



**Knights of
Columbus[®]**
Montana
State Council

Knights Visions

Montana State Council

February 2025

State Deputy- Marty Beatty. State Chaplain- Fr Leo McDowell. Editor- Scott Held.

Striving for the Championship

Greetings,

In keeping with my football theme from last month, how do you like the match-up for the Superbowl? Will Kansas City make history with a 3-peat or will Philadelphia break the streak and return to the top? While watching the semi-final games, I noticed a continuing theme coming from the Announcers and Analysts – adjustments.

During the game, they discussed if this Defense could counter the play and players on the Offense. They suggested what the Offense needed to do to get passed the Defense. They talked about Coaches and Staffs and their planning. They talked about units with the teams, Backs (Offensive and Defensive), the lines and they talked about individual players and what THEY had to do if the Team was going to triumph. We are just past half-time of our Fraternal Year. We have completed our Mid-Year Meeting and some of our Districts have completed your District Mid-Year Meeting with your Councils.

So, we must ask the questions:

- Have the Coaching Staffs (State Officers, Directors and Chairmen) given the Assistant-Coaches (District Deputies) an insight into where we are, a plan of where we want to end up and how we should go about it?
- What is working well and what we need to adjust to get better? Have the Assistant Coaches (District Deputies) talked with Backs, the D-Line, the O-line, the Receivers and the Special Team (GKs and DGKs, Council Program and Membership Directors, Recruiting Teams, EFF Directors etc.) on what OUR part is in the success of the TEAM (State) and where WE need to change, adjust and yes, even improve?
- Have the Squad Leaders gotten the message to the individual players (Members) on what our plans are for the last half of the year?
- What are our Program and EFF plans for Lent and Easter and Fish Frys and Parish Picnics?

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Upcoming Events

March 1, 2025

Deadline for award form submissions. Submit to Tom Weber at thomasprogramchair@gmail.com. Forms at www.montanaknights.org.

April 24-27, 2025

State Convention at Carroll College in Helena.



Fishing for Families may be returning for its second year! If it is, it will likely only be offered to Montana Knights of Columbus. Marty Jordan, from Council #7009 was the winner in 2024, and has had the chance to display the champion's trophy all year! Keep an eye out for more details coming soon!

Remember to send news and updates of what your council has going on to Marty at statedeputy@montanaknights.org.



CSSM
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
of Montana

An Update from Catholic Social Services of Montana

Brother Knights,

As we continue to save lives and support life across Montana with our adoption services, mental health counseling and education, and Baby Boutique diaper banks, please know that working to serve others alongside the Knights of Columbus is an honor, especially since our missions align so closely.

If you recall to last year, CSSM offered the first-ever statewide fishing tournament. It was open to Knights and the public. This year, with all the work being done at CSSM, I plan to draw back this fundraising competition and offer it exclusively to the council members of the Knights of Columbus. Please keep an eye on our website, at www.cssmt.org. I'll also likely have an announcement ready by the state convention and the newsletter that may follow. It will likely limit the amount of participants and accept them on a first-come, first-serve basis. Last year, Marty Jordan from Council #7009 won the traveling trophy, so let's see if someone can beat him this year!

Also, at this year's state convention, State Deputy Marty Beatty plans on holding a "diaper drive" to support CSSM's Baby Boutiques. The Baby Boutiques distributed over **80,000** diapers in 2024, and with that demand, could use support! **Please bring a box of size 4, 5, or 6 diapers or a donation to the check-in table at the state convention.** This ministry serves families with young children in need and helps those families make a better world for themselves and their children.

God Bless and good wishes for 2025,
-Scott Held, Executive Director, CSSM



2024-2025 State Council Officers

- State Chaplain- Father Leo McDowell
- State Deputy- Marty Beatty
- Immediate Past State Deputy- Dan Hallsten
- State Secretary- Bernie Adams
- State Executive Secretary- Steve Zachmann
- State Treasurer- Bob Lawrence
- State Advocate- Jim Taflan
- State Warden- Jerome Richard

Thank you all for your leadership!

**Council 1644 is Actively
Saving Lives!**

Brother Knights,

Council 1644 has made amazing progress towards providing life-saving ultrasounds across the hi-line. The board of directors for this project include 1644's Grand Knight, 2 doctors from St Jude's parish in Havre, Monsignor Dan Wathen, and a couple of other members, and have filed for non-profit status. The project is doing business as *Aurora Pregnancy Support*, is searching for a paid director, and hopes to acquire a mobile unit soon to provide the ultrasounds. One for all Knights of Columbus councils out there, and one specifically for those in the areas of Glasgow, Lewistown, Conrad, and Shelby.

1. We believe the model we are using can be imitated by other councils who feel inspired to be active in saving lives. We are open to working with your council if you are ready to take on a project like this.
2. We need trained sonographers and would appreciate referrals from any of the areas mentioned above.

There is no better way to "proclaim life" than by sharing the sound of a heartbeat and the image of life in the womb. Together, we can save lives!

VIVAT JESUS!

Charlie Klimas, Council 1644



Membership

As Patrick Kelly, Supreme Knight, says, "Become fishers of men, ask men to join the Knights of Columbus." Let's keep building Catholic Fraternity!



**Knights of
Columbus**

**Insurance and
Retirement**

- Dermot McCaughan-
Helena
406-438-1113**
- Rick Nease- Kalispell
406-471-2697**

Remember to send news and updates of what your council has going on to Marty at statedeputy@montanaknights.org.

Mid-year Meetings at St Mary Catholic Community, Helena

Below are some of the highlights from this year's mid-year meetings that took place in mid-January.

Coats for Kids

This program successfully distributed 120 cases of coats this past cycle, which accounts for 1,440 coats. Since its inception and application, nearly 10,000 coats have been distributed, keeping little ones

warm across Montana!



Supreme Council Supporting Montana

This election season, the Supreme Council donated \$50,000 to support the battle against CI-128. While this tragic amendment passed, it is still important to note that Supreme was active in supporting the Montana Knights of Columbus, Montana Catholic Conference, and the Dioceses in their fight against it.

ASAP

With the passing of CI-128 last November, it's more important than ever for councils to continue to support their local pregnancy centers or Catholic Social Services of Montana through the ASAP program. Supporting these organizations is an excellent way to combat the attack on life in our world and state, as these entities walk together with mothers and families choosing or considering choosing life. Without their work, many mothers would not have the resources that empower them to choose to parent or choose adoption, instead of making the grave mistake of choosing abortion, which will haunt them for the rest of their lives.

Some of these organizations continue to help families after the birth of the child if they need it, as well, with the goal of creating stable, healthy, and loving families for the children involved. As a reminder, for every \$500, up to \$2000, donated to a pregnancy center or CSSM Supreme will match \$100. This turns a donation of \$2000 into \$2400.

Awards Submissions

Submissions for annual awards, including Knight, priest, and family of the year, are due March 1st to Tom Weber at thomasprogramchair@gmail.com. Forms can be found at www.montanaknights.org.

St Hubert Sportsman Club

The Club, led by Immediate Past State Deputy, Dan Hallsten, is growing and gathered to hunt and fish last fall. They had planned to gather for ice fishing, but

continued next page

COR

As Knights, we need to continue to build fraternity, especially through our faith. Many councils already have COR groups, but any council can start one. To learn more, visit <https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/cor.html>. The mid-year meeting hosted a COR meeting, during which, faith, fraternity, and of course, beer was shared!



Safe Environment

Forms Director, Mike Banville, will be reaching out to councils who are not up to date on the Safe Environment requirements of each council. This is important for safeguarding your council, so please complete the necessary trainings!

RSVP

Through the RSVP program, all the seminarians of each diocese have received assistance. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile program! Like the ASAP program, for every \$500, up to \$2000 donated, Supreme will match \$100. This turns a donation of \$2000 into \$2400.

Blessed Michael McGivney Relics

Relics of Blessed Michael McGivney are available through the Regional Growth Director for reservation. You can contact Marty @ statedeputy@montanaknights.org to learn more. A picture of a relic is below.

Icons of the Sacred Heart

3 icons of the Sacred Heart are traveling the state. Contact Rick Nease to schedule. A picture of the icon is below.



Remember to send news and updates of what your council has going on to Marty at statedeputy@montanaknights.org.

121st Annual Montana Knights of Columbus Convention

The men and spouses of Council 844 would like to invite you to the 121st Annual Convention in Helena, MT April 24-27th. The convention will be held at the Carroll College Lower Commons with events taking place at the K of C Hall and throughout Helena.

Our capital has a lot of exciting history to enjoy during your stay. The spouses will have the opportunity to tour our State's Capitol building on Friday. Everyone will be able to attend mass at the Cathedral of St Helena on Friday morning. If you've never been to the cathedral, it is a beautiful place of worship and is reminiscent of cathedrals in Europe.

The registration fee for men is \$150 and for spouses is \$125. The council will provide lunch for all on Friday, a Saturday lunch at Carroll College for the men and at the K of C Hall for the women, and a Saturday dinner for all at Carroll College. There will be continental breakfasts available at Carroll College on Friday and Saturday and light hors d'oeuvres at the K of C Hall on Thursday and Friday evenings. Thursday activities include an outing at the Helena Trap Club. Bring your own trap shotgun or borrow one that will be available for you to try out.

Council 844 looks forward to hosting you and your family and make this an event to remember. Visit www.montanaknights.org for more information.

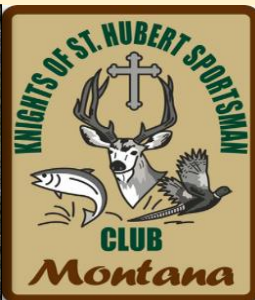
Please bring a box of size 4, 5, or 6 diapers or a cash donation to the check-in table at the state convention. This ministry serves families with young children in need and helps those families make a better world for themselves and their children.

We want to bless this valuable service with **2,000** diapers! Diapers cost about 18 cents apiece, so you can buy a lot with a small donation!



St Hubert Sportsman Club

with the warm winter and late ice, they may end up gathering for a spring fishing rendezvous! If you're interested in this type of activity and supporting your local community, contact Dan for more details.



Remember to send news and updates of what your council has going on to Marty at statedeputy@montanaknights.org.



Catholic Mental Health Counseling

CSSM's counseling program has served clients from over 20 communities in Montana and is ready to serve you!

- Our counselors are Catholic and welcome faith as a part of any counseling session, although it does not have to be. They have experience with clients from many different backgrounds, cultures, and ages. We are here for everyone.
- We specialize in many areas, including grief, trauma, anxiety, depression, relationship/marriage, and perinatal concerns.
- You can meet with us from your computer, tablet, or cell phone from anywhere in Montana. If you're in Helena or Billings, you can meet in-person with a counselor.
- We want to be a good match, so the first session is free. If you choose to continue, we accept insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and private pay, with a sliding fee scale and other discounts available.

To get started, call (406)442-4130 and select option '2' or send us a message at www.cssmt.org.

Continued from front page of newsletter

- Our Membership plans for Lent and Easter and Fish Frys and Parish Picnics?
- Have our Scouts started looking at who we are going to draft for next year?
- RCIA/OCIA classes who would REALLY benefit from our Program and EFF efforts for their long-term success of conversion or reversion and they are wondering – What's next?
- Graduating Seniors who may NEED the anchor we can provide as they venture off to the SECULAR SWAMP that is so often our Institutions of Higher Learning and they are wondering – What's next?
- Men of the Parish who will finally become Empty-Nesters as the last child leaves for college and they are wondering – What's next?
- New Families who take advantage of the school break to move to a new neighborhood or even a new state before the new school year begins and THEY are wondering – What's next?

Just as football gameplans don't just happen and plays aren't made up in the fly (usually) and teams don't build and grow by accident and Draft-Choices aren't identified on Draft Day, neither will our Programs improve or our Faith be built or our Membership grow without specific planning, efforts and execution by our whole TEAM – the Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Team Coaches, Squad Leaders and finally and perhaps most importantly, our individual members each doing their part of the game plan for the success of the WHOLE Team.

The second half has started! Will YOU do your part in our TEAM'S success both this year and into the future?

Fraternally,

Chuck Davlin

Regional Growth Director, Supreme

