



Knights of Columbus



Iowa State Council

May, 2010

The Most Rev. Jerome G. Hanus, O.S.B.	Archbishop of Dubuque
The Most Reverend Daniel W. Kucera, O.S.B.	Retired Archbishop of Dubuque
The Most Reverend Martin J. Amos, D.D.	Bishop of Davenport
The Most Reverend William E. Franklin, D.D.	Retired Bishop of Davenport
The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates	Bishop of Des Moines
The Most Reverend Joseph L. Charron, C.P.P.S.	Retired Bishop of Des Moines
The Most Reverend R. Walker Nickless, D.D.	Bishop of Sioux City
The Most Reverend Lawrence D. Soens, D.D.	Retired Bishop of Sioux City

Your Excellencies:

The Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends its sincere and cordial greetings to Your Excellencies from our 109th Annual Convention held in Des Moines.

In Baptism we were incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission. The assistance of the laity has become increasingly vital in taking up the prophetic and royal mission of Christ. As Knights of Columbus, we vigorously encourage religious vocations through our financial support and prayers. We pledge assistance to our priests and religious in local parishes. Most importantly Knights will commit to serve as exemplary reminders that all the baptized faithfully share in the common priesthood of Christ.

Respect for the sanctity of life from conception to natural death is, perhaps, the foremost challenge facing Christianity today. We are firm supporters of the pro-life cause and follow your lead in educating all to realize that we are made in the image of God. We will continue to be vocal in our opposition to abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, and human cloning; and we will strive to educate all on this foundational moral value.

Our financial support will continue for Birthright and other crisis pregnancy centers offering alternatives to abortion. Again, this past year, we have successfully risen over \$600,000.00 for Special Olympics and organizations assisting those with physical and intellectual disabilities.

We will continue to work with the Iowa Catholic Conference to encourage legislation for the enactment of tax credits for parochial school students and other social justice reforms. Under your direction, we will continue to promote all Family Life values and Traditional marriage as between one man and one woman.


His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI has expressed his "personal gratitude for the manifold contributions which the Knights have made to the mission of the universal Church and the service of the Apostolic See." There is much to be done in the name of Christ and his Church and your Knights will be first in line by your side in this Holy Mission.


Thank you for your friendship, guidance, and endorsement of the Iowa Knights of Columbus. We ask Your Excellencies for your continued blessings and prayers. Guide us in our

deliberations so that we may be successful in being of service to God, Church, family, community, and our fellow man.

Vivat Jesus,


Michael P. Gaspers
Immediate Past State Deputy


James L. Chambers
Past State Deputy



David A. Bellendier
Past State Deputy
Supreme Director



James W. Murphy
Past State Deputy
Past Supreme Director


Thomas M. Wittrock
Past State Deputy


Robert E. Allen
Past State Deputy

Francis J. Wilder
Past State Deputy
Former Master


Richard F. Makinster
Past State Deputy
District Master


Henry W. Fullick
Past State Deputy
Former Master

Richard G. Matt
Past State Deputy
Former Master


Francis E. Schlueter
Past State Deputy
Former Master
Former Vice Supreme Master

Paul E. Smith
Past State Deputy