



December 2015

Volume 9, Issue 4

# The Cowboy Bulletin

THE WYOMING STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWSLETTER

## State Deputy Report

Your Excellency, Reverend Fathers, Brother Knights;

Christmas is rapidly approaching and to quote the old song, "It's the most wonderful time of the year". The Advent season is specifically designed to focus our attention on the birth of the Messiah, which will eventually lead to the redemption of mankind. This is the time of year that I like to reflect on the birth of a tiny baby who is the key to unlock the sin of Adam and Eve. Because of this amazing potential for eternal happiness for all of us, people of Faith are filled with hope and joy. These are two of the many feelings that propel us forward doing the great works of Fraternal Charity that our Holy Father has called us to do. In his address to the Supreme Board of Directors last year, the Holy Father said, "I also wish to express my gratitude for the unfailing support which your Order has always given to the works of the Holy See. This support finds particular expression in the Vicarius Christi Fund, which is an eloquent sign of your that each of us does in service of those that Jesus called the "least of his brothers". Let us, Brother Knights, remain vigilant and prove to our Holy Father that his faith in us is not misplaced and his personal recognition of our labor is not solidarity with the Successor of Peter in his concern for the Universal Church, but it is also seen in the daily prayers, sacrifices and apostolic works of so many Knights in their local Councils, their parishes and their communities." The Holy Father is not only keenly aware of the great works of the Order in the grand scheme, but it is clear that he is aware of each member and the loving work unfounded.



(See Deputy, page 3)

## No Room at the Inn

*Fr. Tom Ogg, State Chaplain*

As I write this, just before Thanksgiving Day, my heart is filled with gratitude for the many graces and blessings I have received. Yet my mind is preparing for Advent and Christmas in the midst of a hurting and troubled world. Are we aware that our Christian faith story began with Jesus' birth and that Christ the King experienced "no room at the Inn" for him and his family?

It is possible that you have experienced traveling and not being able to find a room for the night. At some point on our faith journey this story



must become personal. We need to hear the request and the cries for a welcome, a place to rest, a place to live. We hear of literally millions of people who are homeless, refugees, migrants, for different reasons alienated from their homeland. Mary and Joseph settled for a stable. Soon they were again disrupted and had to flee to Egypt before settling down in Galilee. How open are our minds, our hearts, our doors?

The Word of God tells us to "feed the hungry,.... Give shelter to the homeless." Pope Francis reminds us in this Year of Mercy to live the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Do we allow the Church's teaching to influence our attitude, our opinions, our response to immigrants, our immigration laws, and our real neighbors? This is anything but easy. Being a disciple of Jesus requires us to constantly rethink and reevaluate what we say and do, and purify our motives.

May your gratitude abound, your Advent be reflective, and your Christmas and New Year be joy-filled.

And, please, pray for me.



## Life Insurance As a Gift?

The initial reaction for many people when you mention life insurance as a gift is a quick step back and a questioning stare. "How morbid," they think. While it may seem that way when you first mention it, life insurance is really a thoughtful gift that can be a financial life preserver in tough times.

The problem with life insurance is the general perception. Many think of death instead of the great benefits it provides, and the security that it offers – even while you're alive. Life insurance should be thought of as a precautionary protective measure for a family unit. The purchase of this product can mean saving your home, sending your children to college, and preserving your spouse's quality of life in the event of your death.

One of the times you may want to purchase life insurance for someone is when a family has a new baby. It's a great, low-cost way to set money aside for the future (i.e. college tuition, housing, business start-up, etc.). Of greater importance, it ensures these children will have insurance as adults, in case an illness later in life makes him or her uninsurable.

Newlyweds are also ideal recipients for life insurance. As they join their lives and financial

responsibilities, young couples need to make sure that their early investments are fully protected. If something were to happen to one of them, the other may be faced with serious financial hardship. A life insurance policy is an ideal way to ensure their future and protect their assets.

Another instance in which you might wish to purchase life insurance as a gift is for the Wyoming Knights of Columbus Charitable Trust. The Trust is for the benefit of the seminarians and retired priests of the Diocese of Cheyenne. You would agree to pay the first three months of premium and the Trust will assume the premium payments after that. This can be a great way to leave a gift with very low cost to you.

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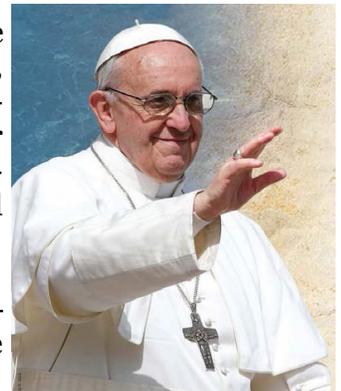
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## SUPREME COUNCIL RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE

**INDIVIDUAL INCENTIVE:** In honor of Pope Francis, we are extending the special incentive to all recruiters. Between July 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015, you will receive 2,000 VIP points for every new or former member recruited in this time period in addition to a medallion for the first new or former member recruited only. If you've already received a medallion for the 1st quarter, you will continue to receive 2,000 VIP for any member recruited in the 2nd quarter.

**COUNCIL INCENTIVE:** No need to fill out a form, just recruit 12 new members between July 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 and your council will receive 20,000 VIP points.

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.





## Gun-a-Week Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the winners of Council 9917's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gun-a-Week Raffle:

- Week 15 - 2098 - Ed Stratman, Cody, WY
- Week 16 - 2933 - Doug Kruske, Rock Springs, WY
- Week 17 - 2760 - Steven Jensen, Casper, WY
- Week 18 - 2970 - Kevin Magnuson, Gillette, WY
- Week 19 - 2117 - Larkin Gates, Lander, WY

For a list of the weekly prizes or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.kofc9917.org](http://www.kofc9917.org) and click on News and Announcements.

## Deputy (continued from Page 1)

To that end, we have, in 2015, continued our tradition of success in delivering our Fraternal Charity to the periphery of society, to the most needy in our world. Individually, or in groups, we have fed the hungry by working with food banks and soup kitchens; clothed the naked with Coats for Kids and other programs; visited the imprisoned and the sick through our support of prison and hospital ministries; and defended the weak and lifted up the downtrodden through our various Culture of Life initiatives. There is indeed, a lot happening in our local Councils and at the State Council level and we have much to be proud of.

Our membership numbers are continuing to turn around but to satisfy the immense need for charity in our world, we need even more laborers. The recent upcoming District Deputy Mid-year meeting will focus on accountability. Each of us who serve as leaders of our Councils has accepted with our role the responsibility to dedicate the necessary time to the fulfillment of our duties. This pledge isn't that we will dedicate a modicum of time, or some fraction of our spare time, but rather, whatever time is necessary to properly discharge our responsibilities. Primary among our responsibility is to be faithful stewards of the legacy of our Order and the future of our Church. We need to take this commitment seriously and make sure that we are doing everything possible to grow our Order so that we can perform even more works of Charity that will aid even more needy brothers and sisters.

At this time, I would like to offer the gratitude of the entire jurisdiction to our State Chaplain, Most Reverend Thomas Ogg, for his continued prayers and guidance.

**But He said to them, "You give them something to eat."** (Lk: 9:13). This passage is from the beginning of the story describing the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The quote and the story fit into our lives as Knights of Columbus on so many levels. Firstly, it is an admonition from Christ to his disciples to not despair that we sometimes feel inadequate or poorly equipped to meet the tremendous needs of society. What a wonderful command to keep in mind as we prepare our plentiful Christmas dinners to contribute to the food hampers and our local food banks. On another level, this quote is the opening to a story that demonstrates how God's grace can multiply our limited human resources to provide greater abundance than we can imagine. This story urges us to continue providing what we can in the confidence that God will multiply it according to His will. A third level that this quote touches for us as Knights of Columbus is to remind us that it is up to each of us to take personal responsibility for providing charity to the less fortunate. Christ has commanded his disciples, and by extension, us, to personally go out and give the masses 'something to eat'. I suppose the real question is, did He mean to literally go out and provide food, or was this in anticipation of the Eucharist and a command to take Him to the periphery of society so that all may believe and be saved?

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of both Peggy and I to wish you and your families a Joy-filled Advent, a most Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Vivat Jesus!

John E. Benedik, Jr.



**KNIGHTS**  
**OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



## Important Dates to Remember:

Mid-Year Meeting  
December 12-13, 2015  
Casper, WY

State Convention  
April 22-24, 2016  
Torrington, WY



## CEREMONIALS UPCOMING DEGREES:

January 16, 2016  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degrees  
Cheyenne, WY  
Time TBD

## NECROLOGY

The following Brother Knights passed away in recent months. Pray that God has mercy on their souls and gives peace and comfort to their families and friends.

David Rojo, November 12, 2015  
Sheridan, Council 2104

Jerry Atwood, November 16, 2015  
Lander, Council 5447

John Cole, November 22, 2015  
Cheyenne, Council 801

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## Interested in Hosting a 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree exemplification? This is what you will need:

- Good sized TV and DVD player.
- Additional speakers if possible for DVD audio.
- Medallions for candidates.
- Review degree cost with degree team captain.
- Review meal schedule and costs.
- Supply Catalog Items:
  - Medallions #30630
  - Honoree Scrolls
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree - #273
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree - #272
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Degree - #271

To Schedule a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, please contact Brian Dever, Ceremonials Chairman, at 307-267-7698 or [brian.dever@kofc.org](mailto:brian.dever@kofc.org).

## Seminarians for the Diocese of Cheyenne

Please keep the following seminarians in your prayers. They have all made the decision to take a serious look at whether or not God is calling them to the priesthood in the Diocese of Cheyenne. Contact information can be found on the Diocese of Cheyenne website.

Joe Hurdle  
2nd Pre-Theology  
Conception Seminary College

Clark Lenz  
Theology  
St. Meinrad Seminary

Linh Vu  
College Sophomore  
Conception Seminary College

Andrew Kinstetter  
Theology III  
St. John Vianney Seminary

Dylan Ostdiek  
Spirituality Year  
St. John Vianney

Kellen Washut  
College Sophomore  
Conception Seminary College

## Catholic Radio in Wyoming

To the right is a listing of Catholic radio stations available in Wyoming. Please send an email to [wyokcnews@gmail.com](mailto:wyokcnews@gmail.com) if you are aware of any others.

Cheyenne - 1060 AM KRCN  
Lander - 107.1 FM KOFR  
Sheridan - 94.3 FM KHNA

Worland - 95.3 FM KXDM  
Catholic Channel - XM129  
EWTN Radio - XM130



## *Knights of Columbus District Master*

*Richard A. Adamski*

*307-871-5048, [erndud@hotmail.com](mailto:erndud@hotmail.com)  
245 Birch St., Green River, Wyoming*

Worthy Faithful Navigators,

It is time to consider the appointment of our Wyoming District Master. The position of the District Master is prestigious and requires that those we consider and appoint have proven records of leadership and accomplishments in the Knights of Columbus. District Masters are required to hold a biennial meeting of the District Assembly on even number years. At this meeting, three candidates are to be selected for recommendation for the position of District Master. The candidates are submitted to the Vice Supreme Master who in turn makes suggestions to the Supreme Master.

I am presently finishing my final year as District Master and am no longer available for another term. It has been an exhilarating experience and I hope my predecessor finds it to be equally rewarding.

Therefore I am asking each Faithful Navigator to solicit possible candidates at your next assembly meeting to fill the position of District Master.

Fraternally Yours,

Richard Adamski, Wyoming District Master

### **4th Degree Exemplification**

District Master Richard Adamski would like to schedule a 4th Degree Exemplification for late January or early February. If your Assembly would like to host an exemplification or you would like a role, please contact the District Master using the contact information to the left.

For those interested in joining the Fourth Degree, applications for membership may be made to any assembly provided the applicant is:

- ◆ Over eighteen years of age.

- ◆ A citizen of the country in which he resides.
- ◆ A third degree member in good standing in his council.
- ◆ A former member whose membership was terminated for failure to pay dues or by a withdrawal card if he has been readmitted to good standing in his council for at least six months.

The exemplification fee is set annually by the Board of Directors. Presently the fee is \$70.00 and the fee includes a social baldric, Fourth Degree lapel pin and one ticket to the banquet.

Third degree members desiring to join the Fourth Degree shall make application on the official form 4 provided. Form must be submitted at least one week prior to the exemplification. Please complete the form as completely as possible. Checks should be made out to: Richard A. Adamski – District Master.



The official dress for the candidates shall be:

- ◆ Black bow tie, plain white tuxedo shirt, (lay down collar), black cummerbund, black footwear, black tuxedo.
- ◆ A member serving in the armed forces of his country, full time police and firefighters shall be considered in proper attire when dressed in a class A dress uniform.
- ◆ Clergy should be dressed in a clerical suit.

Observers are required to dress in a tuxedo.

Tuxedos can be purchased at any one of the following:

- ◆ [Lynch&Kelly.com](http://Lynch&Kelly.com)
- ◆ [TheEnglishCo.com](http://TheEnglishCo.com)
- ◆ [CheapTuxes.com](http://CheapTuxes.com)
- ◆ Or wherever you desire to purchase one.