



# knights of columbus

Msgr. Weis Council #10596

• 8501 Calumet Avenue • Munster, IN 46321 • 219-836-8610 •

July 2011

## *From the Grand Knight*

Brothers,

Sorry for the delay in this newsletter. No, it wasn't Father Mike still recuperating. "Mea culpa, mea culpa". I'll work harder on being on time next month!

As we begin a new fraternal year, let us recommit ourselves to living our daily lives with our four principles in mind: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

Let's also extend a heart-felt thanks to our immediate past Grand Knight, Gregg Blocher, and all of the officers who just completed their year of service. A job well done! Thanks again.

When Brother Stan (our Worthy Deputy) and I joined the Order in September 2005, little did we know that one day we would be leading the number one council in Northwest Indiana!

We also have to thank our Brother Knights in "Nawlins" at Marquette Council 1437. They reminded us every Mardi Gras season that it was permissible to join the Knights in Munster, and then we could transfer our membership down there! Well, we did, but we didn't. We're staying here, but will continue our close ties with them every carnival season.

Let us also not forget Brother Jim Kaczka for giving us the final nudge. He told us about the steak fry 10596 was having that September, and the rest is history.

I am honored to have Brother Stan as our Worthy Deputy. He is always there to lend a hand when needed. He will make my job much easier.

I also look forward to working with all of the officers, as I feel we have a great team assembled for this fraternal year.

### Dates to remember

July 25: White Sox baseball game  
August 13: Golf outing  
September 30: Our Fall Fish Fry

By working together we will achieve our goals this year.

Vivat Jesus!  
Brother Goz

## *From the Council Chaplain*

Dear Brother Knights:

We are well into the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer." Many are on the search for some free time to spend with family and friends before the children go back to school.

In the midst of lazy days, we must be on guard lest the embrace of our faith becomes too lazy.

It is never good to let down one's spiritual guard. It is too easy to get lost spiritually if we do so.

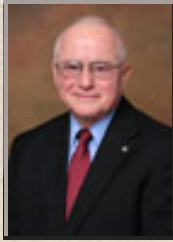
Thanks to all who helped with our annual summer festival. I truly appreciate you!

Enjoy what is left of the summer!

*Fr. Mike*

## From the State Deputy

July 2011



Let's start out this new fiscal year with a BANG. For July and August 2011, the councils that recruit new members in these two months will receive a **\$2.00**

**credit** for *each new member* exemplified.

We will use the SUPREME MEMBERSHIP - INSURANCE PROGRESS REPORT as of August 1, 2011 and September 1, 2011 for determining new members for each month. No exception. Don't turn new members in at the end of August and expect to get credit. If not recorded by Supreme, they don't count!

3rd Degree COs need to memorize the new degree and will need to be certified by the State Deputy or his Designate. For the first Month or so, there cannot be more than One (1) third degree on a given week end. All 3rd degrees still need to be scheduled through Gene Hurm, Ceremonial Chairman. I have several names already for new COs and they should be receiving their books soon. Still could use a few more COs!

I have juggled some of the Directors and Chairmen around. Here is a list of the changes: Paul Zielinski is now the Program Director; Nate Schallert is the new Youth Director; Ray Jorgeson is now the NCD Co-Chairmen of a new NC Region; Jerry Brown is the Membership Director; Earl Riggan is the Marion Hour Chairman; Tim Brown is the Veterans Affairs Chairman; Charles Ingrams is the NCD Co Chairman of the SW Region; Ed Pratt is the NCD Co Chairman of the NW Region; Mike Blankman is the PR and Community Director; and Dale Waters is the Council Director. All these changes are in the Program Guide which is coming out soon.

I still have several District Deputies to recruit for the following districts: 8, 15, 18, 20, 33, 35, and 37. I have a few leads but need your help to recruit the DDs. Please help!

Be positive, but always do what is right!  
F.R.O.G.

God Bless All,  
Thomas Gawlik  
State Deputy  
Indiana Knights of Columbus  
statedeputy@indianakofc.org

## From the State Chaplain

It was one year ago this month that I introduced myself to you as your new State Chaplain. It has been a privilege to serve you as your spiritual guide. I continue to be humbled and gratified by the caring spirit of my brother Knights and I look forward to serving you again this year.

Many of you know by now that a federal judge recently put on hold an Indiana law cutting off funding to Planned Parenthood of Indiana that provides abortions for about 5,500 Medicaid recipients each year. According to the injunction, doctors would no longer be required to tell prospective abortion patients that a fetus can feel pain at 20 weeks or less. I know that the federal judge's ruling is a bit disconcerting for all of us who have labored so hard for the defense of life. Our judicial process can be tedious and messy at times. That's the nature of being a part of a democracy. I know you will join me in continuing our defense of the most vulnerable throughout the state. And let's always recognize the human dignity of those with whom we may disagree. That, too, can be a powerful witness to our pro-life belief.

This summer I am reading *My Life with the Saints* by Fr. James Martin. Here's a part of his reflection about St. Peter: "Peter is among the greatest of the saints because of his humanity, his shortcomings, his doubt, and, moreover, his deeply felt understanding of all these things. Only someone like Peter, who understood his own sinfulness and the redeeming love of Christ, would be able to lead the infant church and lead others to Jesus. Only someone as *weak* as Peter could do what he did. God calls us, too, with both our gifts and our failings." We Knights continue to bring to the Lord and his Church our gifts but also our failings. Maybe it's in recognizing our failings-as Peter learned-that God can show forth his power even more!

At the end of May I led our 6th graders (44 of them!) on a Vocations Trip to St. Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad and the Monastery of the Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand. We joined the monks at St. Meinrad for midday prayer, toured the abbey, then celebrated Mass in the Guest House Chapel. We also toured the monastery church in Ferdinand. The kids asked a lot of good questions, learned much about the life of the Benedictine priests and sisters, and thoroughly enjoyed the day. I am convinced that God is calling some of these young people to a religious vocation. I want to thank you, my brothers, for your continued prayers for vocations and support of the seminarians throughout the state. And if you get a chance to go on a Vocations Trip, don't miss it!

Please continue your prayers for the canonization of our founder Blessed Michael McGinley. And turn to him in prayer. May we follow his life of charity and his witness to charity.

Finally, I want to reiterate what our State Deputy, Tom Gawlik, says about Gibault: "Gibault is not only our #1 charity but our #1 responsibility." God bless you!

Fr. Stephen Jarrell, State Chaplain  
statechaplain@indianakofc.org

## July Birthdays

- 2 Darrin Gugala
- 3 Robert Walsh
- 5 Stan Slazyk
- 9 Cliff Huber
- 10 Mike Spence
- 11 Anthony Kurkash
- 12 Mark Neiner
- 13 Arturo Gonzalez
- 15 Jim Marmalejo  
Tony Pagorek
- 17 John Wadas  
Robert Zadrozny
- 18 Michael McBride
- 20 Tim Wiess
- 21 Mark Taylor
- 22 Timothy Christiana  
Napoleon Tabion
- 29 Stan Lewandowski

## August Birthdays

- 2 Tom Wojcinski
- 3 George Wiczorek
- 5 John Glass
- 6 Wally Jurczak
- 7 J. Bradley Hemingway
- 8 Robert Ray  
Jim Ware
- 10 Bob Gozdecki  
Joe McShane
- 11 Chuck Semko
- 16 Charles Mikels
- 20 Carl Malburg
- 22 Thomas Kennedy
- 23 Ken Doctor
- 24 John Kocsis
- 27 Pat Feeney
- 31 Jacob Florczak



## Knights of Columbus Tops \$80 Billion of Life Insurance in Force

4/21/2011

The Knights of Columbus insurance program passed a major milestone today when total insurance in force exceeded \$80 billion. The amount of life insurance in force has doubled in just over a decade, from \$40 billion in 2000.



The organization was established in 1882 as a fraternal benefit society, with one of its primary aims to enable members to protect their families with life insurance. Today, the K of C has more than 1.8 million

members in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America, the Caribbean, Philippines and Poland.

The Knights of Columbus has more than \$17 billion in assets and ranks in the Fortune 1000 list of America's largest companies. It is one of only five insurers in North America to receive the highest possible rating for financial stability from both Standard & Poor's (AAA) and A.M. Best (A++).

Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, who assumed the role of CEO in 2000, cites the record sales growth as resulting from the organization's philosophy of sustainable investment and ethical business practices.

"Despite the difficult economic conditions in the United States, the Knights of Columbus has maintained its strength, and has improved its standing relative to the insurance industry as a whole," Anderson said. "There is no higher rated insurer than the Knights of Columbus, and we have every confidence in our continued success because we have a fundamentally solid business model, which continues to serve us well."

One of the most active charitable groups in the United States, Knights of Columbus members last year set records despite the weak economy by providing nearly 69 million hours of charitable service and more than \$151 million in donations to charitable causes. Cumulative figures show that, during the past decade, the Knights of Columbus has donated more than \$1.36 billion to charity, and provided nearly 640 million hours of volunteer service in support of charitable initiatives.

[This was posted on the [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) web site. If you are not an insurance member yet, you really should consider becoming one. It can only benefit you and your family! By the way, I am a member. ~ Fr. Mike]