



ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL
Knights of Columbus



Editor Robert J. Fuggiti, PGK, FDD, PSW

December 2011

Christmas 2011



*Wishing you a Holy Christmas
and a Prosperous New Year,
From the Officers & Families of the
Illinois State Council*



“So that the world may know new hope”

Our Order proclaims this wonderful quote from Pope John Paul II as its theme for the year. Since the time of our founder and Servant of God, Father Michael J. McGivney, Knights and their families have brought new hope to many, many people. Those parishioners of St. Mary’s church in New Haven, Connecticut saw new hope immediately. Father McGivney gathered men of all backgrounds to the basement of his church to form a fraternal benefits society. His objectives were protecting widows and children; keeping men and their families close to Holy Mother Church; reaching out to help the less fortunate; and simply helping one another in times of need. These lofty goals framed the mission of this new fraternal benefits society. Truly the guidance of the Holy Spirit ensured that 129 years later we continue to build upon that mission! This is our history, our past that we draw upon as we look to grow our Order ever stronger. It is vital that we become even more so a force of new hope to our world and those we call brothers living in it considering the forces of today’s culture. I think of this frequently as a source of motivation when at times my resolve becomes shaken and thoughts arise about whether a difference is even being made. We are defenders of the Faith; it is our rich history and past that must be preserved as we forge ahead toward new horizons not yet reached *and yet* attainable!

“Preserving Our Past~Forging Our Future~ Centered on the Eucharist”

The quote of our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, and the Order wide theme of “So that the world may know new hope” connects with this theme that I have chosen for our fraternal year in Illinois. Illinois knights and their families have brought new hope to many, many people for well over 100 years and continue to do so in a great way! There is much from our past that we can embrace as a catalyst for growth and prosperity. Some of our forefathers initiated programs and activities addressing a need in our society or for our Church that ultimately became Order wide programs. That is Illinois Pride at its best! Our commitment to Holy Mother Church is received as a source of hope by leaders of our Church within each diocese. What we do is very important especially in today’s culture of relativism and materialism. We knights center our works on the Eucharist; and, we believe that the Eucharist is our constant and reliable source of Hope in all that we do and say! It is that reason we thrive where others do not; and, it is the source of our Hope to continue to prosper and grow. Our prosperity is measured by our greatest asset; and, that is our members! Members are priceless and one cannot begin to measure the good that comes from members in meeting the mission of the Knights of Columbus in Illinois and Order wide! I am confident that as we strengthen good working relationships, we surely will grow in numbers followed by good deeds to meet the ever demanding needs of our Church; families; and those less fortunate in our communities.

We wish you a Very Merry Christmas

We celebrate love in the works that we do “so that the world may know new hope”. We are strengthened by the rich history of those who came before us; and, we are *“preserving our past”* by carrying the torch so that their works will not be for naught. We are encouraged by the hope that comes from new members and their families joining our greater family of Knights of Columbus by *“forging our future”*. We celebrate our union with Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior, as we are *“centered on the Eucharist”* in our thoughts, words and deeds. During this season of Christmas, let us keep a strong focus on the greatest of all Hope as we recall the birth of our Redeemer who is with us for all times! Linda and I wish each of you the very best joys that come from being members of our greater Knights of Columbus Family: Peace-Love-Health and Happiness!

STATE CHAPLAIN Most Rev. Joseph M. Siegel Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar General of Joliet

Dear Brother Knights,

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown.
You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing.
For a child is born for us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion
rests.*

Isaiah 9:1, 5.



This is the good news we celebrate this Christmas of 2011. God who is love has embraced us in His Son, born as tiny infant, to be our Savior. With Jesus' birth a light has shone in the midst of the darkness. Our world, so often overshadowed by war, terror, injustice and hatred, was altered that night in Bethlehem and continues to be transformed to this day. With the birth of Christ, judgment has been pronounced on the darkness of sin and evil; the light has shone and darkness must give way.

This is the cause of our joy – that humanity has hope; humanity has been redeemed. Despite the vestiges of darkness that still exist in our world, it cannot prevail. We are called to walk in the light of our Savior and to help spread his light to all those who live in the shadows. We do this when we proclaim hope where there is despair, peace where there is discord, re-assurance where there is doubt, reconciliation where there is bitterness. While much of the world will go back to its usual routine on December 26, it can't be that way for us. We must live each day in the joy of Christmas and so play our part in the re-creation of the world.

I pray that this holy season may be a time of grace and peace for you, your families and your Councils. To prepare to receive the light and joy of our Savior, I invite you to take some time for quiet reflection and prayer and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

In gratitude for all you do for our Order, for your parishes and the Universal Church, please know that I will remember you and your intentions in my Masses this Christmas.

I wish you a blessed Christmas and New Year.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Most Rev. Joseph M. Siegel



Pictured seated is State Chaplain Bishop Segal on left, Bishop Conlon on the right along with volunteers from the Joliet diocese who helped at his Installation as Bishop of the Joliet Diocese.

Dear Brother Knights and Families,

The Christmas Season is a time for giving and receiving. We have received the most precious Gift in the Incarnation of the Word of God and we are asked to share that Word with all whom our lives touch. This Christmas I would like to share with you the members of the Illinois State Jurisdiction, my gift to you, a prayer that I have composed entitled:

AN ILLINOIS KNIGHT'S 365 PRAYER

My Council is composed of members like me.
I help make it what it is.
It will be a Council dedicated to Faith, Family, and Fraternity,
if I am.
It will stand in solidarity with the Church and the Clergy,
if I do.
Its meetings will be filled,
if I attend and encourage others as well.
It will do great Programming,
if I am involved.
It will make Charitable gifts to many causes,
if I am a generous contributor.
It will bring other Catholic men into the Order,
if I give them a Form 100 to invite and recruit them.
It will be a Council of Charity and Fraternity, of Unity and Patriotism,
if I live those principles.
It will be a Council "Preserving our Past ~ Forging our Future
Centered on the Eucharist",
if I, who make it what it is, am truly committed to this purpose.
Therefore, through the intercession of Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney
and with the help of Mary, Queen of the Knights,
I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things
that I want my Council to be.

AMEN

May you all share in the Blessings of Christmas and may the New Year, 2012, be a time of Grace and Favor for our Jurisdiction and each of its members and families

Vivat Jesu

Father Chuck Tuttle



STATE SECRETARY Donald "Skip" Kinyon kinyon@gallatinriver.net

Brother Knights we are getting close to the most blessed time of year, the birthday of our Lord. Before long we will all be surrounding our Christmas trees with friends and families enjoying this blessed time of year. Many of our councils will be conducting Christmas parties and enjoying the fraternity that makes our organization so special. Remember is not a better gift to give to a Catholic man and his family than membership in our great order. Recruit a new knight before Christmas and give that Catholic man and his family the security that comes with being a member of the greatest organization in the world.

Diane and I would like to express to all of our Knights of Columbus families and friends a most Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Holy New Year. Please remember those men and women who are stationed overseas protecting our rights and freedoms so we can continue to worship our Lord in peace. Say an extra prayer for those who are no longer with us and remember that it is ok to say MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!

God Bless to all,

Skip and Diane Kinyon

STATE TREASURER Bill Doerfler
bdoerfler@sbcglobal.net

Christmas Greetings from Morris, Illinois

As we approach the most joyful season of the year, make sure to take the time to remember what we are truly celebrating. We have been given the greatest gift of the season, the Child Jesus. Anything and everything else pales if we really understand and appreciate what that gift really means. May each of you appreciate and be thankful for the many gifts of the season, especially those that aren't wrapped in fancy paper and ribbon. The most unexpected gift, those given from the heart, always remember to hold dear. Terry and I want to wish you a very Merry and Blessed Christmas. We hope that 2012 will be a year filled with many blessings of the Christ Child.

Merry Christmas

Bill and Terry



STATE ADVOCATE Ted Stites tstiteskc@charter.net

Day in and day out we find ourselves absorbed in the everyday routine that is our life on earth. We are constantly working and striving to make certain our families are cared for and that we find a way to make ends meet. While many of us are doing everything in our power to succeed at work, many others are spending all of their energy trying to secure stable employment. Scan the morning paper and watch the evening news and it seems there is nothing but bad news both at home and abroad. Sadly our world does not seem as secure as it may have seemed in the not too distant past.

As the days and weeks and months have passed by, we find ourselves once again in the Christmas season. The decorations and lights are appearing in the stores and throughout our towns and cities. Advertisers are bombarding us on television, radio and the Internet to get that "perfect gift". And we have to try and figure out how to fit another Christmas party and school play into our hectic schedules.

But Christmas it is also that time of the year when once again we celebrate the renewed hope and joy that our Savior's birth promises us. This is the time of year to refocus on the love of the Holy Family with our own families and friends. Peace on Earth, goodwill towards men. Words that bring hope and solace to all of us in these difficult times.

Linda and I hope and pray that each and every one of you enjoy peace and joy and goodwill this Christmas and into 2012. Please keep in your prayers the hurting, the poor, and all of those less fortunate than us. Remember our armed forces spending Christmas away from their families as they protect our country and our freedom. We wish all of your a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Ted and Linda Stites

STATE WARDEN Rich Koerkenmeier,
rkoerk@yahoo.com

With the beginning of Advent ushering in the new liturgical year and the implementation at Mass of the Third Edition of the Roman Missal, perhaps this is an opportunity for us to consider the many gifts available to us as Catholic faithful.

At this time children throughout our state have completed their K of C Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest entries which enabled them to test their artistic abilities and helped them to recall the reason for and the true meaning of our celebration of Christmas. Perhaps we as adults should also contemplate the importance of the most valuable Christmas gift we could receive, the gift of Christ in our lives.

How fortunate we are that we have the opportunity to receive at every Mass the gift of Christ in the Eucharist, bringing us the grace to help carry and sustain us through the challenges we face in everyday life.



During this season of giving, perhaps one of the most rewarding, valuable, even priceless gifts we should consider giving is the Gift of Membership in the Knights of Columbus. By seeking out, inviting and bringing our fellow Catholic gentlemen into the order, we give them many opportunities to use their natural gifts and talents. Each of us has a treasure chest of various natural gifts, abilities and talents, given to us by God at our arrival in this world. It is up to us to explore, develop and use these in our lives to help ourselves but especially to use in service of others which results in a special kind of fulfillment for each of us.

Membership in our order offers a plethora of opportunities to give of ourselves in service to others. I urge all my brother Knights to make the most of your membership in the Knights of Columbus, to become and remain active in your council, and reach out to other brother Knights to do so as well.

In closing, I would like to express my heartfelt wish for all, a sacred and meaningful Advent and Christmas season filled with Joy, Love, and the Peace of Christ our Savior whose coming at Bethlehem is indeed a great gift to us all!

Rich Koerkenmeier
State Warden

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY James Bednar jcbknightsponiac@gmail.com

**FROM THE JIM AND PAT BEDNAR HOME
TO YOURS, WE WISH YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY
A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND
A GREAT NEW YEAR!**

As we move into this blessed season we should be looking to find a means to accomplish good things for others. We should be offering the gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus to all Catholic gentlemen.

Our Councils should be letting others in their Community and Parish know what the Council does for others through our many programs and charities. If we let others know what we are about it is much easier to recruit a new member.

But always remember that the Knights of Columbus even though it is a men's fraternal organization it is concerned with the good of the family.

Talk about our Vocation support program and our support of the Illinois Special Olympics and what we do to support our Intellectual Disability homes and centers.

Tie this all together and tie it with a Christmas bow and offer another Catholic family to join us.

Merry Christmas!



On Track to Star Council

Congratulations go out to the following Councils who have already reached 100% or more of their Membership goal for the current Fraternal Year.

Council 15052	Chicago	733.33%
Council 15168	Lisle	260.00%
Council 15296	Clarendon Hills	166.67%
Council 8060	Normal	166.67%
Council 14171	Naperville	145.45%
Council 8713	Charleston	100%
Council 10276	Scott Air Force Base	100%
Council 12120	Freeport	100%
Council 12407	Dunlap	100%
Council 13201	Chicago Ridge	100%
Council 14435	Hanover Park	100%
Council 14463	Yorkville	100%
Council 14562	Steger	100%
Council 14585	Des Plaines	100%
Council 15037	Naperville	100%
Council 15175	Bloomington	100%

Thanks go out to the Officers and Members of the above Councils for sharing the gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus with our fellow catholic gentlemen. I look forward to publishing a much larger list in the next newsletter. Continue to work to plan and organize recruitment efforts with your council events. Share the good things we do in our Parishes.

The Gift of Membership for Christmas

Another Christmas season is approaching fast. As we celebrate with friends and family this Holiday Season, remember that you always have the gift of membership to give. Membership in our order is one of the most valuable gifts that we can provide a catholic gentleman and his family for Christmas this season. During this season of renewal, utilize the "Welcome Back Brother" and "A Knight before Christmas" themes in organizing and planning your recruitment efforts within your council.

Remember that recruitment efforts should be a 365 day program in your Council and the things that your Council does in the Community, Church, with our youth and our Families. Every Council should have had the opportunity to sit down with their District Deputy to put together a comprehensive membership plan for the year. If your DD has not done this, you need to contact him right away to make this happen. Councils succeed when they bring new members in. New members bring in new ideas, and new ideas help our Councils grow strengthen our Church, and they bring their friends as well.



It is our goal this year to get every Council in the State active in membership recruitment. This is a big goal to reach for, but I know the desire to do good works for our Church is in everyone's heart. There are plenty of men desiring to join the rank of Knighthood in our honored order; they **Just need to be asked!!! Have you asked a man to join recently?**

On behalf of Carol and myself, our wish to you is during this Holy Season of Christmas is to give the gift of membership. Keep Christ in Christmas and have a Blessed New Year.

Jerry Bevignani
State Membership Director

STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR Frank Schwartz fjschwartzjr@ameritech.net

Advent is a time for planning and preparation. It is a time Councils plan and look at programs that focused around family. Programs like the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest Due by December 17, 2011. Or a program focused on sending gifts to our troops showing them that we support them and what they do to protect our freedoms. The initial response to the Support Our Troops program was over whelming. Most of our Assemblies and their Councils already have programs or are starting new programs to support our troops. Jack McKay and team asked that you report on all your efforts in this area and to send them an email (see below). Programs such as sending out care packages, adopting a platoon, visiting military care facilities, thank you dinners for disabled vets, and veterans visiting schools informing our students on the role our veterans played in securing our freedoms and the tributes at our cemeteries are currently taking place. If any Assembly or Council needs any information or help on how to start or expand a Support Our Troops program let your team know.

Jack Mckay
mckaton@csky.net

Tom Laughran
dacopper@msn.com

Timothy Sullivan
wdcav@yahoo.com

Jim Kruse
jkruse@ameritech.net

It is a time Councils plan and prepare to work in homes for the needy serving them lunch, dinner or bringing them gifts. It is a time councils plan prepare for a breakfast with St. Nick. They plan many Christmas parties inviting members and guests.

They plan and prepare for many activities while they are waiting for the coming of the Christ child. They wear buttons stating, "It is ok to say Merry Christmas to me" (still available from the State Office). They sell magnets for cars and trucks that state "Keep Christ in Christmas". They sing Christmas carols at nursing homes. They even decorate Council homes and homes for those who can no longer decorate them. They care for the widows of a fallen brother Knight. They do so much for those in need that the world is a better place for awhile.

What they sometimes fail to do, is to give a Catholic man and his family, a brother, a son, an uncle, or friend one of the Best gifts they can for Christmas. The gift of membership in the Knights of Columbus. Without this gift, many of the programs listed above may no longer exist.

So while planning and preparing for the Christmas season this year plan on asking a Catholic man to join our great order give him the greatest gift you can for Christmas.

Shelly and I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We would like to thank all of you working so hard to Keep Christ in Christmas so that our children will always be able to say Merry Christmas.

MAJOR DEGREES AS OF 10/19/2011

DIOCESE	DAY	DATE	1ST	2ND/3RD	DD NAME	DD#	HOST #	LOCATION
Chicago	Sunday	12/04/11	12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Anthony Fortson	23	3755	(KC Hall) 11207 S Ewing Avenue, Chicago
Rockford	Sunday	12/04/11	1:30 PM	2:45 PM	Chris Brazas	39	12497	St. Patrick Church 6N491 Crane Road, St Charles
Belleville	Sunday	12/04/11	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Ray Einig	87	7682	Newman Center- SIU Carbondale
Joliet	Sunday	01/15/12	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	Tim Rogers	29	14171	St Raphael Church 1215 Modaff Rd Naperville
Joliet	Friday	01/27/12		7:00 PM	Gustavo J. Moreno	37	9770	St Anthony 7659 W. Sauk Trail, Frankfort
Chicago	Sunday	01/29/12	12:00 PM	1:30 PM	Jim Killigrew	3	4483	(KC Hall) 15 N Hickory Ave, Arlington Heights
4th Degree	Saturday	02/11/12		1:00 PM	Paul Isherwood	1		4th Degree Exemp-Lisle
Peoria	Sunday	02/19/12	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Jim Polizzi	58	1775	(KC Hall) 500 Hitt Street, Utica
Chicago	Sunday	02/19/12	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	David J Herrmann	11	5025	St. Thecla Church 6725 W. Devon Chicago
Belleville	Sunday	02/26/12	12:30 PM	1:30 PM	Chris Lindauer	82	13197	St. Joseph Parish Center, 6 North Alton St, Freeburg
Springfield	Sunday	03/04/12	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Jerome Goeckner	73	2874	(KC Hall) 210 S. Pearl, Teutopolis
Peoria	Saturday	03/10/12	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Jim Martin	60	790	(KC Hall) 806 Oakley Ave. Streator
4th Degree	Saturday	03/10/12		1:00 PM	Dean Salz	2		4th Degree Exemp- Our Lady of the Snows - Belleville
Springfield	Sunday	04/01/12	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Gene Mitchell	66	364	(KC Hall) 2200 South Meadowbrook, Springfield
Joliet	Sunday	04/15/12		2:00 PM	Fred Kunst	31	5573	St. Mary Immaculate, 15629 South Route 59, Plainfield
Joliet	Sunday	06/03/12	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	John Dehm	34	12014	St. Paul the Apostle Activity Center, Joliet

STATE CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES DIR. Erik Lockett kcerik.lockett@aol.com

Brothers,

The Holiday Season has arrived. It's a time of giving, sharing, and a time for family and friends. We struggle with the frantic rush that comes from year-end deadlines, hanging lights, putting up a tree, cleaning, decorating, wrapping gifts, and baking. We wrestle with the logistics of trying to see all of our family and friends. It can be a whirlwind as 2012 rushes forward to meet us.

Charity is giving/sharing a gift of our time, talent and treasure. Take a moment to think back on some of the really "special gifts" you've received. I'll bet you remember some time spent with a father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, aunt or uncle. It may have had nothing to do with a wrapped present, but a lot to do with words of encouragement and support, a comforting gesture, or just sharing some time together. During this holiday season, time is a scarce commodity. Stop, take a breath and make



sure you are spending it on the things that really matter to you. We never fully appreciate things until they are gone. Take some time appreciate those that are around you.

May the birth of the Christ Child bring us together once again to share in the joy of this season. Jalayne and I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Vivat Jesus!

Erik Lockett

STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS & NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Robert J. Fuggiti no5025@aol.com

2011 years ago the birth of a baby sparked an inferno known as CHRISTianity and we Knights of Columbus and our families are part of this great heritage. As Roman Catholic Citizens it is our duty to fan the flame of Christianity by proclaiming his birth. To us it is not just a holiday it is the coming of the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered and died and will come again to judge the living and the dead. This CHRISTmas it is important that we *Keep CHRIST in CHRISTmas*. Wish all you see a Merry and Holy CHRISTmas. Maybe it will be your spark of evangelization.

From my Family to your: *A Merry and HOLY CHRISTmas and a Joyous New Year.*

Bob & Linda Fuggiti

Illinois State Council Office Denny, Donna & Rosita illinoiskc@illinoisknights.org

We have a new addition to our State Council Office Family. Denny Shook Sr has joined our merry little group. You can get more information on Denny by visiting our website and clicking on State Council Office.

Mike Herbst is leaving and officially retiring. He will still be active in council and Assembly affairs. We want to wish him and Pauline health & happiness in the future.

Fraternal Survey (Form 1728): Each council's fraternal survey is due at **BOTH** Supreme and the State Office by **January 31, 2012**. This form is extremely important because the information gathered from this form is used by Supreme to maintain our Non-Profit Status.

Partnership Profile Report with Special Olympics (Form 4584): This form is due at BOTH Supreme and the State Council Office by **January 31, 2012**

Both Form 1728 and 4584 are on the Supreme Website which can be accessed through a link on the State Website under "Forms"

I.D. Drive Reports

Remember when completing your I.D. Report Form, if you have the G/L insurance; **DO NOT DEDUCT THE \$50.00 Insurance Fee**. Simply cross it off and continue completing the form. For those councils who have already sent in their form and have the new G/L insurance, and did not do this, the State Council did it for you and added \$50 to "Your Balance to Distribute". Call the State Office to confirm (815-935-2262)

The **2011-2012 Directory** CD is being 'burned' by Garry Daly. We hope to have them available for distribution at the District Deputy Mid-Winter Meeting. If that is not possible, they will be distributed as soon after the meeting as possible.

Paper copies of the directory are only available with approval from the State Deputy.

We are busier at the State Council Office than Santa's Elves! We are busy handling ID reports, ID Requests for Distributions, posting Newman solicitation responses, mailing out Newman Pins/Plaques, receiving and posting Vocation Raffle returns, and Keep Christ in Christmas Pin orders.

We hope all Knights will be patient and understanding as we manage the affairs of the State Council in service to you.

Final **per capita** payments are due January 1st. You can check the REPORT LOG on our website to determine whether or not your per capita is paid in full.

In closing, Denny, Rosita and Donna want to extend the following message:

*May the infant Jesus
touch your heart this Christmas
with awe, wonder and the gift
of His unending love*

***May their Souls and all the Souls of the Faithful
Departed Rest In Peace. AMEN.***



Council #:	First Name, M.I.	Last Name	Years as Member	Position(s)
658	B.K. JOHN T.	LUSSON	1	
731	S.K. ALBERT	HAKALA	58	
731	B.K. THADDEUS	MADURA	42	
731	B.K. LEO	SULLIVAN	47	
734	B.K. JAMES G	MELOEN	25	
1098	S.K. JOSEPH	HOLZUM	13	
1098	B.K. STEPHEN	JANSEN	16	
1911	B.K. JAMES	BAUERNFEIND	20	
1911	S.K. JOSEPH	DEBOO	62	
4400	S.K. REV. DONALD	O'CONNOR	47	CHAPLAIN
5918	S.K. JOHN C.	GLEASON	21	PAST GRAND KNIGHT
5918	B.K. JAMES P.	KILLEEN	15	

Info taken from inmemorium form at: www.illinoisknights.org