

## A shadow has fallen over our time

**Editor's Note:** The following appeared in the Jan. 1 edition of *Our Sunday Visitor*, a national Catholic newsweekly based in Huntington, Ind. It was written by the newspaper's editorial board.

Pope Benedict XVI, in his annual World Day of Peace message, captures the ambivalence of the present moment but also the appropriate Christian response when he writes:

"I invite you to look to 2012 with this attitude of confident trust. It is true that the year now ending has been marked by a rising sense of frustration at the crisis looming over society, the world of labor and the economy, a crisis whose roots are primarily cultural and anthropological. It seems as if a shadow has fallen over our time, preventing us from clearly seeing the light of day."

There is a great unease through our land. In the United States, we remain divided ideologically, culturally, economically. In many ways the stalemates that have plagued our government for the past year reflect a broader stalemate on a host of issues.

Around the world, and particularly in the West, the economic crisis of Europe has unnerved people. Governments have fallen, but whole economies may be next. In Africa, elites battle for power while the masses of people suffer terribly in countries from Somalia and Sudan, to Congo, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

New dangers await on the Korean Peninsula, and war continues in Afghanistan, strife in the Middle East, and an uneasy new era begins in Iraq with the final withdrawal last month of U.S. military personnel.

How difficult it is to have hope.

Yet the pope finds reason for hope in the world's young, that "with their enthusiasm and idealism (they) can offer new hope to the world." He calls it a real duty of all -- and not just a matter of expediency -- to be attentive to young people, listen to them and appreciate them. Addressing them, he calls them a "precious gift" to society and to the church, and "an example and an inspiration to adults, even more so to the extent that you seek to overcome injustice and corruption and strive to build a better future."

At the same time, he underscores the common responsibility of those of the present generation to train the future generation to "be people of

Parents, see presence to your children as one of the greatest "treasures" you can give. "This presence makes it possible to share more deeply in the journey of life and thus to pass on experiences and convictions gained with the passing of the years, experiences and convictions which can only be communicated by spending time together."

peace and builders of peace."

Several of his recommendations include:

-- Parents, see presence to your children as one of the greatest "treasures" you can give. "This presence makes it possible to share more deeply in the journey of life and thus to pass on experiences and convictions gained with the passing of the years, experiences and convictions which can only be communicated by spending time together."

-- Americans, be on watch against modern cultural currents like individualism that detach our understanding of justice from its roots: "charity and solidarity."

-- Christians, work on a spiritual maturity makeover. "In order to be true peacemakers, we must educate ourselves in compassion, solidarity, working together, fraternity, in being active within the community and concerned to raise awareness about national and international issues and the importance of seeking adequate mechanisms for the redistribution of wealth, the promotion of growth, cooperation for development and conflict resolution."

Because if we are to teach the next generation the joy that comes from the daily exercise of charity and compassion, we first must live it, the pope notes:

"Today more than ever we need authentic witnesses, and not simply people who parcel out rules and facts; we need witnesses capable of seeing farther than others because their life is so much broader."

May your 2012 be broader, more joyful and more confident.

## Extreme sports, good times and the new evangelization

**Editor's Note:** The following appeared in the Dec. 8 edition of the *Catholic Spirit*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It was written by editor Joe Towalski.

Picture the scene: Skaters clad in helmets and pads, racing down a winding ice hill at speeds up to 40 mph, while tens of thousands of cheering spectators line the course with the Cathedral of St. Paul serving as a picturesque backdrop.

"Ice cross downhill" is one of the newest extreme sports gaining popularity around the world, and it's coming to downtown St. Paul next month as part of the Red Bull Crashed Ice World Championship competition.

Fun and exciting to watch?

For sure.

An opportunity to practice the "new evangelization" that Pope Benedict XVI says is so urgently needed in today's world?

Maybe -- at least in one small way that shouldn't be overlooked.

A survey a few years ago found that the percentage of Americans who professed no religion nearly doubled between 1990 and 2008 -- jumping from 8.2 percent of the population to 15 percent. Some researchers estimate that "former Catholics" make up roughly 10 percent of the U.S. population.

These people -- which include older teens and young adults -- simply don't see the relevance of religion for their day-to-day lives. Raised in an American culture that preaches materialism, moral relativism and pleasure above nearly all else, they often have a false perception of religion in general, and Catholicism in particular, as being too stodgy, too judgmental, too scandal-ridden and not at all fun.

They likely wouldn't accept an invitation to attend a class about the catechism or hear a talk by a prominent Catholic speaker. But they might be enticed to attend an event like Crashed Ice -- and here there is an opportunity to extend a further invitation.

The Cathedral of St. Paul isn't a sponsor of the competition, but it's allowing race organizers to use some of its property in the interest of being a good neighbor. The event also presents an opportunity to ratchet up hospitality efforts for any of the thousands of spectators who might want a closer look at this magnificent church that frames the race's backdrop.

You might call it a "soft-sell" approach to evangelization, but it can be an effective way to make a connection with people who rarely, if ever, set foot inside a church door.

It's not that much different than the community spirit and good

image that's cultivated by parish festivals, church-sponsored art exhibitions and concerts, and lavish feast day celebrations -- like the Dec. 12 feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which, at many parishes, in addition to prayer, features festive songs, mariachi bands, dancers and delicious food.

These are places where churches could extend a further invitation to new faces in the crowd -- perhaps to attend parish faith-sharing groups, book or movie discussion clubs, or question-and-answer sessions that help explain what Catholicism really means and that invite participants to enter more deeply into the faith and learn the beauty of what the church teaches.

All of these efforts can help dispel false notions that the church has nothing relevant to offer for living a fuller, better life and they would go a long way toward clearing up misperceptions of the church as stodgy and not at all fun.

Catholics like to have a good time and share the joy with others. Here's how veteran Catholic reporter John Allen described it in a recent interview with the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*:

"I don't think the Catholic Church gets enough credit for being ... a lot of fun. There's great warmth and laughter in most Catholic circles, a rich intellectual tradition, a vast body of lore, an incredible range of characters, a deep desire to do good, an abiding faith against all odds, an ability to go anywhere and feel instantly at home, and even a deep love of good food, good drink and good company. All that is part of the tapestry of a Catholic life -- a Catholic life with its moral center housed firmly in the teachings of the Savior, Jesus Christ -- but it rarely sees the light of day in commentary and reporting that focuses exclusively on crisis, scandal, and heartache."

We need to invite more people -- including fallen-away Catholics and inactive Catholics as well as teens and young adults absent from our churches -- to experience the beauty and joy at the heart of our faith life. We need to show how our churches and other Catholic groups, through a deep love of Jesus Christ and His admonition that we love our neighbor as we love ourselves, continue to enrich the local community. And, we need -- when they are ready -- to teach them again about the value in living a Catholic Christian life.

Those goals require creating more opportunities for evangelization and outreach as well as taking advantage of more unique opportunities -- like Crashed Ice -- that occasionally come racing into our neighborhoods.

### Kateri Tekakwitha

**1656** Born in a village on the Mohawk River near Auriesville, N.Y. Her father was a Mohawk chief and her mother a Christian Algonquin.

**1660** Orphaned at age 4 during smallpox epidemic.

**1676** Baptized on Easter at the age of 20.

**1677** Fled to Canada, taking refuge at St. Francis Xavier Mission in the Mohawk Nation at Caughnawaga. Reportedly made her first Communion on Christmas.

**1680** Died at age 24, is buried at Caughnawaga.

**Late 1800s** American Indians began making appeals to the Catholic Church that she be recognized for her deep spirituality and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

**1932** Documentation for her sainthood cause was sent to the Vatican.

**1935** National Tekakwitha Conference started.

**1980** Beatified by Pope John Paul II June 22.

**2011** Pope Benedict XVI recognizes second miracle attributed to her intercession Dec. 19.



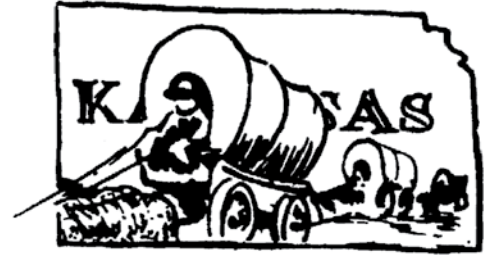
©2011 CNS

**Pope Benedict XVI cleared the way for Kateri Tekakwitha's canonization Dec. 19 by recognizing a miracle attributed to her intercession, but no date has been set for the canonization ceremony.**

CNS graphic/Emily Thompson



# Knights-Lite



Official State Publication -- Kansas State Council, Knights of Columbus -- Winter 2012



Archbishop Naumann and Knights from across Kansas gathered at the LifeCare Center for Women in Ottawa on Sunday September 25 to bless and dedicate the new 3-D ultrasound machine that was donated by the Knights of Columbus. State Deputy Mark Roth presented a check from the Supreme Council covering half the cost to Leah Wray, Director of LifeCare, along with another check from the State Council covering the remainder of the cost. Knights from throughout Kansas combined to raise these funds. Archbishop Naumann praised LifeCare for their work in helping to prevent abortions and asked God to continue to bless their work. He then blessed the staff and the ultrasound machine, dedicating it in support of life. The entire staff, board of directors, volunteer counselors and many benefactors were there to witness the blessing. Facility tours were given and a reception followed. Pictured are (l to r) Kelly McKinney; State Advocate Pat Winchester; Past State Warden Mike McClain; Past State Warden and Past Pro-Life Chair-Couple James Pritchard; Director of LifeCare Center Leah Wray; Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann; State Deputy Mark Roth; Past State Deputy George Miller; Past State Deputy Francis Drouhard; Ken Halligan; Pro-Life Director and Past State Treasurer Ron Zishka; State Warden Andy Gilner; and State Secretary Scott Maurath.

## Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Ken J. Schuckman, State Chaplain



### Let Us Pray

In many church sacristies, the room in which the priest clothes himself in Mass vestments, there is a sign that reads: "Say this Mass as if it was your first Mass. Say this Mass as if it was your last Mass. Say this Mass as if it was your only Mass." These words when I first read them were very profound. They still are very meaningful to me today, but with a little nuance. As a priest ordained nearly twenty years, I still remember very well my First Mass. It was the day after my ordination. Yes, I was very nervous but also very honored and humbled to celebrate the mysteries Jesus Christ celebrated at the Last Supper. I very much wanted to do everything correctly. I'm not sure when my last Mass will be. However, I want to be able to celebrate it with true reverence and be able to lead people into a deeper relationship with the Lord. I can't imagine what it would be like to say only one Mass.

The purpose of the sign is obvious. It reminds the priest how privileged he is to stand in the person of Jesus Christ and celebrate the sacred mysteries. Every Mass must be celebrated with the utmost reverence and dignity. As I have already done, I would prefer the sign substituted the word "say" with the word "celebrate." To me, the word "celebrate" adds much more life and enthusiasm than the word "say." I do not want to simply say the words of the Mass, but rather I want to celebrate the great mysteries that Christ has given to us.

This past July, I received a letter from Bishop Jackels addressed to all the priests of the Diocese of Wichita about the changes in the Mass that would result in the use of the new Roman Missal. It has only been a few weeks since we began using the new Roman Missal. How privileged we are. In the letter Bishop Jackels told the priests: "There is so much at stake with our being prepared to use the new Missal, such as: our ability to pray (not just say) the text." As I reflected on those words and the rest of the letter I decided I would have to once again make a change to the words of the sacristy sign. The sign would now have to read: "Pray this Mass as if it was your first Mass. Pray this Mass as if it was your last Mass. Pray this Mass as if it was your only Mass." Even though I believe the Mass is still a wonderful celebration I believe the word pray is the best word. When we gather to celebrate the Mass we gather to participate in the greatest prayer of the Roman Catholic Church. To pray, says most clearly what our mind, heart, soul, and body should be doing. Our words must be true words of prayer. They must be lifted up and directed to God. However, these words in the sacristy are not for the priest alone. It would be good for them to be displayed by every door leading into church. Each and every person who gathers for the celebration of Mass should be prepared to participate in a prayerful manner. In the "General Instruction of the Roman Missal" it states: "For the celebration of the Eucharist is the action of the whole Church and in it each one should carry out solely but totally that which pertains to him, in virtue of the place of each within the People of God." May all of us see the changes in the translation of the Mass as an opportunity to pray in a more complete manner. We are truly all called to "pray" the Mass as if it were our first Mass, our last Mass, our only Mass!

## Knights contribute to crisis pregnancy centers

By Ronald and Paula Zishka  
Pro-Life Chair Couple

The thirteenth annual pro-life baby shower kickoff was held in Topeka in conjunction with the Mid-Year District Deputy meeting on December 3.

Thanks to the generosity of the State Officers, District Deputies and their wives, over \$857 in donations of cash and baby items were received. The items were distributed to Pro-Life Centers across Kansas.

If your local council has not yet started their Baby Shower or Bottles for Life or both, they can be held anytime. All items and money collected should be documented then brought to your local crisis pregnancy center. After you have completed the collection and have distributed all items please report to us as soon

as you can. This will save phone calls and help us tremendously. Many of these centers now have sonogram machines and the results are phenomenal. Many young mothers make a decision to go full term rather than to abort their pregnancy after viewing the sonogram.

All councils should be working on the requirements for the Evangelium Vitae Award that will be given to the council that does the most to promote the "Gospel of Life" in their area. The four-part plan of this award is Public Information, Pastoral Care for any who has been affected by the Culture of Death, Public Policy Efforts for favorable pro-life legislation and Prayer and Worship. At least one activity is required in each of the four areas.

Please continue to help us update our power-point slide show and scrapbook with the new digital pictures of your memorials and road signs.

Also please join us in Topeka on January 23 for the March for Life at the State Capitol, beginning with Mass at 10 a.m. at the Topeka Performance Arts Center, located two blocks east of Assumption Church on 214 E. 8th Ave. Honor Guard will meet at Assumption Church at 9:00 a.m. The walk will start at 11:30 a.m. from the TPAC to the Capital steps. Knights of Columbus Defend Life signs will be available in Topeka.

Keep up the good work and we will change this world from a culture of death to a culture of life as ask to do so by the Venerable Servant of God John Paul II.

## Pennies From Heaven campaign begins

By Rick Weigel

State Pennies From Heaven Chairman

The Pennies From Heaven Program was designed to raise funds for the Emergency Disaster Aid Program (EDAP). EDAP's mission is to provide financial assistance to victims who have suffered a major loss due to a natural disaster.

Over the last year we have had one natural disaster in our area and one to a neighboring state, so special requests for additional funding is greatly appreciated. The EDAP funds were heavily drawn upon with the tornadoes across the state and the floods in Eastern Kansas. While there have been many smaller individual requests for funds from the EDAP program this year, now is the time to build the funds back up and be prepared for future needs.

Our main fund raising efforts for the Pennies Program will take place at the State Convention in May at Topeka. Every council across the state is encouraged to bring arts, crafts or items to be sold

in the Country Store. Some of these articles will again be auctioned off at the Convention Mixer. Money generated from the sale of any items will be credited to the council that donated that particular item. A raffle and the annual Pennies Parade will also be taking place at the Convention. If a council is unable to attend the convention, checks may be sent in advance to the State Pennies Chairman or State Treasurer.

Plaques will be presented to the council with the highest dollar-per-member in each division and to the District Deputy with the highest dollar-per-member per district. All participating councils will receive a certificate.

If your council has not held a fundraiser for the Pennies From Heaven Program this year, now is the time to do so.

I feel confident that with the generosity of all Knights across the great state of Kansas, our goal of \$77,777.77 will be met with the funds brought in at the State Convention.

## Knights promote vocations

By Mike Johnston  
Church Activities Director  
and Vocations Chairman

The Knights of Columbus believes that supporting religious vocations is one of the most important things that we as Catholics are called upon to do. Without our priests there would be no Eucharist and without our seminarians there will be no future priests. As of December 22, we have adopted seminarians and religious across the state in the amount of \$192,975.00 with 210 of the councils and 28 of the assemblies reporting. In addition to monetary support, the Knights also pray and correspond by let-

ters and cards with the seminarians.

Every council throughout our state helps promote vocations through the Vocation Poster Contest. This contest is open to all children, grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and special education. This year's contest theme is "Created and Called to Serve". Rules for the contest can be obtained from your local council. The local council winners for each age group/division must be submitted to their District Deputy by March 15. The overall state winner and each division winner will be announced at the State Convention in Topeka in May.

## Special Olympics tournament scheduled

Gary Wondra, Community Activities Director, advises that the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament will be held in Hays on March 15, 16, 17. There are teams awaiting a sponsor and if any councils or members of your

community are interested in sponsoring a team, contact the Hays Convention and Visitor Bureau at 785 628-8202. If anyone is interested in volunteering to assist at the Tournament, contact Gary Wondra at 620 586-3328.

**State Deputy's Message**  
**"I Am My Brother's Keeper"**  
 By Mark W. Roth, State Deputy



As we progress into the New Year of 2012 we look to the past to help form a plan of promise for the future. With the New Year comes new experiences and new responsibilities. As we face the new challenges of 2012 let us always face them with our Catholic faith in mind.

Our membership and program campaign theme this year is "I am My Brother's Keeper". We need not look far for ways in which to help our fellow man. In these tough economic times, there is a greater need for volunteerism than ever before in our history. There are many families with needs in our society and we need but look a short distance from home to find them. Our membership in the Knights of Columbus is a great way to see that these needs are being met. To him to whom much is given, much is expected in return. This should be the foundation for our work and our "volunteer spirit" in the Knights of Columbus. We all have a great deal to be thankful for and we have all been given a tremendous amount of talents and treasures by our Lord. Now is the time to volunteer those talents in making better the lives of those in need around us. Let us challenge ourselves to find these needs and then do our best to see these needs are being met. When we care for our fellow man we are truly putting forth that great spirit of volunteerism.

As we look for ways to build up the church through our volunteer efforts we can look to our supreme council and state sponsored programs. You might find fulfillment in helping with our Adopt-A-Seminarian Program or working to provide assistance to our friends with intellectual disabilities through our Commitment To Humanities and

Tootsie Roll Program. Still others might find their efforts pointing them toward pro-life work through our various pro-life programs. Still others might most enjoy working with the youth through our many youth activity programs. Most likely when each of us joined the Knights of Columbus we were looking for ways in which to help our church or communities. The Knights of Columbus grants us many opportunities to step forward and help to create a better world for those around us. When we help in each of these situations we are helping to build up the church through our volunteer efforts.

Our founder, the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney, envisioned a Catholic fraternal lay organization founded on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. These guiding principles are still applicable today and we are called to live out those principles every day through our membership in the Knights of Columbus. The cause for his sainthood continues to gather momentum.

Let us continue to pray for Fr. McGivney's guidance and intercession as we face the challenges that lie ahead.

The Knights of Columbus in Kansas has a great history of service to our Church, our communities and our fellow man. As we go forth as leaders in our Church and communities let us be sure to ask every eligible Catholic man who is dedicated to his faith, family and community to join us in our great order. There is much work to do, won't you join us?

For more information on our programs and service to the Church, please visit our state website at [www.kansas-kofc.org](http://www.kansas-kofc.org).

Vivat Jesus.

## Time to compile charitable acts of 2011

By Dale A. Weber  
 State Program Director

Knights of Columbus councils across Kansas are busy compiling facts and figures from their charitable acts of 2011 and will join the councils in all the other jurisdictions in reporting these figures to Supreme Council on the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form #1728).

These reports convey to Supreme Council the amounts of monetary contributions and vol-

unteer service hours given by councils to various charities. The Supreme Council then compiles all these figures into one report showing the international figures. This is such an important report that Supreme Council has established a deadline of January 31, 2012 for this report to be filed by all councils, and it must be filed by the deadline before a council can be considered for the coveted Star Council Award.

Last year, Knights of Columbus

councils throughout the Order reported making charitable and benevolent contributions of over \$154 million and donating over 70 million hours of volunteer service. This is an increase of more than \$3 million despite a soft economy. Both are record amounts. It also reported more than 413,000 blood donors, more than 5.5 million visits to our ill and sick.

Contact a local council for more information.

## Commitment to Humanities Update

The Commitment to Humanities Campaign is on course to meet this year's goal with 75% of the councils reporting \$ 296,534.58 which is 86% of our \$ 345,000 goal. Commitment to Humanities Chairman Gary Wondra wishes to thank those who have donated to this notable charity. Eighty percent of the money raised goes to local organizations helping those with intellectual disabilities and the other twenty percent will be used to support the Special Olympics Basketball Tournament held in Hays March 15-17. All councils are also reminded to submit Form 4584 (Partnership Profile with Special Olympics) to Supreme by January 31.

## Knight's-Lite

The Knight's-Lite is the official publication of the Kansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus. It is published four times during the 2011-2012 fraternal year in the Catholic newspapers of Kansas.

**State Deputy**  
 Mark W. Roth, Liberal  
**State Chaplain**  
 Rev. Ken J. Schuckman, Colwich  
**Immediate Past State Deputy**  
 Francis G. Drouhard, Danville  
**State Secretary**  
 Scott A. Maurath, Oakley  
**State Treasurer**  
 Vincent Melvin III, Topeka  
**State Advocate**  
 Patrick D. Winchester, LeCompton  
**State Warden**  
 Andy T. Gilner, Tonganoxie  
**Knight's-Lite Editor**  
 Dale Weber  
 514 E 33rd St. South, Wellington  
 620-326-6304  
[stateprogramdirector@Kansas-KofC.org](mailto:stateprogramdirector@Kansas-KofC.org)

## Food for Families program stressed

As the holiday season ends, the outreach to help food pantries and soup kitchens also ends. Many of these relief organizations will again be hard pressed to meet the needs of those who struggle to find their next meal. As Knights, we need to continue to conduct programs to help feed the hungry throughout the year.

The Supreme Council is asking all councils to focus their outreach on food pantries and soup kitchens in their communities. The goal is to help keep food pantries well stocked all year round. Councils can purchase grocery items and collect non-perishable food items after week-end Masses. Many grocery stores will allow organizations such as the Knights of Columbus to collect items outside their stores if they ask and work within the parameters established by the store manager.

Another opportunity is for a council to secure enough food to prepare a meal at a soup kitchen or in the parish hall. Then, they can do what Knights do best; roll up their sleeves to prepare and serve the meal.

Family Life Director Greg Lix notes that Supreme is offering an incentive to encourage councils to participate. A qualifying Food for Families program will fulfill all four of the Family Activities requirements for the Columbian Award. The form required to qualify must be completed and submitted by May 15, 2012.

The steps to successfully help meet the needs of those at risk of hunger are: contact a local food pantry or soup kitchen and ask what their needs are, conduct a drive to gather donations and distribute the donations or serve a meal. Be sure to publicize your efforts.

## Knights to receive recognition

By Doug Wietharn

State Fraternal Chairman

With over 1.8 million members world-wide the Knights of Columbus volunteered over seventy million hours of service to their council, church, community, pro-life, family and youth activities. As the world's largest fraternal organization it is easy to see why our programs are so successful. We have the dedication and commitment of our members. Their hard work is what makes our order so successful. Every council should take the opportunity to recognize this sacrifice and participate in the Knight of the Month Program to show their appreciation to a deserving Brother Knight for his dedication and commitment in helping our fellow citizens.

Another opportunity to recognize a Brother Knight for his superior achievement can be accomplished by selecting a Knight of the Year for your coun-

cil. Now is the time that every council should begin the process of selecting a brother knight who is deserving of this honor and submit the application form to your District Deputy. Your council's Knight of the Year will then be eligible for District, Diocesan and State Knight of the Year honors. Each District winner will be recognized with a certificate from the State Council and his name will be listed in the proceedings book from the convention. The four diocesan winners will be recognized at the State Convention and will receive a plaque from the State Council. The Kansas State Knight of the Year will be honored during the convention awards banquet.

The workings of our order continue to be quite impressive. Be your Brother's Keeper and celebrate those accomplishments by honoring your brothers and recognizing them as a Knight of the Month or Knight of the Year.

## Families receive honors

By Greg Lix

Family Life Director

We have just finished celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family. What an appropriate time for all councils to begin thinking about their "Family of the Year" selection. After selecting your nomination, fill out the "Family of the Year Awards Entry Form" found in the Family of the Month booklet and deliver it to your District Deputy by March 10.

The family you choose may be selected as the District, Diocesan or the State Family of the Year and recognized at the State Convention. Each council should continue to recognize a family of

the month and mail the form to Supreme or file it electronically by the 15th of the following month. Send a copy to your District Deputy and to me.

As of October, Supreme had recognized 16 Kansas families as a "Family of the Month". Keep up the good work!

Also, it is time to be working on your family activities scrapbook so it can be sent to me by April 1.

Supreme is asking councils to continue participating in the Food for Families Program.

The images of Our Lady of Guadalupe continue to move around the state as the Marian Prayer Program continues.

## Free Throw Contests begin

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14. The championship is set up to have the contestants compete within their own age group. All competition starts at the local level. Entry forms are available at schools, from members, or at the competition.

Winners in each age group will progress to the District, then Regional, and on to the State Championship. The State Knights of Columbus Championship will be held in Salina on March 4.

Last year more than 180,000 young people participated in representing over 3,000 councils in the Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Championship. Good luck to all participants and most of all have fun!

## 68th annual bowling tournament announced

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite all members to participate in the 68th annual Knights of Columbus Bowling Tournament at Mission Bowl in Olathe. This year's tournament will be held February 18 and 19, February 25 and 26 and March 3 and 4. You do not need to be a league bowler to participate. All that is needed to enter is a paid up Knights of Columbus membership card. For tournament entry information contact Jim Secondo, 6348 Hadley Street, Merriam, Kansas 66202, (913) 722-3909.

### JOIN US!

The Kansas Knights of Columbus  
 A Catholic Fraternal Family Organization

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Send to or for more information contact: Jim Gerber, Membership Director, 10969 W. 68th, Apt. #280, Shawnee KS 66217 - Phone #913-378-3406 email - [statemembershipdirector@kansas-kofc.org](mailto:statemembershipdirector@kansas-kofc.org)

## Otro Camino

Cualquier año nuevo está naturalmente lleno de nueva energía, nueva promesa, y nueva esperanza. Pero solamente puede sostener todas estas cosas si nos acercamos a el por "otro camino."

Hemos estado reflexionando este mes pasado sobre el papel que juega el trabajo en nuestras vidas, su importancia original, este ocuparse del Jardín de Dios. Pero el pecado a veces deja el trabajo con un rostro sin amor.

Es un rostro orgulloso, conspirador, y codicioso: quiere todo para si mismo. El trabajo puede echar fuera todo lo demás. Puede elevarse a ser el fin y la razón de una vida. Ese es un rostro sin amor en realidad. No estamos hechos para el trabajo. El trabajo esta hecho para nosotros.

De modo que hay más de la vida que aprender a ser un buen sembrador o un rancharo. Hay más de la vida que aprender a ser un buen mecánico o plomero. Hay mas de la vida que aprender a ser un buen contador o un buen agente (pregúntele a Bernie Madoff sobre esto). Sin embargo mucha de nuestra

educación se enfoca solamente en crear una **fuerza de trabajo** buena, en inculcar una *ética de trabajo* adecuada, en hacernos *consumidores inteligentes*. Este es un empobrecimiento increíble, en este país de abundancia.

Nuestros hijos son educados para convertirse en buenos doctores, buenos hombres de negocios, y buenos ingenieros, pero nunca están de aprendiz en lo que mas importa...en el *arte de vivir*. A lo mejor están preparados para construir carreras exitosas, ¿pero están preparados... de cualquier manera, figura o forma... para hacer una vida buena? ¿Para hacer el mundo que son sus matrimonios? ¿Para criar a sus hijos? ¿Para formar amistades autenticas? ¿Para relacionarse con Dios, que es el Origen y el Fin?

Pienso que no. Y, si examinan sus vidas en la fría luz de un día de enero, van a pensar ustedes también que no. Se necesita algo más en acercarnos a nuestro trabajo. *Otro Camino*...este es necesario si nuestro año nuevo ha de ser verdaderamente *nuevo*.

+ Reverendo  
**Ronald M. Gilmore**  
Obispo  
Emérito de  
Dodge City



Nuestros hijos son educados para convertirse en buenos doctores, buenos hombres de negocios, y buenos ingenieros, pero nunca están de aprendiz en lo que mas importa...en el *arte de vivir*.

## El papa anima padres en audiencia a enseñar niños a orar

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Si los niños no aprenden de sus padres a orar será difícil que ellos jamás aprendan a comunicarse con Dios natural, simple y profundamente, dijo el papa Benedicto XVI.

"Desde la edad más tierna los niños pueden aprender en la familia a percibir el sentido de Dios, gracias a la enseñanza y ejemplo que sus padres den de vivir en la presencia de Dios", dijo el papa durante su audiencia general semanal del 28 de diciembre.

Continuando una serie de charlas ante la audiencia sobre la oración, el papa Benedicto vio la Sagrada Familia como modelo de la vida familiar marcada por la fe, el trabajo y momentos regulares de oración juntos.

"La Sagrada Familia es el icono de la iglesia doméstica llamada a orar junta. La familia es la iglesia doméstica y debe ser la primera escuela de oración", él dijo.

Aunque los Evangelios no dan mucho detalle sobre la vida de la infancia de Jesús, él dijo, la Biblia es clara en que María y José eran judíos practicantes, lo que significa que oraban en horas regulares durante todo el día y antes de las comidas. Ellos fueron a Jerusalén a presentar el niño en el templo cuando él tenía 40 días de nacido y viajaron hasta Jerusalén para celebrar la Pascua.

"Una educación auténticamente cristiana no puede carecer de la experiencia de la oración", dijo el papa. "Si uno no aprende a orar en familia será difícil llenar este vacío, por lo que quiero invitarles a redescubrir la belleza de orar juntos como familia en la escuela de la Sagrada Familia de Nazaret y, de ese modo, convertirse verdaderamente en un corazón y un alma, en una verdadera familia".

## Conferencia de Planificación Familiar Natural



CNS photo/Joe Kohn, The Michigan Catholic

### El Plan de Dios para el Matrimonio y el Amor Conyugal

Conferencia de la Planificación Familiar Natural  
29 de Enero 2012 1:30pm-5pm

Comida incluido

Presentaciones: Padre Matthew Habiger, OSB, Ph.D y Dr. Martha Garza, MD

Padre Matthew Habiger y Dr. Martha Garza van a presentar temas como:

- Cómo la Planificación Familiar Natural refuerza el plan de Dios para el matrimonio y el amor conyugal
- La Diferencia entre la PFN y los Anticonceptivos y la Gran Diferencia que hace
- Las consecuencias negativas de los anticonceptivos en la salud de la mujer y los efectos positivos de la PFN
- La esperanza para las parejas que luchan con la infertilidad
- Cómo el doctor Garza trajo PNF en su práctica médica

Todos están invitados a la conferencia, especialmente a las parejas casadas y comprometidas, los que ayudan con la preparación matrimonial, y los que quieren aprender más de cómo funciona la PFN en los matrimonios y cómo puede ayudar a las parejas luchando con el infertilidad.

Para más información y para registrarse favor de visitar a [www.dodgecitycathedral.com](http://www.dodgecitycathedral.com) o llamar a Deanna Jones: 620-225-4802 x 203, [djones@dodgecitycathedral.com](mailto:djones@dodgecitycathedral.com). Favor de registrarse para el 20 de Enero.

### El Kansas Rural Family Helpline

El Kansas Rural Family Helpline es una línea telefónica de ayuda sin costo para la población rural de Kansas. Es un programa de servicio directo dedicado a ayudar con las necesidades de las familias rurales de Kansas. Este programa provee ayuda emocional, consejos competentes, referencias calificadas de manera confidencial directamente a familias rurales que estén pasando por dificultades emocionales, médicas, financieras o legales.

Estos servicios también se encuentran disponibles en español. Nuestro número telefónico sin costo es el 1-866-327-6578.

### Línea de ayuda para jugadores con problemas

¿Piensa que usted, un amigo o un ser querido tal vez tiene un problema con el juego? Problemas con el juego es uno de los trastornos mas destructivos que una persona puede enfrentar, y las consecuencias pueden ser devastadoras cuando se sale fuera de control. Hay ayuda disponible. Hable al (800) 522-4700, o visite [www.ks-gamblinghelp.com](http://www.ks-gamblinghelp.com).

### Sesiones de conscientización

La Diócesis requiere a todos los empleados y voluntarios que trabajan con menores a asistir a las sesiones de conscientización de Proteger a los Niños de Dios.

Estas sesiones de conscientización están disponibles en ambos inglés y español. Son conducidos por gente de nuestra Diócesis especialmente entrenadas como facilitadores. Las sesiones se publicarán en las parroquias, escuelas, el periódico *Southwest Kansas Register* y la página electrónica de la Diócesis. [www.dcdiocese.org/protectingchildren](http://www.dcdiocese.org/protectingchildren).

### Línea especial para víctimas de abuso sexual

Si usted, o alguien a quien usted conoce ha sido víctima de abuso sexual por algún clérigo, o cualquier empleado de la Diócesis de Dodge City, por favor comunicarse con el Sr. Dave Snapp, Fitness Review Administrator: (620)225-5051, o (620)225-2412, o al correo electrónico [dsnapp3@starrtech.net](mailto:dsnapp3@starrtech.net). Conserva siempre su derecho de comunicarse directamente a Social Relief Services, 1-800-922-4453.

