

Knight Action



From the Office of Arthur J. Harris, President Finger Lakes Chapter

The Knights of Columbus - who we are and what are some of the things we do - is the subject of *Knight Action*. We Knights hope to make this a bi-monthly feature to bring to you the workings of the Knights of Columbus, the largest Catholic Family Fraternal Organization in the world.



About 10 years after our order was founded in 1882, we Knights felt the need to talk about our orders' expansion, our Catholic purpose, and our fraternal bonding. Our order would enter deeper into the home life of its members as a whiff of pure air in the moral atmosphere pressing upon them.

Charity and Catholic Brotherhood within the order were the twin virtues. It was not until the Knights of Columbus became a strong national organization that it broadened the notion of charity to include the general needs of Church and society.

Through the history of the Knights of Columbus, we can trace the escalated progress of the Catholic layman, in the spiritual and moral leadership in the communities comprising our great order. That the Knights of Columbus is the greatest Catholic family fraternal society of all times, is unquestionable. That the unselfish and untiring efforts of its membership and of its priests and bishops who provide us with the incentive is the contributing factor, is unchallenged.

In the emerging world of the layman, beset with its challenges and uncertainties, the membership of the Knights of Columbus has a still greater responsibility if it is to continue wearing the mantle of leadership inherent in our character. Our history demonstrates how we have adapted to the times in which we live. This we are doing today, and it will reflect the continual leadership for which we have always been known. Our part in all of this is a big one. The Finger Lakes Chapter I oversee as president has over 5,000 Knights represented in 35 councils.

My job is one of promoting the objectives of our order in this jurisdiction. I support all of the council activities wholeheartedly. Columbianism builds a powerful Knights of Columbus, with a Catholic impact upon American public life. The Knights are an important part of the historical mosaic of the Catholic Church in America.

The Knights of Columbus is a ministry no different than that of our clergy - the ministry

we have to share with our fellow Christians today. "The Lord charges us, he said! You have chosen me, I have chosen you, go and bear fruit." We as Knight families live that. We live that through the work we do for the poor and the homeless. We do it when we work with the less fortunate. But, most especially, we do it as a symbol - and as a symbol, it is a statement to our families.

By the virtue of our baptism, we have accepted Christ's cross, and that is to do his work in the market place of today. Each one of us has a special talent - a special talent that God has given us; this talent belongs to him. He is asking us to use that talent to help him, to do his work. Think about this!

The Knights of Columbus is evangelization. Everything we do is geared to evangelization. When we die and get judged, our Lord is not going to ask how many organizations or clubs we belonged to. He is going to ask what we did for the less fortunate. God called, and you answered his call.

We are "in solidarity with our priests." We as Knights will come to the defense of our priests during a time when it seems more popular, even profitable, to bash them than to bear witness to their vocation.

We as Knights promise to walk shoulder to shoulder with our priests, to pray with them, to pray for them, and to affirm their sacred calling by offering them tangible assurance that they are never alone.

To our priests, I say, "know that the Knights of Columbus are always with you. Let it be known that we are one organization that stands four square behind you in Christ centered councils."

Last year the Finger Lakes Chapter assisted 13 seminarians with financial support. To date this year we have assisted eight seminarians.

Vocations to the Church and concern that qualified candidates for the priesthood not be turned away due to lack of resources or that ordained priests not be denied continuing education, led our order to increase several of the vocations funds for pontifical colleges in Rome and elsewhere to a total of \$1.6 million.

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic family fraternal organization in the world, over 1.6 million strong, and needs to grow even stronger!

Help our Family Grow!
For information on joining the Knights of Columbus, call Arthur J. Harris at (716) 647-3972

Wyoming's John Paul Council #10983 Marks 1st Anniversary

The John-Paul Council, which serves five parishes in the Eastern Portion of Wyoming County in New York State, celebrated its first anniversary on November 13, 1993. The parishes we serve are: St. Michael's in Warsaw, NY; St. Mary's in Silver Springs, NY; Church of the Assumption in Portageville, NY; and St. Joseph's Church and St. Stanislaus Kostka in Perry, NY. During our first year, we were able to initiate programs which we firmly believe will be our driving force in years to come.

Through various fund raising programs, we were able to donate monies to four needy families within the four school districts we serve: that of Warsaw, Perry, Letchworth, and Keshequa. We were also able to donate to each of the five parishes we serve, plus to St. Michael's School in Warsaw. Along with

these, we also donated meat to the November Free Dinner to the Needy in Perry.

We, as a new Council, became active within the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Mohawk-Central Conference, by attending the various meetings, charitable functions, and testimonials held. We learned about the various activities of the K of C, and began to develop our own programs, which included our first Officer's Installation Mass and Ceremony.

Since, we are a regional Council, we rotate our meeting sites to the various parish communities, and hope to continue to do so. We are very pleased with our accomplishments of this year, and look forward to maintaining these programs; plus the challenge that awaits us this new year.



The Rochester Knights of Columbus are now refocusing on parishes. Several churches in this area - including Holy Rosary, Most Precious Blood, Holy Cross and St. Mark - are now involved in this program. Shown above are men from St. Mark's Church on Kuhn Road in Greece, along with Finger Lakes Chapter President Arthur Harris and Deacon James Chatterton of St. Mark's.

New Council Development

Program Description

Our aim is to seek out parishes within our communities, in each diocese of New York State, to recruit membership and institute Knights of Columbus Parish Councils.

We use a developed and sincere dialogue with the pastors of our parishes to impress upon them that the Knights of Columbus - steadfast in our faith, deeds, service and activities - will benefit the church, parish, and the community with a Knights of Columbus Parish Council.

The Knights of Columbus, as a Catholic family fraternal service organization and evangelists of Christ with knightly ideals, invite the families of each parish to become part of our family. We impress upon them the importance of their joining us. We need their talent, enthusiasm, new ideas

and leadership experience to add to and continue the traditions of our order.

Objectives

Our intent is to establish Knights of Columbus Councils and indoctrinate each newly formed council with proper training to ensure their futures will be communicative, active and in good service to the Church, parish community and the Order.

Along with the founding of new parish councils as noted in the photo caption above, nine new parish councils have joined our Chapter recently. They are: St. Francis, Auburn; St. Jude, Gates; St. Peter & Paul Ukrainian, Auburn; St. Michael, Penn Yan; St. Joseph, Livonia; St. Josaphat Ukrainian, Rochester; St. Joseph, Perry; St. Philip Neri, Rochester; and St. Nicholas Ukrainian, Elmira.

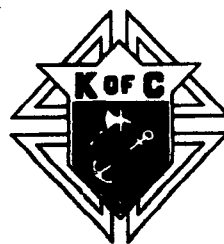


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