



# The Explorer

A Publication  
of the  
Kansas  
Knights of Columbus

SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2011

## 110<sup>th</sup> State Convention Mass "Mercy and Forgiveness"

The Convention Mass was held at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dodge City at 4:30 PM Sunday afternoon. Presiding was Most Rev. John B. Brungardt, Bishop of Dodge City. Concelebrants were Most Rev. Ronald M. Gilmore, Bishop Emeritus of Dodge City, State Chaplain Rev. Ken Schuckman, Rev. Ted Skalsky, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Cathedral and Chaplain of host council #2955, Former State Chaplains Rev. Thomas Dolezal and Rev. Francis G. Jordan, and Chaplains from across the state of Kansas.

Bishop Brungardt spoke about the great sacrament of mercy and how Jesus is present in all the sacraments. The Bishop demonstrated Penance using several "volunteer" children from the congregation and servers. The great Sacrament of Mercy is also known by four other names: Sacrament of Conversion, Confession, Reconciliation, and Forgiveness. Jesus gave us the great gifts of mercy and forgiveness. He is there for us, hidden in the priest. Let us run, not walk, to receive his mercy.

Jesus also calls us to be forgiving. We must show mercy and forgiveness for each other and trust in God's grace to assist us, for he loves us and has infinite mercy for his people. We also must ask forgiveness for ourselves even when it is difficult, and we need to pray for his mercy and unconditional love.

In the Bishop's style, he shared a story called "Don't Let it End This Way" in order to emphasize how mercy and forgiveness helps us all. A copy of this story can be found at <http://jlfoundation.net/forgiveness-reconciliation.html>.

## Resolution to Amend the State By-Laws

Resolution 10 proposes to amend the By-Laws of the Kansas State Council by changing the day of the general meeting of the State Council from a Monday to a Sunday.

At last year's Convention, we approved a resolution to investigate the possibility of changing the convention dates. The state officers believe that changing the format may encourage more participation at the Convention. It may be easier for delegates to be absent from work on a Friday rather than a Monday.

The proposed amendment must be adopted by two-thirds of the members of the State Council.



## Kansas Catholic Conference

Michael Schutloffel, Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference, gave an update on a number of legislative issues during the Awards ceremony. He had very encouraging news this year. The legislature has passed three pro-life bills. Two of these have been signed by Governor Sam Brownback, and he is expected to sign the third one.

The "Fetal Pain Law" prohibits abortions during and after twenty weeks, measured from conception, on the grounds that unborn children can feel pain at that time. The law also closes the mental and emotional health loophole by only permitting late-term abortions in cases of grave physical danger to the life or health of the mother.

The "Late Term Abortion and Parental Consent Law" contains the following provisions:

- Strengthens long-ignored reporting requirements on "late-term abortions" of fully viable unborn children, that are already illegal, except in cases of grave harm to the life or health of the mother.
- Allows a woman or her family to sue an abortionist who performs an illegal abortion.
- Requires the abortionist to inform the mother in writing that "the abortion will terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being."
- Implements a state ban on partial-birth abortion (The wording was adjusted from past attempts to precisely mirror the federal ban upheld by the US Supreme Court).
- Also includes new language that replaces Kansas's parental notification law with parental consent.

The "Abortion Clinic Licensure Bill" would require abortion clinics to follow the same sanitary and cleanliness standards that apply to other medical facilities. These are common-sense regulations including unannounced inspections. The bill would give Kansas the nation's strongest ultrasound law and would prevent the use of telemedicine or "webcam" abortions. This bill has been passed by both the House and the Senate, and is awaiting Governor Brownback's signature.

This past Friday, April 30, the House passed the "Defense Act Regulating Sex Shops Bill" that imposes time, place, and manner restrictions on sexually oriented businesses. Included in the bill is language preventing such establishments from building within 1000 feet of churches, schools, parks, and homes. Statewide regulation is necessary because smaller communities often do not have the resources to fight the multi-billion dollar pornography business in court when they attempt to apply similar restrictions at the local level.

Please contact your legislators who voted to pass these bills, and let them know you appreciate their support on these bills and stand behind them during these troubling times. Also, continue to encourage them to protect the sanctity of life. You can find how your representative or senator voted on these and other bills by visiting [www.kscathconf.org](http://www.kscathconf.org).

## Squire of the Year - Joshua Lund

Josh is a charter member of the St. Mary Circle 5478 in Derby. Josh was an active member in the Squires before the Squires started in Derby. Josh has been active with Knights of Columbus Breakfasts, Tootsie Roll Campaign, and Lifesaver Sunday. He is a sophomore at Kapaun-Mt. Carmel High School where he is involved in the Robotics Club. Josh is an active participant in the Parish weekly home Rosary and is an altar server for his parish.

Josh volunteers at the Lord's Diner with his family. He is a member of the Boy Scouts and runs a monthly meeting for the honor society of the local Boy Scouts.

According to Tom Schmeidler, a Counselor for the Derby Circle, "You will always find Josh there ready to lend not one

## Counselor of the Year - Josh Beying

The State Counselor of the Year is Josh Beying of Garden Plain Circle 5383. He is a member of Garden Plain Council 2937. Josh has served as the Chief Counselor of the Garden Plain Circle since its inception two years ago. The circle has continued to flourish under his leadership and guidance. Josh, his wife, and two small children are active in their parish and community.

## Circle of the Year - Holy Trinity Circle 4743, Paola

Holy Trinity Circle 4743 in Paola is this year's State Squires Circle of the Year. The Paola circle is active in their parish community as well as the community of Paola. They continually strive to recruit new members and keep their present members active. As a circle, they hold team building exercises, have benefit breakfasts, and conduct food drives for the local community.



## Kansas State Knight of the Month

Each month we honor a "State Knight of the Month." The winners for this fraternal year to date are:

Month	Name	Council
July	Ted J. Appelhanz	534 Topeka
August	Ronald E. Branek	1510 Norton
September	Gerald Breault	1142 Concordia
October	Richard A. Mick	976 Newton
November	David Campbell	900 Leavenworth
December	Bob Schneider	2100 Olmitz
January	Joseph Betzen	4458 Derby
February	Bernie Antes	12960 Lawrence-Corpus Christi
March	Joshua P. Ellis	11240 Perry

## Tax Filing Information

Starting in 2008 (for the 2007 tax year) and each year thereafter **EVERY COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY MUST FILE A FORM 990 WITH THE IRS.** The tax exempt status of your council or assembly will be at risk if you do not file.

Councils with gross receipts over \$25,000 must file form 990 however; those councils and assemblies having gross receipts less than \$25,000 must file the 990N or e-postcard form online through the IRS website. There is no form. To access the filing system, go to the IRS website [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Click on "Charities and Non-Profits" on the bar across the top of the page and it will take you to a page where you will see a bolded topic for Form 990N. The process to file the 990N or e-postcard online is fast and easy. Completing the e-postcard requires the eight items listed below:

1. Employer Identification Number (EIN) also known as a Tax Identification Number (TIN).
2. Tax Year
3. Legal name and mailing address.
4. Any other names the organization uses.
5. Name and address of a principle officer.
6. Web site address if the organization has one.
7. Confirmation that the organization's annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less.
8. If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is terminating (going out of business).

You will be asked to register and enter your council's or assembly's own Employer Identification Number (EIN). **This number must be on file at the Supreme office.** If it is not on file with Supreme Council you will need to provide it to the Supreme Advocate's office immediately.

The form will ask for your tax year. If you do not have an established tax year, you may choose to use either the calendar year or some other fiscal year, such as the fraternal year which ends June 30. All 990 forms are due each year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax year. For example if your tax year ends December 31 your 990 form will be due May 15. You cannot file until after your tax year ends.

The IRS will revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years. Therefore, councils, assemblies and council home corporations that do not file the e-postcard, 990N or Form 990 for three consecutive years, will have their tax-exempt status revoked as of the filing due date of the third year. **Losing your tax exempt status means you would be required to file income tax returns and pay income tax. All monies collected through council fundraisers or other activities would be treated as income and therefore would be taxable by the IRS!**

Gentlemen, less than 50% of our councils and assemblies have complied with this new filing requirement. The deadline is fast approaching. Please take care of this matter immediately for the continued success of your charitable works of the Knights of Columbus in your community. Please call State Advocate Pat Winchester at 785-887-1700 or email him at [stateadvocate@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:stateadvocate@kansas-kofc.org) with any questions you may have.



## Alcohol Awareness & Abuse Poster Winners

**Age 8-11 Division**  
Thomas Kennedy  
10932-Overland Park  
District 10

**Age 12-14 Division**  
Joe Stuppy  
10932-Overland Park  
District 10

## Drug Awareness & Abuse Poster Winners

**Age 8-11 Division**  
Allison Comer  
10932-Overland Park  
District 10

**Age 12-14 Division**  
Melody Khounsavady  
3677-Wichita  
District 34

## Fourth Degree

By District Master Bill Baalman

The first exemplification of the Fourth Degree in Kansas took place in Topeka on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1907. J. W. Gibbons was appointed the first Master of the Fourth Degree for Kansas and Oklahoma in 1907. After 103 years of service I am proud to report that the Fourth Degree in Kansas remains strong, active and continues to promote the Fourth Principle of our Order - "Patriotism."

I invite and encourage all Third Degree Knights to join the Fourth Degree in this, the 103rd year of the Patriotic Degree in Kansas. The need to support and defend our country's religious freedom, civil laws and duties are ever becoming more vital to the growth and well-being of our American Heritage.

The upcoming Fourth Degree Exemplifications have been scheduled for this year: Wea on June 11, Colby on September 10, and Garnett on November 12. The new exemplification is being used and I invite all Sir Knights to attend these Exemplifications and witness this very beautiful and meaningful patriotic uplifting.

The biennial meeting will be held in Olathe April 14, 2012 hosted by the St. Philippine Duchesne Assembly.

## Church Activities Awards

**1<sup>st</sup>** Wetmore Council 10301 - "Dream Come True." Knights of Columbus members were very instrumental in building their new church. Members donated machinery and labor to dig the basement for the church. Several Knights and their families built the sanctuary furniture and, resized and refinished used pews. Members also funded the refinishing of the Stations of the Cross. There were 31 members participating (56%) for a total of 1,239 hours. Total cost savings for the parish was \$87,600.00.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Derby Council 4458 - "Construction of Kneelers." Knights of Columbus members designed and built kneelers to be attached to the chairs their parish uses for seating. This project required much specialized equipment and talent to complete. There were 20 members participating (5%) for a total of 1000 hours. Total cost savings for the parish was \$65,000.00.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Wichita-Resurrection Council 11692 - "Resurrection School Workday." Knights of Columbus members did landscaping around their school and parish grounds. Members donated the use of their equipment and labor to backfill dirt around the school and plant trees and shrubs on the parish grounds. There were 16 members participating (12%) for a total of 139 hours. Total cost savings for the parish was \$5,475.00.

## Free Throw Champions

GIRLS	NAME	COUNCIL	HOMETOWN	SCORE
10	Taylor Robertson	601	Salina	23/25
11	Zoe Schultz	2773	Angelus	23/25
12	Rylie Koester	1521	Hoisington	20/25
13	Lakin Preisner	727	Emporia	22/25
14	Mary Ross	843	Mission	20/25

BOYS	NAME	COUNCIL	HOMETOWN	SCORE
10	Joseph Rost	11661	Overland Park	24/25
11	Trey Preisner	727	Emporia	21/25
12	Tyler Lingg	3210	Dighton	24/25
13	Ryder Yakel	7318	Lakin	22/25
14	Jordan Anderson	2217	Andale	22/25

## Commitment to Humanities Award

(Highest Dollar per Member)

Div 1:	Council 12804	Satanta	\$46.97
Div 2:	Council 12016	Ashland	\$41.69
Div 3:	Council 6665	Bird City, St. Francis	\$31.29
Div 4:	Council 10211	FHSU, Hays	\$21.83
Div 5:	Council 12049	Wichita St. Jude	\$29.05
Div 6:	Council 12858	Wichita St. Anne	\$24.18
Div 7:	Council 5212	Scott City	\$44.59
Div 8:	Council 8491	Garden City	\$33.00
Div 9:	Council 2647	Colby	\$24.29
Div 10:	Council 4458	Derby	\$28.31

**District Deputy #32 Bruce Luehring** is the winner of the highest District Dollar per Member award with \$26.03 per member.

## Youth Activities Awards

**1<sup>st</sup>** St. Mary Council 4458 Derby - "Entire Year of Youth Activities." The purpose is to provide the youth of St. Mary parish and the Derby, KS area with healthful and spiritual activities throughout the year. There were 80 council members participating (20%) for 475 hours.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Seven Dolors Council 1832 Manhattan - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual "Chicken BBQ." The purpose of this activity is to raise funds for the Manhattan Catholic schools. There were 50 council members participating (30%) for 300 hours.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Resurrection Council 11692 Wichita - "Birdhouse Project 2011." The purpose of this activity is to build confidence in the children and to inspire them to do things on their own. There were 4 council members participating (2.96%) for 25 hours.

## Community Activity Winners

**1<sup>st</sup>** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton-Wichita Council 10483 - This council organized and operated a fireworks stand. In the three years they have had this stand they have raised \$65,000 and have donated to 16 different causes. There were 125 members participating (38%) for a total of 1300 hours.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Holy Angels- Basehor Council 3146 - This council raised funds to help with the Sisters of the Lamb who want to build a mission in the inner city to help the poor. There were 47 members participating (41%) for a total of 215 hours.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Council of Palms-Lenexa Council 6673 - This council is a part of the McGivney Project that provides homeless families with transitional housing and services to guide them back to independent living. There were 85 members participating (25%) for a total of 220 hours.



## Retiring District Deputies

During the Sunday morning Awards Presentation, State Deputy Mark Roth presented the retiring District Deputies an appreciation certificate and thanked them for their outstanding service on behalf of the State and Supreme Councils.

Stephen E. Abels, DD 6	Richard J. Schneider, DD 36
Rodney J. Hoffman, DD 8	Jerome E. Buser, DD 37
James M. Carlson, DD 14	Leroy Seiler, DD 41
Jose P. Hernandez, DD 19	Linus Pfannenstiel, DD 44
Bruce A. Luehring, DD 32	

## Adopt-a-Seminarian

This fraternal year we adopted 101 diocesan seminarians and 26 other religious receiving pledges of \$178,130.00. We had 221 councils and 7 assemblies report their participation in this program this year. Thank you to all the councils and assemblies for your support of religious vocations. I thank our Worthy State Chaplain, Reverend Kenneth Schuckman for his spiritual guidance and support this fraternal year.

## Council Activities Awards

**1<sup>st</sup>** Axtell Council 1163 - The council cleared a hedge row and used the wood cut for fence posts and firewood. These fence posts and fire wood were sold at the council's annual consignment sale. Members donated their equipment including an excavator and loader for some of the larger trees. Other Knights had tractors and trailers available to help haul the wood after it had been cut and prepared for sale. Forty-one (17%) members and their families participated in this council activity. A total of 235 hours were donated by the membership and their families for this project. \$4,120.00 were raised for various council projects.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Prince of Peace - Olathe Council 7909 - The council hosted a veterans appreciation Mass and dinner. All veterans of the parish were invited to the Mass and dinner. At Mass, Father Frank Burger (an Air Force veteran) invited all the veterans present to come to the altar for special recognition and blessing. Medal of Honor recipient and Kansas City native retired Colonel Don Ballard was the evenings key note speaker. Veterans from World War II, Korean conflict, Vietnam, Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan were present and recognized at this year's event. The council members and their families donated eighty nine hours planning and hosting this event.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Our Lady of Fatima-Basehor Council Number 3146 - The council assisted in hosting and running the parish picnic. Various games and activities were planned and staffed by council members. The council and their families also prepared food and beverages for the picnic at no cost to the parish. Twenty six percent, thirty members participated in this council activity. Council members donated 150 hours planning and hosting this event.

## Evangelium Vitae Award

### Winners by Diocese

Kansas City Archdiocese: 11352 Tonganoxie  
 Wichita Diocese: 4458 Derby  
 Dodge City Diocese: 2352 Ransom  
 Salina Diocese: 2609 Belleville

### State Winner

Kansas City Archdiocese: 11352 Tonganoxie

## Family Activities Winners

**1<sup>st</sup>** Council 3146 Basehor - Their activity was titled "Operation St. Nicholas." The council sent Christmas Care Packages to soldiers stationed overseas who were related to parishioners of Holy Angels Church. Knights collected donations after Mass for three weeks. The donations were sorted and packaged in 50 boxes. Monetary donations allowed the council to purchase a DVD player to include in each box. Students in the Basehor schools made cards for the soldiers and several were also included in each box. Tom Steinmetz is the Grand Knight and Ken Morgan chaired the event. 40 members, 35% of council membership, participated in the project.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Council 11352 Tonganoxie - The council held their annual Fall Family Halloween Party. This year, the event included dinner, a haunted barn, bonfire and hayride. There were also contests for the spookiest dessert, pumpkin carving and the best youth and adult costume. This year, they had the largest turnout ever. A hauntingly good time was had by all attending. The evening wound down around the bonfire as spooky stories were told to the accompaniment of the coyotes howling. Ed Standish is the Grand Knight and the chairman was Donald Bronec. 58 council members (36%) helped with the activity.

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Council 11692 Wichita - The council hosted a parish picnic for the members of Resurrection Church. One of the key activities of this year's event was the dedication and blessing of the parish school expansion by Bishop Jackels. Members of the council prepared and served 400 hamburgers and 220 hot dogs. The Soccer Challenge was conducted for youth of the parish. There were hayrack rides, inflatable playground equipment and other games for all to enjoy. Family fellowship and a whole lot of fun made it a day to remember. Aaron Beavers is the Grand Knight and Larry Canup was the chairman. A team of 11 members (8%) helped with the project.

## Pro-Life Awards

**145 Councils Donated \$266,401.71**

Div	Council	Amt / Member
1	11917 - Kansas City Sacred Heart	\$111.00
2	6660-Phillipsburg	\$113.10
3	3218-Hanston-Jetmore	\$37.31
4	9532-Wathena	\$54.45
5	3146-Basehor	\$59.45
6	2289-Piqua	\$21.49
7	11352 Tonganoxie-Sacred Heart	\$36.13
8	2609-Belleville	\$22.57
9	11661-Overland Park-Holy Spirit	\$34.18
10	7909 Olathe-Prince of Peace	\$19.58

## District Deputy Award

Edward A. Vogrin, District 7 - \$13.18 per member

## Vocation Poster Contest Winners

Grade	Name	Dist.	Council
1-2	Sophie Brungardt	21	1743 Hanover
3-4	Emma Fleischman	34	10483 Wichita
5-6	Christine Moran	34	10483 Wichita
7-8	Monica Stephens	51	2773 Angelus
Spec Ed	Justin Cook	31	2217 Andale

The overall state winner is Christine Moran.