

I have been spending the last month creating a list of all councils for non-competitive awards. With the program turn in date deadline being pushed back to May 1st and our officers judging the programs this year, it has been challenging trying to figure out how things are going to work for awards. We are working though it and should have a plan by the time the convention is here. Awards will either be sent out, delivered or held onto until the organizational meeting in June. I have talked with Mike Heinen about the non-competitive award certificates and he will still be able to get them made up and have them ready for us. I think we should hang on to them and pass them out to the DD's at the organizational meeting.

I received reports from our Community director Randy Balausky, Life Director John Bowlin, and Faith Director Orv, Fillbrandt. I did not receive a report from Family Director Ray Martin. I will touch base with the chairman who did not submit reports and add them to this report along with the program winners after the convention for the official archive report.

Below are all the reports from the directors and chairman that I received.

Joe George
Minnesota State Program Director

Life Report from Larry Mader

The Silver Rose program, started out in Manitoba, Canada on Feb. 29. Supreme stopped the program on [April 1](#), due to COVID-19, before it was scheduled to transfer to North Dakota on [April 5](#).

It was scheduled to enter Minnesota on [April 26](#), but due to the Stay-at Home order, I do not believe it will be delivered to us by [April 26](#).

We could still have it sent to us, if Supreme allows the program to start back up, sometime between now and [May 23](#) at which time South Dakota is scheduled to receive it.

We will have to hope and pray the program can be restarted sooner, rather than later.

The Christian Refugee Relief program is designed to support the persecuted Christians, especially in the Middle East.

Supreme has donated over \$19 million since 2014 .

Local councils can do their part by participating in the Solidarity Cross program.

Four councils , from our state were chosen, to each adopt a parish in Iraq, with a goal of donating at least \$2500 each. These councils are #4797 - Hutchinson, #9905 - Lino Lakes. #8253 - Winsted - and #14420 - Minnesota.

Life Report from Matt Heffron

Good Friday Family Promotion

The Knights of Columbus **Good Friday Family Promotion** is one of the Supreme-recommended programs, focusing on having Knights attend Good [Friday](#) services with their families, and supporting our pastors in encouraging increased parishioner involvement at these liturgies. After all, the Death and Resurrection of Jesus is the central story of the Christian faith, and commemorating it is the core of the liturgical year. We started the program this year with announcements related to encouraging Knights to take time off for the Good [Friday](#) liturgies. However, as the current pandemic took off, we quickly identified that most of us in Minnesota would be unable to attend a Good [Friday](#) service in person. We

switched gears and focused on promoting two other ways to observe the day: first, we provided links for locations that were live streaming their Good Friday services, and second, we suggested ways to celebrate at home, including reading a Gospel account of the Passion of Our Lord as a family and using a home crucifix to conduct your own veneration of the Cross. Several Councils throughout the state promoted these opportunities to their members.

Pregnancy Resources Center Support

Throughout the year, we provided ideas to Councils through the state newsletter of how to support their local pregnancy resource center, with prayer, financial donations, and hands-on work. We encouraged Councils that do not have a pregnancy resource center in their community to support one in a neighboring town, or to support Abria Pregnancy Resources (<https://supporters.abria.org/>) due to its strategic location across the street from where over half of Minnesota's abortions occur, or to support Elevate Life, (<https://elevatelifeusa.org/>), an organization that provides training, liability insurance, and many other services to pregnancy resource centers. For the Knights to remain on the frontline of advancing the Culture of Life, engaging with this sector is critical. Going forward, we will provide increased communication to Councils both about how to support their pregnancy resource center locally, and how to support state-wide initiatives that help multiple pregnancy resource centers.

Mass for Persons with Special Needs

Councils are encouraged to arrange a Mass to welcome individuals or families who have special needs resulting from physical, emotional, mental, or cognitive conditions, which can cause physical and social barriers to participating in Mass. Arranging a Mass time period that takes these barriers into account can be a great blessing to those families. Early in this fraternal year, we had a state newsletter article encouraging all Councils to consider hosting or supporting such an event. We also specifically promoted the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis' Mass for People with Disabilities. Later in the year, we also encouraged Councils to host or support a Mass for World Day of the Sick, a commemoration that happens in connection with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Several Councils and Assemblies participated in events in February in observance of the World Day of the Sick.

April 2020

Update on Current MN Ultrasound Initiatives

Life Director John Bowlin

Diocese: Crookston

Lead Council: #15807 GK Joe Eisterhold Nevis-LaPorte council - #36 UI completed Nov. 2019
Supreme approved and sent their 50% check in Nov. 2019 to Lead Council.
DD # 61 Dan DeCrans

Diocese: Crookston

Lead Council : #3166 Detroit Lakes - UI Chairman, Bill Quinn- UI completed & paper work
Forwarded to State Deputy in Feb. #37 UI waiting for Supreme's approval & check for 50%\$.
DD # 12 Jerry Bursaw

Archdiocese: Mpls/SP

Lead Council: #2018 Anoka/Osseo –Phil Harter, UI chairman; DD #59 – Richard Hirshfelt
PCC: Women Source – Anoka; Has Staff in place after death of nurse manager.
Status: fundraising done; preparing final paperwork for State Deputy approval.

Diocese: Rochester-Winona

Lead Council: #11460 Holy Spirit, GK Jerome Lensing; 6 KofC councils involved.

PCC: New Life Family Services, Rochester/Exec.Dir. 1-507-282-1932
DD#31 Michael Timm, cell: (507) 261-6053, Home: (507) 281-0628
Status: Diocese approved; local fundraising has raised \$5900, goal is \$6500 & has special Charity Grant available for their ultrasound initiative if needed.

Diocese: St. Cloud

Lead Council: #5548 St. Cloud, Conrad Meier, UI Chairman for #2nd UI machine Location.
PCC: Pregnancy Resource Center- St. Cloud; has two separate centers, each needs a machine.
DD#45 Dean Fladmo; DD #44 Mark Glatzel as UI Chairman for First# UI machine location.
Status: fundraising completed for both ultrasounds, working with our State Foundation. Completed and documents sent to State Deputy for 2 Ultrasound machines.
MN UI #38 & #39. Waiting for Supreme's check for 50%\$\$.

Archdiocese: Mpls/SP- Jan2019

Lead Council: # 1503 Belle Plaine GK-Eric May; DD #49 – Dennis Cummings
PCC: Alpha Women's Center ICU Mobile Ministry
Status: Archdiocese approved; Current fundraising total \$8500 (local needed is \$15,000)

Diocese: St. Cloud

Lead Council: #3118 GK, Jamie Braun; DD #15 Gordan Weiers; Fundraising completed.
PCC: Health Resource Life Care Center – Fergus Falls; Machine vendors not responding.
Status: PCC deciding on vendor for their ultrasound. On hold because of Virus.

Faith Activity Summary for 2019 - 2020 4-10-2020

Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians Icon 2019-2020 Summary

Supreme has provided Minnesota with 7 Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians Icons and materials including the Icons, English Prayer Books and Prayer Cards, the Carrying Case, Spanish Prayer Books and Prayer Cards and the Carrying Case. Beginning last Fraternal year, the supplies need to be paid for when ordering versus Supreme sending them out when requested by the State Chairman. This has been inconvenient due to State Chairman not having an account. Fortunately, the State Deputy has been most cooperative. The great news is that we were able to receive 7 Icons for the State of Minnesota to give the Districts/Councils more time in their area. Former State Chaplain Fr. Jeff Horejsi wrote a great letter to the pastors throughout the state of Minnesota encouraging their support for the program. A copy of the English Prayer Book is available for reference on the Supreme web site. Participants are able to keep the Prayer Cards; however, the Prayer Books are to stay with the Icon. There has been a high use of Prayer cards this year by some of the Icons. I assume that is due to level of interest.

Orville Fillbrandt, Marian Hour of Prayer Chair

Here is the Vocations Programs - 2019 / 2020.

*Helping Seminarians with Scholarship Loans.

*Vocations Day of Prayer - May 03, 2020.

*RSVP - (17) Seminarians ("Adopted") by (08) - Knights of Columbus Councils.
 *MN Knights of Columbus Gift of Money to Seminarians 2019 / 2020.
 *Priest Ordination Gifts of Money - (04) Diocese - TOTAL #11 Men.
 Vocations Dinners and Holiday Party's - (04)

Dave DuPaul
 MN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 VOCATIONS / RSVP

**FAITH IN ACTION PRESENTATION AT MID-WINTER DISTRICT DEPUTY MEETING
 12/2019**

A brief introduction/summary was given for the following areas:

- SPIRITUAL REFLECTION (REQUIRED)
- SACRAMENTAL GIFTS (NEW)
- HOLY HOUR (NEW)

Orville Fillbrandt, Director of Faith Activities

The highlight of my year as chair was seeing a local council #1841 read *Into the Breach* and have discussion meetings on the book. It's always fun to sit down with the some of the District Deputy's and try to encourage these programs. Most councils don't realize how easy most of these programs really are. But I think most councils believe these programs take a lot of work, but they really don't. Hopefully the DD's are getting through to the councils. I missed the winter meeting so I didn't make a lot of contact with DD's. Sacramental gift is one I really encourage councils to do with confirmation or first communion gift. These gifts allow the councils to benefits from the MN Knights Foundation, that is if they sell raffle tickets.

I did have phone contact with a few councils regarding the Spiritual Reflections Program looking for ideas and locations to hold retreats. Tried to advise them the best I could.

Brian Anderson
320-395-2806

Special Olympics Minnesota
 Group Participation Report for Nov 21, 2019 - Nov 24, 2019
 Report Creation Date: Dec 5, 2019

	Volunteers*:	Total Hours:
Knights of Columbus Totals	203	1063.4
KofC 1556 Waverly Totals	21	63
KofC 961 St. Cloud Totals	19	104.5
KofC 4184 West Saint Paul Totals	11	33
KofC 6825 Monticello Totals	9	58
KofC 1491 Brainerd Totals	7	38.5
KofC 13001 Brooklyn Park Totals	5	36
KofC 3473 Cuyuna Range Totals	5	32.87
KofC 4619 Thief River Falls Totals	5	22.75
KofC 4718 Alexandria Totals	5	18
KofC 6772 Brooklyn Center Totals	5	39

KofC 8367 Lakeville Totals	5	15.5
KofC 11460 Rochester Holy Spirit Totals	4	22.75
KofC 3827 Marian Council Totals	4	26.5
KofC 4381 Columbia Heights Totals	4	12
KofC 9657 Cross Lake Totals	4	22
KofC 1013 Rochester Totals	3	9.75
KofC 1600 Hastings Totals	3	17.25
KofC 4481 Cannon Falls Totals	3	9.75
KofC 4914 Prior Lake/Savage Totals	3	13
KofC 10732 Red Lake Falls Totals	2	9.25
KofC 11965 Pequot Lakes Totals	2	11
KofC 13359 Maple Grove Totals	2	14.5
KofC 13506 Golden Valley Totals	2	6
KofC 447 Duluth Totals	2	11
KofC 5141 Blaine/Coon Rapids Totals	2	7.5
KofC 945 Owatonna Totals	2	11.5
KofC 1076 New Ulm Totals	1	4.5
KofC 12231 Wahkon Totals	1	5.5
KofC 14616 Grey Eagle Totals	1	5.5
KofC 14984 Ramsey Totals	1	8.5
KofC 15761 Duluth Msgr O'Shea Totals	1	5.5
KofC 16016 Zumbrota/Pine Island Totals	1	9
KofC 3758 Wayzata Totals	1	3
KofC 4451 Minneapolis North Totals	1	14
KofC 4863 Sauk Centre Totals	1	5.5
KofC 5031 Gilbert Totals	1	5.5
KofC 5548 St. Cloud Totals	1	7.5
KofC 5551 North Mankato Totals	1	4.5
KofC 6374 Burnsville/Eagan Totals	1	5.5
KofC 8268 Duluth St. Joseph Totals	1	5.5
KofC 881 Wabasha Totals	1	3.25
KofC 9139 Osseo/Maple Grove Totals	1	4.5
KofC 9585 Cedar Totals	1	3

State Collected funds towards the next container as of 3-19-20 \$27,150.75

Total Collected funds for the next container as of 4/1/20 \$41,609.50

2019 State Soccer Challenge

It was a cold and rainy-day Saturday October 5th, 2019. The Saturday's events for the Twin Cities Marathon had been canceled for the first time in 35 years. Still the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge Champions came out in significant force to compete for the coveted title of State Champion.

The brusque and wet weather did not detour these 9 through 14-year-old boys and girls from getting their parents out of the house to travel to Saint Thomas Academy in Mendota Heights MN where they competed center stage on the artificial turf soccer field. Brother Knights and Volunteers from Bloomington, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Burnsville, Dayton, Eagan, Elk River, Lake City, Maple Grove, New Ulm and Owatonna helped to support their efforts to achieve the goal "2019 Minnesota Knights of Columbus State Soccer Challenge Champion."

Minnesota Knights of Columbus State Deputy Marc Peters monitored the event from a warmer and drier climate in North Carolina. Minnesota Knights of Columbus State Secretary Dave Whatmuff, standing in for State Deputy Marc was up before dawn driving from Elk River to last year's state soccer site. As the group opened with the Lord's Prayer – "The Our Father" since 33 A.D., The Pledge of Allegiance To the United States of America's rendition established April 1951 when members of the Knights of Columbus Catholic Men's organization began to include "under God" after "our nation" when reciting the pledge The Knights urged Congress to Institute that change nationally.

Then the group came out in song, modestly singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" - Like the first sporting event to hear the star-spangled banner - a baseball game in 1862 in Brooklyn NY. That's 20 years before Father Michael J McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 In the basement of Saint Mary's church, New Haven CT. The same anthem was performed at the first World Series in 1903 in Boston (many believe it was first performed at the 1918 World Series). This Saturday the Minnesota Twins are taking on The New York Yankees in a Major League Baseball game in route to the World Series. All these diehard athletes and fans were there in support of their shooter, their team, their Knights of Columbus Council and their school. The discussion of Saints included Saint Vincent DePaul, Saint John V Annie, Saint Thomas Academy and Saint Thomas University and the differences between them. Of course, Saint Francis also came up.

All this time Minnesota Knights of Columbus soccer challenge chairman Rodney Tholen could hear Minnesota Knights of Columbus Secretary Dave saying over the phone, "Where are you guys?"

Well, here it is:

The 2019 Minnesota Knights of Columbus soccer challenge champions taking home the trophy and an official Knights of Columbus soccer shooting ball are listed below by name, age, gender, council number and the state score will be forwarded to the national competition. Good luck champions.

Isabella	Schmidt	9	Girls	9139	105
Payton	Johnson	9	Boys	9139	95
	Dumoncea				
Katelynn	x	10	Girls	9139	200
Sophie	Durand	11	Girls	9139	170
Noah	Seibert	11	Boys	9139	190
Alexande					
r	Sanchez	12	Boys	3827	150
Sophie	Tietz	13	Girls	9139	210

When interviewed Sofia Tietz, the high score winner for the day shooting 7 - 20 pointers was asked, “are they all from one corner?” You could see a slight smile on her face as she replied, “no.”

When followed up with, “which corner do you shoot the most for?” The big grin came out as she said, “I’m not going to tell you or my competitors. I choose that when I shoot.”

Low score of the day, 95. by 9-year-old Peyton Johnson was also interviewed up on stage. While being interviewed at his Trophy acceptance. The presenter snidely remarked, “I notice you’re having a bad shooting day, you’re off considerably from your 120-season average.” Peyton smiled, responded “yah” grinned raised his trophy to show mom and dad. That score was good enough to win today.

A special thank you goes out to the Host, Minnesota Knights of Columbus Council #3827 Marian of Richfield /Bloomington. They supplied equipment, hot coffee, cups, soccer balls for shooting and volunteers for set up and tear down. Thank you 2019 Grand Knight Ned O’Doherty, Jim Scheib and Manual Leon for your help before during and after the actual shootout. Tell your estimated 175 +/- Soccer Challenge Shooters and this year’s council soccer chair Yectli Huerta, we are glad you sent your champions. Marian # 3827 Council’s Alexander Sanchez broke Saint Vincent de Paul 9139’s sweep.

Thank you, Grand Knight Ken Smith of Saint Vincent de Paul Council Number 9139, for your help and support on game day. Please thank your champion team, their parents and all your 230 +/- Soccer Challenge Shooters and let them know they had a good year, good showing and were represented well.

Minnesota Knights of Columbus community program director Randy Balausky and his wife Tammy kept things moving and on track, thank you both, you were indispensable.

We added more councils to the list of Champions to compete. Thanks, and keep your programs growing. My 2019 estimate of youth participating in the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge would be in the low four digits. Reports still come in and the weather was the worst I have seen.

Viva Jesus,

Rodney Tholen
2019 Minnesota Knights of Columbus Soccer Chairman

2019 – 2020 Fraternal Year Minnesota Global Wheelchair Mission

Minnesotas Global Wheelchair Mission is at its goal for delivering 280 wheelchairs

There were 13 Councils in Minnesota that participated in some type of drive for wheelchairs raising \$19,483.00 equating to 130 wheelchairs this Fraternal year. The State now has over the \$42,000.00 dollars needed for the next container of 280 wheelchairs.

This fraternal year, Owatonna Council 945 raised \$15,543.00 making it the most successful drive in the State of Minnesoatas history of doing a “Wheelchair Sunday”.



Global Wheelchair Mission Historical totals

Month	Year	Location	Amount
October	2014	Hines	\$12,912.00
December	2014	New Hope	\$6,429.00
October	2015	Mound/Lino Lakes	\$12,760.00
March	2016	Bemidji	\$12,912.00

March	2020	Owatonna	\$15,543.00
March	2020	Medford	\$754.00
March	2020	Owatonna/Medford	\$16,297.00
Historical Total			\$61,310.00

Knights of Columbus thanks local community

OWATONNA — Knights of Columbus Owatonna Council #945 would like to thank all who responded to the appeal during their recent Wheelchair Sunday event held March 7th & 8th at the local parishes. \$14,500 was raised locally in the efforts. These generous donations will help to provide wheelchairs for the poorest of the poor — veterans and their families across Minnesota, others in need in the United States and individuals in developing countries

around the world.

In close association with the Knights of Columbus, the American Wheelchair Mission delivers brand new wheelchairs to physically disabled people, with a goal of providing 100 million wheelchairs to individuals around the world. These wheelchairs allow children to go to school, adults to go to work and provide for their families, and the elderly to get out of a bed they may have been confined to for years.

The Knights of Columbus was founded on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity in 1882. For information on the Knights of Columbus, please visit KofC.org.

The American Wheelchair Mission is a non-profit organization delivering free, brand new wheelchairs around the world to people in need of mobility. You can see videos of Knights of Columbus answering prayers with the gift of mobility at Amwheelchair.org.

The following are the Councils that reported:

Location	Council #	Date	\$ Raised
Roseau	11299	7/8/2019	\$150.00
Brainerd	1491	10/7/2019	\$150.00
New Hope	3656	10/7/2019	\$150.00
Owatonna	945	10/9/2019	\$150.00
Cedar	9585	11/7/2019	\$150.00
Brooklyn Park	13001	11/20/2019	\$150.00
Greenbush	5102	12/11/2019	\$150.00
Warroad	10235	12/26/2019	\$150.00
St. Paul	3335	1/3/2020	\$150.00
Rogers	11941	1/5/2020	\$1,050.00
Bemidji	1544	1/21/2020	\$750.00
Medford	4909	3/9/2020	\$754.00
Owatonna	945	3/9/2020	\$14,789.00
Rogers	11941	4/7/2020	\$790.00
Total			\$19,483.00