the sacraments and other aspects of parish life. For Mass for Special Needs resources, visit www.kofc.org/mpsn.

Novena for Life

The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Church, and in particular of the Knights of Columbus. Knights remain firmly committed to defending the right to life of every human being – from the moment of conception to natural death. To commemorate and bolster this important cause, councils will promote a novena, nine days of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of life in our parishes, homes, and wider community. For Novena for Life program resources, visit www.kofc.org/novenaforlife.

Pregnancy Center Support--Featured Program

More than 3,000 pro-life pregnancy centers now operate in jurisdictions throughout the Order. By the very nature of our founding, Knights of Columbus are called to care for the widow and orphan. Abortion-vulnerable unborn children and mothers experiencing unexpected pregnancies certainly fall within our mandate. With our aid, pregnancy centers can offer support to help them choose life. Councils can “adopt” a pregnancy center and provide material, labor, and spiritual support throughout the year. For Pregnancy Center Support Program resources, visit www.kofc.org/support.

Silver Rose

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners, and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. For Silver Rose program resources, visit www.kofc.org/rose.

Special Olympics--Featured Program

The Knights of Columbus has a unique partnership with Special Olympics and has helped athletes with disabilities compete in games around the world. Knights of Columbus councils have assisted with all aspects of the program including fundraising, feeding the athletes, organizing, and judging events, and providing equipment and awards. Without the support of the Knights, participants would not be able to train for the events that they love. Work with Special Olympics affiliates to determine how best to fund, sponsor, or volunteer for events in the local community. For Special Olympics resources, visit www.kofc.org/olympics.

Ultrasound--Featured Program

The Knights of Columbus works together to purchase ultrasound machines for qualifying pregnancy centers. After the state and/or local council raises 50% of the cost, the Supreme Council will provide the other 50% to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound. Or, if the council raises 100% of the cost of a vehicle outfitted to serve as a mobile medical unit for a pregnancy center, the Supreme Council will provide 100% of the funds for an ultrasound machine to be used in that vehicle. This initiative is funded by Knights of Columbus state and local councils with matching grants from the Supreme Council's Culture of Life Fund. For Ultrasound program resources, visit www.kofc.org/ultrasound.

FAITH DIRECTOR LARRY KOERNER

Larry Koerner, State Faith Director, is the oldest of 11 and was born and raised on a farm in Kansas. While attending college he met his wife Kathy from Omaha, NE. After graduating from Benedictine College in Atchison, KS, they were married and resided a short time in Kansas prior to relocating to Nebraska. Both are active members of Sacred Heart Parish in Crete. Larry joined the Knights in 1981 as a charter member of Council 7404. He served in many roles including the Supreme appointed position of Financial Secretary and was a Nebraska delegate at the 2016 and 2018 Supreme Conventions. Most recently, he served as District Deputy 38, is a member of the 4th Degree Assembly 3640, and participates regularly in Honor Guards at Brother Knight's funerals including past Supreme Knight Virgil Dechant. Kathy and Larry have four children and 10 grandchildren and enjoy visiting them in Nebraska, South Carolina, and Virginia. They also enjoy world travel including a recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. When not traveling, Kathy and Larry are involved with numerous volunteer jobs including work at the Parish office, Schoenstatt Shrine, and Spirit Catholic Radio. Larry is an Acolyte and a Hospice volunteer. He also volunteers as a certified Medicare counselor. Larry is humbled to serve the Knights of Columbus at the state level.



FAITH ACTIVITIES

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

There are two programs in this Supreme Initiative that fall within Church Activities:

Journey to the Inn – This is a youth and family focused Advent program that teaches and transmits the faith. This program requires early planning.

Consecration to the Holy Family – This should be done in every parish with a Knights of Columbus presence and is celebrated on the First Sunday after Christmas (most years the Feast of the Holy Family).

SUPREME RECOMMENDED FAITH PROGRAMS

RSVP (Featured Program), Into the Breach, Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour, Building the Domestic Church Kiosk, Rosary Program, Spiritual Reflection Program (Required Program), Holy Hour and Sacramental Gifts.

FAITH SUPREME AND STATE SERVICE AWARDS CRITERIA:

- Church or Parish Projects
- Detailed Description of the project or event
- Manhours and number of Knights involved (if pertinent)
- How the funds were raised to promote the project
- Financial information
- Benefit to the church(es) or parish(es)

CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Our Chaplains are an important part of the Knights of Columbus. An active Chaplain can be a very valuable asset to a council. Each year we recognize a Chaplain of the Year and a Runner-up Chaplain of the year. When nominating a Chaplain, please include the following: a brief bio, how long he has been a priest, does he attend council meetings and functions, is he helpful in recruiting new Knights. We realize every priest is special. This is just a small token of our appreciation.

OTHER IDEAS FOR FAITH ACTIVITIES OR PROJECTS

- Council members involved in lay ministries.
- Corporate Communion.
- Annual Mass for deceased Knights.
- Promote a Council or parish retreat (1/2 day or full day).
- Promote attendance at a personal silent retreat; Council to help support a new or potential Knight attending the retreat. Open to all Catholic families.
- Help with Masses for shut ins.
- Transportation to Mass for people in need of a ride.
- “Keep Christ in Christmas” campaign by selling Christmas cards.
- “Keep Christ in Christmas” advertising campaign on radio, TV, newspaper, a billboard.
- Promote a Mission Sunday.
- Promote an inspirational speaker.
- Promote Eucharistic processions.
- Promote special services, i.e., Benediction, Silver Rose, Marian Hour or Festival, Outdoor Mass.
- Lead Rosary before Mass in May or October.
- Sponsor 40 hours of prayer.
- Have a presence at Stewardship Sunday.
- Special Lenten and Advent liturgies.
- Promote vocations.
- Sponsor a candidate for RCIA.
- Set the Eucharistic Mysteries of the World (replica of display in the Vatican) for parish.
- Teach CCD or religious education.
- Present St. Joseph medals to the fathers of baptized children and a silk rose to the mothers.
- Recognize people receiving their First Communion or Confirmation with congratulation card, certificates, or special appreciation gifts.
- Promote devotion to Father McGivney by distributing the pamphlet “The Spirituality of Father Michael J. McGivney” (#4196) and the flyer Apostle for the 21st Century (4064) available in various languages.
- Show the production *The Life & Legacy of Father Michael J. McGivney* to your council, family, or ask that it be shown on the local cable access station. The DVD is available by calling the Guild at 203-752-4087 or guild@kofc.org.
- Distributing Bibles, rosaries, and catechisms to parochial schools, religious education classes, and missions.

VOCATIONS CHAIRMAN TOM HARRINGTON

Janet and Tom have been married 20 years and have one son, William. Tom joined the Knights in 2015, serving five years as past 2nd Degree chairmen and is the current Grand Knight of 1793, Norfolk.



Overview of the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP)

The Knights of Columbus stand in solidarity with our priests and religious. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians in their area. Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of RSVP. Councils are also called to provide their “adopted” seminarian or religious aspirant with moral support and prayers for their success.

Featured Program Requirements

Councils are required to provide financial support of at least \$500 for a minimum of one seminarian. For every \$500 given to an individual, Supreme will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported.

Report activity using ***RSVP Refund and Plaque Application (#2863)***.

VOCATIONS ACTIVITIES

St John Paul II often said: “There is no Church without the Eucharist and there is no Eucharist without the Priest.”

The slogan “Vocations are Everybody’s Business” has been a long-lasting motto of the Knights of Columbus and rightfully so, as the importance of our priests to the Catholic Church is essential to the Church’s continuance and growth.

Founded by a parish priest, the Knights of Columbus has always been a strong defender of the priesthood and religious life and a generous supporter of seminarians and religious in formation. As the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world, the Order seeks to assist the Church with financial and moral assistance for this purpose.

Considering the needs of the Church in our day, the Order has intensified its promotional programs in recent years. As Knights get more involved in vocations efforts, they find new meaning in their own vocations as Catholic laymen and members of the Order. They also learn more about the importance of teamwork, for the best programs are those planned and carried out by a team.

The vocations chairman is a leader. His job is to call others together, inspire them to share prayers, ideas, and plans, and then reach out beyond the group. The model is Jesus’s work with the Apostles. Successful groups need not be large, but they must be committed. Just as priestly and religious vocations are vocations within the Church and at the service of the Church, so the Knights of Columbus vocations program operates within the Church and at her service. Locally, programs should be integrated as much as possible with existing parish and diocesan efforts. For instance, in an ideal situation a Knights of Columbus council will take an active part, or even play a leadership role, in a parish or diocesan vocations program.

Structure and Meetings:

The chairman of either a state or local vocations committee should convene committee meetings at least four times a year. The chaplain should be present if possible. Meetings should follow a standard Knights of

Columbus committee meeting format. While dates and times are up to the chairman and his committee members, it is important to schedule meetings so that work can begin early in the fraternal year. Topics for meetings include at least the following:

State Meetings

- Prepare and complete implementation of the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP).
- Possible financial aid to seminarians within the state's jurisdiction.
- Possible aid to overseas seminarians or seminaries.
- Organized prayer to promote vocations.
- The annual observance of Vocations Awareness Week.
- Promoting Knights of Columbus vocational efforts through the media.
- Establishing and maintaining a good working relationship with local bishops.
- Participating financially and prayerfully in seminarian and clergy activities.

Local Meetings

- Prepare and complete implementation of RSVP.
- Vocation awareness days at Catholic elementary, secondary schools or colleges.
- Sponsorship of poster or essay contests in Catholic elementary and secondary schools.
- Organized prayer to promote vocations, especially Holy Hours; Example a half hour prayer service on Sunday afternoon.
- Effective distribution of Knights of Columbus and Catholic Information Service vocations materials in parishes, Catholic schools, and retreat houses.
- Promoting Knights of Columbus vocations efforts through local media.
- Effective publicity to encourage attendance at vocations events.
- Establishing and maintaining a good working relationship with the local pastor and other priests. In the case of both state and local meetings, keeping accurate minutes will be of great help to future chairmen and committee members.
- Display a picture and bio on a poster or wall in the foyer of church of the seminarians of the diocese. Have extra cards available for parishioners to take home.
- If your parish has a Catholic school, develop 8 x 10 photos of the seminarians in your diocese and have them displayed in the classroom. Encourage the students to communicate with an assigned seminarian.
- Purchase a crucifix and include the vocations prayer card and assign students to take it home for a week or a few days to pray for vocations.
- Have an outdoor banner made to remind the parishioners of special days in the year such as World Day of Prayer for Priests, World Day of Prayer for Vocations, etc.

- Openly express your love for our priests and religious. Use car magnets or stickers; be quick to thank them for their service to us and to God.
- When you observe a young man or woman committed to faith and religion in your parish or community, say to him or her: Have you ever thought about being a priest or sister? or You will be a wonderful priest or sister someday. Do you know that many priests and sisters today say that it was someone who planted the seed of encouragement that sparked the fire that eventually led to their calling to the religious life?

Support for Diocesan Vocations Offices and Programs

Every diocese has a vocations office to promote vocations awareness and recruit candidates for the priesthood and religious life. Bishops appreciate monetary and other assistance to these offices. At the national level, the Supreme Council has contributed to the secretariat for vocations and priestly formation of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to help support the U.S. bishops' national vocations promotion program. State and local vocations chairmen are encouraged to meet with directors of vocations offices in their dioceses to see how they can help.

Vocations Ads: The Order's magazine *Columbia*, each month carries an advertisement on its back cover promoting priestly and religious vocations. Reading about a man or woman who has responded to the Lord's call can inspire someone else to do the same. The ads also help spread vocations awareness among Knights of Columbus members and others. State or local councils and assemblies are welcome to copy *Columbia* ads for nonprofit use in parish bulletins and flyers.

For permission to reproduce an ad or ads in a professional advertising campaign (newspapers, billboards, etc.), contact: Director Catholic Information Service, Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510-3326.

If there is a seminarian or member of a religious institute whom you would like to recommend for inclusion in one of these advertisements, write to the Director, as above.

Vocations Materials: The Knights of Columbus offers vocations posters suitable for use in schools, churches, retreat houses, and other places. One poster is directed to young people, with the theme of "Keep the Faith Alive" (#2959). In addition, the Supreme Council office makes available vocations prayer cards, bookmarks, and booklets on several topics. All vocations materials can be found in [Supplies Online](#), the supply ordering system found in Officers Online.

Vocations DVDs: Five award-winning video productions are available to councils on one DVD – all ideal for use in councils, parishes, or Catholic schools to promote vocations in the Church:

- ***The Vocation to the Priesthood***; This film is ideal for viewing by those contemplating a call to the priesthood.
- ***The Vocation to Marriage***; This film presents the teaching of the Church regarding Christian marriage and family. It is ideal for couples preparing for marriage.
- ***The Vocation to Religious Life for Women***; This film promotes religious life for women in a contemporary and attractive medium. It is an effective tool for women contemplating a call to religious life.
- ***The Vocation to Religious Life for Men***; This film promotes stories from men who are called to follow Christ as religious brothers, offering their lives in service to the church and its people.
- ***The Vocation to the Laity***; This film shows how charity, the first principle of the Order, serves as a basis for the lay vocation.

Holy Hour for Vocations: Many state and local councils sponsor Holy Hours to pray for vocations. The format varies from parish to parish, but usually includes adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Rosary, Scripture readings, and other prayers. Vocations chairmen are encouraged to contact pastors to see if they would like to conduct Holy Hours in their parishes. The vocations committee should cooperate as requested in helping to organize the event. In particular, the committee can generate publicity to stimulate attendance. If it is not feasible to have a Holy Hour in a parish, perhaps Mass could be celebrated monthly for the intention of more priestly and religious vocations.

Vocations Awareness Days: An excellent way to heighten vocations awareness is by sponsoring Vocations Awareness Days at Catholic elementary and secondary schools and colleges. Councils have had tremendous success with these events. Usually, they feature visual displays for students in an auditorium, gym, or student union, with people from the diocesan vocations' office and religious institutes on hand to answer questions. The event can be an all-day affair or can be held during hours of free time. Refreshments offered in a congenial setting can help attract students, especially collegians. Publicity is essential. State and local vocations chairmen are encouraged to contact school officials about holding such events. Diocesan and religious institute vocations directors should be invited to participate, and the local bishop should be informed.

Poster and Essay Contests: Councils can sponsor essay and/or poster contests for students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools. Contestants prepare an original essay or original poster encouraging awareness of priestly and religious vocations. In doing so, their own vocations awareness increases. The judging should be carried out and the prizes awarded according to criteria established by the council or assembly.

Other Activities: Many state and local councils and individual Knights promote vocations in other ways. Some members take a young priest out to dinner every month to give him fraternal support. Others pay for vocation-related public advertising such as billboards. Councils and assemblies should be creative and take the initiative in promoting vocations. Naturally, whatever is done in the name of the Order must observe ecclesiastical norms and the policies of the Knights of Columbus.

Key Dates to Pray and Celebrate Vocations Awareness:

Celebrate Priesthood Sunday----- September 26, 2021
----- September 25, 2022

National Vocation Awareness Week----- November 1-7, 2021

World Day for Consecrated Life ----- February 2, 2022

World Day of Prayer for Vocations----- April 24, 2022

Plan an event/s around these special days of the year. Let your priests and seminarians know you appreciate them and their commitment to the church and our spiritual well-being.

State Vocations Awards Criteria:

First place: The Council that starts a Vocations Committee and/or engages the members and parish in the most effective ways, and identifies significant accomplishments or achievements made during the year. Must have financially supported at least one seminarian through the RSVP program, assisting more will be taken under consideration. Selection will be determined by the evaluation committee.

Runner-up: The council that reports the most activities within their council and parish to promote vocations to the religious life. Identification of accomplishments or achievements made during the fraternal year. Must have financially supported at least one seminarian through the RSVP Program. Assisting more will be taken under consideration. Selection will be determined by the evaluation committee.

A Calling to the sacred Priesthood of Jesus Christ is one of the most beautiful gifts a Catholic man can receive!

Resources:

Hundredfold by Rhonda Gruenewald:

An easy-to-follow text for anyone starting or reviving a Vocation Ministry in his or her parish. It is written for the ordinary Catholic who wishes to get involved in promoting vocations.

Vocations Ministry: On-line resource of several vocation items and products. www.vocationministry.com

Vianney Vocations: An internet supplier of several brochures and articles used to promote vocations in the parish. www.vianneyvocations.com.

Vocation Inspiration, Inc: Provider of digital transmission for your parish. Make announcements, publish news items, play Catholic trivia, and sell advertisements etc. through conveniently located electronic screens installed throughout your church and school. <https://vocationinspiration.org/>

Knights of Columbus Supply See Supplies on Web page [Order Supplies | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](http://OrderSupplies|KnightsofColumbus(kofc.org)).

Omaha Archdiocese Vocations Office:

vocations@archomaha.org

Contact Fr Andrew Roza or Kathie Weinfurtner
(402)558-3100

Lincoln Diocese Vocations Office:

lincolndiocese.org/vocations

Contact Fr Robert Matya or Alec Sasse at (402)474-7914

Grand Island Diocese Vocations Office:

www.gidiocese.org click Vocations.

Contact Fr Neal Hock at (308)234-1539 in Kearney.

Or: Tom Harrington

1000 Village Green Drive #4, Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 750-1819 mathdad13@gmail.com

STATE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR KEN PROKOP

Ken is honored to have been asked by State Deputy, Matt Richardson, to serve as Community Director. He has served as Father McGivney Guild Director, Council Director and Regional Growth Director at the state level. During Regional Growth Director, he was instrumental in holding Regional District meetings, annually. He has been District Deputy #15, first for four years, then a second term of three years. He is a member of Council 8579, Wayne, where he is Past Grand Knight and has served various other positions within the Council, currently as Council Lector and Membership Director. Ken and his wife, Shirley, have two daughters, Teresa (Jason) and their two children, Emilee and Ethan, reside in Papillion. Jason and Ethan are members of Council 8579. Tanya (Ryan) has one son Archer and resides in Ralston. Thank you to past Community Director, Jack Revelle, for his leadership with the Silver Rose in the State of Nebraska. Ken will continue to coordinate this program in our great state. We hope each of you consider your Council to be a part of this event. Ken plans on following each Council with all the projects and hope you embrace the value of them in your community.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Supreme Community Featured Community Programs

Habitat for Humanity: One of the featured programs for the Community Activities category for the Columbian Award is Habitat for Humanity. The following steps are required to participate:

- Contact your local Habitat for Humanity affiliate or visit their website at habitat.org for information on an affiliate in your area.
- Discuss with your affiliate the volunteer opportunities available for your Council.
- Involve the entire parish community in the project.
- Make it a family project and be sure to publicize the event. Invite those interested in joining your Council to participate.
- Report participation on Partnership Profile Report with Habitat for Humanity (#10092).
- Your Council must donate at least \$1,000.00 and 200 manhours to the project.

Global Wheelchair Mission: Another featured program for the Community Activities category is the Global Wheelchair Mission. The following steps are required to participate:

- Promote the program in your Council, parish, and community.
- Conduct targeted fund raisers with the proceeds going to the Global Wheelchair Mission.
- Hold information nights on the project to keep awareness up.
- Complete and submit the Global Wheelchair Report Form (#10071).
- Raise enough funds to purchase an entire container of 100 wheelchairs.

Coats for Kids

Today, eighteen percent of American children and fourteen percent of Canadian children live in poverty. As a result, many families cannot afford to provide even the necessity of a warm winter coat. Putting faith into action, Knights councils, since the program started in 2009, have purchased and distributed more than 500,000 new winter coats to children throughout North America.

This winter, consider getting your council involved in this great program. You can order coats by going on [Supplies Online](#). Another option that your council can pursue is to run a parish/community-wide coat drive. Make sure to get information out to your community early enough to bring in the coats so that they can be distributed before the winter season is in full force. **Nebraska's State 2021 Coat Drive is still in the planning stages. Plans are to have it in October 2021.**

OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Your Council may receive credit **for two of the four** Community Activities on the Columbian Award by conducting one of these programs.

Some project suggestions are limited only by imagination, and here are some we suggest:

- Help elderly with website searches for medicines, medical insurance, and information.
- Set up a meeting with the county sheriff or other elected officials to arrange a prayer service, such as praying the rosary, with the prisoners at the county or city jail.
- Trunk or Treat at Halloween at church or public parking lots.
- Book clubs.
- Help at public functions such as county fairs.
- Create awareness by combining efforts with other service organizations and talking to city councils for needs.
- Provide rides to voting polls.
- Financially assist distressed individuals with monthly utility bills.
- Attend weather spotter training sessions and set up teams for severe weather.
- Work with local library to create computer skills class, designed for the elderly, to teach e-mail, Zoom, Facebook and other social networking skills.
- When motels are renovating rooms, inquire about box springs and mattresses for the poor and needy.

LEONARD FEEHAN MEMORIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

First given out in 2007, this award is dedicated to the outstanding service that Leonard provided to his community as well as to the Knights of Columbus. Leonard was always looking for ways to better his community and help those who lived there. The Leonard Feehan Memorial Community Service Award is given in recognition to a Council that has gone out of its way to work with other community groups to improve a specific aspect of the community. Applications for this award will be available after the first of the year in the packet received by your Financial Secretary. Lastly, apply for Supreme and State Awards.

COMMUNITY SUPREME AND STATE SERVICE AWARDS CRITERIA:

- Detailed description of the project.
- Manhours and number of Knights participating.
- Types of fundraisers to support the project.
- Amount contributed to community (if applicable).
- Benefit to the community.

THE SILVER ROSE PROGRAM:

The State of Nebraska Knights of Columbus will receive the Silver Rose from the Colorado Knights of Columbus in **August 2021** and will be transferred to the Kansas Knights of Columbus by one of our State Officers in **September 2021**. While the Silver Rose is in Nebraska, we are asking councils to schedule a prayer service as it makes its journey across the state. Each year, the Silver Rose makes its way across North America from Canada, through the United States, to Mexico. In 2001, Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson expanded the program by beginning the “Running of the Rose” from the 119th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in Toronto. “The ‘Running of the Rose’ is a perfect program for the Knights of Columbus,” said Supreme Knight Anderson. “Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order’s dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of ‘One Life, One Rose,’ it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses.” The Silver Rose program features a sculpted silver rose carried by Knights from Canada through the United States to Mexico, bringing the Culture of Life message on its journey. The Silver Rose is received at councils and parishes along its journey, and masses and prayer services are offered. Special border ceremonies with Fourth Degree honor guards are held when the rose is transferred from one state to another and internationally. Prayer books will be provided.

KNIGHT OF THE YEAR (KoY) / ROOKIE KNIGHT OF THE YEAR (RKoY)

Each council is asked to submit a **Knight of the Year and/or Rookie Knight of the Year**. This award is divided into two categories including Rookie Knight of the Year and Knight of the Year. The Rookie Knight of the Year recognizes a deserving Knight who has been a Knight for **less than five years as of March 1, 2022**. Recognizing that “new” Knight who has jumped in and been very involved from the beginning gives all Knights a model of energy and commitment. We also will recognize a deserving “Model Knight” who has been a member for **more than five years as of March 1, 2022** and exemplifies leadership and commitment for the work of the Order. The nominating form is easy to fill out and gives the council a chance to take pride in nominating one of its own. Nominations should explain why the Knight was chosen as a “Model Knight” in your council. In what ways does he show Brother Knights what is possible in the Knights of Columbus? Why does he deserve the distinction of being named State of Nebraska Knight of the Year? Explain the Knight’s involvement in the council, church, and community. This form may be filled out on-line at www.nebraskakofc.org.

The ICC Major Activity Application is the way for a council to showcase outstanding achievements. This may fit into any category of Faith, Community, Family or Life. Activities are eligible to win an award in only one category. There will be one State and one Supreme Community Award in these four categories.

KoY AND RKoY NOMINATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022.

STATE ATHLETICS/SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIRMAN JOE BOBER

As the Athletics Chairman for the Nebraska State Council, Joe directs state athletics and reports directly to the State Program Director. Joe is an Honorary member of Council 3019, where his father and grandfather were charter members, and has served in every office. He is a member of Assembly 1854 and has served on the State Council as the Youth Director, District Deputy for District # 5, and a Supreme Delegate. Joe has been married to Cindy, the love of his life, for 49 years. They have two children, a son Chris (Jen) a member of 3019, a daughter Wendy (Sol), and six grandchildren ages 5 years to 18 years of age. He retired from Genuine Parts Co. after 46 years. Joe is a lifelong member of St. Stanislaus Church in Omaha.



ATHLETICS ACTIVITIES

I will be working to ensure the success of our state athletics events. Currently, this consists of three annual events, the golf tournament, the horseshoe competition, and the bowling tournament. I hope that we will be able to continue the success, and possibly find improvements, on these wonderful events. One change that I will be emphasizing this year is that because these events are sanctioned by the State Knights of Columbus, and because our name is on the event, all the money for the events needs to be processed through the State Treasurer. This is not because of any problems that we have experienced in the past, but it is due to liability reasons. I will work with the councils and organizers of these events to make sure that this is done and will see to it that they still receive any profits that are due to them.

I am seeking for additional events that would appeal to our membership. If you, or your council, has an idea for an event the State could promote. I would love to explore the possibility of hosting a softball tournament again, or possibly holding a dart tournament. Contact me if you would like to explore something new.

Please keep in mind Mass times in the area where you are scheduling these events. Most of our State athletic events will be taking place on a weekend, and it is likely that travelling to, and participating in these events will interfere with our members' usual Mass attendance. List Mass times at churches in the vicinity of the event, in all publications to assure our members make attending Mass a part of their travel plans.

STATE CULTURE OF LIFE DIRECTORS MIKE, PSD, FSD & MARY CONRAD

Mike and Mary Conrad reside in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. Mary is a registered nurse at Children's Hospital in Omaha, and Mike is a Senior Claims Representative and Investigator for the Metropolitan Utilities District. Mike has served the Order in numerous positions from Grand Knight of his home council to State Deputy of Nebraska from 2008-2010. Mike served the Order as a Supreme Director and in doing so was the Order's Pro Life and Family Chairman. Mike also serves the State Council as a State Advisor.



The couple have four adult children, Katelynne, Alyssa, Christa, and Seth. Katelynne is an account manager for LinkedIn in Omaha, Alyssa is an Occupational Therapist for Sanford Hospital in Worthington, Minnesota, Christa is a manager for Children's Respite Care, in Omaha and Seth is a senior at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, majoring in Theology and Evangelization. Mike and Mary have been married for 32 years, and both are Eucharistic Ministers for their parish, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Fort Calhoun.

SUPREME COUNCIL FEATURED LIFE PROGRAMS

Ultrasound Program:

A featured program within the Culture of Life Activities is the Ultrasound Program. A Council is eligible to receive one-half the cost of an ultrasound machine and receive credit **for two of the four** Life requirements for the Columbian Award. To participate in the Ultrasound Program your Council must:

- Raise at least one-half the cost of an ultrasound machine.
- Locate a pregnancy care center that is "pro-life" and prepared to receive, use, and maintain the ultrasound machine.
- Receive written approval from your Diocese.
- The center must be properly licensed under state and local laws, and a medical doctor must be affiliated with the center and oversee its operation.
- The medical personnel who will operate the ultrasound machine must be licensed and experienced. The center must have adequate insurance.
- The Council needs to complete and submit the *Ultrasound Initiative Application* ([#10716](#)).
- An Overview, Guidelines and FAQ's can be found on Supreme's website <http://kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/life/ultrasound/10699-ultrasound-guidebook.pdf>

****Note:** If you have a facility in mind that may qualify for an ultrasound, please notify us so that we can help your council navigate through the paperwork.

March for Life: Counts **for two of the four** credits toward the Columbian Award.

The annual March for Life (normally held on January 22) in Washington, D.C., commemorates the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court infamous *Roe v Wade* decision that legalized abortion on January 22, 1973. Your Council can fulfill all four requirements for the Columbian Award. To participate in the March for Life your Council must do the following:

- Plan on attending your national or state March for Life.
- Organize your own community's March for Life with your Council.
- Be sure to advertise your Council's participation in the March for Life.
- Display the Knights of Columbus emblem during the march.
- Have a minimum of 100 total marchers.

- Complete and submit the Columbian Award Application (#SP-7) with the specific details on your Council's participation.
- Additional information as well as links to order prayers cards, posters and billboards can be found on Supreme's website. <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/life/march-for-life/10620-march-for-life-guidesheet.pdf>

Special Olympics: As a featured program, your Council can receive **two of the four credits** toward the Columbian Award.

The requirements are as follows:

- Invite the local or regional Special Olympics director to your Council to explain what Special Olympics is doing in your community and what its needs are.
- Publicize the event in your Council, parish, and community.
- Host a fundraiser with proceeds going to Special Olympics.
- Coordinate your Council's volunteers the day of the games.
- Complete and submit the Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (#4584).
- Your Council must donate a minimum of \$2000.00 and 200 manhours to Special Olympics.

NEBRASKA CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES

One Rose, One Life Campaign:

One Rose, One Life is a State-run program where ALL funds collected must be submitted to the State Culture of Life Foundation.

The Nebraska Knights of Columbus One Rose, One Life campaign is Nebraska's prime source of income for Culture of Life. **All funds** collected will be used to support prolife organizations and activities throughout Nebraska. Our goal is 100% council participation. Thank you to those councils who have diligently participated in this campaign year after year. If your council has never participated, please consider it this year.

A major objective of the Culture of Life Foundation is to place ultrasounds in qualified pregnancy care centers throughout Nebraska. To date, One Rose, One Life funds have helped to purchase **fourteen** ultrasound machines in Nebraska.

In addition to the Ultrasound Initiative, many organizations, in all three Nebraska dioceses, benefit from this source of income. They include, but are not limited to, the Nebraska Catholic Conference, local Right-To-Life and Birthright chapters, and crisis pregnancy-help centers throughout Nebraska. We also support Nebraska Pro-Life Conference's Essay contest and the Culture of Life Art Contest with our funds. Councils also can receive funds for billboards (matching funds up to \$500/side) or for special prolife programs or needs.

If you know of an organization/council that would benefit from some of the One Rose, One Life funds, they must complete a "Request for Funds" form and return it to the Culture of Life Directors for consideration by the Board of Directors. The form is available on the Nebraska State Knights of Columbus website.

Prayer is the greatest action we can take in battling the culture of death. Only through prayer, fasting, and our witness to Christ's love will we be able to change the hearts and minds of the many people who support abortion on demand. The One Rose, One Life Prayer cards are a good reminder for the importance of continued prayers throughout the year, not just during the campaign.

Here is how you can make a difference:

- Choose a weekend for the campaign, typically on a weekend close to the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision that legalized abortion on January 22, 1973.
- Appoint a chairman. This usually is your council's Culture of Life Chairman. Make sure that he will enthusiastically rally the council to become involved.
- Sample pulpit and bulletin announcements as well as a flyer can be found on the Nebraska K of C website, www.nebraskakofc.org.
- Determine how many prayer cards and envelopes your parish will need. Figure about two or three prayer cards per family as a rule of thumb. For envelopes, figure at least half the number of families in your parish.
- **IMPORTANT:** Let your District Deputy know how many prayer cards and envelopes you will need by **October 15th**, to allow ample time for printing, counting, and sorting. Cards and envelopes will be distributed to the DD's. Prayers cards are available in Spanish and English, so specify your desired number of each language.
- Contact your pastor and/or parish administrator early to get their approval of the target weekend. **IMPORTANT:** If this weekend conflicts with other church or council activities at your parish choose another weekend which will provide the most exposure. Ask your priest to support the fund drive in the parish bulletin and especially from the pulpit. A few words of encouragement from your priest are perhaps the single most important thing that will determine the success of your campaign. Try to have the prayer from the prayer card recited, either before, during, or after Mass.
- Make sure your chairman has an ample number of Knights to assist at each Mass to pass out prayer cards; before or after Mass is your council's decision. Envelopes can be passed out as well. There are some councils that put the envelopes at the end of each pew, and some insert them in their bulletins the week prior to their campaign. Money can be collected as a second collection (ask your pastor first), or you can hold out buckets or baskets after each Mass.
- Make sure you follow up your campaign efforts by placing a thank-you note in the paper or parish bulletin.
- **All funds collected MUST be sent to the Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska by March 1st** for us to prepare convention reports and arrange for awards.
- First and second place awards are presented at the State Convention to the top two councils, that collect and turn in the highest dollar amount, in each division.
- The One Rose, One Life campaign is not to be used as a council fundraising activity. Our three bishops, along with other statewide Culture of Life/pro-life organizations, rely heavily on the money that is collected during this campaign. An excellent avenue to raise Culture of Life funds for local councils is the Buck-A-Month program.
- Checks written from council funds should be made out and sent to:
Knights of Columbus, Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska
4770 Jean Marie Ln
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

Important Dates:

- Before October 15th – Give # of desired English & Spanish cards and envelopes to your DD.
- Before March 1st – Send all funds to
Knights of Columbus, Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska
4770 Jean Marie Ln
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

Buck-A-Month

This is an excellent way to raise Culture of Life funds for your council. The Buck-A-Month program is open to anybody, not just Knights. Ask your friends, relatives, etc., or set up a table after Masses and enroll your parishioners. This activity could easily be your council's largest and most profitable prolife activity.

Culture of Life fundraiser. People will join; they just need to be asked! Many councils conduct projects and activities to generate funds to support their local Culture of Life organizations and educational projects. The Buck-A-Month program is a terrific and easy way to raise some of these funds.

- **Participating councils are entitled to receive back 50% of the total amount submitted to the Culture of Life Foundation.**
- Buck-A-Month refund checks will be printed and returned to councils at the Nebraska Knights of Columbus Leadership Training Seminar in July.
- Funds returned to your council (if you participate in the Buck-A-Month program) can be used for your parish and local community Culture of Life projects and activities.
- The first place to look for potential Buck-A-Month members is from your council membership roster. Include a Buck-A-Month form with annual membership dues. A sample form is on our Nebraska K of C website www.nebraskakofc.org
- It is recommended that your council conduct its Buck-A-Month drive from January 1st to April 1st.
- When preparing to send contributions to the Culture of Life Foundation, **clearly mark them as a Buck-A-Month submission and include your Council number.** This will help to ensure that your council is credited properly, and the correct refund check amount is returned to your council. Funds not clearly marked as Buck-A-Month will be assumed as a One Rose, One Life contribution. Forward Buck-A-Month contributions to the Knights of Columbus, Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska **before July 1st.**
- The suggested dollar amount for an individual membership is \$12 (Buck-A-Month); however, any amount is very much appreciated.

Important Dates:

- January – April – Hold Buck-A-Month drive.
- **Before July 1st** – Forward all Buck-A-Month funds received via a check that is CLEARLY MARKED as **Buck-A-Month** with your **Council Number** to
Knights of Columbus, Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska
4770 Jean Marie Ln
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023
- **July** - Refund Checks will be distributed to councils at the Leadership Training Seminar.

Culture of Life Art Contest

This program serves to collect illustrations from our youth, K-6th grade, for original artwork that will be depicted on upcoming One Rose, One Life Prayer cards.

Rules:

- The contest is open to ALL Nebraska students from K-6th grade.
- Design must be on a paper 8-1/2" x 11" (letter size). Design/image may be smaller.
- Picture/drawing must have a Culture of Life message or theme.
- Pencils, crayons, markers, paints, etc. can be used.
- Entries must be received prior to **March 1st**. Winners to be announced at State Convention.

All entries received become the property of the Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Foundation and will not be returned.

Each entry must include the following information:

- Name
- Age & Grade
- Address & Phone Number
- Council Name & Number
- Grade School or Religious Education School Name (If home schooled, include name of parent)
- Parish Name

Top three (3) entries per Council should be sent to:

**Culture of Life Foundation
4770 Jean Marie Ln
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023**

Prizes

Awards are presented at the State Convention. Local awards are at local Council's discretion.

- **1st Place:** The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$500 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$200 cash prize.
This entry will be displayed on the One Rose, One Life prayer cards.
- **2nd Place:** The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$250 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$100 cash prize.
- **3rd Place:** The school or religious education program from which the winning entry is received will receive a \$150 cash prize. The winning artist will receive a \$50 cash prize.

Important Dates

- Before March 1st – Send up to three (3) artwork submissions to Culture of Life Foundation.

Pro Life Essay Contest –*This is a Nebraska Catholic Conference program with only the prize money coming from the Culture of Life Foundation.*

- This contest is open to students from 7th – 11th grade.
- Each grade will have its own winner at the state level for a total of five winners. Each winner will receive \$150, with the sponsoring school also receiving \$150.
- Pro-Life Essay Contest Theme - To Be Announced each year by the Nebraska Catholic Conference.
- Essay submissions are due in late March. **Contact your diocesan Pro-Life office** for exact date and submission address.
- Diocesan contact information changes periodically. For rules and other general questions about the essay contest, including due date and where to mail essay submissions in your diocese, contact your diocesan Family Life Director.
- All the winners will be announced at the Bishops' Pro-Life Conference.

Culture of Life Supreme and State Service Awards Criteria

Commitment to the Culture of Life cause; from natural birth to natural death.

Culture of Life awards are given at the State Convention for outstanding Culture of Life activities that councils conduct during the previous fraternal year. The awards will be judged on the following:

- Detailed description of the project (e.g., diaper drive, pro-life prayer vigil).
- Manhours and number of Knights participating.
- Types of fundraisers to support the project or cause.
- The total funds raised for the Culture of Life cause (if applicable).
- Benefit to the recipients of the activity as well as the benefits to fostering a Culture of Life community.

NOMINATIONS FOR THESE AWARDS ARE DUE TO THE CULTURE OF LIFE DIRECTORS NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR CULTURE OF LIFE ACTIVITIES:

- Raise money to support the state Culture of Life Ultrasound fund.
- Support the March for Life held each year in conjunction with the January anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision of the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing abortion. Thousands of Culture of Life supporters march for life in Washington, D.C. demanding legislative protection for the unborn. Send a delegation from your council to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. or support youth groups that go to Washington, D.C. For more information visit <http://www.marchforlife.org/> or follow them on Facebook at “The March for Life” and on Twitter @marchforlife.
- Join the Knights of Columbus, “**Day of the Unborn Child**” observed annually on the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25). Knights, and their families pray and fast to remind us of the importance and dignity of human life from the moment of conception to birth.
- Organize a new council Culture of Life program in your Council and submit your ideas, photos, details, and results to the State Culture of Life Foundation.
- Send letters or personally contact your chaplain, pastor, and members of the clergy offering whatever assistance they request in the fight against abortion.
- Promote and support the Order’s Culture of Life efforts by displaying materials featuring the Culture of Life themes. “Defend Life” (billboard #1938) and a 13 x 20-inch sign (#4238) are available at no cost from the Supreme Council Supply Department — the billboard consists of 12 sheets and measures 21 ½ x 9 ½ feet — allow 4 weeks for delivery. Other Culture of Life materials are described in the Supply Catalog (#1264).

- With the permission of the pastors, conduct a Baby Bottle Campaign in local parishes by supplying baby bottles to parishioners asking them to take the bottles home and fill them with loose change and return them to the parish. Donate the monies collected to Culture of Life efforts in the local area.
- Distribute the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life as outlined in the *Study Guide to Evangelium Vitae* (#2914) prepared by the Knights of Columbus for groups and individuals who wish to become more familiar with the Church's teaching on the respect due human life as presented by Pope John Paul II. (Copies can be obtained for .25 each from the Supply Department).
- Contact Right-to-Life, Birthright, or other pro-life organizations in your area to coordinate programs with those already in existence by volunteering support, manpower, and finances.
- Create a public display of Pro-Life support by placing small white crosses on the lawn of your council home or parish, representing the number of lives lost to abortion locally each year.
- Promote letter-writing campaigns to state legislators expressing your views clearly, firmly, and courteously — be courteous, ask questions and demand answers. For a listing of state senators go to www.nebraskalegisature.gov Click on Senators tab and follow the instructions to email them.
- Raise funds for Birthright and similar Pro-Life organizations which help encourage pregnant women to carry their babies to birth rather than to abort them. Volunteer manpower and services.
- Carry the Pro-Life message to youth through the religious formation programs, high schools, colleges, FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), etc. by delivering speeches, distributing literature, and sponsoring Pro-Life essay and poster contests.
- Voice your disapproval of programs aired on radio and television stations that do not depict a Catholic view on human dignity. Request that equal time be dedicated to programs displaying Culture of Life values.
- Erect a memorial to children killed through abortion.
- Support homes and facilities for unwed mothers in your area by fund-raising activities, drives to collect diapers and other layette items for newborns, and providing volunteers to help with facility maintenance and upkeep.
- Pray the Rosary to end abortion — a simple, yet effective act that can have enormous impact (a poster urging the recitation of the Rosary as a weapon against abortion (#2073) and a prayer card with a pro-life prayer on the back (#2072) are available at no charge from the Supply Department.
- Ask the pastors of the parishes your council serves if Knights can lead a Rosary for Life before Masses in October — Respect Life Month — and on the weekend closest to January 22, the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision of the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing abortion.

STATE FAMILY DIRECTORS NICK & KATI LADENBURGER

Nick and Kati reside in rural Stratton, NE. They have been married for 16 years and have five kids: Haley 14, Scot 12, Molly 10, John 8, and Emery 6.

They are members of the St. Joseph's Parish in Stratton. Nick is a lector; Scot is an altar boy and Kati is a member of the Altar Society. Nick is a member of the Benkelman/Stratton Knights of Columbus council #10163. He has been a Grand Knight two terms, Deputy Grand Knight, and Trustee. Nick also helps with church building maintenance.



Kati works at the Stratton Elementary School during the school year and works at home during the summer. Nick farms and ranches with his Dad and brother Dustin. Nick and Kati raise wheat, corn, and milo and have a commercial cow herd.

Nick and Kati are active in the community. Nick is on the school board, on the Farmers Coop board of directors and the Hitchcock Co. Farm Bureau. Kati is secretary/treasurer for the Stratton volunteer fire and ambulance department and helps with the 4-H club in Stratton.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

The Knights of Columbus, founded by Father Michael J. McGivney, was established, to take care of families. The family stands at the core of the Knights of Columbus's beliefs and ideals as a Catholic, family, fraternal service organization. The importance of family is vital to our society, as family is essential to how we learn and live. As Knights of Columbus families, we hold as our example the Holy Family, where they model Love, Faith, Respect, and Obedience. On a local, state, and national level, the Knights of Columbus promotes many activities to encourage family interaction, volunteerism, support for the Church, and a sense of community. The Knights of Columbus offers ideas on how to promote and encourage families within your council. These are only a few ideas of ways in which to help your council get started. These activities should be fun, enjoyable, and meaningful and should be open to both members and non-members. These activities may also be compatible with other works within the council or parish.

SUPREME COUNCIL FEATURED FAMILY PROGRAM

Food for Families Program: The featured program for the Family Activities category of the Columbian Award is Food for Families. If your Council participates in Food for Families, it may be eligible to receive a refund for qualifying donations and credit for all four Family Activity requirements of the Columbian Award. To participate in the program your Council must do the following:

- Contact your local food pantry or parish soup kitchen to ensure that they will be able to receive the food and ask what their specific needs are.
- Display posters / flyers promoting the event around your parish and community.
- Provide adequate receptacles for donated items and make sure they are emptied frequently.
- A minimum of \$500.00 or 1,000 pounds of food must be contributed. Contributions are cumulative, so the Council can make multiple contributions to reach the minimum dollar or pounds required.
- Complete the Food for Families Reimbursement Program Application (#10057) and submit to Supreme.

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

There are two programs that fall under the State Family Activities banner. They are:

- **The Family Fully Alive** - This is a twelve-month program that promotes family prayer with meditations and scripture readings. It is to be promoted within the parish with the Council's participation.
- **Father's Day Affirmation of Wedding Vows** – This can be a special ceremony either during or after Mass and can be held with Corporate Communion. It is to be led by Catholic husbands and fathers.

SUPREME RECOMMENDED FAMILY PROGRAMS

Food for Families (Featured Program), Family of the Month/Year, Keep Christ in Christmas, Family Fully Alive, Family Week, Consecration to the Holy Family (Required Program), Family Prayer Night and Good Friday Family Promotion. There are many other Family programs that your Council can do and include the following:

- Celebrate Knights of Columbus Family week with a family Mass, picnic, dinner, or other activities that both promote and highlight the family.
- Participate in the Order's Family of the Month program, honoring Council families who exemplify the values taught by our Church and our Order. Full details are provided in the Family of the Month booklet (#1993) provided to each Council. Make sure to recognize your Family of the Month in your church bulletin and in the local media.
- Promote Fathers for Good. The centerpiece of the initiative is an interactive website, fathersforgood.com, which offers the St. Joseph Series booklets for men and can be ordered online.
- Organize family Corporate Communion breakfasts that bring together Council and parish families.
- Plan an annual marriage vow renewal program for couples in your Council and parish.

Family of the Year Awards

Choose a family (1st Place and Runner-up) from your council whom you believe truly reflect the traditions and relationships and fabric of the Holy Family. Be specific and detailed in your explanation so that your nomination addresses the following:

- Demonstrates how the family members are interdependent and share with one another and their parish family.
- Focuses on the entire family, parents, and children alike, and how the family lives out and shares their Catholic faith.
- Shows the way the family lives their lives reinforcing the message of the Church. Shows how the family makes other people's lives better.
- Include a photograph of the family as part of the nomination.
- Submit the nomination and photograph of the family to:

Nick Ladenburger
35063 Rd 702
Stratton, NE 69043

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022.

Suggested Family Program Activities:

January

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Respect for Life – Present each family with a rose and medal for all baptized babies in the parish for the previous year.

February

- Remember that Family of the Year Nominations must be postmarked by March 1.
- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- World Marriage Day/Valentine's Day. Organize a night out for couples and provide babysitting for children.

March

- Family of the Year Nominations must be postmarked by March 1.
- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Lent: Promote family almsgiving and sacrifice or attend all Stations/Lenten services as a family – keep track of how many families attend each week.

April

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Take the family to the Nebraska K of C State Convention.

May

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Month of Mary: Promote a family Rosary.
- Pray a Living Rosary involving the Knights/parish families.
- Celebrate Mothers: Have a viewing of a family appropriate show/movie in a hall and serve snacks.

June

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Hold a Council Family Picnic.
- We All Scream for Ice Cream: Ice Cream Social for families or make homemade ice cream.
- Celebrate Fathers: Have a viewing of the family show *Courageous* or other family appropriate show/movie in a hall and serve snacks.

July

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Father-Child Fun Night: All Knights/parishioners and their children do a fun activity – fishing, bowling, host a dance, camping, etc.

August

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Hold a memorial Mass for deceased members of the council family – August 14 is the anniversary of Fr. McGivney's death.
- Host a Back-to-School Celebration for families.

September

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Football Fever: Any Husker fans within the Knights? Sponsor a game day get-together. Begin with a family Rosary for safety of athletes followed by family-friendly tailgating, games such as your own punt/pass/kick contest, and, of course, the Husker game itself.

October

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Community Cleanup: Knights and families pitch in to clean up church grounds or adopt an elderly person to clean up their yard – mow, rake, etc.
- Halloween: Sponsor a Halloween party or Trunk-or-Treat.

November

- Offer Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Hold a Memorial Mass for deceased members of the council family in early November for All Souls Day.
- Promote families to volunteer at a food pantry, shelter, or CSS to help people in need; have one Knightfamily volunteer each month or as a Council in November.
- Veteran's Day: Have children and Knights make cards for veterans in hospitals and/or nursing homes; thank them for their service to our country.

December

- Offer a Mass intention for one council family each week or month.
- Good Angels: Encourage Knights and parish families to adopt a family in need or give to a Good Tree program.

Prayer to St. Joseph for the Church

Loving husband of Mary, the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God, and foster father of her Son, we turn to you with confidence as we pray for the Church throughout the world. Watch over the family of God, bought by the precious blood of Christ, as you watched over the Holy Family of Nazareth. You once rescued the Child Jesus from danger of death: protect now his mystical body from the powers of darkness and strengthen it in every trial. Give it your own courage, in the struggle against evil, and keep it free from sin and error. Help us to follow your example, that we may live a holy life, die a holy death and so share your joy forever in heaven. Amen

A Litany to St. Joseph

Joseph, husband of the Mother of God, Pray for us
Joseph, foster father of the Son of God, Pray for us
Joseph, man of prayer, Pray for us
Joseph, man of faith, Pray for us
Joseph, committed to doing God's will, Pray for us
Joseph, model of workers, Pray for us
Joseph, defender of family life, Pray for us
Joseph, patron of the dying, Pray for us
Joseph, protector of the Church, Pray for us

STATE YOUTH CHAIRMAN TIM SEALOCK

Tim has been a member of Cathedral of the Risen Christ Parish in Lincoln his entire life, and a Knight for about 5 years. He enjoys the brotherhood that the Knights of Columbus provides, from the fish fry tent to simple upkeep of the Church grounds. Tim has been a lector at Cathedral for many years. Tim has been married to his wife Tracy for 20 years and she is very active in the Church and serves on the Parish Council and is a part of the PCCW. Tim and Tracy have 3 children. Kylen is 18 and graduated from Pius X High School in 2021 and will head to the University of South Dakota in the fall to play volleyball. Ajay is 15 and is currently a sophomore at Pius. Maklin is 11 and is currently in the 5th grade at Cathedral. Our family's "Happy Place" is at Table Rock Lake in Kimberling City, MO. We love boating and all the nature that surrounds it.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The future of our faith, our religion, our church, and even the Knights of Columbus itself rests with the youth of today. Therefore, as members of the Knights, we need to take an active role in supporting our youth, providing opportunities for them to learn our holy religion, and to provide them with quality examples of Christian lifestyles. As members and families of the Knights of Columbus we have a long-standing tradition of supporting youth at the Council, District, State, and Supreme levels with programs for youth of all ages and backgrounds.

Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge: Saturday, October 23, 2021, at the Schuyler Field House. The newest program for youth is the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge. As a state, Nebraska offers this program to boys and girls ages 9 to 14 (based on their age on September 1). This competition is open to all youth, no matter if they attend a Catholic school or not. Make sure to take advantage of this and involve youth from neighboring public schools and the community around your parish.

The contest will be divided into four levels of competition: Council, District, Regional, and State. State winners will be forwarded on to the Supreme office for consideration at the international level. Over the last several years, approximately 30 councils across the state participated in the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge, which roughly translates to just 20% of the councils in the Nebraska Jurisdiction. Council competitions should be held sometime during the end of August or early September, with Districts taking place by the end of September. Regional competitions should be scheduled for early October. The State Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge will take place on October 23rd. All the information that you need to run your Council competition can be found in the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge Kit. Kit and program guide sheets can be ordered at [Officers Online](#). This kit can be ordered by your Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Council Youth Director, or your Council Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge Chairman, and will be provided to your council free of charge.

If you feel that your council will not have enough participants to hold your own local competition, consider working with a nearby council or councils, combining your manpower, while still providing the opportunity for the youth you serve to participate in the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge. If you are going to be doing this, please make sure that you clearly mark all the entry forms for the respective councils and that each council participating fills out its own participation report form to submit to the state. If you have any concerns or questions about running the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge in your council, please make sure to contact the State Youth Director.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest: April 9th, 2022, at GI Central Catholic HS

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest is a tried and proven program to involve our youth and families in the Knights of Columbus. Make sure to start your preparations for this event early enough to ensure that you can contact youth prior to the Christmas holiday by placing posters and fliers in the schools. Just like the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge, the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest is open to boys and girls ages 9 to 14 (this is based on their age on January 1). The competition is also open to youth both in Catholic schools and public schools. The contest is again divided into four levels: Council, District, Regional, and State. State winners will be submitted to the Supreme office for consideration in the international competition.

Council level competitions should be held during January and the District competition should be held during the early part of February. Regional competitions should be scheduled for the later part of February or the early part of March. The State competition is on April 9, 2022. All of the information that you need to run your event can be found [online](#). Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest Kit and program guide sheets and can be ordered along with additional program material via [Officers Online](#). This kit will be provided to your council free of charge.

If you feel that your council will not have enough participants to hold your own local competition, consider working with a nearby council or councils, combining your manpower, while still providing the opportunity for the youth you serve to participate in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. Please make sure that you clearly mark all the entry forms for the respective councils and that each council participating fills out its own participation report form to submit to the state. If you have any concerns or questions about running the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest in your council, please contact the State Youth Director.

Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest:

The Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest is another longstanding program that helps address the ongoing issue of substance abuse, both drugs and alcohol, in our communities. Start your preparations for this event early enough to ensure that your council can submit the council finalists to your respective District Deputy by **February 1**. This year we are encouraging all councils to host their Council level competition to coincide with Red Ribbon Week at their school(s). This may mean having a few different dates depending on how many schools you are running the contest in. Make sure that your Council Youth Director or Grand Knight sends a letter to each school (or family) explaining the importance of this contest. We feel that by running the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse and Awareness Poster Contest during Red Ribbon Week at the schools, we will be able to increase our participation and give the participants a better understanding of why we are running this contest.

The Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest is broken into two age categories including ages 8 through 11 and ages 12 through 14 (based on age as of January 1). Each age category can then design an original poster on one of two topics: Substance Awareness and Abuse or Drug Awareness and Abuse. The Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest is open to boys and girls attending either a Catholic school or a public school. This contest will be split into three competition levels: Council, District, and State. State winners will be submitted to the Supreme office for consideration in the international competition.

Here are some specific rules that you need to keep in mind when running your K of C Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest:

- The poster needs to be about Alcohol Awareness and Abuse or Drug Awareness and Abuse.
- Each poster must be an original work of art.

- Posters must be on 11x17 paper. Posters using pastels, chalk, or charcoal must be laminated or covered in clear plastic.
- Each poster must have an accompanying Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest entry form with the entrant's name and age as well as a council number.
- Entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus State Council and will not be returned.

Your council should begin promoting the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest at the beginning of the school year to give students as much time as possible to work on their posters. Council level competitions should be held during Red Ribbon Week at your participating schools, and the top two posters in each topic and age category must be submitted to the District Deputy by February 1. Posters from the Council level competitions should not be submitted directly to the State Youth Director. The district competition should be held during the early part of February with the top two posters in each topic and age category being sent to the State Youth Director by **no later than March 1**. All of the information that you need to run your event can be found in the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest Kit that your council can order using the form located at <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/council/SA-KITOnline.pdf>. This kit will be provided to your council free of charge.

Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest:

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, as Knights, we urge members of our parish and community to remember that it is "CHRISTMAS" and that the reason for the season is the birth of our Savior. Let's take this one step further and help remind our youth why we celebrate the season of Christmas. We may also be able to learn something from our youth that will help remind us why we celebrate the blessed season of Christmas. Over the past few years, the Nebraska Knights of Columbus have handed out awards for the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest at the State Convention. Supreme has created an official packet and guidelines for this contest. It can be found under Church Activities (with the Keep Christ in Christmas Cards) on the Supreme website. Consider having this event run by your Church Director and your Youth Director.

If you are running your Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse and Awareness Poster Contest in conjunction with Red Ribbon Week, this should give you most of November and December to promote and receive entries for the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. Consider handing out prizes for the top poster(s). Talk to your pastor about displaying the posters in the church vestibule and school hallways during the Christmas season. Winning submissions from the Council level competitions must be submitted to the respective District Deputy by February 1, for judging. Posters from the Council level competitions should not be submitted directly to the State Youth Director. After judging at the district level, District Deputies should send their submissions to the State Youth Director **NO LATER THAN March 1**.

The rules and regulations for the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest are very similar to those of the Knights of Columbus Substance Abuse and Awareness Poster Contest. If you are considering running this contest at your school, or if you have any questions about it, please contact your District Deputy or the State Youth Director.

Suggestions and Ideas for Youth Activities:

Trunk-or-Treat: On Halloween, consider hosting a trick-or-treat event in the parking lot of your church. This will give parents and children a safe place to trick-or-treat while still enjoying the spirit of Halloween; all the families need to do is stop by the trunk of the cars in the parking lot. Have members of your council bring candy, decorations, and games, and make this an event that kids will enjoy year after year.

Religious Emblem Program for Boy and Girl Scouts: The Boy and Girl Scout programs each provide opportunities for youth to learn about their religion through the Scouting program. With the recent changes in society, this is a great opportunity to reach out to the youth in your parish and your community and help them understand our holy religion and the practices of the Catholic Church.

Consider sponsoring a class (or classes) for the members of your parish who are involved in either the Boy or Girl Scouts to help them earn these awards and learn more about the Catholic Church. If any members of your council are involved in either the Boy Scouts or the Girl Scouts, this would be a great opportunity to get them involved in your Youth Activities by having them teach, or help teach, these classes. If your parish does not currently have a Boy Scout or Girl Scout program for the youth, consider sponsoring a unit or co-sponsoring a unit with a neighboring parish. Recruit members of your council to serve as leaders, especially those whose children are involved in the program. If you are interested in offering a Religious Emblem Program class or sponsoring a new unit in your parish, but your pastor has questions, feel free to contact the State Youth Director. Contacts can be made, and a meeting set up with your parish pastor to explain the Religious Emblem Program and the purpose of the Boy Scout or Girl Scout program.

More information about the Religious Emblems Program for Boy Scouts of America can be found at

<https://www.lincolndiocese.org/catholic-scouting/boys-scouting>

Information regarding the awards available for the Girls Scouts can be found at

<https://www.lincolndiocese.org/catholic-scouting/girls-religious-awards>

Other Youth Activity Ideas:

- Sponsor a “College Fair” for high school students.
- Sponsor a “Career Fair” for college students.
- Sponsor a series of movie nights with movies that are both educational and enjoyable.
- Host lock-in events for elementary and middle school students.
- Sponsor a pizza or skate party for youth.

Prayer to Saint Joseph for the Church and The Holy Father

Most Powerful Patriarch Saint Joseph, Patron of the Church which has always invoked you in anxiety and trouble, from the exalted seat of your glory, cast a loving glance upon the whole Catholic world. Let your fatherly heart be touched at the sight of the Mystical Spouse and the Vicar of Christ overwhelmed with sorrow and persecuted by powerful enemies. Oh, by the bitter anguish you experienced upon earth, dry the tears of the Holy Father, defend him, comfort him, intercede for him with the Giver of peace and charity, that, all adversity being removed, and all error dissipated, the entire Church may serve God in perfect liberty. Amen!

STATE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES DIRECTORS

SAMMI AND STEPHEN LOWERY

Sammi and Stephen Lowery are members of Blessed Sacrament Council 11001 in Lincoln where Stephen currently serves as Treasurer. He is a Past Grand Knight with Council 13015, Our Lady of Good Counsel at UNL where he also served as a Trustee. Stephen is a member of St. John Paul the Great Assembly 3640 in Lincoln where he serves as Outer Sentinel. Stephen has served the Nebraska State Council in the past as a Production Specialist, College Director, and part of the membership team. Sammi has been a support system for Stephen through all of this.



Sammi and Stephen were married in November of 2014. Sammi is a science teacher at Lincoln Southeast High School where she has taught for the last five years after spending one year at Mickel Middle School. Stephen is a Senior Implementation Analyst at Fiserv in Lincoln where he has worked for the last eight years. They have one son, Tommy, who will be 3 in September and are expecting their second child in July 2021.

Sammi and Stephen are looking forward to serving the State as Intellectual Disabilities Directors. They are excited to help the state and all of its councils to raise funds for the valuable programs offered in the state of Nebraska for the individuals with intellectual disabilities.

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES ACTIVITIES

2021 Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities (formerly known as the Tootsie Roll Drive)

The work the Nebraska Knights of Columbus do to assist individuals with intellectual disabilities is funded through the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities (formerly identified more often as the Tootsie Roll Drive). Tootsie Rolls are still the main symbol of this drive, but the Supreme Council wants to emphasize the reason for the fundraising more in the name of the annual drive. While the **Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities** is a mouthful, it really does communicate clearly who the Knights are raising funds to assist.

Here are some frequently asked questions concerning the Knights of Columbus Campaign for the People with Intellectual Disabilities and how the money that is raised is allocated.

Who should receive the money raised? State Intellectual Disabilities Directors, **Sammi and Stephen Lowery, 1301 Thunderbird Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68512**, should receive **100%** of the money collected in the local drive along with the required reporting forms and the local Council's request for its half of the funds. Funds and reports are **due by January 31, 2022**, for a council to be eligible for awards at the annual State Convention.

How does a Council qualify for Intellectual Disabilities awards at the Nebraska State Convention? There are two categories of awards given at the State Convention: percentage gain and most money raised by division. In order to be eligible for these awards, all money raised, and reports must be received by January 31, 2022. To be considered for the percentage gain awards, councils must have participated in the 2020 and 2021 Knights of Columbus Campaigns for People with Intellectual Disabilities Drive and must have submitted all required forms and money for both drives on time. Awards for most money raised will be based on the 2021 Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities only and all money and reports must be submitted on time.

Who can the funds go to? The following is a partial list of groups who have benefited from the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities in the past: Madonna School, Villa Marie, ARC of Nebraska, Special Olympics, Ollie Webb Center, Mosaic, and SMILE. Basically, any non-profit group who works with individuals with intellectual disabilities is eligible to receive money raised through the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities. **PLEASE NOTE:** school districts, educational service units, and individual recipients are not eligible to receive funds. If you have questions regarding eligibility, please contact the Intellectual Disabilities Directors.

Where are the forms to order Tootsie Rolls? You can find the order form in the packet that Grand Knights received at the Leadership Training Seminar in July or the state website (www.nebraskakofc.org). You can also email the Intellectual Disabilities Directors Sammi and Stephen Lowery (sglowery82@gmail.com), call them at 402-540-1670, or contact your District Deputy for replacements.

Where are the reporting forms to use when a Council sends in its money? Reporting forms can be found in the packet that Grand Knights received at the Leadership Training Seminar in July or the state website (www.nebraskakofc.org). You can also email the Intellectual Disabilities Directors Sammi and Stephen Lowery (sglowery82@gmail.com), call them at 402-540-1670, or contact your District Deputy. These forms are due with the money by January 31, 2022.

When is this year's drive? October 15-17, 2021.

Can the local Council change the dates of the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities Drive? Local councils can change the date to adjust for community needs.

When is the money due? **ALL FUNDS** collected in the Knights of Columbus Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities are due to **Intellectual Disabilities Directors, Sammi and Stephen Lowery, 1301 Thunderbird Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68512**, by **January 31, 2022**. Checks should be made out to K of C Intellectual Disabilities Foundation of Nebraska, Inc.

Can local councils keep their share of the funds raised? No, councils **MUST SEND ALL** the funds collected, along with the required report, to the Intellectual Disabilities Directors. On the reporting form, councils can identify the group(s) to whom they would like to donate their portion (up to 50%) of the funds raised, and then the Intellectual Disabilities Directors will write and distribute the checks accordingly.

How can we find groups that serve people with intellectual disabilities? Asking families who have children with intellectual disabilities for the names of groups who provide services or activities for the children is a good way to begin the search for a deserving group. The information packet that Grand Knights received at the Leadership Training Seminar in July as well as the state website (www.nebraskakofc.org) also contain a list of approved groups, addresses, and websites.

How do we get more vests and canisters? There is a vest order form on the state website (www.nebraskakofc.org) and in the information packet Grand Knights received at the Leadership Training Seminar. With every 16 cases of Tootsie Rolls ordered, a case of 12 canisters is included if the appropriate box is checked on the Tootsie Roll order form (also included on the state website and in the Leadership Seminar Packet).

REPORT FORMS AND ALL PROCEEDS COLLECTED ARE DUE TO THE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES DIRECTORS BY JANUARY 31, 2022.

STATE FOUNDATION ADVISOR DAN WELLS

Dan is a member of Council 10909 in Elkhorn. His wife's name is Beth. Dan was one of the founding members of the Mary Our Queen Council #11700 and transferred to St. Wenceslaus #10909 in November 2016. He has been a 4th Degree member for over 15 years. He has been involved in parish activities over the years as a school board member and president, as well as a member of the finance committee, an EHMC, and a lector. He was also a board member and president of Music in Catholic Schools. Dan and Beth have been married for 35 years and have three children and two grandchildren.



Dan is a CPA, CFE and CGMA and works at the accounting firm of Massman, Nelson, Reinig, PC. Dan is a member of the Nebraska Society of Certified Public Accountants and has served as a member for many years, was chairman of the board from 2013-2014, and is currently chairman of the industry committee and on the society's foundation committee. Beth is a freelance writer, artist, and business consultant.

STATE FOUNDATION ADVISOR DON FERNEDING, PSD, FDM

Don Ferneding has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since March of 1984 and became a fourth Degree Knight in 1985. In 1986, Don was assigned the Financial Secretary of Council 7740 in Omaha and became the Grand Knight in 1988 of the Council. A move to central Omaha caused a transferred to Council 11800 where he served the Knights until moving to Beatrice in November of 2007, transferring membership to Council 1723. In 2008 Don started the first Assembly at St. Joseph's parish at the request of Father Major and served as the founding Faithful Navigator of Assembly 3146.



Don has been active on the state level of the Knights of Columbus from 1990 to present serving in several different directorships as well as the Program Director under PSD Howard Gaffney, also serving as the Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, and the State Deputy from 2006 to 2008. After serving as State Deputy, Don held the position of District Master, serving as the head of Nebraska's 4th Degree for four years. He also held the position of State Membership Director under PSD Richard Lowery. Don currently serves as District Deputy #8 and is the Co-Director of the Father McGivney Foundation of the State of Nebraska a-long-side of Brother Dan Wells.

Don lives in Beatrice and taught 7th and 8th grade CCD classes for 25 years at both St. Margaret Mary's in Omaha and St. Joseph's Beatrice. He is currently retired from ESU 3 and 5 after 40 years in Information Technology, ending as the Director of Information Technology at ESU #5. Don has two children and three grandsons.

STATE FS COORDINATOR CHAIRMAN MIKE VAUGHN

Mike Vaughn oversees the State's Financial Secretaries by providing quality training and resources ensuring each Financial Secretary is fully capable of supporting his Council. Mike became a member of the Knights of Columbus in November of 2010. Shortly afterward he was asked to become his Council's Financial Secretary. He has been the Financial Secretary ever since. He has also been the Publicity Chairman, Program Director, Outside Guard, Intellectual Disabilities Chairman, and One Rose, One Life Chairman. Mike is a member of the First-Degree team, and in October of 2016 he became a Fourth Degree Knight. He retired from the Air Force in 2010 after 30 years of service. Pat and Mike have been married since 1979 and have four sons, three fantastic daughters-in-law, and four wonderful grandchildren. They are active members of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth. He is a lector, and he has served as a member of the Parish Council.



FINANCIAL SECRETARIES' INFORMATION

The Financial Secretary's (& Faithful Comptroller's) duties are numerous and very important to the Council/Assembly. Below is information concerning the most important tools, tasks, and reminders.

Supreme Videos: There are several training videos found on the Supreme Website that explain numerous FS tasks. Here is a link to the Fraternal Video Library: <https://www.kofc.org/en/videos/fraternal-training-library.html>

“Leadership Resources”: The basic duties of an FS and FC are explained in the “Leadership Resources” (#5093) beginning on page 27. This is your “go to” document. The PDF version can be found in the Officer Resources and can be downloaded directly to your computer. This should be your first point of reference in resolving a problem. If you cannot find the answer, call your FS Coordinator listed above in this section. For specific information about a particular Knight's record not in your Member Management, it may be necessary to contact the Supreme Office.

Officers Online: Supreme has a Training Mode for the FS/FC in Member Management. The “Training” mode allows you to use the different functions of MM/MB without impacting the data base or current reports on file. You can also print reports to see what the results will display i.e., vouchers. The word TRAINING will be printed over the printed product on the reports as well as appearing in the upper righthand corner of the screen until you return to live mode.

New Financial Secretaries Training: Financial Secretaries and Faithful Comptrollers can be appointed any time during the year. Our commitment to new FSs/FCs is to get them up to speed as quickly as possible. Focused training is provided during the GK/FS training meeting in July and during the State Convention. New FS's/FC's Should attend one of these sessions if possible. Additionally, the FS Coordinator would be happy to provide one-on-one training where practical anytime. Notify the FS Coordinator when you are in place.

Submit Reports on Time: Be sure to submit required reports on time. Refer to the Executive Secretary section of the Program Book, the State Council website nebraskakofc.org and Supreme Council website www.kofc.org. Supreme reports and forms due will also be posted on your Council Statement received from Supreme each month and on your council Reports Online page.

Perhaps the most important items due from the FS & FC are the Semiannual Audit Report due February 15 and August 15, the Survey of Fraternal Activity due January 31, and the payment of Supreme and State Assessments. If you submit a report online that does not contain a block for the e-mail address for the Executive Secretary, District Deputy, and yourself, download a copy and forward it as an attachment by email to them, i.e., Report of Officers, Service Program Personnel.

Online Report/Member Management: The Grand Knight/Faithful Navigator, Financial Secretary/Faithful Comptroller, Advocate/Faithful Pilot have access to the Officers Online section of the Order's website. The Reports Online section of Officers Online provides the ability to view council/assembly records such as the roster, membership statistics, and support materials. The GK/FN and FS/FC have access to Member Management, but only the FS/FC has access to Member Billing. The GK/FN and Advocate/Faithful Pilot have access to the Orders Bylaws online. Once the Supreme Council office records the new officers in its database, an Invitation Code is generated for each eligible officer. Additional information is contained in the FS/FC Handbook under General Information.

It is recommended that you order an additional FS/FC Handbook (no cost) and provide it to your GK/FN as well as your trustees and membership director. Information concerning council/assembly audits and other related reports will be of great benefit to them.

On the Supreme Online Report, you will find rosters for your council/assembly in PDF and EXCEL, Publications, Look Ahead for reports due, and Support Materials, all of which can be printed or saved to your computer.

“Moving Notice” and Other Forms: The “Moving Notice” is a form that, when used, can help reduce the number of members in your council/assembly that have moved out of your council/assembly and are no longer paying their dues. By completing this notice and sending to the council/assembly where the member has moved, you can help promote the transfer process. If the member has moved out of state, you may send the form to the Nebraska State Deputy and he will forward it to the appropriate State Deputy in the member's new state. The form and many other forms can be found on the State Website (www.nebraskakofc.org) under the “Resources” menu.

Most of the forms used by the FS/FC are available on the State website or on the Supreme website and can be obtained through the Supreme Supply Catalog. One exception is the “Moving Notice”. This is only available on the State website or from the FS Coordinator Co-Chairmen.

As the Service Program Personnel Report (#365) is being completed, ensure that all member email addresses are accurate. Armatus, the Order's Safe Environment partner, will use these email addresses to send email notifications to the program directors and chairs who are required to complete safe environment training and to provide authorization for a background check. Directors and chairs should look for email notifications from Armatus in their inbox or spam folder. These will provide assigned username and password to complete the required training and the link necessary to provide background check authorization. The Knights of Columbus covers all costs associated with these requirements. **Please work with your Grand Knight and the State Advocate to ensure your Council is compliant with the Youth Protection Training.**

STATE EVENT COORDINATOR CO-CHAIRMAN PAT RUPP

Pat joined the Knights in 1988 as the founding Financial Secretary of Council 9918 (St. Joan of Arc in Omaha). In 1996, he transferred to Council 10160 (St. Stephen the Martyr in Omaha) where he served as Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, and Trustee. In 2006, Pat became the founding Grand Knight of Council 14077 (St. Charles Borromeo in Gretna) where he currently serves as Chancellor.



In 1990, Pat joined the 4th Degree with Assembly 594 (Fr. Michael P. Dowling) and in 1998, he became the founding Faithful Comptroller of Assembly 2541 (Mother Teresa in Gretna). In 2017, St. Stephen the Martyr and St. Charles Borromeo councils formed Assembly 3736 (Father Flanagan in Gretna). Pat is the current Faithful Admiral of Assembly 3736. For the State Council, he served as State Membership Director for PSD the late John Melena from 2004 to 2006 and as District Deputy from 2009 to 2013. He has been Convention Co-Chair since July of 2017.

Pat married Cindy in 1986 and has two children, Stephanie and Thomas. Stephanie is the Nursing Skills Lab Manager and Clinical Liaison for the College of St. Mary in Omaha and married Andrew Edson in 2016. Andrew is a First-Degree Knight in Council 14077. Thomas works for Papillion Sanitation and is a First-Degree Knight in Council 14077. Cindy and Pat are active in their home parish, St. Charles Borromeo in Gretna as an usher and EMHC.

STATE EVENT COORDINATOR CO-CHAIRMAN MITCHELL LOWERY

Mitchell joined the Knights of Columbus in 2004, joining Blessed Sacrament Council #11001 in Lincoln. There, Mitchell has served in several different directorships including Youth Director and Community Director. Mitchell has also served in many different offices at the council level including Deputy Grand Knight and Grand Knight. Mitchell currently serves as the Council Community Director and as a Trustee for Blessed Sacrament Council.



Mitchell joined the Fourth Degree in 2005, becoming a member of Bishop Kucera Assembly #595 in Lincoln. There, Mitchell served as Scribe for one year before becoming the Charter Captain for Saint John Paul the Great Assembly #3640. He served as Captain for two years before serving as Faithful Navigator for two years. Mitchell currently serves as the Faithful Admiral for the Assembly.

Mitchell has also been very active on the State Family since joining the Knights. His first job was serving as the Production Specialist for Past State Deputy John Smith in 2004 and continued to serve in that role through Past State Deputy Jim Haiar. Mitchell then served as State Youth Director for Past State Deputies Richard Lowery and Tony Hergott. Mitchell then served as a Production Specialist for Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Borytsky.

Mitchell works at Staples in Lincoln as the Print & Marketing Supervisor, where he has been working since 2020. Mitchell is an Eagle Scout and is still active with the Scouting program. Mitchell is also active in his home parish of Blessed Sacrament, serving as an Acolyte since 2014 and as a CCD instructor for the 7th & 8th Grade class for the last 14 years.

STATE MEETING INFORMATION

The State Convention Coordinator Co-Chairs are charged with the duties of gathering and compiling reservations and then securing the rooms and meals for the three State meetings held each year. These meetings are Leadership Training (Grand Knight) Seminar, Mid-Year Conference, and the State Convention. In doing so, they must keep track of 200 – 450 meal tickets and 150 – 300 room assignments for the Knights, their wives, families, and State guests.

Following are some simple ideas that would greatly help them to do their job better and ensure that you have a wonderful time at all our meetings:

- Read the instructions thoroughly. Pay special attention to the date that registrations need to be returned. The hotels have strict timetables about cutoff dates, and we want to make sure that you have a room. Also make sure that you send it to the proper people. We are now handling all three meetings, so the reservations come to us and not to Ray Guggenberger. Ray has enough to do trying to answer all our questions without having to forward reservations also.
- Please print your name clearly where it says, “Print Name”. It makes it a lot easier when we have a lot of reservations to go through. Also please put your full title/position down. If you are a DD, please include your District number; again, it makes it easier for us to make sure of the billing and that you get a room and food.
- Make sure that you include yourself in the number of meals if you have someone else with you. If you and your wife or a friend will be having dinner and you just put down 1 (for them) and assume that we know that you will be eating also, someone is not getting dinner. If you are married, we assume that it will be you not eating.
- If you do not plan to attend the meeting, send your reservation in anyway, showing that you are not planning to attend. This would save us having to call you to see if you just forgot.
- Have the Councils send their reservations in together as a Council. That way they do not get mixed up and the tickets are given to someone else.
- Checks are payable to “**Nebraska Knights of Columbus**”.
- Have a good time at the meetings. It is a time to learn, to visit with old friends, and to make new ones. We are all family here, blessed to be Knights and to belong to the greatest organization in the world.

STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN RON GOODRICH

In his eighteenth year as co-publisher of the *Nebraska Knights Courier*, Ron Goodrich has again accepted the position of Public Relations Chairman for the State Council. Along with his wife, Duffi, Ron continues to be responsible to oversee and produce four issues of *Knights Courier* (annually) and many other volunteer print projects. He will also oversee and produce any other publications/printed pieces the State Officers, Directors, and Chairmen deem a priority.



This fraternal year, Ron will also be responsible to oversee a monthly reminder to councils to submit any publicity done the previous month to promote the Knights and their council programs. Submitting these informal reports will help councils earn points toward the Public Relations Award presented each year at the State Convention.

Ron is a member of Fr. William A. Foster Council 9518, Ralston, since 1990. He became a Fourth-Degree member of Assembly 3431, Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan, Omaha, in June of 2008. Also active in parish and community life, Ron has served on the St. Gerald Parish Council, the Building Committee, as a mentor in the RCIA Program, and a RENEW coordinator. He was also a youth leader in the Godparent Program, visited homebound for over 10 years to take them the Eucharist, created and headed the parish parking lot and lock-up security patrols, and was a youth baseball coach and Cub Scout leader.

Ron currently visits homebound parishioners, provides rides to weekend Masses, and spends an hour weekly at Eucharistic Adoration in the parish chapel. A 29-year veteran of the Omaha Police Department, Ron and Duffi, his wife of 50 years, have owned their own business for the past 28 years.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Publicity and Public Relations: Public relations is an important component of the Knights of Columbus. Public relations, in its broadest sense, is the art of making the public aware of the following:

- What an organization is doing.
- Why it is doing it.
- The people it serves.
- How it contributes to the welfare of the entire community.

Through communication, we can inform people about the activities of the Knights and when these activities will be taking place. By doing this, we can motivate our members to get involved in the Council through participation in the activities and through individual action. We can give our members a sense of responsibility and pride. We can also make recruitment easier since more people will be familiar with what our organization is and what we are doing.

For your council to earn any publicity award points, the specific items must be brought to the attention of the PR Chairman.

Publicize Your Events: Create a year-long calendar with the planned events, adding more as they occur. Assign a member the task of handling the PR for each event and the responsibly to make an ongoing list of publicity to be sent to the state PR chair by the March 1 deadline. Members responsible for the communication of council activities should also acquaint themselves with the appropriate people at the diocesan and local newspapers, radio, and television stations.

Always write a news release about each event and send to diocesan and local newspapers.

When writing news releases for the press or providing the newspaper staff with information, always remember to give them background information. The information should include the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the local program or project. Publicize the event well in advance through whatever other media is appropriate (parish bulletin, pulpit announcement, flyers and posters, newspapers, radio/TV community calendars). Always be sure to include the name of a contact person and his phone and email.

Assign someone to take as many photos as possible. (Please check out the photo publishing policy at <http://nebraskakofc.org>), take notes and get comments from participants, the Grand Knight and any VIPs. Events such as the kickoff of the Tootsie Roll® Drive, an annual fish fry, or recognition of council award winners might offer special visual appeal, and therefore, special efforts should be made to get a photo of these activities.

If you use your mobile phone or tablet to take these photos, take the photos at the highest quality possible. If you're outdoors, make sure the sun is not in the eyes of the subjects and that they remove their hats and sunglasses.

Write a summary and publicize in the same manner as you did in “advance” the results of the event (money raised, benefactors, community enjoyment) as is appropriate. Consider sending your final article to Supreme for one of their online publications or *Columbia* magazine. Even if you are politely rejected, keep trying after each event. Instructions on how to write and send articles and photos can be found at <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/columbia/index.html>.

Council Newsletter: An editor should be appointed for the council newsletter. He should have a sense of organization. His duties are to get items of interest, possibly solicit advertisements, and oversee the layout of the publication. A single copied sheet is the simplest format. More elaborate council newsletters may be used. The choice of format usually depends on the budget and the volume of available news. If the publication is to be printed, it may be financed through the acceptance of carefully chosen advertisements. Many councils choose to send their issues through email or post them online on the council website.

Council Website: A council website is important, not only for current members, but for anyone in your area seeking information about the Knights. Your council webmaster should have a basic knowledge of working with a website. Often members ask their children to help. It's also important to keep your website current. A website is only as good as its information.

Other Tools: When using other media pieces, make sure you are identified as the Knights of Columbus. For example, roadside signs and banners need to at least display the 3rd Degree emblem, but it would be best to have the council's name and location (e. g. Knights of Columbus Council 1234, Omaha).

DON'T WAIT UNTIL MARCH 1, 2022, TO SUBMIT! It is not necessary to wait until March 1 to send any publicity information for award consideration. Send any publicity with the form or other list on a monthly or quarterly basis, and we will keep track.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD FORM

DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022

Check appropriate items below and include any requested information/attachment.

URL = Complete web address.

You may copy this form as often as needed or create your own form/list.

Examples of Public Relations Points for Publicity Awards	Possible Points
Article featured in a magazine or newspaper or OTHER online or printed publications Council newsletters are not part of this category. Include a copy, mail/email, or identify URL.	25 points
Rejected but submitted article in a magazine or newspaper or OTHER online or printed publication. Include a copy, name of publication, forward submitted email, or identify URL	15 points
Photos accompanying article. Send emails/texts of photos. Be sure they are identified.	each 5 points
TV/Radio interview/feature story. Send description, date/time of airing, email/text	25 points
Community Calendar spots on radio/TV, newspapers, online. Send date/time of airing, or identify printed/online publication. Parish bulletin not included in this category.	15 points
Roadside billboard/signs with Knights of Columbus identified as sponsor of the sign. Send a photo of the sign with its location.	45 points
Family of the Month from Supreme. Indicate which month	15 points
Council newsletter. Mail/email a copy.	each 10 points
Council brochure describing the good works that your council does. Mail/email copy.	15 points
Council Website kept current. Can be part of parish website. Identify URL.	15 points
Council social media , Facebook, Twitter, etc. Monitored and current.	each 15 points
Separate Insert/Paragraphs in parish bulletin about a Council event. Parish calendar not included.	10 points
Council recruitment/other videos. Email, include DVD, or URL if posted on website.	20 points
Other. Name what it is and send a sample in whatever way the sample is available (email, mail, etc)	TBD

All items to be counted toward award points **MUST BE** identified/seen by the Public Relations Chairman. You may submit PR items not included on the above list or create your own list. To be eligible for points, you must send samples requested documentation of any of the items listed above or that you feel deserve recognition to:

Ron Goodrich, Public Relations Chairman
8818 Ohern St., Omaha, NE 68127-2536
ron149@cox.net, 402-968-6209 cell, 402-592-0823 home/office
Please feel free to send on a monthly or quarterly basis.

ALL SUBMITTALS DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022

These points are used only to determine Public Relations/Publicity Awards.

They do not directly affect the ICC Awards.

The top two council in each division will be presented with awards at the State Convention.

DO NOT BE AFRAID

~ 65 ~

ICC Publicity Award Form

DUE NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2022

Check appropriate items below and include any requested information and attachments. URL = complete web address.

You may copy this form as often as needed.

Featured Article/picture in *Columbia* magazine or any other online or printed publication from Supreme.

Include a copy or identify URL here:

Rejected article/picture in *Columbia* magazine or any other online or printed publication from Supreme.

Print and attach email from Supreme.

Article/picture in diocesan paper/website.

Include a copy or identify URL here:

Extra picture(s) included with article in diocesan paper/diocesan website.

Identify which article if submitting more than one.

Picture showing your council visible as Knights (shirts, aprons, etc.) serving the community

Identify how you are serving community, date, location.

Article/picture in local paper/website.

Identify which article if submitting more than one.

Article/picture sent to Nebraska Knights *Courier* but not used.

Email to Publicity@NebraskaKofC.org or include with this form.

Article/picture in Nebraska Knights *Courier*.

Identify which issue of *Courier* it was featured in:

National TV/radio/webpage/Facebook story.

On a separate sheet of paper, summarize story, indicate date and time of airing.

Local TV/radio/webpage/Facebook story.

On a separate sheet of paper, summarize story, indicate date and time of airing.

Local Community Calendar spots - radio/TV/newspapers/online.

If radio/TV, name the station, event, dates. If online, identify URL here:

Roadside/billboard signs with Knights of Columbus identified as sponsor of the sign.

Include a photo of the sign and give its location.

Family of the Month designated by Supreme.

Include documentation or give the month/year here:

Council newsletter and/or regular article in parish bulletin/parish newsletter.

Attach a sample or email to Publicity@NebraskaKofC.org.

Council brochure describing the good works that your council does.

Include a sample.

Council website or page on parish site kept current.

Identify URL here:

Council social media account (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) monitored and current.

Identify URL here:

Council recruitment/other videos.

Include a DVD or URL if posted on a website:

Other - name what it is here:

On a separate sheet of paper, describe and include any copies, photos, URL, etc.

COURIER EDITOR DUFFI GOODRICH

In her eighteenth year as co-publisher of the *Nebraska Knights Courier*, Duffi along with her husband Ron continues to be responsible to oversee and produce four issues of *Knights Courier* (annually), and many other volunteer print projects. Duffi has been involved with the Nebraska Knights of Columbus at the state level for many years. Her husband Ron is the state PR Chairman, and her son Aaron was instrumental in starting the state website.



The Goodrich's have been parishioners at St. Gerald, Ralston/Omaha for over 40 years. Duffi is currently a lector and EMHC for weekday and weekend Masses, has an hour of adoration every week, visits the homebound, and helps provide rides to Mass for parishioners. She has served on many committees and organized many events over the years, including serving on two capital campaign core teams, as parish council member, worked with teens through the Godparent Program, and was a RENEW team leader.

STATE IT PRODUCTION KEVIN OSTDIEK

Kevin joined St. Stephen council 1906 in Lawrence, NE as a senior in high school. As a member of Blessed Sacrament council 11001 in Lincoln, he has held all offices from Recorder to Grand Knight, Trustee. He has also served as captain of his council's 1st degree team and CO of Lincoln's 3rd degree team. He served as District Deputy from 2008 to 2012 and State Membership Director from 2015-17 and from 2019-21, in addition to other duties.



In Blessed Sacrament, Kevin serves as an acolyte, Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist, and usher. He has helped with the Come Home for Easter program, co-chaired the parish fund-raiser, and remains active in many aspects of Blessed Sacrament. He is active in the Light of the World community in the parish and has led several retreats as the Main Evangelist.

Kevin currently works as the Special Projects Coordinator for the Diocese of Lincoln.

STATE SOCIAL MEDIA / IT SUPPORT

NATHAN RICHARDSON

JOSH RICHARDSON

Nathan Richardson is 18 years old and the son of Matt and Connie Richardson. He recently graduated from Lincoln High School and will attend Southwestern Community College in Iowa where he will be a member of the baseball program. He is a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Lincoln. He joined the Blessed Sacrament Council 11001 in 2020.



Josh Richardson is 16 years old and the son of Matt and Connie Richardson. He attends Pius X High School in Lincoln where he is active in National Honor Society, basketball, and track. He is a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Lincoln.

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