

The Silver Knight News

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State Deputy's Message



State Deputy David Ryan

Brothers:

We are in the final two months of this fraternal year. So far, we have made considerable progress, but there is still work to be done to meet our state goals. As of this writing, 339 new knights have been added to our jurisdiction. Currently, we are ranked 63rd out of 75 jurisdictions and require an additional 224 members to achieve the goal established by the Supreme Council. Yes, I believe it is possible to achieve this objective, I am asking each council to host one or two additional membership drives before June 30, 2025.

The District Deputies have successfully managed their districts. Five districts have surpassed their membership quota and six more need just a few more members to meet or exceed their goal. Each district has the capability to achieve its goal this year by every council in their district conducting one or two additional membership drives. District Deputies talk with your Grand Knights and let's make this happen.

Grand Knights, it is a critical period for some of you to achieve the Star Council Award. Among the active councils, one needs ten additional members (which can be achieved with two successful membership drives), four need only six additional members each, and the rest need five or fewer new members. As you can see, with a little more effort, every council can achieve its membership goals.

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

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*We are not human beings
having a spiritual
experience; we are spiritual
beings having a human
experience.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

State Deputy's Message

We have fourteen councils who have met or exceeded their membership goals. One council has completed all the requirements for Star Council and two others have submitted their SP-7s but have a couple of other items that need to be completed for Star Council. I appreciate the effort that each of you have put into growing the order in Nevada, we just need to continue to work together and carry the state to the across the finish line.

I hope and pray that you and your families have had a Blessed Easter, looking forward to spending time with you at the State Convention.

David M Ryan, PSD, FVSM
State Deputy



In Memoriam for Pope Francis

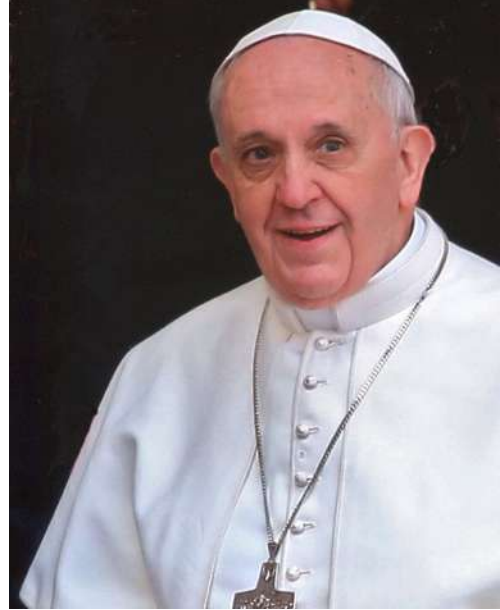


Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born on Dec 17, 1936 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 1958 Bergoglio joined the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). He was ordained a Catholic priest in 1969 and from 1973 to 1979, he was the Jesuit provincial superior in Argentina. He became the archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998 and was created a cardinal in 2001 by Pope John Paul II. Following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI on Feb 28, 2013, Bergoglio was elected Pope on March 13. He was the first pope from Jesuit Order, the first from the Americas and the Southern Hemisphere, and the first born or raised outside Europe since the 8th-century Syrian pope Gregory III. The new Pope chose the name Francis in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Throughout his public life, Francis was noted for his humility, emphasis on God's mercy, international visibility as pope, concern for the poor, and commitment to interreligious dialogue. Francis made women full members of dicasteries in the Roman Curia.

Francis died at the age of 88 in the early morning of Easter Monday, April 21, 2025. In the weeks before his death, he had been making fewer public appearances and needed to be treated for chronic lung disease, including a respiratory crisis and pneumonia. He made his last public appearance on Easter Sunday.

Tribute to Pope Francis



Tribute to Pope Francis



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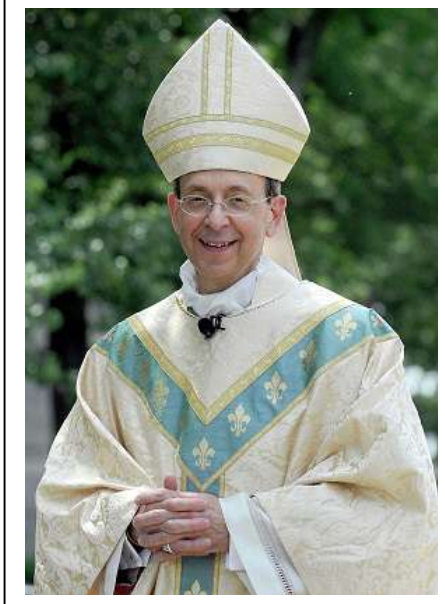
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Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge



Each month, Archbishop William Lori – Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus – selects a brief passage from the Gospel reading of one of the Sunday Masses of the month. This month we look at John 11:27 the Gospel for April 6.

She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

These words belong to Martha, sister of Lazarus, as she and Jesus speak outside her brother’s tomb. Her choice of words is important: “I have come to believe.” This suggests her belief has evolved, that her previous uncertainty or ignorance about Jesus has blossomed into faith. Growing in faith is usually a process of moving from questioning or doubt to illumination and trust. How do we come to faith and then grow deeper in it? We do so through prayer, study and reflection. Let us continually deepen our faith in this manner.

This month, I challenge you to take part in a Catholic faith formation course, event or opportunity offered through your local council (such as COR), your parish, diocese, or online.

Questions for Reflection:

Looking at the development of your own faith, how have you “come to believe” truths about Christ and/or the Catholic faith? What teachings do you still have questions about? What areas of your faith would you like to develop further? Where can you find resources — or whom can you ask for resources — to help you deepen your faith and understanding?

*Above all trust in the
slow work of God.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

Note from State Historian

Enjoying Your Lenten Journey? Share it! Happy Easter!!! *Schedule More Exemptions!*

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 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

*Someday, after mastering
the winds, the waves, the
tides and gravity, we shall
harness for God the energies
of love, and then, for a
second time in the history of
the world, man will have
discovered fire.*

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

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!

Knights in History



Old Knights of Columbus Hall (George A. Bartlett House)

The Knights of Columbus Halls

The Knights of Columbus Halls have played a significant role in the social, charitable, and community life of Catholic parishes. As the Knights of Columbus expanded throughout the late 19th and 20th centuries, local councils sought dedicated spaces for meetings, charitable activities, and social gatherings. Many councils built or acquired KofC halls as community centers that served as focal points for Catholic men and their families. These halls provided a place for fraternity, faith-based service and community events.

At their height in the mid-20th century Knights Halls were found in most towns with a strong Catholic presence, especially in the US, Canada, and the Philippines. While some traditional KofC halls remain, newer councils often focus on supporting parishes directly rather than maintaining separate buildings. However, those still in operation continue to serve their communities, carrying on our organization's mission of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism.

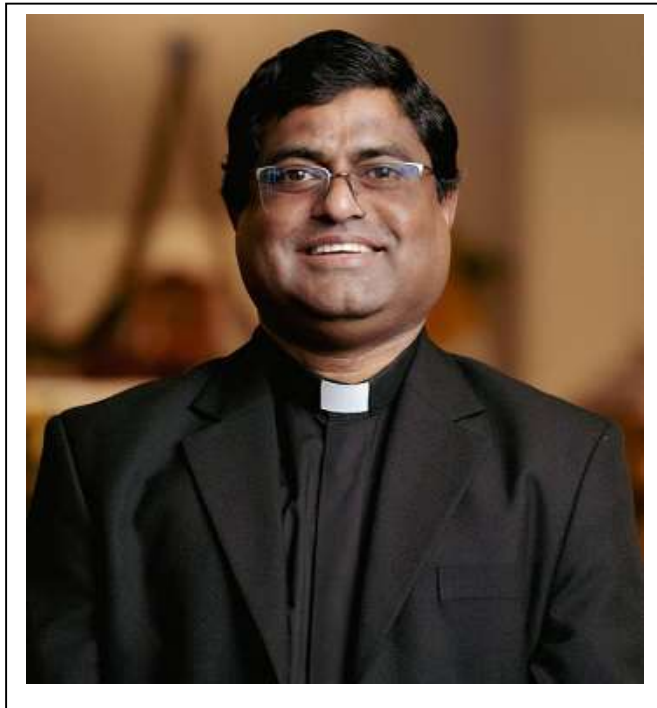
You will recall the KofC hall in Tonopah, NV built in 1905 and served the Tonopah and Gold Field Catholic communities until the early 1940's. The hall still stands at the corner of Brougner Avenue and McQuillan Street; however, in a dilapidated condition, there is talk of restoring this Hall.

*Only God could say what
this new spirit gradually
forming within you will be.*

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

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

Sir Knight Fr. Philip M. George
Pastor Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



*Give our Lord the benefit
of believing that His hand
is leading you, and accept
the anxiety of feeling
yourself in suspense and
incomplete.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

Fr. Philip M. George was born in India on March 14, 1974, to Thomas and Rachel George . His father was stationed at Fort Cavazos (formerly known as Fort Hood) which is halfway between Austin and Waco in Texas. Philip is the "baby of the family" with three older brothers and three older sisters. He was raised in a Catholic family.

After graduating from high school, Philip entered St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT and later transferred to St. Mary's Major Seminary Baltimore, MD where he earned a Bachelor of Philosophy and Sacred Theology. In 1998, Philip was ordained

Continued next page

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

as a transitional deacon and in 1999 a Catholic priest. His ordination took place St. Thomas Cathedral in Mumbai, India. Bishop Geevarghese Mar Divanasios of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church presided.

Fr. Philip George began his priesthood as Parochial Vicar to three parishes and Moderator of the Curia and Secretary to Bishop. One year later, he was appointed as the pastor of two parishes for three years. After he began his studies toward a Licentiate in Canon law, he was sent to Canada to complete his studies.

From 2008 to 2011 Fr. Philip George worked in the Diocese of Venice in Florida and in 2012, he moved into the Diocese of Reno. where from 2012 to 2015 he was the pastor of St. Mary in the Mountain Catholic Church, Virginia City, NV, and then in 2015 he became the pastor at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Sparks, NV.

Fr. Philip George became a member of the Knights of Columbus to support his parish, community, and the Catholic Church through charitable works, religious education, and fostering Catholic values, while also benefiting from the organization's fraternal bonds and resources. Fr. Philip M George has been a 4th Degree Knight since 2007.

Fr. George agrees that becoming a Knight of Columbus can be a fulfilling path for Catholic men seeking to deepen their faith, serve their community, and strengthen their families. The Knights promotes Catholic values and principles, including charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, which aligns with the mission of the Catholic Church and the role of priests. It offers opportunities for brotherhood, charitable work, and financial security.

*Love is the most universal,
the most tremendous and
the most mystical of cosmic
forces.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

In Appreciation of SK Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA



*Love is the primal and
universal psychic energy.
Love is a sacred reserve of
energy; it is like the blood
of spiritual evolution.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

As we approach the end of another active and challenging Fraternal Year, our Nevada State Council takes pause to honor Past State Chaplain SK Rev. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA. His Missionary Order has called him home. His new assignment will be at the Santo Niño Spiritually Center located in the Province of Santo Niño de Cebu, Philippines. It is effective as of July 1st.

Ordained in 1990, Fr. Arlon completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and his Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree cum laude at the Royal and Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Ecclesiastical Facility, located in Manila. His master's degree was earned at the same university.

Most of his priesthood was spent far from his country of birth. From 1993 to 2004, he was engaged as a Missionary apostolate in South Korea where he served as Pastor, and later, as Superior of the Augustinian Mission.

When his tour in South Korea ended, he returned to the Philippines, where he was assigned as a professor at Saint Thomas Villanova Institute, San Agustin Center of Studies in Quezon City, Philippines.

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In Appreciation of SK Fr. Arlon M. Vergara. OSA

Soon thereafter, he was once again assigned overseas. This time it was to the Diocese of Richmond in the United States. It was there, in Norfolk, VA, where he joined our Fraternal Order and completed his 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree in 2006. He joined the Fourth Degree in 2007.

Fr. Arlon was subsequently assigned to the Diocese of Sacramento before being assigned to the Diocese of Reno in 2018. The latter assignment was not without its challenges. It required several relocations within the Diocese, as well as increased travel due to area growth and the shortage of priests in northern Nevada.

He was initially assigned as Parocial Vicar at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Sparks, working closely with the Our Lady of the Desert Council 12877.

In 2020, he was assigned as Parocial Vicar at St. Theresa of the Little Flower Catholic Church in Reno. In addition, he was assigned as Chaplain of Holy Spirit Mission located to the south in Washoe Valley. Holy Spirit is a Nevada-based mission church that celebrates the Latin Mass. At both locations, Fr. Arlon spent time and effort promoting and recruiting member knights.

In 2022, he was assigned as Parocial Vicar at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Community in Carson City. In 2024, he was assigned as Parochial Vicar at the Saint Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno. Throughout both terms, he continued to serve Sunday masses in Latin at Holy Spirit Mission.

Fr. Arlon has been a Knight for 18 years and a 4th Degree Sir Knight for 17. During that period, he has been arguably the most visible supporter of sainthood for our founder, the Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney. This effort includes promoting and being the celebrant for Founder's Day and Fr. McGivney Feast Day masses in the Diocese of Reno in our founder's honor.

Despite all these parish assignments and responsibilities, Fr. Arlon has remained active within our Fraternal Organization. He has held the office of Faithful Friar in Bishop Manogue Assembly 612 in Reno since August 2020, and the office of Chaplain in Ponderosa Council 4928 in Sparks, NV since January 2023. He has done so even at times when needing to travel round trip distances of over 70 miles between Carson City and the meeting sites in Reno and in Sparks to be in attendance.

In May 2021, Fr. Arlon was recognized as our Nevada State Chaplain of the Year. In 2023-24, he served as our Nevada State Chaplain as well as multiple terms as our Nevada State Associate Chaplain.

During his 18 years of service within the United States, Fr. Arlon applied for and was granted American citizenship for which he is very proud. Few members can measure up to his commitment to the Church, to his Missionary Order, and to our Fraternal Order. We wish him the best in his new assignment.

*The future belongs to those
who give the next
generation reason for hope.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

Knight of the Month for April 2025



SK Fr. Jose Issac

*Love is the most powerful
and still most unknown
energy in the world.*

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

SK Fr. Jose Issac has served as the Pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Community since 2008. On April 10, he turned 75 years old. While age is just a number, it is the time when Catholic priests retire and turn their office over to a new generation of clergy leadership. Fr. Jose will be missed.

In the current fiscal year alone, Fr. Jose has challenged Ponderosa Council 4928 multiple times. In November, he encouraged our members to actively support his main parish fundraiser: the Annual Wine & Beer Tasting/Live & Silent Auction. In response, our members helped with event set up; our sommeliers met the challenge. Fr. Jose complimented our support.

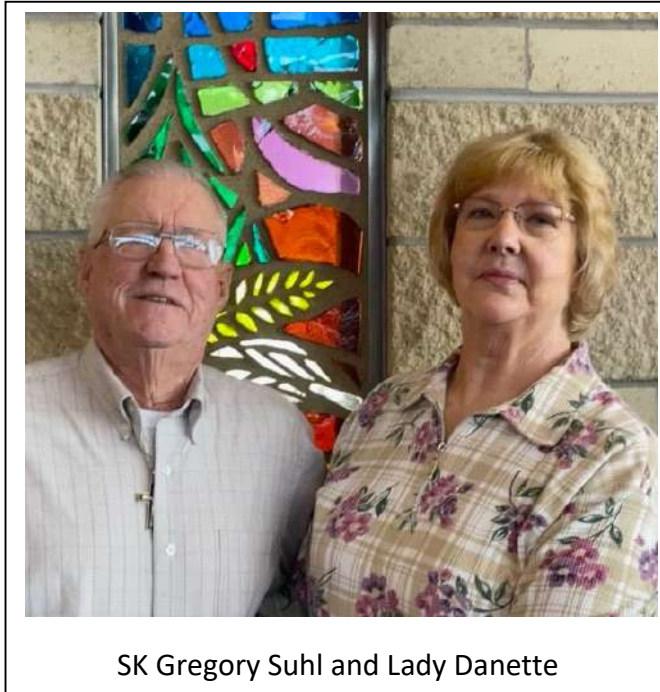
In December, he granted the Council permission to host the first parish-wide Christmas dinner in five years. Ticket sales were strong. The Worship Area was packed to its limits. Once again, Fr. Jose liked the sense of community we brought to the parish and was very appreciative. The same was true of the St. Patrick's Day Dinner also held in the parish Worship Area.

This month, at the upcoming Divine Mercy Sunday Mass, Fr. Jose has requested Knights of Columbus presence and support. In the absence of Fourth Degree Color Corp availability, a team of Council members will process in and display the Three Divine Mercy Images at this special mass concluding the Octave of Easter.

It is through challenges such as these that Father has provided our members with the opportunity to put their Faith in Action. In appreciation, Ponderosa Council 4928 recognizes SK Fr. Jose Issac as our April Knight of the Month. We wish him well in his golden years.

□ W. Anthony Watts, GK

Family of the Month for April 2025



SK Gregory Suhl and Lady Danette

SK Gregory Suhl and Lady Danette form an admirable religious team. Greg who has been a Knight for 17 years, recently took on the office of Faithful Navigator.

During his prime, when not participating in Ponderosa Council 4928 activities, SK Gregory was very active in the Assembly Color Corps enjoying being a part of all types of religious ceremonials until medical issues restricted his movement. Today, he is most frequently seen participating in the Holy Cross Catholic Community choir from a sitting position adding to the exquisiteness of the Mass.

On the other hand, Lady Danette has been very active in her own manner in the celebration of the Mass. She has long served as a parish Eucharistic Minister, a gift bearer, and an occasional backup sacristan. In addition, she is frequently responsible for counting Mass and special collection donations when all others are leaving the Worship Area.

Though different they may be in the form of contributions to Holy Cross parish, SK Gregory Suhl and Lady Danette are recognized as our Family of the Month for April.

- W. Anthony Watts, GK

The age of nations has passed. Now, unless we wish to perish, we must shake off our old prejudices and build the Earth.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

There is Such a Thing as a Free Lunch



Serving lunch to hungry UNR students

The more scientifically I regard the world, the less can I see any possible biological future for it except in the active consciousness of its unity.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Each Wednesday on the UNR college campus when class is in session, the Our Lady of Wisdom Newman Center offers free lunch primarily directed at campus college students. Initially, the program numbers were modest... less than 50 students. However, over time, the word got out. With the cost of college tuition being what it is today, a free lunch sounds pretty yummy, and the attendance grew.

On Wednesday, April 23, it was chili on a spring day when Ponderosa Council 4928 hosted its first Newman Center luncheon. Eleven Knights and spouses volunteered approximately 55 hours in service to scope, plan, shop, set-up, prepare and feed the hungry, and then return the kitchen facilities back to normal. The Diocese of Reno offsets the first \$500 in food cost. That was a real food event treat for us.

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There is Such a Thing as a Free Lunch



The lunch crew from Ponderosa Council 4928

The program menu is generally open to all lunch food items except pizza. As mentioned earlier, our menu included chili (Cincinnati-style) hot dogs/chili dogs, with an alternate for Cincinnati chili -- spaghetti, or both if one smiled, plus a separate serving line for dessert with a choice of peach or blackberry cobbler with or without ice cream at no additional charge. There wasn't even a tip jar for the help!

The lunch line was open from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. The "official" clicker-count of meals served was 197, but afterwards there were five hungry stragglers that showed up late pleading for mercy who were served which brought the final count to 202 plates.

We believe that our Council exceeded the expectations of the Newman Center staff as well as that of Bishop Daniel. In fact, Bishop Daniel enjoyed the Skyline Chili sauce so much that he asked for a half quart container "to-go."

There was also enough cooked pasta and chili sauce left over to make two full chafing dish trays of chili spaghetti which were delivered along with leftover shredded cheese, unused boxed spaghetti, and packaged hot dog rolls to the St. Vincent's Dining Room "soup kitchen" in Reno. The food service staff was thrilled.

All in all, it wasn't just a good day, it was a great day for our Council in community service.

*Humanity has been
sleeping --- and still
sleeps --- lulled within
the narrowly confining
joys of its little closed
loves.*

*Pierre Teilhard de
Chardin*

115th Annual Nevada Knights of Columbus State Convention



The caterers are ready. The venues are ready. The musicians are ready. The photographer is ready. The "swag bags" are filled. The 36-page souvenir book -- chock full of ads placed by Councils and Assemblies throughout the state -- is printed and ready. St. John Vianney Council 13842 is just waiting for you to arrive.

You can check-in Friday afternoon at the Newman Center on the UNR campus. Take a tour of this two-story marvel: kitchen, coffee shop and eating area on the first floor; class rooms, and meeting areas (one with a fireplace) below. Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel adjacent to the first floor. Beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served during the Welcome Reception.

Or check-in Saturday morning at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School -- the only Catholic high school in the Diocese of Reno and one of only two Catholic high schools in the state of Nevada. The school was established in 1948 and named for the first Bishop of Sacramento, Patrick Manogue. Step across the hall from the meeting area and take a look at the school chapel with its breath-taking stained glass windows. And, yes, you will find a portrait of Bishop Patrick in stained-glass in the bottom portion of the window to the left of the altar. Breakfast is served at 7 am.

After a day of convention proceedings, walk across the parking lot to St. Rose of Lima Church. You'll see how involved Council 13842 is in parish life: all the ushers, proclaimers (lectors) and many of the Eucharistic Ministers for this Mass are Knights. Nine ushers will be on hand to guide you to the center two sections of pews. The Color Guard will proceed Bishop Muggenborg into (and out of) the church.

Next head over to the Grand Sierra Resort (GSR) for the gala dinner. Go to the main ballroom off the first floor. Council Knights will greet you at the check-in desk and give you your table assignment. Indulge in a libation as you listen to live music. Dinner is served at 7:30 followed by the awards ceremony.

Lastly return to Bishop Manogue Catholic High School on Sunday morning for a half-day of proceedings and the election of next year's council officers. Breakfast is served at 7 am. Distribution of Per Diem Checks begins at 11 am.

This Month's Photos

St. Robert Bellarmine Council 13897 in Fernley, NV



Fernley Special Olympics



East Valley Elementary School

St. Robert Bellarmine Council 13897 in Fernley NV, donated \$500 to each of six causes in April: 1) Fernley Elementary School Special Education Program, 2) East Valley Elementary School's Special Education Program, 3) Cottonwood Elementary School Special Education Program, 4) Fernley Special Olympics Program, 5) Real Choices Women's Center in Reno and 6) St Robert Bellarmine Food Pantry. Everybody was really happy to see the Knights of Columbus and very thankful for the donations.

Vivat Jesus!
Financial Secretary
SK Tim Burnham



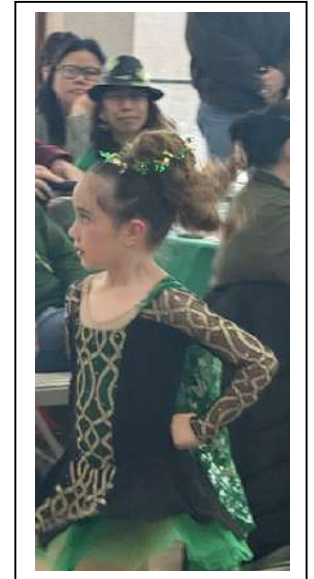
Cottonwood Elementary School



Fernley Elementary School

This Month's Photos

Council 12877's St Patrick's Day Dinner Dance



Irish eyes are always smiling when it comes to Council 12877's annual St. Patrick's Day dinner at Immaculate Conception Church in Sparks, NV. Whatever your nationality, once you walk through the doors of the parish hall on St. Paddy's Day, you become Irish. Once again, Shamrock Productions provided traditional Irish Celtic dancers to charm and amaze us with their dancing skills. Financial Secretary, Billy Sousa, our chef for the day, delighted everyone with traditional corned beef and cabbage with all the fixings.