

2024

PRE-CONVENTION BOOK



Johnathan R. McGee

State Deputy

123rd Annual Meeting

Iowa State Council, Knights of Columbus

Council Bluffs, Iowa

April 12 - 14, 2024

This book has been published for the delegates attending the 121th Annual Meeting of the Iowa State Council, Knights of Columbus pursuant to the By-Laws of the Iowa State Council, Chapter 2, Sec. 14.

Welcome to the State Convention



Brother Knights and Guests:

Welcome to Council Bluffs for the 123rd Annual Iowa Knights of Columbus State Convention! Our committee has worked hard to make this weekend both fun and informational. We want this convention to represent the 4 pillars of the Knights of Columbus – Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

We want to thank the state officers and our convention committee for their months of hard work preparing this weekend for you. If you happen to engage with any of them, please thank them for their hard work they put in to make this convention successful.

We would also like to thank John and Jen McGee for all of their assistance in helping us plan this convention.

Finally, Thank You for everything you do as Knights. It is your great work that makes your families, parishes, councils, priests & communities better & stronger The Iowa Knights of Columbus are strong group because of your efforts.

Your 2024 State Convention Co-Chairs: *Brian Bowers & Burton Rausch*

Convention Committee

Tom Quigley - Secretary
Keith Marshall - Treasurer
Andrew Poeckes - Hospitality
Dennis McEneaney - Registration
Mike Reicks - Raffles
Steve Chamley - Advertising
Bob Boetcher - Liturgy
Dan Koch - Liturgy
Dennis Shea - Liturgy
Joe Sciortino - 4th Degree
Brian Hunter - Volunteers
Larry Andress - Registration
Jim Binns- Silent Auction
Bill DeSomma - Silent Auction
Margaret Morse - Ladies Activities
Kris Reicks - Ladies Activities
Angie Shea - Ladies Activities
Catherine Schroeder - Ladies Activities
Mike Hessman - Assistance
Lon Schroeder - Assistance
Don Morse - Assistance



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Iowa
State Council

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PAST STATE DEPUTIES OF IOWA

1901 - 1902 J. W. McFadden, Dubuque (territorial)	1970 - 1972 Edward M. Lehner, Bettendorf
1902 - 1904 J. W. McFadden, Dubuque	1972 - 1974 John R. Plunkett, Eagle Grove
1904 - 1906 W. N. McCullough, Davenport	1974 - 1976 Francis J. Wilder, Oskaloosa
1906 - 1909 John J. Fleming, Burlington	1976 - 1978 Lawrence D. Kroma, Waterloo
1909 - 1911 Thomas J. Griffin, Carroll	1978 - 1980 Robert E. Allen, Ankeny
1911 - 1913 Edward G. Dunn, Mason City	1980 - 1982 Thomas M. O'Keefe, Kingsley
1913 - 1915 John B. Keefe, Sioux City	1982 - 1984 Robert J. Murphy, Cedar Falls
1915 - 1917 Joseph H. Meyers, Carroll	1984 - 1986 Francis E. Schlueter, Ankeny
1917 - 1919 James H. Devaney, Cascade	1986 - 1988 Thomas M. Wittrock, Carroll
1919 - 1921 Harry J. McFarland, Davenport	1988 - 1990 Robert J. Duax, Davenport
1921 - 1923 John F. Ford, Fort Dodge	1990 - 1992 Richard G. Matt, Ames
1923 - 1925 Albert McGinn, Council Bluffs	1992 - 1994 James W. Murphy, Fonda
1925 - 1927 James C. Mullaney, Sioux City	1994 - 1996 Deneil D. Lutter, Creston
1927 - 1929 C. C. Ries, Iowa City	1996 - 1998 Henry W. Fullick, Clinton
1929 - 1932 Leo J. Wegmann, Carroll	1998 - 2000 James G. Jordan, West Des Moines
1932 Daniel Maguire, Dubuque ^A	2000 - 2002 David A. Bellendier, Marion
1932 - 1934 Greg A. Figge, Ossian	2002 - 2004 Richard F. Makinster, Marion
1934 - 1936 Dr. William H. Redmond, Cedar Rapids	2004 - 2006 James L. Chambers, Des Moines
1936 - 1938 William D. Kearney, Marshalltown	2006 - 2008 Michael P. Gaspers, Danbury
1938 - 1940 Lawrence D. Brennan, Emmetsburg	2008 - 2010 Patrick T. O'Keefe, Urbandale
1940 - 1942 D. L. Rater, M.D., Ottumwa	2010 - 2012 Michael P. Laake, Estherville
1942 - 1944 Dr. Clem D. Kerrigan, Davenport	2012 - 2014 Joseph A. Ramirez, Des Moines
1944 - 1946 George E. O'Malley, Des Moines	2014 - 2015 Daniel J. Werner, West Des Moines ^B
1946 - 1948 Frank W. Less, Cascade	2015 - 2015 Michael P. Gaspers, Danbury ^C
1948 - 1950 Gus A. Pusateri, Iowa City	2015 - 2017 Jon C. Aldrich, Altoona
1950 - 1952 E. J. Tierney, M.D., Sioux City	2017 - 2019 Antonio Bañuelos, Pleasant Hill
1952 - 1954 Matthew W. Hart, Davenport	2019 - 2021 Paul E. Lee, Cedar Falls
1954 - 1956 Ralph A. Kelley, Early	2021 - 2023 Steven J. Vonnahme, Altoona
1956 - 1958 A. N. Link, Dubuque	
1958 - 1960 George Wright, Eagle Grove	
1960 - 1962 Lawrence D. Hurley, Des Moines	
1962 - 1964 Roger Keppers, Eagle Grove	
1964 - 1966 James R. Baldrige, Cedar Rapids	
1966 - 1968 Paul E. Smith, Oelwein	
1968 - 1970 Patrick J. Morrow, Onawa	

Bold = Living PSD

A: Resigned due to illness, never served

B: Resigned 1-1-2015 due to health issues

C: Completed Werner's term



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Johnathan McGee, State Deputy

*Rev. Fr. Ray Higgins, State Chaplain

Jeffrey Wellik, State Secretary / Co-Membership Director

Jaime McNaughton, State Treasurer

Jason Follett, State Advocate

Jeremy Jensen, State Warden

Jesus M. "Manny" Toquinto, Elected Executive Committee member

Gary Bailey, Elected Executive Committee member

Steven Vonnahme, Immediate Past State Deputy

Antonio Bañuelos, Supreme Director / Past State Deputy

*Paul Falck, Executive Secretary

Paul R. Lee, Master, Fourth Degree District/ Past State Deputy

*John Staiert, Membership Director

*Michael Tigges, Programs Director

**-appointed position*

2023-2024 DISTRICT DEPUTIES

1. Curtis Winterfield
2. Michael Knight
3. David P. Waldschmidt
4. Steven Scott
5. Jeremy A. Jensen
6. Jerry W. Chizek
7. John Staiert
- 8.
9. Michael P. Gaspers
10. Clay Gubbels
- 11.
12. William J. Orozoco
13. Leo E. Chisholm
14. Leslie M. Opat
15. Larry Hauber
16. Dr. John J. Baldwin
- 17.
18. Kevin Bredthauer
19. Thomas Youngblut
20. Steven J. Vonnahme

21. Dennis Scherbring
22. Jeffrey A. Wellik
23. Adam Scherbring
24. Dave Ayers
25. Gary Bailey
26. Eldon L. Schneider
- 27.
- 28.
29. Gerald Fetzer
30. Bernard R. Nie
31. Jerry Keane
- 32.
33. Wayne J. Nosbisch
34. James A. Bates
35. Dennis C. Westover
36. Samuil Pane
37. Terrence J. Smith
38. Hugo Torres
39. Michael Reicks
40. Burton P. Rausch

- 41.
42. Chris Riegel
43. Timothy R. Bloom
44. Dale Asleson
45. Ronald Conner
46. Eric Field
47. Jesus M. Toquinto
48. Daniel J. McEleney
- 49.
50. Steven S. Gaertnier
51. Richard Jacoby Jr.
52. Geoffrey P. Weber
- 53.
54. Samuel Wilson
55. Juan Pablo Martinez



2023-2024 STATE MEMBERSHIP TEAM

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR-----John Staiert, membership@iowakofc.org
Co-Membership Director ----- Jeff Wellik, jwellik2000@gmail.com
Dubuque Archdiocese Membership Assistant -----Larry Hauber
Davenport Diocese Membership Assistant -----Tim Bloom
Des Moines Diocese Membership Assistant----- Dennis Westover
Sioux City Diocese Membership Assistant-----Jeremy Jensen
Young Adult Outreach/ College Councils Co-Coordinator -----Luke Turcznski; college@iowakofc.org
Young Adult Outreach/ College Councils Co-Coordinator -----Brian Long
College Council Assistant-----Jonathan Langenberg
College Council Assistant-----Eric Field
Ethnic Outreach Support-----Antonio Bañuelos PSD, ethnicoutreach@iowakofc.org
Ethnic Outreach Assistant ----- J. Pablo Martinez
Ethnic Outreach Assistant -----Manuel Toquinto
Ethnic Outreach Assistant -----Hugo Torres
Online Membership Chair -----Paul Falck, onlinemembership@iowakofc.org
Roundtable/Forms Chair-----Dan McEleney roundtable@iowakofc.org
Retention Chair ----- Kevin McKinney, retention@iowakofc.org
Ceremonial Director----- Jason Follett, ceremonials@iowakofc.org
Membership Retention Chair ----- Kevin McKinney
New Council Development ----- Steve Vonnahme, IPSD
Membership Data Specialist ----- Antonio Banuelos, PSD
Communications Director ----- publicity@iowakofc.org

ONLINE STATE DIRECTORY iowakofc.org/statedirectory | Password: McGivney510 (*case sensitive*)

TEN PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE IOWA STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Des Moines, April 14-16, 2023
Coralville, April 29-30, 2022
Sioux City, May 1-2, 2021
Cedar Falls (virtual), April 17, 2020
Des Moines, May 2-4, 2019
Davenport, April 6-8, 2018
Dubuque, April 7-9, 2017
Des Moines, April 15-17, 2016
Coralville, April 10-12, 2015
Des Moines, May 2-4, 2014

2023-2024 STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR & CHAIRS

PROGRAM DIRECTOR	Mike Tigges, programs@iowakofc.org
Financial Secretary Trainer.....	Kevin McKinney; fsdirector@iowakofc.org
State Awards Chairman.....	Paul Lee PSD; awards@iowakofc.org
State Historian/Archivist.....	Mike Gaspers, PSD, archivist@iowakofc.org
Faith Director.....	Deacon Mark Campbell; faith@iowakofc.org
RSVP/ Vocations Chairman.....	Dan Werner, PSD; vocations@iowakofc.org
Fr. McGivney Guild Chairman.....	Henry Fullick, PSD, guild@iowakofc.org
Pilgrim Icon Program Chairman.....	Chris Riegel, icon@iowakofc.org
Liturgy Coordinator.....	Deacon Mark Campbell, liturgy@iowakofc.org
Family Director.....	Gary Bailey; family@iowakofc.org
Food for Families Chairman.....	Gary Bailey; food@iowakofc.org
Family of Month Chairman.....	Mike Tigges; fotm@iowakofc.org
Knight of the Month Chairman.....	Mike Tigges; kotm@iowakofc.org
Keep Christ in Christmas (poster contest; posada, etc.).....	Gerald Fetzer; kcic@iowakofc.org
Trappist Caskets Chairman.....	Michael DeMouilly; trappist@iowakofc.org
State K of C Campout.....	Don Bries; camp@iowakofc.org
Athletic Events Chairman.....	Jaime McNaughton, athletic@iowakofc.org
Community Director.....	Mike Kockler; community@iowakofc.org
Coats for Kids Chairman.....	coats@iowakofc.org
Global Wheelchair Chairman.....	wheelchair@iowakofc.org
Free Throw Chairman.....	Mike Becker, freethrow@iowakofc.org
Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Chairman.....	essay@iowakofc.org
Soccer Challenge Chairman.....	soccer@iowakofc.org
Iowa K of C Spelling Bee Chairman.....	Eric Field, spellingbee@iowakofc.org
Perpetual Memorial Society Chairman.....	Paul Falck, admin@iowakofc.org
Life Director.....	Vern Vondera; life@iowakofc.org
Running of the Silver Rose Chairman.....	Chris Riegel; silverrose@iowakofc.org
Special Olympics Chairman.....	Jason Follett; specialolympics@iowakofc.org
Ultrasound Initiative Chairman.....	Clay Gubbels, ultrasound@iowakofc.org
Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities Chairman.....	Steve Vonnahme; cpid@iowakofc.org

123rd STATE COUNCIL MEETING PRO-TEM COMMITTEES

Audit Committee:

Marty DeDecker: FS 13109 Altoona

Gary Bailey: Elected Executive Committee Member

Dennis Westover: District Deputy

Ballot Committee:

**Michael R. Bormann, Eastern/Central Iowa General Agent, Judge
Neil Pfeifer, Western Iowa General Agent, Judge**

Credentials Committee:

Jerry Keane, District Deputy, Assistant Chairman
Rick Jacoby, District Deputy
Hugo Torres, District Deputy
Gerald Fetzer, District Deputy

Jeff Wellik, State Secretary, Chairman

Dennis Scherbring, District Deputy
David Waldschmidt, District Deputy
Eric Field, District Deputy
Samuil Pane, District Deputy

Good of the Order Committee:

Steven Gaertnier, District Deputy
David Ayers, District Deputy
J. Pablo Martinez, District Deputy

John Staiert, District Deputy, Chairman

Curtis Winterfield, District Deputy
Ronald Conner, District Deputy

Greetings to the Hierarchy:

Paul Lee, PSD, District Master
Jon C. Aldrich, PSD
Daniel J. Werner, PSD
Joseph A. Ramirez, PSD, FDM, RGD
Richard F. Makinster, PSD, FDM
Michael P. Laake, PSD
Francis E. Schlueter, PSD, FDM, FVSM

Steven Vonnahme, IPSD, Chairman

Antonio Bañuelos, PSD, Supreme Director
Michael P. Gaspers, PSD, MFD
David A. Bellendier, PSD, FDM, FSD
Henry W. Fullick, PSD, FDM
James W. Murphy, PSD, FSD
Patrick T. O'Keefe, PSD, FDM

Mileage and Per Diem Committee

Dr. John Baldwin, District Deputy, Assistant Chairman
Dennis Westover, District Deputy

Bernie Nie, District Deputy, Chairman

Leslie Opat, District Deputy

Resolutions Committee:

Jesus Manuel Toquinto, Elected Executive Committee member, Assistant Chairman
Steven Scott, District Deputy,
Burton Raasch, District Deputy
Geoffrey Weber, District Deputy

Jason Follett, State Advocate, Chairman

Samuel Wilson, District Deputy
Michael Reicks, District Deputy

Wardens Assistants:

Insurance Field Agents
College Council Representatives

Jeremy Jensen, State Warden, Chairman

Local Convention Committee

PSD: Past State Deputy

FDM: Former District Master

FSD: Former Supreme Director

FVSM: Former Vice Supreme Master

SUPREME CONVENTION DELEGATES FOR THE PREVIOUS TEN YEARS

Convention Site

ORLANDO, 2023	Johnathan R. McGee, SD	Steven J. Vonnahme, IPSD	
Ins. Delegates - Jeffrey Wellik	Paul Lee, PSD	Orlando Gil	Samuil Pane
Ass. Delegates - Jeremy Jensen	David Ayers	Ronald Conner	Larry Deal
NASHVILLE, 2022	Steven Vonnahme, SD	Paul Lee, IPSD	
Ins. Delegates - Fr. Raymond Higgins	Johnathan McGee	Jamie McNaughton	Jason Follett
Ass. Delegates - Jeffrey Wellik	Jon Aldrich	Larry Hauber	Orlando Gil
<i>*Special Guest: Most Rev. William M. Joensen, Bishop Diocese of Des Moines</i>			
NEW HAVEN (virtual), 2021	Steven Vonnahme, SD	Paul Lee, IPSD	
Ins. Delegates - Fr. William Reynolds	Johnathan McGee	Jamie McNaughton	Jason Follett
Ass. Delegates - J. Pablo Martinez	Jeremy Jensen	Larry Hauber	Steven Phillips
NEW HAVEN (virtual), 2020	Paul Lee, SD	Antonio Banuelos, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Steven Vonnahme	Jamie McNaughton	John Zweibahmer	Michael Reicks
Ass. Delegates - Juan Pablo Martinez	Jeremy Jensen	Robert Kass	John Staiert
MINNEAPOLIS, 2019	Paul Lee, SD	Antonio Banuelos, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Eldon Schneider	Dennis Scherbring	Jesus Manuel Toquinto	Michael Evink
Ass. Delegates - David Ayers	Juan Pablo Martinez	David Ritchie	Dennis Kløver
BALTIMORE, 2018	Antonio Banuelos, SD	Jon C. Aldrich, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Pedro Ceballos	Dale Engelken	Vernon Vondera	Larry Hauber
Ass. Delegates - Orlando Gil	Johnathan Zweibahmer	Adam Scherbring	Steven Vonnahme
ST. LOUIS, 2017	Antonio Banuelos, SD	Jon C. Aldrich, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - John McGee	Michael Tigges	Adrian Arellano	Adam Bormann
Ass. Delegates - Edward Pancrazio	Sean Kessel	Michael DeMouly	Scott Valencia
TORONTO, 2016	Jon C. Aldrich, SD	Joseph A. Ramirez, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Antonio Banuelos	Paul Lee	Jamie McNaughton	Adam Bormann
Ass. Delegates - Refugio Cenicerros	Russell Yount	Steve Vonnahme	David Ritchie
PHILADELPHIA, 2015	Jon C. Aldrich, SD	Joseph A. Ramirez, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Isaac Doucette	Kevin Hayes	Thomas Wittrock	Marvin Menke
Ass. Delegates - Patrick O'Keefe	John Zweibahmer	Jason Follett	Marty Stratton
ORLANDO, 2014	Daniel J. Werner, SD	Joseph A. Ramirez, PSD	
Ins. Delegates - Pedro Ceballos	Dennis Shea	Jason Follett	Thomas Brandt
Ass. Delegates - Jon Aldrich	David Bellendier	Zachary Jakaitis	David Miller



**Knights of
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 Iowa
 State Council

REPORTS OF THE STATE OFFICERS

STATE DEPUTY | JOHNATHAN MCGEE

Brothers in Christ:

A year ago, I was preparing to lead the Iowa Knights of Columbus. Like most who have been in my position, I was met with a wide range of emotions. One minute, I was excited and ready to go. Next, I was overwhelmed and trying to figure out where to step next. I realized quickly how God never intended for us to walk the path he lays out for us alone. **Lesson learned: Trust in the Lord and let the journey begin.**

At our July Organizational Meeting and following Regional Meetings, we focused on Leadership. How do we get more Brothers active in our councils to serve our communities better? We discussed how, as individuals and/or councils, we're in one of five stages: Planning, Building, Managing, Defending, and Blaming. If you're in the last two, you're on a slippery slope downhill and must change direction quickly. We also touched on making sure your councils have Goals, Belief in those Goals, and the Desire to get them done.

Our membership growth got off to a slow start in July and August, but by September, we were ahead of our 9-year average for membership growth. Other than missing it by a few members in October, we've maintained respectable growth over our 9-year average. We did, however, notice that our overall growth in Iowa was very shallow or even a net negative from time to time. I'm sure you've seen it in your own Councils occasionally: you work hard to bring in 5 new Brother Knights but have 5 pass away or move away. Upon further analysis, we realized that, like most situations, our first reaction is to work harder, not smarter. We discovered the problem lay with how we conducted our Church Drives. We needed to trust the processes. We used the complete system, and it was no surprise that we achieved better results. We're having a great 3rd quarter going, and we're confident we'll finish this year strong. I'm proud of our membership team and the success they are having. **Lesson learned: Trust and follow the whole process.**

Our programs continue to be vital to order. Membership Drives Programs and Programs Drive Membership. It still humbles me every day when I realize how big of an impact we have in the parishes and communities we serve. As I write this during the heart of the fish fry seasons, I can't help but think of the thousands and thousands of dollars our councils raise and donate to various causes in their communities. Whether it's money raised from fundraisers. Donations collected with our CPID Drives (Tootsie Rolls) or labor hours donated to help with the care and upkeep of our parish grounds. Keep serving Christ.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly charges us with making sure we're first in charity and first in faith. As we work to roll out our COR across Iowa, we're excited to see the many councils start to have success with COR. I had the privilege to attend an event in Des Moines. There were 35-plus men 30 to 45 years of age learning from a panel discussion ideas and practices to raise a family in today's secular world. We also found councils that are "stuck in the ruts" doing the same programs and activities and experiencing diminishing returns. Don't lose hope. We're here to help. There are many programs to "swap" in for and help revitalize your council's programs. Across Iowa, we have many feature-worthy programs. We will feature some of those programs in the upcoming year to inspire other councils to rise up. I'm proud of our program team; keep sharing ideas and helping councils. **Lesson learned: Prayerfully ask God and ask your parish priest about the ways your council can serve the parish. Have the courage to change if needed.**

From an Administrative standpoint, your state officers continue to be committed to serving your councils. Our Executive Secretary, Paul Falck, now in his second full year, has worked hard to improve our systems to make things easier for our councils. I must add that he's also been tasked with the extra burden of managing me. Thank you for helping me focus on the right balls at the right time. The dynamic duo of Jason Follett (State Advocate) and Jamie McNaughton (State Treasurer) have provided us with timely reports, valuable information, and advice, enabling us to make quick decisions. The Road Warriors, led by Steve Vonnahme (Immediate Past State Deputy), Jeff Wellik (State Secretary), and Jeremy Jensen (State Warden), continue to stay committed to visiting councils and are willing to do whatever it takes to grow our order. I might not have relied on Fr. Ray Higgins (State Chaplain) as often as I should have on this journey, but I've always felt his prayers, and his insights and wisdom at our meetings have always been appreciated. I just hope we haven't put too much stress on his back, as he has carried all of us in his prayers. Lesson learned: Trust the people God puts in your life to help you do the job.

As we prepare to finish this year strong and carry the momentum into next year, Let's remember the lessons we learned along the way. Trust in the Lord and begin the journey (the first step is the hardest). Trust and follow the WHOLE process (no shortcuts; every step is there for a reason). Prayerfully ask God what to do next. Have the courage to make a change (It takes guts to leave the ruts, and it's a lot easier if you're doing it God's way). Trust the people God puts in your life. (God gave each one of us talents; use them for His glory)

Let's continue to inspire our Brother Knights to Rise Up, to defend and teach our faith. We do this through action. It starts in our homes, then our Councils, and our Communities. God gave each one of us different talents to use for His greater good and glory. It's time we Rise Up. Carry the Cross we've been given and continue to build the Kingdom of God, one Knight at a time.

May God Bless us. Vivat Jesus!



REPORTS OF THE STATE OFFICERS

STATE CHAPLAIN | REV. RAYMOND HIGGINS

Worthy State Deputy John McGee and my dear Brother Knights,

Thank you for joining us at the 123rd Annual State Knights of Columbus Convention! I trust that you and your families will have a memorable and enriching experience during this event.

To my fellow Knights, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our Order's mission of charity, unity, and fraternity. Let us continue to inspire one another and set a positive example for our young men. St. Paul's words resonate: "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are already doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). With God's grace, may we be a source of encouragement and strength to those around us.

Our noble mission as Knights is to unite people in faith and good works through acts of charity. Across the State of Iowa, you have strengthened faith through education and prayer during your monthly meetings. Your active participation in educational and formational programs, including the Catholic Information Service, the Course on Faith (COR program), and the acclaimed series "Into the Breach," reflects your dedication. Additionally, your prayers and reflections using the Pilgrim Icon, Holy Hours, and the Rosary have deepened our spiritual bonds.

Our faith compels us to serve others, and you have exemplified this through your charitable endeavors. From disaster relief efforts to supporting Special Olympics, championing the "Coats for Kids" initiative, advocating for pro-life causes, organizing food drives, offering scholarships to students, and backing Catholic schools and educational programs, your commitment shines brightly. Countless stories across our state illustrate the profound impact of your service, and it is an honor to stand among such devoted men who tirelessly serve our communities and the Church.

As we reflect on the good work that we as Knights of Columbus have accomplished, we are also aware of the challenges that we face. These challenges include societal shifts impacting families and the need for greater engagement with younger generations. However, instead of being discouraged by these challenges, let us view them as opportunities for growth. By approaching these challenges with creativity, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to our core values, we can overcome them and continue to make a positive impact in our communities.

As the convention draws to a close, my dear brothers, I urge you to carry the spirit of this gathering back to your councils and communities. Share your faith, reinforce your families, and continue the invaluable service you have been providing to your communities.

Let us also take a moment to remember our departed brother Knights with love and gratitude. May their souls rest in eternal peace and may their legacy of service continue to inspire us to serve with the same passion and commitment.

Lastly, I humbly ask God to bestow wisdom upon our leaders, unity upon our Order, and unwavering strength upon our commitment to Faith, Family, and Fraternity. May this convention be a blessing and enriching experience for all who attended.

In Christ,

Fr. Ray Higgins

STATE SECRETARY | JEFF WELLIK

My Brother Knights, I wanted to extend a thank you for allowing me to serve you as the State Secretary. I have gotten to know many of you by participating in your regional and council meetings. I truly enjoy assisting you in your concerns and situations and look forward to participating in your fundraising and social events that I get invited to. If you have a special event that you would like me to attend, send me an email at statesecretary@iowakofc.org

As your State Secretary part of my job is to assist the State Deputy and act as a liaison with our district and council leaders. I have served as a Grand Knight of a new council, as a District Deputy and as your State Membership Director prior to being elected to my office. I also serve as District Marshall of our jurisdiction's Fourth Degree. My point is that regardless of where you are in your council, assembly or district - I have been there and I know the challenges and opportunities.

Many of you are doing very well with programs and fundraisers and that is causing people to see what the Knights are doing across the state. This is also creating some interest in joining the order and that is a win in both programs and membership. Keep the great work that all of you do! Our organization changes lives and fosters an environment for Catholic men to grow beyond their wildest dreams.

The State Deputy and I have put together a poster, "*Rise Up Ye Men of Faith*", for all councils to display in your church, common parish areas and council chambers. At first you might think that it is a recruitment poster, and it can be used that way, but we also wanted it to be a way to help engage the members of the council. The thought behind it is if we rise up to God's word and seek his guidance, it will give us courage to rise up and reach out to others. In turn it will help us to build stronger families, Churches, and communities. Let's use this tool and keep the momentum that we have from the last few months and finish the year off strong.

REPORTS OF THE STATE OFFICERS

STATE TREASURER | JAMIE McNAUGHTON

My report covers the period from July 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024. Presently we have two checking accounts at Veridian Credit Union and two at Bank Iowa (General and CPID). We are currently in the process of moving accounts from Veridian to Bank Iowa and all funds have not been transferred. We also have two Money Market accounts at Veridian and two at Bank Iowa (General and CPID). We opened a 13-month Certificate of Deposit with Bank Iowa which matures on November 12, 2024 . This report details the current status of the Iowa Knights of Columbus accounts as of February 29, 2024.

The proposed 2024-2025 budget is based on our history of income and expenses over the years adjusted for current changes which will affect the per capita received by the state council. The budget has been approved by the Executive Committee.

IOWA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 02/29/2024

<u>IOWA K OF C GENERAL FUND CHECKING (ALL ACCOUNTS)</u>	
General Fund Checking Balance – 7/1/2023	\$51,603.54
Revenues, Income and Interest	\$231,255.44
Vouchers & Fees paid 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	-\$118,125.91
General Fund Checking Balance 2/29/2024	\$164,733.07
<u>IOWA K OF C GENERAL FUND MONEY MARKET (ALL ACCOUNTS)</u>	
General Fund Money Market Balance – 7/1/2023	\$118,002.04
Interest Earned	\$1,328.27
General Fund Money Market Balance 2/29/24	\$119,330.31
<u>IOWA K OF C GENERAL FUND SAVINGS ACCOUNT - VERIDIAN</u>	
General Fund Savings Balance 2/29/2024	\$5.00
<u>IOWA K OF C 13 Month CD Matures 11/12/2024</u>	
CD Balance 10/12/2023 (5.09%)	\$100,000.00
Bank Iowa CD Balance 2/29/2024	\$100,000.00
Total General Fund Checking, Money Market, Savings & CD Balance - 2/29/2024	\$384,068.38

<u>CAMPAIGN for PEOPLE with INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES (CPID) FUND CHECKING</u>	
CPID Fund Checking Balance 7/1/2023	\$31,431.21
Receipts from Council Drive - 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	\$91,935.10
Interest Earned	\$83.70
Vouchers paid to State Charities - 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	-\$4,000.00
Cost of Tootsie Roll Candy - 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	-\$4,485.00
Misc. Expenses & Banking costs -7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	-\$572.47
CPID Checking Fund Balance - 2/29/2024	\$114,392.54
<u>CPID MONEY MARKET FUND</u>	
CPID Savings Fund Balance 7/1/2023	\$25,319.37
Interest - 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	\$226.45
CPID Money Market Balance - 2/29/2024	\$25,545.82
<u>CPID SAVINGS FUND</u>	
General Fund Savings Balance - 2/29/2024	\$5.00
Total CPID Fund Checking, Money Market & Savings Balance - 2/29/2024	\$139,943.36

<u>CHRISTOPHER FUND @ SUPREME OFFICE</u>	
Christopher Fund Balance - 2/29/2024	
Interest Earned for Iowa Bishop's Vocation Funds - 7/1/2023 - 2/29/2024	

PROPOSED 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET IOWA STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

PROJECTED INCOME		
Description	Dollars	Percentage
Membership per capita	\$186,000.00	69.02%
Advertising Income	\$2,500.00	0.93%
State Insurance Income	\$21,500.00	7.98%
State Programs and Membership Income	\$8,000.00	2.97%
State Leadership Meeting Income	\$8,000.00	2.97%
State Convention Income	\$40,000.00	14.84%
Interest	\$1,000.00	0.37%
Misc. Income	\$2,500.00	0.93%
Total Projected Income =	\$269,500.00	100.00%
PROJECTED EXPENSE		
Description	Dollars	Percentage
State Officer's Expense	\$16,000.00	5.94%
DD's, DW's, Director & Chair Expense	\$3,500.00	1.30%
Membership Expense	\$6,000.00	2.23%
Programs Expense	\$6,000.00	2.23%
Communications & Ad Expense	\$8,000.00	2.97%
State Meetings Expense	\$34,000.00	12.62%
State Convention Expense	\$130,000.00	48.24%
Supreme Convention Expense	\$7,500.00	2.78%
Banking & Professional Services	\$1,000.00	0.37%
Postage & Printing Expense	\$2,500.00	0.93%
Audit and Liability Insurance Expense	\$20,000.00	7.42%
Admin. Asst. Payroll, Taxes, Office & Phone Expense	\$22,000.00	8.16%
Office, Supplies & Equipment Expense	\$3,000.00	1.11%
Conferences, Misc. Donations	\$6,000.00	2.23%
Other Misc. Expense	\$4,000.00	1.48%
Total Projected Expense =	\$269,500.00	100.00%
UNCONTROLLED PROJECTED INCOME -- donations, interest, misc.		
Description	Dollars	Percentage
Catholic Education fund - Newman centers	\$19,500.00	30.71%
Perpetual Memorial Fund - vocations	\$10,000.00	15.75%
Vocations Fund (Pennies for Heaven)	\$30,000.00	47.24%
State Donations (disaster, requests, council aid, etc.)	\$4,000.00	6.30%
	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Uncontrolled Projected Income =	\$63,500.00	100.00%
UNCONTROLLED PROJECTED EXPENSE -- donations, interest, Catholic Ed		
Description	Dollars	Percentage
Newman Center Donations - Catholic education	\$19,500.00	30.71%
Perpetual Memorial Fund (seminarian & new priest vocations)	\$10,000.00	15.75%
Vocation donations (seminarian & new priest convocation)	\$30,000.00	47.24%
State donations (disaster, requests, council aid, etc.)	\$4,000.00	6.30%
Total Uncontrolled Projected Expense =	\$63,500.00	100.00%

REPORTS OF THE STATE OFFICERS

STATE ADVOCATE | JASON FOLLETT

As your State Advocate, I have spent most of my time working with local Councils to ensure compliance with their Safe Environment Training; answering questions about liability, copyright, and fundraising especially raffles; the merger of Councils due to parish reorganization caused by shifting demographics; working with Councils using Home Corporations aka Columbus Clubs; and providing clarifications regarding membership. In addition, I assist the Iowa Knights of Columbus leadership with legal advice, interpretations, and modifications of bylaws and policies. If you or your Council have any questions, comments, and/or concerns, please reach out to me while we are in Council Bluffs for the convention or when you return home. I am here to serve.

As your Chairman of the Resolutions Committee for the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Iowa Knights of Columbus, I would like to thank our fellow Brother Knights who served on this committee for their commitment to reviewing these resolutions. On their behalf, I would ask that the delegates to the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Iowa Knights of Columbus please thoughtfully and prayerfully review the proposed resolutions presented.

STATE WARDEN | JEREMY JENSEN

My Brother Knights: As your State Warden, I have the responsibility for the proper safeguarding of our physical assets, which we have located in a climate-controlled storage facility in Ankeny. We have continued color-coding, labeling, and organizing the items in storage to make them easier for everyone to find what they need.

In addition, as State Warden, one of my main responsibilities is to transport and set up for any of our annual meetings. These include our July State Organizational Meeting, December Mid-Year Meeting, and our Annual State Convention. I have been blessed to have the help of Jeff Wellik and John Staiert to assist with all the heavy lifting, transporting, setup and teardown at these events this year. I cannot express how much this has helped me and how much I truly appreciate these Brother Knight's assistance. We have also been able to provide our Mass and other equipment for several local events to show our support of our Priests, Deacons, and faith organizations.

In addition to serving as your State Warden, I also serve as District Deputy for District 5 and the Diocesan Regional Membership Growth Coordinator for the Diocese of Sioux City. I am Excited to see everyone in person at the State Convention. I encourage you to take your time there as an opportunity to connect with Brother Knights across the state. It has been a pleasure serving as your State Warden these past 9 months and I am excited for the next few months and the next year ahead to serve my fellow Brother Knights.

May God bless you and your families! Vivat Jesus!

Iowa Knights of Columbus Executive Committee Contact Info

Office/ Position	Name	Email	Phone	Council
State Deputy	Johnathan McGee	statedeputy@iowakofc.org	(641) 891-5642	1243
State Chaplain	Rev. Raymond Higgins	statechaplain@iowakofc.org	(515) 360-6146	11242
State Secretary	Jeff Wellik	statesecretary@iowakofc.org	(515) 708-1494	15060
State Treasurer	Jamie McNaughton	statetreasurer@iowakofc.org	(515) 371-1025	5038
State Advocate	Jason Follett	stateadvocate@iowakofc.org	(515) 306-4070	5038
State Warden	Jeremy Jensen	statewarden@iowakofc.org	(712) 229-9368	1722
Immediate Past State Deputy	Steven Vonnahme	ipsd@iowakofc.org	(515) 669-8894	13109
State Executive Committee	Jesus Manuel Toquinto	mtoquinto@hotmail.com	(563) 723-2397	14131
State Executive Committee	Gary Bailey	beetleb955@gmail.com	(515) 231-8113	15060
Appointed Executive Committee	Orlando Gil	orlando.gil@tctsglobal.ne	(712) 240-0624	3900
District Master	Paul Lee	districtmaster@iowakofc.org	(319) 231-7304	14987
State Membership Director	John Staiert	membership@iowakofc.org	(712) 989-9891	5660
State Program Director	Michael Tigges	programs@iowakofc.org	(515) 480-8645	5389
Communications Director	Paul Lee	publicity@iowakofc.org	(319) 231-7304	14987
Executive Secretary	Paul Falck	admin@iowakofc.org	(641) 660-1341	4108

IOWA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 15 - 16, 2023 DES MOINES, IOWA

The 122nd State Meeting of the Iowa jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus was held Saturday, April 15, 2023 and concluded Sunday, April 16, 2023, at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown, in Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting was called to order by Worthy State Deputy Steven Vonnahme at 10:09 AM. State Chaplain Father Ray Higgins led us in the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by State Deputy Vonnahme. State Warden Jamie McNaughton vouched that all present were in possession of a current valid Third Degree Membership card.

State Deputy Steve Vonnahme presented his condition of the State Council address. He reminded us of the many changes we have been through. Now more than ever, we must work together to get our neighbors back in church. Please remember to ASK! Ask them to church, ask them to be brother Knights, ask them to pray with you. He reminded us that we need to be visible in our parishes, in our communities, for our pastors, for our youth, and most of all, for our families.

State Membership Director Jeff Wellik and State Program Director Larry Hauber then addressed the delegates regarding Star Council tracking by Dioceses, and reviewed the performance of our Districts. Four Districts were at 100% of Membership and 2 more in the 90% category. Brother Wellik discussed how important it is that we work with our Pastors. Brother Hauber transitioned to discuss how our Programs in Iowa help drive membership. They discussed the Aid and Support After Pregnancy Program. The Novena for Life and the upcoming Eucharistic Congress coming in Summer 2024. They concluded by reminding the delegates that they are the key to their council's Success.

State Advocate Jason Follett then addressed us with the rules for the weekend which included, time length of nomination speeches; three minutes for State Officer positions, two minutes for Elected Executive Committee positions, and two minutes for the Supreme Delegate positions. We currently have a nomination on record for each State Deputy, State Secretary, State Advocate and State Treasurer, two nominations for the State Warden. We have four nominations for two Elected Executive Committee positions, and seven nominations for delegates to the Supreme Convention.

State Warden, Jamie McNaughton, closed the morning session with the instructions for lunch, and the State Chaplain led us in prayer for lunch.

After lunch the afternoon session was called to order by State Deputy Steve Vonnahme. He then invited State Chaplain Fr Ray Higgins back to the podium for the opening prayer, Saint Michael the Archangel.

State Secretary John McGee, led the seating of the delegates. 178 Council Delegates, 6 State Officers and 1 Immediate Past State Deputy were seated. 185 Voting Members.

State Advocate Jason Follett presided over the approval process of minutes, reports, and resolutions.

For the purpose of making the motion to approve the minutes from the 121st State Convention, the chair recognized Brother Steve Larsen, Council 17757, Nevada. Second by Council 13160, ISU Ames. Motion Passed.

For the purpose of making the motion to approve the various State Officers, Directors, Chairs, Foundation, and Master of the Fourth Degree Reports, the chair recognized Brother Barrett McClain of Council 15347, Elkhart. Second by Council 930, Cascade. Motion Passed.

For the purpose of making the motion to approve the various Committee Reports, the chair recognized Brother J. Pablo Martinez Jr. of Council 16922, Ottumwa. Second by Council 888, Ottumwa. Motion Passed.

Brother Follett then reviewed Resolutions 1 - 19 submitted by the Executive Committee and recommended passage by the Committee on Resolutions. For the purpose of making the motion to approve Resolutions #1 through #10, the chair recognized Brother Clay Gubbels Council 780, Carroll. Second by Council 13109, Altoona. Motion Passed

Brother Follett then reviewed Resolution 20, a resolution on supporting an increase in state per-capita for billable members. For the purpose of making the motion to approve Resolution 20, the chair recognized Brother Jim Bates, Council 4009, Waukee. Second by Council 14042, Columbus Junction. Motion Passed.

Brother Follett then invited State Treasurer Jon Aldrich forward to present the 2023 - 2024 State Budget. Aldrich presented the budget, as printed in the Pre-Convention Book. Follett then invited Chris Riegel of Council 15603 in Ankeny to make the motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget. Second by Council 5038, Ankeny. Motion Passed.

The next order of business was the election of State Officers, Third Degree Elected Executive Committee Members and the Delegates to the Supreme Convention. Mike McGee, Third Degree member from Council 1571 Cresco, was called forward to nominate his son, John McGee, for State Deputy. State Advocate Follett then called Jim Archer from Council 1243 in Perry, John McGee's home council, made a motion that the State Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the following State Officers for the 2023-2024 Fraternal Year. John McGee, State Deputy, Jeff Wellik, State Secretary, Jamie McNaughton, State Treasurer, and Jason Follett, State Advocate. Second by Council 1571 Cresco. Motion Passed.

State Advocate Follett, called for any final nominations to the list of candidates for State Warden and Elected Executive Committee Members and Hearing none, Brother Follett, called Brother John Peters from Council 1466 in LeMars to the podium. He made a motion that we cease nominations for the office of State Warden and Elected Third Degree Representatives. It was seconded by Council 5660, Sioux City. Motion Passed.

Continued on next page

State Advocate Follett, called for any final nominations to the list of candidates to serve as Delegates to the 2023 Supreme Convention in Orlando, Florida. Hearing none,

Brother Follett asked Randy Schissel of Council 4208 in Decorah to make a motion at Nomination for delegates to the 141st Supreme Knights of Columbus Convention to cease. It was seconded by Councils 5038 and 15603 Ankeny. Motion Passed.

Our Worthy State Advocate, then oversaw nomination speeches and the general elections for the following positions.

For State Warden, choosing one:

Jeremy Jensen, 1722 Cherokee and Orlando Gill, 3900 Harlan.

For Third Degree Elected Executive Committee, choosing two; Gary Bailey, 15060 Gilbert, Jesus Manuel Toquinto, 14131 Davenport, Michael Reicks, 10805 Council Bluffs and Rick Jacoby, 4248 Grinnell.

For Delegate for the 141st Supreme Convention, choosing eight; Orlando Gill, Ronald Conner, Larry Deal, Samuil Pane, Paul Lee, Jeff Wellik, Jeremy Jensen.

Elections were held with the following results.

- Jeremy Jensen, State Warden.
- Gary Bailey and Jesus Manuel Toquinto, Elected Third Degree Representatives.
- Orlando Gill, Ronald Conner, Larry Deal, Samuil Pane, Paul Lee, Jeff Wellik and Jeremy Jensen were voted in as seated delegates to the Supreme Convention.

State Deputy Elect, John McGee gave his Acceptance Address, encouraging each of us to lean on each other. "God has never called on us to walk this journey alone". Additionally he thanked the delegates and leadership for their faith in him.

State Program Director Larry Hauber and State Membership Director Jeff Wellik then resumed their discussions about Membership and Programs. They fielded several questions from the delegates.

State Warden Jamie McNaughton gave closing instructions and State Chaplain Father Ray Higgins closed the session with prayer. The State Deputy then closed the second Saturday session.

The Sunday morning session on April 16, 2023 was called to order by the Worth State Deputy, following morning mass, which was presided over by the State Chaplain Father Raymond Higgins. Father Ray made his closing remarks during his homily as he was unable to give the opening address at the Business Meeting as he was called back to care for his parish.

Sunday Morning's session consisted of various reports from the District Master of the Fourth Degree, Paull Lee, Jeff Wellik, State Membership Director, State Program Director, Larry Hauber and the Supreme Representative Steve Cohen, Midwest Territory Growth Director.

The State Treasurer, Jon Aldrich, gave notice that the mileage and per diem checks would be mailed out the following week.

We heard a report from General Agents Neil Pfeifer and Michael Bormann reminding us of the importance of attending those Fraternal Benefit Nights and to always be recruiting for good Field Agents as we come across them.

Our Worth State Deputy gave us his closing remarks. Encouraging us to ASK and INVITE new families to join our order and make sure we ASSIST our parish priests. We are Brothers in Christ. We can Light someone's world today. All we need to do is ask.

State Deputy Vonnahme also gave us the results of the ASAP "Pass the Car Seat" collection. We collected over \$15,000.00, thanks, in part, to the Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation matching up to \$7,500.00.

State Deputy Elect John McGee lead the closing prayer as we closed the 122nd State Convention and Business meeting at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Johnathan R. McGee
State Secretary

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO 1 : DECLARATION OF CONVENTION & PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus is in session at the 123rd Annual Meeting pursuant to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Order; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus meets in the desire that its deliberations will arouse greater interest and perpetuate greater areas of apostolic and socially aware activities by members of the Order; and

WHEREAS, as the Knights of Columbus should work in a unified and efficient manner toward strengthening a more just society for the benefit of the church, community, members and all people; and

WHEREAS, as citizens of the United States of America, we turn for intercession to our Blessed Mother under the title of the Immaculate Conception and to Our Lady of Guadalupe as patroness of the Americas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, duly assembled at this 123rd Annual Meeting, humbly dedicate its deliberations to the improvement of society according to Catholic Christian principles and in so deliberating on all resolutions utilizes the principles of wisdom, patience and fraternal charity to promote the common good according to Catholic Christian principles in union with Jesus our Savior and Mary our Holy Mother; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus reaffirm the following declarations of purposes as espoused within the Charter of the Knights of Columbus to render pecuniary aid to members and their families; to render mutual aid and assistance to sick, disabled and needy members and their families; to promote social and intellectual intercourse among members and their families; *and to promote and conduct educational work, charitable work, religious work, social welfare, war relief, and welfare, and public relief work.*

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 2: CANONIZATION OF BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY

WHEREAS, Father Michael Joseph McGivney was a parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut in 1882 when he enlisted the aid of others to establish an organization for the purpose of (i) rendering mutual aid and assistance to its sick, disabled, and needy members and their families, and (ii) for the promotion of the social and intellectual intercourse among members and their families, and (iii) promoting and conducting educational, charitable, religious, social welfare and relief work; and

WHEREAS, the Order is the embodiment of Father Michael McGivney's vision, fulfilling its purpose of charity and evangelization; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI recognized the heroic virtues of Father Michael McGivney, advancing the Vatican's process towards his sainthood and giving him the distinction of being a "Venerable Servant of God"; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis approved a decree confirming a miracle brought upon through the intercession of Father Michael McGivney healing the preborn Michael "Mikey" Schachle of a life-threatening condition, paving the way for Father McGivney's Beautification; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus hereby prays that Blessed Michael McGivney will soon be numbered among God's saints; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that during one session of this and subsequent annual business meetings of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus the Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney shall be prayed by those in attendance.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 3: SALUTATIONS AND FELICITATIONS TO THE CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus is deeply grateful for the many benefits provided to its members by the Pope, bishops, and clergy; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus wishes to renew its pledge of continued love, loyalty, and submission, and wishes to assure the clergy that the Knights of Columbus will always be at their service and that of the Church, and wishes to further promise unwavering loyalty to the hierarchy of the Church; and

WHEREAS, the activities of the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus have been enhanced in its significance and dignity by the presence of the Most Reverend William M. Joensen, Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines, Reverend Father Raymond Higgins, our Worthy State Chaplain, and other monsignors, priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters in attendance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, duly assembled at this 123rd Annual Meeting, do hereby express to the Pope, all bishops and clergy its sincere appreciation and thanks for their splendid guidance and leadership, and our pledge of continued loyalty, support, and service, with particular appreciation given to the following:

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, and the hierarchy of the Holy Catholic Church;

The Most Reverend William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, Maryland and Worthy Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus;

The Archbishop of the Dubuque Archdiocese, Most Reverend Thomas R. Zinkula;

Continued on next page

RESOLUTIONS

The Bishop of the Sioux City Diocese, Most Reverend R. Walker Nickless;
The Bishop of the Des Moines Diocese, Most Reverend William M. Joensen;
The Diocesan Administrator of the Davenport Diocese, Very Reverend Kenneth E. Kuntz;
The Worthy State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, the Reverend Father Raymond Higgins, and all council chaplains, priests, deacons, religious, and retired clergy of Iowa.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 4: SALUTATION TO THE LOCAL BISHOP, THE MOST REVEREND WILLIAM M. JOENSEN

WHEREAS, the activities of the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus have been enhanced in their significance and dignity by the presence of the Bishop of the Diocese of Des Moines, the Most William M. Joensen; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Joensen has enthusiastically supported the Knights of Columbus during his tenure as the chief shepherd and teacher of the Roman Catholic Church of the Diocese of Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Joensen is a proud member of the Order, joining on June 1, 1989 and obtaining the honors of the Patriotic Degree on October 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Joensen and the staff of the Diocese of Des Moines have continued to be a gracious host to the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus for many initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends to the Most Reverend William M. Joensen its sincere appreciation and the support and services of all of its members for his support of the Knights of Columbus and for his attendance at the 2024 State Convention.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 5: SALUTATION TO SUPREME KNIGHT PATRICK KELLY

WHEREAS, Patrick E. Kelly was elected March 2021 to serve as Worthy Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, our Supreme Knight is a man of exemplary virtue, who for nearly three decades has demonstrated a track record of service to Church and Country, which serves him well in advancing the Order's Mission, and whose actions are deeply valued by the members of the Iowa State Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus hereby extends heartfelt appreciation to the service and commitment by Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly to the Knights of Columbus and hereby enthusiastically supports his continued leadership of our Order.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 6: SALUTATION TO SUPREME DIRECTOR ANTONIO BAÑUELOS

WHEREAS, Antonio Banuelos is a member of Council 17331 in Des Moines, IA; and

WHEREAS, Banuelos has been an exemplary Catholic husband, father, and loyal son of the Church through his involvement with the Hispanic ministry throughout the Diocese of Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, he was elected and served two terms as State Deputy of Iowa for the Knights of Columbus, where he led the jurisdiction to be recognized with membership in the Supreme Knight's Circle of Honor for the 2018-2019 fraternal year; and

WHEREAS, during the 2019 Supreme Convention held in Minneapolis, Banuelos was elected to a three-year term as a member of the Supreme Board of Directors for the Knights of Columbus with the title of Supreme Director; and

WHEREAS, during the 2022 Supreme Convention held in Nashville, Banuelos was re-elected to a second three-year term as a member of the Supreme Board of Directors for the Knights of Columbus with the title of Supreme Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends to Antonio Banuelos a heartfelt and sincere appreciation for his meritorious service to the Knights of Columbus.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 7: SALUTATIONS TO STATE DEPUTY AND FIRST LADY

WHEREAS, Johnathan McGee is a member of Saint Jude Council 1243 in Perry, IA; and
WHEREAS, McGee has been an exemplary Catholic husband, father, and loyal son of the Church; and
WHEREAS, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Order permits the Iowa State Council to elect a Brother Knight to serve in the role of Worthy State Deputy; and
WHEREAS, McGee was elected in 2023 to serve as State Deputy of Iowa for the Knights of Columbus; and
WHEREAS, under his leadership a team of state officers and fraternal leaders, state leadership, district deputies, and district wardens have worked to advance the membership, program, and fraternal protection programs of the Order while displaying virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism; and
WHEREAS, McGee is blessed with his lovely wife Jennifer and their children who, in turn, sacrifice and give much for the service of both the state council and of the Order.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends to Worthy State Deputy Johnathan McGee a heartfelt and sincere appreciation for his meritorious service to the Knights of Columbus; and
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends to Worthy State Deputy Johnathan McGee, First Lady Jennifer McGee, and their family its sincere gratitude and our continued prayers to the Holy Family for their protection.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 8: SALUTATION TO STATE LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Order permits the Iowa State Council to elect a Brother Knight to serve in the role of Worthy State Deputy; and
WHEREAS, Johnathan McGee, a Brother Knight of Saint Jude Council 1243 in Perry, was elected in 2023 to occupy the role of State Deputy; and
WHEREAS, under his leadership a team of state officers and fraternal leaders, state leadership, district deputies, and wardens have worked to advance the membership, program, and fraternal protection programs of the Order while displaying virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism; and
WHEREAS, many members of the state leadership are blessed with a wife and children who, in turn, sacrifice and give much for the service of both the state council and of the Order.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends its gratitude to the State Officers, Executive Committee, Executive Secretary, District Deputies, District Wardens, and members of the State Membership Team and State Program Team for their commitment to the principles of our Order and their continuing efforts to build our Order and the Families that comprise it.
FURTHER RESOLVED that the appreciation of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus also be extended to all Past State Deputies, past state officers, and former district leadership and their families for their service to the Order in Iowa.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 9: SALUTATION TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE AGENTS

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus Insurance Program was a major cornerstone of the initial mission of our founder, Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney; and
WHEREAS, each Field Agent, Assistant General Agent, and General Agent plays a significant role in the growth of Councils and protection of Knights of Columbus families; and
WHEREAS, insurance products continue to be developed to meet the needs of our families and the ever-changing societal issues that face our families; and
WHEREAS, there is an ongoing need to encourage more Catholic men to join the Knights of Columbus insurance team to promote the Order, create new Councils, invite new members to join, and ensure the financial security of our families.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends its gratitude to every Field Agent, Assistant General Agent, and General Agent for their commitment to the principles of our Order and their continuing efforts to build our Order and the Families that comprise it.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 10: SALUTATION TO LOCAL COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, the work of the Knights of Columbus has occurred and does occur at the local council level; and
WHEREAS, each local council elected a slate of officers to lead the action of the council; and
WHEREAS, under the direction of a Worthy Grand Knight, a group of men are appointed as directors and chairmen to share in the workload of the council and to ensure its' success in supporting the parish, its' leadership, and the local community; and
WHEREAS, in consultation between the Grand Knight and the Board of Trustees, a Worthy Financial Secretary is recommended for appointment by the Supreme Knight to serve as a direct administrative link between the supreme office and the subordinate local council; and
WHEREAS, many Brother Knights step into positions of responsibility without obtaining a formal title or appointment, simply because the work needs to be done and they have the skills needed.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus extends its gratitude to every local council officer, director, and chairman, along with their families, for the time, talent, and treasure invested in the name of the Knights of Columbus; and
FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon passage of this resolution by the delegates to this 123rd Annual Business Meeting of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, a signed copy of this resolution be transmitted to each Grand Knight on record as a token of our appreciation .

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 11: SALUTATION AND APPRECIATION OF CONVENTION HOST COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, this 2024 State Convention of the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus has been hosted by a committee of Brother Knights and their wives from local councils in the Council Bluffs area, co-chaired by Brian Bowers of Bishop Dingman Council 10805 and Burton Rausch of Father John F. O'Neill Council 10722; and
WHEREAS, dozens of Brother Knights, together with their wives, have worked very hard and have been very gracious in their hospitality extended to the attendees of this 2024 State Convention.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus hereby extends to Brian Bowers, Burton Rausch, and all Brother Knights, wives, and friends who assisted in the preparation of this State Convention, its sincere appreciation and profound thanks for the cordial welcome and fine hospitality shown in the preparation and execution of this 2024 State Convention to all members in attendance .

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 12 :IN REMEMBRANCE OF DEPARTED BROTHER KNIGHTS AND THOSE ENROLLED IN THE PERPETUAL MEMORIAL SOCIETY

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus is deeply grateful for the many contributions of its members; and
WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus wishes to pause and remember those brother Knights from its councils who have concluded their service to the Order and to their Church through falling asleep in the hope of eternal life; and
WHEREAS, the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus established the Perpetual Memorial Society in 1990 to provide a means for an eternal remembrance for those departed brothers and sisters in Christ and encourages all to enroll those recently departed.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Council of the Knights of Columbus, duly assembled at this 123rd Annual Meeting, do hereby express its sincere appreciation and thanks for their splendid service to our Order, our Holy Mother Church, and their local communities through the virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism; and
FURTHER RESOLVED that those duly assembled at the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Iowa State Council shall remember these departed Brother Knights, all enrollees of the Perpetual Memorial Society, and those from our families who have recently departed through the participation at the annual Memorial Mass conducted during the 2024 State Convention .

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 13: BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a deep and historic commitment to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and
WHEREAS, the Order supports programs that provide women facing crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects that provide spiritual support to those women suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and
WHEREAS, our Ultrasound Program has provided a window to the womb by placing more than 1,400 ultrasound machines in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Republic of Korea, and a growing number of Canadian provinces; and
WHEREAS, we reaffirm our commitment to building a "culture of life" by promoting policies that favor the family, and by recognizing that it is within strong and healthy families that moral values are taught and the spiritual heritage of the nation is transmitted; and,

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WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting marches and rallies for the cause of life in the countries where we have a formal presence; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI reiterated that “Catholic politicians and legislators, conscious of the grave responsibility before them, must feel particularly bound, on the basis of a properly formed conscience, to introduce and support laws inspired by values grounded in human nature;” and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has called abortion the product of, “widespread mentality of profit, the throwaway culture, which has today enslaved the hearts and minds of so many;” and

WHEREAS, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminded us that, “Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development;” and

WHEREAS, in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, the Holy Father reiterated that “Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion;” and

WHEREAS, in remarks to the leadership of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis reiterated that “protection of the unborn is a preeminent priority” and it is not first a religious issue, but rather an issue of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we believe women deserve better than abortion and will continue to support crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects which provide spiritual support to those women and men suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church’s authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato Si'*, and other documents; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said “yes” to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a culture of life WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting marches and rallies for the cause of life in the countries where we have a formal presence; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI reiterated that “Catholic politicians and legislators, conscious of the grave responsibility before them, must feel particularly bound, on the basis of a properly formed conscience, to introduce and support laws inspired by values grounded in human nature;” and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has called abortion the product of, “widespread mentality of profit, the throwaway culture, which has today enslaved the hearts and minds of so many;” and

WHEREAS, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminded us that, “Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development;” and

WHEREAS, in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, the Holy Father reiterated that “Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion;” and

WHEREAS, in remarks to the leadership of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis reiterated that “protection of the unborn is a preeminent priority” and it is not first a religious issue, but rather an issue of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church’s authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato Si'*, and other documents; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or

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speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind, or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said “yes” to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a culture of life.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 14: IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

WHEREAS, the Second Vatican Council declared in *Dignitatis Humanae* that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which requires that all people are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no one should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

WHEREAS, the right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

WHEREAS, religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance, which can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has called religious freedom “a fundamental right of man,” that is “not simply freedom of thought or private worship” but “the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly;” and

WHEREAS, since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has worked to defend religious freedom for all people and has done so out of a commitment to our faith and our unshakeable belief that religious freedom is a basic human right; and

WHEREAS, the Order’s work on behalf of religious freedom included efforts in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, which affirmed the right of children to a Catholic education in opposition to the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan; and

WHEREAS, our work for religious freedom also included protesting the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s; efforts to combat the anti-religious worldview of Communism; and the inclusion of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance to distinguish the United States from anti-religious governments; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged the Knights of Columbus to draw the attention of Catholic Americans “to contribute to the reasoned defense” of religious freedom and reminded us that “to the extent that this right is men-aced...there is a need for a mobilization of consciences on the part of all those citizens who, regardless of party or creed, are concerned for the overall welfare of society.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as citizens and as Knights of Columbus, we will remain steadfast in our support for the free exercise of religion as it is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we stand firm in our conviction that the full guarantee of religious liberty cannot be limited to “freedom of worship” as some have claimed, but must include full “freedom of religion,” which necessarily encompasses the public dimension of religion, the freedom from persecution or discrimination on the basis of conscience and belief, and the fact that believers are called to play an active role in building the social order; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all government officials to enact legislation that will protect the right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will always speak out against any effort to impose religious tests on candidates or nominees for government positions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will remain steadfast in our opposition to future governmental actions or policies that force institutions and individuals to violate their deeply held religious beliefs.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 15: IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, in 1492 Christopher Columbus obtained permission and financial support from the King and Queen of Spain to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean in search of new trade routes; and

WHEREAS, on October 12 of that year, Columbus’s expedition landed in what is today the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, immediately erecting a cross and naming the island San Salvador, in honor of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World; and

WHEREAS, Columbus established a policy that his men were to treat the native people in the new world with respect, pursuant to which he sentenced to death men who disobeyed this order, which resulted in his own arrest and return to Spain in chains; and

WHEREAS, the 16th-century historian Bartolomé de las Casas, who exposed terrible abuses of native peoples, defended Columbus’s motivations saying, “...I knew him well and I know his intentions are good;” and

WHEREAS, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus’s first voyage to the Americas, Pope Leo XIII reflected on Columbus’s strong Catholic faith writing, “it is fitting that we should confess and celebrate in an especial manner the will and designs of the Eternal *Continued on next page*”

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Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching,” and ordered the celebration of Solemn Mass of the Most Holy Trinity in honor of the occasion; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison similarly commemorated the anniversary by declaring a national Columbus holiday that year to provide, “expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer, and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people;” and

WHEREAS, following this anniversary of Columbus’s voyage, memorials and celebrations in honor of Columbus became popular in the United States as ways to celebrate the Catholic history of the Western Hemisphere and to counteract anti-Catholicism in the United States; and

WHEREAS, at the height of the nativist and anti-Catholic sentiment of the late 19th century, Columbus was chosen as the Order’s namesake because he was one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history, and because the founding members of the Order wished to show that faithful Catholics can also be patriotic American citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 1906 the Knights of Columbus advocated for the construction of a monument in Washington, D.C., in honor of Columbus and, when it was completed in

1912, U.S. President William Howard Taft presided at the dedication ceremony, which was attended by several foreign ambassadors, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and thousands more spectators, leading to the observation that “every possible vantage point was filled;” and

WHEREAS, in the following decades, several states established holidays in honor of Columbus and, following the strong urging of the Knights of Columbus and several civic organizations, the United States declared Columbus Day a federal holiday in 1937; and

WHEREAS, the strong Catholic identity associated with Columbus Day led the Ku Klux Klan to denounce the celebration of the holiday as a “papal fraud” and to commit acts of violence and intimidation, including burning a cross at a Knights of Columbus celebration of Columbus Day in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, to further accomplish its anti-Catholic goals in the United States, the Klan, and other nativist forces, initiated a campaign to disparage Columbus, claiming that he was not a hero, but rather just another foreign conqueror who was guilty of genocide, slavery, and oppression; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, these claims have been repeated, with misinformation about Columbus, leading to the elimination of favorable references to Columbus and the removal of monuments commemorating him, many of which were first established by Catholic immigrants seeking to establish their place in American society; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus includes many members of Native American and First Nation tribes among its ranks and works with these brother Knights and their families to address the challenges faced by indigenous communities, as well as to develop specific programs promoting the unique traditions of their Catholic faith; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of Columbus, who sought to partner with the peaceful indigenous people he encountered, the Knights of Columbus is sharing the culture of Native American and First Nation communities through its documentary, Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholicism, promoting devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and establishing a shrine dedicated to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the first indigenous American saint.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake, state and federal holidays established in his honor, and public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will, without diminishing the unique contributions of native peoples to the remarkable cultural tapestry of the Americas, encourage our public officials to preserve the intended spirit of the public holiday tradition with its cultural and patriotic implications, and not allow it to be undermined or diminished by neglect, dilution, or replacement; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus’s lead ship on that historic 15th century journey Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching,” and ordered the celebration of Solemn Mass of the Most Holy Trinity in honor of the occasion; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison similarly commemorated the anniversary by declaring a national Columbus holiday that year to provide, “expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer, and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people;” and

WHEREAS, following this anniversary of Columbus’s voyage, memorials and celebrations in honor of Columbus became popular in the United States as ways to celebrate the Catholic history of the Western Hemisphere and to counteract anti-Catholicism in the United States; and

WHEREAS, at the height of the nativist and anti-Catholic sentiment of the late 19th century, Columbus was chosen as the Order’s namesake because he was one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history, and because the founding members of the Order wished to show that faithful Catholics can also be patriotic American citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 1906 the Knights of Columbus advocated for the construction of a monument in Washington, D.C., in honor of Columbus and, when it was completed in 1912, U.S. President William Howard Taft presided at the dedication ceremony, which was attended by several foreign ambassadors, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and thousands more spectators, leading to the observation that “every possible vantage point was filled;” and

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WHEREAS, the strong Catholic identity associated with Columbus Day led the Ku Klux Klan to denounce the celebration of the holiday as a “papal fraud” and to commit acts of violence and intimidation, including burning a cross at a Knights of Columbus celebration of Columbus Day in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, to further accomplish its anti-Catholic goals in the United States, the Klan, and other nativist forces, initiated a campaign to disparage Columbus, claiming that he was not a hero, but rather just another foreign conqueror who was guilty of genocide, slavery, and oppression; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, these claims have been repeated, with misinformation about Columbus, leading to the elimination of favorable references to Columbus and the removal of monuments commemorating him, many of which were first established by Catholic immigrants seeking to establish their place in American society; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus includes many members of Native American and First Nation tribes among its ranks and works with these brother Knights and their families to address the challenges faced by indigenous communities, as well as to develop specific programs promoting the unique traditions of their Catholic faith; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of Columbus, who sought to partner with the peaceful indigenous people he encountered, the Knights of Columbus is sharing the culture of Native American and First Nation communities through its documentary, Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholicism, promoting devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and establishing a shrine dedicated to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the first indigenous American saint.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake, state and federal holidays established in his honor, and public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will, without diminishing the unique contributions of native peoples to the remarkable cultural tapestry of the Americas, encourage our public officials to preserve the intended spirit of the public holiday tradition with its cultural and patriotic implications, and not allow it to be undermined or diminished by neglect, dilution, or replacement; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus’s lead ship on that historic 15th century journey.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 16: THE CAUSE OF FATHER EMIL J. KAPAUN

WHEREAS, Emil Joseph Kapaun grew up on a farm three miles southwest of Pilsen, Kansas, and graduated from Pilsen High School in May 1930; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 1940, Emil Kapaun was ordained a priest serving the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wichita; and

WHEREAS, Father Kapaun began his military chaplaincy at Camp Wheeler, Georgia in 1944. During World War II, he served in the Burma Theater in India. During his tour of service, Father Kapaun was promoted to the rank of Captain in January of 1946, and was discharged that same year; and

WHEREAS, Father Kapaun re-enlisted in 1948, whereupon, in July 1950 he was ordered to Korea a month after North Korea invaded South Korea. Father Kapaun tended to the wounded, administered the Last Sacrament to the dying, performed baptisms, heard Confessions, offered Holy Communion, and celebrated Mass from an improvised altar on the front of an army jeep. He was awarded the Bronze Star in September 1950. Father Kapaun was assigned to the Eighth Cavalry regiment that was surrounded and overrun by the Chinese army in North Korea in November 1950. Father Kapaun stayed behind with the wounded when the army retreated. He allowed his own capture, then risked death by preventing Chinese executions of wounded Americans too injured to walk; and

WHEREAS, Father Kapaun died on May 23, 1951, in a prison camp in North Korea. Father Kapaun was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in August 1951; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Pope John Paul II issued a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Father Emil J. Kapaun thus giving the parish priest and Army chaplain the distinction of “Servant of God”; and

WHEREAS, in April 2013, Father Emil J. Kapaun was awarded posthumously, by the President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, the highest military honor, the Medal of Honor, for acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty performed by him during November 1950 and while a prisoner of war until his death in 1951; and

WHEREAS, The Most Reverend Carl A. Kemme of the Catholic Diocese of Wichita addressed the leadership of the Vatican’s Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome on November 9, 2015, to make the case for Father Emil J. Kapaun’s sainthood; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, the remains of Father Emil J. Kapaun were identified and after 70 years, he finally returned home to Kansas where he has been entombed inside a shrine at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Wichita.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we will pray for the beatification of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun, and encourage all Brother Knights and their families to become active members of the Father Emil J. Kapaun Guild; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will pray for the intercession of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun for our needs and the needs of all our loved ones, and report any favors received; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes and our places of work; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will honor the vision of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun through a commitment to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we will pray for the beatification of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun, and encourage all Brother Knights and their families to become active members of the Father Emil J. Kapaun Guild; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will pray for the intercession of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun for our needs and the needs of all our loved ones, and report any favors received; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes and our places of work; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will honor the vision of Servant of God Emil J. Kapaun through a commitment to charity, unity and fraternity that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State

RESOLUTION NO. 17: THE CAUSE OF FATHER VINCENT R. CAPODANNO

WHEREAS, Vincent Robert Capodanno, born on February 13, 1929, in Staten Island, New York, was the tenth child of Italian immigrants, Vincent Robert Capodanno, Sr. and Rachel Basile Capodanno. Through the example of his parents, Vincent Jr. experienced the dignity of hard work, pride of family, strength of ethnic solidarity and most especially, love of their Catholic faith. These values sustained the family during the Great Depression and following the sudden loss of their patriarch on young Vincent's tenth birthday. He graduated from Curtis High School on February 4, 1947, and attended Fordham University for a year while also working as an insurance clerk. In 1949, he entered the Maryknoll Missionary Seminary in Ossining, New York, which included extensive studies in Illinois and Massachusetts. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest by Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York on June 14, 1958; and

WHEREAS, his first assignment as a missionary was with aboriginal Taiwanese in the mountains of Taiwan, where he served in a parish and later in a school. After six years, he returned to the United States for leave and then was assigned to a Maryknoll school in Hong Kong. Shortly after, he requested to serve as a military chaplain in Vietnam as the American presence escalated; and

WHEREAS, on December 28, 1965, Capodanno received his commission as a lieutenant in the Navy Chaplain Corps. He then requested and was assigned in April 1966 to the 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division in South Vietnam. As the chaplain for the battalion, his immediate focus was the young enlisted troops or "Grunts". Later transferred to a medical unit, Father Capodanno was more than a priest ministering within the horrific arena of war. He became a constant companion to the Marines - living, eating, and sleeping in the same conditions of the men. He established libraries, gathered and distributed gifts and organized outreach programs for the local villagers. He spent hours reassuring the weary and disillusioned, consoling the grieving, hearing confessions, instructing converts, and distributing Saint Christopher medals; and

WHEREAS, in June 1967 after a one-month leave, he returned to Vietnam for a voluntary six-month extension, and in July was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines. In August, he was assigned to H&S Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. He was widely known for his willingness to share the hardships of suffering Marines - "Radiating Christ" to those around him or simply the "Grunt Padre"; and

WHEREAS, during his second tour on September 4, 1967, with the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines that Father Vincent Capodanno made the ultimate sacrifice. When he heard that two platoons of M Company from his battalion were taking casualties and about to be overrun by the enemy, He went among the wounded and dying Marines of Second Platoon, helping them and giving last rites. After hours of heavy fighting from a North Vietnamese ambush, Father Capodanno, himself seriously injured and refusing medical evacuation, sighted and ran to the assistance of a wounded corpsman and the Marine he was assisting who were pinned down by an enemy machine gunner where he administered medical and spiritual attention. Despite being unarmed, the enemy opened fire and Father Capodanno, the victim of 27 bullet wounds, died faithfully performing his final act as a good and faithful servant of God; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of the Navy Paul Ignatius notified the Capodanno family that Lieutenant Capodanno would posthumously be awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Chaplain of the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Reinforced), FMF, in connection with operations against enemy forces in Quang Tin Province, Republic of Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, USS Capodanno (FF-1093) was named in honor of Lieutenant Capodanno, commissioned November 17, 1973, and became the first ship in the US fleet to receive a Papal Blessing when it was blessed by Pope John Paul II on September 4, 1981, the anniversary of the chaplain's death; and

WHEREAS, Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno showed tangible concern for the conditions of the Marines he served, and exhibited both the practice of the virtues and a ready response to the action of grace, which in every age signifies holiness; and

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WHEREAS, on May 19, 2002, Father Capodanno's Cause for Canonization was officially opened. In May 2004, the initial documentation was submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. On May 21, 2006, Father Capodanno's official designation as a Servant of God was announced in Washington D.C., by Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA and, on October 1, 2013, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio presided over the formal renewal of the opening of the Cause for Beatification

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we will pray for the beatification of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno, and encourage all Brother Knights and their families to become active members of the Father Vincent R. Capodanno Guild; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will pray for the intercession of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno for our needs and the needs of all our loved ones, and report any favors received; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes, and our places of work; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will honor the vision of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno through a commitment to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need WHEREAS, on May 19, 2002, Father Capodanno's Cause for Canonization was officially opened. In May 2004, the initial documentation was submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. On May 21, 2006, Father Capodanno's official designation as a Servant of God was announced in Washington D.C., by Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA and, on October 1, 2013, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio presided over the formal renewal of the opening of the Cause for Beatification

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes and our places of work; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will honor the vision of Servant of God Vincent R. Capodanno through a commitment to charity, unity and fraternity that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 18: HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

WHEREAS, many of our Brother Knights, along with thousands of other servicemen and women, are presently deployed in hostile and unstable regions around the world in efforts to combat terrorism, maintain order, and promote peace; and

WHEREAS, many of these men and women have heroically given their lives or sustained serious or debilitating injury while deployed in the service of their country; and

WHEREAS, Knights of Columbus support for the armed forces dates to World War I and the establishment of more than 100 Knights of Columbus morale centers supporting the welfare of Allied troops under the banner, "Everybody Welcome, Everything Free;" and

WHEREAS, the Order is committed to the spiritual welfare of the armed forces through our ongoing support of the Archdiocese for the Military Services Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, which is critical to the formation of new military chaplains; and

WHEREAS, since 2004 the Order has distributed more than 600,000 copies of its Armed with the Faith military prayer books to Catholic troops around the world; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, the Order has worked with the Archdiocese for the Military Services, to sponsor the Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage, which provides an opportunity for non-wounded, wounded, ill, or injured military personnel to travel to this special Marian shrine for spiritual renewal and healing; and

WHEREAS, we are committed to "serving those who served" through the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services program, with Brother Knights donating nearly 100,000 hours of volunteer service at over 100 Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Order maintains active military councils around the world which provide both material and spiritual support to answer the special needs of their local military and civilian communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus reaffirms our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will never waver in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on active duty, in the Guard, in the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we prayerfully support and encourage the families of those servicemen and women who are deployed; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we continue to pray for the mission success and the safe return of all military personnel throughout the world, especially those deployed to combat zones; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we now pay tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious combat injuries, and we pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the service of their country.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 19: SUPPORT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

WHEREAS, first responders, those engaged in law enforcement, firefighting, and emergency medical services, provide invaluable services by taking responsibility for the health and safety of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the people engaged in these services, who are in some cases volunteers, are drawn from the communities they serve and are committed to aiding their neighbors in the model of the Good Samaritan; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has sponsored the Matthews and Swift Educational Trust Scholarship which was founded as a living memorial to veterans of the Second World War and supports the educational needs of the children of Knights of Columbus members who lost their lives in the line of duty while serving in the military, in law enforcement, or as a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Knights of Columbus established a \$1 million Heroes Fund which provided checks in the amount of \$3,500 to 419 families of first responders who lost their lives on that terrible day; and

WHEREAS, many state and local councils have programs that support first responders in the communities they serve including partnerships with police and fire departments through the Order's Coats for Kids program; and

WHEREAS, in a speech to Italian police, Pope Francis remarked, "Your service, often not adequately admired, places you at the heart of society and, for its high value, I do not hesitate to define it as a mission, to undertake with honor and a deep sense of duty, to the service of man and of the common good;" and

WHEREAS, the Holy Father has regularly asked for prayers for first responders during his opportunities to meet with them or when expressing his sorrow at the tragedies to which these brave men and women respond.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus expresses its deep appreciation and continued solidarity with all first responders; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we also express our appreciation to the families of first responders who provide critical support to their loved ones as they bravely confront the risks associated with their service; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we renew our support for members of law enforcement agencies who professionally perform their duties with a sense of justice; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend the men and women who respond to fires and similar emergencies in our communities, as well as to national tragedies such as wildfires and other natural disasters; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express profound gratitude to emergency medical service professionals who answer the call daily to save the lives of their fellow man and; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for the health and safety of all first responders to the intercession of Saint Michael the Archangel while continuing to support special Masses, liturgical celebrations, and other appropriate services honoring these brave members of our communities.

Submitted by: Executive Committee, Iowa State Council

RESOLUTION NO. 20: CREATING A CULTURE OF LIFE THROUGH THE MARCH FOR LIFE

WHEREAS, Resolution 2024-13 Building a Culture of Life clearly states the deep and historical commitment of the Knights of Columbus to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting marches and rallies for the cause of life in the countries where we have a formal presence; and

WHEREAS, the Pulse Life Advocates, formerly Iowans for Life, sponsors a bus trip from various locations in Iowa to Washington, DC each January for the National March for Life; and

WHEREAS, the number of students attending has decreased because of many factors, such as cost, lack of awareness, and lack of emphasis of the Culture of Life in our Catholic schools and parishes; and

WHEREAS, to recreate a Culture of Life in our country, we need to raise pro-life children and students.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that each Knights of Columbus Council in Iowa consider financially sponsoring at least one high school student to attend the March for Life; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that with this financial sponsorship and our prayers, we can raise a generation of pro-life advocates changing the hearts and minds of our nation.

Submitted by: Council 10558, Des Moines

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR | JOHN STAIERT

Fellow Iowa Brother Knights, so far, the 2023 – 2024 Fraternal Year has been somewhat of an eye opener for me, seeing the level of work and dedication that is needed to run the Iowa Knights of Columbus. From the State Officers down to the District and Council leadership, and finally the Council Members all pulling together to make us successful and an integral part of our Parishes and our Communities. From all of the Programs that we do, some that we have been doing for many years and some that are relatively new, to the key roles we play within our Parishes, assisting monetarily, with volunteer labor, and serving as ministers at church, there is no denying that we play an indispensable role. By our service and by our actions, those who see us and know what we do will know we are an organization dedicated to being FIRST IN FAITH and FIRST IN CHARITY.

It sounds like an organization that men of faith would be breaking down the doors to join, and that we would have men flocking toward us wanting to be part of what we do; but we all know that isn't the way it happens. We have to make it happen. I am not trying to make it sound simple or easy but men are not going to join us unless we ask them to, or should I say invite them. If we are going to remain relevant and to continue serving our Parishes and Communities, we have to continue to bring new men into our Order to compensate for the members we lose and to grow. We need to offer these men a brotherhood that will support them and help them grow in their faith making them better husbands and fathers. We also need to give these men a chance to provide financial planning and protection for their families' security and future.

Unless you are new to the Knights you know we have a lot of tools to help us recruit new members. We have "eMembership" that offer free membership for the first year, sort of a "test drive", we have our QR cards that make signing up easy and quick, there is the Church Drive, and the Pulpit Pitch, there are promotions and incentives, and still probably the most effective "one on one contact" simply ask them. Still at times we don't reach out to prospective members, we come up with reason or excuses why we don't ask them.

At the start of the 2023 – 2024 Fraternal Year I called these excuses "Road Blocks" and we need to navigate around those road blocks, we need to find a way, a detour. Most of these are road blocks we put there ourselves but by working together with our Brother Knights we can find a way. We owe it to these men to offer them membership to protect their families and increase their faith life.

At this point we are about ¾ through the Fraternal year and we are at about 50% of our membership goal and we rank at 67 out of 75 jurisdictions. As a State we seem to be slow starters that come on toward the end so once again we need to take advantage of this remaining time and finish strong for the year. We need to schedule Church Drives and Exemplifications, we need to talk to men at breakfasts and dinners, we need to be visible in our Churches greeting people, passing out prayer cards, and letting others see the faith we hold in our souls.

When we invite someone to join and they ask us why, what's in it for them, our own journey as Knights, what it has meant for us, and what we receive by serving God and others should be a good start for our answer. There are recruitment resources that can tell us what to say and how to say it. *At the start of the Fraternal Year in July I came up with a list of reasons for someone to join the Knights of Columbus, I called it my Top 10 List, all good reasons to use when telling others about our Order*

TOP 10 REASONS TO JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- * **#10** You will receive many benefits at no additional cost just by becoming a Knight
- * **# 9** As a Knight of Columbus, you will have access to a variety of outstanding financial planning and protection products.
- * **# 8.**As a Knight of Columbus, you become part of over 2,000,000 men worldwide living their faith and providing service and charitable assistance around the world.
- * **# 7** As a Member in your local Council, you will be helping to support various organizations and activities within your own community.
- * **# 6** A Knights of Columbus Council is usually the "go to" organization for the Pastor and the Parish, providing service and financial assistance.
- * **# 5.**By joining the Knights of Columbus, you will have a comradery with other Members and you will be able to enjoy some "guy time" with men who share your Catholic values.
- * **# 4** As a Knight of Columbus, with the support of your Brother Knights, you will grow in your faith and experience the joy of working for your Parish and your community.
- * **# 3** As your faith grows you will become the spiritual leader of your family and a role model for your children.
- * **# 2** Men you already know and respect from your Parish are inviting you to join and asking for your help.

And

- * **# 1** reason to join the Knights of Columbus. Since 1882 the Knights of Columbus have been protecting families, supporting their faith, and performing works of charity. To do this we have relied on generations to step up and carry the torch instead of standing on the sidelines.

NOW IS YOUR TIME TO STEP UP.

COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS
IOWA STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COUNCIL	LOCATION	Mar-23	Mar-24
510	Dubuque	189	188
532	Davenport	368	345
568	Burlington	302	290
613	Fort Dodge	235	225
619	Keokuk	103	102
644	Des Moines	166	172
700	Waterloo	195	190
707	Clinton	198	203
739	Fort Madison	313	299
743	Sioux City	171	177
780	Carroll	515	509
814	Boone	150	156
838	Webster City	79	79
842	Iowa City	137	143
888	Ottumwa	148	145
909	Cedar Rapids	271	257
930	Cascade	384	378
936	Emmetsburg	131	125
952	Algona	226	223
959	Dewitt	145	145
966	Marshalltown	214	214
999	Missouri Valley	58	57
1006	Mason City	325	305
1045	Council Bluffs	126	120
1115	Neola	52	50
1164	Atlantic	134	135
1168	Oelwein	184	183
1228	Creston	112	112
1243	Perry	98	100
1249	Dunlap	114	114
1305	Muscatine	134	128
1354	Bellevue	260	273
1409	Charles City	192	189
1457	Harper	203	201
1466	Lemars	327	335
1479	Shenandoah	100	98
1506	Victor	90	92
1564	Sheldon	138	133
1570	Waukon	93	93
1571	Cresco	113	113
1579	Eagle Grove	49	50
1697	New Hampton	204	200
1722	Cherokee	122	113
1734	Dyersville	273	270
1741	Earling	171	164
1765	Corning	43	44
1791	Anamosa	109	105
1821	Monticello	99	100
1961	Stuart	64	63
1962	Manchester	210	208

COUNCIL	LOCATION	Mar-23	Mar-24
2001	Farley	139	139
2008	Washington	235	232
2021	Estherville	92	87
2030	Jefferson	52	50
2064	Fonda	130	133
2073	Ossian	179	177
2074	Denison	143	141
2144	Centerville	98	95
2209	Elkader	93	90
2230	Ames	214	209
2286	West Point	106	95
2326	Storm Lake	194	187
2576	Marengo	44	42
2663	Newton	171	173
2744	Protivin	103	102
2818	Williamsburg	144	140
2839	Danbury	151	152
2960	Ashton	62	60
3032	West Bend	90	89
3405	Remsen	172	168
3420	Bode	60	58
3810	Granville	193	196
3893	Vinton	81	77
3900	Harlan	140	140
3905	Houghton	278	277
3965	Spencer	167	174
3994	Bancroft	78	76
4009	Waukee	223	230
4092	Fairfield	116	117
4108	Oskaloosa	133	131
4132	Hawarden	94	94
4144	Elma	93	93
4148	Guttenberg	166	135
4151	Chariton	73	74
4155	Pocahontas	107	111
4167	Albia	192	185
4208	Decorah	134	129
4236	Lamotte-Key West	190	190
4248	Grinnell	90	89
4287	West Union	139	138
4308	Osage	178	186
4332	Independence	152	150
4403	Bettendorf	114	125
4516	Cedar Falls	194	202
4968	Kingsley	50	48
5032	Indianola	131	131
5038	Ankeny	395	398
5043	Spirit Lake	109	107
5389	Des Moines	173	167

COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS
IOWA STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COUNCIL	LOCATION	Mar-23	Mar-24
5390	Marion	329	319
5513	Dubuque	116	114
5544	Cedar Rapids	135	140
5660	Sioux City	223	227
5676	Davenport	21	21
5677	Cedar Rapids	168	170
5835	Iowa Falls	83	88
6249	Onawa	90	95
6977	Glenwood	142	145
7284	Milford	115	110
7294	Mt Pleasant	166	164
7459	Audubon	100	99
7504	Tama-Toledo	62	63
7506	Waverly	93	92
7556	Norwalk	120	123
7823	Epworth	73	80
7874	Knoxville	62	61
7896	Forest City	74	72
7897	Garner	44	46
7898	Clear Lake	153	157
7900	Hartley-Sanborn	43	42
8110	Belmond	34	33
8114	Carlisle	65	67
8178	Monona	74	76
8227	Jesup	222	234
8232	Moville	63	60
8269	Maquoketa	91	93
8315	Traer	61	61
8384	Dubuque	139	134
8479	Belle Plaine	53	50
8562	Sioux City	32	32
8592	Humboldt	118	116
8610	Britt	58	56
8650	Stacyville	57	61
8676	St Lucas	60	55
8702	Osceola	46	46
9224	Dubuque	173	176
9574	Adel	108	106
9632	Des Moines	237	236
9712	Greenfield	33	33
9726	Red Oak	56	56
10035	Winterset	79	80
10150	St Marys	63	64
10282	Des Moines	75	70
10464	Sac City	71	84
10558	Des Moines	131	141
10722	Council Bluffs	33	32
10761	Marcus	94	91
10768	Hampton	60	59

COUNCIL	LOCATION	Mar-23	Mar-24
10769	Edgewood	70	70
10805	Council Bluffs	152	148
10864	Ida Grove	115	117
10980	Des Moines	95	94
11038	Sioux City	199	198
11161	Fairbank	45	44
11162	Greene	84	91
11192	Waterloo	59	59
11222	Preston	104	101
11242	Panora	50	52
11296	Council Bluffs	145	147
11392	Sioux City	78	82
11468	Tipton	70	75
11592	Riceville	44	49
11643	Des Moines	101	92
11880	Strawberry Point- Lamont	34	34
11942	Fairfax/Walford	108	102
11986	Logan-Mondamin	62	64
12129	Solon	143	146
12130	Granger	137	138
12131	Walker/Urbana	67	65
12133	Avoca/Walnut	60	58
12136	Central City	65	62
12193	Portsmouth	76	80
12212	Richmond-Wellman-	57	56
12216	Leon-Mt Ayr-Maloy	31	30
12244	Lansing	46	46
12334	Pella	159	167
12381	Postville/Clermont	44	44
12422	West Des Moines	490	518
12432	Urbandale	163	165
12438	Manning/Manilla	88	87
12448	Akron	40	38
12482	Des Moines	140	139
12674	Larchwood/Rock Rapids	72	75
12695	Delhi/Hopkinton	44	45
12910	Oxford Cosgrove	51	53
12954	Grundy Center/Reinbeck	41	40
12994	West Liberty	30	30
13000	Rock Valley/Sioux	50	49
13084	Le Claire	67	66
13108	Blue Grass	60	59
13109	Altoona	159	167
13159	Des Moines	113	109
13160	Ames	73	74
13314	Rockwell/Rockford/Doughert	56	56
13426	Mechanicsville	33	33
13503	North English-Parnell	53	50
13507	Lake City/Rockwell/	37	35

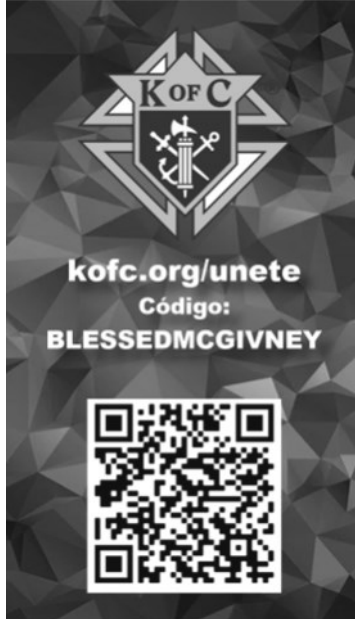
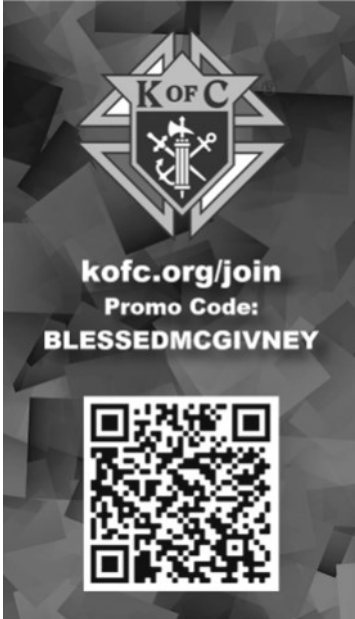
**COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP OF SUBORDINATE COUNCILS
IOWA STATE COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

COUNCIL	LOCATION	Mar-23	Mar-24
13732	Graettinger	35	34
13960	Muscatine	29	31
14029	Des Moines	67	72
14042	Columbus Junction	20	20
14131	Davenport	43	56
14267	Des Moines	124	144
14385	Iowa City	109	107
14393	Madrid	64	64
14481	Iowa City	73	75
14494	Manson	67	72
14678	Davenport	79	66
14695	Long Grove	95	96
14952	Cedar Rapids	35	32
14977	Des Moines	30	29
14987	Cedar Falls	46	42
15049	Coralville	93	102
15060	Gilbert	85	86
15254	Davenport	49	47
15336	Des Moines	121	123
15347	Elkhart	50	49
15430	Bettendorf	73	71
15603	Ankeny	144	164
15725	Davenport	97	104
15813	Dubuque	118	195
15853	Davenport	55	54
15921	Hiawatha	82	83
16881	Waterloo	111	108
16904	Waterloo	71	82
16922	Ottumwa	55	54
17330	State Center	29	29
17331	Des Moines	20	21
17757	Nevada	49	51
97014	eMembers	436	552
98014	Affiliate Members	2728	2978
		30232	30624

Membership Breakdown as of 3/1/2024

Total Members	30,624		
Difference 2023 - 2024	392		
		#	%
* Online Members		552	1.8%
* Affiliate Members		2,978	9.7%
Inactive Members		1,200	3.9%
Honorary		1,918	6.3%
* Honorary Life		6,447	21.1%
* Exempt		109	0.4%
Insurance Members		10,925	35.7%
Associate Members		19,699	64.3%

* State Per Capita not Assessed



STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

REPORT OF THE MASTER OF THE FOURTH DEGREE DISTRICT | PAUL LEE, MFD, PSD

Worthy Sir Knights and dear Brother Knights:

The Iowa District of the Fourth Degree has a rich legacy of being the strong bedrock of leadership for the entire Order. Our motto- "Religiously Devoted, Patriotically Proud" is the core of our existence, and remains vital to our existence.

Membership

Just as welcoming a new Knight is vital to the success of a council, inviting new Sir Knights is imperative to the success of a local Assembly. Since the last report, the following assemblies are leading the district in welcoming new Sir Knights:

Assembly 267 (Iowa City) - 100% of annual goal

Assembly 268 (Ottumwa)- 100% of annual goal

There are other assemblies who are very close to reaching their annual goals. If you have 2-3 men who are ready, we will exemplify them virtually!

Exemplifications

Now as never before our country needs informed patriotic citizens. Our fourth-degree ceremonial is an excellent educational tool regarding Catholic Patriotism. Our exemplifications have proven successful as well as convenient to effectively teach brother Knights the principles of Catholic Citizenship and our order's commitment to faith-filled patriotism. I am honored that we have showcased this excellent presentation in Clinton, Ottumwa, Ankeny, and virtually. In addition to being in Council Bluffs, we will be in Iowa City/Coralville, and hope to visit other communities soon.

Assembly Growth

Currently there are 47 Assemblies in Iowa District; I believe there is opportunity to create several new assemblies. Whenever members must travel more than 30 miles regularly to attend assembly meeting or functions a new assembly should be considered.

Strategic Programs

Our motto states that we are Religiously Devoted, Patriotically Proud. A Sir Knight must continue to form himself in the teachings of our faith. Between app-based services like Hallow, FORMED, or Word on Fire continue to be top-notch faith formation tools. I want to encourage everyone to receive the Iowa Catholic Conference's newsletter. The Iowa Catholic Conference is the public policy voice of our four Bishops (who are all brother Sir Knights). They do the research of how laws both in our state capitol AND in Washington DC and how they intersect with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

We continue to support the Military Chaplain fund program, where assemblies donate funds to further the education of priest for service to our Armed Forces both stateside and abroad. Having engaged with Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio back in November 2022, he conveys his profound thanks and appreciation to everyone who has supported our military chaplains through prayers and financial support.

Updates from Supreme

The Supreme Master has made significant organizational changes in the past year. The Supreme Knight has upgraded the office of the Supreme Master from a part-time role to a full-time role located in New Haven, CT. I believe this means greater collaboration across the Order and that the Fourth Degree will have even stronger of a seat at the table of the Order. The Supreme Master has also added to his staff, appointing a number of Sir Knights from across the country to assist with membership, programming, communications, and color corps. There are changes coming to the exemplification ceremony- more details forthcoming.

And finally,

The success of the Knights of Columbus, and in a particular way the Fourth Degree, is incumbent on how well we work together. I am honored to be part of a dynamic team which includes Kevin McKinney (District Secretary), Jeff Wellik (Head Marshall), Gary Bailey, Jim Bates, Gerald Fetzer, Henry Fullick, PSD/FDM Mike Gaspers, John Hildman, Dennis Kluver, PSD/FDM Richard "Dick" Makinster, Pablo Martinez, Sean McGee, PSD/FSupD. Jim Murphy, Burton Rausch, Eldon Schneider, John Staiert, and Hugo Torres.

Report of the Master of the Fourth Degree, Iowa District

Thank you to everyone, especially our Sir Knights, for being committed to the principle of Patriotism. Vivat Jesus!



STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

ETHNIC OUTREACH | ANTONIO BAÑUELOS

The 2020 census shows that there are around 195,000 Hispanics in the state of Iowa. According to a Pew Research Center poll in 2023, 43% of Hispanic adults identify as Catholics, which is a very dramatic fall compared to 67% in 2010. If we consider that half of these are men, and that half of these last ones are over 18, we are talking about a potential of around 21,000 candidates.

52% of the growth in Hispanic population in Iowa took place in the counties of Polk (Des Moines metro), Woodbury (Sioux City metro), Johnson (Iowa City metro), Marshall, Scott (Davenport metro), Linn (Cedar Rapids metro) and Pottawattamie (Council Bluffs). The counties with the highest concentration of Hispanic Catholics are Crawford (Denison), Buena Vista (Storm Lake), Marshall, Woodbury, and Sioux (Rock Valley, Hawarden, Sioux Center).

As an effort to make sure that EVERY Catholic man we are developing leaders in these specific areas, but we need everybody's support to make these efforts come to fruition.

YOU know your parish better than anyone else and know where we have Spanish Mass, where we need support from the local Knights council to make sure that our Hispanic brothers are given the opportunity to be part of our organization and benefits. We have a pool of 21,000 potential new Knights but we need not the Hispanic leaders of the council but the entire councils to buy into this effort.

Please reach out to me, or to District Deputies Menny Toquinto (47), Hugo Torres (38), or Pablo Martinez (55) to discuss opportunities. We will talk to every council in the counties listed above before the end of May, to talk about potential strategies to start COR meetings for your Hispanic population.

Did you know that there are seven saints and five blessed men that were members of the Knights of Columbus. Of these, 11 are Hispanic. The only non-Hispanic is our founder Blessed Michael McGivney. Our Hispanic heritage is strong, and it will take all of us to make it even stronger. VIVA CRISTO REY!

CEREMONIALS DIRECTOR | JASON FOLLETT

Since the debut of the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on 1 January 2020 in the basement of Saint Mary's Catholic Church in New Haven, Connecticut, the very place where Blessed Michael J. McGivney founded the Order in 1882, Iowa has embraced the change even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Why? As Knights of Columbus, we are called to reach out to meet Catholic gentlemen where they are especially during a pandemic and when our Catholic faith and beliefs continue to come under attack.

Councils across Iowa are encouraged to implement and activate a team to present the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity in person. We must build our momentum and not rest on our laurels. Council leaders need to identify the strong speakers amongst their ranks, print and bind the scripts for easy use, gather the necessary supplies to properly present the exemplification, read and practice the exemplification, work with the parish priest and staff to identify workable dates, locations, and even candidates, and publicize and recruit for the exemplification. We must show them that their called to be men of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity.

After each exemplification, please submit the online Simplified Iowa Exemplification Report Form which can be found at

<https://bit.ly/IAceremonials>.

If a Council needs any assistance and/or training with the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, please feel free to contact me via email (ceremonials@iowakofc.org).

BEST PRACTICES FOR CONDUCTING IN-PERSON EXEMPLIFICATIONS

Conducting degrees and initiating men into the Order is not new for any of us. It is one of the most gratifying things we do as leaders in the Knights of Columbus.

- The venue must be set-up appropriately.
- All necessary materials should be secured and on-hand at each exemplification site. The Constitutional Roll, and New Candidate Kits can be ordered from Supplies Online. Baldrics, rope and fibers, and the crucifix, can be ordered from The English Company
- Degree teams should be well-rehearsed.
- The exemplification(s) should be well-publicized and open to anyone to observe. Many councils have found after a weekend mass is the best time while families are already gathered.
- Make exemplifications bi-lingual where appropriate (contact us if you need assistance)
- It's not just about new members. Exemplifications give First Degree members the opportunity to advance to full Knighthood and give online members a means to transfer to council-based membership

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN | PAUL FALCK

Brothers, I am pleased to report that the Iowa jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus has embraced using Online Membership as the preferred method to share the gift of membership in our Order. We are consistently in the top 10 across all jurisdictions in using this valuable tool. Of those we have transferred roughly 65% into a local council after they have participated in the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. A small percentage of our Online Members simply do not wish to join a council. However, the majority of them DO desire being a part of the local council yet have not been invited to a meeting or an exemplification!

Council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries are notified by email when an Online Member has been assigned to their council. The *eMember's* contact information is viewable on the Prospect Tab viewable at Officers Online on the Supreme website. In fact, many councils could achieve their annual membership goal simply by contacting the Online Members already assigned to them, inviting them to an exemplification, and transferring them into the council! Councils need to act, even if there is only one Prospect to invite - we should not make them wait!

Online Registration for a new member has been described as a "virtual antechamber". The member has given his information, agreed to our bylaws and has signed the constitutional role as part of the registration process. We would not delay an exemplification with a man joining in person who has completed all the same steps; it seems absurd that any council would for a man who joins online.

Brothers, as good as we are doing - we can always get better. Please feel free to contact me at onlinemembership@iowakofc.org with questions or challenges.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY | PAUL FALCK

As your Executive Secretary over the last year I have taken further steps to make information more accessible and accurate via "live" documents and tables online that are updated immediately. The State Directory & Resource Book which was distributed in July 2023 as well as at the Regional Workshops have web links and QR Codes to State, District and Council leadership contact information. It is important that council and district leaders can use a computer, tablet or smartphone.

All forms (Supreme and State) are available at either kofc.org or iowakofc.org (depending on the nature of the form). Most Faith in Action program forms have been replaced with the standardized Faith in Action form 10784.

Forms also continue to be an integral part of the business side of the order. It is important to submit all forms on or before the due date in order to maintain our tax exempt status with the IRS. *Form 990 is required for every council and assembly. Failure to file 3 years consecutively will result in the IRS revoking the council's EIN; which is costly and time consuming for the council to reinstate.*

The Supreme website kofc.org has many items of interest. I urge you to visit it and click on the red "For Members" box. Look things over and you will likely learn something new. Our state website iowakofc.org is in a constant state of change so check it out often for updates and coming events.

The State continues to maintain Council Liability Insurance. If you have questions concerning coverage or require a specific certificate of insurance, contact me.

Part of my job is to help your council and district be successful. I am a resource for you and am a phone call or an email away. My email address is admin@iowakofc.org and my phone # is (641) 660-1341. Vivat Jesus!

PERPETUAL MEMORIAL SOCIETY | PAUL FALCK

There have been 481 enrollments in the Perpetual Memorial Society between March 1, 2023 and February 29, 2024. We see new participation weekly. This is due, in part, by placing an increased awareness in the program using mailings to all councils and assemblies.

Enrollment is available to everyone, without exception, Catholic or non-Catholic, male or female. Enrollees do not need to be a member of the Knights of Columbus. There are several councils who have adopted the rule to enroll every member who passes away in a given year.

In the coming year it is my goal to have a listing of all enrollees in a searchable format available on the state website.

Donations made are presented to all four bishops to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In the last 12 month period contributions have totaled \$7,342; based on the number of donors, the average donation was just about \$22 per enrollment.

Please do your part to encourage participation in the program to honor loved ones and friends who have entered eternal life, and to help vocations in the state.

www.iowakofc.org/perpetual-memorial-society

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR | MIKE TIGGES

Brother Knights I look forward to seeing you at our State Convention in Council Bluffs. I'm sure it has been a busy year for your Councils carrying out the works of Fr McGivney. Knights are called to be "first in faith and first in charity. At the beginning of our fraternal year, we were introduced to the new Faith programs Men of the Word Bible Study and Into the Breach: Mission of the Family. We also learned of the Core meeting which was created to form and strengthen men in faith and virtue. With these and our other programs we can build the faith of our members and our parishes as we are called to do.

The ASAP program (assistance and support after pregnancy) has again been very successful in our State. Like last year we are in the top ten in number of donations and dollars raised. Again, this year funds have been raised for new Ultrasound machines for pregnancy centers in our State with more in the works. We can be proud of all the things we do to support life.

All across the state we are making a difference in our communities with CPID, Special Olympics, Coats for Kids, Food for Families, the Wheelchair Program, March for Life, Holy Hour & Adoration. We support and involve our youth with the Free Throw Contest, Spelling Bee, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest, Soccer Challenge, and Essay Contest. Continue with your great works serving your parishes and communities with the help of all of the programs that are available. Good programs will attract new men to join and motivate your existing members to get involved. Publicize your programs to make people aware of what you do. Send photos to the State Communications Director so they can be posted on our Facebook page. Report all programs on Form 10784.

With all that we do we need to remember that a top responsibility we have is to serve the needs of our Pastors and Deacons and to support our Seminarians & religious.

Enjoy the Convention



FAITH



FAMILY



COMMUNITY



LIFE

STATE FREE THROW CHAIRMAN | MIKE BECKER

I am happy to say that the Free Throw Competition was a great success. We had many more children participating this year. At the time of this writing, we have not had the Finals which were held in Boone again this year at DMACC-Boone Campus.

I would like to thank the Boone Council #814 for setting up this again this year under the guidance of Nic Boesen. Nic and his crew have been doing this the past number of years. Great job gentlemen.

I would also like to thank all who helped with the local events to the District Level and the Regional Level. Without all of your help we could get this program done. The children really love it. God bless everyone again. Vivat Jesus!

STATE SPELLING BEE | ERIC FIELD

Twenty-one local spelling bees were held by Knights of Columbus councils and local Catholic schools during January 2024. The top three spellers each in grades 4 through 7 advanced to the regional spelling bees in February 2024. Special thanks goes out to the four coordinators for the regional spelling bees:

Luke Lichty-- Waukee #4009 (Southwest); Don Breuker--Milford #7284 (Northwest); Alan Dole and --Cedar Rapids #55, and Sandy Fiedler--Resource Room Teacher, Seton Catholic School). Special thanks also goes out to Tim Simodynes, Steven Bovenmeyer and the brothers of Ames #2230 for putting on a successful State Spelling Bee at St. Cecilia's Parish.

The following local spelling bees had Top 3 Finishers at the state level:

- Cedar Falls (4)
- La Porte City (2)
- Waukee (1)
- Clive (1)
- Manson (1)
- Davenport (1)
- Fonda (1)
- Sheldon (1)

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

CAMPAIGN FOR PERSONS WITH INTELLETTUAL DISABILITIES (CPID) | STEVE VONNAHME

The numbers are in for the 2023-24 CPID campaign for the Iowa Knights of Columbus. As of February 28th, 2024, the councils collected a grand total of over \$690,000.00. This is an increase of over \$70,000.00 from 2023. After the purchase of Tootsie rolls and the contribution to the Iowa Knights of Columbus for statewide events and donations. The Iowa Councils have over \$590,000.00 to distribute to their local charities. These funds were raised with the help of over 12,400 man-hours that were reported.

Since the time of the Iowa Knights of Columbus partnership in 1974. The state of Iowa has raised over \$23,534,598.00 to the Iowa Special Olympics and local centers to support their mission to help those with Disabilities across the state. The relentless hours of service we give to support all of their activities and events. All of your local centers are the beneficiaries for these funds and our efforts to support them.

Let's all reach out and make 2024-25 continue to grow this partnership.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHAIR | JASON FOLLETT

Eunice Kennedy Shriver believed in justice. But, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, she saw little justice in the way people with intellectual disabilities were treated. They were often ignored and neglected, yet she knew they had many talents and gifts to offer. Eunice had a sister, Rosemary, who had an intellectual disability. She and Rosemary grew up playing sports together and with their family. The sisters swam, they sailed, they skied, they played football together. But in those days, there were limited programs and options for someone like Rosemary.

Eunice began to see that sports could be a common ground to unite people from all walks of life. She also saw that many children with intellectual disabilities did not have a place to play. She decided to take action. Eunice held a summer day camp for young people with intellectual disabilities in her own backyard. The goal was to learn what these children could do in sports and other activities – and not dwell on what they could not do.

In 1968, the first International Special Olympics Summer Games were held at Soldier Field in Chicago. A thousand people with intellectual disabilities from 26 U.S. states and Canada competed in track and field, swimming, and floor hockey. Athletes from Iowa were a part of those first Special Olympics Games.

Since 1968, Special Olympics Iowa has been a statewide movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports. Using sports as the catalyst, and including programming on health, leadership and education, Special Olympics is fighting inactivity, injustice, and intolerance. As a result, people with intellectual disabilities become accepted and valued members of their communities, which leads to a more respectful and inclusive society for all.

For people with intellectual disabilities, the benefits of Special Olympics include:

- Improved physical fitness and motor skills
- Greater self-confidence
- A more positive self-image
- Lifelong friendships.

Special Olympics athletes carry these benefits into their daily lives at home, in the classroom, on the job and in the community. For athletes, Special Olympics provides a gateway to empowerment, competence, acceptance, and joy.

"My favorite part of Special Olympics is how many opportunities it has given me. I have been able to try different sports and make new friends. I get to travel to new places and tell people about all of my fun experiences. I love Special Olympics!" - Sherry McKee, SOIA Athlete

As Knights of Columbus, there are many ways you can make a difference in the lives of Special Olympics Iowa athletes:

- Attend events and cheer on the athletes
- Coach
- Volunteer
- Participate in fundraising events (Polar Plunge, Plane Pull, Over the Edge and more!)
- Donate.

Visit <https://www.soiowa.org> to learn more and how you and your families can make a difference.

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

SILVER ROSE AND ST. JOSEPH ICON | CHRIS RIEGEL



Silver Rose Program: Share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life by participating in this meaningful pilgrimage. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady. Each year, from early March through mid-December 8 Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico.

Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners, and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Iowa will host the Silver Rose from 6/16/2024 to 7/13/2024. We will pick up the Silver Rose from the South Dakota delegation in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and will hand off the Silver Rose from Marquette, IA to the Wisconsin delegation in Prairie Du Chien, WI.

Ideally we have a Silver Rose Rosary program each day of the 28 days it is in Iowa. It is best that a member of the council attends the previous day's event to pick up the Silver Rose. Contact Chris Riegel (chrisriegel@gmail.com or 319-795-5774)

to reserve your council's date to host the Silver Rose prayer program. The prayer booklets and other resources are at Kofc.org under Silver Rose. The Iowa route is on the Iowa K of C website.

Pilgrim St. Joseph Icon: Every few years, the Knights of Columbus selects an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to Knights and their communities. The Iowa jurisdiction receives 4 of these icons which travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the Order.

We have completed one rotation with the St. Joseph Icon and are now offering councils to host the Icon again in their parish. The tour started back in the Fall of 2021 so it may have been a while since the icon visited your council. More than 174,800 council and parish prayer services with some 22 million participants have been held since the first traveling pilgrim icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1979.

Please contact Chris Riegel (chrisriegel@gmail.com or 319-795-5774) if your council would like to host an Icon rosary program. We will work with councils in your district to make the transfers short between councils. With an icon in each diocese, we hope to have one or more rosary programs each week in every diocese. Please pick up a prayer book and prayer guide for your councils.



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage: This is a truly unique initiative. This is something NEW—a beautiful fusion of the journey TO Jesus and the journey WITH Jesus. What's more, it is an adventure that all Catholics can do together, either by interior disposition or physical accompaniment. The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will not only be undertaken by Perpetual Pilgrims (those who commit themselves to making the entire journey). All Catholics are invited to participate in this massive "Eucharistic Caravan."

From June 23 - June 25, this National Pilgrimage will be making its way through the Diocese of Des Moines along the St. Junipero Serra Route through Southwest Iowa. During these 3 days you are invited to journey with Jesus in the Eucharistic processions, celebrate Mass, and participate in Holy Hours and overnight adoration. More information is available at <https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-junipero-serra-route>

You are invited to attend as many events as you are interested in and able to. All events are FREE to attend, but registration is encouraged to allow parishes to plan for food at lunch/dinner and overall attendance. See the Diocese of Des Moines website for more details.

For those in the Northeast Iowa the MARIAN ROUTE will travel through Southwest Minnesota and then pass through La Crosse Wisconsin in early June. Visit <https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/marian-route>



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Pilgrimage**

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

KNIGHT / FAMILY OF THE MONTH | MIKE TIGGES & AWARDS CHAIR | PAUL LEE

Month	Knight of the Month	Family of the Month	2023 Iowa K of C Hall of Fame Inductees
March 2023	Darin Stansbury 2818 Williamsburg	Jarrett & Luisa Wendt 2230 Ames	Fr. David Ambrosy 1354 Bellevue
April 2023	Bill Ehler 2663 Newton	Thomas & Nancy Carlson 14494 Manson	Marvin Bissen 7900 Harlan
May 2023	Leon Ziegler 10805 Council Bluffs	Thomas & Milora Johanns 7506 Waverly	Frederick Donovan 959 DeWitt
June 2023	Kevin Cochran 2144 Centerville	Arlen Seeman & Terri Eilers 2818 Williamsburg	Bob Lickteig 15603 Ankeny
July 2023	Nick Wittrock 780 Carroll	Lucas & Jessie Mihalovich 12334 Pella	Tom Mahr 1571 Cresco
August 2023	Leonard Korte 14494 Manson	Richard & Julie Miller 12129 Solon	Todd Roecker 1164 Atlantic
September 2023	Cory Thacker 15603 Ankeny	Mark & Barbara Meier 4516 Cedar Falls	Thomas Wittrock 780 Carroll
October 2023	John Landkamer 4248 Grinnell	Leon & Laura Reicks 8178 Monona	
November 2023	Jose Hernandez 4132 Hawarden	Jim & Veronica Fink 7506 Waverly	
December 2023	Dave Hill 1466 LeMars	Lynn & Patricia Schoon 14494 Manson	
January 2024	Doug Wanninger 780 Carroll	Cory & Kristi Meyer 2663 Newton	
February 2024	Steve Winter 5660 Sioux City	John & Sherry Osborne 4248 Grinnell	

Each Month the State Council selects one Knight and one family from throughout Iowa to be recognized as the Iowa Knight of the Month and the Iowa Family of the Month. The nominations come from local Councils chosen at their monthly meetings and submitted on the State website.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Knights of Columbus has been helping young people obtain this freedom since our founding. During the past year, the Supreme Council provided over \$1.5 million in scholarships to students attending colleges, universities, and seminaries. The Supreme website has more information about what is offered and how to apply. <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/index.html>

The deadline for all undergraduate and vocations scholarships is March 15th.

Currently offered Supreme Council Scholarships:

- **U.S. UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council awards Fourth Degree Pro Deo and Pro Patria, John W. McDevitt, and other endowed Scholarships annually. The number of scholarships awarded is determined by the earnings of the scholarship trust. Entering freshman year, of a four-year, undergraduate program, leading to a bachelor's degree, at a Catholic college or Catholic university, in the United States. A member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus, a son or daughter of such a member, or of a such a deceased member, who at the time of death, was in good standing, or a Columbian Squire in good standing. (Not limited to Fourth Degree members.)
- **BISHOP GRECO SCHOLARSHIP:** The Knights of Columbus awards annually the Bishop Charles P. Greco Graduate Fellowships for full time graduate study leading to a Master's degree in a program designed for the preparation of classroom teachers of people with intellectual disabilities. To be eligible, an applicant must be a member in good standing of the Knights of Columbus or the wife, son or daughter of such a member or deceased member. Special consideration will be given to applicants attending a Catholic graduate school.
- **SEMINARIAN SCHOLARSHIPS:** Each year, the Knights of Columbus offers a limited number of \$2,500 scholarships for tuition, room and board to men studying for the Catholic priesthood at major seminaries. The Father Michael J. McGivney Vocations Scholarship, which is awarded based on financial need. The Bishop Thomas V. Daily Vocations Scholarship, which is awarded based on academic merit. Any applicant with appropriate ecclesiastical approval, having been accepted at a major seminary, and studying for an (arch) diocese or religious institute in the United States, its territories, or Canada is eligible. Special consideration may be given to upperclassmen who are members of the Knights of Columbus, or whose fathers are members, and/or those with a background in the military.

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

VOCATIONS CHAIR | DAN WERNER, PSD

Brother Knights, it is my privilege to serve as your Vocations Chairman.

Through your efforts, we have supported the following men in their discernment of the priesthood this past year:

- **Davenport Diocese:** Blake Riffel, Rev. Mr. Dane Dickinson, William Keating, Danh Nguyen, Alfonso Pizano, Rev. Mr. Michael Snyder
- **Des Moines Diocese:** Stanley Asjes, Deacon Luisito Cabrera, Shawn Daley, Adam Hanten, Matthew Jhll, Connor Lynch, Deacon Mike Mahoney, Luke Mohan, Dominic Nguyen, Isaiah Peterson, Michael Posegate, Andrew Robey, Kyle Rowan
- **Dubuque Archdiocese:** Cameron Banigan, Peter Binder, Matthew Evans, Jacob Francois, Thiet Hoang, Steven Kessler, Josh Krischel, Deacon Greg Lambert, Hung Le, Jackson Miller, Sam Moore, Thomas Schnauffer, Matt Smith
- **Sioux City Diocese:** Jimmy Fitzsimmons, Garrett Hugelback, Thomas Kollasch, Jacob Rosenmeyer, Brian Schmit, Matthew Staley, Zach Steffens, Anthony Vera

In 2023, councils across the state donated over \$100,280.73 in support of vocations. This amount includes \$80,200 contributed directly to seminarians through the Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP). The Supreme Council created this program to encourage local councils to provide financial support directly to seminarians, postulants, and novices. For every \$500 donated, the council or assembly is eligible for a refund of \$100 from the Supreme Council.

Councils also contributed over \$20,080.73 through the Pennies for Heaven collection and through direct contributions by councils to the state vocations fund. These funds, along with funds from the Perpetual Memorial Society and interest from the Christopher Fund, are given to the bishops and diocesan vocations directors for their use in support of vocations.

Some of this money also typically pays for the expenses of the annual seminarian convocation, which is attended by the Iowa seminarians, and for the new priest meeting, which is attended by the Iowa priests who are within five years of their ordination. State Program Director Mike Tigges and I attended these events on your behalf in 2023 to represent all of you in addressing the seminarians, priests, and vocations directors and in receiving their thanks for all you do to support vocations in the state of Iowa.

The St. Francis of Assisi Council 12422 in West Des Moines has worked with the councils in the Des Moines Diocese for the past several years to provide Christmas and birthday gifts to the seminarians. I would like to see this effort in the other three Iowa dioceses as well if approved and supported by the vocations office for the diocese. If your council would be interested in leading a similar effort for your diocese, contact me for more details. You can contact me at vocations@iowakofc.org or (515) 778-9431 if you have any questions about the RSVP or any of our vocations programs. Thank you for all you do to support the Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus in our vocations efforts.

FAITH DIRECTOR | DEACON MARK CAMPBELL

Greetings Brother Knights!

It is a joy for me to be among the faithful Knights of Columbus here in Council Bluffs at our Annual State Convention!

The Cor initiative is a bold endeavor that encourages men to be more intentional about the time they spend together. A regular small group gathering where the Word of God, prayer, and the continued understanding of our Catholic Faith are central to its purpose will deepen the bonds of fraternity. We know from Hollywood movies that a band of brothers can do heroic things, and the time is now for men to experience this in their own lives if they haven't already. This way we can ensure that we are the Knights our Church and the culture needs.

There are a number of resources available through the Knights of Columbus that you can use to get Cor started in your parish. Note I did not use the words "in your council." Cor is not restricted to Knights members, but is an initiative that Knights are being called to raise up Men of Faith. Cor is not a program, or a meeting. I like to think of it as an invitation. An invitation to grow deeper in our love for Jesus Christ and our neighbor.

The Knights of Columbus has produced a number of resources for a Cor gathering. However, any resource that is faithful to the teachings of the Church, and helps foster a time for prayer, and is accessible to everyone in the group will do. Please let me know what I can do to help Cor become an asset to your council development. While its aim is not to recruit new members, it will most certainly attract men to join when they see how our Order is truly rooted in faith and works.

Finally, I am requesting your help. In order for Cor to be as impactful as it could be, my availability for this endeavor is not what it deserves. My first order of business upon receiving my training from Supreme was to build a team. So far the team has included me, and we're losing. Losing time, and valuable opportunities to change the trajectory of the lives of me and their families. If you would be interested in learning more about this worthy effort, then I want to speak with you.

Thank you for being the men of faith that you are. My wife, Maria and I find you, along with the many wives, and families of our members to be an inspiration as you make the necessary sacrifices to be light bearers in a world that seems to prefer darkness. I pray that our weekend is blessed with an encounter that inspires all of us to continue on the path of who we are made and called to be.

Vivat Jesus,

Dcn. Mark Campbell

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CHAIR | GERALD FETZER

The 2023 Keep Christ in Christmas Card Program did very well this year. We sold \$1974.00 worth of Christmas materials. Those materials cost us \$1661.50 which leaves us \$273.00 for the Iowa State Council. I believe we can do much better next year if we can update our forms on the Iowa K of C website.

The number of posters were up this year. We had 80 KCIC posters sent in from around the state from many of the councils who participated in this program. A change this year in our poster contest was to have 5 grade levels, they are K,1&2, 3&4, 5&6 and 7&8 grade levels with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners at each level. At the State contest we gave the 5 first place winners \$100 each

The winning posters may be viewed on the State website <https://www.iowakofc.org/kcic-poster-contest>



TRAPPIST CASKETS | DEACON MICHAEL DEMOULLY

The Knights of Columbus have had a relationship with the Trappist Monks at New Melleray for many years. The Trappists are known for their caskets and have a special arrangement with the K of C. You can preplan your purchase of a casket for you or your family at today's price, which as a package is significantly cheaper than anything else a funeral home may offer.

All caskets are also blessed by a monk of the monastery and their care for creation is exemplary with a tree planted in the honor of anyone receiving a casket. The Trappists also provide a casket for a child who has passed away free of charge.

Your benefits as a Knight include:

- A casket designed exclusively for Knights of Columbus members and is available only to Knights and their family members.
- This premium solid Red Oak casket comes with your choice of the unique Knights of Columbus engraved emblem placed on the casket lid, which may be removed and kept by the family, or placed in a fixed position on the side of the casket.
- Also included is an Engraved Keepsake Plaque, a Keepsake Cross and Ground Delivery. Expedited Delivery is available at an additional charge.
- The Knight's name, and dates of birth and death are engraved on the plaque, which can be mounted on the inside lid of the casket or displayed on an easel during services. Additional personalization is optional.
- The Trappists keep the Knights of Columbus casket in stock, ready, for immediate shipment and on a pre-need basis.

See the table at the convention for more details and to see some handiwork of the craftsman at New Melleray Abbey. We are truly blessed to have this resource in Iowa. Also, last year we ran out of all the materials on the first day of the convention, so this program is of high interest to our Knights and their families.

<https://trappistcaskets.com/caskets/#cskkoc>



STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

FR. MCGIVNEY GUILD CHAIR | HENRY FULLICK, PSD



This taken from the Supreme web page - "For more than a century, Knights of Columbus have followed the formula of faith put forth by Father McGivney. Today, with a model called **Faith in Action**, nearly 2 million Knights throughout the world live out the Order's principles of charity, unity and fraternity with programs such as Food for Families, Coats for Kids, Ultrasound Initiative, Special Olympics, Vocations Support, Global Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Consecration to the Holy Family, and days of spiritual reflection. Thanks to the structure of the Order and the trust that Father McGivney placed in his men from the beginning, there is no limit to the good that a Knight today can do for his family, his parish, his council, and his community as he puts his faith into action."

This falls in line with The Cause for Canonization of Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney. We can help the Cause for Canonization by putting "Faith into Action" and signing new members into the Guild."

The "Fr. Michael J. McGivney Guild" is our way to support his Canonization. All Knights, their families and friends may join the Guild. Membership of the Guild is open to anyone who wishes to share in this mission of making known the life and work of Fr. Michael J. McGivney and of encouraging devotion to his memory.

There is no charge to enroll but if you wish, you may make a tax-deduction contribution to support the mission of the Guild. The Guild membership Order wide is more than 180,000. As of January 1, 2024, there are 2,729 Guild members in Iowa. This amount is the same as last year and in the year before it was 2,723. We have been holding about the same amount for five years now. This is where Faith in Action plays a part, much more can be accomplished, however. If every Guild member would take on the challenge of signing up one brother Knight, one family member and one parishioner – for a total of three new members – we would soon have more than 500,000 individuals benefiting from the spiritual services of the Guild.

The spiritual heritage of Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney is his precious gift to the K of C. We owe it to him and the church to share his gift with those we meet and with whom we work. God bless you all, and please pray the prayer for the canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney.

You can start today by asking someone to join and filling out the online form with them at :

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/ssl-join-the-guild.html>

ULTRASOUND INITIATIVE & ASAP | CLAY GUBBELS

It is with great pride & excitement that I am able to report on the culture of life activities to you, specifically the ultrasound initiative as well as the ASAP or assist and support after pregnancy programs in Iowa.

This past year we have raised funds to help purchase ultrasound machines at Obria medical clinic in Ames, Alternatives PRC in Waterloo, and Crossroads of Crawford county in Denison. Guiding Star Siouxland PRC in Sioux Center has been granted diocesan approval, and is in the fundraising stage for a new ultrasound machine there.

With the addition of the ultrasound machine in Sioux Center it will be the 33rd ultrasound machine funded by the Knights of Columbus in Iowa since 2009. The Iowa Knights of Columbus are also doing very well with the ASAP program or assist and support after pregnancy also. So far this fraternal year Iowa has had 44 applications approved which ranks # 9 in the country. Total donations to PRC's in Iowa total \$62,366 dollars which includes the matching grant money from Supreme which ranks # 8 in the country.

Hats off to all who participated in either of these programs. For those councils who haven't participated in either of these programs I would encourage you to help support any of the nearly 60 PRC's in the state of Iowa which rely mainly on donations.

It has been an honor serving our Lord with you to help protect his precious gift of life.



K OF C STATE CAMPOUT CHAIR | DON BRIES

IOWA KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 25th Annual FAMILY CAMPOUT in 2022 was held at the Amana Colonies on August 25th to August 28th. We had 7 camping units present. One new family had joined us. We had 9 members who attended who are members but no longer have their campers.

Past State Deputy Henry Fullick came who was the one who started up the Iowa State Knights of Columbus Camporees 25 years ago. In total we had 25 campers in attendance. Activities included eating at the Ox Yoke Inn, wine and cheese party, potluck dinner, card bingo, and campfire each evening.

The 2023 IOWA KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS CAMPOREE will be held August 24 - 27, 2023 at the Delaware Co. Fairgrounds in Manchester. There were several activities and functions available to the campers.

All Knights of Columbus families are invited to join the fun. The 2024 IOWA KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS CAMPOREE will again be in Manchester at the Delaware Co. Fairgrounds August 23 - 24, 2024. Group camping is a wholesome way to have fraternal family fellowship!

You do not need to make reservations, but you will need to tell Don Bries if you are coming. The cost is \$25.00 a night. These sites have 30 Amp hook ups. We also have the use of an air conditioned building. We have set aside 16 sites in that area for us.

For INFORMATION CONTACT Don & Lavonne Bries at 563 580-0606 or email: dbqbries@aol.com

STATE LEADERSHIP REPORTS

IOWA KOFC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION | ANTONIO BAÑUELOS

The Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation was established in 2004 to ensure permanent funds for religious vocations, Catholic education, persons with intellectual disabilities, and to assist those less fortunate. Later in 2015, the Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Culture of Life Fund in order to assist our Pregnancy Crisis Centers and boost the Ultrasound Program offered by the Knights of Columbus.

The Foundation survives thanks to the generous support of councils and assemblies around the great state of Iowa. We continuously encourage our councils to hold one fundraiser activity per year to help finance the foundation. In the 2022 – 2023 Fraternal Year the Foundation matched \$10,000 of Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP Program) in donation to the following pregnancy crisis centers in Iowa:

Birthright of Cedar Rapids	Hope For Life Pregnancy Ctr	Pregnancy Center of Central Iowa
Birthright of Council Bluffs	InnerVisions Health Care	Pregnancy Resources
Caring Pregnancy Center	LC Clinic	Sac County Family Steps
Cornerstone for Life, PRC	Lighthouse Center of Hope	The Clarity Clinic
Gabriel's Corner	Mary's Choice	The Pregnancy Center
Guiding Star Cedar Valley	Mary's Helping Hands	Women's Choice Center
Her Health Women's Center	Obria Medical Clinics	

We also matched the “Pass the Car Seat” effort during the 2022 State Convention matching \$7,500.

Beyond the support to our councils, as a 501(c)(3) organization, we offer a tax-deductible option for those supporting our charitable, community, vocations, and pro-life efforts. Please invite those businesses that support your council activities to make their tax-deductible donation the Foundation.

We need donations to keep our good works.

Send us your grant requests to foundation@iowakofc.org or visit us iowakofc.org/foundation

Send your donations indicating which fund is desired to:

Iowa Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation
PO Box 167
Des Moines IA 50301

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Treasurer: Francis Schlueter, PSD

Vice-President: Patrick O’Keefe, PSD

Secretary: Paul R. Lee, PSD

(The Board of Directors is made up of all Past State Deputies residing in Iowa and the elected members of the Executive Committee of the Iowa Knights of Columbus State Council)



DECEASED MEMBERS

May the souls of our departed brothers rest in peace

Council	Member	Council	Member
532	Glowacki, William C. Mayer, Lawrence "Lorne" G. Tappendorf, Robert C.	1006	Geraets, Donald J McDade, Shaun
700	Coffin, Howard W. Sandoval, John P. Schnieder, Eugene Steimel, Earl William Steimel, Msgr. Paul T Sweeny, Gary J	1164	Angell, Ed Roecker, Todd
707	Fahnlander, Max Farrell, Earl D. Feller, Donald E. Rolfes, Gary Schwendinger, Anthony B.	1228	Carlson, Chuck Cimock, Larry Nelson, Dennis Pullen, Duane
739	Abel, William F. Barr, Thomas Z. Conaway, James D. Dodge, Donald P. Dorman, Jesse J. Glasscock, Lonnie Groene, Richard L. Harrison, Larry A. Heinrich, Joseph A Horan, Michael D. Hoyer, Dole L. Judy, James R. Kempf, Ralph W. Long, Stephen W. Menke, Gregory R. Pickerel, Kenneth N. Roxlau, William Schubert, Lavern F. Winke, Fred C.	1243	Palmer, Gerald
780	Hall, Patrick W. Rutten, Richard Steffes, Luverne J.	1305	Gaeta, Charles Marks, Stephen Rocha, Anthony Sierling, Ed
888	Cutsforth, James H.	1354	Beckley, Robert L. Clasen, Larry Clasen, Virtus J Hager, Larry Medinger, Richard J.
909	Dvorak, Richard	1409	Elliot, Gary Freese, Robert Hemann, Ronald Schollenbarger, Dennis Shollenbarger, Dennis Skretta, Donald Stanton, Roger
930	Gavin, Neil McCabe, Stephen F.	1457	Weber, Robert L
936	Boem, Lee Hermann, Robert Marlow, Edward Rezabek, Charles Slagle, Charles Weishaar, Darrel	1466	Brach, Paul A. Eisele, Rev. Paul F. Gralapp, Evon Kellen, Donald Kurth, Robert Moir, James A. Ruden, Eldon R.
939	Reed, John	1479	Ashley, David H. Schuetz, Wade T.
952	Tigges, Marvin	1506	Murtha, Robert
959	McDermott, Mark	1571	Meier, Eugene Nibauer, Jerome Ollendick, Ronald
966	Ferneau, Richard Nusbaum, James	1697	Gilbert, Harold F. Heck, Donald R. Laures, Cletus L. Lechtenberg, Delbert C. Lenehan, Richard J. Rivers, Ronald D.
		1734	Bartels, William Gaul, Donald Nurre, Joseph
		1791	Kula, Lawrence L.
		1961	Doherty, Richard E Tiernan, Eric W.

DECEASED MEMBERS

May the souls of our departed brothers rest in peace

Council	Member	Council	Member
1962	Broghammer, Anthony C	4248	Kester, Franklyn
	Gaffney, Charles Francis		Walton, Dennis G.
	Jasper, Merlin	4287	Baumler, James C.
	Lindsay, Dennis M.		Langreck, William J
	Loecke, Rev. Mr. David	4516	Balk, Terrance
Markham, Michael G.	Barta, Martin		
Monaghan, William J.	Hayes, Robert Jr.		
	Schaul, Art		Jordan, John
1967	Gilbert, Harold F.		Mudd, James Jr.
	Lenehan, Richard J.	5032	Martin, William P.
2021	Hansen, David E.		Rankin, Doyle Francis
	Puth, Gerald E.		Sayre, David W.
	Schilz, Donald B.	5038	Schaffer, Michael J.
2073	Bohr, Randall	5389	Braak, Albert
	Hawes, Msgr. Cletus		Bromert, Ronald
2144	Ramos, Adrian		Dakovich, Dr. Milton
			Dowd, Brian
2209	Fitzgerald, James P.		Tamse, Frank
	Nicolai, John	5513	Kuhn, Rev. Richard W.
2230	DoBell, Donald		Stecher, William
	Meyer, Ronald F.		Uhlrich, Paul
	Reece, William	5835	McGovern, Rev. Mark
2286	Becker, Darrell W.		Schumacher, Robert
	Mann, Robert G.	7294	Kaska, Ron M.
	Meierotto, James	7506	Stowe, Robert
2576	Davidson, Thomas	7556	Burke, Mark A.
	Quinlan, Daniel	7874	Popson, John J
2818	Kirkpatrick, Donald L	8110	Ziller, Lawrence J,
	Kozishek, David Paul	8114	Briseno, James
	Tiernan, John	8178	Hemesath, Henry J.
3405	Schuttpelz, Clyde		Hawes, Cyril
	Wurth, Dick	8227	Weber, Nicholas
	Wurth, Milton	8269	Kilburg, Arlin J.
3420	Bormann, Thomas		Mans, John C.
	Kohlhaas, Richard N.		Mottet, Robert J.
3810	Becker, Donald		Shanahan, Paul J.
	Freking, Leo	8592	Klein, Peter
	Hunt, Fred	9574	Wadle, Clifford S.
	Jungers, Bernie	9632	Cameron, John W.
	Mousel, Dale	10035	Beeler, Thomas P.
	Roder, Gerald		Drysdale, Michael R.
	Schilmoeller, Denis	10282	Landwehr, Roger
Willet, Al		Smith, Orian L. Jr,	
Zenk, Donald	10464	Drost, Rod	
3893	Hurst, Melvin Jr.		Mooney, Gordon
	Robinson, Thomas R.	10768	Bell, Dennis
4108	Blunt, Kelly W.	10805	Evans, Charles
	Feist, Marvin		Lodes, David
4132	Utesch, Robert G		Mullen, Paul
			Ryan, Patrick J.
4167	Della Vedova, Denis R.		Shepard, Brian
	Dinneen, David J		Tinley III, Rev. Mr. Emmet
	Starcevic, Francis J.		
	Vitko, Raymond E. Jr.		

DECEASED MEMBERS

May the souls of our departed brothers rest in peace

Council	Member
11038	Vondrak, Earl Phillip
11161	Shannon, Jerome H.
11162	Frascht, Earl Pitzenberger, Theodore
11242	Brammer, Walter
11392	Gladden, Matthew E.
11643	Goebel, Gerald C. Kaminski, Earl W. Teclaw, Marion
11942	Gaffney, Vincent
12131	Jones, Darvin D.
12133	Blum, Kenneth Nelson, Lonn
12136	Callahan, Patrick Ryan, Douglas Smith, Augustus
12334	Wiegand, Rev. William
12381	Barnes, Richard
12422	Denton, William Josphe Jr. Leinen, Leon James Reed, Rev. Mr. Steve C.
12432	Harmon, Rev. John Koll Kenneth Martinez, John
12448	Simonsen, Craig
13109	Martes, James Murphy, Richard J, Scignoli, John J,
14678	Hasson, Joseph Rosenthal, Rev. Mr. Joseph
15254	Stratman, Thomas
15853	Venden, Howard O.
16904	Mount, Thomas L. Bass, Harold R. Condon, Brad Sweeny, Joseph F.

242 Deceased Members Reported

This report is derived from enrollements in the Perpetual Memorial Society and deaths reported on the Deceased Member Report from **March 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024**

Historically an average of 600 members of the Iowa Knights of Columbus pass away annually.

Discrepancies in the number reported and the average are likely due to deaths not being reported.



The Knights of Columbus empowers Catholic men to live their faith and serve their family, parish, community, and country.



Why? Because families need strong husbands and fathers, and the world needs courageous witnesses to Jesus Christ. Through *Cor*, men will be formed and sharpened as disciples of Jesus, who are committed to serving him and willing to boldly live and share their faith. It is the mandate of every Catholic man to bring Jesus to a broken world. To live his faith and engage in this mission, every Catholic man needs a strong relationship with God that is rooted in prayer and the sacraments. Catholic men need to proactively invest in their on-going faith formation, to be a part of a dynamic brotherhood that supports, sharpens, and strengthens them to be holy men, husbands, and fathers, and to engage in the mission of the Church.

The mission of *Cor* is to refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brother-hood committed to **prayer, formation, and fraternity**. The goal of each *Cor* gathering is to provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ, to pray together, to be formed in their faith, and to strengthen their bonds of brotherhood, preparing them for courageous leadership and the **mission of evangelization** for their families and communities.

What is the Cor?

The mission of Cor is to refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to prayer, formation, and fraternity.

Why Cor?

Because families need strong husbands and fathers, and the world needs courageous witnesses to Jesus Christ. Cor provides Catholic men the opportunity to encounter Christ, pray together, and strengthen their bonds of brotherhood, preparing them for courageous leadership and the mission of evangelization for their families and communities.

Where did the name come from?

“Cor” is Latin for heart. The inspiration for this name is drawn from the expression “cor ad cor loquitur,” “heart speaks to heart.” This phrase was the episcopal motto of St. John Henry Newman.

Is this replacing the council meeting?

No, this is not replacing the council meeting but will exist in addition to it.

Can't we add this to the existing council meeting structure?

For this to be effective, it truly needs its own dedicated space and time.

Is this a Faith in Action program?

No. But many Faith in Action programs can be inserted into it and count towards programmatic requirements.

How long should any given Cor last?

Each Cor meeting should last ideally 60 – 90 minutes.

When and how often should we hold Cor?

Cor should be held at least once a month. It is up to the men of the council if they would like to meet more frequently. Consider surveying your group to determine the best day and time of the week/month.

Is anything consistently required for Cor, specifically content or structure?

*Yes. The three key elements of prayer, formation, and fraternity must be intentionally structured and built into the gathering. The ratio of emphasis on one key element over the others can vary. Consider utilizing existing K of C resources to help structure the content, such as *Into the Breach* or the *Cor Ecclesiae* series.*

Who manages and runs this “meeting”?

The Grand Knight is encouraged to appoint a Council Evangelization and Faith Formation Director. The Council Director can build a team of council members (2-3 men) who will plan, coordinate, and execute Cor. The Grand Knight and Council Director should work with the pastor who must give his permission for Cor to be held at the parish.

How should the pastor be involved?

The pastor must permit Cor to be held at the parish. He is primarily responsible for the formation of the souls in his parish and, therefore, should be consulted and involved.

Who can come and participate?

All men of the parish are encouraged to attend.

What if there is another men's group in the parish?

Cor should not pose a point of conflict with any existing men's ministries or groups. Instead, this should be an opportunity for intentional collaboration and enhancement to serve the men of the parish better. Meet with the leadership of the men's group and look for ways to build up and support each other.

For more information and elaboration on these questions and more, please refer to the *Cor Startup Guide* and other resources at kofc.org/cor

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<https://www.iowakofc.org/golf>



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