

# The Silver Knight News

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## State Deputy's Message



State Deputy David Ryan

Brothers,

A couple of things:

First, the seminarian education raffle is going digital. I learned in my meetings with Archbishop Thomas and Bishop Mueggenborg that both are in favor of getting away from the paper tickets. The Diocesan office in Reno sent an announcement to all parishes and a flyer has gone out to the parishes in the archdioceses, but I have not yet confirmed its delivery.

Please use the flyer found in this newsletter for publication in the parish bulletin. The flyer may also be found on the State Unknight site with a button that will take you directly to the site without using the QR code. Those who have used the state site said it was easy to use and that they had no problems navigating the site and purchasing their tickets. Brother Tm Villardi has done an excellent job establishing and formatting the site.



St. Peter's Basilica

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The Silver Knight  
Newsletter is a  
production of the  
Knights of Columbus  
Nevada State  
Council

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*Moses spent forty years  
thinking he was somebody;  
forty years learning he was  
nobody; and forty years  
discovering what God can  
do with a nobody.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## State Deputy's Message

Second, the Nevada State council is sponsoring a Pilgrimage to Rome from October 13 – 21 2025. Having been to Rome myself in 2023 I can assure you it is the trip of a lifetime. I encourage you to join our state chaplain, Father Steve Hoffer, Tracy, and me on this Pilgrimage to Rome this Jubilee Year. We will walk through the holy doors which are opened every 25 years. All the information on the trip is included and the easiest way to sign up is on the State Unknight web site at: Knights of Columbus Nevada State Council. Just scroll down and click on the k of c 2025 Jubilee button.

The brochure, itinerary and frequently asked questions may be found on the State's website. Space is limited, so the sooner you sign up, the better chance you have of going. If we have enough sign ups, we can set up an additional tour.

The weather in Italy in October should be very comfortable with the temperature between low 50's at night to mid - high 70's in the daytime.

God Bless you and your families

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM  
State Deputy





Knight of Columbus  
SEMINARIAN RAFFLE



**Please join us to support this year's Seminarian Education Raffle Program.  
Scan the QR below to purchase raffle tickets and your chance to win 1 of 5 Cash Prizes.  
The drawing will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025!**



### **Our 2025 Nevada Seminarrians**



Knight of Columbus  
SEMINARIAN RAFFLE



Scan the QR code to buy raffle tickets

# Nativity Pilgrimage

Where Faith Meets Adventure



CELEBRATE THE  
**2025**  
**JUBILEE**

9-DAY ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE

*Featuring*

Rome, Assisi,  
Lanciano, Loreto, San  
Giovanni Rotondo,  
Monte Sant' Angelo,  
and Monte Cassino



**Knights of  
Columbus**

Nevada State Council

**Al Pena**

Group Coordinator



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**OCT. 13 - 21, 2025**

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[travel.nativitypilgrimage.com/koc-jubilee](http://travel.nativitypilgrimage.com/koc-jubilee)



Celebrate the 2025 Jubilee in Rome by scanning the QR Code above to register for the Nevada State Knights of Columbus 2025 JUBILEE tour

## Message from the State Chaplain

I recently had a family in my office. I was filling out the initial paperwork for a marriage. I noticed the date of the mother's birthday was October 30. So, I asked her teenage daughter, a junior in high school, what happened on October 31, 1864. She had no idea. I asked what the Nevada State motto was, and she answered, "Sin City". I said no, the motto is "Battle Born" because Nevada became a state on October 31, 1864.

The conversation with the teenager revealed that she had no clue about important dates and information regarding Nevada State history. That got me thinking --- how many Catholics or Knights of Columbus know about our faith and what we believe in? How many Catholics or Knights know about the Bible? Could they find Genesis, Psalms or Romans in the Bible? Have they read the Bible recently? How many Catholics and Knights pray daily? Do they have a prayer routine? How many Catholics or Knights go to confession on regularly?

I think, if we honestly thought about their responses, we would start to cringe a bit. When we signed up to be a member of the Knights of Columbus, we stated that we were "practical Catholics." Do we follow the precepts of the Catholic Church? Do we know what they are?

The Precepts of the Catholic Church are:

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

How are we doing observing these precepts? I challenge you during this year to grow in the knowledge of your Catholic faith. Participate in COR, Bible Studies, retreats, read the Bible, use the Hallow App, participate in Fr. Mike Schmitz's: Bible in the Year, or Catechism in the Year.

*Out of 100 men, one will read the Bible, the other 99 will read the Christian.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

Continued next page

## Message from the State Chaplain

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Every month Archbishop Lori issues a monthly challenge to all Knights. I echo that challenge for the month of January:

“[A]nd on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.” (Gospel for Jan. 5, Mt 2:11a)

The solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord recalls the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus. The Magi recognize the newborn king and offer him homage. This great feast occurs during the liturgical season of Christmas, which begins on Christmas Eve and continues through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During Christmas time, we all remember and celebrate the reality that God assumed our human nature and became a little child. May this season also remind us to recognize the dignity of all children — including unborn children — today.

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

This month, I challenge you to work toward greater recognition of the sanctity of unborn human life by participating in a peaceful pro-life demonstration or supporting a pregnancy resource center.

*Questions for Reflection:*

Do you look upon the lives of children — and all people — with respect, recognizing the dignity of human life? What more can you personally do to protect and support life wherever it is threatened or in need? Are there ways you can witness to others — in word or deed — to foster awareness of the sanctity of life?

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As begin a new liturgical year, let us ask ourselves if we know our Catholic faith? Do we study our faith regularly? Do we read the Bible regularly? Do our Knights of Columbus Council and Assembly meetings have a component where we study our faith? Are our Councils and Assemblies using the resources that the Supreme has available to grow in our faith: COR, Faith in Action, and Into the Breach? If not, I urge every council, assembly, and member of the Knights of Columbus to become men of faith and action. Let us truly be practical Catholics growing in our relationship with Christ and the Church.

*Give your life to God; he  
can do more with it than  
you can!*

*Dwight L. Moody*



# 115th Annual Nevada Knights of Columbus State Convention

May 2-4, 2025



St. John Vianney Council 13842, SK Jody Gunderman, Grand Knight, will host the event at St Rose of Lima Parish and Bishop Manogue High School.

## **Hotel**

The Grand Sierra Resort (GSR) is the Convention venue for dinner and hotel rooms. Ninety rooms have been reserved at GSR Hotel at the convention rate of \$79 for Thursday; \$109 each for Friday and Saturday nights plus tax and fees. Final hotel bookings must be made by April 1, 2025. The hotel provides shuttle service to and from the hotel and the Reno airport. Council Knights will provide shuttle service to and from the hotel and St Rose of Lima Church and Bishop Manogue High School.

## **Golf**

A Golf outing is planned at Wolf Run Golf Course on Friday, May 2 from 8 AM to 3 PM.

## **Mass Celebrant**

Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg has accepted the invitation to celebrate Mass at St Rose, and then attend dinner at the GSR.

## **Shirts**

The Council will have “annual event” shirts available for sale.

## **Souvenir Book**

Council 13842 will assemble the convention souvenir book. Full and half pages ads are available for purchase.

## **Ladies Activities**

Ladies will have the opportunity to have lunch and other activities at the exclusive ArrowCreek County Club on Saturday May 3.

## **Blessed Michael McGivney’s Reliquary**

A first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney will be onsite for veneration.

More information will follow in the coming months. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

## Note from State Historian

### **Wishing you Happy and Joyous 2025 New Year!!!**

#### *Schedule More Exemplifications!*

#### ***Council updates are as follows:***

- 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 David M. Ryan, FVSM 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

*I have never met a man  
who has given me as much  
trouble as myself.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

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

**Remember:** The message Blessed Michael McGivney continues to have for us, 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!**

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## History of the Catholic Church in Northern Nevada

Missionary beginnings in the 1800's. Catholicism arrived in the Nevada region as settlers moved westward, including miners during the Comstock Lode silver boom. Early priests, including Jesuits and missionaries from California, served scattered Catholic communities in what was then part of the Diocese of San Francisco. The first church in the region was established in Virginia City, St. Mary of the Mountains, which was the mining hub in the 1860's. Reno, as a smaller settlement relied on visiting clergy from the surrounding areas. The first dedicated Catholic church in Reno was built in 1908, St. Thomas Aquinas. The Diocese of Reno was formally established by Pope Pius XI on March 27, 1931, reflecting the growth the growth of the Catholic population in northern Nevada. The diocese initially covered the entire state of Nevada, with St. Thomas Aquinas designated as the cathedral.

The key figures in Reno's Catholic history are as follows: Bishop Thomas Kiely Gorman (1931-1952). The first bishop of Reno played a vital role in the organizing the new diocese and establishing parishes and schools across the state. Bishop Rober J. Dwyer (1952-1966) oversaw the diocese during a time of population growth and modernized its operations. Bishop Joseph Green (1967-1974) is known for emphasizing Catholic education and community engagement. Bishop Phillip F. Straling (1974-1995) helped in the division of the Diocese into two: Reno and Las Vegas in 1995.

*We are told to let our light  
shine, and if it does, we  
won't need to tell anybody it  
does. Lighthouses don't fire  
cannons to call attention to  
their shining- they just  
shine.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

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

## **Sir Knight Kenneth J. Sawyer, PGK, PFN, FDM and Southern District Master**

SK Ken Sawyer was born in Mineola, Long Island on December 26, 1945. After graduating from Mineola High School, he continued his formal education in Aeronautical Electrical Engineering at the Academy of Aeronautics College, and later Accounting at UNLV.

Moved to Las Vegas in 1967 with the Air Force as part of a Weapons Development and Test squadron at Nellis AFB.



**SK Ken Sawyer**

While at Nellis AFB, he coordinated the CCD Program for 2 years, consisting of 45 teachers and about 350 students. He also served on the City-Wide CCD Advisory Board for the Diocese while at Nellis AFB. Received the Chief of Air Force Chaplain's, Airman of the Year award in 1969.

In May of 1970 married Charlene, and together were foster parents to six teens through the State of NV and Catholic Services. Before becoming the father of three of their own. And now is the grandfather to 4, and a Great Grandfather to 3, all living in Las Vegas. They each have over 40 years Working in parish CCD & RCIA programs. Ken also chaired the 2-year project of design to dedication of the St Joseph, HOM Sanctuary.

Before retiring for the third time as a Sr Regional VP for a Gaming & Horse Racing company that had several Casinos and Racetracks in upstate NY. One had 500 and the other 300 horses boarding there. Worked for Station Casinos in their Design and Strategic Development Group for 5 years before the economic downturn and their bankruptcy.

Started his career in 1970 as the Local Accounting Manager for Centel and Retired with 33 years as a Regional Logistics Director over 7 western Warehouses with Sprint in Kansas. Returning to Las Vegas.

Continued next page

*Joy is love exalted; peace is love in response; long-suffering is love enduring; gentleness is love in society; goodness is love in action; faith is love on the battlefield; meekness is love in tough situations; and temperance is love in training.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

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## Knight in the Light

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

With the Knights:

Join the Knights in 1995 at St Joseph, HOM, serving in various positions including several times as the FS. Becoming GK in 2014, During that time he was also active in the Color Corps and became Assembly 2820 Faithful Navigator in 2015. Was appointed District Marshal in 2014 and continued as a DM until being appointed District Master in January 2024; and reappointed in September 2024.

Over his tenure as a Knight, he has served in various other leadership roles including the State RSVP Seminarian Coordinator. He notes as a District Master it is important to develop better synergies between the Councils and Assemblies to be more visible and help each other recruit.

His other leadership roles included being the Clark County and Nevada State GOP Chairman during the 12 years of Ronald Reagan and George Bush as presidents.

He also served as the President of the National Society of Accountants 2005 -2006.

*There will be no peace in  
any soul until it is willing  
to obey the voice of God.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

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## Praise Report

My lips will praise You. So I will bless You as long as I live. Ps 63:3-4

SK David Varon wants to give the Lord thanks and praise for His healing touch. David was admitted to the hospital on Jan 9 with chest pains and shortness of breath. He was diagnosed with blood clots in his lungs. With the prayers of family, friends and especially those of his fellow Knights --- and several IV's of the blood thinner Heparin --- David was released to resume his normal activities albeit at a slower pace.

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## In Memory of Knights Now at Rest

The Silver Knight News notes the passing of

- Pat Sullican on January 25. Pat was the State Secretary from 2010 - 2012
- GK Mark de la Torre on January 26

## Holy Cross Christmas Party 2024



It was five years to the date, December 20, 2019, that the last parish Christmas dinner was held by Ponderosa Council 4928 in the “Church on the hill.” Our 2020 St. Patrick’s Day dinner was cancelled by the Covid-19 pandemic. It took too long to recover.

With Pastor Father SK Jose Issac’s permission, on December 20, 2024, the Council converted the Holy Cross Catholic Community worship space into a sold-out Christmas dinner venue. It offered a tri-monitor slide-show complete with piped-in seasonal music, and a unique blend of party activities and presentations.

Father SK Jose Issac opened with a prayer blessing the meal, followed by Deacon SK Herbert Melendez who delivered the blessing in Spanish. Deacon Bro. Joe Haggarty followed with a colorful tale of the Nativity story with interludes of traditional religious carols.

A complete prime rib dinner was served to nearly 200 attendees. Our no-host bar was busy throughout the evening.

After the well-received dinner, a Christmas trivia quiz was held. It was soon followed by a no-cost raffle that awarded 27 diners and a little girl raffle ticket helper with a wide range of prizes ranging from donated vintage wines, religious items, and sparkling jewelry to practical items such as a wine bottle cooler and a dress pochette purse. In sum, it was a suspenseful and fun event, capped by the last draw, ticket number #001, held by Pastor Father SK Jose Issac himself. He won an ornate rosary!

Within an hour of event closing, Council members and parishioners restored the Worship area in preparation for an even more important upcoming event: the celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

*The first thing a man  
must do if he desires to be  
used in the Lord's work,  
is to make an  
unconditional surrender of  
himself to God.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## Supporting Catholic Charities Programs



Christmas 'tis the season for giving, and Ponderosa Council 4928 continued that tradition by donating a total of \$1,500 in financial support to three Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada programs in a presentation to Monique Jacobs, Director of Mission and Identity, during the holidays.

\$500 went to each of two family programs: the St. Vincent Food Pantry and the St. Vincent's Dining Room, Reno's oldest "soup kitchen." In addition, \$500 was donated in support of Elevating Families, an innovative economic mobility mentoring program geared to individuals and parents who want to break the chains of poverty. All three donations qualify under either Supreme's featured Food for Family rebate program, or their Aid and Support after Pregnancy (ASAP) program.

They say it's always better to give than receive, but we can't help but get excited when those three \$100 rebate checks roll in from Supreme.

- . Anthony Watts, GK

*Fervency in prayer by the power of the Holy Spirit is a good preservative against thoughts rushing in. Flies never settle on the boiling pot.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## Two Knights at the SEEK Conference



*Before we pray that God would fill us, I believe we ought to pray Him to empty us.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

The SEEK conference, conducted by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) was held this year from Jan. 1–5 at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, UT. It drew more than 21,000 attendees including 46 bishops and 200 priests. The conference featured notable Catholic speakers and hundreds of vendors who connected students to religious orders, educational and service opportunities and other Catholic organizations to further their faith formation.

This year, attending the conference from St Rose were two Knights from Council 13842, SK Joseph Gurgui and Worthy Knight Fr. Wojciech Prawda, Parochial Vicar at St Rose of Lima Parish, along with Fr Joe Walsh, and Savannah, Carisma, Valerie, Jaimee, Sebastian and Scott from the St Rose Youth Group.

"My first impression was one of being overwhelmed. The event is very extensive. It's impossible to participate in all the proposed activities, as many happen simultaneously," said Fr. Wojciech. "This was the largest event of this kind that I participated in since World Youth Day in Krakow in 2016 which was attended by more than 3 million participants."

What SK Joseph found most significant about his first day at the conference were two questions posed by Arthur Brooks PhD, a Harvard professor who teaches a course on the Science of Happiness. "Why are we alive, and what could you die for right now and be happy about it?" asked Arthur Brooks. SK Joseph said, "These questions cause us to look outward beyond ourselves, upward to heaven, to add meaning and value -- and therefore happiness -- to our lives."

Fr. Mike Schmitz, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the Diocese of Duluth, MN, was the keynote speaker. "The highest expectations were perhaps set by Fr. Mike Schmitz," said Fr. Wojciech. "Indeed, the hall was full for his talk. He is decisive, charismatic, and with an approachable delivery that resonated very effectively with the audience."

Continued next page

## Two Knights at the SEEK Conference

Fr. Wojciech was impressed by other conference speakers. "Similarly, Sr. Mary Grace. Dr. Edward Sri's testimony was also remarkable, and I'm now eager to read his books. Of course, the content of the talks was addressed to students and young adults. But even for someone who has completed theological studies, there was something absolutely new – for instance, a lecture on the challenges to faith posed by AI. I was also moved by Jason Evert's lecture on bioethical issues: protection of life and gender identity. The excellent speeches were perfectly complemented by the bishops' homilies during Holy Mass. Particularly moving was Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg's sermon on God's love expressed in the Sacrament of the Eucharist."

On the fourth day of the conference, SK Joseph felt he "was blessed with divine intervention and experienced the Holy Spirit in such a profound way." He intended to sit in on a talk about scientific proof of Jesus, but the session was filled to capacity, so he chose instead Sr. Faustina's discussion about the Litany of Trust. Sr. Faustina Maria Pia, SV. tied all the themes of the previous days --- what life is about, brokenness and healing and the attractiveness of popular ideologies --- together for Joseph. He said, "We need to accept and receive the generous gift from God and trust Him with the very brokenness we need Him to heal in us. We need to offer to God the pain that we cannot heal ourselves."

The final day of the conference, Jan 5, SK Joseph stated, "was a call to evangelize, evangelize even if you feel uncomfortable, awkward, unworthy or afraid of being seen as too pushy. Sharing the good news about God's love only requires an authentic love for and trust in God the Father."

Fr. Wojciech said he would definitely recommend attendance at the next SEEK conference. "At such meetings, one can learn what the Catholic Church truly believes in, how faith aligns with reason, and the profound depth Christianity holds. It's also an opportunity for young people to meet those who share their faith, for whom God is someone alive and important. It's a gathering of beautiful people. This beauty comes primarily from the heart, radiating outward. And it shows. That's why I have no doubt that the relationships formed there are incredibly valuable," he said. "I also suppose that SEEK is a place where they can find answers to the most important questions – why do I live, where is my happiness, what is really worth investing in in life?"

SEEK26 will be held Jan 1 – 5 in Columbus OH, Fort Worth TX and Denver CO

*There is no greater honour  
than to be the instrument in  
God's hands of leading one  
person out of the kingdom  
of Satan into the glorious  
light of Heaven.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## Reno Diocesan Conference Support



*The Scriptures were not given to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

For decades, Ponderosa Council 4928 has been the lead council helping the Diocese of Reno setup and assist with their annual Diocesan Conference. This year's event was held on January 10-11, 2025 at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks.

Each Conference has a different theme. This year's was "Ask, Seek, and Knock" with national speakers helping attendees reflect on prayer, intentional discipleship, Catholic morality, family, service, respect life issues and more.

As is traditional, Ponderosa Council helped unload truckloads of conference items and decorations delivered and returned by Nevada Council 978 and Christ the King Council 7322. On day one, we helped in multi-room event setup, followed by two days of concierge services, assisting during the Stations of the Cross, and ushering at Bishop Daniel's celebratory mass.

At the end of the third day, our members helped in event tear down, clean-up and load out. Ponderosa Council was able to meet all these demands with 21 members and family who volunteered a total of 268½ hours in service. The Diocesan Event Chairperson praised our support and deemed the 2025 Conference a great success.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

## Veterans Monument at SNVMC



**L to R: SK Rick Sherman, SD David Ryan and SK Ken Sawyer**

Dec 30, 2024 marked the end of a heart-felt project for SK Ken Sawyer and SK Richard Sherman. The Knights of Columbus Veteran's memorial was dedicated and blessed in the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery (SNVMC). The cemetery is located in Boulder City, NV, 26 miles south of Las Vegas.

Efforts started in Jan 2024 when the Knights of Columbus and the Archdiocese of Las Vegas began raising funds for the memorial. SK Richard Sherman FDM, and District Master (for Southern Nevada) Kenneth J Sawyer, FDD, PGK, PFN worked jointly on fund-raising, design and gaining approval from various government entities. The monument measures 48" x 42", is made of black granite and cost \$6,400. Ken Sawyer, Richard Sherman and SK Robert Williams did all the groundwork and laid the concrete slab. On Dec 12, the monument was delivered and put in place. On Dec 30 Bishop Gregory Gordon came to officially bless the monument. More than 75 Knights and families, including 23 Knights from the Color Corp, participated in this ceremony.

"I am very proud of this memorial to Knights who have served their country in the military," said Air Force veteran Ken Sawyer.



*The Christian on his knees sees more than the philosopher on tiptoe. God sends no one away empty except those who are full of themselves.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## Jubilee Year: “Hope does not disappoint”



A jubilee year, or “holy year,” is celebrated in the Catholic Church every 25 years. The tradition was started by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300, but has its roots in the Jewish tradition of Jubilee. It is “intended to be marked as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation, and involved the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, and a fallow period for the fields.”

The theme of the 2025 Holy Year is “Pilgrims of Hope.” The papal bull, issued May 9, that introduced the coming Jubilee Year is titled “Spes Non Confundit,” or “Hope does not disappoint,” drawn from Romans 5:5. “Everyone knows what it is to hope,” Pope Francis wrote. “In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come.”

Jubilee 2025 began on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2024, at 7 p.m., with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican immediately before Pope Francis celebrated midnight Mass. Holy Doors will also be opened at Rome’s three other major basilicas: St. John Lateran on Dec. 29, St. Mary Major on Jan. 1, and St. Paul’s Outside the Walls on Jan. 5. Holy Door will also be opened Dec. 26 at Rebibbia Prison, a Roman prison Pope Francis has visited twice before to celebrate Mass and wash inmates’ feet on Holy Thursday. In 1423, Pope Martin V opened the Holy Door in the Basilica of St. John Lateran — the Diocese of Rome’s cathedral — for the first time for a jubilee. For the Holy Year of 1500, Pope Alexander VI opened Holy Doors at Rome’s four main basilicas. At the end of a holy year, the Holy Doors are formally closed and then bricked over by masons.

The Holy Doors represent the passage to salvation Jesus opened to humanity. Pope John Paul II announced the Great Jubilee of 2000 that the Holy Door is “a ritual expression of conversion” that “evokes the passage from sin to grace.” It brings to mind, John 10:9, where Jesus says, “I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved.” Pilgrims who enter through a Holy Door gain the plenary indulgences attached with the Jubilee year celebrations

This Jubilee Year, the Nevada State Council is planning a pilgrimage to Rome and all pilgrims will enter through the Holy Doors. (See flyer on page 4).

*Some people think God does not like to be troubled with our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

## Council 4997's first exemplification of the year

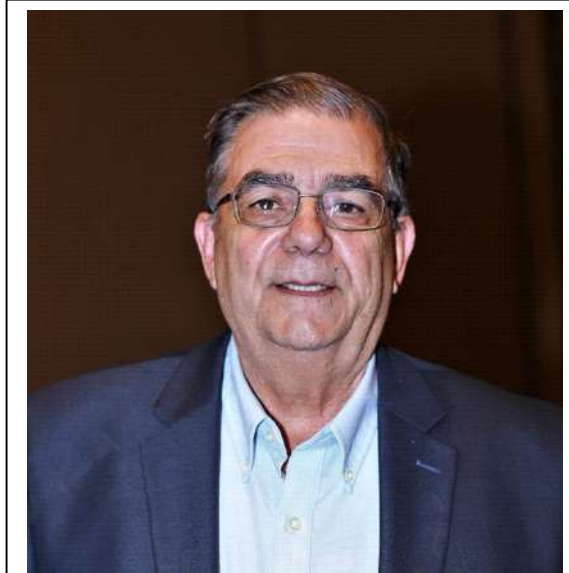


*The measure of a man is  
not how many servants he  
has but how many men he  
serves .*

*Dwight L. Moody*

On Sunday, Jan 19, the Msgr. Patrick J. Connors Council 4997 at Our Lady of the Snows parish held its first Exemplification of the year. Brothers Derek Paru, Tim Wagner and Ryan Alger became Third-Degree Knights.

## Knight of the Month for January 2025



**SK Anthony R. Martin**

*Excuses are the cradle ... that  
Satan rocks men off to sleep  
in.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

SK Anthony R. Martin, a Knight for 49 years, has long been associated with the restaurant industry. He is recognized as our Ponderosa Council 4928 Knight of the Month for January as the grill master who helped prepare the prime rib entrée and the baked sides for the 2024 Holy Cross Catholic Community Christmas Dinner.

Doing so was not without its challenges. This dinner for 200 people was essentially prepared in the Reno Elks Lodge kitchen. During this task, one of the smokers stopped working and an alternate smoker was quickly placed into service to meet the event serving schedule. Experience counts.

Tony's well-prepared entrée, his meat carving skills that complemented the serving line presentation, the blend of seasonal music, holiday cheer, event activities, and award presentations, all brought back Holy Cross Christmas Dinner memories that parishioners, council members, their family, and friends had missed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

~W. Anthony Watts, GK

## Family of the Month for January 2025



Bro. Jun Bautista, Lady Cynthia and daughter Lauren embody the ideals of our Catholic fraternal organization. Bro. Jun is part of a new wave of younger knights who puts his faith in action by supporting parish and Council activities. Most recently, Jun volunteered to help with the Holy Cross Catholic Community Christmas dinner ticket sales, the event setup and event participation with Lady Cynthia helping at his side on game day. Daughter Lauren is one of the parish's newest Altar Servers. She enjoyed the dinner night out with her parents.

In their own unique manner, the Bautista family clearly shows to all that the Knights of Columbus are not just a Catholic fraternity, but a Catholic family fraternity. For all that they do, the Bautista family is recognized as our January Family of the Month.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

*He who kneels the most,  
stands the best.*

*Dwight L. Moody*

# This Month's Photos

## Veterans Monument

