

## Good and Welfare of the Order

Brothers, in the last year we have seen a revival in the search for meaning, stability, and a way to make sense of the world. It causes all people, especially men, to pause and to reflect on their lives. Now is not the time to sit on our laurels, but to actively get out and spread this message of hope. The hope of Jesus Christ.

As the greatest creation, we are formed as men and women, with immutable characteristics that need to be celebrated. As men of faith, we need to be visible in our love, service, and faith to those about us.

Sharing our Faith in Christ:

**Pray** – We find it hard sometimes to pray. A tool that can be better utilized is daily scheduled prayer and adoration. Many churches offer weekly adoration for us to be present in prayer with Jesus. During this calendar year, councils should look at their Faith Program Director to implement or encourage programs for Knights to pray together. Cor is an example that is growing in the state, adoration, participating in the monthly State Rosary, rosary before mass or before council meetings are ways to increase time spent in prayer to our Lord. Once committed, prayer becomes ingrained in our lives.

**Family** – The bond of the natural family is the fundamental and the domestic Church. Children are the greatest fruit of the love of God manifested in the bond of Man and Wife. Unfortunately, many families have loved ones turn away from the Faith. It is time to bring them back. In each council, the Family Director can help implement programs that bring the family, in toto, to fruitful ground. A council may schedule a crockpot potluck among its members, or pizza after a meeting. A trip to the ball game with other K of C families. We cannot tell adult children what to do, but as they consider making sense of life, we can show them the joy of Catholic inspired social events. Councils should consider formalizing a program to support widows of deceased council brothers. This support would include social contact, practical assistance like transportation or manual labor as needed. The aim is to make widows feel remembered and valued after the loss of their spouse which aligns with the Knights' commitment to care for the families of members.

**Unity** – We learn in our degree program, through the example of the string and the rope, that we are stronger when working toward the same purpose. This is what Communion is about; to commune and worship together, in praise of Him on high. In unity, we serve the Church by our Faith in Action. Knights wearing our logos, shirts and uniforms while serving others through for Christ builds strong relationships and a desire for other men to be part of something greater.

**Humility** – Pride is the root of all evil, we are told. Give your time, treasure, and talents, by participating in the many programs. Remember, He who washed the feet of the Apostles. God does not pick perfect people to do his will, but he does pick people perfect for the work.

May we keep Him always in our hearts and actions so that we may join him in Heaven!

Vivat Jesus,

Mark Messier, State Deputy