



# The Circle Compass

JANUARY 2009

*Lead the way.*

## MARCH FOR LIFE – WASHINGTON, D.C., SAN FRANCISCO, OTTAWA!!!

Plan to join tens of thousands of other pro-life advocates on Thursday, January 22, 2009, in Washington, D.C. at the annual March for Life! If you live in the western United States, join the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 24, 2009! Live in Canada? Join the national March for Life on Thursday, May 14, 2009 on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Ontario. All should check with your state council office for the date of marches in your own national, state, or provincial capital. Knights and Squires - **“Defend Life”!!!**

### January

- 1 New Year's Day  
Feast of Mary, Mother of God
- 19 Martin Luther King Day
- 22 March for Life (Washington, D.C.)
- 24 Walk for Life (San Francisco)
- 31 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity  
(#1728C) due

### February

- 1 Catholic University of America Scholarship  
Applications Due
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 President's Day (U.S.)
- 25 Ash Wednesday

### March

- 1 Pro Deo and Pro Patria Scholarship  
Applications Due
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 25 K of C “Day of the Unborn Child”
- 29 Founder's Day

### April

- 1-30 “Squires Month”
- 12 Easter

## SECOND SQUIRE ACHIEVES “SQUIRE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST” LEVEL

The second Squire Orderwide, and the first in the Philippines, **Fernan O. Dealca** of **Gat. Blas F. Ople Circle 4863** in **Calumpit, Luzon**, has been named as having advanced to the “Squire of the Body of Christ” level in the Squire Advancement Program.

The main focus of the major activity Squire Fernan organized, called “Ushering Service in Holy Mass” consisted of nearly a year of service to his parish through the organization of his circle's Squires to provide ushers for Masses and to distribute rosaries to those who needed them. His sponsoring assembly, Sen. Blas F. Ople Assembly 3033, assisted with funding to purchase the rosaries and t-shirt uniforms for the Squires who were ushers.

Fernan was invested as a Squire in Circle 4154 in 2003 and transferred to Circle 4863 in 2004, where he has served as Chief Squire for three terms. Fernan is now a Second Degree Knight in Council 10,582 and a counselor to Circle 4863.

## 2008 “ANNUAL SURVEY OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY” DUE JANUARY 31

Total dollars and man-hours contributed during calendar year 2008 by each state and local circle should be reported on the **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity** (#1728C) to the Supreme Council office **by January 31**. Copies of Form #1728C can be found at [www.kofc.org/squires](http://www.kofc.org/squires) and also on pages 7-8 of the “Circle Report Forms Booklet.” Help assure 100% circle reporting! ***These figures are used to help justify the continued federal tax-exempt status of the Knights of Columbus.***

## K OF C “DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD”

Wednesday, March 25 is the date for this year's observance of the eighth annual Knights of Columbus **“Day of the Unborn Child.”** Circles are encouraged to hold pro-life events, such as a Rosary for Life, a special Mass on behalf of the unborn, or other

spiritual and service programs on behalf of unborn children and their mothers on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **PROMOTE “SQUIRES MONTH” IN APRIL**

During April, Squires should remember Fr. Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, and Squires founder, Brother Barnabas McDonald. Brother Barnabas died on April 22, 1929, so this year marks the 80th anniversary of his death. Ask local or state/provincial officials to issue a proclamation recognizing April as “**Columbian Squires Month.**” Promote greater public awareness and hold a Squire recruitment drive, featuring an “open house.” Invite prospective members to circle activities to see the Squires in action at social, service and spiritual activities, such as a Mass and breakfast or awards dinner. Hold a special investiture on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of Brother Barnabas.

### **HOLD 1ST DEGREE FOR 18 YEAR-OLD SQUIRES DURING “SQUIRES MONTH”**

Work with your council to hold a special First Degree during “Squires Month” for 18 year-old Squires graduating from your circle. Encourage the graduating Squires to recruit their 18 year-old friends to become Knights at the same time. Squires who are 18 years-old may be Knights, while also continuing as Squires until the end of the fraternal year. On June 30, 18 year-old Squires’ names will be automatically removed from the circle’s roster, without being counted as a loss to the circle when calculating the circle’s annual net gain. Encourage every 18 year-old Squire in your circle to become a Knight during a First Degree held during “Squires Month!”

### **“WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS”**

Your circle’s spiritual activities committee could plan special vocations programs, such as a vocations retreat, a visit to a seminary, or a “vocations fair” for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 3. The Supreme Council has two videos available – “Vocations to Marriage” and “Vocations to Priesthood” for order through the Department of Fraternal Services.

### **OFFICERS, CHAIRMEN AND COUNSELORS REPORT (#468)**

Some circles still have not submitted this report for the 2008-09 fraternal year. Without it, counselors (whose names are removed every June 30) cannot be listed on circle rosters for the current year, Squires’ officer roles are not entered in their records, and both

counselors and Squires may not receive materials they need to do their jobs. It’s the notary’s responsibility to submit Form #468. Has your circle’s notary submitted Form #468, yet? It’s a requirement for the Corps d’Elite Award!

### **“SQUIRE ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM” – ORDERING TOP AWARDS**

When a Squire qualifies for the highest level of the Squire Advancement Program, “Squire of the Body of Christ,” his chief counselor should provide the Department of Fraternal Services with three items: 1 - a copy of the Squire’s “Squire Advancement Record” indicating the achievements the Squire has accomplished to qualify; 2 – the “Squire of the Body of Christ Service Project Report/Certification Form,” and 3 - a “Certificate and Name Badge Order Form.” Blank copies of all three report forms are enclosed. Please be certain the Squire has completed all of the requirements, including the service project, which must have benefited a Church institution.

### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE!**

Squires scholarship applications for Knights of Columbus scholarships for The Catholic University of America are available now from the university and due to the university by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications for Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Pro Deo Pro Patria Scholarships are available from the Supreme Council Scholarship Office and due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Scholarships are for entering freshmen, \$1,500 per year, renewable upon satisfactory academic performance for up to four years, to be used toward a bachelors degree at a Catholic college or university in the United States. Check [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) in the “Scholarship” section for further information on Canadian, Philippine, Mexican, and Puerto Rican scholarships, and for vocations scholarships.

### **STATE CIRCLE CONVENTIONS SOON!**

If your jurisdiction holds a state circle convention, encourage every Squire and counselor to take part! Check with your state squires chairman for this year’s convention location and dates. The state circle convention is a learning opportunity for both Squires and counselors, where they can report on their circle’s activities and exchange ideas. Squires wishing to further develop their leadership skills and to run for state circle officer positions should plan to attend their jurisdiction’s state circle convention!