



# The Magnolia Knight

Serving the Mississippi Jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus

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*"Our goal is very specific.*

*Developing Catholic Leaders.*

*Strengthening Catholic Families."*

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## From Our State Deputy

July begins a new chapter in the history of the Knights of Columbus. Statewide, we are eager to march forward, bound in unity, to carry out the dream of Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

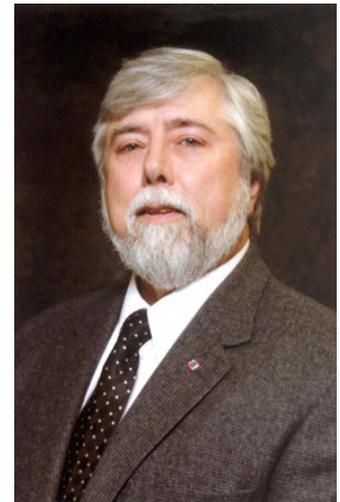
To that end, you have chosen your council and state leaders. You have pledged to support them by your vote. This month they have made, or will make, a similar pledge to you during their installation ceremony.

This year our goal is "Developing Catholic Leaders, Strengthening Catholic Families". Developing Catholic Leaders: There is no better place to develop leadership skills than in a volunteer organization. I found this to be the case in a number of professional organizations and in the Knights of

Columbus. To me, it is through service to others, making a difference, and again bound in unity with brother knights, that professional growth is a benefit.

Whether as a council officer, a committee chairman or as a mentor, passing on what we learned the hard way, each helps us to grow. Every office is important. Every committee role is important. Each is a single cog on a wheel of organization. As long as each cog does its basic function, the wheel spins smoothly.

It's natural to want to do great things. However, the Holy Father asks us only to do good things. This year we will focus on doing good things. One of those is to give special attention to the



members in your council. In particular, I ask that you talk with a member who you have not seen in some time. Invite him to join you at a meeting, a rosary or a council project. By doing so, even if the answer is *not at this time*, you are saying ... "You are important. You are worth my time." I invite each of you to join me in making a difference. You are important to me. Vivat Jesus!

## Prayer for Ukraine

The Knights of Columbus has been following the events unfolding in Ukraine. Pope Francis said: "I assure the Ukrainian people of my closeness and pray for the victims of the violence, for their families, and for the injured. I urge all parties

to cease every form of violence and to pursue harmony and peace throughout the country." In solidarity with our Holy Father, and with the Catholic Bishops and Church in Ukraine, the Knights of Columbus is asking all of our members around the world to pray

the Prayer of St. Francis that there may be a renewed dialogue and respect and a peaceful resolution to the situation in Ukraine.





PSD Larry Tabor with MS Miss Amazing 2014 Heather Boyte.

## Campaign to Support Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

Council are encouraged to conduct their drives during May each year and the designate a local program to receive the proceeds from their drive. The MS Knights of Columbus Foundation, Inc., was established solely as a state-level non-profit organization to provide financial support to large scale programs serving individuals with intellectual disabilities. If for some reason a council cannot conduct a collection drive, may I suggest they make a donation to the Foundation.

Recently, the Special Olympics Summer Games were held at Keesler AFB, in Biloxi. On Friday night, PSD Larry Tabor presented the Executive Director of Special Olympics of MS, Ms. Helen Parish, with a \$3000.00 donation provided by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office. This donation was earned by the Mississippi Jurisdiction through reporting our volunteer hours and cash donated by local and state councils on the Partnership Profile with Special Olympics from #4585. The more

volunteer hours are reported by our councils, the higher the amount of Supreme's donation. You can find more information on the Campaign to Support Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities on the MS State Knights of Columbus web page. The web page provides copies of the Audit Form and Council Disbursement Request Form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Larry Tabor, PSD, at 228-365-6515, or [LNDtabor@cablone.ne](mailto:LNDtabor@cablone.ne).

**“Over \$78,000 raised by councils, assemblies, and auxiliaries for priest education.”**

## 2014 Convention Report on Bishop R.O. Gerow Fund

The 2013-2014 year was a great success for the Bishop RO. Gerow Fund. The total donations exceeded \$78,000. This includes over \$52,000 for the Jackson Diocese and \$26,000 for the Biloxi Diocese. The Christopher fund checks from Supreme were also distributed to each diocese. These checks were \$3,115. This brings the grand total to over \$84,000. Awards were given out at the

State convention for the largest donations by a council, an assembly, and a ladies auxiliary. for each diocese. Those were: Jackson Diocese: Council 9543, Assembly 2734 and 558 and Auxiliary 7854 Biloxi Diocese: Council 2180, Assembly 2227 and Auxiliary 1583. Carol and I to be at the I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the Schools of Columbianism as we develop plans for another year in

support of our future priests. If you were unable to donate please consider programs to support the 2014-2015 fund. My sincere thanks go out to those of you who worked to generate funds for donations. Vivat Jesus,  
Don Cox,  
Chairman  
Bishop R.O. Gerow Program

## Schools of Columbianism

As we kickoff the new year the State Council has scheduled three Schools of Coumbianism.

The first of the three training sessions is Sunday, July 13th at St. Paul in Flowood / Brandon. The start time is 12:30pm.

The Northern Session will follow on Saturday, July 26 at 12:30pm at St. Mary in Batesville.

The Southern session will be

The following day, July 27th at 12:30pm in Biloxi at the Council 1244 KC Hall.

The Schools of Columbianism are excellent opportunities to meet with our State Council officers and State Program personnel. It is also a time of fellowship and networking with leaders of other councils in your area to share ideas on how to keep the councils on the right track.

Schools of Columbian will help those who attend be up to date on the goals of the State Council.

The attendees should include Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Program Director, Membership Director, Financial Secretary, and any other members who want to learn more. Please make every effort to attend the School of Columbianism in your area.



## Clint Dempsey, World Cup Star, Credits Jesus For His Success

U.S. World Cup player Clint Dempsey has an [impressive record](#) and enough fame and success to make any aspiring player jealous. But the soccer star takes little credit for his own success and insists it's all in service to a higher power, Dempsey said in a [recent interview with Sports Spectrum](#).

"Today, I pray for strength to walk the road before me," Dempsey said. "I play to the best of my abilities and am thankful for the many opportunities and amazing success He has given me. Through it all, I want to do right, not make mistakes, and live a life that is pleasing to Him."

Dempsey grew up in a Catholic family going to church every Sunday with his grandmother. His parents enrolled him in soccer to help him "learn good people skills," Dempsey said. "Little did I know that the sport I loved and the skills I

learned would later play a role in my relationship with God."

He began developing his spirituality and at 12 years old had his first experience that would test his faith.

"When I was 12 years old, my life took a turn that would change me forever. My sister [Jennifer] died [from a brain aneurysm] and I was faced with questions about why things happen and what role God played in it all. For a number of years, I struggled and put distance between God and me. But He was faithful and patient and provided gradual healing and strength."

Dempsey went on to attend Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, where he joined a Bible study and continued playing soccer.

"God's Word brought me peace and a desire for a relationship with Him," said Dempsey.



"I found that questioning Him and searching for answers through Scripture helped me grow and gave me direction. Now my faith in Christ is what gives me confidence for the future. I know that through both good times and bad, He is faithful and will watch over me."

Many other athletes have been known to invoke religion for dealing with the successes and failures that necessarily arise in sports. Grand Slam champion Michael Chang famously said in 1989, after becoming the [youngest male to ever win the French Open](#): "I thank the Lord Jesus Christ because without Him, I am nothing."

***“it's all in service to a higher power”***

**“In Service to One, In Service to All.”**

## Documentary on Father Michael McGivney on DVD

A documentary on the life of the young Connecticut priest who founded the Knights of Columbus is now available on DVD. The film previously aired on several PBS affiliates throughout the United States.

*Father Michael McGivney* chronicles the life and times of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, which has become the world's largest Catholic fraternal group, with more than 1.8 million members organized in 15,000 councils around the world.

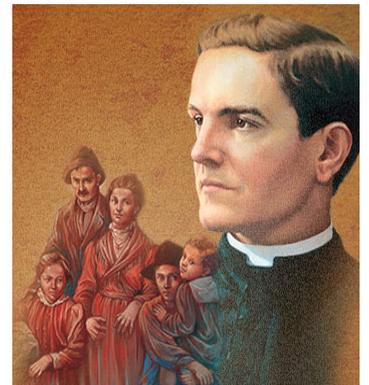
Born in Connecticut of Irish immigrant parents just a few years before the Civil War, Michael McGivney grew up in a time when millions of Catholic immigrants were struggling to overcome poverty and prejudice.

When his own father died suddenly, McGivney interrupted his seminary studies to help care for his mother and siblings. Throughout the immigrant community,

he saw families be split apart and devastated by the untimely death of a breadwinner. These tragedies and his experience as pastor had a deep effect on him, leading him to found the Knights of Columbus to aid widows and orphans, thus protecting Catholic families, and to engage in acts of charity and strengthen the faith of its members.

“At a time when Catholics and Catholic immigrants were being marginalized, Father McGivney saw the opportunity to bring the men of his parish together to strengthen their faith, to engage in charitable activities, and to protect their families,” said Knights of Columbus Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. “His work has touched millions of lives, and this documentary film provides an excellent introduction to his life and legacy.”

Through archival footage and dramatic recreations, the gripping one-hour film covers Father McGivney's short



but eventful life of 38 years and provides a window into his unique solutions to the challenges his parishioners faced — solutions so timeless they continue to be relevant today.

From ministering to prisoners to aiding widows and orphans, the documentary reveals a priest committed to helping those on the margins of society, a priest who may one day be the first American-born parish priest to be declared a saint. In 2008, the Vatican declared Father McGivney “Venerable,” the first step on the road to sainthood. His cause for beatification is under consideration at the Vatican.

The film can be ordered by visiting <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/>

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