



# Saskatchewan State Council Knights of Columbus

## State Deputy's Report - September 2010

Worthy Grand Knights and Brothers;

With September upon us all of your Councils will be settling in to face the duties and responsibilities that we have all taken, to serve our Church, our Community and our Brother Knight. Most of you have taken a few months relaxation, spending time at the lake or holidaying but now we need to refocus our efforts. We must plan programs. We must ensure the stability of our Parishes. We must seek to serve others and show the goodness of Catholicism just as the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney envisioned us doing.

You Worthy Grand Knights are the leaders of your Councils and thus you should not carry the entire burden of service to those in your Community. Your duty is to inspire the Brother Knights in your Councils to go out and serve. I have often said that the higher you go in this Order, the less you can do (at least as it is in personally serving others). The Supreme Knight relies on me. I rely on my District Deputies. They rely on you Grand Knights and you rely on the members of your Council to volunteer and to serve. Those of us "up the ladder" so to speak, can only work to inspire our Brother Knights to serve; to be the Visible Image of the Catholic Faith.

When I joined the Knights of Columbus some 30 years ago, I did not see myself as agreeing to be an image of the goodness of the Catholic Church, but recent issues have placed an additional onus on ALL Catholics to defend the goodness of the Faith by our very actions. We Knights are in a special position, defined by Our Founder's Vision, to focus the attention of the world on the goodness of our Faith through our Service, rather than on the errors of some in the Church. I can only ask you, what Brother Knight is not prepared to defend the Church? All we have to do is to do what Fr. McGivney envisioned us doing; Serving Catholics; Being Missionaries in our own communities by serving non Catholics; Making our communities better places to live; Serving our Parish Priest by filling the pews in the Church.

How do we fill the pews in the Church? In all our communities there are fallen away Catholics who need to be reminded of the goodness of the Faith. In our communities there are non Catholics who may choose to join the Church if only they could see the Truth of our Faith. Mahatma Gandhi once told Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, "If all Christians were like you there would be no Hindus in India." We must live our Faith as Mother Teresa did and because we are Knights we are in a unique position to draw people to, or back to, the Faith. And we must keep them strong in their Faith by including them in the Knights of Columbus.

A few other things have to be addressed over the coming month. Here is a reminder of the pertinent Forms for this month as well as a few that are late. If you are late please take care of them as soon as possible. I believe that all these forms, except for the Audit that must be signed by the Trustees, are available online.

- Round Table Annual Report #2630 was due June 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Remember that every Council needs to send in a YEARLY form for every Round Table in that Council. No Saskatchewan Reports have been received by Supreme so far this year.
- Columbian Award Application #SP-7 was due June 30<sup>th</sup>.  
By sending in this report you will receive the Columbian Award and ideally, every Council should be doing events in each of the 6 categories. However if you cannot fill out the entire form, why not send it in as best as you can and let Supreme know what you have done!
- The Report of Officers Chosen #185 was due July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Whether you are electing new Officers or not, this report MUST be sent in.

- The Service Program Personnel Report #365 was due August 1<sup>st</sup>.

This report gives Supreme the contact person for each of these Directorships. If you do not send in this report Supreme does not know who to send info about related programs and your Council will be “out of the loop.” If you do send in this report our State Chaplain, Bishop Bayda, will not know who your Council Chaplain is and will not be able to stay in contact with him. not your Council

- Council Semi Annual Audit #1295 was due August 15<sup>th</sup>.

I want to stress that it is a service to your Brother Knights that you complete these forms on time and as best as you are able. When you do not send in these forms (or pay your per capita billing) it falls to your District Deputy, the State Treasurer or myself as State Deputy, to do EXTRA WORK chasing you down and encouraging you to do your duty. Not only that, there are Supreme Directors who also must get after ME to insist that these forms are sent in. I encourage you to assist your Brother Knights, and myself, by furnishing these forms to Supreme in a timely fashion.

To conclude this month’s State Deputy Report I want to remind everyone that we are continuing in preparations for the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration planned for September 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick’s Parish in Saskatoon. We are currently finalizing the details that will see, Monsignor Eduardo Chavez, the Postulator of the Cause for Canonization of Saint Juan Diego as leader of the Festival. We are still waiting to confirm his Visa to enter Canada but we are sure we will get that confirmation soon. Monsignor Chavez led a Marian Congress and Guadalupe Festival at the Supreme Convention in Arizona a year ago and it was wonderful. There is so much about “Our Lady of the Americas” that we have not been taught. It will be both an education and a celebration. While we will be hosting the event in Saskatoon we want this to be a Provincial celebration and invite Councils throughout the Province to arrange for buses or vans and to promote the celebration. As soon as we get the Visa confirmation, further information will be sent out through the Diocese and Parish Bulletins as well as through the Knights of Columbus grape vine.

Have a good month

Edward Gibney, State Deputy