



KNIGHTLINE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS *In Service to One. In Service to All.*

NEWS FOR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LEADERS ♦ 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326, USA

Supreme Knight Addresses 8th Annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast

This year's breakfast focuses on 'Religious Liberty: Threatened at Home and Abroad'

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson addressed a burning issue for Catholics nationwide — religious liberty — during the Annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast. The supreme knight was the guest speaker for the event.

"I venture to say that, never in the lifetime of anyone present here, has the religious liberty of the American people been as threatened as it is today," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "We must remind our fellow Americans, and especially those who exercise power, that religious liberty — the freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment — has been essential to the founding, development, and improvement of the American Republic."

"Let us be clear: we value religious liberty not only because it protects our personal autonomy," he continued. "We value religious liberty because of the good which religion brings into the life of the individual believer and into the life of our nation. So this is a time for choosing — choosing whether as Catholics we will stand together to keep open the doors of religious liberty. If we do so, then we will make possible the next great awakening in America that will



Supreme Knight Carl Anderson delivered remarks on religious freedom during his speech at the 8th Annual National Catholic Prayer Breakfast.

bring us closer to building that culture of life and that civilization of love about which John Paul II so often spoke. May we, like Blessed John Paul II, be not afraid in our choosing."

Also speaking was Archbishop Francis Chullikatt, the Vatican's apostolic nuncio to the United Nations, who delivered the keynote address.

America's Catholic bishops — and organizations such as the Knights of Columbus — have been strong and vocal in their defense of the First Amendment's guarantee of the free exercise of religion. This has come in the face of a series of government actions designed to curb religious liberty — such as in the *Hosanna Tabor* case in which the limits to religious liberty sought by the federal government were rejected 9-0 by the Supreme Court, and more recently with the HHS mandate, which forces employers to cover sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs and contraception at no cost to employees.

More than 800 people attended the breakfast at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C., April 19.

For Greater Glory

The Story of the Cristiada Now a Major Film

For Greater Glory is a powerful film that provides a compelling account of a forgotten era of our continent's history. In celebrating the centrality of religious freedom and man's need for God, it tells a story of enduring relevance, and is 'must-see' viewing for all who care about faith and liberty today," Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said.

This major motion picture tells the story of the persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico, and of the Catholics who refused to deny their faith. It is a story that is a key part of the history of the Knights of Columbus — one of the most outspoken organizations defending the Church at that time.

The cast includes Academy Award nominees Peter O'Toole, Andy Garcia and Catalina Sandino Moreno; and Hollywood stars Eva Longoria, Oscar Isaac and Eduardo Verástegui. The film's trailer and a listing of local theaters showing the film are available at ForGreaterGlory.com.



(Top) Father Christopher (Peter O'Toole) faces a firing squad comprised of federal soldiers. (Bottom) This historical photo depicts Father Francisco Vera, a priest from the town of Jalisco, Mexico, standing before a firing squad in 1927. Father Vera was arrested and executed for secretly celebrating Mass.

Double Star and Star Council Requirements Fast Approaching

With little more than a month left in the fraternal year, now is the time to review all of your council's statistics with regards to forms, membership, insurance and programs.

The important forms for the Double Star and Star Council Awards are the Service Program Personnel Report (#365), Columbian Award Application (SP-7) and the Fraternal Survey (#1728). Additionally, be sure to file the Report of Officers Chosen for the term (#185) and the Semiannual Council Audit (#1295) to ensure your council runs efficiently. If any of these forms have not been submitted by their deadlines, please do so now.

Along with making sure your council's paperwork is in order, give serious consideration to scheduling one



more First Degree before the fraternal year's end, especially if you have not yet made your membership requirement or if you are close to 200 percent of membership quota for Double Star Council status. Also, check with your field agent to make sure you're on track for your insurance goals.

Finally, talk to your program directors and chairmen about which service activities have not been undertaken, keeping in mind that to qualify for the Columbian Award your council must have either conducted four activities in each of the six program categories or participated in any of the Order's "Featured Service programs" that count for a whole category. If your council is missing any activities, schedule and conduct the program prior to the June 30 deadline for submitting the Columbian Award application.

To ensure timely processing, all Form #100s must be received at the Supreme Council before noon EDT on June 29, to be counted toward 2011-12 fraternal year quotas. All insurance policies must be issued and released by June 30 in order to count for the 2011-12 fraternal year quotas.

Fourth Degree Awards

Remember that assemblies that have conducted four or more patriotic programs during the fraternal year are eligible for the Supreme Council Civic Award. The Civic Award application is found on the Order's website at kofc.org/forms and in the *Assembly Report Forms Booklet* (#325). Submit the form to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Department of Fraternal Services before June 30.

100 Percent Reporting

The annual Survey of Fraternal Activity is how the Knights of Columbus best tells the story of its work for those in need, both financially and in time given. Submitting the 2011 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (#1728) is a must for every council and assembly. A push is on for 100 percent of councils in each jurisdiction to submit a Fraternal Survey by June 1, in order to ensure our contribution numbers and volunteer hours can be the highest ever.

RSVP Form Due

The Refund Support Vacations Program Refund/Plaque Application (#2863), found on the Order's website and in the Council Report Forms Booklet (#1436), must be completed and submitted to the Supreme Council office between now and June 30. The canceled check for the donation must be attached to the application. Applications without copies of the canceled check(s) or proof of a check being cashed by a recipient will not be honored. Councils must submit the application to qualify for the refund and/or the plaque award.

'Be Not Afraid!' Membership Campaign

As a way to encourage recruiters and honor the beatification of Blessed John Paul II, the Knights of Columbus is continuing the "Be Not Afraid!" membership campaign. Here are the campaign incentives:

As begun on July 1, 2011, recruiters that bring in at least one new member per month receive a Blessed John Paul II medallion for that month. An additional incentive began on Dec. 1, 2011, and will run through the end of the campaign on June 29, 2012, at noon (EDT): Recruiters who bring in a minimum of four new members will receive a large, specially struck Blessed John Paul II medallion with a display stand. When a council recruits a minimum of six new members during the "Be Not Afraid!" membership campaign, their council chaplain will receive a specially struck Blessed John Paul II medallion with display stand. A member degree certificate (#268) is available from the Supply Department to present to new members who have taken their First Degree in honor of the beatification of Blessed John Paul II.

Recruit at least one member, per council, per month to build a strong council.

This Spring, Focus on Recruiting Young Fathers

New ideas, youthful energy and a fresh way of looking at old challenges: These are all attributes that young men, especially young fathers, can bring to your council. As the world continues to change, the Order is changing with it, and your council needs young members to keep it strong, growing and current. With Fathers Day fast approaching, focus your efforts on recruiting young dads.

Show these young fathers and other men that the Order has plenty to offer them. Invite them to your service programs, or even better, get them involved in planning projects. Show them that you're interested in their views and are eager to listen and act. Here are some ideas on how to bring in young fathers: SEE RECRUIT FATHERS PAGE 3



MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church.

K of C Presidents Day Commercial selected as a winner at the 33rd Annual Telly Awards

The Telly Awards honored the Knights of Columbus for its Presidents' Day 2012 Commercial at the 33rd Annual Telly Awards. The Order won two bronze awards, one in the Regional TV & Multi-Market Cable category under the "Miscellaneous" grouping and the second for "Use of Graphics" in the same category.

Released by the Knights Feb. 17, the minute-long commercial highlights quotes from U.S. Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt, Kennedy and Reagan — each focused on the foundational role that God and religion play in American rights and government. The spot ran on national cable networks Feb. 17-20, as well as in regional markets from Connecticut to California.



The Telly Awards was founded in 1979 and is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional and cable TV commercials and programs; the finest video and film productions; and online commercials, video and films. Winners represent the best work of respected advertising agencies, production companies, television stations, cable operators and corporate video departments from around the world.

A prestigious judging panel of more than 500 accomplished industry professionals, each a past winner of a Silver Telly and a member of The Silver Telly Council, judged the competition, upholding the historical standard of excellence that Telly represents. The organization received nearly 11,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries in this year's competition. Fewer than 10 percent of entries are chosen

to receive a Silver Telly, and approximately 25 percent are chosen to receive a Bronze Telly.

The Telly statuettes are designed by the same firm that makes the Oscar® and Emmy®. In addition to the statuette, each entry chosen as a Silver or Bronze Winner is awarded a commemorative certificate.

RECRUIT FATHERS FROM PAGE 2

- Identify young fathers — sons and grandsons of members, fathers of Squires and parish school students, members of fathers' clubs, and dads of sports team members. Also, look at the fathers of past winners from your free throw competition, essay contest, substance abuse awareness poster competition or soccer challenge as potential members who have had a good experience with the Order.
- Conduct an invitation program aimed directly at young fathers; highlight programs, activities and events that will interest them, such as athletics and community service projects, along with the Order's many benefits.
- Conduct First Degrees throughout the year aimed at initiating young fathers into the council, and encourage them to join with other dads they know.
- Encourage young fathers to spend some time visiting fathersforgood.org.

For more information on membership and recruiting, visit kofc.org/recruit.

A Strong Right Arm for the Church



From left to right, Guy Vallée, chancellor of Council 530 in Sherbrooke, Quebec, responsible for the presence of the Knights of Columbus at the Saint-Michel Basilica-Cathedral in Sherbrooke; Faithful Navigator Guy Hardy, of Assembly 2504 Mgr Georges-Cabana in Sherbrooke; District Deputy Marcel Baillargeon, for the District #112; Claude Bédard, Grand Knight of Council 530 and Father Donald Thompson, rector of the Saint-Michel Cathedral-Basilica in Sherbrooke.

The Knights of Columbus has always taken pride in being known as the strong right arm for the Church, whether at the international or local level.

Brother Knight Guy Vallée and Council 530 of Sherbrooke, Québec, are outstanding examples of this service. For four years, this past grand knight — who has also held the office of chancellor for 15 years and has been a member of the Order for about 20 years — has overseen the Knights' involvement at the daily Masses of the Cathedral-Basilica of Saint-Michel in Sherbrooke.

The cathedral is located in the heart of an inner-city area, and there had been difficulties and concerns in the past regarding security. Vallée spoke with Archbishop André Gaumond and Father Donald Thompson, parish priest and rector of the cathedral-basilica, and offered the support of the council.

"The tireless presence of the Knights at the doors during the Sunday Masses and at the offertory established a climate of confidence and security in the community of the faithful," said Father Thompson. "When we are short of ministers at communion, Gospel readers and altar acolytes, the Knights are always available for this extra ministry, all with dignity and humility."

"We are proud of the presence of the Knights of Columbus of Council 530 at the cathedral-basilica. With their charisma, they contribute wholeheartedly to the Gospel of Christ. It is wonderful to have such servants of charity in the heart of our diocese," Father Thompson added.

Vallée said that the Knights are continually planning other projects to undertake, including the possible visit of an icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe to the Cathedral-Basilica this fall.

"We will have a lot to do. And we are happy about that, since this responsibility is important to us," he said.

HAS YOUR COUNCIL CONDUCTED AN OUTSTANDING PROJECT LIKE THIS? If so, we'd like to hear about it. Please send information on your project (including the when, where, what, who, why and how of the activity) and photos to knightline@kofc.org. If you have any questions about sending in photos, call us at 203-752-4264. In addition, if you think your council has an event or program that is an outstanding example of one of the six "Surge ... with Service" categories — Church, Family, Culture of Life, Youth, Community or Council — let us know. We would like to produce a listing of upcoming events that we can pursue for possible promotion with local media and/or for use as a feature article in one of our publications. Please send a brief description of your upcoming event (one or two sentences about the project) with the date, location and contact information to knightline@kofc.org or call 203-752-4264.

Honoring Our Founder Celebration held in New Haven

The Supreme Council marked the 130th anniversary of the founding of the Knights of Columbus at a Mass on March 29 at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, where the Order began. Attending the Mass were relatives of Venerable Michael J. McGivney, an honor guard of Fourth Degree Knights, and Knights from Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York.

March 29 marks the day when the state of Connecticut approved the charter of the Knights of Columbus in 1882.

The main celebrant and homilist at the Mass was Father Joseph P. Allen, O.P., pastor of St. Mary's and a member of Father McGivney Council 10705, which is based at the parish. In his homily, he said that the 1.8 million Knights throughout the world share the charisma of Father McGivney, based on the Order's principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

"We are challenged to reflect our vocation as Knights, and we do so if we uphold the ideals of the Knights which had been given 130 years ago and



Immediately after Mass, the attendees gathered at the sarcophagus of Father McGivney to pray for his canonization.

if we look to our founder Father Michael J. McGivney for guidance," Father Allen said. He added that in the early years, the Knights of Columbus were able to overcome obstacles to growth "because God wanted this work to continue, as it does continue today because of you and your brother Knights."

Two relatives of Father McGivney participated in the Mass. The first reading was read by John Walshe, great-grandnephew of Father McGivney, and the gifts were brought up at the Offertory by Margaret Ransom, great-grandniece of Father McGivney, and her husband, Robert Ransom, who is an employee at the Supreme Council.

After Mass, Father Allen led the supreme officers to Father McGivney's tomb in the rear of the church, where they recited the Prayer for Canonization along with the congregation. Father McGivney was declared Venerable in 2008, when the Vatican recognized his heroic virtue.

Founder's Day in Ottawa

A delegation of Knights from Quebec and Ontario observed Founder's Day on March 29 with a visit to the Canadian Parliament.

During the visit, the delegation enjoyed a private luncheon with the Honorable Andrew Scheer, speaker of the House of Commons. Scheer is a member of Council 10418 in Regina.

A declaration recognizing the work done by Canadian Knights was read in the House of Commons by Member of Parliament Royal Galipeau, a member of Council 5925 in Ottawa.

"In 2010, the Knights of Columbus donated close to \$30 million and volunteered 9.3 million hours to charitable causes in Canada," Galipeau said in his address. He added that since the Order came to the country, Canadian Knights have established an outstanding reputation for their service to others.

The delegation of Knights included: Supreme Director Robert Cayea; Ontario State Deputy Joseph Salini and State Secretary Kevin Daudlin; and Quebec State Deputy Jean Moyen and State Secretary Pierre Beaucage.



Ontario State Deputy Joe Salini and Supreme Director Robert E. Cayea meet with the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Honorable Andrew Scheer.



Quebec State Secretary Pierre Beaucage (left) and Quebec State Deputy Jean Moyen (right), meet with the Honorable Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons.

Thomas Smith Named Chief Insurance Officer by Knights of Columbus

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson named Thomas P. Smith Jr., as Chief Insurance Officer for the Order. In his new role, Smith will oversee all aspects of the fraternal organization's insurance operations, including actuarial, agencies, customer service, marketing, new business and underwriting. Prior to this appointment he had served as Executive Vice President of Agencies and Marketing.

"Tom has been a key part of our phenomenal growth over the past decade," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "He has shown great leadership in his work and in his commitment to the Knights of Columbus, to the protection of the financial future of our members and to delivering excellent products with the highest level of integrity."

A New Haven native, Smith began his employment with the Knights of Columbus in 1974. He spent nine years in the organization's Fraternal Service Department before moving to a marketing position in the insurance division. He was promoted to vice president of agencies in 1986 and later named the organization's chief marketing officer and chief agency officer. He was elected to its Board of Directors in 2003.

Smith has managed the K of C's 1,500-member field force and been a key driver of the company's growth in insurance in force — from \$40 billion in 2000 to its present level of more than \$82 billion. He has also managed new product development.

Smith holds both the Chartered Life Underwriter and Fraternal Insurance Counselor Fellow designations. He has served as president of the Fraternal Field Managers.



One Day, Many Walks *Knights 'Walk for Life' Throughout the Philippines*



"We value life" was the rallying cry for Knights and other pro-life advocates who participated in simultaneous "Walk for Life" events in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao on March 24.

In Luzon, the event was held simultaneously in several cities throughout the province starting with a Mass in Manila at which Bishop Honesto F. Ongtioco, D.D., of Cubao was the main celebrant. Nearly 7,000 Knights and their family members joined the demonstration.

In the Visayas jurisdiction, Knights and their families joined more than 1,783 participants in three separate events held that day, including a march in Iloilo, the province's capital city.

Finally, in General Santos City in Mindanao, members of eight councils in that municipality began the day at 5:45 a.m. with the celebration of Mass, followed by their walk for life.

The activities were held in support of the culture of life, as well as opposition to the Reproductive Health Bill (known as House Bill No. 5043) being discussed in the Philippine Congress. The measure seeks to promote the use of contraceptives such as condoms and birth control pills.

Important Reminders

Report

Columbian Award Application (#SP-7)	
Annual Report — Knights of Columbus Round Table (#2630)	
RSVP Refund/Plaque Application (#2863)	
Civic Award Application (#2321)	6/30
Report of Officers Chosen (#185)	7/1
Service Program Personnel Report (#365)	8/1
Semiannual Council Audit Report (#1295)	8/15

Due Date

6/30
6/30
6/30
6/30
7/1
8/1
8/15



All K of C report forms are available in the Council Report Forms Booklet (#1436) or at www.kofc.org/forms.

‘40 Cans for Lent’ Helps Families in Need



Knights of Alamo Council 4298 in San Antonio are pictured with staff and students of St. Pius X Catholic School March 30. After partnering with the school for the “40 Cans for Lent” program, the Knights served as judges for a “Can-struction” contest, in which the children built structures with the donated food goods before bringing them to a local food bank.

Knights at the local level helped to alleviate hunger during the Lenten season — one can at a time. Launched in 2011 by Our Lady of Guadalupe Council 8306 in Helotes, Texas, the “40 Cans for Lent” program has become an Orderwide initiative, motivating local K of C units to conduct springtime food drives to benefit pantries and soup kitchens in their communities.

Through the program, council members and parishioners are encouraged to contribute one can of nonperishable food per day for the duration of Lent. When Council 8306 hosted the program in its inaugural year, Knights netted 4,300 cans of food for the needy. This year, units in at least 33 jurisdictions held their own “40 Cans for Lent” events.

“It just amazes me that more councils have taken this on, which is a great tribute to the Knights of Columbus,” said Dennis Chaput of Council 8306, who conceived of the program in late 2010. “I’m hearing great results; I’m seeing great results. It gives me great joy to know that we’re honoring God’s plan.”

The “40 Cans for Lent” program is among the Order’s Food for Families initiatives, a series of programs launched in 2009 to help families facing food insecurity in the wake of 2008’s economic downturn. So far for the 2011-12 fraternal year, K of C units have reported collecting approximately 2.06 million pounds of food for the needy and volunteering more than 258,000 hours at pantries and soup kitchens.

As an incentive toward hosting a “40 Cans for Lent” drive, the Supreme Council counted the program as fulfilling all four of the “family activity” requirements for the Columbian Award. To qualify, councils had to collect a minimum of 1,000 pounds of food and volunteer 100 hours in planning or in distributing food to the needy.

Food pantries are often in need of new stock in the spring, following the dual holiday rush of Christmas and Thanksgiving. In 2010, 5.6 million households in the United States obtained emergency food from a food pantry one or more times, according to Feeding America.

Christ the King Reliquary Present at Papal Mass in Mexico

A special reliquary commissioned by the Knights of Columbus was present at a Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI in Mexico on Sunday, March 25. It contains relics of 25 saints and 13 blessed — including six saints and three blessed who were members of the Order — who were martyred during the persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico in the 1920s.

The Mass took place at the Bicentenario Park at Cubilite Hill, better known as the Mountain of Christ the King. Located in the state of Guanajuato, the site marks the geographic center of Mexico and is strongly tied to the country’s religious history.

The Knights of Columbus in Mexico requested and received permission from the Mexican bishops responsible for preserving and guarding the relics of each martyr in order to display the first-degree relics. Archbishop José Guadalupe Martín Rabago of León, Mexico, chaplain of Diez de Sollano Council 3566, served as host of the papal event and allowed the reliquary to be present at the papal Mass.

During his Angelus address following Mass, Pope Benedict said that the martyrs, “in crying out ‘Long live Christ the King and Mary of Guadalupe,’ bore unyielding witness of fidelity to the Gospel and devotion to the Church.”

Agustin Parra of Guadalajara, Mexico, designed the handcrafted wooden reliquary, which is covered with gold leaf. At its top sits a statue of Christ the King similar to the bronze statue at the shrine on Cubilete Hill. On the doors of the reliquary are images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and of Christ during his passion.

Inside the reliquary, between Salomonic columns with palm branches woven around them, are the relics of the martyred saints, who were canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II. The inside of the doors hold the relics of the martyrs beatified by Benedict XVI in 2005 and feature their battle cries: “¡Viva Cristo Rey!” (Long live Christ the King!) and “¡Viva Santa María de Guadalupe!” (Long live Holy Mary of Guadalupe!). The martyrs’ names are written in dark red to evoke the blood they shed for their faith. At the bottom of the reliquary is the Latin phrase “*Christus Vincit, Christus Regnat, Christus Imperat*” (Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands).

A pilgrimage of the new reliquary throughout North America is currently being planned.



State Deputies Gustavo A. Guzmán-Olivas (Mexico Northwest), J. Jesús Hernández-Barbosa (Mexico Central) and Filadelfo Medellín-Ayala (Mexico Northeast) stand with the K of C-commissioned reliquary before the papal Mass celebrated March 25 at Cubilete Hill in Guanajuato, Mexico.

Our Lady of Guadalupe in Poland

Thousands of Catholics throughout Poland continue to gather for services held as part of the Order's Our Lady of Guadalupe prayer program. The jurisdiction's framed image is scheduled to visit all 39 Polish councils.

"The goal of the tour of the portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe is to convey the message of life, because the Virgin Mary is the guardian and patron of the creation of life," said Stanisław Dziwiński, who is the jurisdiction's coordinator for the Marian prayer program. He added that this message is strongly emphasized in the parishes hosting the event, with prayers devoted to the unborn, families, expecting mothers, the sick, and all men, women and children. The services also included oaths taken by those present to protect life.

The program began in Poland on Oct. 8, 2011, starting at Radom Council 14004. By the end of March 2012, the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe had been the focus of prayer programs at 19 Polish councils, with the image set to visit the remaining councils. The image was taken to prayer services at parishes and other locations within the councils' immediate area, including the Provincial Hospital of Tychy and the Polish Theater in Bielski-Biała, which was hosting a diocesan youth forum.

At a prayer service in the university church dedicated to St. Hedwig, Queen of Poland in Rzeszów, officials present included university presidents, Podkarpacie Parliament members, the vice marshal and vice general of the Podkarpacie Province, local government leaders and police and firefighters. Bishop Kazimierz Górny of the Rzeszów Diocese celebrated the Mass, at which the vice general of the Province of Podkarpacie placed the province under the care of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Another Mass in Ludźmierz was broadcast over the Internet by TV Podhale.

It is estimated that more than 150,000 people have participated in the Polish Knights' Marian prayer programs as of April.



Two members of Starachowice Pope John Paul II Council 14023 act as an honor guard for the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe during the prayer program.

'Guide to Praying the Rosary'

"A Guide to Praying the Rosary" (#4772) is a full-color pamphlet that explains how to pray the Rosary. This guide (sized to easily fit into a pocket, pocketbook or prayer book) includes scripture passages and images associated with the mysteries of the Rosary, the prayers of the Rosary and a method of praying the Rosary. The guide, offered in lots of 100 for \$4, can be ordered by sending an email to cis@kofc.org or by calling 203-752-4267. This item is also available through the Supreme Council Supply Department.



Take a Year-End Inventory

Taking a year-end inventory is a way of finding out where your council is headed by seeing where it has been.

It's a good idea for council officers and program directors to meet at the end of the fraternal year in order to take stock of last year's endeavors. This can be an invaluable help to incoming officers and chairmen in the new year.

This meeting should be a time to look back over the council's membership recruitment and retention efforts and program activities to size up their strengths and weaknesses. What programs can be expanded or improved? How can glitches be avoided next year?

This review is a time for honest assessment, not finger pointing over projects that may not have worked out. When reviewing programs, ask these questions:

- How well did the council follow the membership recruitment and service programming plans designed at the start of the year?
- Were these plans realistic?
- Were the plans overly ambitious, or did they fail to tap into the council's full potential?
- Were goals achieved?
- Were families involved to a sufficient degree? If not, how can family involvement be expanded?
- Were the entire parish and community involved in these efforts?
- Were materials available from the Supreme Council office fully utilized?
- How can the lessons of this year be used to develop better plans for the upcoming fraternal year?

The program and membership directors should share their evaluations with their grand knight and incoming directors to ensure the lessons they learned through experience are passed along.

The council's slate is clean on July 1, the start of the new fraternal year. Prior to that, officers and key personnel should begin planning recruitment, retention and service programming efforts using this year-end review as a starting point. This will lead to more opportunities for success during the coming fraternal year.



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OF COLUMBUS**

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Knights of Columbus Insurance: Your Shield for Life.

Protecting Your Income

Thomas P. Smith Jr.
Chief Insurance Officer



As the Order recently celebrated Founder's Day and reflected on 130 years of commitment to our faith, our families and our community, I called to mind Father McGivney and the struggle he faced in 1882. How could one determined priest in St. Mary's Church possibly keep up with the needs of the families around him, who were under constant stress after losing their breadwinner?

Remember, conditions back then were quite different than they are today. Hard working Catholic men faced long hours in dangerous jobs. Deaths and injuries were common. Catholics were excluded from unions, and faced other discrimination. There were no advocate groups speaking on their behalf and no social welfare programs providing assistance in the case of an emergency.

Today, there are laws and organizations, like the Occupation Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA) in the U.S. or the Centre for Occupational Health and Safety in Canada, that protect workers from the situations that were prevalent in 1882. And there are programs designed to provide temporary assistance to a family in need, if a tragedy occurs.

While jobs are safer in 2012, accidents, injuries and illnesses that can impact your ability to work still happen. Most, in fact, do not happen on the jobsite or place of employment. Did you know that a 2011 study revealed that more than 95 percent of the long-term disability claims on file were not work related?

The "loss" of the breadwinner does not have to mean that person's death; it can also mean the loss of the breadwinner's income. Consider that loss for a moment. How would your family fare if a source of income suddenly stopped? Could a dual-income family manage

on one income stream? What about young families with a working father and a mother who cares for the children? What if his income halted due to an accident or illness?

I've heard some people say they have coverage at work, but too many aren't sure what this coverage entails, how much income it would provide or for how long. Having this protection counts for something, certainly, but it isn't "yours"; it's provided by a company for which you work at their discretion. It could be eliminated tomorrow.

That's where a personally-owned disability income insurance product, like Income Armor, comes into play. It can offer valuable income replacement in the event of an injury or illness. While Father McGivney likely never imagined such a product 130 years ago, I'm sure he would wholeheartedly endorse the protection it can provide to a family. If you have a job, you cannot afford to not know about this coverage.