

“Manitoba News”

Manitoba State Council - Monthly Bulletin - March 2007

From the State Deputy’s desk . . .

Brother Knights,

March is Blitz Month. I received a letter from Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson encouraging us to better our numbers of 19% for new members. In your name, I have assured him that we are indeed working very hard to increase membership. I therefore ask you to maximize your efforts so that our councils will continue to have enough knights to enable us to continue to provide the service we now offer to the Church and Community and this, regardless of the number of withdrawals and deaths.

As most of you know, Past State Deputy Bernie Gill passed away on February 1, 2007. He was State Deputy from 1999 to 2001. Bernie was instrumental in my joining Manitoba State as he had asked me to be Program



In memory of



JAMES BERNIE GILL
June 18, 1931 to February 1, 2007

Chairman. Not knowing too much about what that entailed, I instead volunteered to be ICCD Chairman and the rest is history. Bernie was a man of strong faith and a family man who believed wholeheartedly in the mission of the Knights of Columbus. Bernie was a good friend of the Clergy. He and Ann were granted a private audience with the Pope in 1988. Bernie loved to socialize and to meet with his brother knights, often putting aside his work to have coffee with them in the

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Congratulations!

The Manitoba State Council would like to congratulate Most Rev. David Motiuk, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archeparchy of Winnipeg, on his appointment as Bishop of the Eparchy of Edmonton. He was named by His Holiness Benedict XVI on January 25, 2007.



The installation of Bishop David is tentatively scheduled to take place at 10:00 am on Saturday, March 24, 2007 at St. Basil the Great Ukrainian Catholic Church, Edmonton, Alberta, by His Grace Lawrence Huculak, osbm, Metropolitan-Archbishop of Winnipeg, in the presence of His Grace, Archbishop Luigi Ventura, Apostolic Nuncio to Canada.

From the State Chaplain’s Desk . . .

Brother Knights,

The question of religious education and prayer in our public schools has been mentioned on many occasions lately in different news media; even more on the French network. Each time the topic is mentioned we always question ourselves about the rights of parents, students and school administrators in regards to religious freedom.



We are told that the law has been introduced to protect the minority. That’s fine, but what about the rights of the majority? Are they respected? We live in a country where we are supposed to enjoy freedom of religion. But do we? If in a classroom the majority of the students would like to pray together with the approval of their parents, of course, but one or two students do not want to participate, the whole group has to leave the classroom for that type of exercise. Is this a reasonable law?

My intention is not to open a debate on the question, but rather to invite you, Brother Knights, to think about that question seriously.

We must not forget that prayer in our public schools is allowed in Manitoba under certain conditions and those involved in our school system should be ready to inform parents as to the extent of their rights in that regard. I feel that one of our responsibilities as Knights is to really encourage parents to become more knowledgeable and more aware of their rights about prayer and religious

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Past State Deputy Brother Bernie Gill



The Fourth Degree Honour Guard was organized by the Captain Miles MacDonnell Assembly #0370 for the funeral of Sir Knight and Brother Bernie Gill, PSD, FDD, PGK, PFN, on February 7th, 2007.

INSURANCE CORNER...

- Right to Buy -

Brothers,

The laws and rules of our Order, as well as provincial laws, specify that the Knights of Columbus may accept insurance applications from members only. As a member, you may apply for insurance on yourself, your wife and your minor children.

The Order's Board of Directors has taken action, though, to assure that a Knight's widow maintains the right to purchase additional insurance for a limited time. This can be of great benefit and comfort to those we leave behind.

This "right to apply" is available only to the widows of insured members. If a member has not availed himself of our highly rated life insurance program, or purchased an annuity or long-term care policy, this benefit is not available to his widow.

But if the member was an insured member, his widow has the right to apply for additional insurance on her life and on the life of the member's minor children. This right must be exercised within one year following the Order's receipt of proof of the insured's death.

Know two things. First, we'll assist your widow and children in any way possible if you should die, both with your Knights of Columbus insurance and any other life insurance you may have. Second, we'll provide them our best professional advice and service, to assure that they have adequate insurance protection.

We, the Insurance Agents have no greater responsibility.

Congratulations to Glen Walley, FA, Jean Choiselat, FA & Gerald Rochon, FIC who were our January 2007 Agents of the Month!

Claude Boisjoli, FIC
General Agent of Manitoba
(204) 231-9457

State Deputy's message continued...

restaurant on De Salaberry and having Brothers meet for fellowship and fun at his home. Even though he had battled cancer twice and was diabetic, he did not let his health run his life. He was actively involved in both community and Church. As a member of the First Degree Team, he was at Our Lady of the Prairie for the First Degree on January 13, 2007. We will miss him.

We need many more Bernie Gills in the Knights of Columbus. The Order must remain strong. Maybe the fellow parishioner who said "no" to you last year has had a change of heart or circumstances. And then there is the fellow you haven't yet asked. If every council got just a few new members, Manitoba State would be okay. We have just witnessed the brotherhood of the Firefighters united in the tragic death of Captain Harold Lessard and Captain Thomas Nichols. We the Knights of Columbus of Manitoba extend our deepest sympathy to the brotherhood of fire fighters and to the immediate family of the two fallen Captains. We know what they were talking about when they speak of 'extended family' because we have that same bond in the Knights of Columbus. Good luck with the Blitz and thank you. Father McGivney, please help us keep your mission healthy and alive. Vivat Jesus.

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Chers Frères,

Mars = Blitz. J'ai reçu une lettre du Chevalier Suprême, Carl A. Anderson me disant qu'il n'est pas trop impressionné par notre 19% d'augmentation de nouveaux membres. En votre nom, je l'ai assuré que nous travaillons très fort pour hausser les nombres. Je vous demande donc de donner un gros effort afin d'assurer que nous ayons assez de membres dans nos conseils pour pouvoir maintenir le niveau de service offert présentement à l'Église et à la communauté, et ce malgré les décès et retraits.

Comme vous le savez probablement, Bernie Gill, ancien Député d'État est décédé le 1^{er} février 2007. Il fut Député d'État entre 1999 et 2001. Lors de la prise de son mandat, Bernie me demanda si je voulais être Directeur des programmes. Ne sachant pas de quoi il s'agissait, j'ai dit que je préférais être Directeur du ICCD car j'avais auparavant été impliqué avec des tirages. Bernie avait une foi extraordinaire, il aimait beaucoup sa famille, et il croyait totalement dans la mission des Chevaliers de Colomb. Ami du clergé, de ses frères Chevaliers et des gens en général, il aimait prendre le café et socialiser avec tout le monde. Atteint du cancer par deux fois et souffrant du diabète, ce n'était pas sa santé qui l'empêchait de s'impliquer. Il était actif dans sa communauté comme dans l'Église. Membre de l'équipe du Premier Degré, il a joué son rôle au dernier degré, le 13 janvier à Mary, Mother of the Church. Il nous manquera.

Nous avons besoin de beaucoup d'autres Frères comme Bernie Gill. L'Ordre doit demeurer fort. Peut-être que votre co-paroissien qui n'a pas voulu devenir membre le printemps passé a repensé à son affaire et est maintenant prêt à s'engager. Puis il y a celui à qui vous n'avez pas encore demandé... Si chaque conseil pouvait avoir quelques nouveaux membres, l'Ordre se maintiendrait. Nous avons tous été témoins de la fraternité des pompiers et nous leur offrons toute notre sympathie. Quand ils parlent de 'lien de famille' nous savons de quoi il s'agit car c'est aussi comme ça dans la Chevalerie. Bonne chance avec le Blitz, les gars et merci.

Demandons à l'abbé McGivney de nous aider à continuer sa mission. Vivat Jesus.

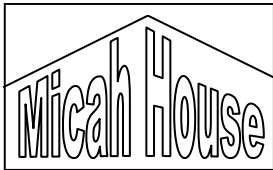
Eugène Prieur
State Deputy

Convention Nominations

The Manitoba State Convention will be here before we know it. Have you thought about being on the State Board? If so, give your name to your Grand Knight so that he can nominate you.



C'est bientôt la fin de semaine du Congrès d'État. Avez-vous songé à siéger au Conseil d'État du Manitoba? Si oui, veuillez aviser votre Grand Chevalier pour qu'il puisse vous nommer.



Sister Johanna Jonker is available to speak on social justice issues at your council dinners, meetings, etc. One of her focuses is mental illness which is becoming a very important issue in our society today. Other speakers are available as well. For more information, contact Micah House, the Catholic Centre for Social Justice at (204) 589-5393.

Family of the Month

Congratulations to the family of Tom & Lillian Yakielasher of Dauphin Council #3497 for being chosen by Supreme to be Manitoba's December 2006 Family of the Month. They will receive a Holy Family statuette from Supreme Council.

Brandon Council's Keep Christ In Christmas Lighting Contest

Brandon Council #1435 held its annual Keep Christ in Christmas Lighting Contest. Pictured below, Grand Knight Brother Wes Shewchuk presents a Holy Family Statue to the first prize winners, Mr. & Mrs. F. D. Crandle, at their home in Brandon. The Statue was suitably engraved with the winners names to commemorate the occasion. In addition, the Crandles received a \$50.00 cash prize. The photo was taken by Church Director, Bro. Don Solkoski.



Chaplain's message continued...

education in our schools. We must also urge parents to take their full responsibility on this matter.

The problem is not easy to solve and it will take time, but I think that we should keep this very special intention in our prayers.

I also think that the time has come for us Knights to discuss, at councils level, about the importance of encouraging our parents to really promote prayer at home, within the family circle. Because, if our children are not allowed to pray at school, where will they ever learn, if not at home?

Let us ask Mary, Mother of the Church, to lead us and guide us in our efforts. God bless you all. Vivat Jesus!

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Frères Chevaliers,

Depuis quelques temps la question du droit à la prière et à l'enseignement religieux dans les écoles de la province a refait surface dans les média. Chaque fois que l'on soulève cette question on se demande toujours quels sont les droits des parents, des élèves et de la direction de l'école face à cette question.

On fait toujours appel aux droits des minorités, qui doivent être respectés, bien sûr, mais bien souvent il faudrait se demander si à partir de ce principe on ne brime pas parfois les droits de la majorité. Ce n'est pas mon intention aujourd'hui d'entamer un débat sur la question, mais je voudrais quand même vous inviter, frères Chevaliers, à prendre cette question très au sérieux.

Il ne faut pas oublier que la loi manitobaine permet la prière et l'enseignement religieux dans nos écoles de la province, mais à certaines conditions. Les professionnels de l'éducation doivent être en mesure de préciser aux parents toute la portée de leurs droits sur ces questions, et Dieu merci, certains spécialistes de la loi scolaire sont en mesure de le faire. Mais reste aux parents la responsabilité de se renseigner auprès d'eux.

Je sais que certaines paroisses organisent des rencontres en ce sens entre les parents et des experts en la matière pour stimuler les parents à prendre toutes leurs responsabilités face à cette question et à exiger que leurs droits soient respectés.

Puisque toute cette question de l'enseignement religieux et de la prière dans nos écoles nous tient à cœur, en tant que Chevaliers de Colomb, je vous invite tous, Frères Chevaliers, d'abord à porter cette question dans votre prière, et ensuite à mettre tout en œuvre dans chacun de nos milieux, dans chacune de nos paroisses pour sensibiliser les parents à l'importance de cette question.

Je crois que c'est en même temps une excellente occasion pour nous de parler dans nos conseils de l'importance de la prière en famille. Parce que si nos enfants sont limités dans le droit à la prière à l'école, où vont-ils apprendre à prier, sinon dans la famille?

Demandons à la Vierge Marie, notre Mère, de nous guider dans toute cette démarche. Que le Seigneur vous bénisse et vous garde. Vivat Jesus!

Father Jean-Louis Rocan, State Chaplain

Manitoba State - Calendar of Events

First Degrees/Premier Degrés:

February 25, 2007

Hosted by: Fathers A & J Kulawy #9790

Holy Ghost Church, 341 Selkirk Ave. Winnipeg

Registration at 2 p.m.

First Degree at 2:30 p.m.

Contact Grand Knight Stan Morga at (204) 663-3017

Or Financial Secretary Samuel Siwicki at (204) 981-1990

March 3, 2007

Hosted by: Stonewall Council #8894

Registration at 9:00 a.m.

First Degree at 9:30 a.m.

Contact District Deputy Johann Hueging at

(204) 322-5510

or Grand Knight Robin Allan at (204) 467-2694

21 mars 2007

Votre hôte: Conseil Ste-Anne #4819

Local des Chevaliers - 132, ave Centrale, Ste-Anne MB

Inscriptions à 19h30

Contactez le Grand Chevalier Robert Sarrasin au

(204)422-4164

March 31, 2007

Hosted by: Winnipeg (St. J. Brebeuf) Council #1107

Contact District Deputy Dan Shepherd at (204) 488-4636

Major Degrees/Degrés Majeurs:

March 3, 2007

Hosted by: Stonewall Council #8894

Registration at 11:30 a.m.

Major Degree at 12:00 noon

Contact District Deputy Johann Hueging at

(204) 322-5510

March 31, 2007

Hosted by: Winnipeg (St. J. Brebeuf) Council #1107

Contact District Deputy Dan Shepherd at (204) 488-4636

Dates to Remember:

Basketball Free Throw State-level Competition will be held at the Holy Cross Gym on March 10, 2007. Doors open at 8:30 a.m., Registration at 9 a.m., Competition starts at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Lionel Piché, Chairman, at (204) 253-0791.

More Dates to Remember:

Catholic Foundation Caritas Award Dinner will be held on April 19, 2007 at the Winnipeg Convention Center. This year's honorees are Catholic Schools in Manitoba. Tickets have already been sent out. If you would like to purchase tickets, call Nancy at (204) 233-4268.

ICCD Major Draw: April 21, 2007, hosted by Conseil Ste-Anne #4819. The Draw will be held at 10:30 p.m. at the Ste-Anne Legion Hall, 80 Arena Road in Ste-Anne MB. More information will follow at a later date.

85th Annual State Convention will be held on May 4, 5 & 6, 2007 at the Victoria Inn. Please fill out all documentation and return them to the State office as soon as possible.

Golf Tournament - August 17, 2007 at the Kingswood Golf Course in La Salle. This event is hosted by La Salle Council #7793.

Vocation videos - The following videos are available at the State office in both DVD and VHS format: "The Vocation to the Religious Life for women", "The Vocation to the Priesthood" and "The Vocation to Marriage". We also have various pamphlets in stock in both French and English. Please call the State office ahead of time at (204) 663-8022 to ensure that they are still available at the time of pickup.

Form Submissions - Twenty councils have not submitted their 1728 (Fraternal Survey) form which was due on January 31, 2007, and 30 councils have not submitted their 1295 (Semi-Annual Council Audit) form due on February 15, 2007.

Grand knights and financial secretaries please submit these forms immediately to the State Office.

Degrees/Degrés:

Attention: All councils hosting a Major Degree will be asked to hold a 1st Degree in the morning before the Major Degree.

We are looking for more councils to host First & Major Degrees. Please contact the State Office at 663-8022.