



# CHAPLAIN'S *report*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS *In Service to One. In Service to All.*

LEARNING THE FAITH, LIVING THE FAITH ♦ 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326, USA

## Proclaiming the Mysteries of the Kingdom

*At the heart of the Gospel,  
we encounter Jesus, his mission and his message*



**Bishop William E. Lori**  
Supreme Chaplain

Those who saw and heard Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata speak were touched by her words. She didn't use jargon or try to be original. Her message was simple, straight from the Gospel. When she spoke, we paid attention. Many others preach and teach a similar message but without much effect. So what is the difference? The answer can be summarized in two words: her life. Mother Teresa didn't just teach the Gospel; she lived it through her religious consecration, her prayer and her service to the poor. Her words and her life fit together.



A church window depicts Jesus giving his Sermon on the Mount, which begins with the Beatitudes. (CNS photo from Crosiers)

When Jesus began his public ministry, preaching the Good News, people stopped and listened. He did not seek to dazzle his listeners with knowledge or impress them with subtle arguments. Rather, his identity and his message were one in the same. There is no gap between who Jesus is and what he taught. St. Mark's Gospel brings this point home clearly: "The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes" (1:22). The people's astonishment knew no bounds when Jesus proceeded to heal a man with an unclean spirit who called out from the crowd. "What is this?" they asked. "A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him" (Mk 1:27; see also Mt 7:29).

### THE BEATITUDES: A PORTRAIT OF CHRIST

The awe and comments regarding Jesus' authority amounted to a premonition about his identity. People sensed, at least to some degree, that they were in the presence of the incarnate Word of God. Pope Benedict XVI explains, "Now the word is not simply audible; not only does it have a voice, now the word has a face, that of Jesus of Nazareth" (*Verbum Domini*, 12).

Jesus' words resonated in people's hearts like none they had ever heard before, and signs and wonders often accompanied the truth and beauty of those words. Jesus possessed not only intellectual and moral authority, but also authority over nature and even over sin. His miracles were no sleight of hand, but a beam of light illuminating his announcement that the kingdom of God was truly at hand.

Nowhere in the Gospels is the content of Jesus' preaching more concentrated than the

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## Celebration Honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe Set for L.A. Coliseum in August

*Event will feature prayer,  
music and speakers honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe*

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum will play host to a massive "Guadalupe Celebration" on Aug. 5, co-sponsored by the Order and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The event will feature prayer, music, and speakers honoring of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of the Americas.

The celebration will bring together tens of thousands of Catholics from across the ethnically diverse five-million member archdiocese, as well as faithful from other areas of southern California and beyond.

"We are pleased to be able to cosponsor this event with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "We strongly believe that Our Lady of Guadalupe has an important message to share with all of us and has an important role to play in unifying the faithful of this hemisphere. The Guadalupe Celebration will be an opportunity for us to bring Our Lady's message to a large audience joined together in prayer and celebrating the great gift she has given this hemisphere."

In 2009 Anderson coauthored the *New York Times's* bestseller *Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mother of the Civilization of Love*, with Monsignor Eduardo Chávez, who oversaw the Cause for Canonization of St. Juan Diego. Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, Supreme Knight Anderson and Monsignor Chávez will be featured speakers at the event in August.

"At certain times, the Church gathers together for an event that provides the opportunity for the expression of faith in a very public way," said Archbishop Gomez. "In this celebration we will renew our devotion to

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## MYSTERIES, FROM PAGE 1

Sermon on the Mount, in which he gave the Beatitudes (see Mt 5:1-12; Lk 6:20-23). Here, Jesus unlocks for us the secret of true and lasting joy, which is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Happiness does not consist in being rich, powerful, sated with pleasure or an ability always to escape criticism. Rather, it has to do with being poor in spirit, in mourning, in being meek, in hungering and thirsting for holiness, in being merciful and clean of heart, and in being a peacemaker.

In his book *Jesus of Nazareth*, Pope Benedict describes the Beatitudes as “a sort of veiled interior biography of Jesus, a kind of portrait of his figure. He who has no place to lay his head (cf. Mt. 8:20) is truly poor; he who can say, ‘Come to me ... for I am meek and lowly in heart’ (cf. Mt. 11:28-29) is truly meek; he is the one who is pure of heart and unceasingly beholds God. He is the peacemaker, the one who suffers for God’s sake” (74). When Jesus proclaimed the kingdom, he invited people to turn to him and to be molded into living images of the Father’s glory.

## THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

In his first encyclical, Pope Benedict wrote that becoming Christian is not “an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a definitive direction” (*Deus Caritas Est*, 1).

Once we truly encounter the person of Christ in faith, repentance and prayer — and once his word has penetrated the depths of our hearts — we are changed. A new strength helps to overcome temptation, and through the Holy Spirit we receive a new joy, integrity and light in our daily lives that attracts others to Christ and to the Church. We find that we, too, have something of the “authority” that caused the crowds to put their trust in Jesus.

Central to the pontificates of Blessed John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI is the new evangelization. This doesn’t mean inventing a new Gospel to suit the spirit of the times, but rather the fresh proclamation of the Gospel today so that we may open our hearts to Christ and work to build a world that reflects his love more clearly. More than anything else, the new evangelization depends upon witnesses — those who, like Mother Teresa, haven encountered Christ and have loved him in others such that they can bear personal witness to the Gospel by their lives. When we live the Gospel that we teach, people are more likely to pay attention.

As we meditate on the third luminous mystery, we turn to Mary, who, more than any other human person, embodied the truth and the love of the Gospel. She is the “Star of the New Evangelization,” and through her prayers, we can open our hearts more fully to Christ and find the courage to be those witnesses the world needs.

*+William E. Lovin*

## GUADALUPE, FROM PAGE 1

Our Lady of Guadalupe and our commitment to continue the process of evangelization that she began on this continent nearly 500 years ago.”

Both the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Knights of Columbus have a history tied to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to St. Juan Diego — a Native American living in Mexico — in 1531. She left her image, miraculously imprinted on his cloak, or tilma. Today, the tilma is enshrined in Mexico City’s basilica, at the site of the Blessed Mother’s apparition on Tepeyac Hill. It is the most visited shrine in the Western Hemisphere.

Los Angeles’ Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels is home to the only relic of St. Juan Diego’s tilma in the United States. The archdiocese has also been home to several large-scale Marian events, including 2007’s Rosary Bowl in Pasadena, which drew more than 40,000, and the annual Archdiocesan Procession and Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in East Los Angeles, which draws 25,000.



The Order’s devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe reached a milestone with the chartering of the first Mexican council as the “Guadalupe Council” in Mexico City in 1905. Since then, the Knights have done much to spread Our Lady’s message, including co-sponsoring a U.S. tour of the Archdiocese’s tilma relic in 2003. The Knights also held the first-ever International Marian Congress in 2009 in Phoenix, Ariz., which concluded with the 22,000-person Guadalupe Festival.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is the largest Catholic archdiocese in the United States with more than five million Catholics. The diocese was established in 1840, and was created an archbishopric in 1936. Archbishop José Gómez is the fifth Archbishop of Los Angeles. There are a total of 287 parishes located in 120 cities throughout the Archdiocese.

For more information on the Guadalupe Celebration visit [guadalupecelebration.com](http://guadalupecelebration.com).

**MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church.

# '10 Keys to Success as a Chaplain'



**Father John P. Grace, O.S.A.**

Director of Chaplain Programs & Development

During the last few years, a number of pamphlets have been printed by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council headquarters staff under the general heading of "10 Keys to Success" or "10 Steps to Success." These are offered as a help for state deputies or grand knights and others to focus on some of the more important aspects of the specific office in question.

Last year, the "10 Keys to Success as a Chaplain" (#4940) was also offered to every Knights of Columbus state and council chaplain. This pamphlet has also been translated into French, Spanish and Polish. We've mentioned this in previous issues of the *Chaplain's Report*, and we have also spoken about it at chaplains meetings. Like any other material that emanates from the Supreme Office, practical use needs to be made of it.

We can offer some suggestions here, but the main impact will only become evident with personal familiarity with the items discussed in the brochure and in adapting these ideas to suit local needs and circumstances.

Here is the first area covered in the "Keys" brochure.

- Nourish the special role that the Knights of Columbus plays in the Church as a lay fraternal organization.
- Recognize that Knights take great pride in being "the strong right arm of the Church".
- Encourage their charitable work and the way in which it helps Knights and their families to live the Gospel.
- Encourage active involvement in the spiritual and social life of the parish.

Many organizations are involved in social and charitable works, some of them without affiliation to any religious body. So, are the

Knights just another charitable organization, involved in social activities? I believe that the Knights are not just another charitable group. The very fact that the Order has been continually expanding since it was founded by Father Michael J. McGivney in 1882, speaks for itself. The reason why may be described in these words taken from the *Chaplain's Handbook*: "as the program of the Order has been expanded to meet the particular needs, its history is filled with examples of outstanding contributions to Church, state and community. Whenever and wherever

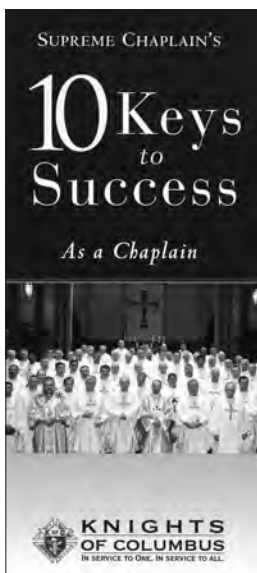
there is a need for the strength available in an organized body of loyal Catholic laymen, the Knights of Columbus — by the very nature of the organization — is able to respond quickly and efficiently."

Are there misgivings? Are there misunderstandings? Have there been disappointments? Have there been problems in some parishes? Yes, to all of these because we are, after all, a human organization. But, surely the chaplain can play a unique role in this out-of-the-ordinary lay fraternal organization. A phrase I have been using is: "If you get the chaplain, you get the council."

That is why we maintain in this first element of the "10 Keys" that the chaplain should "nourish the special role that the Knights of Columbus plays in the Church"; that he should "recognize that Knights take great pride in being 'the strong arm of the Church'"; that he should "encourage their charitable works"; that he should "encourage active involvement...."

No hard and fast rules can be laid down as to how this is to be implemented, except that it must all begin from our first principle, Charity — love of God and love of our neighbor. Everything else flows from this, and without it, we are just any other philanthropic group that does outstanding social works.

As chaplains, maybe this first of the *Ten Keys* could be discussed seriously with the council members, both from the Chaplain's viewpoint and from the lay members' standpoint. Do the



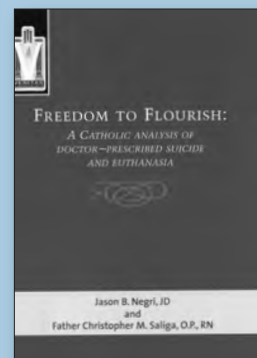
## Posada Celebrated on New Haven Green

The New Haven Green was the site of a Posada celebration, a popular Hispanic Christmas tradition, on Tuesday, Dec. 20, when hundreds of area residents took part in the event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. A Posada is a traditional, family-oriented Christmas celebration popular in Latin American culture. Combining Bible readings and dramatic reenactment, the Posada (Spanish term for "inn") recounts the story of the first Christmas. In New Haven, participants made their way in procession with the characters of Mary and Joseph as they traveled — across the Green — on their journey to "Bethlehem." Supreme Advocate John Marrella acted as the narrator for the English portions of the program. Al Cala, director of Hispanic Growth, acted as narrator for the Spanish portions of the celebration.



## CIS Booklet: Freedom to Flourish

The booklet, *Freedom to Flourish*, explores the Catholic teaching on the intrinsic dignity of each human being and the threat to true freedom posed by advocates of physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia.



The booklet, part of the Veritas Series, draws on history, Scripture and Tradition, including the insights of the Second Vatican Council. A free copy may be downloaded in PDF format from the CIS Web site, [www.kofc.org/cis](http://www.kofc.org/cis). For more information, write: CIS, PO Box 1971, New Haven, CT 06521-1971 or [cis@kofc.org](mailto:cis@kofc.org).



## Day of Prayer for the Unborn Child

With the Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn Child soon approaching on March 25, Knights have the opportunity to stand up and speak out against the evil of abortion.

All members of our Order are encouraged to hold a special prayer service in council homes, meeting places or local parishes. When celebrating the Day of the Unborn Child, councils are encouraged to conduct a pro-life Mass or rosary service. Remember to invite all members of the community, including public officials and health care workers. Strength in numbers gives others the courage to speak up and also lets the community know there is a group willing to help women in crisis pregnancies. To plan a service, councils should:

- Consult with your chaplain or the pastor of the local parish to establish a time and the kind of service (i.e. rosary, Mass, etc);
- Ask the pastor to make a pulpit or bulletin announcement regarding the program at all Masses the weekend prior to the event;
- Send a notice to the local diocesan newspaper and secular media;
- Distribute Prayer for Life cards (#4665), available in reasonable quantities from the Supply Department.



The Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn Child was instituted as an addition to the Order's commitment to build a culture that respects and protects every human life, from conception to natural death. For more information on the Knights of Columbus Day of the Unborn Child see the "community" section of [kofc.org/service](http://kofc.org/service).

In addition, to further assist your pro-life activities, the Supreme Council offers the following materials (all of which are free of charge when ordered in reasonable quantities; there is only a shipping charge):

- The four-page, full-color "Winning Words of Life" flyer (#2275) offers responses to common abortion arguments.
- The brochure "A People of Life — And for Life" (#4795) poster (#4804) with a similar design are available.
- "Pray the Rosary to End Abortion" poster (#2073) and prayer card (#2072).
- "Gospel of Life" poster (#4238) and prayer card (#4237E, F, or S) in English, French or Spanish.

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chaplains actually recognize and promote what is of great pride to the Order? Do the council members comply with this tenet, and are they, in fact, the strong right arm of the local Church in which their council is situated?

Are their charitable works consciously activated by the Gospel, and do these activities give evidence of a better living out of Gospel values? Are the families involved? Does the chaplain encourage such endeavors and help the members deepen their spirituality through the Knights of Columbus' charitable works?

Apart from their own Council charitable activities, are the members actively involved in the spiritual and social life of the parish? Does the Chaplain really encourage this?

These are just a few thoughts to get us started on our journey through the "10 Keys to Success as a Chaplain." An honest discussion should prove to be interesting and helpful, and may the good Lord grant us this grace.

*God bless and keep you all.*

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*Copies of 10 Keys to Success as a Chaplain (#4940) can be ordered from the Supreme Council Supply Department by using a Requisition Form (#1)*