



# The Explorer

A Publication  
of the  
Kansas  
Knights of Columbus

SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

SATURDAY, May 1, 2010

## State Deputy Welcomes You to Wichita!

Brother Knights and Ladies,

On behalf of the State Officers, it is my privilege to welcome you to Wichita for our 109<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention.



Emeritus George K. Fitzsimons and other members of the clergy.

We are pleased to have as our guests, Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant, Bishop Michael O. Jackels, Bishop Ronald M. Gilmore, Bishop Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop Emeritus James P. Keleher, Bishop Emeritus Eugene J. Gerber, Bishop

With the gathering of Knights of Columbus from every corner of the state, we will celebrate our 109<sup>th</sup> meeting. We meet to renew old acquaintances, to make new friends and to recognize the accomplishments of our Order in Kansas during the past fraternal year – “The Year of the Volunteer”. Our hope is that you will enjoy these days of convention, and that you will leave with a renewed commitment to our Faith and Order as you step forward to answer the call of Pope Benedict XVI to “Follow Me, Help Us Build Up The Church”.

The activities planned for the convention begin with a Golf Tournament on Friday and conclude with the Final Business Session on Monday. The hours between will be filled with social activities, hospitality and business meetings. The highlights of the Convention will be the Sunday Convention Mass and the Monday Memorial Mass. Please plan to attend as many of the scheduled events as possible.

I thank Convention Chairman Mike Petersen, the Convention Committee and our Host Council, Fr. August Zeller Council #4118, for planning this weekend for our enjoyment.

In conclusion, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year as your State Deputy. On behalf of the State Officers, we pray your participation in the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention in Wichita will be memorable.

Fraternally,

*Francis G. Drouhard*

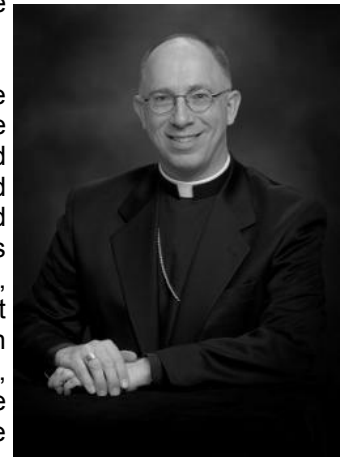
State Deputy

## Bishop Jackels Welcomes Knights

Brother Knights and Ladies,

You are most welcome to the 109th State Meeting of the Knights of Columbus to be held in Wichita, Kansas!

I pray that you will arrive safely in Wichita and home again, and that your faith and fellowship are strengthened by the activities and speakers. The presentations on Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Juan Diego, and Servant of God Father Emil Kapaun not only sound interesting, but they should also provide inspiration for you to continue the good works for which the Knights are famous!



I look forward to greeting you personally at your convention and spending time with you. God bless the Knights of Columbus, and may their fraternity prosper and grow!

With kind regards and prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ.

*+Michael O. Jackels*

Michael O. Jackels  
Bishop of Wichita



## Welcome from the Convention Chairmen

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Kansas Knights of Columbus, 109<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention. We hope you find this convention to be truly a special time where you and your family members can enjoy a great schedule of events selected to compliment the four cornerstones of the Knights of Columbus.

This year's convention theme, Loving...God... And...Neighbor, was selected to demonstrate the Knights' support to the sainthood cause of Father Emil Kapaun, a Kansas native who died as a prisoner of war in North Korea in 1951. This heroic U.S. Army chaplain ministered to sick and wounded soldiers for seven months before his death despite his own painful injuries. Fellow prisoners of war said he led them in prayer daily, lifting their spirits in very difficult and trying conditions. Father Emil Kapaun truly demonstrated Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, the cornerstones of the Knights of Columbus.

Following Father Kapaun's example, the Knights of Council 4118 and our families worked diligently to make the 2010 convention a time where you, our neighbors, are taken care of and your faith in God strengthened. What better way to celebrate all of God's gifts than to enjoy together the natural beauty of Botanica, many fantastic meals with plenty of mouth watering food, enlightening and dynamic guest speakers, and best of all - Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Room at the Airport Hilton Hotel. Your attendance at this year's convention will surely be an "Experience of a Lifetime".

We look forward to hosting a memorable convention and assisting you in any way possible. Join in the fun, participate in adoration, and together, we can make this one of the most enjoyable conventions ever.

Thank you for being our guest.  
Vivat Jesus

Fraternally,

*Mike Petersen*

Mike Petersen,  
Convention Chairman



## Welcome Past Supreme Knight Dechant and Wife Ann

The Kansas Knights of Columbus are honored to have our native son, Past Supreme Knight Virgil Dechant and his wife Ann join us as we celebrate our 109<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention in Wichita. Since stepping down from the leadership of the Knights of Columbus in 2000, Brother Dechant has offered his services to Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. Brother Dechant has been involved in overseeing the Knights Museum in New Haven as well as representing the Knights of Columbus at other functions. We welcome Virgil and Ann.

### Program and Membership Directors and Chairmen Meeting

A meeting of all Programming and Membership Directors and Chairmen will be today at 10:00 am in the Multi-Media Theater. We will discuss and review the workshops, awards sessions and the information booth. Your attendance as a chairman or director is important.

### District Deputy Meeting

A meeting for all District Deputies will be today in the Multi-Media Theater at 11:00 am. The meeting will cover how to pay per capita, credentials, procedures, resolutions, caucusing of districts and floor privileges. State Deputy Francis Drouhard will chair the meeting with assistance by other State Officers and programming personnel.



## Kansas Knight of the Year



Greg Lix, Publicity & Fraternal Chairman reports the names of the four finalists for the State Knight of the Year contest and congratulates them on their devotion of time and talents to the families, parishes, communities and councils. The four finalists were selected from 130 entries submitted by councils across the state. The diocesan winners are

Wichita	Ray H. Kennedy	4458	Derby
Salina	Lester Joseph Robben	6984	Hays
Dodge City	Ryan M. Axman	1521	Hoisington
Kansas City	Douglas E. Wietharn	675	St. Marys

Each of these men will be recognized and given a plaque during the Sunday morning Awards Presentation. The Kansas State Knight of the Year will be announced at the convention banquet tonight. Congratulations to all Knights who participated.

## Today's Schedule — Saturday, May 1

8:00 am—5:00 pm	Registration	Hotel Lobby	11:30 pm	State Officers & PSDs' Wive's Lunch	Consulate 2
8:00 am	Opening Mass	Emerald Ballroom	12:00 pm	Lunch Break	On Your Own
9:00 am	Perpetual Adoration Opens	Room 168	1:00 pm	Workshops-Fr. Hotze & Msgr. Chavez	Emerald Ballroom 1-4
9:00 am	Country Store Opens	Consulate 3	4:00 pm	Committee Meetings	Emerald Ballroom 1-4 & Others TBA
9:00 am	State Officers Breakfast	Consulate 1	6:30 pm	Convention Banquet	St. Francis of Assisi Gym, 861 N Socora, Wichita
10:00 am	Directors & Chairmen Meeting	Multi-Media Theater	9:00 pm-midnight	Hospitality Rooms	5th Floor-South Tower
11:00 am	District Deputies Meeting	Multi-Media Theater	11:30 pm	State Officers Meeting	Board Room

## Experts on Our Lady of Guadalupe and Fr. Emil Kapaun to Speak at State Convention

Two dynamic speakers will be with us at the Kansas Knights of Columbus Convention Workshop being held at the Airport Hilton Hotel in Wichita on Saturday, May 1, 2010. Due to an anticipated overflow attendance for this event, tickets are required and will be available free to convention registrants upon check-in and registration at the state convention.

Msgr. Eduardo Chavez, postulator of the cause for canonization of St. Juan Diego and the foremost expert on the apparition and miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will speak at the Saturday afternoon workshop during the Convention. He is the first dean of the Catholic University Lumen Gentium of the Archdiocese of Mexico, cofounder and dean of the Higher Institute for Guadalupean Studies, and honorary Canon of the Guadalupe Basilica.

Also speaking at the Saturday afternoon workshop will be Fr. John Hotze, a priest from the Wichita Diocese and the postulator for the cause of sainthood for Fr. Emil Kapaun, a priest from the Diocese of Wichita who died in a prisoner of war camp in the Korean War.

## Kansas Family of the Year



Dan Wimberly, Family Life Director, has released the names of the winning families of the diocesan Family of the Year contest. The diocesan winners are

Kansas City	Mike & Dorothy McClain	10876 Osawatomie
Dodge City	Steve & Tina Davis	6618 Medicine Lodge
Wichita	Kent & Lori Linnebur	12049 St. Jude
Salina	Jim & Karla Neihouse	8976 Downs

These families will be awarded a plaque which will be presented to them or their representative during the Sunday morning Awards Presentation. The winning State Family of the Year will be announced at the Convention Banquet tonight. Congratulations to all the families!

## Convention Masses

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated each day of the convention. The opening Mass is 8:00 am Saturday in Emerald Ballrooms 3 & 4 of the Convention Center. The Celebrant will be Most Reverend James P. Keleher, Archbishop Emeritus of Kansas City.

The official Convention Mass is 4:30 pm Sunday at St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Celebrant will be Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita. Concelebrants are Most Reverend Paul Coakley, Bishop of Salina; Most Reverend Ronald Gilmore, Bishop of Dodge City; Most Reverend Eugene J. Gerber, Bishop Emeritus of Wichita; and Most Reverend George K. Fitzsimons, Bishop Emeritus of Salina.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated for all deceased K of C members at 8:00 am, Monday, May 3 in Emerald Ballrooms 1-4 of the Convention Center. The Celebrant will be Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita. The Concelebrant will be Most Reverend George Fitzsimons, Bishop Emeritus of Salina.

**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTIANS;  
WORK AND PRAY!**

*Vocations Are Everybody's Business*

## Committee Meetings

State Deputy Francis Drouhard has appointed Grand Knights and State Personnel to chair several standing committees. Committees, their chairmen and room assignments are shown below.



All committees are to meet after the workshops today at the Convention Center in the designated location at 4:00 pm. All designated members are expected to attend and receive instructions and information about their committee.

Committee	Chairman	Room
Aids to the Warden	Patrick Winchester	Emerald Ballroom
Distribution	Patrick Winchester	Emerald Ballroom
Mileage & Per Diem	Patrick Winchester	Emerald Ballroom
Audit	Mark Stolz	Multi-Media Theater
Credentials	David Littler	Multi-Media Theater
Necrology	Ken Richmeier	Multi-Media Theater
Elections	Shawn M. Becker	Multi-Media Theater
Good of the Order	Richard McKenna	The Directors Room
Resolutions	Mike Baxa	The Boardroom
Publicity	Greg Lix	Ambassador Room

## Convention Banquet

The convention banquet begins at 6:30 pm in the St. Francis of Assisi Gymnasium, 861 N. Socora, Wichita. Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita, will be the main speaker. Also giving remarks at the banquet will be Most Reverend James P. Keleher, Archbishop Emeritus of Kansas City and Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley, Bishop of Salina.

We also welcome State Regent of the Daughters of Isabella Helen Schnittker and her husband Mark.

During the banquet, the State Family of the Year, State Knight of the Year, State Squire of the Year and State Circle of the Year honorees will be announced and recognized.

## Vocation Poster Contest Winners

Grade	Name	Dist.	Council
1-2	Brody White	13	7446 Mound City
3-4	Cullen Bergman	01	10279 Sabetha-Fidelity
5-6	Sydney Kalscheur	50	2955 Dodge City
7-8	Maria Martinez	29	7279 Hutchinson
Spec Ed	Lane Schreiber	37	4759 Osborne

The overall state winner is Maria Martinez.

## Adopt-a-Seminarian

This fraternal year we adopted 91 diocesan seminarians and 37 other religious receiving pledges of \$219,230.00. We had 100 % participation from every active council and every assembly across the state. Thank you to all the councils and assemblies for your support of religious vocations. Without your tremendous support, this could not have been possible. I would like to thank our Worthy State Chaplain, Reverend David Metz for his spiritual guidance and support this fraternal year.





## Convention Hospitality Rooms

All the hospitality rooms will be located in the convention center on the 5th floor of the South Tower. They will be open tonight and tomorrow at 9:00 pm and must close at midnight.

### Promote Membership Benefits in May

During May encourage each of your councils to designate a mass at its parish to sponsor a family corporate communion. Be sure they invite prospects and their families to this event. Following the mass, the council should hold an informal open house where Knights and their families can tell prospects and their families about the many benefits membership offers to them.

The Top Recruiter contest is still going on and everyone is eligible to win! The Kansas Knight who recruits the most new members this fraternal year will win a Large Traeger Pellet Grill complete with a bag of pellets and \$300.00 worth of Steaks, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner will win a Large Traeger Pellet Grill without the amenities and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will win a beautiful encased BBQ Tool Set.

**Form #100  
Belongs in  
All of These Places**

- Briefcase
- In Your Pocket
- Near Your Phone
- Glove Compartment
- Everywhere You Go!

**SIGN UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### Pennies Country Store

Be sure to visit the Country Store in the Consulate 3 room. The Country Store will open Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 am. There will be a wide variety of items available for purchase. The proceeds collected from this effort are contributed to the Pennies from Heaven Fund. Stop by often as new items will be coming in from various councils across the state. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Country Store is also the place to purchase your Pennies From Heaven Raffle Tickets. This years prizes are:

- \$500.00 Gander Mountain gift card that can be used to shop on line, order from their catalog or may be used locally at the store in Wichita. Gander Mountain has something for everyone. They offer men's & women's apparel, footwear, hunting & fishing gear, and items for your auto, boat or atv.
- Glider rocker with a retail value of \$499.00

You won't want to miss the annual Pennies From Heaven auction on Sunday evening at 10:00 pm in the Pre-Function Hallway. We are privileged to have Father Bernie Gorges as our auctioneer again this year. He will keep you entertained and ensure a fun time will be had by all. Visit the County Store to see some of the items that will be available at the auction.

The Pennies from Heaven Parade will be held in the Pre-Function hallway at 7:30 am tomorrow. Bring your council donations and turn them in during the parade.

### What's Happening Tomorrow?

6:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast	On You Own	12:30 pm	Business Session	Emerald Ballroom 1-4
7:30 am	Pennies from Heaven Parade	Pre-Function Hallway	4:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Convention Mass	St. Francis of Assisi Church
8:00 am – 1:00 pm	Registration	Convention Center Lobby	6:00 pm	Chaplains Social & Dinner	St. Francis of Assisi Church
8:00 am	Opening Prayer Service	Emerald Ballroom 1-4	6:15 pm	BBQ Dinner	St. Francis of Assisi Gymnasium
8:30 am	Awards Presentation	Emerald Ballroom 1-4	9:00 pm – midnight	Hospitality Rooms	5th Floor-South Tower
9:00 am	Country Store	Consulate 3	10:00 pm	Pennies from Heaven Auction	Pre-Function Hallway
12:00 pm	Ladies Luncheon & Activity	Botanica, 701 N Amidon, Wichita	11:30 pm	State Officers Meeting	Board Room