

# **FATHER WANTS YOU!**

## **TO BE A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus was founded by the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney and a group of men of St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut on March 29, 1882. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization dedicated to the principals of: **CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY & PATRIOTISM.**

Knights of Columbus can be found on both the International and local level. Worldwide, there are nearly 1.76 million members who last year alone gave over \$144 million and 68 million hours of volunteer service to charitable causes. Within the State of Iowa, the Knights of Columbus are a tremendous presence with more than 31,000 members in 226 councils. Each year the Knights in Iowa conduct an annual drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and last year they raised over 586,000 for the cause. The Iowa Knights are the primary sponsor of the Iowa Special Olympics as well as strong supporters of religious vocations through our Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) and Pennies for Heaven campaign, where they were responsible for the direct support of 70 diocesan seminarians and 19 other religious with pledges totaling over \$153,000 in 2008. Our disaster relief program provided approximately \$88,810 of assistance to victims from the 2007 natural disasters. Finally, the Iowa Knights are proud to be a Pro-Life organization, and last year alone donated nearly \$200,000 to pro-life causes.

The only way the Knights of Columbus can continue their good works in the church and community is with you on our side. We need every practical Catholic, 18 years or older to join us, so that they too can be part of the 'Experience of a Lifetime'. Being a Knight of Columbus can be a tremendous blessing to those who say "YES." Participation in the many programs can help a catholic man better live out his catholic faith and even become a better husband & father. Please accept this invitation and become a Knight of Columbus.

