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**State Deputy's Message**

My Brother Knights in Christ,

It is with a heavy heart that I report (formally, not by previous email) that Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahlo was found buried in the desert of Iraq, killed by his kidnappers. Please continue to offer your prayers for his family and the Chaldean Community and for peace in Iraq and all places in the Holy Land.

Our State Convention is very near upon us—May16-18, 2008. Many of our councils have not yet sent in the names of their delegates nor have many others sent in their registration forms to be counted for the tours, golf tournament, entertainment, and banquet. Opening Mass will have Bishop Soto from Sacramento and Closing Mass will have Bishop McGrath from San Jose. This is a really great touch to have members of our hierarchy presiding at our most holy of events. I am assured that everyone will have a great time during the convention plus the delegates will have a lot of business to take care of. Remember, all delegates, committeemen, Chapter Presidents, and DD's will be reimbursed at a rate of \$40.00 per day for the two days minus your banquet ticket, which is prepaid, plus mileage as predetermined by the State office staff. Checks will be handed out at the Convention this year, not mailed. Again, remember, delegates are there to do the business of the State, primarily VOTE! If a delegate does not vote during the time period given, your check will be WITHHELD! Councils, make sure that you have properly sent in the delegate forms and that the Supreme and State per capita have been paid. Remember, if your council has been suspended by Supreme then your delegates can not be seated.

Your membership director and team have come up with some extra incentives for the last 4 months of the year. Besides the ones given by the Supreme Council, the council showing the highest % in membership in each Chapter will receive a \$50.00 check for their charity. The Chapters that make membership quota will receive a \$1,000.00 check to present to the Bishop for their Seminarian Fund. Individual Knights who are the top recruiters in their Chapter will receive a recruitment award.

## *California Knightletter*

All members who take their 1st Degree between the dates of March 1st and June 30th will have their names added to the Bishops' Scroll which will be presented to the Bishop of every Diocese. Finally, the 65,000th member, as determined by Supreme along with his sponsor and Grand Knight and their wives will take a cruise to Mexico with the State Deputy and his wife and our State Chaplain. Can this be accomplished? Of course it can! Will it be easy? No, but of course it can be done! Let's go out in a blaze of glory for your councils, districts, chapters and State these last few months of the Columbian Year and make all of us proud to be part of the greatest Catholic Organization in the world.

There are many areas of New Council development and Council reactivations that are in the works right now that could make an impact on our final membership numbers. Those District Deputies and Chapter Membership Coordinators that are working on developing new councils or reactivations, let's make sure that you get them in prior to June 30th so that they will count in this Columbian Year. Supreme will provide Plaques to all who are instrumental in starting a new council.

Finally, Lisa and I hope that all of you and your families had a very Blessed Lenten Season, Easter Sunday and a continued Easter Season of happiness. May Almighty God Bless each and every one of you and May Our Lady of Victory Protect you.

Yours in Faith, Charity and Family,

James R. Scroggin  
State Deputy

### **STATE DEPUTY'S MARCH TO 65K**

State Deputy Jim Scroggin has set a challenge for the Councils of the California Jurisdiction---to reach net membership of 65,000 by June 30, 2008.

To celebrate this achievement, the 65,000<sup>th</sup> member, his sponsor, his Grand Knight and their wives will join the State Deputy and his wife and State Chaplain, Fr. John Grace, on a three day cruise from Los Angeles to Mexico.

Let's turn up the heat on membership and make this happen!!

### **NEW MEMBER HONOR ROLLS**

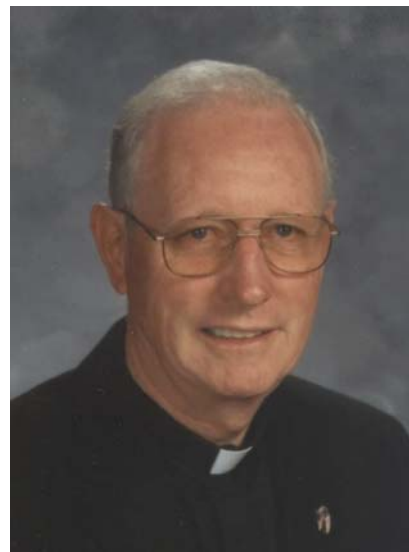
Each new member between now and 30Jun08 will also be put on one of twelve Honor Rolls, one for each Diocese in California. These Honor Rolls will then be presented to the Bishops of each Diocese.

For Questions or More Information Contact:  
State Office - 909-434-0460

## State Chaplain's Message

Greetings to you all and to your families.

The recent announcement from Rome that Our Holy Father the Pope had pronounced our beloved Founder as 'Venerable' has come as a great fillip to our spirituality as Knights. Fr. McGivney did not just become holy on his deathbed. It was the journey of a lifetime, albeit a short one of 38 years. He is with us on our life's undertakings, and we can remember this in a special way during this season.



It is my genuine prayer that all of you have a spiritually enriching Easter Season. St. Augustine reminds us that the celebration of Easter is a feast meant to help us remember that every day, not just at the time of the feast, is an opportunity for awareness of resurrection in our lives:

*“Therefore, dearly beloved let us make constant reflection on all these things our daily celebration of the Pasch, of Easter. What I mean is that we shouldn't treat these days as extra specially important, in such a way that we neglect the memory of the Lord's passion and resurrection at other times, while we have his body and blood as our daily banquet; this festival, rather, is intended to remind us more vividly of them, to stir us up to greater fervor, to renew our faith more joyfully, since in the course of the annual round of the seasons, it somehow or other sets the memory of what happened before our eyes. Keep the passing feast in this way, and think about the coming kingdom that will abide forever.” Sermon 229d.*

My prayer is that all of us be Easter people every day of our lives.

The coming of the Pontiff to the U.S. mid April is also a great source of celebration. I hope to be present at the Mass in Washington DC and will have more to relate next month. We have been asked by our Supreme Knight to prepare ourselves personally and as a Council. So, as the time approaches, let us be more conscious of our commitment as Knights to make the U.S. a worthy place for his arrival, not just by lip-service but by being in reality those Easter People. Let us pray for a profound spiritual renewal as a result of His Apostolic Visit to our land.

Many thanks to our Knights and your families for all you do in Charity, Unity and Fraternity to build up the Body of Christ here in California.

Your brother Knight and Chaplain,  
Fr. John P. Grace, o.s.a., State Chaplain.

## Membership Director's Report

### THE MARCH TO 65,000!

As we move on toward the goal of reaching a membership of 65,000 knights in the State of California by June 30, 2008; the State Deputy will host the 65,000 th member, his sponsor, his Grand Knight and their guests along State Chaplain Fr. John Grace on a three day cruise to Mexico. Will this lucky Knight be from your council?

April 1st. began the three months long (April 1 to June 30) membership drive "In Solidarity with our Bishops", every new Knight receiving the honors of the First Degree during this time will have his name placed on a resolution given to the Bishop of his Diocese as a member of this campaign honored the Bishop. This along with the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to our nation in April should give each of us an added incentive to recruit new members at record levels.

Don't forget the Blitz on the weekend of April 26-27! Put a special emphasis on the "In Solidarity with our Bishop" campaign as you hold your follow up information nights.

God bless the Knights of Columbus! Vivat Jesus!

Ross Willour, PSD, VSM,  
Membership Director

## Recruitment Chairman's Report

Thank-you for your continued recruitment efforts! **As of March 30, 2008 you have recruited 2,708 new members.** However, our net membership gain is only 1,641. That accounts for 87% of the state goal. The current chapters leading in recruitment are:

Chapter	New Members	Membership Coordinator
Arrowhead/Desert valley	415	Tom Walsh
Northern California	332	Gerald Fong
Orange County	282	David Walker

Please continue to recruit qualified Catholic gentleman and make a strong effort to retain the members we have. In January we held our second membership drive. It produced hundreds of prospects and is partially reflected in these numbers. We need to continue to hold information forums, followed by First, Second and Third Degrees. Please ensure sponsors accompany their candidates to all degrees. It is imperative that Insurance Field Agents be invited to the information forums and all degrees and be given a chance to speak. These professionals will enhance your event by discussing one of the main reasons we were founded. **All you need to do is ask.**

We are now in the Easter Season. RCIA graduates have been welcomed into the Church. These men and their families are prime prospects for our Order. I know of a council that has already obtained two signed Form 100s and they have two additional strong prospects that just completed their training. Why not make joining the Knights of Columbus a continuation of their formation?

## California Knightletter

Let them know there is no better way to acclimate into the parish than by becoming a member of the local council. Let them know that committed knights and their families are doing their best to practice Christ's commandments. We serve our fellow man, especially those less fortunate, and standing together in Christian witness, we are a light in a world darkened by materialism, cynicism, and secular humanism. **All you need to do is ask.**

John Giltner, PGK. FDD, State Recruitment Chairman

### Parish Round Table Program Report

Technically this Columbian Year, our Supreme quota for California of 250 was obtained in the month of February. No longer are forms lost in the Post Office, but these days they wind up in Cyberspace. Had some forms sent to Supreme online by a Financial Secretary that I personally walked thru the process, they most likely would not have been part of the current Official total of 255 as of March 31st.

For the 2nd year in a row our California State Jurisdiction ranked 2nd in our Order with the number of Parish Round Tables. Thanks to Committeemen, Joe Galipeau, Vince Perpetuo, Mark Godfrey, Brian Klinge, Chris Scotti and Peter Ashley our Supreme Quota has been achieved. Only eight other Jurisdictions in our Order have gained this status so far. I was looking forward to achieving this by goal before Sept 1, 2007 but some District Deputies got off to a very slow start. I don't think this will be the case next year.

For 2008-2009 I was delighted to hear that the Parish Round Table & New Council Development Program will be finally combined again. It was back in 2002 that Joe Salaiz and I did some brainstorming about linking the two and the following year, the merger took place. Unfortunately, the following year it was broken up again against my wishes. My replacement for next year Gary Ganibi has started working with me and has volunteered to help me finish out this current year. With his help I would like to see our final total be over 300.

I firmly believe Parish Round Tables create very solid foundations for New Councils. One Church in my neighborhood formed a Round Table two years ago and should become our 5th New Council in the State within the next few months. I'm happy to report that some of these New Members are thinking about becoming Charter Officers and there will be more than one Knight seeking the same position. One thing for sure is you won't be seeing the recycling of senior members and Past Grand Knights like myself filling positions in this Council. The Grand Knights of the future will have the training and will devote the time required to lead this Council.

In conclusion I no longer believe that "The Parish Round Table Development Program is one of the best kept secrets in California". I believe we are finally on our way towards obtaining the 100,000 Member level in the very near future. This is one Program that one day will make it a reality.

Donald M Keegan, Chairman

# In Solidarity with Your Bishop Membership Drive

## 30 Days and the Blitz is On!!!!

To: Chapter Presidents, District Deputies, and Grand Knights

CC: State Officers, PSDs, Chapter Membership Coordinators, Committeemen, General Agents, and Field Agents

**Re: FAITH CHARITY AND FAMILY MEMBERSHIP BLITZ COUNTDOWN**

**April 26-27, 2008**

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**This Blitz is to be held in Honor of your Bishop and our solidarity with him. All new and reinstated members brought into your Councils between April 1 and June 30, 2008 will be listed on a resolution suitable for framing and made available for presentation to your Bishop.**

**THIS IS THE LAST OF THE THREE STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP DRIVES SCHEDULED THIS COLUMBIAN YEAR. THIS IS YOUR 30-DAY KICKOFF LETTER!!**

**Chapter Presidents** – We suggest that you schedule a meeting with the District Deputies and Chapter Coordinators in your Chapter to discuss your April Blitz preparations.

**District Deputies** – A special meeting with the Grand Knights in your district would certainly be in order to make sure the upcoming blitz is successful.

**Grand Knights** – You and your council members are the nuts and bolts and ultimate success of this APRIL BLITZ. So prepare now to make your council membership drive the biggest ever in your council's history.

**Chapter Presidents – Membership Coordinators - District Deputies – Grand Knights**

**Are you prepared? Are your Officers Prepared? Are your Councils Prepared?**

**If Not – Why Not?\*\*\*\*\*Act Now!!!\*\*\*\*\* We Need New Members!!**

**Let's show our Bishops how we love them by having a full Resolution for each of them!**

NOTE - Drive day Phone Number for Chapter Membership Coordinators Sunday evening reports is:

**James Willerford, PSD- Blitz Coordinator  
Phone / Fax/ Message (951) 658-1214**

<b>State Deputy</b>	<b>Membership Dir.</b>	<b>Recruitment Dir.</b>	<b>Retention Dir.</b>	<b>NCD Dir.</b>	<b>Insurance Promotion</b>
<b>James Scroggin, PSD</b>	<b>Ross Willour, PSD</b>	<b>John Giltner</b>	<b>Timothy Carvalho</b>	<b>Joe Salaiz</b>	<b>Donald Krolak FICF</b>

## Third Degree Schedule

*Is your District planning a Third Degree in July through September this year? NOW is the time to secure the facilities and get your request for a team to your area coordinator.*

*Below is the current list of Third Degrees which have been requested and/or scheduled. Contact the Host District Deputy listed for further information.*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Host District Deputy</u>	<u>HDD Phone</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
04/13/08	Merced	Nick Notarnicloa, DD # 47	559-592-2240	Central
04/20/08	Apple Valley	Ron Mana, DD # 94	760-949-6437.	Arrowhead - Desert Valley
04/26/08	Danville	Hugo Zarate. DD # 32	510-799-0433	Oakland
06/01/08	Alta Dena	Gary Ganibi, DD # 78	626-798-9048	San Gabriel
06/08/08	Santa Clara	Fredrick Clegg, DD #25	408-248-1266	San Jose
06/22/08	San Clemente	Tom Gillespie, DD # 91	714-962-5712	Orange County

## State Convention News

The California Knights of Columbus 106<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention is just six weeks away. **Are you ready?** Have you received your delegate registration credentials? If not you will not be recognized as a delegate to the convention. Call the state office if you have a problem. It will be a great convention. It officially starts with the **opening Mass** Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM celebrated by the local Bishop. This is a family event and all are welcome. There is no better way to start our deliberations than with the celebration of the Eucharistic.

**Forty-two** resolutions have been mailed to each council. Councils need to discuss them at a council business meeting. Council Delegates need to be knowledgeable of the resolutions and vote as directed by your council. Resolutions 41 and 42 deal with mileage and Per Diem and that may affect future per capita. If your council is not represented, you will have no say in the process. **Make your council vote count.**

**Ladies Luncheon – Do not let your wife sit in your hotel while you are attending the meeting.** Chairwoman **Carleen Beers** and her team ask you to Celebrate the Days with the Knights. The fun starts at 11:30 AM Saturday May 17, 2008 in the Bayshore Ballroom. Please join other ladies from throughout the state for a fabulous luncheon for only \$30.00! The theme is "**Special Days of the Year**" and should prove to be fun and very colorful. Raffle tickets can be pre-purchased for \$10.00 for \$25 tickets. Raffle tickets will be available at the door for those who do not pre-purchase them before hand. It sure beats what the knights will be doing, sitting through a long afternoon meeting.

**Need to get away for awhile?** The Convention **Opportunity Drawing** can help. For a \$5.00 ticket (10 for \$25.00) you get a chance to win a 4 day cruise for two on Carnival Cruise line. The package includes all on board meals, entertainment, taxes and much more. In addition, you will receive \$400.00 in cash. The Opportunity Drawing Chairman is Bro. **Floyd Wells** who can be contacted at 916-383-8767 or email: [fewells@pacbell.net](mailto:fewells@pacbell.net).

## California Knightletter

For the event to be a success, Brother Floyd will need lots of help. If you can donate a couple of hours during the convention, please contact him.

**A chance to perhaps play golf for free on (if you win a prize) Thursday May 15, 2008!**

First here are the prizes.

1st place (All men) team low score \$400

2nd place (All men) team low score \$300

3rd place (All men) team low score \$200

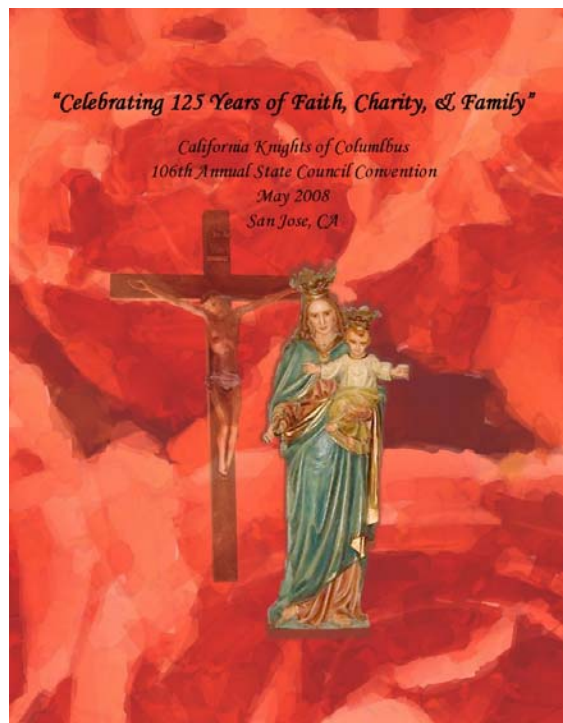
1st place (Men & woman or all woman) team low score \$400

2nd place (Men & woman or all woman) team low score \$300

These prizes and several additional prizes that are available could cover the cost of admission. It all depends on how you play in the tournament. Even if you do not win, you will have a great afternoon of fun and fraternity. At the modest cost of \$90.00 you will have the opportunity to play with knights and their ladies from throughout the state. Also, you will have access to a golf cart; you will receive a sleeve of golf balls, and a great lunch. We are limited to only 144 participants at the Los Lagos Golf Club. There are still openings so you can still make your reservation. This year's chairman, **Ralph Manfredo**, is looking forward to providing you a great event.

Last, but most important, please stop by the San Carlos Room for some quiet time and reflection. The *Adoration Chapel* will be open Friday from 10:00 AM until 9:00 PM and Saturday from 7:00 AM until 9:00 PM. Come in relax, talk to our Lord and Savior and your week end will be complete

**John Giltner PGK, FDD State Convention PR chairman**



Service Program Director's Report

The annual Daryl R. Mueller California State Free Throw Competition was held on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at San Joaquin Memorial High School in Fresno. There were 137 participants in all from all 16 Chapters in California. In the 10 year old category there were 16 boys and 15 girls; in the 11 year old category 15 boys and 15 girls; in the 12 year old category 12 boys and 13 girls; in the 13 year old category 15 boys and 12 girls; and in the 14 year old category 14 boys and 11 girls.

State Deputy Jim Scroggin was in attendance as were all of the State Officers and Daryl R. Mueller was honored for his legacy of support for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition over the years. All of the competitors were introduced, and the shoot off began around 10:45am.

Following are highlights from the results:

Girls Competition:

10 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Veronica Locher	Oakland Chapter
11 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jessica Pineda	St. Francis Chapter
12 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Christina Diaz	Southern California
13 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Connie Ballestero	Orange County
14 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Nicaela Hernandez	Arrow Head Desert Valley

Boys Competition:

10 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Matthew Thompson	Arrow Head Desert Valley
11 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jeremy Moniz	Oakland Chapter
12 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Sam Averbuck	Redwood Chapter
13 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Robbie Ponce	Arrow Head Desert Valley
14 Year Old	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Alan Rodriquez	Southern California

St Joseph Council #4931 provided a lunch of burgers, chips, and sodas for a modest cost. The Council cooked about 500 hamburgers in all. 26 students from the San Joaquin Memorial High School CSF program also helped throughout the day.

Join me in thanking Brother Pat Gorman and District Deputy Roman Bejarano for chairing and organizing the event along with all who helped and participated.

May God bless our endeavors as we do His charitable work.

Yours in Charity and Service,  
Dave Abbott, Service Program Director.

2007 MR Drive News

Brothers we have just about wrapped up the 2007 year's drive to help The Columbian Foundation for People with Mental Retardation, Inc. Thank you for your hard work. With 358 councils reporting, funds received are \$752,335 for an average of \$2,101 per reporting council.

As of March 25, 2008 (the latest data available) the new leaders are:

Chapter	Gross Contribution	Chapter Coordinator
Orange County	\$125,301	Roland Cormier
Northern California	\$111,078	Young D. Stewart, PSD
San Diego Diocese	\$74,695	Larry Campitiello

Chapter	Average per Council	Chapter Coordinator
Orange County	\$3,916	Roland Cormier
San Joaquin	\$2,905	Al Haman
Redwood	\$2,832	Robert Roche

Council	Gross Contribution	Grand Knight
9487	\$37,000	John A. Piccolo
4041	\$22,254	Dean R. Henderson
982	\$18,796	Joseph L. Mangiameli

We are still looking for support from the 118 councils that did not participate this year. It is never too late to hold a Parish Drive or make a council contribution. We are also looking for the funds from the 41 councils that held a drive, but have not turned in the funds. Last year at this time we had collected \$875,792 from 423 councils. We also had more councils participate. Please remember this is our most visible event held in local communities throughout the state. We are behind the curve and need to get the outstanding funds turned in. Do not wait for all funds from sponsors to be received. We need each council to turn in their funds as soon as possible. If additional funds are received you can make a second contribution to the MR Foundation and you will receive credit for all funds turned in. Thank-you for your cooperation!

The Columbian Foundation for People with Mental Retardation, Inc is dedicated to high standards through a total commitment to quality in people and in the service it provides. Everyone's help is needed. Again thank-you for your participation!

John Giltner, PGK, FDD, MR Foundation PR Chairman

## Family of the Month

The following are the California winners of the "Family of the Month" contest, obtained through a random drawing held at the Supreme Council office from among many nominees submitted by councils throughout the order.

### **February 2008**

Family of  
Paul & Kathy Sanz  
Council 4964 – Citrus Heights

## Family of the Year

Is there a family in your council that you can always count on? Do they work tirelessly in support of their parish, the community, the Order – all the while maintaining a love for one another?

Each Council is offered the opportunity to submit to the State Council a nomination for the statewide Family of the Year. The family selected will be recognized at the state convention and receive one night's lodging compliments of the State Council.

Additionally, the winner will be entered into the Supreme Council competition for International Family of the Year to be recognized at the Supreme Convention.

We're looking for dedication, originality, and substance. A plain typed report covering a spectacular family will win against an average family in a fancy report.

The Family of the Year nomination form can be found in the Forms section of the State Council website ([www.kofc-california.org](http://www.kofc-california.org)). The form must be sent to:

Brother Gene Hays, Sr.  
Family of the Year Chairman  
1103 W. Oakdale Street  
West Covina, CA 91790  
Phone: (626) 354-4297  
Fax (213) 624-9677  
Email: [genehays01@earthlink.net](mailto:genehays01@earthlink.net)

The form must be received no later than April 15 in order to be considered. Email, fax, snail mail or overnight service are all welcome. But, **DO NOT SEND THE FORM TO THE STATE OFFICE, THE SUPREME OFFICE OR ANYONE OTHER THAN THE STATE CHAIRMAN ABOVE.**

Regardless of whether your Council's nominee wins the state award, please continue to offer regular monthly recognition to the families in your council that make all of your success possible and continue to report their efforts to the Supreme Council as Family of the Month. We didn't join the Order to get recognition, but it sure can serve as a morale booster when it comes along.

Gene Hays, Sr., Family of the Year Chairman

## Supreme Press Releases

### Supreme Knight Carl Anderson hosts panel of papal experts on program airing April 13.

NEW HAVEN, CT APRIL 5, 2008 The Knights of Columbus has announced that it will sponsor a nationally-broadcast television discussion program previewing Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the United States in April.

The broadcast on Sunday, April 13 will feature a lively discussion of Benedict's three eventful years as Pope, his long career as a renowned theologian, and a look at the themes he is likely to stress during his trip to America, which begins on April 15. The show – entitled A Journey of Hope – airs two days before Benedict arrives in Washington.

The panel of experts featured in the program includes:

Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, a member or consultant to five pontifical councils, and a former member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights;

Cardinal John Foley , who served for many years as the president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications at the Vatican;

Professor David Schindler, Dean of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family in Washington, D.C., and editor of *Communio*, a journal co-founded by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger;

Dominican Father Peter Cameron, editor of the Catholic periodical *Magnificat*, and author of the book *Benedictus*, which provides the reader with daily meditations from the voluminous writings of Pope Benedict XVI; and

Professor Helen Alvare, who teaches family law at Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

The half hour show will air on Sunday, April 13 on CBS stations in the four largest U.S. markets: on New York's WCBS-TV at 1 p.m. EDT; in Washington, D.C., on WUSA-TV at noon EDT; i n Chicago on WBBM-TV at noon CDT; and in Los Angeles on KCBS-TV at 9 a.m. PDT. It will also air nationally on the Fox Business Channel at 5:30 p.m. EDT/2:30 p.m. PDT and be carried at 3:30 p.m. on WTGL-TV in the Orlando area.

In addition, the program will air on a variety of Catholic television outlets, including EWTN, the Catholic cable network, and local and regional Catholic cable channels and over-the-air Catholic programs.

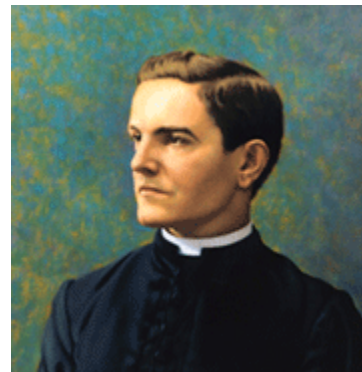
Founded by the Venerable Servant of God Father Michael McGivney, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization with more than 1.7 million members throughout North America, in Europe and in Asia

***Ed's Note: Los Angeles on KCBS-TV on April 13 at 9 a.m. PDT.***

## **Vatican declares Knights of Columbus founder "venerable"**

*Fr. Michael J. McGivney would be first American-born priest to be declared a saint*

**New Haven, CT - March 16, 2008** - Pope Benedict XVI Saturday approved a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. The pope's declaration significantly advances the priest's process toward sainthood and gives the parish priest the distinction of "Venerable Servant of God." If canonized, Fr. McGivney would be the first American born priest to be so honored.



"All of us who are members of the Knights of Columbus are profoundly grateful for this recognition of the holiness of our founder," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "The strength of the Knights of Columbus today is a testament to his timeless vision, his holiness and his ideals."

Worried about the religious faith and financial stability of immigrant families, Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus with the help of several men of St. Mary's Parish in New Haven in 1882 to help strengthen the faith of the men of his parish and to provide financial assistance in the event of their death to the widows and orphans they left behind. He was also known for his tireless work among his parishioners.

Born in Waterbury, Conn., Aug. 12, 1852, Michael Joseph McGivney, was the first of Patrick and Mary (Lynch) McGivney's 13 children, six of whom died in infancy or early childhood. His parents, natives of Ireland, had immigrated to the United States during the 19th century. Patrick was a molder in a Waterbury brass mill, where Michael himself worked for a brief time as a child to help support his family.

From an early age, however, he realized a calling to the Catholic priesthood. After studying in several seminaries, he was ordained in that Baltimore's historic Cathedral by Cardinal James Gibbons Dec. 22, 1877. He took up his first assignment, as curate at St. Mary's Church, New Haven, Conn., Jan. 2, 1878. Father McGivney was named pastor of St. Thomas Church in Thomaston, Conn. in 1884. He became seriously ill with pneumonia in January 1890, and died Aug. 14, 1890 at age 38.

The cause, or process, for Father McGivney's sainthood, was opened by Hartford Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin, in December 1997. The cause was presented to the Vatican in 2000, where it has been under review by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. With the pope's recent decree, and the authentication of a miracle at Father McGivney's intercession, the priest could be beatified. A second miracle would be required for canonization.

Still maintaining its headquarters in New Haven, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic Fraternal Organization with more than 1.7 million members in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America, the Caribbean islands, the Philippines, Guam and, most recently, Poland.

[Anderson: Pope to Bring "Revolution of Virtue"](#)  
[Supreme Knight Comments on US Papal Visit](#)

VATICAN CITY, APRIL 1, 2008 (Zenit.org).- Benedict XVI will bring with him to the United States this month a “revolution of virtue,” says the leader the Knights of Columbus.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, in Rome today to present his book “A Civilization of Love: What Every Catholic Can Do to Transform the World,” told ZENIT that the message of the Pontiff's two encyclicals is the same one the people of the United States are waiting for when he visits April 15-20.

"We are talking about a revolution of virtue, but of the theological virtues: faith, hope and love," said Anderson. "And this is the message Benedict XVI has given us with his two encyclicals, ‘Deus Caritas Est,’ on love, and ‘Spe Salvi,’ on hope.”

The supreme knight said that especially during this election year, Americans are waiting “in a tremendous way to hear about the question of change and the question of hope, and Christianity is a religion of change and a religion of hope. “

Commenting on the contents of his book, Anderson said, “The effect of 9/11 it still very strong in the United States, and one of the things I suggest in the book is to discover what kind of people we are, what kind of people we want to become.”

The answer to these questions, he said, is precisely in the civilization of love.

*Life and Death*

“In such a civilization every person is a child of God. We are all intrinsically valuable. The battle today is between the culture of death (where people are judged by their social or economic value) and the culture of life,” he said.

Anderson pushes aside religious differences in order to spread a message of hope to those who are wary of the constant turmoil of modern society.

“By embracing the culture of life and standing with those most marginalized and deemed ‘useless’ or a ‘burden’ on modern society, Christians can change the tone and direction of our culture,” he affirmed.

Anderson noted that his book seeks to transcend the “clash of civilizations,” because he says love isn't something exclusive to Christians. He added that he attempts to present “a road map for helping Christians understand their role in the World.”

To promote this civilization of love, clarifies Anderson, implies a decision to promote life and the family.

Anderson was appointed a member of the Pontifical Council for the Family in 2007, and consultant to the Pontifical Council for Social Communications in 2006. He was also appointed consultant to the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in 2003, a member of the Pontifical Council for the Laity in 2002 and the Pontifical Academy for Life in 1998.

Anderson is the leader of the 1.7 million members of the Knights of Columbus, the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization, which was founded in 1882 by the Venerable Servant of God Father Michael McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut.

Still maintaining its headquarters in New Haven, the Knights of Columbus has members in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America, the Caribbean islands, the Philippines, Guam and, most recently, Poland.

### **PAIN OF POPE FOR DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP OF MOSSUL**

VATICAN CITY, 13 MAR 2008 (VIS) - Benedict XVI has sent a telegram to Cardinal Emmanuel III Delly, patriarch of Babylon of the Chaldeans, Iraq, for the death of Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho of Mossul of the Chaldeans, Iraq, who was kidnapped on 29 February.

In his telegram the Pope expresses his closeness "to the Chaldean Church and to the entire Christian community", reaffirming his "condemnation for an act of inhuman violence which offends the dignity of human beings and seriously damages the cause of the fraternal coexistence of the beloved Iraqi people".

Benedict XVI gives assurances of his prayers for the archbishop "who was kidnapped just after he had completed the Way of the Cross" and invokes the Lord's mercy "that this tragic event may serve to build a future of peace in the martyred land of Iraq".

Holy See Press Office Director Fr. Federico Lombardi S.J. also released the following declaration today:

"We had all continued to hope and pray for his release, something the Pope had requested on a number of occasions in his appeals.

"Unfortunately the most senseless and unjustified violence continues to be inflicted on the Iraqi people, and especially on the small Christian community to which the Pope and all of us are particularly close in prayer and solidarity at this moment of great suffering.

"It is to be hoped that this tragic event may once more - and more powerfully - underline the responsibility of everyone, and especially of the international community, for the pacification of so troubled a country".

## Council 4550 News

### **ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD**

Father Grealy Council #4540 held its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mass for the Day of the Unborn Child on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at St. Rose Church in Roseville, followed by a Coffee and Donut Reception in the Parish Hall. The 8:00 AM Mass was celebrated by Fr. Michael McKeon, Council Chaplain and Pastor assisted by Fr. Joshy Mattew, Parochial Vicar and Deacon Peter Silott.

Vince Cukar, PGK and Pro-Life Chairman planned the event, enlisting many Brother Knights of Fr. Grealy Council to participate. The participants included: Brother John Roe, PGK, Announcer and Lector; Brother Nick Aguon, (Financial Secretary) Eucharistic Minister; Brothers Bob Stryker (Treasurer), Steve Hanas (Guard), Mario De La Torre, Jim Karpowicz Jr., PGK, Randolph Brown, PGK and Ed Nicklas, PGK, led the Rosary; Brothers Ray Cray, Shawn Amato (Warden), Dan Lovesee (Trustee), Ernie Corr and Dave Larson were ushers; Brother Stephen White (Family Activities and Membership Director) and his family were the Offertory Gift Bearers; Dick Knox (Chancellor), Bill Merz (Program Director), Jim Chambers, Paul Lograsso and Bob Stryker (Treasurer) handled the setup and cleanup for the Coffee and Donuts Reception; Bob Lightfield (Deputy Grand Knight), Shawn Amato (Warden) and Dan Lovesee (Trustee) manned the sign-up tables of The 40 Days of Life project.



A check for \$777 was presented to Cathy Fischer of the Sacramento Life Center by Gene Rexford, Grand Knight, at the conclusion of the Mass. (From left to right) Fr. McKeon, Vince Cukar, Cathy Fischer, Fr. Joshy, and Grand Knight Gene Rexford, posing in front of the Culture of Life Award presented by the State Council at the 2007 Convention.



### **Central Chapter Helps their Brother Knights**

Jim Hill, Central Chapter President, presented a check to Ray Warriner, Columbian Charities President, in the name of SD Jim Scroggin and Lisa Scroggin. Also pictures are SD Jim Scroggin and Columbian Charities Secretary John Teixeira.

### **California Columbian Charities on course for Record Year**

Based on the first principle of the Order and the vision of Fr. McGivney, Columbian Charities continues on its mission of “Brother Helping Brother”. A record will be set this year in assistance to Brother Knights and their families in California. With the wildfires and economic downturn, Columbian Charities has assisted 61 families, 17 of which are fire victims. The assistance has exceeded \$145,000.00, an all time record and the year is not over.

Columbian Charities would like to express it’s appreciation to the Central Chapter donation and to acknowledge the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Central California District’s response to the fire victims. The District, under the leadership of Master Manuel Lima and Former Master Donald Gentleman, raised over \$1,200.00 and distributed them to our Brothers directly affected by the fires.

Columbian Charities depends on the 365 Club with the Parade of the Grand Knights as its primary source of funds. Last year’s Parade generated around \$98,000.00. We are currently using our limited reserves, accumulated over the last 50 yr. to provide assistance. If you are not a member of the 365 Club, I respectfully ask you to consider joining. If you are, I ask you to consider increasing your support.

Fraternally Yours,

*Raymond F. Warriner*, President

## Prayers for Brothers, Family, and Friends

*Brother Knights,*

*On behalf of the State Council and State Officers, please join me in prayer for Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahlo, his family and the Chaldean Community. The Archbishop, who was kidnapped on February 29, 2008 has been put to death by his captors, a senseless act.*

*Our Lady of Victory, Pray for Us,*

*James R. Scroggin, State Deputy*

Please pray for the repose of the souls of our deceased Brother Knights, relatives, and friends:

William E. Van Aalst, Former District Deputy and Past Faithful Navigator passed away on Saturday, March 22, 2008

Mary Boul, mother of Chapter Vice-President and Former District Deputy Robert Boul passed away on Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008

Ethel Camille Jones, mother of Former District Deputy Eugene Davis Jr. passed away on Saturday, March 29, 2008.

Let us remember our members, relatives and friends who have had medical attention recently, or will have in the near future:

Fr. Thomas Edwards, Chaplain of Oakland Diocese Chapter and Friar of Robert E. Rooney Assembly.

Marvin Hayes, State Director for the Advocacy of Life

Ivan Reek, State Advocate

## *A Special Request*

My Brothers,

I am the Chapter President of the San Gabriel Valley Chapter. At the beginning of my term a member wrote to me by e-mail. He introduced himself as Christopher Jacobo. He has become a 4<sup>th</sup> degree Knight, a member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree team from our Chapter and holds a Council office.

He just wanted to thank me for adding his name to our sick list at Chapter. So, we wrote back and forth to each other and a special relationship happened. I found out that Brother Chris has lung cancer and they do not believe there is a cure for his illness.

I went to a function representing the Knights of Columbus and found out that his mom was sitting right next to me. We talked a lot about Chris, his wife and daughter. We became close that evening. Three weeks later he told her they do not have a cure for him.

We began praying the Father Michael J. McGivney Prayer for Canonization for Brother Chris at the opening of every meeting or event. I told everyone that we would open every meeting with this prayer as long as I was Chapter President and every function. I am proud to say that we have done so. What I am asking you is if you could say a prayer for him as

## California Knightletter

well. I know he would appreciate it and so would I. Imagine if they came back and said Chris, it's gone. Now that would qualify for a miracle for Father McGivney! Chris would make out too! Just during your travels, could you say one prayer for Brother Chris? You can e-mail him at : [christopherjacob@hotmail.com](mailto:christopherjacob@hotmail.com)

Chris is a great guy who really believes and has a fantastic spirit. He is easy to write to and enjoys the mail. Chris is about 41 years old, is married and has a daughter. He is a member of Father Maguire Council and could use a letter. So, if you have a moment, write a note and say a prayer and just let him know that he has your support. My year is coming to an end. Maybe someone could continue this tribute to him and just recite the Father McGivney Prayer for Canonization and add Chris & his family for prayers. I know he would appreciate it and so would I. Thank you and God Bless.

Fraternally,  
Jim Baker, Sr., S.G.V. Chapter President

### From the Webmaster

Directors and Chairmen, is your program properly featured on the State Web site? Please check out the web site and see if you want news and announcements posted there. Also, do we have your forms available? The webmaster will be happy to help you develop your pages.

If you want your council, assembly, or chapter website linked from the state web site, [www.kofc-california.org](http://www.kofc-california.org), please have the webmaster send the link information, as well as contact information to Peter Dreisbach at [CaKofCwebmaster@comcast.net](mailto:CaKofCwebmaster@comcast.net).

All information regarding Council, Assemblies, Districts, and Chapters and their officers on the web site is provided by the state office. If it's wrong on the web site, it's probably wrong at the state office. **Please copy the state office on all corrections sent to the webmaster.**

Also, please note that minor changes are grouped and made once a month shortly after the *California Knightletter* is posted.

### About The *California Knightletter*

The *California Knightletter* is posted to the California State Council Web Site after the sixth of each month for download in PDF format. PDF readers can be downloaded for free from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). Both the full color and black & white version will be available for download and distribution.

**Would you like to see your Council news here?** Prepare up to one page including pictures, describing your Council's recent events or achievements. Please send in Word format (.doc) to the Editor. Picture formats (.jpg, .gif, etc.) are acceptable for pictures and artwork. When preparing these reports, please be sure to write them in the third person, identify all persons in the photos, and describe the event completely. Remember: Who What Where When Why.

Also, we will publish one page flyers for golf tournaments, Bishop's Vocation dinners, Chapter testimonials or significant Council anniversary dinners, and other major events.

All input for the newsletter should be sent directly to Peter Dreisbach at [CaKnightletter@comcast.net](mailto:CaKnightletter@comcast.net).

### **The deadline for the next newsletter will be May 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**WARNING!** Due to the time required to convert them for proper inclusion, all input must be sent electronically, in the "content created format" (e.g. Word, e-mail, or text).

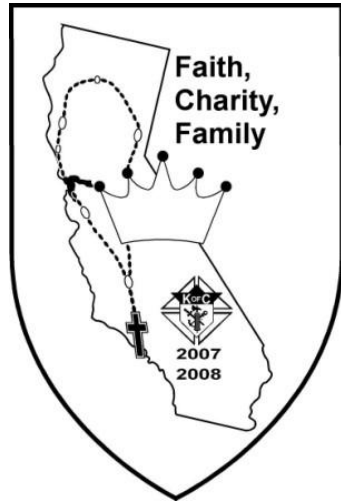
Please write your articles in the third person and **not as personal letters** (exceptions: State Officers and Directors).

Do not send PDF documents or images of text or flyers. Input sent as PDF files will not be included. Do not send scanned images of text. All input is subject to minor editing to adjust for formatting.



*5th of the month*

# California Knightletter



## Knights Of Columbus California State Council

15808 Arrow Blvd. Suite A,  
Fontana, CA 92335

Phone: 909.434.0460

Fax : 909.434.0465

*Email:*

*kofc\_california@mpowercom.net*

*WEB Site:*

**www.kofc-california.org**

## California State Council

James R. Scroggin	State Deputy
Rev. John P. Grace, o.s.a.	State Chaplain
Robert J. Villalobos	State Secretary
Vince Pacis	State Treasurer
Ivan A. Reek	State Advocate
Charles Clark	State Warden
Emilio B. Moure	Immediate PSD

## California Knightletter

Peter Dreisbach	Editor
Contributors	As noted.

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Knights Of Columbus  
California State Council  
15808 Arrow Blvd. Suite A  
Fontana, CA 92335