



John P. Wainscott

Knights of Columbus

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE

October 26, 2008

Dear Members of Corpus Christi Council 6966,

The Knights at Council 6966 in Sandy have provided me many fond memories of joining the order in my first degree, wonderful social and family functions, and charitable activities. There is a great legacy of strong leaders and of our council helping those in need through vital acts of volunteerism.

One critical element of keeping a council vibrant is a healthy membership program to ensure a continuity of leadership and plenty of hands to carry out the vision of Fr. McGivney. In working with Grand Knight Bob Smith, a membership blitz has been scheduled for the weekend of November 1-2 at Blessed Sacrament.

Your assistance in the blitz is absolutely critical. Talk it up to your friends. Please come to Mass 15 minutes early on November 1-2 and look for me at the back of Church. You will be needed after Mass for a few minutes to assist with the Blitz. At least 8 Knights are needed after each Mass. An Open House will be scheduled soon for these candidates to learn more about our order. If you have not been to a meeting in a while, come and get reacquainted on Wednesday November 5 at 7:30PM – the meeting has moved back a day from election day.

Never underestimate the impact of your achievements on other people, especially the youth. Be proud not just because we are Knight's, but more importantly by what made us Knights: hard work, determination, loyalty, discipline, and teamwork. We live in challenging times but God provides us with the grace to do his will; to preach the gospel, to serve the Church, and to grow in holiness. Together we will continue to bring families to Christ.

See you after Mass next Sunday and on November 5.

Fraternally yours;

John P. Wainscott
Council member 6966

Good Evening/Morning

My Name is Tony Hergott. I am the Knights of Columbus State Associate membership director for northern Nebraska. Thank you, Fr. Mac, for allowing me to address your parish this evening /morning about being a member of the Knights of Columbus. It truly is an Experience of a lifetime!

125 years ago, a Servant of God, named Father Michael McGivney gathered a small group of Catholic laymen together in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT. They formed a fraternal group to provide financial aid to the widows of its members while offering fellowship among Catholic men.

From these humble origins, the Knights of Columbus have grown into a fraternal order in service to Church and community through our commitment to Charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. We currently have more than 1.7 million members in more than 13,000 councils that donate more than \$139 million and 64 million volunteer hours of service to charitable and Church causes annually. With the blessing of Fr. McCluskey, we're starting a council right here in Laurel and Dixon.

Being a member of the Knights is a family ministry in which you can experience growing in your faith and setting the example of service to the Church. We are ordinary men doing extraordinary things for our parishes, our families and our community: Everything, from being on call for our priests for any assignment they might need help with, to providing prayer for those in need, to donating our time and talents, to raising thousands of dollars for various charitable and worthwhile causes such as the pro-life movement, Catholic education and support of mentally handicapped, just to name a few.

Now, we are all aware that time is one of the most valuable commodities we have in life, and that there are many outside influences vying for the precious time that we have.

If you believe in the importance of investing your time in living your faith, supporting our Church, strengthening our families, building friendships and helping others, the Knights of Columbus is for you. In this ministry, there is a great sense of satisfaction in discovering the importance of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism based on a spiritual foundation.

I sincerely urge all men in this parish whose families are not involved in the Knights to consider joining our ranks. As a Knight in this new council, you'll be a part of history. By joining now, you will become a charter member with your names listed on the new council charter.

Several members of the Knights of Columbus from around the area are attending mass with you today. They will be available in the parish hall after mass to answer questions and accept applications for membership. I invite all men and their families to join us for food and fellowship. If you are unable to join us after the mass, check the bulletin for future meeting dates. We also will be handing out informational brochures as you leave the Church.

We welcome your interest and invite your participation and pray that you will say "YES" to an Experience of a Lifetime. Thank You and God Bless!

Good Evening

Thank you, Fr. Rooney, for allowing me to address your parish this evening about being a member of the Knights of Columbus. My name is Tony Hergott. I live in Columbus with my wife and our two youngest children where we attend St. Isidore Church and I am a charter member St. Isidore Council 12086. I also am your Knights of Columbus State Associate membership director for northern Nebraska. Being a Knight these past 11 years has truly been an **Experience of a lifetime!**

125 years ago, a Servant of God named Father Michael McGivney gathered a small group of Catholic laymen together in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT. They formed a fraternal group to provide financial aid to the widows of its members while offering fellowship among Catholic men. It was Father McGivney's dream to have a council serving every parish.

From these humble origins, the Knights of Columbus have grown into a fraternal order that serves the Church and community through our commitment to Charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. We currently have more than 1.7 million members in more than 13,000 councils that donate more than \$139 million and 64 million volunteer hours of service to charitable and Church causes annually. **That's what the Knights do!**

Being a member of the Knights is a family ministry in which you can experience growing in your faith and setting the example of service to the Church. We are ordinary men doing extraordinary things for our parishes, our families and our communities.

In my home council, a good friend of mine and brother Knight learned his wife had a rare heart disease and needed a heart transplant. Our council prayed for his family **because that's what the Knights do!** She received her new heart in the spring of 2007 and is doing well. After she came home, our council helped organize a benefit to help defray their medical expenses **because that's what Knights do.** The benefit raised several thousands of dollars and our council paid \$5 for every \$20 in donations made by my brother knights **because that's what Knights do!**

I have been blessed to have met a brother knight from Scottsbluff. His son who was also a knight was killed in Iraq. Jamie Wolf loved the Knights of Columbus and was instrumental in getting his dad to join. When Jamie was killed, they found in his possession the rosary he received when he joined the Knights and his membership card. That how proud he was of his faith and the Knights of Columbus. His father Bob and I are very close friends. He was humbled by the outpouring of love and support his family received from his brother Knights at his son's funeral. There were hundreds of Knights from all over Nebraska and surrounding states that came to the funeral **because that's what the Knight do!**

I could go on with similar stories forever, but you get the idea. The Knights of Columbus support our Church, and our faith by being on call for our priests for any assignment they might need help with, providing prayer for those in need, donating our time and talents, raising thousands of dollars for various charitable and worthwhile causes such as pro-life, Catholic education and support of our developmentally disabled neighbors.

If you believe it is important to live your faith, support our Church, strengthen our families, build friendships and help others, the Knights of Columbus is for you. In this ministry, there is a great sense of satisfaction in living the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism based on a spiritual foundation.

With Fr. Roony's blessing, we're starting a council right here in Shelby. I invite all men in this parish at least 17-1/2 years old to join our ranks. As a Knight in this new council, you'll make history. As a charter member, your name will be inscribed on the council charter along with the others who answered the call to serve in this vital and vibrant ministry.

Several members of the Knights of Columbus from around the area are attending mass with you. Bring your families and stop to talk with these men as you leave church. We are available to answer questions and accept membership forms. If you are unable to join us after this mass, watch for future meetings and take an informational brochure to read and a membership application to complete and return.

We welcome your interest, invite your participation and pray that you will say "YES" to this "Experience of a Lifetime." Thank You and God Bless!

Pulpit Speech April 5, 2008

Good Morning – My name is **John Wainscott, I am from Blessed Sacrament parish in Sandy** and I would like to take a few minutes of your time to talk about volunteer work. Have you been given a lot in your life? Do you have many people to thank? Would you like to give something back? Do you have a desire to assist the parish and others in need? Or you have taken on a lot and have a hard time fitting in another activity or finding time for your family and need some help?

Why do we attend Mass each Saturday or Sunday? There are many reasons. While obviously part of the Catholic teachings, it is far more than that. I need Father Ken or another Priest each week to remind me of what it means to be a Catholic. I need to be reminded with the homily and the readings on how to show our faith to others.

As baptized Catholics, all of us are called to take part in the service of the Church. That's a pretty large call to answer unless we have some sort of direction.

There are numerous groups in the Parish focused on specific areas. These organizations complement each other to make a strong and long lasting Parish. From the Catholic Education for adults and children, to the Catholic Women's Council, to the Knights of Columbus. Each of these areas and others give you a chance to give something back. Each of us need a support group to get us on a path and stay on that path. It is also too easy to say I helped as a volunteer once before. But the need does not go away.

It is a great joy to be a volunteer. The tremendous feeling each of us receives when that smile occurs on another person because of something you did – but did not have to do. When you can

personally touch another human being to have an affect on their life. Oh what fun it is. I know many of you here today have experienced that feeling.

So ultimately it is about helping each other. When Father Ken, the parish, or the community has a need – each of us must understand our role and how to help.

I have a solution. I am most proud to be a member of - The Knights of Columbus. We stand 2,700 members in our State and 1.7 million members strong internationally. Together with our families, we support our parishes and priests, the right of the unborn, vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and other worthy activities.

I am here this weekend to support **Grand Knight Marco** and the other Knights in the Ogden Council to present the message of what we Knights are all about. Each of the 12,000 Knights councils face challenges as does **Grand Knight Marco** where the needs far outweigh our resources to provide assistance. We need new ideas and fresh hands to do the work of God.

Each of us has been blessed with specific talents. If we band together, we can accomplish far more **than** as individuals acting alone. The Knights of Columbus work together as a family: member and spouse, sons and daughters, young and elder, all instilled with the spirit of our founder Father Michael J. McGivney to provide for those in need.

Fellow Catholics it is our spirit; it is our God given talents; it is our uncompromising dedication that can make a difference for our Church and for our community.

Stop and talk to one of the Knights in the back of Church after Mass. They have some literature and you can hear about some of the amazing success stories of what happens when we all work together as a team. An open house will be scheduled soon.

Thank You for your time.

Pulpit Speech November 2, 2008

Good Morning (Good Evening) – My name is **John Wainscott**, and I would like to take a few minutes of your time to talk about the Knights of Columbus and our current critical programs.

There are multiple parish organizations that work together at the Parish level from Catholic Education for adults and children, to the Council of Catholic Women, to the Knights of Columbus all complementing each other to make a strong and lasting Parish.

In a private audience with the Pope earlier this month, Pope Benedict the 16th told the Knight's of Columbus Board of Director's "I express my appreciation of your efforts to provide a solid formation in the faith for young people, and to defend the moral truths necessary for a free and humane society, including the fundamental right to life of every human being. With these sentiments, dear friends, I assure you of a special remembrance in my prayers. To all the Knights and their families, I cordially impart my apostolic blessing as a pledge of lasting joy and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wow. What a powerful message from the Pope not just to Knights but all of us as a family of God.

Pope Benedict's message to us is focused on strong families. But in a recent survey, 82% of adults in the United States think the moral fiber of our country is headed in the wrong direction. 82%. If the majority of us feel that way, why is it continuing to happen? It is hard for us to rally the troops as we are to geographically dispersed to be an effective voice. The US Conference of Catholic Bishops is certainly strong but what about the grass roots laity. Where is our voice? Where is our united call for Marriage

between a Man and a Women, a firm Pro-life stand, and support for solid marriages where personal interests come second.

The common voice is in the Knights of Columbus. Local Knights of Columbus members include Msgr. Bob, Deacon Russ, Deacon Marcel, Fr. Jim joined the Knights in Toledo, Bishop Wester. So why do Priests and Deacons join the order? You can ask them, but it is because the Knights are the unwavering lay organization in support of our Priests and religious and the teachings of the Catholic Church. We reach out to the needy, support Special Olympics, provide youth activities, provide monetary and encouragement to the diocesan seminarians. One Knights council provides teddy bears to the Salt Lake County police to give to children in difficult situations. The needs are almost endless and sadly we must prioritize our efforts based on the number of hands to help.

In the U.S., the Knights are currently working with the Bishops to fight ballot initiatives in California, Washington, Arizona, New Jersey, and Florida. With 1.75 million men and their families we are making a difference. But if we all believe in these core Catholic values, the order should be 5 million men and their families.

We must continue to teach our children and show by example the joy of strong Catholic families and the sanctity of life for our future generations. These are our beliefs; our standards; our morals.

Each of us has been blessed with specific talents. If we band together, we can accomplish far more **than** as individuals acting alone. The Knights of Columbus work together as a family: member and spouse, sons and daughters, young and elder, all

instilled with the spirit of our founder Father Michael J. McGivney to provide for those in need.

Come and join us! Please Stop by and talk to one of the Knights in the back of Church after Mass. An open house will be held Sunday November 16 at 7PM in the Parish Hall. Look for a flyer in the bulletin next weekend. All are welcome. Come and hear some of the amazing success stories of what happens when we all work together as a team.

Thank You for your time.