

THE KNIGHT TODAY

Volume 57
info@iowakofc.org

State Deputy Antonio Banuelos, Publisher

Spring 2018
www.iowakofc.org



We're BACK!!!

The 2018 State Convention is returning to Davenport, the largest city of the Quad Cities metro area. Three days of fun, fellowship, and fraternity is planned to Knights and their families from throughout the state.

The Convention will begin on Friday April 6th with the Exemplification of the Fourth Degree. The honoree will be Most Reverend Thomas Zinkula, the host bishop of the Diocese of Davenport. A banquet will be held that evening, where the State Council will present the annual awards for the four diocesan chaplains of the year and the deacon of the year.

Saturday will begin with the Eucharistic Celebration, with Bishop Zinkula scheduled to be the principle celebrant and homilist. Following will be the annual Report of the State

Deputy, offered by Worthy State Deputy Antonio Banuelos. Resolutions will be considered and reports from the various departments of the State Council will be presented.

Saturday afternoon will feature the return of the Saturday Seminar series— great workshops with practical tools and resources focused on programming, membership strategies, communications with the public, and how to implement the Building the Domestic Church initiative.

After the Saturday banquet, where the individual merit awards will be presented, Sunday will consist of the election of state officers and executive

committee members for the coming year.

The local hospitality committee has many, many things planned for the Knights, the wives, and the kids! Tours of the Isabel Bloom factory, a QC River Bandits baseball game, indoor ice skating, and a social featuring local food truck vendors are just some of the many things in store.

All Knights are encouraged to attend, and registration form can be found on the website:

<http://iowakofc.org/convention>

Mission of the Iowa State Council

- Support local councils
- Build future leaders
- Conduit of information from the diocesan offices to the broader Catholic community
- Promote the virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism

Recently ordained priests gather for annual retreat



Recently ordained priests from throughout the state gather in early September for a few days of continual formation and fellowship. The State Council financially supports this event from the funds donated via the Pennies for Heaven collection drive. Your council's continued participation is appreciated.

A note from our Worthy State Deputy, Antonio Banuelos



2017-2018 State Officers and Fraternal Leaders

State Deputy

Antonio Banuelos

State Chaplain

Rev. William Reynolds

State Secretary

Paul Lee

State Treasurer

Francis Schlueter

State Advocate

Robert Douglas

State Warden

Steve Vonnahme

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Jon Aldrich

3rd Degree Representative

John Zweibahmer

3rd Degree Representative

Mike DeMouly

Membership Director

John Zweibahmer

Program Director

Mike DeMouly

Communications Director

John McGee

State Comptroller

Mike Evink

Administrative Assistant

Ed Pancrazio

The Lenten season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving came as early as it possibly could be this year. Once every few years, we have Easter on April 1 and the rest of April is Easter Season. The Iowa Knights of Columbus has generally promoted Church Drives during the month of March in preparation for Founders Day on March 29th. This year, March 29th will coincide with Holy Thursday. It is a very special year having the 136th Anniversary of our Order to happen on the same day in which we celebrate the institution of the priesthood by our Lord Jesus Christ almost 2,000 years ago.

Our motto "*In Solidarity with Our Priests*" is a strong resonance of the support that a handful of men gave to a 30-year old parish priest when he presented them with the desperate situation of their community. The affirmative answer of those men started what is now the largest Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization in the world. This is an example on how the commitment of Catholic men around their priest can developed into works and actions that nobody can imagine.

Nowadays, the responsibilities of priests are not limited to one parish and one community. Most priests cover multiple parishes or parishes with multiple worship sites. As the Strong Right Arm of the Church, **WE ARE CALLED** to be alert on the needs of our parishes and in the support that our priests need. By being more involved and in greater communication with our priests, we will be able to be more proactive of what is needed and be able to act much sooner.

Our active role in the Church fulfills the specific objectives of the lay ministry: evangelization and sanctification, renewal of the temporal order, and charitable works and social aid. These objectives were not defined by the Church until 1965 when the Decree of the Apostolate of the Laity was published, right before the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council. How great was the vision of our founder, the Venerable Servant of God, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, to push these objectives on the men of his parish 80

years earlier. We exist in response to a call from a parish priest. We exist to stand with our parish priest. We exist to ensure the continuation of the Holy Orders by supporting and promoting priestly vocations. We exist to fulfill the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism instituted by a parish priest in our Order. We are also called to fulfill the objectives established by an overwhelming majority of Bishops in Vatican II: evangelization, charity and the protection of life, family, and moral value. That is why we exist. That is what **WE ARE CALLED** to do as lay men and as Knights of Columbus.

During the Lent Season **WE ARE CALLED** to retreat, prayer, and reflection about our lives as we prepare for the greatest feast in the Church: The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In the Lent Season **WE ARE CALLED** to prayer, fast, and almsgiving to clean our hearts and souls for the Rising of the Lord. Perhaps Lent is a good time to make a similar analysis on our councils and our life as a Knight of Columbus: how are we evangelizing? How are we protecting life, family, and moral values? How are we making disciples of all nations? How are we supporting our local parishes and priests? How are we making sure our Catholic values and our Catholic Church prevail? How are we promoting vocations? If you take the time as individuals and as a Council to answer these questions, you will find the reason why we promote growth in membership and in charitable works. Because **WE ARE CALLED** to do so.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the 117th State Convention of the Iowa Knights of Columbus the weekend of April 6 – 8, Divine Mercy Weekend. Make sure to ask yourselves these questions and chat with other delegates and brother Knights about your findings. Inspire by your findings, be inspired by sharing what lives truly in your hearts.

Vivat Jesus! Que Viva Cristo Rey!

State Chaplain's Message

"In These Day of Lenten Journey," is the name of a Lenten hymn that perhaps is being sung in your parish. If you are familiar with it, and if it is being sung in your parish, then I also hope that it finds a place in your heart.

The refrain reminds us that "In these days of Lenten journey, we have seen and we have heard the call to sow justice in the lives of those we serve."

I am sure your kindness and generosity are present in the fish fries so many councils host during Lent. The good fish you serve, the camaraderie you provide, and the charities you support all give evidence to the good heart of the Knights. We can be proud of our efforts, and humble in our service to our parishes and communities.

As Knights we want to be involved in religious and humanitarian actions in ways that are both visible and invisible. How noble is that act of kindness, of generosity, of compassion, of which no one knows who performed it.

The notion of "paying it forward" has become popular in the drive-through lane at McDonalds. I think that much of what we do as Knights should also be done with that same attitude of generosity and kindness, without however, expecting others too reciprocate. As Knights we engage in acts of charity and kindness, without expecting recognition or honor. We do this because every person we serve is another Christ.

Notice that the song lyric actually presumes that we are serving others. Serving others comes as a result of our baptismal call to mission, indeed a call to serve. The lyric reminds us that we are to provide "justice in the lives of those we serve." For us, then, as Knights, service and justice go hand-in-hand.

As we Knights continue our Lenten journey, may we do so with a revived vigor in our service to others, and in our quest for justice for all.

Vivat Jesus!



Fr. Reynolds was appointed State Chaplain by Past State Deputy Dan Werner and began his service on July 1, 2015. He is a member of Msgr. T. J. McCann Council 2663 and the James Chambers Assembly 3379, both from Newton. He is Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Newton, and Dean for the Grinnell Deanery. Contact him at statechaplain@iowakofc.org.

Have you insured your most valuable asset?



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Is your income protected if you become sick or injured and cannot work? Your ability to work and earn an income is your most valuable asset. Yet a disability could prevent you from earning that income. Just one year of a disability could eliminate your savings.

Income Armor, an individual disability income insurance product from the Knights of Columbus, should be a key part of your overall financial plan and family's protection.

If you are ill or injured, Income Armor provides tax-free monthly benefits to help you meet living expenses and maintain you and your family's standard of living. Your monthly benefits help you pay your mortgage and other monthly bills, while your savings and retirement assets remain intact.

In short, if you have a job and don't have a way to protect that paycheck, you should seriously consider Income Armor today. Come visit with your field agent soon.

Mike Bormann, General Agent

Shawn Still, General Agent

Tim Dagal, General Agent



Ladies Activities in full “Bloom”

Isabel Bloom
 HANDCRAFTED SCULPTURE
 Made in Iowa



A special ornament available to each attendee.

Unique and memorable *Isabel Bloom* sculptures are handcrafted in Davenport, Iowa, USA. Choose from many whimsical designs: children and families, playful animals, inspiring angels, home and garden sculptures and many seasonal favorites.

The doors of the studio will be open for tours during the State Convention! The tour is FREE, and all tour-goers will receive 10% off their purchase that day.

You can order your tickets in advance by visiting iowakofc.org/convention, or pick up your ticket when you check in to the State Convention. There are a limited number of tickets, and all are first-come, first-served.

More information on Isabel Bloom at: <http://www.ibloom.com>

Number of ways to wind down and visit with fellow Knights



After the Saturday banquet, come grab a bite of food while celebrating the achievements of the Iowa KofC during the past year

While the principle reason for the annual Business Meeting is to conduct the business of the State Council, there will be plenty of ways to unwind, relax, and share with one another. Hopefully you'll take advantage of them!



The Insurance Agencies will co-host a hospitality for all attendees on both Friday and Saturday evenings.



There are both a raffle with a \$1,000 grand prize, and a silent auction full of baskets of great items from throughout the state! The hospitality room will be open throughout the weekend.



Advance to the Patriotic Degree

The State Convention begins with the Exemplification of the Fourth Degree. Candidates are invited to celebrate Catholic patriotism with an impressive and impactful ceremony.

Each exemplification is conducted in honor of a particular individual— the class honoree is His Excellency, the Most Reverend Thomas Zinkula, the Bishop for the Diocese of Davenport. He will be present and will be the keynote speaker during the Friday Banquet.

The cost of the joining the Fourth Degree is \$70.00, and that covers your banquet ticket. Additional tickets are for sale via the state website at <http://iowakofc.org/convention>.



Knights of Columbus
FOURTH DEGREE
Patriotic degree of the Order.

The dress code for a candidate for the fourth degree no longer requires a tuxedo. Rather:

- ◇ A candidate will wear a black or dark (blue or gray) business suit, with black shoes, white dress shirt and dark tie. A tuxedo will still be acceptable but not mandatory.
- ◇ A candidate serving in the armed forces of his country, fulltime police and firefighters may wear a Class A or dress uniform.
- ◇ A candidate who is also a priest or deacon may wear clerical attire.

Dance Marathon for kids, adults

We have a number of things planned for the kids throughout the entire weekend! We have adjusted the pricing so that it is very affordable for families of one child or for multiple kids, and are ready for kids of all ages!

The price covers most of the activities, meals, snacks, a t-shirt, and the supervision by trained adult volunteers.

On Saturday night, the college students at St. Ambrose University Dance Marathon will be hosting a mini-thon for our kids!

Dance Marathon is a collegiate program of the Children's Miracle Network, providing much needed funds for hospitals



across the nation focusing on the four facets of research, education, equipment and enhancements.

The St. Ambrose Dance Marathon program is one of seventeen throughout the state of Iowa.

A mini-thon consist of games, activities, prizes, and of course— DANCING!!

Not to leave the family out— the mini-thon will be going until midnight. Knights and their wives are encouraged to come after the banquet to get their groove on!

Of course, financial donations are being sought and all are appreciated.

Effective Programs keeps Knights active

At this year's State Convention in Davenport, we will continue a tradition started last year – we will have our State Program award winning councils showcase what their outstanding programs in the areas of Family, Youth, Church, Culture of Life, Council and Community. This will allow the convention attendees to stop and visit with the winners and perhaps spark an idea or two that they can take back to their councils after the convention. Remember, strong programs equal strong membership and the winners represent some good ways for your councils to thrive.

Also, I would encourage your council to complete the SP-7, Columbian Award, form and submit it prior to the end of the Fraternal Year. This form is how you showcase what your council has done during the past fraternal year. Full details on completing the award can be found in the December 2017 Resource guide. Contact me, Mike DeMouly, State Program Director, at programs@iowakofc.org if you have any questions.

Active councils have good, solid programs that help their parishes. One way to do this is through the Building the Domestic Church program. This program is the cornerstone of a council's life in the parish. I encourage you to refer to the resources on the Supreme website at www.kofc.org, in the Resource Book, or feel free to contact us at programs@iowakofc.org.



Michael DeMouly is the State Program Director and an elected member of the State Executive Committee. He is a member of Council 15813 from Dubuque. Contact him at programs@iowakofc.org



On Thursday October 26, the four bishops of Iowa met with the Executive Committee of the Knights of Columbus, Iowa State Council. Each Bishop reflected on how the Knights of Columbus was providing a meaningful mission to their local church. State Deputy Banauelos, on behalf of all 31,500 Knights, pledged our continued support in Building the Domestic Church while Strengthening Our Parishes.

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<http://iowakofc.org>

Growing Membership STARTS with relationships

Our theme for this fraternal year is **WE ARE CALLED**. We are called to renew our faith this Lenten season to God. The Knights of Columbus is a great organization for the men and their families to offer service and charity to those in need during this lent. The Order is also another place for the men and their families to learn and strengthen their faith in God and build strong relationships with other Knights and their families. So why not invite that man and his family to be part of your council. Ask them if they have just an hour of time to give, and to give new ideas for future programs for the betterment of the council.

Being a member of the Order, you create a special type of a relationship with the members. You learn what Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism is, making them feel welcome and that you care. I for one have seen the benefits of the degrees with the loss of my Dad this fall. The support and actions from my Brother Knight was way more than I have ever expected, and I thank you all. I ask that you tell your own personal experience with the Order, of how God has helped, or change your life through the Order to your prospective members.

Make them feel that they are welcome, giving them a reason of why they should join and continue that relationship with them.

With just about three quarters of the fraternal year behind us. we are currently at 520 new members. This is 47% of our goal. We have nearly 100 councils that have not recruited any new member this fraternal year.

Now is the time to start planning your membership drives and working with your insurance agents in making contact with that inactive member or prospective member asking him to join. Focus on new ways that are inviting the millennials by having your council posting pictures or articles on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram of what is going on in the council. This is one way to help bridge that gap between the millennials and the older people, showing that we are open to new ways of recruiting and programs to offer.

March 19th-25th is Admission Degree Week! Let us all go full steam ahead and see if we all can't have an Admissions Degree this week.

For those of you that haven't brought in a member yet, now is the time. We are giving a Cross made from the Holy Land to the people that recruit two new members this year. This is just a little way to say thank you to all of you that work to bring in those new members.

We have a team to assist you with starting a new council, welcoming new members, and retaining your crew! Feel free to reach out to us via membership@iowakofc.org.



John Zweibahmer is the State Membership Director and an elected member of the State Executive Committee. He is a member of Council 2073 from Ossian. Contact him at membership@iowakofc.org

YOU are called to grow membership in your local council



For most of the nearly 33,000 brother Knights throughout the state, someone invited us to join the Order.

Have you asked someone this month to join the Order?

The gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus should be afforded to all men ages 18 and older.

Consider these men for membership-

- High school seniors
- Fathers of the newly baptized
- R.C.I.A. recent graduates
- New members to the parish

Our state website has many resources on recruitment, please visit

lowakofc.org/membership

THE KNIGHT TODAY

Iowa State Council, Knights of Columbus; 915 S. 17th Street, Centerville, IA 52544

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Father Michael McGivney's vision for every Knights of Columbus council was to:

- ▶ **Change** a man's life
- ▶ **Deepen** and enrich his faith
- ▶ **Strengthen** his family
- ▶ **Build better lives** for those who so desperately need help

Join the movement today!

We are Called... Join the Knights of Columbus — visit www.kofc.org/join
To Learn More www.iowakofc.org | Follow us on Facebook [iowaknightsOfColumbus](https://www.facebook.com/iowaknightsOfColumbus) and Facebook.com/catholiceducationiowa | @twitter.com/IAKnights

