

# The Silver Knight News

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## State Deputy's Message



Brothers,

As we commence with Columbian Year 2024-2025, allow me a moment to congratulate and thank last year's team for all the hard work and accomplishments. Under the leadership of State Deputy Brother Meynard Infantado our local council members throughout Nevada made a difference in our Parishes, communities, and families. My personal thanks go to State

Deputy Meynard and all the members in Nevada for your dedication and hard work.

Blessed Michael McGivney formed the Knights of Columbus as a fraternal benefit society to help Catholic families stay together in the event of premature death, and our insurance agents are still doing just that! Blessed McGivney also saw a "higher calling," of bringing Catholic men back to the Church with the Order's three main principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. His goal was to enhance our faith formation while supporting our church, family, and community needs. The need for proper faith formation continues to grow. There simply is no substitute for the Knights of Columbus to rise to the occasion to help people in need, protect our families, help our communities, and work side by side with our Pastors and our Parishes.

(Continued on page 2)

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production of the  
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*We must sow the seed,  
not board it.*

*Saint Dominic*

## State Deputy's Message

(Continued from page 1)

The State Council is committed to supporting the Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) and COR initiatives. In September, our State Chaplain Father Steve Hoffer and EFF Director Tom Milton will be in New Haven for training on the new EFF initiatives. These initiatives exist to form and strengthen all Catholic men in their faith and by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, and fraternity.

As Catholics, we get our "superpowers" through the real presence of Jesus Christ in our lives through the Eucharist. Blessed Michael McGivney envisioned us to be men of God and the new programs that Supreme has developed are providing that opportunity not only for members of our order but for all Catholic men.

Many hands make light work. So, the last thing I want to add is we need to continue inviting new members to the Order. Use the online membership link at [KofC.org/join](http://KofC.org/join). After bringing new members in with online membership, have your council vote to approve them as members of the council and then accompany them to the next formation degree in your council or area.

I have a talented team surrounding me this year and I look forward to working with all of you as we do God's work.

God Bless you and your Families

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM  
State Deputy

## Message from the State Chaplain

Dear Brother Knights,

I am looking forward to serving this year as your State of Nevada Chaplain. I want to thank Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA for his service as State Chaplain. When I met Fr. Arlon at the State Convention in May on Saturday evening, he told me that I was going to be the next State Chaplain. I said no that he would continue. Little did I know that on Monday, State Deputy David Ryan would call and ask me to be the new State Chaplain. It is my honor to accept this position.

We are in a period of years of Eucharistic Revival. This month the National Eucharistic Conference took place in Indianapolis, IN. We need to emphasize how important the Eucharist is in the life of the Church and in our own lives.

When we signed up to be a Knights of Columbus we said that we were "Practical Catholics." But, what does that mean? I think for many Knights we have lost the sense of what a "Practical Catholic" is. Why do I say this? I have been to many different Council meetings and have talked to many pastors who say there seems to be a disconnection between what a Knight does and how he practices his faith.

A lot of Knights do service, but they don't attend Mass. Many Knights participate in fellowship events, but they won't help at Mass. I heard of a council where 70 people showed up to a Christmas party, but the Council struggled the next day to have enough Knights on hand to pass out "Keep Christ in Christmas" buttons and to help with a drive they were doing. Another Council did a Rosary before a Saturday night Vigil Mass, and after the Rosary, the members did not attend Mass --- even though it was the Knights Corporate Communion. Is this living our faith?

During this year of the Eucharistic Revival, I challenge all Knights of Columbus members to live our Catholic faith. Make attendance at Mass and the reception of Jesus in the Eucharist a priority in your lives. It is said that that the family that prays together and plays together, stays together. Make daily prayer a part of your family's routine, or if you are not married, a part of your own routine. Include going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession as a regular part of your routine. I am fond of saying that Confession is like taking out the trash...the more you do it, the less it smells, and the better you feel. Let's put our faith into practice and be "Practical Catholics."

I pray that as we go through this fraternal year, we will be men or action living our Catholic faith always. Let us share our Catholic faith with others through how we live our lives. What we say and do -- either leads people to Christ or away from Christ. As we live our faith as "Practical Catholics," let us lead others towards Christ.

If there is anything that I can do as your State Chaplain, please let me know. I am praying for you and your families.

Yours in Christ,

Father Steven Robert Hoffer, State Chaplain and  
Pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Las Vegas, NV

*A man who governs his  
passions is master of his  
world. We must either  
command them or be  
enslaved by them.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Message from the State Secretary

Dear Brother Knights,

As I step into the role of State Secretary, I am filled with a sense of duty, honor, and humble gratitude.

Before I jump into the tasks ahead, I want to pause to express my sincerest appreciation to Immediate Past State Secretary Al Cuccinelli, whose gravitas, wisdom, and tireless efforts made a positive impact, critical to last year's many successes. His total commitment to excellence and support has been truly inspiring. Although my "learning curve" in this new role is incredibly steep at the moment, I am fully committed to maintaining the lofty



**State Secretary David  
Clarke**

standards set by outgoing State Secretary Al Cuccinelli and I eagerly look forward to working with State Deputy, David Ryan and his entire leadership team.

To my fellow Knights in the great state of Nevada, I am here to serve you. Whether you have questions, concerns, or fresh ideas, please do not hesitate to reach out. Let us continue to build upon the solid foundation laid out by our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney and all those Knights who came before us. Together, we can continue to achieve great things for the good of the order, and in turn strengthen our faith, our families, and our communities. May the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism always remain at the "Cor" of our daily endeavors.

In closing, a million thanks again Worthy Immediate Past Secretary Al, for your amazing service to the state council. And to all my fellow Knights, let us move forward with courage and conviction into the new fraternal year. May God bless all of you.

Vivat Jesus!  
David M. Clarke,  
State Secretary,  
Nevada Council  
Knights of Columbus

*One day, through the  
Rosary and the  
Scapular, Our Lady  
will save the world.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Knights in Nevada History

### More on the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Formation History

The Knights' anti-Communism and anti-secularism were founded on the patriotic idealism linked to the providential mission of the United States. Just as the Declaration of Independence includes the phrase "endowed by our Creator" with natural rights, so the Knights vigorously promoted amending the Pledge of Allegiance to include "under God" after the phrase "one nation." The initiative to amend the Pledge began in April 1951 when the Foard of Directors adopted a resolution mandating that the new pledge be formally recited in each of the 750 Fourth Degree assemblies. The next year the Supreme Council passed a resolution urging Congress to amend the pledge: copies of the resolution were sent to President Eisenhower and to Vice President Nixon. Congressman Louis C. Rabaut of Michigan introduced the bill, which was eventually passed, and the president signed it into law on June 14, 1954, Flag Day. Later Dwight D. Eisenhower wrote a congratulatory letter to Luke E. Hart gratefully acknowledging the Knights' "part in the movement to have the words 'under God' added to our Pledge of Allegiance. These words 'under God' will remind Americans that despite our great physical strength we must remain humble."

The Fourth Degree's commitment to religious patriotism was now in opposition to the secular patriotism preferred by liberals such as Paul Blanshard and the editors of the Nation, who sought to remove references to God from the public language of American life.

Excerpt from: "*Patriotism and Fraternalism in the Knights of Columbus*"

by Christopher J. Kauffman

#### **Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!**

**Remember:** The message Blessed Michael McGivney has for us is that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT.

**Continue to Celebrate Father Michael J. McGivney's "Blessed" status!**

**Pray that Pope Francis I will Canonize our Blessed Michael McGivney!**

*Arm yourself with  
prayer rather than a  
sword; wear humility  
rather than fine clothes.*

*Saint Dominic*

**Knight in the Light** Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

***Sir Knight David M. Clarke***  
***State Secretary 2024/2025***



**SK David M. Clarke**

*The Holy Rosary is the  
 best artillery against  
 demons and their  
 followers.*

*Saint Dominic*

Sir Knight David Michael Clarke has served the Knights of Columbus honorably since August 1982. He achieved his 2nd/3rd Degrees in September 1982 and he is a member of the 4th Degree Northern Nevada Color Corps.

SK Clarke was a District Deputy and prior to that, Grand Knight of Council 13897 at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Fernley.

SK Dave Clarke serves his parish in the roles of Lecturer, Eucharistic Minister, and Religious Education Coordinator. He also serves the local community as a guest 5th grade Math & Science teacher at Fernley Intermediate School. In addition, he volunteers at the local food bank.

SK Clarke is a retired Air Force veteran with 34 years of military service, the proud father of two grown children, Matthew and Elizabeth, and a doting grandfather of four-year-old grandson Liam. Another grandson is due July 28.

## State Deputy meets with Bishop Mueggenborg

On Monday, July 8, the Nevada State Deputy David Ryan and his state council leadership team met with Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg of the Diocese of Reno. State Deputy Ryan asked the Bishop how the Knights of Columbus could better support the diocese. Then he presented the Bishop with a check from the State Council for the seminarian fund. This contribution reflects the Knights' unwavering commitment to supporting seminarians and fostering vocations. Overall, the meeting was an opportunity for ongoing dialogue and coordination between the State Council of the Knights of Columbus and the Diocese of Reno. The meeting also highlights the shared commitment of both the Knights and the Diocese to the four core principles of the Knights of Columbus: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.



*Whoever devoutly serves  
the Blessed Virgin  
through the recitation of  
the Rosary will infallibly  
receive blessings according  
to their spiritual and  
temporal needs.*

*Saint Dominic*



# DIOCESE OF RENO

## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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July 18, 2024

David Ryan  
Knights of Columbus  
Nevada State Council 8740  
Castle View Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89129

Dear David and Brother Knights,

What a great joy it is to receive your generous donation of \$21,342.27 in-person at the Pastoral Center! Please extend my personal gratitude to all the leadership for the State of Nevada Knights of Columbus. Educating our future priests is one of the important ways in which we advance the mission of the Church in Northern Nevada. Seriously. We could not provide for our men in discernment without donations like yours.

The Diocese of Reno is blessed with six fine and faithful men currently studying for the priesthood. As bishop, I have a responsibility to support our seminarians during their formation and your gift helps me fulfill that responsibility.

As you may know, the Diocese of Reno does have a small seminarian endowment to assist us with the cost of seminarian formation. However, the endowment is only about 20% of what it should be for a diocese of our size. Please join me in praying that many more faithful Catholics like yourselves will step forward to provide the finances needed to support our seminarians. Our current endowment only generates enough funds to cover the cost of one seminarian per year.

I am glad we were able to gather together in-person to show my appreciation to you for your support and take a picture with the men who helped make it happen. I would also like to thank the St. Rose of Lima council for their continued successful efforts to raise funds through the annual Seminarian Raffle. Please know of my personal support for the raffle and my hope that we can continue to develop that support in the future.

Thank you for the good work you do to promote vocations to the priesthood, foster family life, defend human life, and serve in parishes.

With every best wish and an assurance of prayer, I remain,  
Yours in Christ,  
Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg

## A Brother in Need

State Event Coordination Director, Charles McCloskey was born with severe spinal meningitis and pneumonia. He spent his first 18 months in the hospital fighting for life. His father, Ronald McCloskey, came to the hospital every day and would go to the Chapel to pray that his son might pull through. The doctors told him to go home and raise his other three boys --- Charles wasn't going to make it. Ronald didn't give up and Charles survived.



Charles attended Humboldt State University in CA where he met his wife. They were married in the Catholic Church in Marysville, CA in 1979. One afternoon in 1985, Charles had picked up my wife from work and was driving home. Suddenly he had a violent grand mal seizure. His wife managed to stop the car and get help. He was rushed to the hospital where the doctors stabilized him. Charles had similar seizures over the next 10 years.

After nearly 40 years, Charles' marriage ended. His health issues were too overwhelming. After many years away, Charles returned to the Catholic Church in 2008. He found himself at St Joseph Husband of Mary parish where he met Don Thompson who brought him into the Knights of Columbus. Charles volunteered to manage the Church Kitchen for the Knights and made several meals a year for the Knights and the parishioners. Later he served in all positions in the local Council including four years as the Grand Knight and subsequently as Faithful Navigator at the local Assembly.

Charles lives in the same home he bought 30 years ago. He currently serves as the kitchen Manager at St Anthony of Padua Church and through the Homebound Ministry delivers food to the needy. He is also Faithful Navigator and the Nevada State Council Special Events Coordinator. Charles is no longer able to work, so he receives Disability/SSI.

Today, Charles needs your help. Due to his health issues, he is unable to walk. A parishioner at the church gave him a motorized chair. However, he does not have a lift, so the chair cannot be loaded and unloaded from his car. The lift costs about \$3200, plus installation. Without the lift, he cannot go to any location which requires walking. Charles started a GoFundMe account to help pay for the lift. He asks you to please consider a donation.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/donate-for-charles-essential-chair-lift>

*The pursuit of  
knowledge is crucial in  
our spiritual journey.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Installation of State Officers



*You see the wonderful  
results I have had in  
preaching the Holy  
Rosary.*

*Saint Dominic*

On Saturday, July 13, newly elected State Council officers were installed. The ceremony took place at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Ely, NV. The installation of Council officers is a significant moment of leadership transition within the Knights of Columbus and takes place at the beginning of each fraternal year. It marks the passing of the torch from outgoing to incoming officers. State Deputy David Ryan, as the highest-ranking officer, played a central role in presiding over the solemn ceremony.

In his address to the assembled Knights, their wives, family members, and Sacred Heart parishioners, State Deputy David Ryan emphasized his firm commitment to supporting and serving each member of the Order. State Deputy Ryan acknowledged that every Knight, regardless of his role, deserves recognition and utmost respect. The State Deputy's message was concise and crystal clear: he is ready to listen, make informed decisions, and lead with integrity. As the new State Deputy, he aims to foster unity and collaboration among all of the more than 50 Knights of Columbus Councils and Roundtables throughout Nevada.

State Chaplain Fr. Steven R. Hoffer joined State Deputy David Ryan in the installation ceremony proceedings. Together, they invoked the Lord's blessings upon the incoming officers and entrusted each of them with their respective responsibilities. As the Knights of Columbus continue their vitally important work, the installation of these officers symbolizes both continuity and renewal. State Deputy David Ryan's vast leadership experience sets a positive tone for the fraternal year and, as a result, the state council looks forward to building a stronger, more vibrant faith community under his leadership.

## Price of 4th Degree Uniforms Increasing



The Supply Room in Oxford, AL which supplies 4th Degree uniforms will remain the same for the next three years. However, on September 1, 2024 the cost of a new uniform will increase from \$449 to \$475. If you are a 4th Degree Knight and thinking about a new uniform, save yourself some money and make your purchase before August 31, 2024.

*Through the holy  
devotion of the Rosary,  
you will attract all to the  
true science of the virtues.*

*Saint Dominic*



## Council 10442's Sponsorship Award



SD Meynard Infantado and Lino Loyola, the Scholarship Chair of Council 10442 at St. Joseph Husband of Mary Parish, present a scholarship award and check to Mary San Nicolas. Also in attendance are DGK James Butman, GK Robert Williams, and SS Al Cuccinelli.

*To grow spiritually means to deepen our relationship with God. It is not enough to know about Him, we must strive to know Him intimately, to love Him with all our heart and soul.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Third COR Session set for Council 12877

Council 12877 at Immaculate Conception Church in Sparks has held two well-attended sessions of COR. Nearly 40 men, including State Treasurer and council trustee Leo Carew III, meet in the church to pray the rosary, attend Mass and then gather in the Faith Formation Building to discuss St. Joseph as a model for modern manhood. Sessions are led Faith Director Terry Walsh and Deacon Ron Klunkie.

The next COR session is scheduled for Sunday, September 8 at 9 a.m. You are invited.

## Fr. Rene's First Mass at Little Flower Church



*Prayer is the key to  
spiritual growth.  
Through prayer, we  
open our hearts to God  
and allow Him to work  
in us.*

*Saint Dominic*

On June 29, Rene Rodriguea was ordained a priest at St. Teresa of Avila Church in Carson City. On June 30, Father Rene said his First Mass at Little Flower Church in Reno. Members of the Honor Guard of 3118 and 612 escorted Father Rene into the Church for Mass. At the Offertory, District Master Daniel Dexter presented Fr. Rene with a Fourth Degree Chalice which was engraved with the name Sir. Knight Chuck McCarhy.

Rene Rodriguez-Huerta was born in Watsonville, CA but raised in Elko, NV. He graduated from Elko High School in 2013 and attended Mt Angel Seminary, a Benedictine monastery in Oregon.

Members of the Honor Guard present: Master Daniel Dexter, David Emmil, Mike North, Gary Helsing (not pictured) and Mike Obrien (not pictured).

## Council 4928 Scholastic Financial Aid Awards



The Ponderosa Council 4928 Scholastic Financial Aid program for 2024 is over, and three students are the recipients of Bishop Manogue Catholic HS financial aid.

Emmanuel Cruz-Calderon is a 10th grader who is following in the footsteps of his older brother, Viktor (who has since graduated from high school). Manny travels 40 miles every day to attend Bishop Manogue. Each year he volunteers at the Holy Cross Catholic Community Sunshine Summer program and most recently in the parish Stations of the Cross devotion. In addition he performs community support activities in his neighborhood.

The Oleciregui family, who live considerably closer than Manny, has two recipients. Older daughter Carmen (on the right) is an 11th grader who has accumulated 196 service hours to date. The high school requirement is only 100. Of special note is her participation in the Sodality program, her volunteering at the Reno Air Races, and her help at the Breakfast with Santa program. She also carries a very impressive GPA.

Younger daughter Bernadette (on the left) is a graduating 8th grader at Little Flower Catholic School and has been accepted by Bishop Manogue for the 2024-25 school year. This year at Little Flower, Carmen volunteered for a variety of service initiatives including participation in the kindergarten buddy program, manning the snack bar at school fundraisers, and helping cleanup the church parking lot after school. In doing so she accumulated 45 service hours to date when the school requirement is only 15. In addition, Carmen volunteered with her sister at the Reno Air Races and helped at the Council's Breakfast with Santa program.

Ponderosa Council encourages a continuing Catholic education program and appreciates the value of these students in service to their parish, their school, and their community. We also appreciate the many sacrifices of their parents who help make it happen.

- George A. Minter, GK

*Humility is the foundation of spiritual growth. When we humble ourselves before God and others, we create the space for His grace to transform us from within.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Fans for Seniors in Need



For the 4th consecutive year, Ponderosa Council 4928 has initiated its support of the KOLO Cares Fans for Seniors program with appeals to our membership to donate box fans to the Washoe County Human Services Agency. This drive targets the elderly in need who may not be able to moderate room temperatures in periods of extreme heat.

This year's drive had a greater sense of urgency. Weather forecasters were predicting unseasonably early, record-setting, extended triple-digit temperatures in Reno-Sparks. For some seniors, this could be life-threatening.

Our initial membership response was overwhelming. On Wednesday, July 3, the day after our monthly Council Meeting, the writer dropped off our initial load of box fans at the Washoe County Senior Center. The gentleman at the front desk noticed my Ponderosa Green Council shirt when I approached, and without me saying a word, he exclaimed, "Knights of Columbus! You guys are heroes!" Apparently, the Council had made an impression the prior year when we donated a total of 41 box fans.

When I told him I had 32 fans at this time to deliver, he responded "WOW! Just in time. We are almost out. They have been flying out the door!" The predicted extreme heat wave started the following day.

Our participation in the Fans for Seniors program is not over and we expect that the Council will easily break last year's fan donation total. But more importantly, Charity is at the heart of our work and our faith, and we know we are doing well when we see smiles when helping the needy. That's cool!

- GK W. Anthony Watts

*Let us embrace humility  
and watch our souls  
flourish.*

*Saint Dominic*

# Message from Life Director John DeBord

## The Truth About **Abortion** & **Women's Health**

### Abortion does not save women's lives.

**Abortion** is the **direct** and **intentional** killing of a child in the womb.

**Abortion is never medically necessary.** It does not treat or solve any pregnancy-related complication.

### Outlawing abortion will not affect treatment for miscarriage.

**Treatment for miscarriage and abortion is not the same thing.**

There is a complete moral and legal difference between losing a child through miscarriage and intentionally taking the life of a child.

In the tragic case of miscarriage, surgery may be necessary—and is an ethical treatment—to remove the remains of an unborn child who has already died.

While the same surgery is done to perform an abortion, abortions impose this procedure on a living child with the **intention** of ending his or her life.

### Women can get the lifesaving treatments they need—without abortion.

In rare cases, and in the absence of better alternatives, life-threatening maternal health conditions may require interventions that **indirectly** and **unintentionally** lead to the death of an unborn child. **Abortion restrictions will not prevent women from receiving these treatments.**

When the lives of mother and child are in immediate danger, the goal is to fight to save both patients. **Effective treatments exist that seek to save the life of the mother and never to intentionally harm her unborn child.**

When a woman's life is at risk in pregnancy, preterm delivery may be used as a lifesaving medical intervention to preserve the life of both mother and child.<sup>1</sup>

**Ectopic pregnancies** result when an embryo implants outside the uterus—often in the fallopian tube. Sadly, such embryos cannot survive and this condition can pose serious risks to the mother. While ectopic pregnancies sometimes resolve naturally, interventions are often necessary.

**When done ethically, treatment for an ectopic pregnancy is not abortion.** Ethical interventions include the removal of the damaged fallopian tube containing the embryo or, if embryo death has already occurred, medication can be used to resolve the ectopic pregnancy.

### Bottom line: **Abortion restrictions never prevent women from receiving life-saving treatment.<sup>2</sup>**

*If you or someone you know is struggling after involvement in an abortion, the Church offers confidential, compassionate help through Project Rachel Ministry. Visit [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org) for more information.*

## Family of the Month for June 2024



For more than two decades, SK George and Lady Joyce Minter have been the personification of Supreme's "Faith in Action" family. SK George has just completed his fourth successful term as Grand Knight of Ponderosa Council, very likely one of the most active councils in the State. He is now moving on to Financial Secretary ... again. The Supreme Council plaques and the State Council awards that adorn the walls of our Knights Chamber give testimony to his passion and drive as a leader. And "now the rest of the story ...."

They say that behind every great man, there's a great woman. Whether that's true or not, is arguable, but in this case, Lady Joyce has always encouraged George to be active in the Knights. In 2014, she and a group of like-minded women formed one of the most active women's auxiliaries in the State. This year, as "Den Mother" of the Ponderosa Council Ladies of the Knights, Joyce accepted the Ladies Auxiliary of the Year State award on behalf of the 22 active Catholic women who supported 31 council service initiatives with 1,547 hours of volunteer service.

This dynamic Council family team makes a difference and are duly recognized as the Ponderosa Council 4928 Family of the Month for June.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

*We must constantly seek  
to deepen our  
understanding of God's  
word and His teachings.  
Let us be like sponges,  
soaking up His wisdom  
and growing in faith.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Knight of the Month for June 2024



*Community is essential for spiritual growth. We are meant to walk together, supporting and encouraging one another in our faith. Let us be mindful of the power of community and seek to build strong bonds with fellow believers.*

*Saint Dominic*

Bro. John C. Bell has been an active Knight for more than 22 years. He has always been one who puts his Faith in Action as a long-serving parish Lector, Eucharistic Minister and unofficial Holy Cross parish Sacristan at the 8 am Sunday Mass. In addition, Bro. John leads a long-standing, parish Bible Study and he is a frequent participant in Council service initiatives and fundraising programs.

Since stepping down as our multi-year Council Treasurer in 2023, Bro. John has remained active as our Council Lector where he has provided insight into Biblical texts much to the appreciation of attendees. For his sustained support of Holy Cross Catholic Community parish and Ponderosa Council, Bro. John C. Bell is recognized as our June Knight of the Month.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

## What is a Fair Balance?

By Al S. Pena State Program Director

Reading 2 Corinthians 8:7-14 challenges us to excel in a generous undertaking. It is a matter of achieving a fair balance. It is not Socialism or redistribution of wealth by putting a burden on those who are rich and giving relief on those who are poor. We are all human beings and are dependent on one another to grow and survive. All forms of life ends if building wealth is all that we care about. Turning a blind eye on those who need help is like killing those that keeps us alive. We are symbiotically linked by nature's design either by mutuality or predator victim relationships. Imagine if all food source of the predators are gone, how will they survive?

The cycle of generosity is a powerful force that shapes both our personal growth and society as a whole. Through acts of giving, we not only positively impact others but also experience increased happiness, fulfillment, and a deeper understanding of ourselves. By fostering empathy, overcoming barriers to giving, and creating a culture of generosity, we can create a ripple effect that transforms communities and fosters connections among individuals.

*7 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*

*8 I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.*

*10 And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. 11 Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. 12 For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.*

*13 Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. 14 At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, 15 as it is written: “The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.”*

*Sacrifice is a necessary part of spiritual growth.*

*Saint Dominic*

## Joe Melancon receives Field Agent of the Year Award



*We must be willing to let go of our selfish desires and embrace the will of God. It is through sacrifice that we draw closer to Him and experience true transformation.*

*Saint Dominic*



Newly elected State Deputy Dave Ryan visited Reno/Sparks first weekend of July. He presented field agent Joe Melancon, the prestigious award of Field Agent of the Year at Immaculate Conception Church.

## Elevating Families - A Way out of Poverty



**L to R:  
W. Anthony Watts,  
Marie Baxter,  
George Minter, and  
Jessica Sheldon**

On July 10, State Life Director John DeBord, GK W. Anthony Watts, PGK George Minter and several other members of Ponderosa Council 4928 met at the Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN) office for light hors d'oeuvres and a presentation on "Elevating Families." The aim of this program is to help single mothers who decide against abortion and who keep their children, to break out of the poverty cycle by teaching them financial literacy, goal-setting, and problem-solving.

Each program client meets one-on-one with a licensed social worker-mentor who guides the person in setting at first small goals -- like saving \$10 a month, then aiming at larger ones, like obtaining a GED, or completing a job-training program. After a few sessions, the person begins to see herself and her situations in a new light. She can change the picture of her life. She can achieve a measure of success and improve her quality of life and that of her children.

At the end of the presentation, GK W. Anthony Watts and PGK George Minter presented Marie Baxter and Jessica Sheldon with a check from the Ponderosa Council. The Council, which has supported Catholic Charities pro-life program for many years, sees "Elevating Families" as a program worthy of their support. The "Elevating Families" program is unique to Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada. There is no program like this in Nevada or any other state. To learn more about "Elevating Families" watch this six-minute YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b5EYpbSqvg>

*Above all, love is the greatest catalyst for spiritual growth. When we love God and love one another, we open ourselves up to His transformative power. Let us strive to love unconditionally and watch as our souls flourish.*

*Saint Dominic*

## This Month's Photos

Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada



## This Month's Photos

### Council 12877's Pool Party

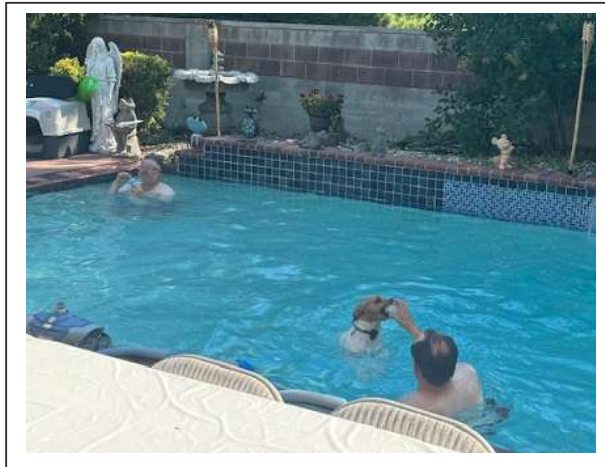


A temperature of 105° was no obstacle. The officers of Our Lady of the Desert Council 12877 were installed and then everyone cooled off with a barbecue and swim party at Billy Sousa's house. State Deputy David Ryan was in town, so he stopped by for the installation and some fun with the guys. A big thank you to the Sousas for hosting. Michael McGivney pray for us.



# This Month's Photos

Council 12877's Pool Party



Help

# FEED PEOPLE!

Our hot nutritious food  
service is expanding!  
We need your help to  
make this a success.\*

## We Need YOU!

Starting August 1, we will be  
serving lunch & dinner daily at the  
Cares Campus in addition to the  
St. Vincent's Dining Room.

Great opportunity  
for ministry groups  
as well as individuals!

### What is Needed?

6 Volunteers: 10:30am - 1:30pm  
6 Volunteers: 3:30pm - 6:30pm

LZRoss@ccsnn.org  
775-322-7073, ext. 235



Catholic Charities  
of Northern Nevada



**Volunteer!**



Apply Now!  
[ccsnn.org](https://www.ccsnn.org)



\*Must be 16 years old or older

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Note from State Historian

***Welcome Columbian Year 2024/2025!  
The 142<sup>nd</sup> Supreme Convention is  
August 6-8 in Quebec City, Canada***

*Schedule More Exemplifications!*

***Council updates:***

- I continue to be in contact with our District Deputies and Grand Knights to make sure each Council has a respective Council Historian, for this new Columbian year and going forward. The Council Historian will assist the State Historian in reaching into the respective Council archives for access to the noteworthy events or activities of the Council and Brother Knights. In some Councils this role will reside with the Grand Knight, due to the size of Council membership. Please be prepared to discuss who is best suited for this position on your Council. As always, this is your chance to tell and record your Council's continuing story!
- In concert with Worthy State Deputy Meynard Infantado and myself, we recommend Councils setting up a "cloud based" storage system for each Council's records, photos, activity accounting, etc. The continuity of record keeping can then be documented/updated over the continuing "Columbian Year" by the Council Historian.
- Please use my email address: [historian@nv-kofc.com](mailto:historian@nv-kofc.com) to assist in adding any historic documentation, as indicated above, to capture the Nevada State history of our Fraternal Order. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with you, my Brother Knights.