



Knights' Visions

Keeping the vision of Father Michael J. McGivney

March 2008

State Chaplain
Fr. Leo McDowell

State Deputy
Bob Murphy

State Secretary
Bill Burke

State Treasurer
Rod McElwee

State Advocate
Dave McLean

State Executive Secretary
Edward G. Wirtz, PSD

**Immediate Past State
Deputy**
John Glen

State Warden
Jim Steenson

State Program Director
Kevin Miller

State Membership Director
Allen Cormany

District Deputies:

Burt May

Pete Pfau

Louis Hull

Paul Mahony

Dale T. Blom

David D. Scott

Arthur Malisani

Herb Vasseur

Terrence Cody

Dave Golterman

Wayne Mangold

Gerald Johnson

Kevin Treece

Web Site

montanaknights.org

News Site

montanaknights.org/blog

State Deputy's Message:

Worthy Brothers, the State Convention is just around the corner. We will be selecting a new slate of officers and conducting the business of the State Council. It's time to make sure your Council's delegates and alternates have been selected, and the credential form submitted to the State Secretary. State per capita must be paid before your council can seat your delegates. Thanks to all the Councils that have submitted Fraternal Survey forms, Special Olympics form and Semi-Annual Audit forms. Councils that have not yet submitted the forms must do so now. I know that the paper work is distasteful, but it's an important part of our mission. Chasing paperwork takes time from the State Officers and District Deputies that could be used to increase work in Church, Family, Community, Council and Youth activities. So, please make every effort to get your reports in on time!

This is my last term as your State Deputy. I am deeply grateful for the support you have given me during these last 2 years. I am grateful to brother Marty Beatty for editing our newsletter, brother Randy Heinz for establishing and updating the State Web Site www.montanaknights.org, District Deputies who are the key to success in our Order, (and the ones who get pinged on for the reports,) and most of all, the Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, who are the backbone of the Knights of Columbus.

We have made progress many areas. Membership has become a watchword in all councils. I am waiting on pins and needles to see if this will be the year of positive growth we have been striving for. Our charitable activities both at the Council and State level continue to be outstanding. Church activities such as Knights involvement in parish ministries, maintenance and youth activities are awesome. Our Community involvement, especially Special Olympics and Boy Scouts grows annually. Family activities are good but we can improve in this area! Our Knight and Family of the Month programs need more Councils to participate. The parish picnics, holiday parties and especially Christmas parties and pageants keep us frontrunners in our parishes.

The youth of our State are blessed to have Brother John Beck as their leader. His passion and commitment for youth programs is outstanding. Council activities are good but could be better if we gave ourselves as much attention as we give to the other for program areas. We deserve a party for ourselves as well as others.

I will have one final State Deputy column. Until then, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. God Bless you all.-**Bob Murphy**

State Chaplain's Message:

We are preparing to celebrate the real highlight of our liturgical year. The Easter Triduum is truly a reflection upon our faith. Traditionally, the Chrism Mass is celebrated in the morning on Holy Thursday. At this Mass, we celebrate priesthood, and the priestly ministry. The oils to be used by the priests throughout the year are blessed or, in the case of the chrism, consecrated. The priests renew their vows to their bishop. Evening of Holy Thursday we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We celebrate the establishment of the Mass.

On Friday, we recall the Passion of Our Lord. We reflect upon what he gave so that we might have life. It is through his dying on the cross that our sins are forgiven. At the Easter Vigil, we celebrate the story of our salvation, from creation and the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt to the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We welcome new members into the church as they receive the sacraments of baptism and/or Confirmation and Eucharist. On Easter Sunday itself, we celebrate the joy of the resurrection. Jesus' rising from the dead reinforces his promise to us of everlasting life.

As we celebrate the Paschal Mystery, the passion, death and resurrection of Christ, let us reflect upon the meaning of these holy days.

May God grant you a blessed Triduum and a joy filled Easter. —**Father Leo McDowell**

State Secretary's Message:

It has been a busy few months for the state secretary with per capita payments, fraternal survey reports, and credential forms, etc. So far thirty three (33) councils have submitted per capita payments. We need the other 28 councils to send theirs in as soon as possible. Remember to submit credential forms so that I can complete a list of official voting delegates for the state convention in Kalispell. Also, when submitting per capita payments, please list any deceased members (for this fraternal year) so we can remember them at our convention mass. The state convention seems to be shaping up nicely. Kalispell has developed an exciting agenda for the Knights and their ladies.

The state officers met in Polson on February 16th to discuss the state Officers' resolutions for the convention, the upcoming external audit (Required by Supreme), membership recruitment, the financial status of our state council, and our effort to help the Butte Council recruit new members.

On March 1st and 2nd, eight of us Knights were in Butte to help recruit new members. We recruited after masses at the six parishes. From my viewpoint, the effort was successful

I have enjoyed serving as your State Secretary for since July of 2006. As many of you may know, I will be running for State Deputy at the coming convention in Kalispell. Look forward to see you all there.—**Bill. Burke**

Membership Director's Message:

It's up to every Montana Knight to offer membership to every Catholic gentleman, and for each Council to conduct frequent exemplifications. Let's use the time between now and June 30TH to make the 125TH anniversary year the greatest membership year in Big Sky Country. During March, Councils are encouraged to recruit as part of "March Recruitment Month." Let's welcome spring. Break the ice! Start a conversation with a potential new member.

Have you been able to retain current members and encourage 1ST Degree members to participate in Council activities? Have you been contacting former members about rejoining our Order per the State Deputy's directive? Remember the goal of each Council officer: recruit one new member before June 30TH. Is this on schedule and if not, what can be done to accomplish this request.

Please encourage your Council to become recruitment active during the weeks ahead. That new member is the path to Star Council and several Montana Councils are on that path. Keep up the good work! Recruitment is an everyday responsibility. As always, please let me know if you have any questions or need assistance.—**Allen Cormany**

Family Director:

Easter time! It's earlier than usual but we've still had the same days for preparation. As Lent comes to a close, we anticipate the solemnity of Holy Thursday and Good Friday and the jubilation of Easter all at the same time. There's such a difference in emotion over just a few days. Sometimes we wonder if we shouldn't have more days of sorrow to really get us to understand what Christ has gone through for us. And we can wonder if we shouldn't have more time to joyfully celebrate the results of Christ death and resurrection and really appreciate what God has done for us.

But the calendar doesn't restrict us any more than we allow it. Make some room. We can push aside the daily intrusions in the days to come to give us more time to contemplate what Holy week means for us. And perhaps we can focus on what our lives can and will be as we place more emphasis on what our salvation truly is - and hold that for the weeks to come.

I add one short note on family. From the cross, Christ asked John to care for his mother. John accepted. We, too, have been asked by Christ to care for family and neighbor. And we've been asked by our founder who, as a Catholic Priest, acted in the place of Christ. We accept that call as Christians, Catholics, and Knights of Columbus. We can search out those who need our prayers and our moral and material support. Check that calendar and see if we've filled in enough family activities this past year. If we haven't done enough yet, there is still time. - **Steve Zachmann**

Ceremonials Director's Message:

All councils in the area are invited to a first, second and third degree exemplification scheduled March 30 at Saint Mary Catholic Community, 1700 Missoula, beginning at noon. Immediately following the exemplification, a baron of beef dinner will be served for \$10 a plate at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1867 Washington (behind Whalen Tire on Airport Road.) All Knights and guests are welcome to attend. For additional information, contact Marty Beatty at 442-9804 or Jerry Johnson at 227-8020. Encourage new members and current first degree members in the area to attend.

A first, second and third degree exemplification will be held in Polson on April 20th. The time and place will be announced.-**John Glen**

Special Olympics Chairman:

WOW! I was once again reminded what it's all about! I was again privileged to attend the Special Olympics State Winter Games. Once again I was invited to observe the entrance of volunteers and 320 Special Olympians march between an honor guard of Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree from the Bishop Gilmore Assembly.

It was such a joy to experience the pride that the athletes showed during their games. Once again, I recommend that every Knight in Montana experience the joy of observing these athletes in their competition. **This is what it's all about!**

It's also about selling raffle tickets. The raffle is a major fund raiser for the Special Olympics and the Knights of Columbus. Every effort should be made to sell all the tickets allocated to the councils.

Let's review the strategy. Appoint a chairman in your council to monitor all the Special Olympics activities including all reports to Supreme and sales of the tickets. Sell the tickets at every Knights of Columbus function. Some councils have asked the local Chevrolet dealer to have a truck available where tickets are being sold. Special Olympians are available through Great Falls to assist with ticket sales. If you sell all of your tickets, let us know and we can get you some more. **This is what it's all about! – Art Gregr**

From: Bob Murphy, Knights of Columbus State Deputy, Montana Jurisdiction

To: State Officers
District Deputies
Grand Knights
All active and Inactive Knights in Montana



Subject: Montana Knights of Columbus support of our Bishops and Priests regarding Montana State Constitutional Initiative 100

Date: March 3, 2008

Worthy Brothers:

On February 26, 2008, the Catholic Bishops of Montana issued their statement that confirmed their commitment to “defend human life in all stages, from conception to natural death.” The goals of our bishops are in concert with those of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops and include the full legal recognition of the right to life of the unborn child. They “Seek an end to all abortions, so that all unborn children will be protected in law and welcomed in life.”

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops, the Bishops of Montana and the Bishops of several other states that have also proposed, “Personhood” amendments to their State Constitutions, “Do not believe CI-100 in Montana and similar initiatives in other states, “are the most beneficial venue to pursue necessary change.”

If passed into law, any state “Personhood” initiative would be challenged in Federal Court and struck down either in Federal District Court or the Supreme Court could refuse to hear it, because *Roe V Wade* is a Federal issue, not a state issue. Only the Supreme Court or the Congress of the United States can overturn *Roe V Wade*.

The Catholic Bishops of the United States continue to support a “human life” amendment to the Federal Constitution giving legally feasible means for bringing about an end to legalized abortion.

We, the Montana Knights of Columbus, having pledged to, “Support and be “In solidarity with our Bishops and Priests,” must do so now with regard to Montana CI-100.

This support will include not using to promote or collect signatures in support of CI-100:

- The name of the Knights of Columbus.
- Any Emblem of the Knights of Columbus.
- Any signs, banners or flags of the Knights of Columbus.
- Statements or language that would be personally offensive in regards to our Bishops and Priests or their offices.

We, the Knights of Columbus must remain steadfast in our support of pro-life and Right to Life issues that are supported by our Bishops. Some of these are:

- Helping to establish and fund pregnancy help centers.
- Participating in Right to Life Marches with KC defend life signs.
- Rosaries and prayers in a peaceful manner in front of Planned Parenthood or other abortion clinics.
- Be involved with “Adoption” as an option to “Abortion.”
- Ask your lawmakers to pass a law making it required to notify parents of women under the age of 18 seeking an abortion.

Vivat Jesus!
Bob Murphy

Cc: Most Reverend George Leo Thomas Ph.D, Bishop of Helena
Most Reverend Michael W. Warfel, Bishop of Great Falls-Billings
Randy Heinz, Webmaster of the Knights of Columbus website
Marty Beatty, Editor of the Knights of Columbus newsletter

Insurance Promotion Chairman’s Message:

There are only a couple of short months left for councils that want the Star Council award. It’s not hard to obtain the necessary insurance requirements. Just a few associate members willing to become insurance

members. For a council to receive a Founders Award or the Star Council Award is a great achievement. The truly real reward is the fact that the Knight is concerned about his family. He is willing to provide an income for them even after he's gone to his reward. Time and again I hear kind comments from departed member's families on the thoughtfulness of the departed, in providing for them through insurance. - Jack Tacke

Insurance Tip – We're concerned about what will happen to mom when we need that extra care in our old age. The Knights of Columbus have one of the best Long Term Care Plans in the nation. It can provide for you when you need care at home or if you need custodial care and assistance or full time nursing care in a nursing facility. Without any planning and a good long term care plan, your retirement funds can disappear within a couple of years. We are all living longer and the longer we live the more costly it is becoming. The older you become the greater the chances you will be receiving some type of long term care. You need to provide for your care and at the same time protect your retirement funds for your spouse so she can enjoy her autumn years. Visit with your Knights of Columbus agent about their Long Term Care plans and the peace of mind that it provides.-Jack Tacke

Youth Director's Message:

The opportunity to participate in the 2008 Montana State Council Youth Program Activities and demonstrate your commitment to our "Unity Principal" is about to expire. Please note the following program deadlines:

1. Substance Abuse Posters were due to the Youth Director by March 15, 2008.
2. Sponsorship Applications for St. Thomas Youth Camp Hat Drawing are due by March 30, 2008.
3. Your Council Contribution to the 2008 FOCUS fund are due to be submitted to the State Secretary before the state convention.

To Date, four councils have sent abuse awareness posters, three councils have sent checks to the FOCUS fund, and no councils have sent applications for sponsorship attendance at St. Thomas Youth Camp. Like participation at Sunday Mass, I'm hopeful that "just-in-time" participation will be realized..-**John Beck**

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE...

Bring food items or monetary contributions for the food bank at the state convention.

Items for the silent auction.

Participate in the silent auction

THANK YOU!

Montana Knights Website

The website for the Montana State Knights of Columbus is <http://www.montanaknights.org>. The webmaster is Randy Heinz and his email address is randy@sfolife.net. Go to the website to see what's going on in Montana! The Knight's Visions newsletter will soon be available on-line. Watch upcoming issues of Knight's Visions and the website for when this will happen.

Open House
2 pm Sunday, April 6, 2008
Butte Knights of Columbus Hall
224 West Park Street
Butte, MT 59701
All are invited and welcome to attend.



State Deputy and District Deputies

*Grand Knights and District Deputies,
Please make this newsletter available to all Knights at your council Meeting
Vivat Jesus!*

Knight's Vision
100 South Davis
Helena, MT 59601

