



Knights Pray for Deceased at Memorial Mass

At the annual Memorial Mass celebrated by Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori, the Knights of Columbus prayed for members who died in the past year while paying special honor to clergy members of the Order from Mexico who have been canonized.

During the intercessions, the annual necrology — the names of prominent Knights of Columbus who died within the last 12 months — was read by Supreme Secretary Donald R. Kehoe, who exhorted the congregation to pray that these and all deceased Knights see the face of the Lord in heaven.

In his homily, Bishop Lori noted that the annual Memorial Mass was being offered on the feast of the Transfiguration, which recalls the occasion when Jesus took Peter, James and John up Mt. Tabor,



Knights of Columbus International Family of the Year, Leland and Mary Ann Vetter, and their children — Marie, Diana, Thomas, Steven, Benjamin, Nicholas, Andrew, Paul, Kathleen and Alexis — of Msgr. Fred J. Kimmit Council 6623 in Torrington, Wyoming, stand with Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson and his wife, Dorian, and Supreme Chaplain Bishop William E. Lori.



Relics of six Mexican priests and members of the Knights who were killed during the persecution of the Church in that country were carried in the opening procession of the Mass, as well as a relic of St. Rafael Guízar Valencia, a bishop in Mexico and member of the Order in the 1930s.

where the glory of Jesus' divinity was revealed to them. Bishop Lori said that it was fitting to remember the dead on such a feast day, because we should pray that all the dead also will behold the glory of God.

"At every Eucharist, we share in what the Transfiguration foreshadowed: the conquest of sin and death by the death and resurrection of the incarnate Son of God," he said. ♦

International Family of the Year

This year's Knights of Columbus International Family of the Year gives real meaning to the phrase, "In Service to One, In Service to All." The husband and wife of this family, and their 10 children, who range in age from 2 to 27, have compiled

a record of service to the Church and their community that is truly extraordinary.

Leland Vetter has been a member of the Knights of Columbus for 33 years, and has held all of the officer positions of Msgr. Fred J. Kimmit Council 6623 in Torrington, Wyoming. He has been the Tootsie Roll Chairman for 20 years, a bingo volunteer for 25 years and a member of the parish council. When it snows in Torrington, Leland is out before dawn plowing the church parking lot. He raised

Post-Convention Survey

When you return home after this year's convention, please visit the Supreme Council Web site, www.kofc.org, and take a short online survey. Your input will allow us to improve next year's convention.



funds for the parish hall expansion and helps train parish altar servers. He teaches at Eastern Wyoming Community College and was recently appointed by the governor of Wyoming to the state Community College Task Force on Education. Two of his sons are Knights, and upon accepting the award, he gave a Form #100 to his third son, who be eligible for membership in a month. His brother Austin is a priest who attended the North American College in Rome.

Leland's wife, Mary Ann, spearheads Thursday Eucharistic devotions and makes sure all the hours are filled. She organized a "Mom's Group" which provides spiritual formation and retreats for the women of the parish. She visits shut-ins in the neighborhood and takes care of other mothers' children to give them a break, and she and Leland are very involved in pro-life activities.

The Vetter children are active volunteers in the parish and the community. They are the latest of five generations of Vettters, all descendants of immigrants who settled in North Dakota in the 19th century. In fact, Leland's parents were the North Dakota Knights of Columbus Family of the Year in 1994, and they came in third for the international award that year. ♦

Vatican Cardinal Says Catholics Must Risk Discipleship

In societies that are becoming more secular and technological, Knights of Columbus and all Catholics must bear witness to the fact that only God's word can give "life-giving refreshment" to satisfy the



Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington, celebrates Mass at the 127th Supreme Convention, Aug. 5.

human heart, said Cardinal William Levada in a homily on Wednesday.

A special guest at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention, Cardinal Levada is prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican. Formerly archbishop of San Francisco, he was chosen by Pope Benedict XVI to replace himself as prefect of the congregation in 2005.

The principal celebrant at the Mass, offered on the Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, was Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington, D.C.

In his homily, Cardinal Levada said that the City of God, the "New Jerusalem" that is promised in Scripture to descend from heaven at the end of time, is not built by human hands. "The New Jerusalem

does not rise up to heaven from the earth; that city is Babel, not Jerusalem," he pointed out. "Rather, it comes down from heaven to us ... we do not build heaven on earth; we simply prepare the site to welcome the New Jerusalem which comes from God."

Despite the many blessings and material wealth of the United States, he noted, "at times that abundance can blind people to our utter dependence on God, and the need to seek to do his will first and always."

Bearing witness to spiritual realities and unpopular truths can make Catholics a target within the culture. "That is the cost of discipleship," Cardinal Levada said. "As Catholics, especially in America, we can and should work with all people of good will, regardless of their religious beliefs, to improve the lot of others." ♦

127th Supreme Convention DVD

Complete Coverage of the 2009 Convention is available on a multi-disc DVD for a special price of \$15 (includes shipping and handling). Visit the Supreme Council Country Store to reserve your copy from the Order's Supply Department.

Friday, Aug. 6

8 a.m.

Votive Mass of St. Juan Diego

Celebrant – Bishop Thomas J. Olmstead of Phoenix

10 - Noon

Morning Session of Marian Congress

Noon - 2 p.m.

Lunch

2 p.m. - 5:10 p.m.

Afternoon Session of Marian Congress

8 p.m. (Doors at 7 p.m.)

Film Screening of "Guadalupe"