BADGER BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2025

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Life is Changed, Not Ended

FATHER MARK LINK TELLS an exceptional story: A little boy told his kindergarten teacher, "My sister's really dead! They put her in the ground and covered her up." The teacher put her arm around the boy and took him to a planter box by a window. There the class had planted seeds earlier. Using her finger, she scraped the dirt and found one of the seeds. Ponting to the green sprout emerging from the seed, the teach said, "See Bobbie, the seed is not dying. It is only changing the way of living. God never intended the seed to remain a seed. He intended it to become a plant. It is the same with your sister. She is now changing her way of living. God made her for something much more than just life in this world" (Tabor Publishing, 1987).

On November 2nd, Catholics throughout the world celebrate the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed or All Souls Day. This celebration can be traced back to the middle of the Fourth Century. It appeared in the Apostles Creed by the Fifth Century. This long-standing celebration gives witness to importance of understanding the implications of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and our belief in the Communion of Saints.

In the simplest terms, Jesus lived, died, and rose from the dead. This pattern is not only true for Jesus but for all of us, as well. So those who have gone before us in life and died, have had their lives changed and not ended. According to The Catechism of the Catholic Church, #957, the Communion of Saints connects believers who are both living and the dead. Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are all bound to Jesus Christ and to each other. Death does not end these bonds. This communion is celebrated in all the Sacraments, most clearly in the Eucharist. At every Mass, every day, there is a commemoration of the dead.

As Saint Pope Paul VI wrote: "We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and his saints is always [attentive] to our prayers" (Paul VI, CPG #30).

We can all pray with our beloved dead. Since we do not know if they are in the state of purgatory, we can intercede for them. You may have the habit of "praying for all the dead in purgatory, especially those who have no one to pray for them." We can also ask our beloved dead to intercede for us. Much of my priesthood has involved teaching. I often ask for the intercession of two of my great aunts who were School Sisters of Notre Dame. Each lived to be one hundred years old and both of them taught for over fifty years. I ask them to approach Jesus, the Divine teacher to give me the inspiration to teach well.

May this year's celebration of Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed be a time to recall our beloved dead, commend them to the mercy of God, and ask them to help us on our journey to eternity.

Vivat Jesus!

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, the Wisconsin Jurisdiction is having a great start to the new fraternal year. Through your efforts we achieved our first quarter (July – Sept.) goal of 253 new members. You exemplified 257 new members. Great work brother knights!

Now, we are in our second quarter, and we have been encouraging councils to schedule and hold more church drives, something that I believe has been lacking in the first quarter.

Effective church drives yield the most younger men and their families joining our order and helps us to ensure our future ability to do good works in the years to come as many of our senior members retire from active involvement.

Many councils have responded to that request and the results speak for themselves. 84 new members so far. After the first weekend of October, we had 33 men join. After the second weekend, 51 more men joined our order. Church drives are working. Those councils that have yet to schedule church drives, now is the time to start. We are here to help if needed in assisting your council with this activity.

Our goal for October is 125 and as of October 23rd we are at 119 or 93% with still 8 days remaining with the opportunity of one more church drive weekend remaining. We need to maximize our efforts to help us get a head start for November and December months where holidays & football games have historically had some impact on our efforts during those months.

We also welcomed another new council in Kenosha, Council 18811 Saint John Paul II with young men joining from Carthage College. Our State Advocate Dr. Dave Kreutz of council 973 and his team were instrumental in reaching out to these young men.

Our E-membership is going strong with the dedication of our Online Membership Chairman, IPSD John Huttenhoff following up with councils that have e-members assigned to them & getting them processed into those councils.

Our search for new District Deputies is starting to yield men stepping up and I am happy to welcome Mike Safford who will cover District 9, Mike Frase who will cover District 81, Liam Barnes who will cover District 8, and finally James Hooyman who will continue to cover District 11. Please thank these men when you meet them next. I am still in need of more men to step forward, so please it you have an interest, reach out to me and we can discuss the great opportunity this position offers.

If you are that person or know of another brother knight that exhibits dedication & leadership abilities and believes in the mission of Blessed Michael McGivney and the Knights of Columbus and wants to be part of our team to help our councils grow & adapt to the necessary changes in how we operate.

State officers attend a pilgrimage on October 19th.

90 DAY SPECIAL OFFER – TRY IT OUT – TEST DRIVE - KICK THE TIRES – READ BELOW

I am offering the option for men interested in a District Deputy position to agree to a 90 day no obligation assignment as my official representative in the District you reside in. The primary goal of the District Deputy is to help his assigned councils achieve Star Council status with our support. Councils achieving Star Council status are growing and keeping Blessed Father McGivney's mission alive!

On a final note: Your State Officers during a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse on October 19th have consecrated ourselves & our State Council to our Lady of Guadalupe. Mother Mary, Pray for Us!

Vivat Jesus!

THIS PAST WEEKEND, I had the privilege of joining our State Deputy and my fellow State Officers on a truly inspiring mission. Under the spiritual guidance of our State Chaplain, the Very Reverend Father Lobacz, and with the blessings of Bishop Battersby and Raymond Cardinal Burke, we consecrated the Knights of Columbus of Wisconsin to the loving protection of Our Blessed Mother under her beautiful title, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Together with Father Lobacz and the dedicated Evangelization & Faith Formation Team, Andy Orgovan and Justin Knapp, we shared in a day filled with faith, fellowship, and grace. It was a beautiful celebration that touched the hearts of everyone present.

If you have not yet made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, I wholeheartedly encourage you to do so. It is a place of peace, renewal, and profound spiritual strength.

As Knights of Columbus, we take great pride in our heritage. We honor our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, and all the Saints and Blesseds of our Order who have paved the way for us. November, especially, calls us to remember and give thanks for the Knights who built this great Order—men whose faith, vision, and service have brought us to where we are today.

Our present is strong: We are raising more funds, giving more hours, and making a greater impact than ever before. But we must also look to the future to ensure this legacy continues in the hands of Catholic gentlemen who aspire to live heroically through Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

Our Supreme Knight has issued us a simple but powerful challenge: "Invite two men to our Order." Let us rise to that call! As our churches grow fuller, especially in this season of renewed faith, let's make every man feel truly welcome, needed, and known. Let's be the ones who extend the invitation to brotherhood, to service, and to holiness.

Advent is just around the corner. In these coming weeks, as we see both familiar and new faces filling the pews, let's embrace this opportunity. Rather than grumbling about "Christmas and Easter Catholics," let's greet them with genuine warmth. Let them know we see them, we appreciate their presence, and we hope they'll return. Perhaps they will even join us in our mission.

Your pastor will be grateful for your kindness, and our Order will grow stronger—today and for generations to come.

On behalf of Lady Rebecca and myself, I wish you and your families a most Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. May God continue to guide our Order, our parishes, and our hearts as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

Viva La Cristo Rey!
Vivat Jesus!

FOURTH DEGREE IN ACTION

Fourth Degree Honor Guard from across the Eastern District of Wisconsin stand in formation during the Rosary procession at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion, as clergy and faithful process in honor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Honor Guard line the aisle of Mother of Mercy Hall as clergy and servers process in for the Solemnity of the Assumption Mass, attended by more than 3,000 pilgrims at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion.

OCTOBER WAS A GREAT MONTH for Online Membership. As of October 22, we have assigned a total of 222 new E-members since July 1. This is about 76% of the pace that we need to meet our State Goals, a considerable improvement since last month. So far Councils have transferred 127 E-members into Councils this Fraternal Year. Roughly 43% of Council Intake this year has been through E-members. This is a significant drop-off from the prior Fraternal Year, but is significantly improved from the prior month.

Cards with the QR Code to join online are available from Supreme. These can be very helpful when inviting men to join. Your Diocesan Membership Directors and District Deputies should be able to help you get these cards if you need them.

WGK & WFS please frequently review your councils PROSPECT tab and if you are having difficulty in making contact, or any other issue, please email me regarding these outstanding assigned e-members and I will gladly assist you with reaching a remedy.

REMINDERS

WGK & WFS please frequently review your councils **Prospect** tab. Should you experience any difficulty with this process, please email me regarding these outstanding assigned e-members and I will gladly assist you.

Supreme presented a Webinar in December on Transferring online members to council membership which you can access here.

Do not send Form 100's to Supreme for new members, keep them for your council's records. If you must use a Form 100, scan it and email it to Supreme, keeping the original for your council records. Since Form 100's must be manually processed at Supreme, they can lead to data entry errors and delays. Utilizing e-membership or the **Candidate** tab for new members are the preferred ways to bring in new members. **The date field is the date they were exemplified by your council. Once you enter those dates in either tab, the members will be automatically transferred to your council's roster within the next week.**

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me. I am in your State Directory.

Vivat Jesus!

PROSPECT TAB

Shows you e-members that have joined online via the Supreme app. The date field is used to transfer them into your council when they have completed their exemplification. With e-membership, new members enter their own data and confirm their membership, and then they receive an e-mail from Supreme. These e-members are then part of the state council, and get assigned to a local council. Until the local FS enters the exemplification date, these members remain part of the State Council. Local councils get credit for them when the exemplification date is entered by the FS to transfer them into your Council.

Clicking on this blue box will take you to the Prospect training.

CANDIDATE TAB

Used when you recruit a member locally or are handling a member transfer request or a reinstatement of a prior member. The Candidate tab can best be described as an online Form 100. The candidate tab training covers new members and transfers into local councils.

Clicking on this red box will take you to the candidate training.

ONLINE CEREMONIAL

Click on this box to take you to the **Online Ceremonial** invitation site.

AS I LOOK AT YOUR GREAT WORK so far this fraternal year, I see we have much to celebrate here in the State of Wisconsin. Thanks to your dedication, faith, and hard work, our Councils across the state have achieved the strong start our Worthy State Deputy asked for: We are growing in membership, expanding our charitable outreach, and strengthening the spirit of brotherhood that defines the Knights of Columbus. Every fundraiser, parish event, and act of service has been a testament to the strength of Wisconsin Knights living out our core principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. For all you have done so far this year, thank you!

But our mission continues. Our momentum is strong. Now is the time to build upon this success and invite more Catholic men to join us in serving Christ, our Church, and our communities. Across Wisconsin, there are countless men seeking a deeper way to live their faith, men who could become the next generation of Knights. When we extend an invitation, we open the door to lifelong brotherhood, meaningful service, and faith in action.

Let's finish this calendar year strong. Reach out to a friend, a family member, or a fellow parishioner and share what being a Knight has meant to you. Your personal invitation could be the spark that inspires another man to join our ranks and continue the proud Wisconsin tradition of service through the Knights of Columbus.

Together, we can ensure that the Wisconsin Knights remain a shining example of faith, unity, and charity for generations to come. Let's keep our momentum strong and welcome new brothers into our great Order.

Vivat Jesus!

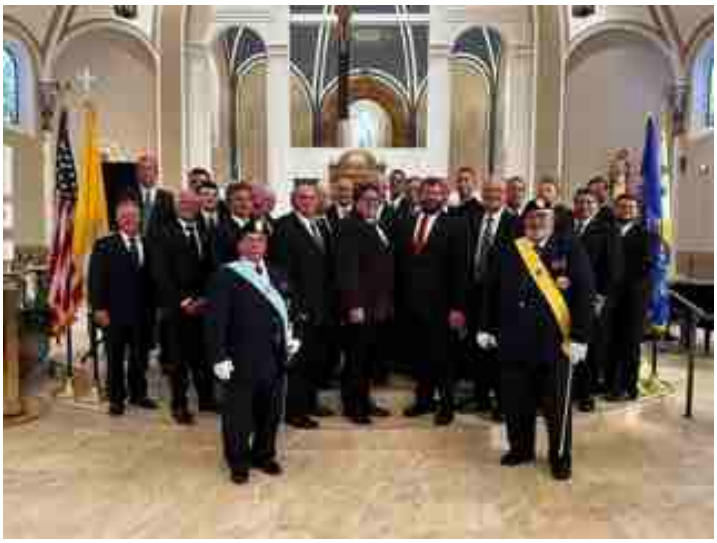
JOIN THE FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY GUILD

Honor His Legacy. Advance His Cause.
Strengthen Your Faith During the Jubilee Year of Hope.

As the Church celebrates the Jubilee Year of Hope, Catholics everywhere are called to renew their faith and walk more closely with Christ. What better way to respond than by drawing inspiration from our founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, who gave his life to strengthening families, building parish communities, and bringing hope to those on the margins.

By joining the Father McGivney Guild, you can (1) support his cause for sainthood and pray for his canonization, (2) deepen your spiritual life through his intercession during this Jubilee of grace, and (3) Publicly witness to our Catholic hope as a member of his spiritual family. Membership is free and open to all who believe in his mission. Guild members receive inspiring newsletters, spiritual reflections, and invitations to special devotions honoring Blessed McGivney. Let's help make our founder a saint.

McGivney Guild Chairman
Jack Wrbanich, PSD



IN THIS, THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR of the Patriotic Degree, 49 Brother Third Degree Knights joined the Patriotic Degree in the month of October. Master Jack Wrbanich and Master Duane Zaborowski are issuing a personal invitation to all third degree Brother Knights to strongly consider joining the Patriotic 4th Degree. The Patriotic Degree was explained in detail in the October article in the Badger Bulletin. We would love to see all the new third degree Brother Knights, who joined the KCs in the First Quarter of our fiscal year to become Sir Knights in the next 4 months. What a wonderful way to become more active in the Knights of Columbus, helping both the Council and the Assembly growing in your city/area.

There are still a few Honor Flights left this fall with the final ones being held in November in Milwaukee and Madison. Type in Honor Flights in Wisconsin into your browser and look them up for specific details. Be there to welcome back our veterans when they return from their visit to Wahington DC and the various Memorials. And a number of these veterans could be your Brother Knights. They really love to see the Honor Guard at these return Flights.

To all the Assemblies in the state: You can still participate in the ASAP program and raise matching funds for your local pregnancy centers. Just raise the funds and complete the application and for every $500 raised, Supreme will send a match of $100 to the local pregnancy center. Remember there is a cap per year of $2,000 at the Assembly or Council level for the Supreme matching funds.

Remember that the Patriotic degree is not separate from the Third Degree. We are all one body of Catholic men with a common purpose. The 4th degree is the Patriotic Degree and we are watched over by District Masters at the state level. But we are all under the jurisdiction of the State Deputy Patrick Reiff. He has mentioned time and time again that we should and will be working together to increase the membership at both levels. If all of us looked at recruiting our replacement in the Knights of Columbus each year, we could double our statewide membership. And if you are a 4th degree member, ask someone that is a third degree to join the 4th degree and double the Assembly size as well. That would eventually lead to more visibility, more programs and an excitement in the community to join this great Catholic brotherhood. Your Wisconsin Masters would love to have you join the Patriotic Degree and learn our Catholic history!

Vivat Jesus!

More photos of the Fourth Degree in action can be found on page 5.

THE END OF OCTOBER was the end of the first quarter of the Fraternal year. Let us take an inventory of what we have learned and what we have done.

By now we should have the Youth Protection Program finished for those Knights that are required to have it, and have had at least one fourth of your programs if not more finished. How many programs have we had and did we turn them into Supreme? Also did we send the PDF file we received from supreme and forward it to the State and your District Deputy or our Diocesan Coordinator? Let's not wait to send them in.

Do we have this quarter's programs planned out? November and December are great opportunities for the Knights to shine and showcase the work that we do. Again, the more we recruit the easier the programs become so let's not pass up this time of year.

The head of your diocese should be getting in touch with you. If you need any help please contact the Faith in Action Directors, as they are willing to help out with ideas. They also need the 10784s program reports so they can see what the councils around the state are doing. Like you, they along with myself need to make reports to the State Deputy. It is important to turn the reports into Supreme and the State.

What a great time of the year. Please do not forget to support and invite our Hispanic folks so that we can celebrate important feasts!

I would like to thank all of the councils for their efforts in following our founding mentor the Blessed Father McGivney. Have a Blessed Holiday season

I would like to know if you are reading this report. Please let me know through email!

Vivat Jesus!

You **asked.** We **delivered.** Now, will you?

Fraternal Year 25/26 Schedule for GA-sponsored FBE (7:00 pm CST)

Monday, November 24

Wednesday, December 17

Thursday, January 29

Wednesday, February 25

Thursday, March 26

Wednesday, April 29

Thursday, May 28

Wednesday, June 24

Mark your calendars and make plans. Remember to invite the **entire** parish, making sure to get the invite in the church bulletin.

Get Educated.
Get Credit.
Have **FUN!**

ULTRASOUND PROJECTS

Hope Life Center, Wausau; CareNet Dane County, Madison; Lillies of Hope, Grafton; and First Choice PRC, Marshfield. Congratulations to Council(s) #1069, #4586, #4520, and #1799 for your leadership on these ultrasound initiatives. If your council would like to help, please send your checks to:

St. Joseph Council #4586
Charles Risler
1102 Timothy Ave.
Madison, WI 53716
(608) 574-9935
risler5@yahoo.com

George S. Schreier Council #1069
Jon Kleist
159033 Evergreen Road
Wausau, WI 54403
(725) 551-7850 C
kleist1150@gmail.com

San Salvador Council #4520
Dave Breidenbach
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Cedarburg, WI 53012
(262) 665-8215 C
david.breidenbach@gmail.com

John Eisen Council #1799
Tim Herr
816 E. 18th St.
Marshfield, WI 54449-5015
(715) 305-0938 C
tim.herr412@gmail.com

NEED HELP WITH ULTRASOUND FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN?

There is a great pro-life organization out in Yelm, Washinton (state) called 4US. They will help with **25%** of the cost of the ultrasound. **Yes,** that is **half** of your council's obligation! Here's their website.

FIRST BABY SAVED FROM SAFE HAVEN BABY BOX

On October 20, 2025, an infant with its umbilical cord still attached, was dropped off at a location box in Racine. The Knights of Columbus funded $20,000 towards this project. Click on the image for the article.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Knights of Columbus have agreed to have boots on the ground for all Special Olympics of Wisconsin (SOWI) statewide events. Please help get the word out to your members to volunteer!

BOWLING

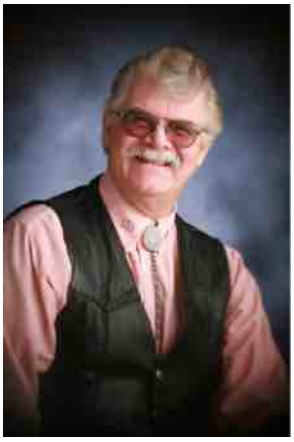
Join us for Special Olympics Wisconsin State Bowling Tournament at Dale's Weston Lane's on **December 6-7 in Weston, Wisconsin!** From a volunteer standpoint, I don't think it can get any more fun than this. Get your men there to volunteer and bring the whole family! Special Olympics of Wisconsin will put your whole family to work. It's a lot of fun!

ASAP GRANTS

Hopefully the month of October left your council's checking account **empty** after giving away all your money to pregnancy centers in your area. For every $500 your council or assembly donates to a pregnancy resource center or maternity home (up to $2,000), the Supreme Council will donate $100. But, you have to apply for it! It is always best to apply online. If you need help, let me know and I'll walk you through it. You can also provide me with the information and I will apply for you online! There are only two forms you need, Donation Receipt Letter and a W9.

CHOOSE LIFE WISCONSIN GRANT FUND

Any pro-life pregnancy center or maternity home can apply for a grant from Choose Life Wisconsin, the Choose Life Plate People! Apply here any time.
You can also purchase Pro-Life license plates. The more plates we have on the road, the more the pro-life message will be shared, and the more money there will be for the Pregnancy Resource Centers. The extra $25 you pay for the plate is **tax deductible** if you itemize on Schedule A. More information here.
Vivat Jesus!



I hope all is well and you are enjoying our Wisconsin fall season. As school is in full swing so are our fall activities. From all the fall sporting events to all the Parish Fall Festivals, they seem to all collaborate within the Family. The month of November has been hailed as the "Gratitude Month" and for very good reasons! Not only are we thankful for our abundant fall harvest which we are experiencing and our many blessings, but we also are giving thanks for our friends and family. Simply put, November is the Month of Thanksgiving. May we all continue to share the gifts God has bestowed upon us to share with our family, friends, and the less unfortunate. After all, charity is what the 1st Degree of our Order highlights.

With that being said, below are numerous Family activities which can encompass the simple gesture of giving. It doesn't always have to be a huge fundraiser or event. Sometimes, the most profound gift of giving can be done right in our own homes within our families! More family events can be found here.

Food for Families

Through Food for Families, council and parish families raise funds to support 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. While 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.

Family of the Month

Encourage councils to participate in this program to highlight the magnificent work families are doing throughout their community and within the parish. Families submitted through the online #10784 form are automatically entered into a drawing to win a diptych featuring the Holy Family. More information may be found here.

Family Fully Alive

Building a solid family prayer life is one of the key factors in passing on the faith to the next generation. Encourage councils to plan how they will distribute Family Fully Alive booklets and promote the prayers and activities associated with the program. For more information, click here.

Keep Christ in Christmas

Run a Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest in your state or province. Review this guidebook for information about the program. State submissions are due to Supreme by **February 27.**

Have a great November & Happy Thanksgiving! Until we meet again, take care, stay healthy, and God bless us all!

Vivat Jesus!

October has been very busy for the councils in District 11. Good Shepherd Council of Chilton #2556 did a "March For Life" in Green Bay. Tri-Parish Council of Hilbert #7732 hosted the Diocesan Level of our "Punt, Pass & Kick" program with other 50 participants. New Holstein Council #12393 served over 800 meals for their Parish Fall Festival. Finally, St. Joseph the Worker Council of Kiel #5539 also hosted a "March For Life" from 7am until 7pm. District 11 is in full swing with a number of activities!

IN NOVEMBER, WE WISH TO give thanks to God for all the blessings He's bestowed on us throughout the year. What better way to do so than to engage in one or more Community programs this month to help make this world a better place for all of us? So, finish up that Helping Hands project the Council wants to do in the parish or community. Work with the parish, district, and community to raise the money for 10 or 20 wheelchairs. Organize a blood drive for disaster preparations. Volunteer to help out with and coordinate a program rewarding hardworking students or assist teachers in your school or religious ed programs. Help plan and carry out programs for the holidays celebrating ethnic groups and their heritage in the parish or community at large (St. Nicholas, Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego, Posada, St. Stephen, etc.).

The Order and Wisconsin are on pace for another banner year with Coats for Kids. Congratulations to all who've ordered and carried out their drives! If not yet done, while the **BOGO** matching offer from State and Supreme is now over, there's still plenty of time to do a drive in December before Christmas or for the Feast of the 3 Kings (Epiphany – January 6).

I saw recently on social media a post from Habitat for Humanity stressing how much it helps them raise money for homes if you volunteer at or shop at their ReStore facilities. If you aren't able to help out on a building or remodel project, organize a KC effort to help out at the ReStore nearest you!

For Youth programs, remember that Citizenship Essay Contest essays (grades 8-12) are due to Councils by December 15 and to the Diocesan Program Coordinators by January 1.

The State PPK Contest is set for Saturday, November 1 at Newman High School in Wausau (10-11 registration/practice, 11:15 announcements and start of competition).

If your Councils have run soccer contests this fall or the hockey skills challenge, remember to report your results to your DPC and to me when you are done. We need this information to determine possible Diocesan winners and/or State winners and awards for those programs and participants.

It's not too early to begin planning for Knowledge and Free Throw Contests. The window for them is essentially December 1-March 22 (District Deputies may hold District Free Throw Contests March 7/8, 14/15, 21/22). Diocesan Knowledge and Free Throw Contests should be March 28/29, April 11/12 or 18/19. The State Knowledge and Free Throw Contest will again be in Wisconsin Rapids at Assumption High School April 25 or May 2 (TBD).

I hope you have a wonderful November. Remember all our veterans on November 11 (another great time to join in community functions). Wishing you a happy, healthy, holy and blessed Thanksgiving! Do make a KC difference on those following days (November 28-December 2).

Vivat Jesus!

Knights of Columbus®

BY NOW ALL THE COUNCILS should have received their State Charity Raffle Tickets via their District Deputy, Diocesan Charity Coordinator or Diocesan Director. If any council has not received them as of this newsletter, please reach out to me and I will address the matter in a timely manner.

As is a yearly practice, getting the tickets into the hands of your members helps start the practice of Charity in our councils and communities. Nearly every dollar spent on a raffle ticket will make a difference and touch the life of a human – born or unborn – somewhere, even right down to your neighbors, friends, coworkers, etc.

First turn-in reports should roll in beginning mid-December. If your council needs additional report forms, they are available on the State Website under **Charity**, or by giving me a ring or email.

Raising the funding for charitable outreach is very important to our mission: **Charity**, **Unity**, **Fraternity** and **Patriotism**. There are many good people out in our communities that are grateful for organizations like the Knights of Columbus who don't think of themselves but only of serving the needs of others. Let's keep that beacon of light glowing for many years to come!

Vivat Jesus!

"Let us show Christ honor, not with olive branches but with the splendor of merciful deeds to one another."
+ St. Andrew of Crete, Bishop (650-712 A.D.)

All Saints Day and All Souls Day Celebration are ending, and we are moving closer to Thanksgiving Day. This is where we thank God for the growing season and the harvest it had produced for us. As we have historically filled our storage shelves and celebrate by thanking God, we must remember Jesus's teaching to help those that are less fortunate than we are.
Before November ends on November 30th, we will begin Advent which is the period of waiting and preparation for Our Savior to arrive and bring us into the Christmas Season. The Advent season is filled with feast days that are some of the pillars of our faith.

IMITATING JUAN DIEGO

This is a new Program from the Knights of Columbus which promotes devotion to both St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego led to the mass conversion of millions of indigenous people to the Catholic Faith and continues to serve as a means of evangelization today.

For two Faith program credits toward the Columbian Award, organize a traveling image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in your parishes to encourage families to pray and grow in devotion to Our Lady. Working with your pastor review the literature available here. Remember the Feast of Saint Juan Diego is on December 9th and Our Lady of Guadalope is December 12th. These would be ideal times to begin or end this pilgrimage in your parish. However, it can be done at any time.

THE PILGRIMAGE OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

This should have reached more than half of the Councils by now. However, issues continue to pop up some which are very encouraging, and others are very disturbing. The encouraging part is that Councils are getting multiple services throughout parishes in their area causing the material to constantly get depleted. As some councils are going through 30 prayer cards and another 1,000 it is hard to estimate when they need restocking. My recommendation is to estimate what your Council will need and order them at least a month before the Icon is expected to arrive in your parish. Remember the material is free and you only need to pay for shipping.

Another disturbing part is that some councils are having problems getting the icon. They are reporting to me the Council they should have been receiving from, did not get the icon and did not know they should have received it. I'm advising all Councils to contact both the Council they are scheduled to receive it from and to transfer it to at a minimum of one month before they should receive it. If a problem occurs please call me and your district deputy so we can assist in keeping the Icons on schedule.

The final disturbing factor is that I have been informed. some Councils have missed the rotation, for various reasons. If your Council is missing from the rotation contact me ASAP. I can find a point in the rotation to make the icon available to your council.

Please also consider Nov. 23 is the Feast of Christ the King and the perfect day to promote and/or run the Pilgrim Icon Program or distribute Home Enthronement materials to families. In fact, this year marks the 100th anniversary of Quas Primas, Pope Piux XI's encyclical instituting the feast! For more info on the Home Enthronement, click here.

SACRAMENTAL GIFTS – BIBLES

We are still selling both the YCAT and Complete Bibles. The web site was repaired, and I should now be getting notice of all online sales. I can also take your orders directly by email as listed below. Both Bibles are being sold for $12.50 each and if your Council does not have a credit card they can be paid for at delivery with a check to Wisc. State Council K of C.

Vivat Jesus!

St. John Vianney Knights of Columbus Council 9360 in Janesville held a Rosary for Life prayer service on October 4th. Over two dozen people gathered at Mt. Olivet Cemetery's Monument to the Unborn to hear Fr. Vince Racanelli lead us in prayer. Brother Andrew Marcotte lead the group in praying a rosary.

CAMPING ASSOCIATION NEWS

Now is the time to make reservations for our **June 26–28** Camp Out at the Whitetail Bluff Campground near Cassville, Wisconsin. To secure a site in our reserved section, and get our group discount, reservations need to be made by **January 1, 2025.** A fun filled, family outing is again being planned, including a Saturday evening family meal. Family and children's activities are being planned as usual. **New members are always welcome.**

For a great weekend, make your reservations now.

CONTACT

Joe Huser, State Camping Coordinator, (715) 572-4531
Mike Geisler, Sec/Treasurer, (715) 536-2203

Through Parish & Council fundraisers and with $13,000 from the Knights of Columbus Supreme grant, the Plymouth/Elkhart Lake Council 1789 of the Knights of Columbus has raised over $44,508 to purchase a new ultrasound machine for the new Anchor of Hope Health Care Center being opened in Plymouth.

Nationally, in 2009, the Knights of Columbus began an Ultrasound Initiative, which to date has resulted in the donation of 2,000 ultrasound machines to qualified pregnancy centers throughout the country. Locally, this is the second ultrasound machine the Knights of Columbus chapter has donated to Anchor of Hope.

The Knights of Columbus – Plymouth Council 1789 was founded in 1915. The members serve St. John the Baptist in Plymouth and St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Elkhart Lake to provide community involvement and raise funds for other not-for-profits and community projects. Founded on the principles of charity, unity, and fraternity, the heart of the work and Catholic faith of members of the Knights of Columbus means they support a virtually boundless variety of projects.

Anchor of Hope began in October 2013 as New Hope Pregnancy Center. Inc. The first center was opened in August 2015 in downtown Sheboygan. The licensed medical staff offers free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, STD testing and treatment, and well-woman care. Support staff offer information about abortion options, community education, and parenting classes. Financial backing for their services comes from business and church partners, individuals, and community organizations throughout Sheboygan County.

Left: Grand Knight Bryan Smith, District Deputy #61 Frank Kozlowski, Nurse Manager at Anchor of Hope Liz Hildebrandt, Executive Director of Anchor of Hope, Jacky Drewry, and Lecturer and Public Relations Chair for the Knights of Columbus Council #1789 Don Sager.

Remember Me… Remember Us

Joshua Hopper

"REMEMBER ME WHEN YOU ENTER YOUR KINGDOM," the thief asked Jesus. As they hung from their crosses, this criminal, who con his guilt, recognized Jesus' innocence. In return, Jesus said that the man would be with him in paradise. For someone on the verge of death, I am sure there are no better words to hear than those from the Lord himself.

What about us, though? We do not get the luxury to hear Jesus tell us we will make it to heaven. I heard of a time when Pope St. John Paul II was asked if he was saved, he replied, "I hope so." The leader of the Catholic Church, one who lived a most extraordinary life devoted to God, could not say with certainty that he was destiend to live with God in heaven.

I know from personal experience that this can be a tough pill to swallow. How could I ever be worthy for a place in God's heavenly kingdom? If someone like Pope St. John Paul II was unsure of his salvation, how will I even measure up?

On no scriptural or religious authority do I say this, but my best answer to this question is to emulate the saints and follow the Word of God.

Think about it.

During the transsubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, we repeat the words Jesus said during the last supper: "Do this in remembrance of me."

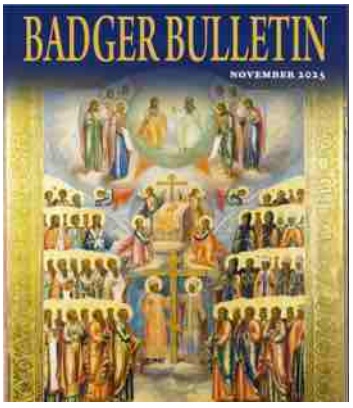
On the first of November every year, we commemorate all the saints, well-known and lesser-known, and honor their lives. These people were true examples of how God wants up to live our lives. They provide us with contemporary examples that saints come from all walks of life. Age, intelligence, gender, race, marital status, ethnicity—none of these these matter when determining sainthood. What matters is how we ultimately decide to live our lives.

While I may not be known as St. Joshua of Peoria years after my eventual death, I will be a saint if I make it to heaven. How do I get there? By listening to Jesus and following his teachings and by emulating the lives of the saints and trying to live my life like they did. Jesus told us the way and the saints provide us with an example to follow.

Vivat Jesus!

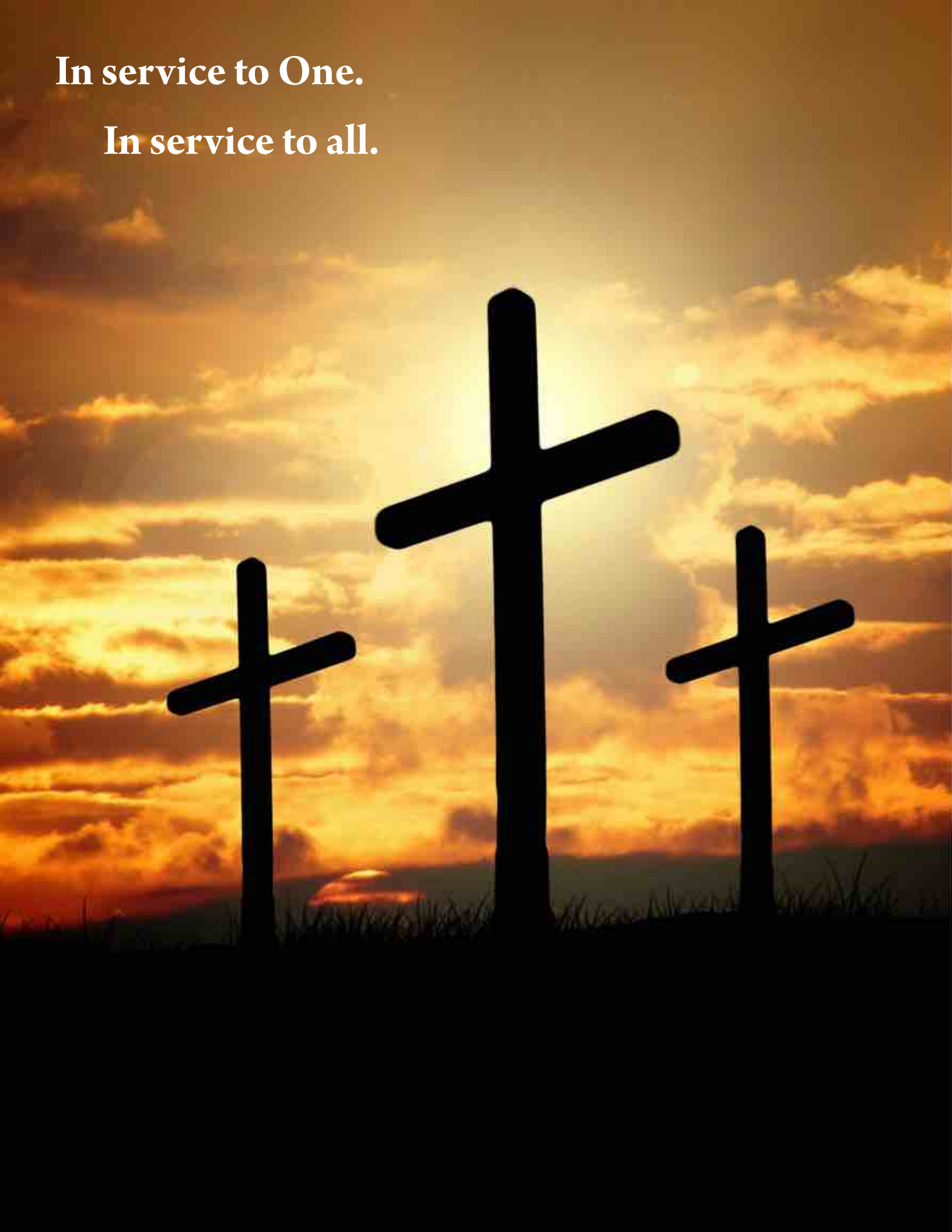
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Keep articles below 500 words.
- Submit word docs to **kc2055pr@gmail**
- Send photos separately, clearly labeled, with credits.
- Prioritize quality content with articles.
- Proofread thoroughly for spelling and grammar.
- Avoid double spaces after periods.
- Be punctual! Late submissions will be excluded from future publications.



ON THE COVER: ALL SAINTS DAY

This commemoration of the communion of the saints in heaven has been celebrated on November 1 since the 4th century. Originally celebrated on May 13, Pope Gregory III moved it to November 1 in 837 A.D. We as Catholics are called to be saints, which means we have been joined together in God's heavenly kingdom. It is through the emulation of the lives of the saints that we better understand the path to God. All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation.


In service to One.
In service to all.