

STATE DEPUTY'S REPORT  
Michael R. Townsend  
111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Burley, Idaho  
April 20 - 22, 2018

Worthy Supreme Representative and Director Brian Simer, Past State Deputies, Worthy State Officers, District Deputies, State Chairmen and Directors, Delegates, Honored Guests and Ladies, my Friends;

I can honestly say that the past year, 9 months, and 21 days (but who's counting) have flown by. I stand before you today, humbled and in awe of the tremendous support that I have received during my time as the State Deputy. It has been a great privilege and honor to serve you here in Idaho and to represent you as I have traveled to various locations outside of our beautiful state. I have visited almost every council in Idaho and loved and been blessed every minute of my experience.

It is the responsibility and the honor of the State Deputy to report annually on the condition of the Idaho Knights of Columbus. I can say that overall, the future of the Idaho Knights is very bright and during this past year, our councils have demonstrated a great effort and the results of those efforts are very promising. There is just not enough time for me to properly tell you about everything that has happened this year but I would like to begin my report by saying THANK YOU to some very special people.

Our thoughts and prayers are always for Pope Francis, who is a tremendous supporter of the Knights of Columbus, worldwide. We thank him for his leadership of the one Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I am thankful for the leadership and spiritual guidance of Bishop Peter Christensen and for his support of the Knights in Idaho and his leadership within the Diocese of Boise. It has been my pleasure to work with Bishop Peter and his staff on several projects over the past two years. I ask that God will continue to guide him and grant him wisdom as he leads our Diocese into the future.

I am continually amazed and grateful for the commitment and spiritual leadership of our State Chaplain Father Ben Uhlenkott. Having experienced the wheelchair distribution in Mexico with him, I know that he sacrifices his time to serve as spiritual advisor for all Idaho Knights. He has even recruited new members for the Knights. Even though he is unable to be with us this weekend, due his still recovering from a concussion, I wish to say a big THANK YOU to Father Ben and ask God to bless him in all that he does.

Thank you to Burley Council #12881 Grand Knight Alejandro Martinez, Convention Chairman Damian Rodriguez and their various committees. Additional thanks to

District Deputy Robert Vasquez and all the members of the Burley and Rupert Councils for their efforts in hosting this year's convention. I know that you all had a great time last night and we all looking forward to the remainder of the weekend. I would be remiss if I did not thank the wives and families of the Burley Knights for all the sacrifices they have made during the preparation for this convention. **THANK YOU!!!**

One of the center pieces of many Knights activities is the concern for Priestly Vocations. The Knights of Idaho always stand, "In Solidarity with our Bishop and Priests." We renew our pledge to be their strong right arm as the lay leaders that our Church so badly needs. I believe that this was one of the primary principles that our founder, Parish Priest and Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney envisioned when he conceived the Knights of Columbus in 1882. We owe the existence of the Knights of Columbus to him. May he be raised to the honors of sainthood according to the will of God. We owe our growth to countless Parish Priests from around the world who have invited us into their Parishes and allowed us to do help them with their work. We owe our continued existence to those same Parish Priests who encourage our membership programs and allow our membership drives. **THANK YOU!!**

Even as we strive for vocations, we would be without the Mass in many parishes were it not for the Priests among us who continue to serve in retirement. We have been twice blessed by them, first by their lives and examples and second by their continuing service to us all. We must continue to pray for them. Please join me in thanking all of our Priests and especially those who are "retired".

I express my sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the State Officers, District Deputies, Directors and Chairmen who contribute to the goals of the State Council. All the successes that we have enjoyed this past year are a direct result of their dedication and perseverance. My duties have been lightened considerably by their strong support. In addition, we cannot, on the State level, accomplish anything without the support and dedication of local council officers and members. Our work is for you and our successes are from you. Thank you all and may God bless each of you for all that you do.

When I was chosen to serve as your State Deputy, I remember one of the seconding speeches which was given by Past State Deputy and Former Vice Supreme Master Rudolph Wilson. Our dear Brother Rudolph said, as only he could say, "When.... you....elect.... Mike.... Townsend....you....are....also....getting....his....wife....Judy.... in....the....bargain." He was truly psychic in his prediction because, she has been there alongside me all the way, a tremendous help and source of strength for me. She loves the Knights like I do, and I know she joins me in this presentation today. Judy, I love you and thank you for your continued help and support of my Knights activity. In addition, she is a tireless and relentless recruiter.

I would also like thank all the wives and families of my brother Knights for their continual support of us and our Order. It is only through their patience and encouragement that we can dedicate the time and energy to serve others. Without them, much of what we do would not matter as much. Again, thank you all so very much.

## **DELEGATES**

Worthy delegates, you have been chosen by your councils to represent your council membership at this convention. Please take this responsibility seriously. Your vote during the elections, the resolutions process and other business decisions obligates your council to abide by the decisions made here at the convention.

I recommend that you take notes during the proceedings of this convention so that you can accurately report what occurred here to your councils at your next meeting. I especially ask those delegates who are not Grand Knights to ensure that their council officers are aware of items that affect the implementation of their duties. Also, some officers will be newly elected soon and they will need to be aware of what happens here to ensure the continuity of the council.

## **MEMBERSHIP AND RETENTION**

We are continually asking you to invite another Catholic man to join in our charitable efforts. Why is it important that we GROW THE ORDER? We must recruit every day of the fraternal year, because it IS IMPORTANT. If we are not growing, then we are dying like so many other organizations. Idaho has been very lucky. For the most part, member deaths, resignations, or indifference has not caused councils to fall into inactivity or suspension. It is through council growth that we recharge our councils with more hands to share the load, to foster new ideas that help our parishes and communities, and to strengthen our ability to live and practice the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy. We must be Knights in more than just name alone; we must act as the true and loyal Knights that we pledged to be when we learned the lessons of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

On every council roster, there are Knights who have decided not to participate in our charitable works. We must do a better job of keeping them involved in our activities, mentoring them and keeping in touch with them. As part of the ongoing activities in your Council, we need talk with these men to ensure their inclusion in your council. Make a TRUE effort to retain members. All too often, councils spend more time trying to suspend those who have fallen away, than working to include them.

I invite everyone present who has personally recruited a new member this fraternal year to stand, that includes the wives. (PAUSE) We grow one member Knight at a

time, reaching out to a friend, a family member, an associate or even a perfect stranger. Thank you for your recruiting efforts! (APPLAUSE) Please be seated. We all see men that we do not know at church. Numerous men have just joined the Church at Easter and we have new families joining our local Parishes constantly, these are all candidates to join with us in our charitable activity. Recruiting is not difficult; it is as easy asking the question, "Have you ever been invited to join the Knights of Columbus?"

When Pope Francis proclaimed The Year of Mercy, he called upon Catholics everywhere to practice the Corporal Works of Mercy. To feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless to care for the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead. The Year of Mercy has ended, but this is what we as Knights do, all the time. How much easier it is to practice these principles when there are additional helping hands. Invite another Catholic man to deepen his spirituality and faith by joining with us in our charitable efforts.

Today, we stand on the threshold of a true milestone, 5,000 members. As of April 15 our state membership stands at 4,966 members. So far this year, we have recruited 167 new members, recorded at Supreme and I know of at least 5 new members that have not been recorded by Supreme as of that day. We have reached 66.8% of our state membership goal. However, we are 85% of the way through our fraternal year. In order to achieve our statewide goal by June 30, we need to get serious about inviting other Catholic men to join with us.

I could go on citing numbers, but I would like to share some exciting facts with you; Sacred Heart-Boise Council #899, Cottonwood Council #1389, Santa Maria Boise Council #4013, Our Lady of the Rosary-Boise Council #10581 and St. Mark's-Boise Council #12172 have all reached over 100% of their membership goal.

Idaho Falls Council #1663, Nampa Council #2014, Buhl Council #2685, Fruitland Council #12516, Post Falls Council #12560, Risen Christ-Boise Council #12854, Burley Council #12881, St. Anthony Council #12953 and Nampa-Our Lady of the Americas Council #16757 have all reached over 50% of their goal and are just a few members away from reaching their membership goal.

The fact is, most of our councils are one good recruiting weekend away from achieving their council new member goal. It is time for every council to make a serious effort to recruit the men who will help our state reach our goal and move forward into the future. This is the challenge that lies ahead of us for the next two months.

It is time for those of us in this room to step up to the plate as the leaders that we are and do what has been asked of us; to lead our councils and help them to achieve the goals that have been given to them. We must actively offer our Order and the good

works we do, to every eligible Catholic man and his family. Help them become better men, Catholics, fathers and husbands, by joining their efforts with ours.

## **NEW COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT and REACTIVATION**

In looking at the Diocesan Parish listing, several locations could be candidates for new councils. Most of our focus has been in the southwest part of the state because of the continued strong growth in this area. Due to the demographic shifts in our Idaho population, some of our small rural towns are losing population to larger cities. The growth that Idaho is experiencing is due to the growth of the Treasure Valley, Magic Valley, Pocatello, Idaho Falls and the Kootenai county area. I urge the District Deputies and local leaders to evaluate these areas to see if new council development is a viable option.

There has been much Hispanic growth in various locations throughout the state. Much interest has been expressed by local priests for the Knights to reach out to this growth and help them become active within their parishes and communities. One of the best benefits available to these new Knights will be the ability to participate in our insurance program. Fraternal benefits in the form of insurance play an important role in the recruitment process. We will continue to seek opportunities for new councils and roundtables at various locations where we can best serve.

A Hispanic council has been formed at St. Paul's in Nampa, Our Lady of the Americas Council #16757. They have partnered with Nampa Council #2014 and together they have accomplished a great deal to help Brother Knights, their parish and their community. I congratulate the success of these two councils working together to accomplish much. There is a great potential for good when two councils, such as these join together to do the work of God, here on Earth.

We should all be focusing on areas where new council growth is a possibility. New councils don't hurt existing councils; new councils factually and historically build not only the new council but reenergize the existing council and bring inactive and even suspended members back into active participation in the Order.

We continue the process of attempting to reactive the suspended councils in Aberdeen and Mountain Home. There are also councils within our state that have become inactive. It will be a challenge for all of us to help these locations become active and vibrant councils once again.

## **FAMILY KNIGHTS**

This past fall the State Council began looking at a new council meeting model. After consulting with Supreme, a round table was started by St. Mark's Council #12172 and

designated as “Family Knights”. This group of young Knights from various councils throughout the Treasure Valley began meeting each month with the primary purpose of fellowship and spiritual growth for the entire family. This is in keeping with the Supreme program, Building the Domestic Church, the Family Fully Alive.

They begin with a potluck dinner, provide activity for the children. The wives and husbands each have a separate time of spiritual growth and sharing. While one group is meeting, the other is tending to the children. Exactly how this is all going to work out is still a work in progress, but the roundtable is still in the early stages of their existence and could possibly be a look at the future of the Knights of Columbus.

We anticipate the Family Knights becoming a council in the next few months. By the way, this is the group of young Knights who have conducted the annual Men’s Conference in Boise for the past three years.

## **COLLEGE COUNCILS**

We currently have no councils on the college campuses here in Idaho. Having a Knights of Columbus council on the college campuses would allow young Catholic men to have a “home away from home.” These councils would serve as a place where these young men can have fellowship with other believers and increase their spiritually. We have been working to establish councils at the various college campuses throughout the state.

Moscow Council #1397 has started a Round Table at the University of Idaho and Twin Falls Council #1416 has begun to explore the possibility of a Round Table at The College of Southern Idaho. Preliminary work is also beginning on establishing a Round Table at the St. Paul’s center on campus at Boise State University.

There are councils located on or near several of the college campuses and I challenge them to increase their involvement with the students and explore the formation of a college round table or council. Supreme has specially trained recruiters who are available to assist with starting these councils. The formation of a College Round Table is a way to jump start our involvement in the colleges and universities of the state. We need these young men to be active Knights on their campuses; they are the next generation of leaders in our Church.

Many of our Catholic high schools require their students to participate in service projects to graduate. The Catholic youth of today are exploring ways to help others and increase their spirituality. There is no better way to teach them the importance of charity and to acclimatize them to the service that we do, than to partner with them in our service projects.

As Knights of Columbus we have an obligation to provide a Catholic public service

outlet for our Catholic youth. We must continue to encourage the idea of public service planted by the parents of these young people and by the schools. Two of the most obvious methods that we have available to us are the utilization of the high school service projects and College Councils.

## ROUND TABLES

I remind all District Deputies and Grand Knights that each roundtable ceases to exist on July 1<sup>st</sup> and so a new Form must be submitted for a roundtable to continue. Having a roundtable fulfills Fr. McGivney's dream of having a Knights of Columbus **presence** in every parish. A round table contains the spirit and the energy of the Knights in a visible, active and focused forum and even if it never grows into a full council, it is one more step in the realization of Fr. McGivney's dream.

## WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION

One of the goals for this past fraternal year was to purchase and distribute a container of wheelchairs to those in need in Guadalajara Jalisco Mexico. Jalisco is the sister state of Idaho in Mexico. Nampa council #2014 conducted a Wheelchair Sunday and raised funds for this goal. Other councils assisted by contributing to the wheelchair fund and through these efforts, a container of wheelchairs was purchased and shipped for distribution.

In December 2017, State Chaplain Father Ben, State Secretary Shane Gehring, State Warden Dan Moberg and I traveled to Guadalajara to assist with the distribution. We began by celebrating Mass at the Cathedral in Guadalajara on the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Ben even concelebrated the Mass, in Spanish.

Under the guidance of the American Wheelchair Mission we assisted with the distribution of the wheelchairs at the CRIT center in Guadalajara. We also accompanied staff of the CIRT center and distributed wheelchairs to the needy in their homes.

This trip was a true blessing to each of us and has impacted our lives. It was determined that the Idaho Knights needs to purchase another container of wheelchairs for distribution. This time our hope is to give them to the needy in Mexico City.

I ask each council to contribute to this project and to consider conducting a "Wheelchair Sunday" in their parish. Cottonwood Council #1389 has already conducted their Sunday and District Deputy Max Nuxoll would be happy to tell you how easy it is to conduct this project. We will be hearing a presentation from the Vice President of the American Wheelchair Mission, State Warden Dan Moberg, later this morning.

## **COATS FOR KIDS**

This past year, Idaho once again conducted a statewide Coats for Kids Distribution. Providing coats for children who do not have protection against our sometimes very cold Idaho winters helps fulfill our mission as Knights to reach out to those in need.

A total of nearly 2,000 coats were distributed at various locations throughout Idaho. Along with the coats, councils also distributed warm socks, underwear, gloves and stocking caps to young people in need. We continue to be among the leaders nationwide in this program. The smiles that those coats brought to the recipients are priceless and they are who we are and what we do as Knights.

## **FOOD FOR FAMILIES**

At various times throughout the year, numerous councils contributed to the needy in the form of food. Many tons of food were distributed to local food banks, St. Vincent De Paul organizations and Parish and local food pantries. In addition, food was prepared and provided directly to soup kitchens as well as Knights serving meals to the hungry. How many people would have gone hungry without the efforts of the many Knights of Columbus councils in our state?

## **RETIRED PRIEST ASSISTANCE**

A project which arose during this fraternal year was identified by members of St. Mark's Council #12172 after hosting a barbecue for the retired priests at the St. John Vianney Retired Priests center. While working in their kitchen, it was discovered that the original appliances which had been installed several years ago were in drastic need of replacement.

A request for financial assistance was sent to various councils and assemblies throughout the state. Several responded by contributing to a fund for the retired priests in our Diocese. Through their generosity, a new double oven, range hood and microwave oven were purchased and installed for our retired priests.

A large THANK YOU goes out to those who helped our retired priests.

## **CEREMONIALS**

Vice Supreme Master and Executive Secretary Chuck Davlin Past State Deputy serves as the State Ceremonials Chairman. In this position, he is responsible for maintaining a calendar for various Degrees throughout the state.

The Admissions Degree is the responsibility of the local council. Supreme has

provided a video of this Degree in an effort to allow new members to enter the Order at their own council. Robed teams and teams wearing Ceremonial baldrics are still utilized to bring new members into our Order.

The Formation Degree is the responsibility of each District. Several new teams have emerged this year and more Formation Degrees were held than ever before. The majority of them are held at the local district level.

We currently have three teams have approved to conduct the Knighthood Degree. There is a need for at least one additional team, including a Spanish Degree team. These teams encourage a more regionalized attendance to this Degree.

The Patriotic Degree falls under the direction of the current District Master. There are several Degrees scheduled each year throughout Idaho and our adjoining states. Degree teams are now operating in every part of the State, so there is no reason why new members cannot progress to the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree in less than a year.

Even more teams are needed to increase the opportunity for Catholic men to join their charitable efforts with ours. Please consider becoming a part of a Degree team.

## **VOCATIONS**

This last year was another successful one in the support of vocations by the Knights of Columbus. Thanks to the efforts of the individual councils and assemblies, led by State Vocations Chairman Kevin Stadther, more seminarians and postulants have received assistance than ever before. Do not forget that support is not just about money. Seminarians should receive cards, letters, invitations for council events and visits from members. Kevin can even help you utilize the internet to have your assigned seminarian attend your council meeting. If your Council is not supporting a Seminarian, I urge you to do so and help with the development and growth of Vocations. As of April 1 local councils have contributed over \$15,250 to the support of our Seminarians.

## **CULTURE OF LIFE**

I commend and congratulate our State Pro-Life Chair couple Bill and Karron Pahl for their efforts on behalf of life at all stages. This past year, Knights have been involved in rallies, fund raisers, runs, fairs and other activities which are designed to promote life at every moment, from conception to natural death.

We actively support a soon to be built pregnancy care center which will be located next door to an abortion mega clinic in Meridian, and we have participated in billboard and bus stop bench campaigns for pro-life messaging. We must continue to be vigilant and

to pray that we can continue both on the local and national levels to stop the war on the unborn, the marginalized and the elderly. All of this could not have happened without your support and the support of your councils.

## **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN**

The Pennies from Heaven Fund continues to help those in need. This year, through the generous support of our councils and members the fund has distributed funds to recipients for medical assistance and human needs. We ask you to support this fund so that we may be able to help for many, many years to come. In order to maintain this account, I ask councils consider donating one penny per day per member.

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

Our Special Olympics Chairman Jim Barclay has diligently informed Councils of events planned in their areas so that they could participate and help Special Olympics. By your submission of Special Olympic participation form to Supreme, we are able to give a monetary gift back to the Special Olympics of Idaho.

Once again, the State Council is partnering with Special Olympics of Idaho in the sale of raffle tickets for a chance to win a 2018 Toyota Camry 4 door. A portion of every ticket sold by a council will be given back to that council. You can contact Jim Barclay to get raffle tickets or additional information about this project.

## **FOURTH DEGREE**

Idaho has been privileged that Past State Deputy of Idaho Chuck Davlin has been appointed as our Vice Supreme Master. In his position, Brother Chuck has been at the forefront of the uniform change. He is active and supportive of the Fourth Degree here in Idaho. We must actively encourage advancement to the Fourth Degree of our Order. Remember that the advancement to the Fourth Degree is the expectation, not the exception.

We are also blessed by the service of our District Master, Past State Deputy of Idaho John Pettinger. John has been a vital part of the Idaho Knights of Columbus for many years and we are looking forward to his continuing to doing a great job as the District Master.

## **INSURANCE PROGRAM**

Past Grand Knight Kevin Tuuri has served as Idaho's General Agent for just over two years. When he arrived, there were many open Field Agent positions that he needed to fill. Even though Kevin has continued his efforts to grow his agency, there continue

to be agent vacancies in Idaho. Our current Field Agents are Paul Ford and Jeff Woolsey. Kevin has been conducting interviews in the Boise, Pocatello and has recently hired a new agent for the Idaho Falls area.

Idaho has been fortunate in the dedication and perseverance of our Field Agent force and I believe that we can look forward to many years of Insurance growth and membership promotion through the efforts of the entire agency.

Members of his agency, and even Kevin himself have serviced the councils in the state who do not have an assigned agent. They attempt to be responsive to any questions or requests made of them. Kevin is committed to the success of his agents and to help the councils and members with their insurance needs.

Please take every opportunity to invite, welcome and utilize these valuable assets. As always, these dedicated professionals don't just sell insurance, they sell the Knights of Columbus. Their goal is to give as many Catholic families as possible a chance to fully participate and enjoy all of the benefits that come with membership in our Order. Do your part to provide these benefits of membership to all of the members of your councils by actively promoting and using the Agency Staff here in Idaho.

If you know of any prospective agents, please be sure to contact Kevin. He follows up on every referral.

## **STATE COUNCIL ACCOUNT BALANCES**

At regular intervals through the year and whenever requested, the State Treasurer and Secretary have provided updated reports of all accounts. I can attest that all accounts remain strong and are solvent. I am confident that the Audit Committee will so report tomorrow. State Secretary Shane Gehring and State Treasurer Roy Bartholomay are to be commended for their diligence to good accounting principles during this fiscal year. During this past year we have used QuickBooks online to increase accounting efficiency and lower our cost for annual auditing of our accounts. We utilize an independent outside auditor to review our books, to protect both the state membership and the state officers.

## **REPORTS**

To preserve our tax exempt status as a charitable organization, your council has to report charitable hours through the Fraternal Activity report, form 1728. The government would love to get their hands on our charitable funds; it is up to each of you to help protect our status as a non-profit organization by reporting your service activities. I am asking that we have a 100% participation in completing this report this year.

The Columbian Award Report is the vehicle to report activities to Supreme and be recognized for service in our Parishes and communities. It is important that we recognize our members who do so much charitable work. A little bit of praise and recognition will go a long way with your members, when you can display this award at your meeting room or parish.

I have received and reviewed the results of the council audits for the second half of 2017 and they are impressive to say the least. Charitable giving and volunteer hours have increased to the highest levels in history. You are to be congratulated on such an impressive display of generosity. Remember, that is who we are and what we do.

I believe that councils should be fiscally responsible. That being said, I observed numerous councils and assemblies who had huge amounts of money in savings accounts, money market accounts and certificates of deposit. I encourage each council to examine their accounts and determine if the money on deposit with financial institutions couldn't be better used by giving it to those in need or charitable causes. Money parked in financial institutions is only doing the financial institution any good.

There are several state accounts which have low balances. Vocations, the Retired Priest fund, Pennies from Heaven, Wheelchairs, Pro-life and the Ultrasound machine accounts all are below the level that I would like to have them. I ask councils to consider contributing to any one of these accounts. Remember that Jesus taught us that where our money is, that is where our hearts will be.

The state council maintains a website at [idahokofc.org](http://idahokofc.org). Colin Groves is the webmaster and he is constantly in search of content regarding your local council activities. Please be sure to let him know what is going on in your council.

The monthly State Newsletter is developed and edited by Dave Molitor. Brother Dave has done a great job of producing a fantastic newsletter that the entire state can be proud of. He is also interested in what your council is doing. In order to be most effective, it is important that this newsletter be shared with all the Knights in Idaho. I encourage everyone who receives it to pass it along to other Knights, your Pastor and friends. It can be an amazing recruitment tool. Remember that we are not a secret society, we are on social media!

## **GUADALUPE EVENT**

On June 23 of this year, the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Guadalupe Event at the Nampa center. Supreme Director Brian Simer will be making a presentation about this exciting event shortly.

## WRAP UP

I have been honored and blessed to have been elected as your State Deputy for these past two years. I have had the opportunity to travel throughout Idaho and to work with many of you. I have been especially impressed with all the activities and dedication of the councils that I have visited.

As I conclude my remarks, I would like to take just a moment to thank a few of the folks that I have been blessed to work with this past year: Our State Chaplain Father Ben for his assistance and spiritual guidance throughout this past year; Immediate Past State Deputy Kerry Hennessy who has served as a sounding board and a guide for the past several years; Special thanks to all of the State Officers who have provided input and stability for me this past year, we are truly blessed to have such a dedicated group of men leading our state, all of whom have become good friends, State Secretary Shane Gehring, State Treasurer Roy Bartholomay, State Advocate George Mesina and State Warden Dan Moberg who joined the team a few months ago; Supreme Director Brian Simer who has given fresh ideas and perspective whenever asked for; State Executive Secretary and Vice Supreme Master Chuck Davlin the walking encyclopedia of knowledge who is ready and willing to do anything that is asked of him; and, again, I thank my wife who keeps me grounded when I start to get lost in the maze. She is a tireless proponent of the Knights of Columbus and an active recruiter. I would be lost without her.

Our fraternal year is not over yet. I ask each one of you for your commitment to help your council achieve their new member goal for this year. Success for the state of Idaho is on the horizon, all we need to do is reach out and grab it. Take ownership of the roles you have accepted, the role that your council elected you to. Make the most of it by achieving the goals set before you. We still have about 10 weeks to make a difference in Idaho.

I thank you for your prayers and support, I have tried to help and lead you, but ultimately, it is **YOUR** actions that guide our jurisdiction.

Alone, we cannot affect as many lives as we can when we join our efforts. In the Gospels, Jesus tells us not to be afraid and then comforts us by telling us that he will always be with us. Use your membership in the Knights of Columbus to **CHANGE LIVES AND TO SAVE LIVES**, that is who we are and what we do. Always remember that we are **“CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES”**.

Vivat Jesus  
Mike Townsend  
State Deputy of Idaho