



# Cowboy Bulletin

## Wyoming Knights of Columbus



March 2024

### FROM OUR STATE CHAPLAIN

Brother Knights and Ladies

*Laetare!* Rejoice! We are now close to the midway point of our Lenten journey. It seems like it goes by faster every year, doesn't it? So, our parishes that have catechumens are celebrating the Scrutinies with them as they prepare for their Easter baptisms. The gospel readings for the three weeks of the Scrutinies are all from the Gospel of St. John. We begin with the story of the woman at the well. Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. This is a story of welcome and forgiveness. Jesus surprises the woman with His willingness to interact with her. Jews of that time looked down on Samaritans, but Jesus does not treat her as an outsider, rather he shows interest in her as he would a member of His own family. He offers her living water, which of course has a spiritual meaning that harkens to the baptism that He is bringing to the world. This helps our catechumens know that they are not outsiders but very important members of God's family: the church. The next week, *Laetare* Sunday, the Gospel that we hear from St. John is the story of the man born blind. Jesus heals the man by making a sort of clay from His saliva and the ground nearby. He then spreads it on the man's eyes and has him go to the pool of Siloam to wash it off so that he will be able to see. This happens on the sabbath so there are Pharisees that disapprove. They want answers and they question the man who has sight for the first time. We can see their lack of faith and the growing faith of the man born blind. Some even suggest that this is a different man who was not indeed born blind. They call in his parents who attest that he is their son who was born blind, but they are afraid to say how he came to be able to see because they depended on the good will of the Pharisees. Jesus has given the man his physical sight but, much more importantly, He has given him spiritual sight and understanding that comes with faith. The last gospel story is the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Jesus delays His trip to Bethany when He learns of Lazarus' illness and the request from Martha and Mary to come to Bethany to heal Lazarus. So many times, in our lives we have to wait on the Lord in prayer; this story helps us to understand that the Lord is there for us even when we must wait. When He arrives in Bethany, Lazarus has been dead for 4 days. He takes this opportunity to show His power and love for Lazarus by restoring him to his earthly life. Martha and Mary had given up on Jesus being able to help Lazarus other than on the last day. However, Jesus shows the power that the Father has given to Him. This shows us that Jesus is more powerful than we can even imagine. Let us pray for our catechumens, that they are inspired by these stories to greater spiritual sight, understanding and faith on their journey to the waters of baptism.

Vivat Jesus

Fr. Louie Shea





### GILLETTE KNIGHTS ON ACTION

The Knights pitched in a team as behind the scenes fish fryers to help the youth raise over \$2,700. Knights, parents, and youth made light work of feeding about 200 people!

John Cosner  
Gillette Council 3477



### POWELL KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Powell Council 3043 hosted its 2nd Annual Blazing Saddles event on Feb. 10th. This event consists of a Community Chili Cook-off and mechanical horse racing for the little kids. We invite other Churches and Fraternal Organizations along with other Knights Councils. This year we had 13 Chili's enter the Cook-off. We had seven community members being judges, including Father James. This year's winner was the Cody Knights 4031. Also, we had 40 Kids enter the racing part of the event. An incredibly fun event for the whole Family. Proceeds go to Serenity Pregnancy Center and Knights Charities.

Brian Duyck  
Powell Council 3043



### SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Please feel free to make any submissions to [w yokcnews@gmail.com](mailto:w yokcnews@gmail.com). I will do my best to put out an issue of The Cowboy Bulletin every month, but I need your help to know what's going on out there. Upcoming events, council projects, and sharing ideas that could benefit other councils are all things we as Knights are interested in hearing about. Remember that we are Brother Knights, united in one cause.

Vivat Jesus

Steve Grapes



### FOURTH DEGREE NEWS

Assembly 1224 hosted a Fourth Degree Exemplification in Casper on March 2. Eighteen Sir Knights were brought into the order. This was the new ceremony that is still being rolled out by Supreme, the first of which was open to the public. More than 50 “non-Knights” were on hand to observe and participate as family and sponsors.

We were honored to have several dignitaries in attendance to guide us through degree, including Supreme Master Michael McCusker and several Provincial Officers. The exemplification was led by our District Master Ray Malek, Assembly 1224 Faithful Navigator Ladenburger, and a host of support Sir Knights. Councils 9917 and 1563 teamed up for a nice meal after the ceremony and a Question-and-Answer session was held to collect feedback on the still developing exemplification. An Honor Guard at St. Patrick Church rounded out the day.





# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WYOMING STATE COUNCIL



## 2024 Official State Convention Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 104th annual meeting of the Wyoming State Council of the Knights of Columbus will convene with an opening Mass at 12:00p.m., Friday, April 26, 2024, at **Saint Mary's Cathedral, 100 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Cheyenne, WY 82001**. Friday and Saturday general sessions will be held at **Casey's Club, 507 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Cheyenne, WY 82001** and Sunday's activities and session held at **Mother Cabrini Hall, lower level of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 1808 Hot Springs Ave. Cheyenne, WY, 82001** with Wyoming State Deputy, Brian Duyck, presiding.

Convention Booklet:  
Nathaniel Vredenburg  
307.274.0267

E-mail: [nathanielvredenburg@gmail.com](mailto:nathanielvredenburg@gmail.com)

State Convention Chairman:

Jeff Shaffer  
307.274.1622

E-Mail: [jshaffer061699@gmail.com](mailto:jshaffer061699@gmail.com)

The host council is Bishop P.A. McGovern Council #801, Cheyenne, Wyoming, **which is celebrating its 121st anniversary**. The convention registration fees are as follows:

- Knight: \$125 (before April 1st)
- Spouse/Guest: \$100
- Late registration fee: \$150 (postmarked by April 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Adult, attending Saturday evening banquet only: \$50.00

Registration for State Officers, District Deputies, Directors/Chairman and Past State Deputies is paid by State.

**Registration forms** are due no later than April 1, 2023. They can be emailed to the registration chairman, John Hunter at [jthunter0329@gmail.com](mailto:jthunter0329@gmail.com) (his phone number is 970.381.2143) or mailed to:

Bishop P. A. McGovern Council #801  
507 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY, 82001.  
Make checks payable to: K of C Council #801.

### Reservations for lodging can be made at:

Red Lion Inn  
204 Fox Farm Road  
Cheyenne, WY, 82007  
307.638.4466

Call for room rates and mention that you are attending the K of C State convention. 50 rooms have been reserved for the event. Reservations must be made directly through the hotel.

Convention check-in will begin at 8am, Friday, April 26, 2024, at Casey's Club. The Convention is scheduled to adjourn at noon on Sunday, April 28, 2024.

Vivat Jesus!

Approved

Brian Duyck  
Wyoming State Deputy

Jim Larscheid  
Wyoming State Secretary



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WYOMING STATE COUNCIL



## Addendum to 2024 Official State Convention Notice

- Councils and individual Knights are asked to bring items to donate to a silent auction to benefit Saint Joseph's Food Pantry
- Council Delegates will need to be prepared to say **YES or NO** for State Liability Insurance
- For the **Change From Heaven**, Councils are asked to bring a check from their Council, rather than their loose change
- During Saturday's meeting, we will be having a **4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification** at Casey's Hall beginning at 1:30 pm. This will be the new procedure approved by Supreme and will be open to the public. This is an excellent opportunity to gain new 4<sup>th</sup> Degree members in the State! The cost for the candidates is \$70 and they will receive a service baldric and 4<sup>th</sup> Degree pin. Candidates should also plan to wear a dark suit and tie.
- Delegates should read the minutes from the 2023 State Convention (see [www.wyomingkc.org](http://www.wyomingkc.org)) prior to the convention
- **Councils need to bring:**
  - Council Banner
  - Necrology report
  - Grand Knight Report
  - Credentials Form
  - Change from Heaven (checks only please)
  - State Liability Insurance Form
- **All reports** of state officers, directors, chairmen and district deputies **must be submitted in electronic form** by emailing them in either MS Word or Adobe Acrobat to Jim Larscheid, State Secretary at [secretary@wyomingkc.org](mailto:secretary@wyomingkc.org) **before April 15, 2024**. Reports will be available to view at [www.wyomingkc.org](http://www.wyomingkc.org).
- State award forms should be sent to the Awards Chairman with copies to the State Secretary:

**AWARDS CHAIRMAN**

Bret Ladenburger  
6638 Mustang Trail  
Evansville WY 82636  
[ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com](mailto:ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com)

**STATE SECRETARY**

Jim Larscheid  
P.O. Box 1781  
Saratoga, WY 82331  
[secretary@wyomingkc.org](mailto:secretary@wyomingkc.org)

**ENCLOSURES: (all items can be found at [www.wyomingkc.org/convention](http://www.wyomingkc.org/convention))**

104th State Convention Agenda  
Council Necrology Report Form  
Blank State Letterhead  
State Awards Letter  
Standing Committee Assignments  
2024 Convention Booklet Ad Pricing

Convention Registration Form  
Delegates Credentials Form  
State Liability Insurance Form  
Interest in Serving Wyoming K of C Form  
Council Resolutions Submittal & Sample Resolution



# Ed Slott, “America’s IRA Expert,\*” presents Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning



## Ed Slott, CPA

Television personality & best-selling author known for his unparalleled ability to turn advanced tax strategies into understandable, actionable and entertaining advice. Ed combines current research, in-depth expertise, and humor to teach viewers about the ins and outs of their retirements and distribution planning information.

\*Named “The Best” source for IRA advice by the Wall Street Journal.

You are invited to join our free virtual webinar featuring Ed Slott. Ed specializes in the latest retirement strategies and opportunities for 2024.

Register today to reserve your spot.

## Tuesday, April 2, 8:00pm EST

<http://tinyurl.com/KofCApril2>



Scan here

Ed Slott, CPA is not affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the opinions expressed in this presentation are solely those of the presenter and not necessarily those of Knights of Columbus. This event is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, tax or legal advice. Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, 06510

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# Knights of Columbus®



Worthy Grand Knight and Program Chairmen,

The Fraternal year is proceeding as you have planned, I trust, and while the year is not over it is time to reflect and choose the activities you want to showcase. Our Wyoming Councils have been as active and vibrant this year as of any of the last 100 years that Wyoming has had Knight of Columbus Councils. It is truly exciting to be part of a Brotherhood in which we share common beliefs and excitement for our Faith. We do this through our Council activities based in our Faith in Action.

The Faith in Action program sections have given you a guide for using and demonstrating those time-honored gifts of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. First and foremost, the Council completed activities needs to be told in the reports you submit for the Columbian Awards Application (#SP-7). You will find that form and the others that I will reference throughout this letter listed below.

You now also have the opportunity to submit your Council's activities to the State for consideration for the State Awards. As you fill out those award forms, use the **FAITH IN ACTION guidebook** from the Supreme website as a guide. The **Fraternal Programs Report Form** will also help guide you through the process.

Once you have completed that process, please do us the honor of submitting your single best program or activity **in each of the four (4) categories: Faith, Family, Community, and Life** to the State Council for judging **before** the Wyoming State Convention being held in Cheyenne, April 26<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Award nominations are due to April 12<sup>th</sup>!**

The Form **State Council Service Program Awards Entry Form (#STSP)** is the proper way to submit each of these entries for four categories. You are also encouraged to submit **Wyoming State Family of the Year (form #10680)** and the **Wyoming State Knight of the Year** (no form as it is a State Program). The links for the forms are listed below.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year the Knights are accepting the **State Blessed Michael McGivney Award** (form #SBMMA). A matter of courtesy and protocol it would probably be best to obtain the Priest's permission to nominate him.

We need to have the entries in early to judge the **Faith, Family, Community and Life** entries plus the **Wyoming State Family of the Year** and the **Wyoming State Knight of the Year**.

The Past State Deputies will conduct an on-line review and judging as we did last year. We found that the ability to see, read, and review the submissions with more time was beneficial. In the past when having to do these on an early Friday morning, many times we ran into and over some of the opening ceremonies at the Convention. Please note again the due date is April 12<sup>th</sup>.

There's more to know on the next page.....



I am excited to see the entries that will be submitted. You must always remember that when you spread the word about what you do, it is an encouragement to others. We do many good works for Charity, Unity and Fraternity. Please celebrate and share that Columbianism.

Links referenced above:

**Columbian Award link:** [https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/columbian\\_awardap\\_p.pdf](https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/columbian_awardap_p.pdf)

**State Service Award link:** [https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state\\_serviceaward\\_p.pdf](https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state_serviceaward_p.pdf)

**Fraternal Reports form link:** <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html>

**State Blessed Michael McGivney Award:** <https://www.kofc.org/en/forms/council/state-blessed-michael-mcgivney-award.pdf>

**Family of the Year:** <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/family-of-the-month-year/10680-family-of-year-form.pdf>

**Tootsie Roll & Lifesaver report link:** <https://www.wyomingkc.org/forms.html>

[tootsie-roll-reporting-form.1.1 \(wyomingkc.org\)](#)

[2017-lifesaver-report.pdf \(wyomingkc.org\)](#)

To ensure that the entries will be there to be judged for the awards please submit them to me, **PSD Bret Ladenburger** by **April 12<sup>th</sup>**. You can email them to me at [ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com](mailto:ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com). Please make sure they are in PDF format. If you are mailing them **allow enough time to have them delivered by April 12, 2024** to:

Bret Ladenburger  
6638 Mustang Trail  
Evansville WY 82636

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Vivat Jesus.

Bret Ladenburger, PSD

Wyoming State Awards Chairman

307-760-1003

[ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com](mailto:ladenburgerkofc@gmail.com)



## SUPREME CHAPLAIN'S MONTHLY CHALLENGE

MARCH 2024

**“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.”** (Gospel for March 17, Jn 12:26)

Next to Our Lady, what greater model of faithful service to Jesus do we have than St. Joseph, the Lord's own adoptive father? In humble obedience to God, Joseph protected Mary and Jesus under the most difficult of circumstances. Although he says not a word in Scripture, the “silent” Joseph speaks volumes through his faithful actions. He is a model of manhood and discipleship for all Knights today.

### **Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month — in which we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph — I challenge you to pray a novena or another prayerful devotion to this great saint.

### **Questions for Reflection:**

What virtues do you see in St. Joseph as you read the Gospel narratives about the nativity and early life of Jesus? How well do you practice these virtues in your own life, not only as a husband or father, but as a faithful disciple of Jesus? What specific, concrete things can you do to grow in these virtues in your day-to-day life?

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS

### NOVENA FOR LIFE

#### **A HIGHER PURPOSE**

Lead your community in the spiritual fight to establish a culture of life. Knights and their families will come together in both public and private acts of prayer to promote the protection of life.

#### **OVERVIEW**

The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Church, and in particular of the Knights of Columbus. Knights remain firmly committed to defending the right to life of every human being – from the moment of conception to natural death. To commemorate and bolster this important cause, councils will promote a novena, nine days of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of life in our parishes, homes and wider community.



**SEMINARIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF CHEYENNE**

**Lee Noel**



Theology III  
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.  
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home parish: Newman Center, Laramie  
email: lnoel@dcwy.org

**Daniel Simon**



Pre-Theology I  
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.  
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home parish: St. Mary's Cathedral, Cheyenne  
email: dsimon@dcwy.org

**Dokken Malmberg**



Propaedeutic Year  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

700 Terrace Heights, Box #808  
Winona, MN 55987

Home parish: Holy Name, Sheridan  
email: dmalmberg@dcwy.org

**Anthony Richter**



Theology I  
University of Saint Mary of the Lake

1000 E. Maple Ave.  
Mundelein, IL 60060

Home Parish: St. Matthew's, Gillette  
email: arichter@dcwy.org



## Wyoming Knights of Columbus—For the Good of the Order

### Deceased Knights

- [Carl Joe Welte](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington passed away March 10, 2023.
- [Rev Fr. Robert Fox](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away March 28, 2023.
- [Neil Obrigewitch](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away May 12, 2023.
- [Marty Connolly](#) of Council 2578 in Thermopolis passed away March 1, 2023.
- [Alfirio “Al” Martinez](#) of Council 1563 in Casper passed away July 7, 2023.
- [Dennis Eckhardt](#) of Council 4031 in Cody, passed away June 8, 2023
- [Ken Piazza](#) of Council 4031 in Cody, passed away July 12, 2023
- [Fr Tom Ogg](#), past Wyoming State Chaplain, passed away August 23, 2023.
- [Mike Varney](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington, passed away May 3, 2023
- Andrew Stropka of Council 2578 in Thermopolis, passed away June 4, 2023.
- [Cole Fitsimmons](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington, passed away December 23, 2023.
- [Gary Klispie](#) of Council 8635 in Worland passed away January 6, 2024

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Please pray for our Brother Knights:

Please send any future prayer intentions to  
[wyokcnews@gmail.com](mailto:wyokcnews@gmail.com)



## Blessed Father Michael McGivney



### Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

*Founder of the Knights of Columbus*

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Please report all favors received:** The Father McGivney Guild  
1 Columbus Plaza  
New Haven, CT 06510-3326 • USA  
[www.fathermcgivney.org](http://www.fathermcgivney.org)

Painting by Chas Fagan © Knights of Columbus  
10502 10/20

### A Prayer for Study

Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words and deeds.

O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of You. Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delights in thinking of You, Your grace and Your tender compassion toward us.

Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.

— Saint Thomas More (1478-1535)

To aid blind or low vision members in your council or parish, direct them to [xaviersocietyfortheblind.org](http://xaviersocietyfortheblind.org) for audio and braille versions of many Catholic books and references.

If any member of the Knights of Columbus (or anyone else, for that matter) missed the beatification Mass of Father McGivney, you can still view it at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMF2aOZBQ3M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMF2aOZBQ3M).

### Join the Father McGivney Guild

As the sainthood process for Blessed Father Michael McGivney continues, it becomes ever more important to increase membership in the Father McGivney Guild. Membership stands at over 171,000, but only 464 listed to be from Wyoming. There are 2600 members shown in Wyoming.

Please encourage every Knight in your council, and their families, to join the McGivney Guild. Membership is open to everyone, not just Knights and families. It is easy to sign up at <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html>. And please continue to pray the canonization prayer for Father McGivney.

Shawn Moody

Father McGivney Guild Chairman

[esmmoody@gmail.com](mailto:esmmoody@gmail.com)