

January 7-8	Winter Meeting-Helena
January 14	March for Life-Helena



Merry Christmas!

Knights' Visions

Montana State Council

November/December 2021

Dan Halsten, State Deputy

Marty Beatty State Secretary

From the State Deputy

Brother Knights, Merry Christmas to you and your families! Yes, it is that time already. Let's make sure that we Keep Christ in our Christmas celebrations. That, of course, means more than the presents under the tree. It means reminding everyone that this is the birth of Christ on earth both human and divine. The word incarnate. I hope many of you are reminding others with the Keep Christ in Christmas campaign! I hope many of you are shining the light on the event through council events like prayer hours, family fun, food drives, coats for kids, and donations to warming centers for the homeless. Remember that Advent is a time for preparation and anticipation as we await the birth of our Lord !

Mostly, I hope you are not forgetting your brother Knights. Leave no neighbor behind and reach out to all in you council. A simple hello and Merry Christmas can make a difference. Also, call the widows of your deceased Knights. These can be very lonely times for many of them. Don't forget your parish family. Ask your pastor if there are parishioners in need. See what the Knights can do to help. See if you need to help bring people back to the pews and call those who are missing. This will be the first Christmas Mass where we can all be together again. Put our Response program in gear!

Keep your Christmas simple. Don't stress. If you are happy on that day then all around you will be happy. That is the reason for the season. The

JOY that our Christ the King is born. **Dan Hallsten, State Deputy**

From the State Chaplain

It is hard to believe that we've come to another year in the life of the Church. Advent has begun and Christmas is almost here.

As Knights of Columbus one of our key principals is charity. Most of the time we think of charity as giving to others in need. Charity is also reflected in the way we treat others. This time before Christmas often becomes a time that really tests our charity. When we are looking for gifts who do we treat the other shoppers, especially those who are standing in front of the gifts we are wanting to ponder? How do we treat the exhausted checkers who seem a little slow, or who have just dealt with another customer who had been less than friendly?

We are waiting for the arrival of the Prince of Peace. Let us all be charitable in our giving and our treatment of others. Let us help people see the peace that Christ represents in the world.-**Father Leo McDowell, State Chaplain**

BRAWL OF THE WILD

The lucky winner this year's BRAWL of the WILD ticket was our State Chaplain Father Leo McDowell. Congratulations to Father Leo!

Mid-Year Meeting Scheduled

Our mandatory mid-year meeting will be at St Mary Catholic Community in Helena on January 7th and 8th, 2022. Attached is our agenda. Please see the flexibility in the schedule. As you know, Supreme pays \$0.30 mile and one night's lodging if you travel one way under 250 miles. If further you can have 2 nights paid for by Supreme.

Some of you may not want to attend the Friday evening events so you can stay one night on Saturday or miss the Mass and dinner Saturday so you can return home and stay Friday night. Our motel is:

Home2 Suites
3325 N. Sanders
Helena, MT 406 502-2222

Home 2 Suites is offering Knights a room rate of \$119.00 plus tax per night. Please call and make your reservations.

Reservations will be held until December 31, 2021. Say that the reservation is for the Knights of Columbus meeting.

The meetings will be held in the Social Center of St Mary's Church, 1700 Missoula Ave. Helena, MT.

Also, due to the flexibility on Saturday you will need to provide our State Secretary a head count of who will stay for dinner.

We need everyone here for this meeting. We had a light turnout at the summer meeting and did not launch a successful first half of the year in terms of membership, forms, exemplifications and compliance. Let's start the second half with plans to achieve for our brothers and our faith.

Worthy DD's that have served more than one term - we need to talk about replacements. Those who have not served as long, we need to talk about training. Thanks for all your efforts!

State Deputy Dan- 406 579-0152

MONTANA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MID YEAR MEETING AGENDA

- January 7, 2022:**
- 7:00 PM **Opening Prayer/ Pledge of Allegiance**
State Deputy Welcome
State Chaplain Address
Supreme Representative
Welcome – Ken White
Supreme Knight Address –
Video (Supreme Provided)
- 8:00PM HOLY HOUR**
- January 8, 2021:**
- 8:00 AM District Deputy Follow Up**
- Jurisdictional Action Plan Review
 - Report Cards
- 8:45 A.M. Reports**
- 1, RSVP Program
 2. Special Olympics
 3. Tootsie Rolls
 4. MT Charities Inc.
 5. Icon – St. Joseph
 6. Silver Rose
- 10:00 Break
 - 10:15 Membership
 - 1. Performance
 - 2. Opportunities – College – Native American
 - 3. Faith in Action the drive to membership
 - 4. McGivney 2020
 - Benefits
 - Discussion – Best Practices
 - 12:00 – Lunch
 - 1:00 P.M. Covid Recovery
 - Programs Virtually
 - Faith – Rosary/Bible Program
 - Community- Food Drives
 - Life – March for Life – Ultra Sounds
 - Star Council Status
 - 2:00 – Administrative
 - State Convention
 - Youth Protection compliance
 - Exemplifications
 - 2:15 – DD Check In – Ken White
 - 3:00 – Break
 - 3:15 – Supreme Representative closing remarks
 - 3:30 - SD Closing remarks – 6 months of motivation
 - 4:15 – Prepare for optional Mass
 - 6:15 – Optional Dinner – RSVP

A Knight Before Christmas

Encourage your neighbor, friend, relative, pew mate or other Catholic gentleman 18 years and older to become a Knight Before Christmas. You and the new Knight will receive our new Christmas ornament designed specifically for the Montana Knights of Columbus.

Below is copy of the **Knight Before Christmas** flyer. If you would like the flyer made specific to your Council, contact State Secretary Marty Beatty. If you provide your Council number and a contact person, the flyer can be customized and returned to you as a pdf ready to display at your parish, Council meeting place or wherever prospective Knights might read it. Remember, it's free to join the Knights until December 31st.

Please help us reach our quota. If each Council would recruit at least one member, we would reach our goal for the Knight Before Christmas program! If there is anything we can do to help, contact Membership co-chairs Pat Perrella (east) at (406) 860-1623 or Marty Beatty (west) at (406) 442-9804.



I became a Knight before Christmas.

Join the Knights of Columbus today at
www.kofc.org/joinus.

Join for free until December 31, 2021 - **Enter code**

MCGIVNEY2020

And all through the parish,

Faith in action programs were happening all over.
Rosary programs, Coats for Kids, Thanksgiving baskets...

Free throw contests and pancake breakfasts!

Charity, Unity and Fraternity is something to cherish.

Join the Knights today and receive a Montana Knights of Columbus limited edition Christmas ornament.

Where there's need, there's a Knight at

Council Your Council. Yours, MT

(406) XXX-XXXX



SCAN ME



Montana Coats for Kids Program

Billy Ross of Council 9395-Great Falls graciously accepted the Coats for Kids Chairman position. Early this fall. Billy firmly believes in the Coats for Kids Program and is doing everything in his power to make the program successful.

On October 5, Chairman Billy petitioned to participate in the Supreme Council's Coats for Kids Program in an extensive letter to Supreme.

The Montana Councils participating this year's Coats for Kids program include: 844, 1413, 1493, 1644, 2464, 9395, 9976, and 11090.



Billy Ross's garage with the first shipment of coats from Supreme

The cities wanting coat distribution include Great Falls Councils 1493 and 9395 to serve areas in north central Montana and outreach to northeastern Montana by Council 1644. Together, these three Councils work with the following parties to give away hundreds of new coats this season:

Saint Vincent de Paul charities,
The Great Falls Rescue Mission –
Cameron Family Center,

Little Flower Catholic Church in
Browning serving the Blackfoot Tribal
members.

De La Salle Blackfeet School in
Browning again serving the Blackfoot
Tribal members

St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in
Chinook serving the Chippewa and Cree
Tribal members

Our Native American brothers and sisters
in **Browning, Heart Butte, and Chouteau**
on the very large and quite destitute
Blackfeet Indian Reservation and on the
Chippewa Cree – Rocky Boy Indian
Reservation.



Coats Distributed in Great Falls.

The Helena area through **Council 844:**

For:

St. Helena Cathedral Christmas Store

St. Mary Catholic Community parish
community-**Thanksgiving Basket
Program**

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church
parish community. **Head Start**

A special focus for Council 844 is on
supplying new coats to the **Helena Indian
Alliance** which supports a variety of
Native American tribal members living in
Helena and the surrounding area. Coats
were also distributed at **Good Samaritan
Industries, Our Place, and The
Friendship Center.**



Coats at the Cathedral



Coats for H.I.A.



Adult size coats



Billings Council 9976:

St Pius Parish in Billings

Roundup Council 2464

St. Benedict's Church in Roundup



Coats distributed in Roundup



Coats. Coats and more coats!

Hardin Council 5527

A variety of outreach programs to poor and needy children in **Hardin** with focus on our brothers and sisters in the Crow Nation

Bozeman Council 1413:

Native American brothers and sisters of the Assinboine/Nakoda and Gos Bentre Tribes on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation through Hopa Mountain

Whittier Elementary School located in an impoverished neighborhood

Love, INC

Bozeman Warming Center

Family Promise

The demographic is rural Montana with many impoverished Native American children from the Little Shell, Chippewa-Cree, Blackfeet, Crow and Northern Cheyenne Tribes.

Coats were given to children with connections to 5 or more of Montana's 7 Native American Reservations.

Through parish announcements, councils announced and promoted this program for its charitable value and as a highlight for what Knights do for our communities. This is a very popular and well received program. Coats were distributed in November; the weeks before Thanksgiving, Black Friday weekend and during the first two weekends of December. By November it is already very cold in Montana, so we would like to complete all coat distributions before Thanksgiving.

Our request is to purchase 39 cases of coats and receive 39 free as the match. If this order cannot be filled completely, Montana councils have been doing fundraisers to purchase any extra coats, if needed. Montana State Council.

This "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" Community Program's primary goal is to help kids stay warm in the winter when a child's family does not have the resources to adequately meet this need. This is, unfortunately, a very real part of everyday life for our Native American brothers and sisters. A warm coat means a child can more realistically attend school, go to after-school programs, fit in with other children, play and do all the things that kids do to be kids. In a very real sense, a warm winter coat means mobility. Our mission is to make this seemingly small part of life a little bit easier for these families. The secondary goal of the Coats for Kids program is to better connect your council with your parish and your community. Let the people around you see the good works of your council, so that they want to support it and be a part of it. As the Montana State Council – Coats for Kids Chairman, I wish my State Council could monetarily help but Supremes' buy one get one is a great deal for our state.

In addition to the 78 cases of kid's coats, because of the high need in Montana because of major fires and COVID related issues and a great need, Montana also received 84 cases of adult sized coats to be distributed. Adult coats were welcomed in all communities already getting coats. This is the first time Montana has received adult coats.

Because of a fire that destroyed most of the City of Denton, extra effort was made to send kids coats and adult coats along with food and other necessities to Denton.

Because of his belief in the Coats for Kids Program, Chairman Billy has delivered the coats to Councils participating in the program. As of this writing, most Councils have received their coats thanks to Billy, his pickup and trailers as well as good roads for the most part. Thanks also to District Deputies Sylvester Barros and Frank La Tray for helping above and beyond to help make the program success. By the way, the State Council will be sending invoices to participating Councils in the near future.

Note that all of these coats (totally about 2,000 coats!) were new “Extreme Weather” coats that are very warm, very attractive, and perfectly suited for winters in Montana!

If you have any questions, please call Billy Ross on my cell at 530-304-6915.-**Billy Ross, Montana Coats for Kids Chairman**



Warm coats are off to a new home

From the Insurance Agent

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE NAMED TO FORBES' AMERICA'S BEST INSURANCE COMPANIES 2022 LIST

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Knights of Columbus Insurance has been named to the Forbes America's Best Insurance Companies 2022 List. The award is presented by Forbes and Statista Inc., the world's leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider. America's Best Insurance Companies 2022 were identified in an independent survey based on a vast sample of over 16,000 U.S. citizens with at least one insurance policy. Knights of Columbus ranked #6 on the Forbes list among life insurers who issue permanent life insurance. The awards list can currently be viewed on the [Forbes website](https://www.forbes.com).



Home Office

“Knights of Columbus Insurance is excited to be recognized by Forbes and Statista for our industry leading insurance products and the quality of service we deliver to our members and their families,” said Patrick E. Kelly, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus. “As a Catholic fraternal benefit society, the Knights of Columbus is uniquely positioned to offer an array of top-quality insurance products that align with our members’ needs and values.”



The survey considered customers’ overall recommendations, their general satisfaction, and five sub dimensions: financial advice, customer service, price/performance ratio, transparency, and damage/benefit ratio. A loyalty score was calculated based on a series of questions about the customer’s likeliness to keep their insurance policy under different circumstances, and the total length of time that consumers have held policies with the same insurer. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across seven insurance product categories. For additional information about Knights of Columbus Insurance please visit <https://yourfaithinfinance.com/Insure-With-Us> - **Anna Schafer-Coffey of C Colorado Montana & Wyoming Agency, Knights of Columbus Insurance**

Fourth Degree Master

Congratulations to **Chris Curtis**, Montana’s Master of the Fourth Degree. Chris was received the award for 100% reporting 4th degree reports District wide 2020-2021.



Great Falls Fourth Degree Exemplification

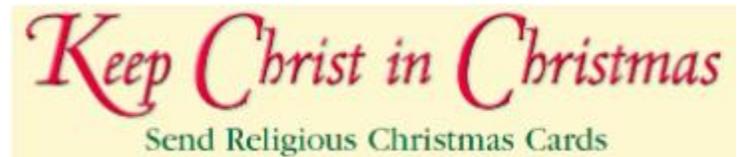


Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest in Malta

From the Keep Christ in Christmas Chairman



Hosted by Assembly 592, Great Falls, SK Leo Hertz, Class Honoree (centered in front, dark brown suit)



KCIC is in full swing. Though many of the card styles are now out of stock, there remains a good inventory of yard signs, magnets, ornaments, seals and pins.



Sir Knight Leo Hertz is officially knighted by Master Chris Curtis

Malta Council 2124

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

You can view the materials and download the order form from the State web site at montanaknights.org. Click on the Keep Christ in Christmas banner. You can order now and your Council will be invoiced later.



If you have questions or want to order, please email Bernie Adams at kcic@montanaknights.org or call him at 406-431-9514.-Bernie Adams, Christmas Card Chairman

SOMT Truck Raffle Tickets

I pray all is well with you, families and Councils during these times. It's time for the annual **SOMT Truck Raffle!** Selling these tickets represent our commitment as Knights of Columbus to those with intellectual disabilities. Your council's participation is critical to this mission. The State Council began this partnership with SOMT over twenty years ago and during the period we have helped thousands of athletes to participate in the local, regional and State Games.

SOMT has expressed that the partnership is truly a hand in glove kind of relationship and for our efforts in previous campaigns and is looking forward to working toward the goal of bringing more athletes to participate in the games.

We are all aware of the special circumstances that we have this year and I know that with some creativity, we can adjust to make this year's ticket sales an absolute success. Yes, it's a challenge but if nothing is done what can be the gain? Truly consider sponsorships of books of tickets, maybe each brother in the council could purchase at least one ticket. The five dollar has a huge impact on SOMT athletes.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." MT 7, 7-8

Blessings, **BE SAFE** and good luck with this year's campaign, **Art Malisani Montana State Council Knights of Columbus Special Olympics Chairman/PSD**

WHAT MONTANA COUNCILS ARE DOING

Council 1493-Great Falls

Upcoming Events

Membership- We need new members. Invite a friend or fellow parishioner to join us.

Officers Meeting Dec 7th Rosary 6:30 pm,
Meeting 7:00 pm.

Monthly Meeting Dec 9th -if you are interested in participating on a project or would like the Council to consider one, let us know.

Monthly Breakfast Dec 26th -next breakfast will be Sunday Dec 26, 2021, 8:30- 12:00. We need members to cook and serve for this breakfast.

"Where there's need; there's A Knight" "That was on full display when Great Falls Councils 1493 and 9395 distributed new coats, warm socks, mittens, hats and gloves to those ill prepared to endure the Montana winter weather on Saturday Nov 13th. But that's only part of the story! The two council were able to procure 8 cases of coats each, 16 total.

The Supreme Council matched our purchases making a total 32 cases (512 coats). Coats were distributed to the Blackfoot Nation at Browning & Heart Butte. In addition over 2,500+ pounds of food, both canned foods and frozen meats (including 150 pounds of professionally processed & packaged Venison. was delivered to the Little Flower Catholic Church by Councils 1493 & 9395. Food baskets and coats were given away Thanksgiving week at the church. The Native American parishioners very much appreciate our continued support thru Coats For Kids and Food For Families every year; they depend on our generosity so that their children are not cold or hungry. Childhood hunger is a big issue on the Reservation when schools are closed (e.g., during summers and COVID-19 closures); and, this is probably the coldest place in all the lower 48 American states so these new "extreme weather" coats are highly valued!

A Special Thanks to Brother Billy Ross who organized Coats for Kids and Brother Mike Winters who organized the Socks, Hats, Mittens and Gloves Drive.



Photo depicting Fourth Assembly 592 Color Corps detail members at the annual *40DAYS FORLIFE* wreath laying ceremony at the memorial for the Unborn at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Great Falls October 31st. Pictured (L to R) are Sir Knights Sylvester Barros, District Marshal/West, George Kupka, PFN Dean Hauer, PFN and Allan Hauer, PDD

Council 8375, Ennis Roundtable Food Bank Donation



Stephen Bradford presents check on behalf of Council 8375

Council 1413-Bozeman

Council 1413 participated in the Christmas Stroll in Bozeman selling Fry Bread. The Council also has regularly held pancake breakfasts in the parish hall.

Assembly 589-Helena

Assembly 589 in Helena did a Columbus Day and Veterans Day food drive. Councils in District 12 gathered over 1500 pounds of food valued at about \$3000. The food was delivered to Helena Food Share in October and to the Veterans Administration in November.



Columbus Day and Veterans Day Food Drives

District 12 Meeting



District 12 held its quarterly meeting November 6th in Whitehall

**“Where there’s a need,
there’s a Knight”**

Moving Forward CHEERFULLY!



*Tell us what your Council is doing! We are
always looking for articles and pictures.*

Montana Knights of Columbus!

**ONE MEMBER PER COUNCIL PER
MONTH.**

**CHECK ON A BROTHER
KNIGHT TODAY.**

FISHERS OF MEN

GET FOUND IN MONTANA!

Knights Visions Material

The Knight’s Visions is electronically posted by
the Montana State Council of the Knights of
Columbus. If you have information you would
like published in the newsletter, submit
information to Marty Beatty at
mnmbt@attglobal.net. Articles about what’s
happening in your Council and pictures in jpg
format are always welcome.

