



# “Manitoba News”

Manitoba State Council - Monthly Bulletin

September, 2011



## State Deputy's Message

Leading us to tomorrow!

I resolve to commit my dedication, energy and time in service to all my Brother Knights who have placed your trust and confidence in me as the State Deputy for the Jurisdiction of Manitoba.

My theme this year is Evangelization: “I am my Brother's Keeper.” With the

Organizational meeting behind us, it is time to roll up our sleeves and promote the ideology of our founder, the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney.

Our trip to New Haven has enabled us to view the vision of our Supreme Knight on training and educating us to work as a “team”. In so doing promoting programs and values of the Knights of Columbus so that men, young and old, will want to be part of our great organization. We have to be the leaders and lead by example in our parish, community and public affairs so that we are the organization that “any eligible Catholic beyond 18 years of age will want to join.” We have to train our members as we move forward in our succession so that we can grow and strengthen our order in years to come.

We have to challenge ourselves to each sign up a new member during this Fraternal year. It is not just a new member but a member who wants and desires to be a Knight of Columbus and has our vision to promote the Order and its good works. It will not do a council any good to recruit numbers without focus and two years later do the paper work to drop them from the council. If we begin by recruiting a man for the right reasons and he is properly informed about the membership fees and initiation fees, and inspired by the council's programs and activities, why would he leave?

The challenge is also one for the Grand Knights, their council officers and members at large. Your council can do “what they have always done” or it can further grow and inspire Catholic men to join the order. You can start this growth by being that leader.

Run your meetings as per charity, unity, and fraternity and always be guided by these principles. Take one step at a time. Learn, inspire, educate and motivate as you accept responsibility to take the Order forward promoting good works, supporting our priests, bishops and the church. Remember, “May you be a credit to yourself, to us the Order and to the Saviour of us all.” The best support a member can give is to attend his council meetings and take an active part in Council activities.

Our Insurance Program is a success story, our ratings are the finest in the industry. Please include the Insurance Agents by invitation to your council meetings and any Knight's function where they will be a great service to you and to your membership endeavors.

Remember to promote our programs, in particular The Lady of Guadalupe Icon which will be travelling throughout the province. In addition, wheelchairs, Special Olympics, blood donor, baby bottle drive and all youth programs especially the Squires to name just a few.

In the coming months, my wife Connie and I look forward to meeting you and working with your councils to help you promote the Knights of Columbus in your community.

Remember 4 key words ---- train, educate, assist and motivate = “TEAM”

God Bless all that you do!

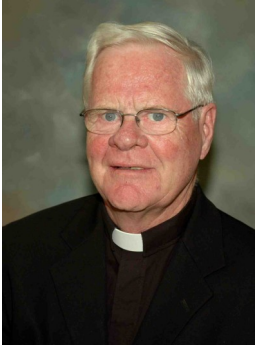
Vivat Jesus

Merlyn Onyschuk

## Why Join the Knights of Columbus?

Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference.

## State Chaplain's Message



Brother Knights:

You will be soon back to your monthly meetings. My prayers and best wishes for a fruitful and faith-filled Columbian year.

Congratulations and God's blessings on our new State executive who were installed on July 8 at St. Theresa's Church, West St. Paul. I pledge to work closely with them in promoting the activities of all our Manitoba councils.

Last year, Manitoba State took on the "project 40—Refurbish". This involves supporting financially the refurbishing of St. Benedict's Monastery Retreat and Conference Centre. This is the only retreat Centre in Manitoba. Many councils responded generously to this appeal. Monsignor Michael Buyachok and I have personally supported this project. It is our hope that more councils will support this project, and the target will be reached this year.

I attended the annual Supreme Convention in Denver, Colorado from August 1–4. Great emphasis was given to Blessed John Paul II and his support of the Knights of Columbus. A John Paul II museum sponsored by the Knights is being set up in Washington, D.C. The theme of this Columbian year "going forth in hope" was presented. Attendance at the Supreme Convention brings home the great influence for the Catholic Faith and charitable works undertaken by the Knights of Columbus. With a membership of 1.8 million, it is the largest organization of Catholic men in our Church. When you read the Columbia magazine, you will see articles on spiritual growth, message from the Supreme Knight and the Supreme Chaplain as well as the charitable works of the Knights at home and abroad.

Fraternity and unity expressed in charity are important principles of our Order. We are called to work together as brothers. This year, the icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be travelling from council to council. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Americas. The appearance of Mary to Juan Diego in Mexico led to the conversion of thousands of Mexicans to the Catholic faith.

My blessing, prayers and every good wish.  
Vivat Jesus, Msgr. Louis McCloskey

## State Secretary

Paul Dupré



I was thrilled this year when State Secretaries were invited to New Haven to attend the Organizational Meeting along with the State Deputy. Attending this meeting gives the State Secretary an insight as to the plans for the upcoming year. Here are a few items discussed at the meeting:

### Membership 365

All Knights of Columbus councils should be "membership active" year round and with well-developed plans for bringing eligible Catholic men into the Order on a monthly and quarterly basis.

These were the main points of the "Membership 365" initiative outlined by Michael Durbin, senior vice-president for Membership Growth, in his Saturday morning address to the state deputies and state secretaries. He called the initiative a "12-month action plan for membership growth."

Membership was the main topic throughout the meeting in New Haven, with workshops and best-practices sessions devoted to increasing the number of Knights.

### Theme: "One Member, Per Council, Per Month"

Under the theme "One Member, Per Council, Per Month," the Membership Seminar instructed Knights of Columbus state deputies, membership chairmen and other leaders to grow the Order through consistent and organized effort. While not all councils may be able to achieve this target, it is important that we recruit throughout the year and not only when we have *BLITZ'S*. If all the Grand Knights were to recruit a member the first month and then the Deputy Grand Knight the next month and so on, the effort is a lot easier.

### Quick Start

In order to get the new fraternal year underway and getting councils off to a "Quick Start" in membership recruitment Supreme is offering the councils & members the following incentives:

### Quick Start councils will receive the official beatification portrait of Blessed John Paul II when:

- They have submitted the Report of Officers Chosen for Term (#185) due July 1;
- They have submitted their Service Program Personnel Report (#365) due Aug. 1;
- Conduct a recruitment drive by Sept 30;
- Schedule and conduct one or more First Degrees by Sept 30 and
- Submit Report #450C. This form is available on the Supreme website.

In addition:

Each member who recruits a new member between July 1<sup>st</sup> and Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> will receive the Blessed John Paul II "Be Not Afraid!" medallion. Let's get recruiting and obtain the Blessed John Paul II "Be Not Afraid" medallion before Sept 30<sup>th</sup>. Have you earned yours? I know I've already earned mine!  
Vivat Jesus!



**Ed Balske**  
**State Advocate**  
**&**  
**First Degree Coordinator**

We are beginning another Columbian Year; I hope that all councils have already begun planning for this coming year. All council executives should have had their meetings and have hopefully put forth a good plan of action for their councils. "LET'S START THE YEAR OFF RIGHT".

As your State Advocate it is my responsibility to ensure that councils are conducting their business in accordance to the laws of the order and council by-laws. It is important that we as Grand Knights are conducting are meetings as outlined in the Charter, Constitution and Laws. It is important that members before entering a council meeting show their membership card. It seems that some councils have missed this step at council meetings. Also the seating arrangements for council meetings are also important and should be followed as indicated in the "Grand Knight's hand-book" (pg 11). Following these rules will ensure the dignity, decorum and efficiency in how meetings are conducted throughout our order in Manitoba. This will ensure that the business that needs to be conducted at your meetings is taken care of.

If you have any questions in regards to the conducting of a council meeting do not hesitate to give me a call, my number is available on the Manitoba State website.

### **Congratulations!**

To Matthew Lagacé, State Squires Chairman and Grand Knight, Henry Mielniczek, Transcona Council #3853 for recently starting a Squires group.

### **State Membership Director**



**Larry Kustra PSD**

Brother Knights,

It has been said before, a healthy council is one that has good programs and one that has active membership recruitment.

This year, for the first time ever, all State Membership Directors, met to discuss ways to increase membership growth in the entire Order. All Membership Directors agreed that there are Catholic gentlemen that have never been asked to join.

Our Supreme Knight, Carl Anderson, has asked every current member to offer the membership of the Knights of Columbus to every Catholic gentleman. How do we do that? Just ask him to join.



**A new Knights of Columbus Marian Prayer Program dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe was launched Aug 3. at the Supreme Convention**

### **Blessing of Our Lady of Guadalupe Icon**

Place: St. Theresa's Church  
3597 Main Street  
Winnipeg  
Date: September 23/11  
Time: 7:00 pm

We are fortunate this year to have two icons of the Lady of Guadalupe to circulate to our councils in our province.

We are inviting anyone who can to join us in celebrating the first blessing on September 23rd at St Theresa's.

The Icon will be circulated to all Districts within the province in the near future. Please support the blessing of the Icon when it comes to your area.

Tom Kraemer  
Church Director

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Manitoba State Council has chosen Brother Rheal Legal from Morden & Winkler District Council #10153 as the **Knight of the Month** for September 2011. Deadline for October is September 15, 2011.

## MANITOBA WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM



State Deputy, Merlyn Onyschuk and State Wheelchair Program Chairman, Larry Kustra PSD and members of the hospital staff present a wheelchair to Clarence Starr, at St. Boniface General Hospital on August 11.

State Deputy, Merlyn Onyschuk, has announced that the next container of wheelchairs will be destined for the Ukraine.

## Calendar of Events

Major Degrees:

Sept 17 Brandon  
Oct 8 St. Edward's

Other Events:

Sept 11 Ukrainian Catholic Anniversary dinner, Brandon  
Oct 1 financial secretary training  
Oct 27 chaplain's seminar  
Nov 5 4th degree exemplification  
Nov 11 Remembrance Day Service  
Dec 6 Light Up for Christmas  
Mar 10 basketball free throw



## Knights of Columbus Plan Shrine to Blessed John Paul II in Washington, D.C.

The Knights of Columbus announced that it will establish a shrine to Blessed John Paul II in Washington, D.C. The announcement was made during Supreme Knight Carl Anderson's annual report at the Knights' 129th International Convention being held in Denver.

In addition to the shrine itself, the preliminary plans for the site include exhibits on the life and legacy of Blessed John Paul II, and an exhibit on the Catholic heritage of North America. The shrine and related exhibits will be located at the site of the present John Paul II Cultural Center in Northeast Washington.