

# The Silver Knight News

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## State Deputy's Message



**Nevada's Right to Life Team**

Worthy Brother Knights,

At this pivotal inflection point in history, we are compelled to assert our unwavering courage. As Catholic men, husbands, fathers, and advocates for the inherent dignity of every human life, we are once again being summoned to defend the "Cor" values of the Order.

A critical referendum vote, Question 6, poses a significant threat to the fundamental moral and legal framework of our state. This proposal advocates for the elimination of parental rights, the expansion of abortion access without stringent limitations and the establishment of procedures that can be performed by a broad range of individuals, not exclusively that of a licensed physician. Essentially, the proponents of Question 6 aim to enshrine an unrestricted and unhindered right to abortion within Nevada's State Constitution, irrespective of the health and safety concerns of minors or teenage girls who may require the professional medical care of licensed physicians.

Continued next page

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

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*We have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for the day. Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it. Our attitude is everything.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## State Deputy's Message

### **We cannot and must not stand idle.**

Our brothers and sisters at Nevada Right to Life are leading the effort to get out the vote and urge all Nevadans to vote NO on Question 6. This is where we come in. The Knights of Columbus have always been at the forefront of defending life—from conception to natural death—and now is the time to act with unity, charity, and steadfast conviction.

I humbly ask each of you to:

- Be informed – Understand what Question 6 truly proposes.
- Be engaged – Share accurate information within your parishes, councils, families and communities.
- Be present – Volunteer your time to support voter outreach efforts.
- Be prayerful – Invoke the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all that we do!

Additionally, there is an initiative to solicit petition signatures for a Question 7, which would aim to ensure the safety and dignity of women's athletics by reinforcing the common sense standards of allowing only biological females to participate in organized woman's athletics.

My fellow brothers, this matter transcends partisan politics and pertains to the fundamental principles upon which our nation was established 250 years ago. It is imperative that we safeguard the most vulnerable preteen and teenage girls from the heinous acts of human trafficking, which this proposed Question 6 constitutional amendment seeks to conceal. Instead, I humbly implore you to uphold the sacred gift of life bestowed upon us by God and redouble our efforts to reject Question 6. Let us answer this call with the same unity and resolve that has defined our Order for generations. Although the 8,000+ Nevada Knights are vastly outnumbered by those misguided voters who voted "yes" in 2024 as we enter into this political battle, please remember the inspiring quote by Prime Minister Winston Churchill: "Never ... was so much owed by so many to so few."

Vivat Jesus!

David Clarke, State Deputy

## 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 Lk 24:35, the reading for April 19.

**“Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread..”**

The disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. Jesus promised he would be with us always, and the Eucharist is his fulfillment of that promise. We encounter his presence most profoundly in the Eucharist, where he is truly present — body, blood, soul, and divinity — under the appearance of bread and wine. The disciples’ experience on the road to Emmaus was no ordinary meal, but an encounter with Christ, who invites us, too, to enter into communion with him through the Eucharist.

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

This month, I challenge you to remain in prayer and adoration for several minutes after Mass to grow in awareness of Christ’s true presence in the Eucharist.

### **Questions for Reflection:**

Do you fully realize it is the true body and blood of Christ that you receive in the Eucharist? Do you habitually pray in thanksgiving after Communion for this immeasurable gift? Do you consistently participate in Mass on Sundays and holy days? Do you make an effort to attend more frequently, so that you might avail yourself of the graces of this great sacrament?

*God is a specialist at making something useful and beautiful out of something broken and confused.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## Lector's Reflection: The Paraclete



*We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

A paraclete is one who renders aid. The word appears only five times in the New Testament and only in John's writings (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7). The Greek word παράκλητος (παράκλητος) is often translated "Helper," "Comforter," "Counselor," or "Advocate." In its most common usage, παράκλητος is a legal term --- Imagine yourself in a courtroom, accused of a crime. Desperate and alone, how will you convince the judge of your innocence? You need a spokesperson, someone to plead your case on your behalf. You need someone to come to your aid. You need a παράκλητος.

In John 14:16 & 26, Jesus promised to send "another Advocate" -- the Holy Spirit -- the Spirit of truth who will be with us forever. He will "teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

Do we find ourselves today in need of an advocate, a comforter -- a paraclete? Let's recall Paul's words in Romans 8:26. "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."



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**BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**



## Note from State Historian

# 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Coming May 1 - 3 *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 David M. Clarke 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: [jmichael\\_brady@att.net](mailto:jmichael_brady@att.net) 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

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

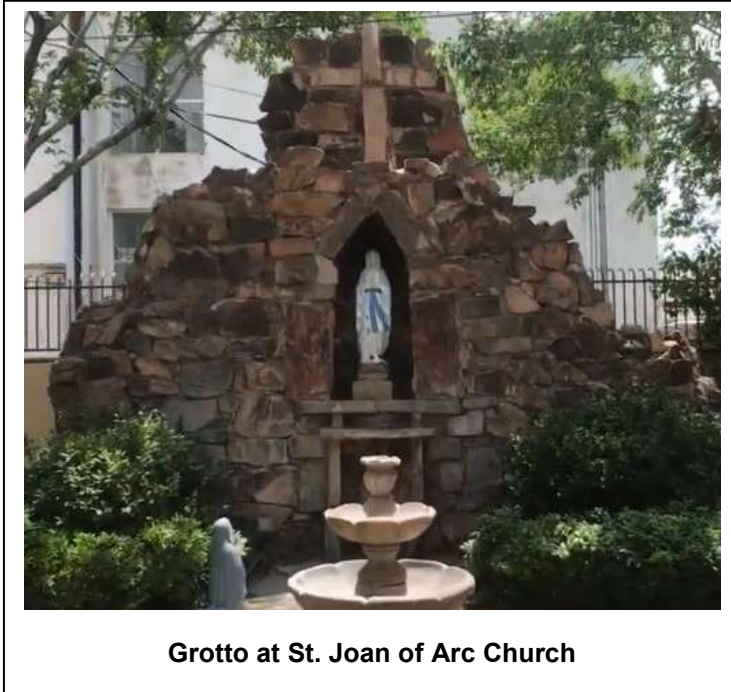
**Remember:** The message Blessed Michael McGivney continues to have for us, that we carry on the work he began 143 years ago, when he gathered a group of Catholic men in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT.

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

*Don't get older; get better:  
Live realistically. Give  
generously. Adapt willingly.  
Trust fearlessly. Rejoice daily.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## First Catholic Church in Las Vegas



The first Catholic parish established in Las Vegas, Nevada was St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. Although 1906 is sometimes mistakenly cited, historical documentation consistently identifies 1908 as the official year the parish was organized.

### Chronological Development:

- 1905 – Las Vegas was founded as a railroad town. Catholic priests occasionally visited and celebrated Mass in private homes or rented halls before a parish was formally established.
- 1908 – Bishop Lawrence Scanlan formally organized St. Joan of Arc as the first Catholic parish in Las Vegas. Father Edward Reynolds was appointed as the first pastor.
- 1909 – Property was purchased on Second Street (now Casino Center Boulevard) for the construction of a church building.
- 1910 – A small wooden chapel, often referred to as a 'Cottage Chapel,' was completed and became the first dedicated Catholic church building in Las Vegas.
- 1940 – A larger permanent church structure was dedicated as the parish expanded alongside the growing city.

Clarification Regarding the Year 1906: The year 1906 is associated with other Catholic developments in Nevada, including the establishment of Sacred Heart Church in Ely. However, it does not correspond to the founding of the first Catholic parish in Las Vegas. The historically supported founding year for Las Vegas' first parish remains 1908.

*Anything under God's control is never out of control.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

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

**State Life Director for Southern Nevada  
Mark Gilmour, GK,**



I am a cradle Catholic, born and raised near Pittsburgh, PA, the third of four brothers. In public school, I was on the golf team, debate team, and the yearbook editor. I met my wife Midge in high school. She was a pom-pom girl -- beautiful and smart. We started dating, and then I left for the University of Notre Dame. We were engaged in my freshman year, so I transferred to Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. We had a beautiful Catholic wedding, and she and her family helped put me through college.

I graduated in three years and enrolled in Duquesne's Law School. I went to work in a large corporate Legal Department in Pittsburgh and became a tax attorney. Then, thanks to the grace of God and an intense internship in the Gulf Oil Tax Department, I -- like several of my coworkers -- became the head of a large corporate tax department.

Midge and I moved to Houston, TX where we had our first son. When Chevron took over Gulf Oil in 1985, we moved back to Pittsburgh where our second son was born. We had a stable life there for 15 years. During this time, I was a Sunday-only Catholic, although I did help with my eldest son's Boy Scout Troop and I led a successful company charity drive. Then a corporate shakeup sent us to North Carolina, Detroit, and finally to Chicago.

In Chicago in 2011, I had major surgery for a cancerous mass in my pancreas. The night before the surgery -- not knowing if I would survive -- I got down on my knees and promised God

*Prayer is an investment.  
The time you dedicate to  
prayer isn't lost; it will  
return dividends far greater  
than what a few moments  
spent on a task ever could.  
If we fail to cultivate this  
discipline, prayer winds up  
being our last resort rather  
than our first response.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

Continued next page

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

"If you save me from this, I will turn up my faith and serve you." Despite a long and severely painful surgery and recovery, I focused on work and remained a workaholic. When I retired in 2016, and we moved to Las Vegas, I knew I had an I.O.U to pay to the Lord.

I needed to get closer to God, so I joined St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Henderson -- a large parish with a wonderful patron saint for lawyers. I started as a lector, joined two small groups, and five years ago, started a weekly men's faith group.

In 2022, some amazing events changed my life. Joe Haun asked our men's group to form a Knight of Columbus Council. The parish is nearly 40 years old and it had a Men's Club that socialized and raised money, but some of us in the Club wanted more faith. I ended up in the hospital for a tune-up surgery and Stephen, whom I just met in small group, came to my hospital room and prayed for me. Right after I was discharged, Tom Melton asked me and Stephen to become council officers. I said, "I'll serve if you let me work on Life issues." Honestly, I did not plan to say those words. Stephen also said yes. We had no idea what two men saying yes to the Lord would lead to. We got a quick answer.

In the next three months, I went to the first Imago Dei Conference - it's a local Life Conference started by Women's Resource Pregnancy Center (now named Allyfe). I heard faith reflections, testimonies, and facts about the pro-life battle.

One month later, four people -- myself, Teresa, (a young mom from church), a security guard and a regular sidewalk witness -- prayed on a sidewalk 100 yards from an infamous abortion center in Las Vegas. It was our first time doing so. We prayed to the Virgin Mary for a full hour. We watched as a car drove by slowly and the driver looked at us. The car parked at the abortion center and a young woman went in. Soon afterward, the woman came out. She was six months pregnant and her name was Dina. She told our group that she decided to save her baby thanks to our prayer.

Our group was overwhelmed. Charles, the big security guard, started crying and told us that he and his wife had had an abortion and split up. He had quit the Knights and the Church. After this miracle, he said he was going back to Church! Three saves in one hour! Stephen and I prayed at that sidewalk, and the abortion center closed (it moved to another location). There is a back story. I almost failed to pray on that sidewalk due to spiritual warfare. I was just interviewed about that and the fight for life. The 36-minute video is available at these links. I recommend it to all the Knights and their families and friends.

Continued next page

*Encourage one another.  
Many times a word of  
praise or thanks or  
appreciation or cheer has  
kept people on their feet.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## Knight in the Light

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

YouTube video link.

<https://youtu.be/khtpkeJ7yrA?si=qijSRggucSFExJHD> or  
<https://fcpschampions.org/media/> Episode 22

CONTENTS - Two parts and time stamps below - 36 minutes total. What did God help Mark do, in 2022, since then, and today? What is he calling ME to do? My interview starts at 12:30 on my call to do pro-Life and what the Knights do for Life. 12:30 - 36:22. Then the call to action on Q6 and IMAGO DEI MOVEMENT, and more. 43:55 - 55:51.

I learned that:

1. Abortion stops one heart and breaks another. And that broken heart grieves, often secretly, for the rest of her life. But women are not the only ones grieving. Men grieve too. If you are carrying abortion trauma, seek help through prayer, God's forgiveness through confession, and consider a healing retreat. Ask for help.
2. My journey since retiring here has been one of discerning what God calls me to do. I did not get an itinerary from God on this journey. It unfolds daily according to His Will. I have heard people say "God does not Call the Qualified. He Qualifies the Called." For me, it is true. Selecting a personal Bible verse set me on a course. "You are the light of the world. ...Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." (Matthew 5:14)
3. I have spent the last three years learning and fighting for Life. Being a Knight has made all the difference. Mainly – encouragement and brotherhood, Fraternity, Charity, Unity. "Where two or more are gathered!" Small groups and friendships have helped me build a strong faith foundation - put God first, run faith formation/COR, learn the Catechism. Then be courageous, stay strong, learn to live your life on both halves of the Penitential Rite. Live the Beatitudes. Serve others. Meet people you would not otherwise meet and you **are** the Knights of Columbus! Build the Kingdom on the shoulders of faithful people like my father and grandfather, and other past Knights and Life Directors.

*Laughter is the most  
beautiful and beneficial  
therapy God ever  
granted humanity.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

## Life Director Report: Nevada Girls Sports Petition

The U.S. Supreme Court is considering a case dealing with ...laws that concern natural, physical distinctions in the human body. If these state laws are struck down, it would undermine a state's ability to make reasoned arguments and statements about the central distinction present in the human community since the dawn of time: male and female.

<https://adflegal.org/press-release/us-supreme-court-to-hear-womens-sports-cases-tuesday/>

A petition drive is an effort to reverse how the Nevada ERA undermines a state's ability to make reasoned arguments and statements about the central distinction present in the human community since the dawn of time: male and female.

The legal significance extends beyond the preservation of logic in single-sex competitions. It involves the ability of states to pass laws based on that logic, which may also apply in other contexts.

- What if all state law efforts that require sex distinction violate the Constitution?
- What if states cannot develop laws that rely on objective, biological criteria to distinguish between men and women when regulating other spaces where those physical differences are, like in sports, the reason for separation?

Talking points to promote the petition to allow voters to decide:

1. Girls deserve a safe, fair playing field today—not years from now.
2. When biological males compete on women's teams, female athletes lose championships, opportunities, and scholarships and suffer serious harms and safety risks.
3. The NCAA amended its participation policies this past February to declare that biological male athletes "may not compete for an NCAA women's team," no matter how they identify.
4. A significant portion of public opinion that supports fairness and safety for women and girls in athletics.
5. The USCCB's advocacy reflects a commitment to ensuring that women and girls can compete safely and fairly in sports, reinforcing the need for policies that respect biological differences.
6. Catholic world News reports "The chairmen of two committees of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops have announced their support of the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023."

*God's heavenly plan  
doesn't always make  
earthly sense.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## Surge of New Converts Have Bishops Puzzled



This Easter the Archdiocese of Detroit received 1,428 new Catholics into the church -- its highest number in 21 years. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston will have its most in 15 years. In the Diocese of Des Moines, the count is jumping 51 percent from last year, from 265 people to 400.

Bishops are trying to understand what's behind the wave. "Of course we think it's the Holy Spirit," Cardinal Robert McElroy of Washington said. "But we are kind of stymied."

His own archdiocese expects 1,755 people enter the church this Easter, up from last year's 1,566, which had already been the highest number in at least 15 years, according to the archdiocese's records.

"In our age of uncertainty, and in our age of great anxiety, is a thirst and hunger for God and stability that faith brings to people's lives," said Archbishop Mitchell Thomas Rozanski of St. Louis, where the reported numbers have not been this high since 2016.

For Jesse Araujo, 19, in Pahrump, the biggest influence in drawing him to the faith was listening to Catholic podcast stars he found on YouTube, like Father Mike Schmitz. He went to Mass only a few times before joining the O.C.I.A. process. He felt an obligation after learning about the sacraments. "I follow Jesus — Jesus left a church, I should follow that church," he said. Now both of his parents are taking O.C.I.A. classes, too, he said, which made him feel a sense of pride.

"Are we prepared to give these new and returning Catholics, especially the men, a way to complete their journey and the invitation to our programs so they can put their new Faith into Action?" asks Regional Growth Director, Chuck Davlin. "How can I help?"

*We aren't just thrown  
on this earth like dice  
tossed across a table. We  
are lovingly placed here  
for a purpose*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

## Knights attend Świąconka on Holy Saturday



Świąconka is the Polish tradition of blessing food for Easter. Families prepare baskets filled with symbolic foods such as eggs, bread, and sausage and take them to church on Holy Saturday to be blessed by a priest. This ritual, rooted in early medieval Christian practices, emphasizes the significance of these foods in celebrating Easter and the resurrection of Christ. Six Knights, their families and nearly 60 other people, attended the second annual Blessing of the Easter Baskets conducted by Fr. Dariusz Miskowicz, pastor, at St. Rose of Lima Church on April 4. The Knights knew the blessing was genuine because Fr. Dariusz recited it in Polish. (He later gave an English translation.)

Items included in a typical Easter Basket include:

- Masło (Butter) - The butter is often shaped into a lamb (Baranek Wielkanocny) or a cross. This reminds us of the good will of Christ that we should have towards all things.
- Babka (Easter Bread) - A round or long loaf topped with a cross or a fish, symbolic of Jesus, who is the Bread of Life.
- Chrzan (Horseradish) - Symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds.
- Jajka (Eggs) and Pisanki (decorated with symbols of Easter, of life, of prosperity) - Indicates new life and Christ's Resurrection from the tomb.
- Kielbasa (Sausage) - A sausage product, symbolic of God's favor and generosity.
- Szyńka (Ham) - Symbolic of great joy and abundance. Some prefer lamb or veal. The lamb also reminds Christians that the Risen Christ is the "Lamb of God."
- Sol (Salt) - A necessary element in our physical life. Symbolic of prosperity and justice and to remind us that people are the flavor of the earth.
- Ser (Cheese) - Symbolic of the moderation Christians should have at all times.
- Candle - Represents Christ as the Light of the World.

The basket is usually covered with an elaborately embroidered linen cloth and tied with colorful ribbons as a sign of joy and new life in celebration of the Resurrection. The food is eaten in a traditional meal on Easter Sunday.

*Each day of our lives we  
make deposits in the  
memory banks of our  
children.*

*Charles R. Swindoll*

# COR means HEART



To the writers of the Bible, “the heart” stood for a man's entire mental and moral activity --- both the rational and the emotional elements. Jesus, for example, pointed out that "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, acts of adultery, other immoral sexual acts, thefts, false testimonies, and slanderous statements." (Matthew 15:19).

The goal of Knights of Columbus COR program is to turn the hearts of Catholic men to Jesus Christ and to shape and strengthen these men in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to prayer, faith formation, and fraternity. In other words, to fulfill the Lord's Great Commission to **make disciples**.

A disciple:

- Knows who Jesus is
- Decides to follow Him
- Is being changed by Him
- Grows in a relationship with Him
- and brings others to Him

The goal of each COR gathering is to provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ, to pray together, to grow in their faith, and to strengthen their bonds of brotherhood, preparing them for courageous leadership and the mission of evangelization for their families and communities.

**“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” (Mt 28:19).**

## Exemplifications



**Fourth Degree Exemplification Ceremony at Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Community.  
Ten men elevated to Sir Knight!**



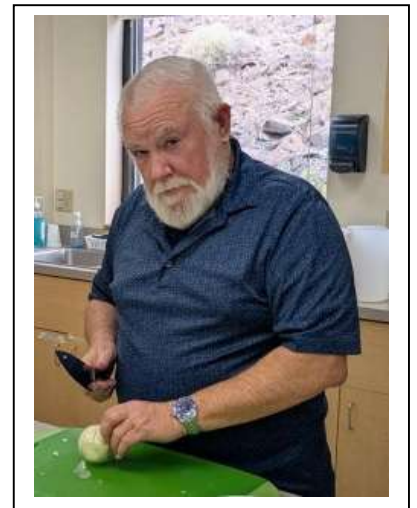
**Fourth Degree Exemplification at St. Galls in Garderville on Saturday Mar 28.  
Thirteen men elevated to Sir Knights!**

## This Month's Photos

Ponderosa Council 4928 hosted lunch at UNR's Newman Center on April 1. Seventeen volunteers served up five different combinations of Skyline Chili to 175 students. One Newman Center volunteer told GK Anthony Watts, "You have an incredible crew of people." He agreed.



L to R: Russ Bernhardt, Joyce Minter, Morgan Liddick, John Bell, Margie Goforth, George Minter, Theresa Tighe, Fr. Bobin, GK Anthony, Linda Walsh, Robbie Harris, Dave Jenkins, Christi Pagni, Tome Tighe, Marv Cochran, Robin Pagni, and State Secretary Leo Carew.



# This Month's Photos

The Nevada State Council co-sponsored the First Choice Pregnancy Services' (FCPS) 21st Annual March for Life on March 28.



Group photo of Knights with FCPS Director, Deborah Costello

## This Month's Photos

At Msgr. Patrick J. Connors Council 4997's Annual Lenten Fish fry at Our Lady of the Snows parish March 20, 2026, Bishop Manogue Assembly 612 presented SK Fr. Thomas (Boby) Malancharuvil, a plaque, chalice and vestments commemorating the 25th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood. Fr. Bobby is the Faithful Friar of Assembly 612 and the Parochial Vicar Our Lady of the Snows Parish.



## This Month's Photos



Members of Bishop Manogue Assembly 612 present an "Application Award" to Precision Diamonds for their contribution over the past seven years, of a silver jeweled 4th Degree emblem on each chalice the Assembly gives to a new priest in memory of a deceased Assembly member.

### Northern Nevada itinerary of the Mexican Martyr Reliquary

- Thursday April 23: 5 p.m. - Our Lady of Wisdom at UNR's Newman Center
- Friday April 24: 8:30 a.m. - Saint Rose of Lima Church
- Friday April 24: Worthy Omar Aguilar arrives from Dallas to serve as the Supreme Vice President's substitute for the Diocese of Reno Awards Banquet. He will accompany the Reliquary throughout the weekend.
- Saturday April 25: 9 a.m. - Saint Anne of the Comstock in Dayton - Father Tom Nelson will host the Reliquary with Grand Knight Mike Navin coordinating
- Saturday April 25: afternoon - Father Hannifan, pastor at Saint Gall's in Gardnerville will host. Grand Knight Ruben Munguia will coordinate the transfer of the Reliquary to Saint Patrick's in Fallon.
- Sunday April 26: all day - Father Jose Sabarzo, pastor of Saint Patrick's in Fallon will host the Reliquary. Council 4828 Grand Knight Tom Jones will coordinate the events at Saint Patrick's for all Masses starting at 8:00 a.m. and concluding with hospitality after the noon Spanish Mass.
- Monday, April 27: The Reliquary will travel 146 from Fallon, NV to Colfax, CA where it will be hand-delivered to California State Deputy Ken Rose.

## This Month's Photos

Photos of the Exemplification held at St Thomas Aquinas Cathedral on Feb 1. Council 978 had three candidates, including Father Francis Coyne. Our Lady of the Desert Council 12877 from Immaculate Conception Parish had six candidates.



# This Month's Photos

Exemplification at St Thomas Aquinas Cathedral on Feb 1.



# This Month's Photos

## Walk for Life in San Francisco

On Saturday, Jan. 24, five buses left the Reno Diocese for the annual Walk for Life in San Francisco. Walk participants State Deputy David Clarke and State Secretary Leo Carew III started the day with Father Philip celebrating Mass at 5:30 AM at Immaculate Conception Parish in Sparks.

The buses arrived to a glorious sunshiny day in San Francisco at 10:30 AM. The Nevadans met up with brother California Knights from Elk Grove, Sacramento, and even San Francisco. "It was very impressive to see so many college students and those of a younger generation involved in the walk," said Leo Carew. "We look forward to joining this walk again next year -- maybe even right here in Nevada."



Early morning Mass



State Secretary and State Deputy



Brother Knights from Sacramento

# This Month's Photos

## Walk for Life in San Francisco



**San Francisco Knights**



**Filipino council from South San Francisco**



**Rick Harold listened intently**



**Mrs State Secretary Connie Carew and Greg Amundsen from San Jose council**