



# 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

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

# Key No. 5: Provide Solid Catechesis



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

Director of Chaplain  
Programs & Development

**W**e have arrived at the half-way point of the *Ten Keys to Success as a Chaplain in the Knights of Columbus*. This next key might well be considered as the heart of the matter. Better still, it is probably the very soul of our apostolate and certainly the key to our success as chaplains.

- **By virtue of their activity in the organization, Knights are affirming their willingness and desire to be faithful Catholics. Take the opportunity to help them embrace and fully understand how to practice and defend the faith in a highly secularized world.**

Too often, Catholics take their faith for granted, in that they may indeed be what we call “practicing Catholics” — saying their prayers,

going to Mass, receiving the sacraments, taking part in church and social activities — but seldom actually doing any serious study about their faith. The only faith instruction or formation many people receive might well be the homily at Mass. I believe that the vast majority of those who leave the Catholic Church do so because of a lack of understanding of what the Catholic Church is really all about. All of this is sad, but a fact.

It is commonly accepted that there is a great hunger for spirituality and faith formation in our Catholic world today, and I believe this is especially true of our youth. It is in keeping with our vocation to satisfy that hunger by offering food for thought and a banquet table of faith for living as Catholic

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SUPREME CHAPLAIN'S

## 10 Keys to Success

*As a Chaplain*



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## Pope Presents Pallium to Supreme Chaplain Archbishop Lori

**O**n the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, June 29, Pope Benedict XVI presented a pallium to each one of 44 new archbishops appointed during the last year, including the Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop William E. Lori, who was installed as the sixteenth Archbishop of Baltimore on May 16th.

A pallium is the white, woolen vestment worn around the neck of metropolitan archbishops who lead an ecclesiastical province composed of an archdiocese and one or more smaller dioceses or “suffragans” — e.g. the Province of Baltimore is comprised of the Archdiocese of Baltimore and its suffragan dioceses of Arlington, Richmond, Wheeling-Charleston and Wilmington.

Symbolizing the light yoke of Christ while also recalling a lamb borne upon the shoulders of a shepherd, the pallium is the premier symbol of an archbishop's pastoral ministry, jurisdiction and communion with the Apostolic See.

Each pallium is woven from wool sheared from lambs blessed annually on the feast of St. Agnes, January 21. The vestment is punctuated by five black crosses (red crosses in the case of the petrine pallium), which represent the five wounds of Christ. Pins are inserted into three of the crosses, representing the nails of the crucifixion.

On the vigil of the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, the pallia to be distributed are placed atop the tomb of St. Peter where they remain overnight until the ceremony of conferral the next day, further emphasizing the vestment's

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*Pope Benedict XVI presents a pallium to Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, during a June 29 Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. (CNS photo/Stefano Rellandini, Reuters).*

Knights. The old proverb says that if you wish to satisfy a person's hunger for a day, give him a fish, but if you wish to satisfy his hunger for a lifetime, teach him how to fish.

As Knights, many of our members may need a re-orientation of their mentality to focus on their understanding of *why* they do their charitable works and the *formation* which leads to a Christ-centered *basis* for their charitable endeavors.

Allow me to make a statement and offer it for your serious consideration. Faith is not just a private affair. It must be shared. Charity is our first principle, and the first goal of charity should be to share our faith. It is the love of Christ which fills our hearts and impels us to evangelize. Our faith and spirituality must be the starting point for all our activities as Knights. Everything we undertake in our councils, our assemblies or at the state level must have this as its origin. Otherwise we are just a lay organization that does good social and humanitarian work, and good as that may be, it is not good enough for us as Knights.

As Knights we must live our faith. To help achieve this, we Knights have the resources, manpower, organization, good will, and determination to be *the* most powerful arm of the Church through our devotion to Charity, Unity and Fraternity, and as true Catholic patriots. Knights should be seen as a leading group for Catholic men who understand and practice their faith, more than just being involved in social activities.

Faith formation on a formal basis has not been an integral element of the monthly meeting for many of our councils. In the September 2011 issue of this *Chaplain's Report*, I devoted the whole column to the new change that had been passed as a Supreme Convention Resolution in August. It specified a time for a chaplain's message on faith formation. The reason for this major change is, as the resolution says, *"for the purpose of providing moral and spiritual guidance and catechetical instruction to the members."* Much has been written on this topic in previous editions of *Chaplain's Report*. The time has now come to put it into effect.

Every council, without exception, needs to have formal faith formation, catechetical instruction or a formal spirituality program as a normal part of the council meeting. This takes place towards the beginning of the meeting — as #7 on the council meeting agenda — or at a time convenient for the chaplain. However, I wish to emphasize that the council chaplain and the grand knight should ensure that the chaplain's message never be omitted.

We are asking for a change of mentality, a new vision, a fresh outlook on making this an important part of each council meeting. It may well be what your council needs for new membership and will certainly be a renewal for existing members.

Pray for us, and guide us, Father Michael McGivney, that we may continue to be imbued with your spirit.

God bless and keep you all.

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connection to St. Peter and his successors.

Among the 44 new archbishops were 11 other members of the Knights of Columbus, including: Cardinal Francisco Robles Ortega of Guadalajara, Mexico; Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia; then-Archbishop-designate Samuel Aquila of Denver; Archbishop William Skurla of Pittsburgh of the Byzantines; Archbishop Luc Cyr of Sherbrooke, Canada; Archbishop Valery Vienneau of Moncton, Canada; Archbishop Christian Lepine of Montreal, Canada; Archbishop Paul-André Durocher of Gatineau, Canada; Archbishop Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila, Philippines; Archbishop Jose Advincula of Capiz, Philippines; and Archbishop Romulo Geolina Valles of Davao, Philippines.

## Supreme Knight Addresses International Eucharistic Congress

*Keynote address focuses on nexus between  
the Eucharist and the family*

At the 50<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin, Ireland, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson delivered a keynote address to the pilgrims and members of the Catholic hierarchy present from around the world. Speaking on June 12 at the Royal Dublin Society Arena on the theme of "Communion in Marriage and Family," Supreme Knight Anderson addressed the importance of the Eucharist in family life. Basing his speech on the writings of Blessed John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, he explored the nexus of family and the Eucharist using as themes for his discussion the mosaics in the Holy Family chapel at the Knights of Columbus headquarters in New Haven, Conn.

Earlier in the day, Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops and former Archbishop of Quebec, and concelebrated by several members of the Catholic hierarchy including Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York; Cardinal Edwin O'Brien, Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; and Cardinal Thomas Collins of Toronto.

Discussing Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis*, Supreme Knight Anderson's speech noted that "without the Eucharist, our communion with others is cut off from what sanctifies it." He went on to explain: "This is what John Paul meant by becoming a new creation. Not only are humans transformed, but everything that is human is also transformed. And it is transformed especially within the family through the family, and for the family. This transformation is not simply about a new agreement, or arrangement, there now exists a new status and a new unity which in its most profound meaning is indissoluble."



*Carl Anderson gives his personal testimony on the Eucharist and faith during the 50<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress in Dublin on June 12.  
(CNS photo/Paul Haring)*

**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.



# Knights of Columbus Files Formal Comment on HHS Mandate

*Supreme Knight asks Administration to 'chart another course'*

The Knights of Columbus has filed a formal comment with the United States Department of Health and Human Services in June, calling on the government to rethink the unpopular healthcare mandate that seeks to force many Catholic employers to cover interventions that violate their faith without regard for the First Amendment's guarantee of the free exercise of religion.

The letter, signed by Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, urged "the Administration to rescind the Mandate altogether," or at least "to expand the religious exemption so that it covers all objecting individuals and organizations from cooperating in actions that genuinely offend their religious beliefs and moral convictions."

"To exempt only some institutions on the principle of respect for religious liberty, as the Government seems to contemplate, and to refuse to exempt individuals makes no sense. The right to the free exercise of religion enshrined in the First Amendment extends to the people," the letter says.

The Knights noted that the mandate "requires private Catholic individuals and entities, including organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, to violate their most deeply held religious beliefs," and that "it appears to do so in violation of federal law and the First Amendment of the

Constitution." The letter also pointed out that "it is improper to deny statutory and First Amendment rights to religious liberty in order to create an entitlement to sterilization, abortifacients, and contraception."

The letter makes clear that "there is no reason why the Affordable Care Act should not conform to those protections that exist in other contexts throughout the law, both at the state and federal level, and have stood for decades." In sum, the letter urges that "whatever the intent of the Mandate, and whatever form it takes, it should not compel religious individuals to pay for what they believe is morally wrong. It is time for this Administration to chart another course."

Following the U.S. Supreme Court's June 28 decision on healthcare, the supreme knight released a statement in which he pointed out that the court did not address the constitutionality of the HHS mandate. "As we stated in our comment to the Department of Health and Human Services, it is clear that HHS Mandate violates the First Amendment's protection of our free exercise of religion," he said. "We continue to urge that the HHS Mandate be repealed, or at a minimum, that sufficient protections of conscience be added to protect religious individuals and institutions."

The full text of the letter is available at [www.kofc.org/Mandate](http://www.kofc.org/Mandate).

## Knights Participate in 'Fortnight for Freedom'

*Knights and their families participated in religious liberty rallies throughout the country, like this one held on the green in New Haven, Conn.*

The call of the U.S. bishops for a "Fortnight for Freedom" to defend religious liberty was a historic moment for Catholics in the United States. This 14-day period of "prayer, study, catechesis, and public action" from the vigil of the Feast of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More on June 21<sup>st</sup> to Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup> was an opportunity to reflect on the great gift of religious freedom and work for its preservation. In his opening homily for the "Fortnight for Freedom" at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption in Baltimore, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori preached, "Even if current threats like the HHS mandate were to be overcome, we would still have to face powerful forces which seek to prevent religious faith from exerting an appropriate and necessary influence within our culture."



*Led by Fourth Degree Knights, Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone of Charleston, S.C. carries the Blessed Sacrament in procession to Battery Park to mark the launch of the Fortnight for Freedom. Knights escorted the Eucharist to an outdoor altar by the sea, where participants prayed for a resolution to recent assaults on religious freedom. (Douglas Deas/The Catholic Miscellany, Diocese of Charleston, S.C.)*



## World Day of Prayer for Peace

This Sept. 11 we recall again the terrorist attacks on the United States. In observing the Knights of Columbus World Day of Prayer for Peace on that anniversary, we remember the tragic events and honor the thousands of innocent men and women who lost their lives that day, and during the military action that followed. We also pray for peace among nations, especially in those places where war or turmoil persist. All Knights of Columbus leaders are urged to begin planning for this event now and hold an appropriate prayer service in a church, or in a public place such as a war memorial, a municipal park, or on the grounds of the town or city hall. To assist your council in its participation in this event, the Supreme Council offers a Day of Prayer poster (#9483) and prayer card (#9484). For more information please visit [kofc.org/prayerforpeace](http://kofc.org/prayerforpeace).





# Telling Our Story of Service

## *A Quick Look at the Fraternal Survey*

The Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity testifies to what the Knights of Columbus, from the international to local levels, accomplished last year. The numbers are dramatic and provide a global portrait of the Knights of Columbus that is far beyond the view from your local council. All those individual council activities really add up! Here's a quick look at 2011.

- State councils, local councils, assemblies, circles, and the Supreme Council total contributions: \$158,084,514
- Total volunteer/fraternal activity hours: 70,053,149
- Total meetings held during the fraternal year: 294,944
- Number of blood donors: 418,841
- Visits to sick and bereaved: 4,984,011
- Estimated hours of fraternal service: 9,412,830

- Volunteer hours for Habitat for Humanity: 325,364
- Donations to Church activities: \$47,288,445
- Donations to community activities: \$53,019,168
- Donations to youth activities: \$18,959,048
- 10-year cumulative charitable disbursements: \$1,436,712,757
- 10-year estimated hours of volunteer service: 664,285,398

These numbers are impressive, but they tell only a part of our story. Approximately 78 percent of all K of C units responded to the 2011 Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity. Imagine what our numbers would look like if we had a 100 percent response.

For a more detailed look at our Order's accomplishments in the past year, view the Supreme Knight's Annual Report to the 130<sup>th</sup> Supreme Council Annual Meeting at [www.kofc.org/convention](http://www.kofc.org/convention).

