

WASHINGTON STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



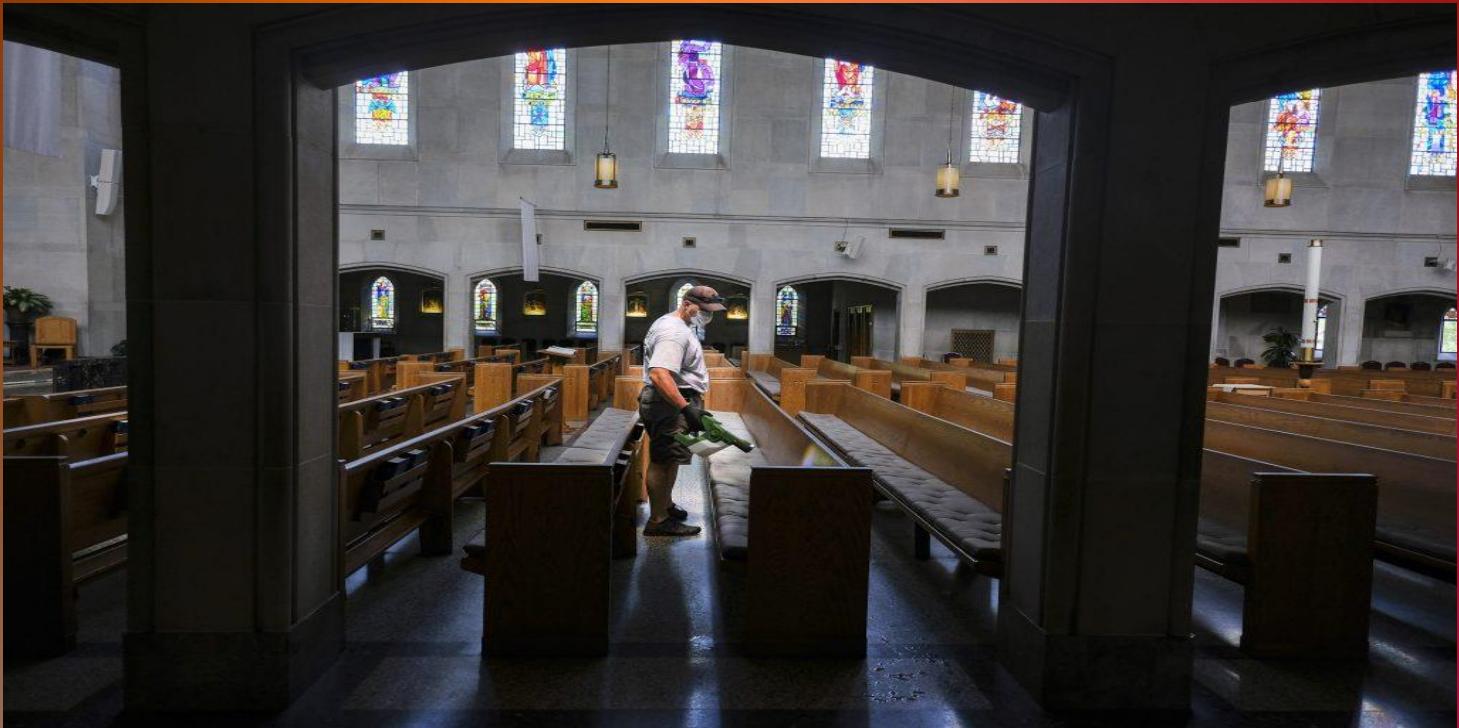
"THE SECOND EDITION"

JUNE 2020



WHEN YOU HAVEN'T GOT A PRAYER
LOOK TO THE KNIGHTS, YOU'VE GOT A PRAYER WITH US.

STEVE SNELL EDITOR 509.386.3462 ~ STEVESNELL@CHARTER.NET



Mike Decker of Nashville, Tenn., applies an electrostatic disinfectant at Christ the King Church May 15, 2020. (CNS photo/Rick Musacchio, Tennessee Register)

A blue-ribbon panel of Catholic doctors from some of the nation's top research hospitals and universities says churches should be able to reopen "as safely as other essential services," after being shut down for more than two months due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In a document published on the [Catholic Medical Association](#) website and sent out to the nation's bishops last week, the seven-member panel offered a "road map" for the nation's churches, including guidance on how to hear confessions and resume public celebrations of the Eucharist.

"I believe that churches can be just as safe, if not at times safer than so-called 'essential businesses,' provided they take the precautions that are recommended in this document," said Dr. Anushree Shirali, a nephrologist at the Yale University School of Medicine who has been treating coronavirus dialysis patients since the pandemic broke out in March.



C
A
T
H
O
L
I
C
D
O
C
T
O
R
S

B
E
L
I
E
V
E

C
H
U
R
C
H
E
S
C
A
N

O
P
E
N

S
A
F
E
L
Y

YESTERDAY & TODAY

(*The most powerful thing about time is that it changes*)

Well back in the day some hard breathers (*leaders*), in some crews, took on the task of motivating their members, to that end they were quoting from various committees they formed and those committees reported back that a bunch of the members surveyed were “actively disengaged”. So, upon hearing these results everyone saddled up and went running off to find ways to properly motivate these poor disaffected souls. As expected, the committees had all kinds of suggestions for the leadership to follow, in fact I am certain a whole industry could have been developed to address this problem. The costs (*time, effort and money*) of finding the right buttons to push for the unruly bunch who just could not find meaning in their current environment, was staggering but of course was paid because they were members of a sensitive and caring culture open to everyone’s incompetence and lack of motivation. I think this problem will go on or even grow if we continue to give the disengaged more attention than the active membership who rarely find themselves “actively disengaged”. Not to be overly harsh and insensitive (*the cruellest of all traits*), but what about something for the silent warriors and their families who day in and day out bust their butt (*derriere for my sophisticated friends*) for the good of all.

TODAY:

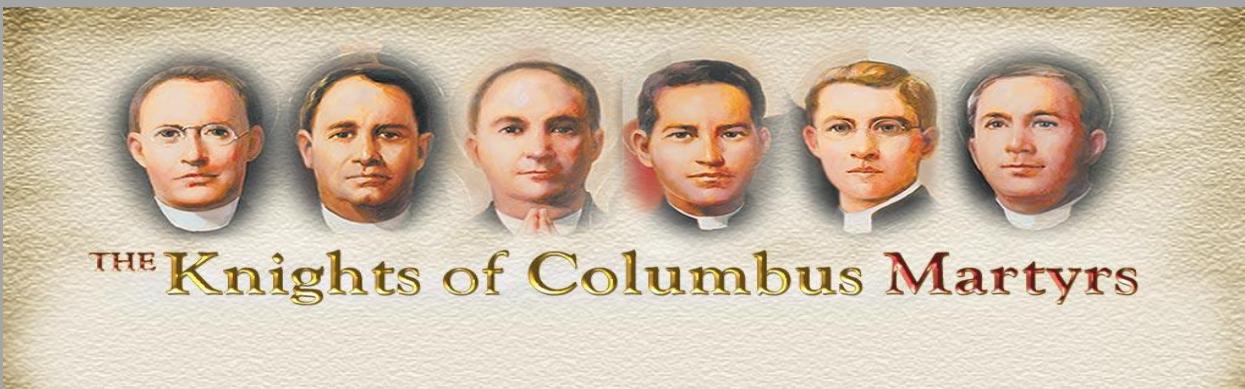
These “silent warriors”, these quiet, unassuming men are the backbone of our Order and our Nation. My hats off to the men in the trenches who daily provide leadership by example and inspiration to the men of their councils and communities. These are the real leaders, the dedicated leaders who sit up until 1:00am filling out the reports and praying for guidance. It is men of this caliber that our innovations and future success will come from. These are the men that you can count on in challenges to pull Excalibur from the stone.

The most important thing is passion. You can offer someone a mission. If that person does not accept it, well then, my friend you are up a creek without an Evinrude or even a paddle. The between the lines passion that the person has for their faith is the most important thing. These are your “actively engaged” helping hands to the born and unborn, the calloused work worn hands that pray, are the same ones that keep Father McGivney’s dream alive. Hold them close they are the flames, the dream makers, and the guardians of our values.

THEY MAKE DREAMS POSSIBLE AND THE UNBELIEVABLE BELIEVABLE

B
Y
S
T
E
V
E
S
N
E
L
L

K
N
I
G
H
T
S
C
A
N
P
U
L
T
H
E
S
W
O
R
D
F
R
O
M
T
H
E
S
T
O
N
E



Prayer to the Knights of Columbus Priest Martyrs of Mexico; Almighty and Eternal God, the martyrdom of St. Mateo Correa Magallanes and his priestly companions manifests your love for the nation of Our Lady of Guadalupe and reveals that violence and hatred are only overcome by a spirit of peace and charity. These brother Knights live on in our minds and hearts because by sacrificing their lives for the sake of the Gospel they gave witness that your love is eternal, and your truth can never accept compromise. Let their faithful cry to Christ the King encourage us to be brave witnesses of faith and to remain loyal Knights of Columbus. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CARES ACT lets you skip your 2020 distribution

Did you know that you can waive your 2020 required minimum distributions (RMDs)?

As a result of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that was enacted in March?

The RMD waiver was intended to help investors conserve their retirement assets in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic and the associated market volatility. However, we recognize that many clients rely on RMDs to meet their spending needs. If you have not taken your 2020 RMD, you can either skip it or proceed with distribution(s) to satisfy your personal circumstances. This applies to people with IRA'S, 401K'S and rollover from employee accounts when retiring.

INFORMATION FROM

GEOERGE H. CNEWROWKA

DECades of Memories

1958 COST OF LIVING	
<u>LIVING</u>	
New House	\$11,975.00
Average Income	\$4,650.00 per year
New Car	\$2,155.00
Average Rent	\$95.00 per month
Tuition to Harvard University	\$1,000.00 per year
Movie Ticket	\$1.00 each
Gasoline	24¢ per gallon
United States Postage Stamp	4¢ each
<u>FOOD</u>	
Granulated Sugar	89¢ for 10 pounds
Vitamin D Milk	\$1.01 per gallon
Ground Coffee	93¢ per pound
Bacon	62¢ per pound
Eggs	28¢ per dozen
Fresh Ground Hamburger	57¢ per pound
Fresh Baked Bread	19¢ per loaf



Tips for Working from Home

Lately many of us have found ourselves Working from home. Here are some practical tips we have learned along the way.

CREDIT KOFC ORG

1) Schedules still matter.

Sure, you are not in the office anymore and things are a bit looser. Working from home seems liberating. But if you do not have a set schedule for when you are going to be virtually “at work” and when you’re going to be at home, your productivity — and maybe even your sanity — will suffer.

2) Have a workspace.

You should have a dedicated corner of your house where you “go to work.” Couches are comfy, but the more casual you make your work from home environment, the more casual your work will be.

3) Test everything.

Zoom. Skype. Microsoft Teams. Webcams. The strength of your WIFI signal. The quality of your audio. These things are new to many of us. Make sure you test any new software before you must use it. If someone invites you to a meeting on GoToMeeting, test it the day before the meeting, itself. Do not contribute to the dreaded 10 minutes of “Mike, Mike, you’ve got to unmute your mic!” that seem to start a lot of meetings.

4) Check your background.

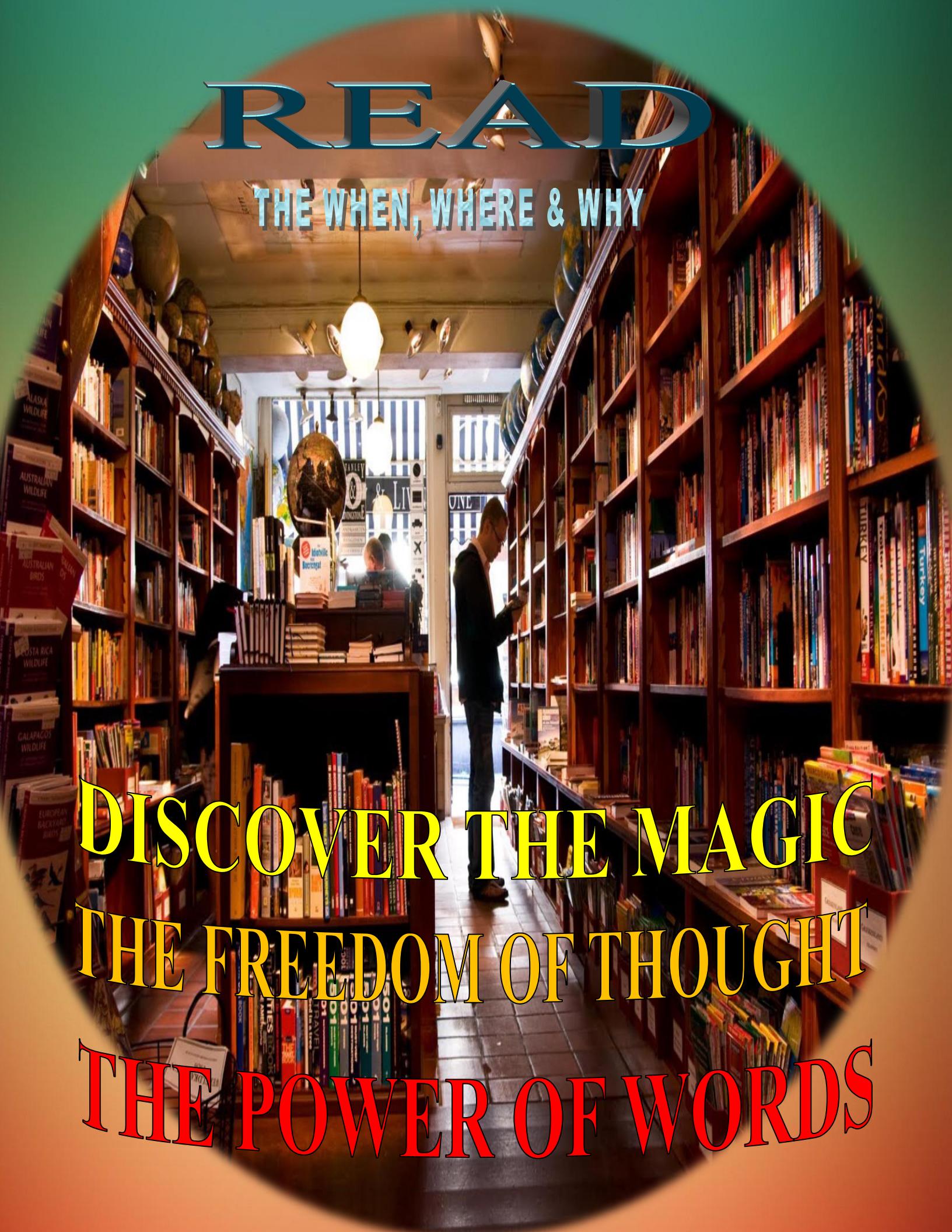
You want to maintain a professional background, so test your surroundings, your lighting and the angle of your camera to make sure you’re projecting the kind of professional image that you want your colleagues to see.

5) Take advantage!

As tragic as this pandemic is, we can find joy in the fact that we get to spend more time with our families. Have lunch with your kids. Play with them outside during your break. Keep your family happy and yourself healthy.

Above all else, stay safe, healthy, and productive.

READ



THE WHEN, WHERE & WHY

**DISCOVER THE MAGIC
THE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT
THE POWER OF WORDS**

WASHINGTON STATE BISHOPS ON CHURCH REOPENINGS

May 22, 2020



Washington State
Catholic Conference

In response to President Trump's statement today regarding church reopenings, the Bishops of Washington would like to provide a unified response. We want to let you know that the public celebration of Mass was suspended, not out of fear, but out of our deepest respect for human life and health. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be instruments of God's protection for the vulnerable and the public common good. Our love of God and neighbor is always personal and not partisan. While we share the desire to bring people back to Mass as quickly as possible, we will wait to schedule our public worship when it is safe and we are prepared to do so.

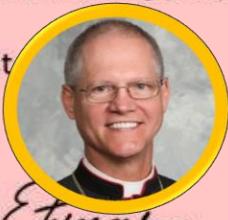
The bishops across the state are working through the Washington State Catholic Conference to engage the Governor on a plan and schedule for safely gathering. Based on expert guidance from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Thomistic Institute and public health experts, we created practical guidelines outlining how we can safely return to public worship, while ensuring reverence and respect for the Sacred Liturgy of the Mass. It is our understanding that these are in review with the Governor's office now. We look forward to his rapid response.

At the same time, we are now preparing parishes across the state for re-opening. Parishes must create an environment that is not only safe, but is liturgically reverent. Right now, we do not have a date or determination of size for Mass gatherings.

It is our hope that our right to responsibly and safely gather for worship will soon be honored so we can collaborate in a manner that respects both our Catholic tradition as well as our civic responsibilities. We eagerly await the Governor's response to our suggestions on this so we can proceed together with our re-opening plans.

We look forward to welcoming people back into our parishes.

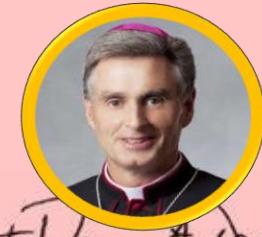
In the heart of Christ



+Paul D. Etienne
Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne
Archbishop of Seattle



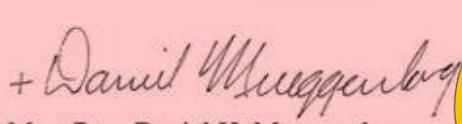
+Joseph J. Tyson
Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima



+Thomas A. Daly
Most Rev. Thomas A. Daly
Bishop of Spokane



+Eusebio Elizondo
Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle



+Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Most Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle





Greetings Worthy Brothers KonB,

Well if you have been following the national and state news sounds like we are just days away from returning to the Big House....our one Holy Catholic and apostolic Church. I am so ready, for me every year from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday is always a stressful, depressing, lonely, a gloomy time.....I don't know why but this year being banned from the most important place in my life was at times over whelming and it will be good to be home.

WA KONB HOWEVER HAS NOT BEEN GLOOMY; IN FACT, WE ARE ON A ROLL AND I NEED TO SHARE SOME NEWS:

1) Under the advice and direction of our Dioceses of Spokane President Brother Anthony Curran we have created a new position...WA KonB Media Director and with the blessing of our Pacific Zone V/P and state officers we have appointed WA KonB Brother Jim "Rhino" Reincke (Jim is also the Council Captain of council #4196)....again thanks Brother "Rhino". Washington State currently has three primary social media outlets that we share news and information with....one is the Washington State Knights of Columbus state web site under the Family tab and two, our WA KonB Facebook page. Brother "Rhino" has analyzed what we have out there and has suggested some needed updates. Starting with the FB page first we will be posting new pictures, having said we are looking for recent/current KonB KofC knights in action.....if you have a



picture wearing your vest please sent it to Jim. We are also working on a design idea for the main profile picture.... Jim have already made a temporary change. If you have not joined the WA KonB FB group, please do so ASAP Jim is posting tons of good need to know KonB information and will be doing much more.

Our State KofC web site Family Page will be also be changed and updated much the same..... KonB new member inquiries will be directed to that page where we at some point we hope to have a fillable membership application, KonB national by-laws link and a link to the KonB International page where our National Advocate Jesus Chavis is doing a great job. If you visit that site and go to the blog page you will see a post sharing our recent 8th year anniversary....now that's cool news about Washington State KonB on the International site. We have come a long way bros. TFMM

And our third media outlet is our good friend and fraternal Brother Steve Snell. Steve always posts our Knights on Bikes newsletters and pictures..... many times, I have received Kudos from brothers who tell me they read something about KonB in the Second Edition. Continued KonB prayers your way brother Steve you do an outstanding job for us.

2) The 5th SE Washington Bike Bless will soon be a reality...as soon as we get that date figured out, I will make a share. The earlier plan was to have it on the new paved parking lot at the Columbian Club in Richland.

3) WA KonB State Warden big Tom Smith "Rock" has been communicating with a local Priest about filling the current vacant position as our state KonB Chaplin.....perhaps Father will offer this year's blessing?

4) So far, our three-local big KonB events have been canceled....Cool Desert Nights, Hogs and Dogs, and the Veterans Day Parade. Also postponed is the Combat Veterans International Chapter #3 raffle bike drawing.....that will all happen in 2021. If you have bought tickets, I will send replacements with the same number but read 2021.

All for now...God Bless

TFMM

Bruce Hines "Blanco"

WA Knights on Bikes Director/President





**R
E
M
E
M
B
E
R
I
N
G

T
H
E

P
R
I
C
E**

MAY 7, 1945 OKINAWA. One of the most heartbreaking photos from the Second World War shows **US Marine Colonel Francis Fenton** (*pictured kneeling*) conducting the funeral of his son **Private First-Class Mike Fenton**, near Shuri, Okinawa, May 1945. Father and son met once during the fighting when their paths crossed at a partially destroyed Okinawan farmhouse. After exchanging news, the two family members returned to their work. They would never talk again. On May 7, 1945, while beating back a Japanese counterattack the younger Fenton, 19, was killed.

**P
A
I
D

B
Y

S
O
M
E**

When his father received the bitter news, he traveled to the site of his son's death and knelt to pray over the flag-draped body. Upon arising, Colonel Fenton stared at the bodies of other Marine dead and said: "Those poor souls. They didn't have their fathers here".



COUNCIL 16667 HOLY CROSS TACOMA

It is no coincidence that God would provide the miraculous healing of an Unborn Child to forward the cause to Sainthood of the founder of the organization that has done more than any other to advance the Pro-Life movement in the U.S. NOTE: OUR FOUNDER TO BE BEATIFIED.

DECREES OF THE CONGREGATION FOR THE CAUSES OF SAINTS

On May 26, 2020, the Holy Father Francis received in audience His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. During the audience, the Supreme Pontiff authorized the same Congregation to promulgate the Decrees regarding:

[...] the miracle, attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Michael McGivney, Diocesan Priest, Founder of the Order of the Knights of Columbus; born on August 12, 1852 in Waterbury (United States of America) and died in Thomaston (United States of America) on August 14, 1890; Venerable Michael McGivney was the founder of the Knights of Columbus, now the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization. After studies in Canada and the United States, he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop James Gibbons in Baltimore. He founded the Knights of Columbus as a mutual aid society, geared especially to working men and their families. He was known for his tireless work among his parishioners. He died at the early age of 38 from pneumonia.

I would ask each brother Knight to learn more about our founder at the newly updated Father McGivney Guild website where the Order will also regularly post news and updates related to the beatification.

Sincerely, Carl A. Anderson Supreme Knight



"Let us not seek the
Republican answer or the
Democratic answer, but
the right answer. Let us
not seek to fix the
blame for the past. Let
us accept our own
responsibility for the
future."

- John F. Kennedy



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHEDRAL



Happy Priestly Anniversary, Fathers!

Today, our rector, Fr. Darrin Connall and Msgr. Bob Pearson, senior priest in residence, celebrate their anniversaries of ordination to the priesthood. In this photo they are pictured after concelebrating today's noon Mass. Fr. Connall has been a priest for 28 years and Msgr. Pearson for 55!

They share a long history. Msgr. Pearson taught Fr. Connall how to be an altar server at St. Anthony Parish in Spokane. Later in Fr. Conall's youth, they were in the same parish again when his family moved out to Spokane Valley and Msgr. Pearson eventually became the pastor of St. Mary Parish. Msgr. Pearson has been an important influence and mentor for Fr. Connall in his pursuit of his own priestly vocation. It is perhaps fitting that Msgr. Pearson now enjoys his "retirement" at the Cathedral.



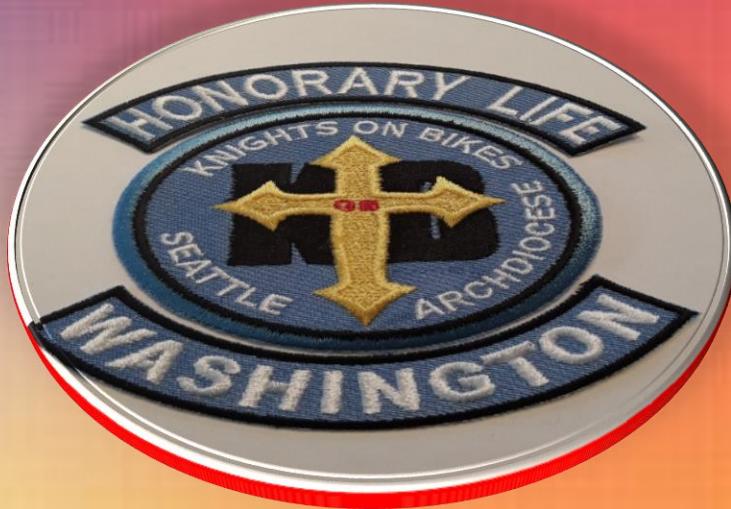
**G
E
O
R
G
E

D
I
L
L
O
O

H
O
N
O
R
A
R
Y

L
I
F
E

M
E
M
B
E
R**



Again, greetings Worthy WA KonB Brothers,

Today I am proud to present one of our most dedicated and long term KonB members SK **George Dilloo council #8136 of Bellevue Washington** with a special title. George and his wife Erin attend Sacred Heart parish and are active in many ministries....a true Catholic Gentleman.

I also share a personal reflection.....brother George always replies with pat on the back kudos to every newsletter I post, in fact his replies and support has played a big part of my personal journey of faith and my KonB ministry.....Love ya brother.

WA KonB brother George today I am truly honored to present you with our states most honored KonB title as Honorary Life Member our states first.....Crests are in the mail.

"In God We Trust and Ride"

Vivat Jesus Bro!

TFMM

WA Knights on Bikes Director/Pres.

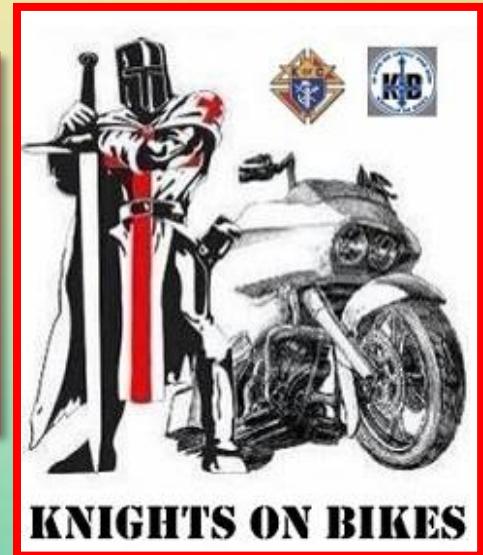
Bruce Hines "Blanco"

509-727-8251

rodlink@charter.net

"IN GOD WE TRUST, AND RIDE"

"Vivat Christo Rey"



COUNCIL NEWS

R. I. P.



CURT & MARY

**P
A
U
L
S
B
O
C
O
U
N
C
I
L
8
2
9
7**

I am sorry to share the sad news that Curt Brown of Council 8297 in Poulsbo died at his home. Brother Curt was a long-time and valued member of our council, always making positive contributions, most recently as buyer of supplies in support of our Council's monthly pancake breakfasts. For those who might not have known him, Curt and his wife, Mary, are long-time parishioners. Curt also served with the St. Vincent de Paul Society for many years. Curt served as president of St. Vincent's for many years and will be remembered for the passion and care he had for those in need. He was instrumental in the organization of Simon's Place, a parish home for homeless families.

We remember, Mary, their children and grandchildren in our thoughts and prayers

Funeral arrangements are forthcoming when we can have large funeral celebrations.

Our condolences... Council 8297 and the St. Olaf Parish



**P
A
U
L
S
B
O
'S
S
T.
O
L
A
F
P
A
R
I
S
H**

**S
U
B
M
I
T
T
E
D
B
Y
L
A
R
R
Y
D
E
V
L
I
N**



Brothers,

Thanks to the Tootsie Roll Program success, we are the proud sponsors of the Community Champion Award. Last year we won our own award because of all the hard work our members do around the State.

Darren Johnson, our Special Olympics Chairman, does a fantastic job of coordinating and managing this worthy program. Because of this effort, we are now the Silver level donor for Special Olympics Washington and receive advertisement on all events and functions throughout the year. Because of your efforts in the Tootsie Roll Program, our State through Columbus Charities, was able to donate \$25,000 this year. That does not count the funds donated by individual councils mainly generated from the Tootsie Roll Program. All total, our State has donated to Special Olympics 2019-2020 over \$66,000. Great job guys.

Here is a link to the virtual Community Champion Award presentation by Darren Johnson.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukPXhJTcaNs&feature=youtu.be>

Please look at this video. It is impressive.

Fraternally,
Kim Washburn-State Secretary



FOOD FOR FAMILIES



"HEY BROTHERS"

Love is not what you say. Love is what you do.



BREAKING NEWS: The Federal Bureau of Emotional Sensitivity has just unveiled its first fully approved public statue. The un-sculpted, un-engraved, un-dedicated plain marble block called "Memorial to Everything & Anything" immediately sparked a protest from groups of people that hate everything and anything demanding its removal.



JEWISH HUMOR

A little Jewish boy was telling his mother about how he had won a part in a play that was being done at school.

His mother asked, "What is the part you will play, Saul?" Saul responded, "I shall play the Jewish husband," to which the mother replied, "Well, you go right back to that teacher and tell her that you want a SPEAKING part!"

"Congratulations, Shlomo," said the groom's uncle. "I'm sure you'll look back on this day and remember it as the happiest day of your life." "But I'm not getting married until tomorrow," replied Moshe. "I know," replied his uncle.

In London, the husband of an old Jewish lady died after a long marriage, so she goes to the office of the Jewish Chronicle to post a death notice. She says to the girl "Please put - Mrs. Dolly Goldberg wishes to announce the death of her husband after 60 years of marriage". The girl counts the words and says, "You know for the same money you can have three more words". Mrs. Goldberg says "OK, put -Volvo for sale".

An elderly Jewish woman takes her grandson to the beach, while he is playing in the surf, he is swept away by a giant wave. The grandmother screams frantically for help and a team of lifeguards scour the ocean and finally retrieve the young boy's body. After exhaustive CPR, the boy finally comes to and the crowd cheers with delight. The grandmother looks at the head lifeguard and says "He had a hat.

David goes to Dr Schwartz. Doctor I have got this skin disease on my Schenkel and when I pee it comes out all these holes. It is terrible it goes everywhere like a shower. The doctor says, you live next to that man MacDonald, the guy from Scotland who plays the bagpipes for the NYPD Police band. David says, Yes, I do, does he have a cure? No says Doctor Schwartz, but he will show you how to hold it.

H
U
M
O
R
~
A
N

A
N
T
I
D
O
T
E

F
O
R
S
T
R
E
S
S

H
U
M
O
R

C
A
N

B
E

A
B
R
I
D
G
E

B
E
T
W
E
N

R
E
L
I
G
I
O
N
S

COUNCIL 11789 IN BREMERTON

KNIGHTS; GIANTS AMONG US

Council 11789 in Bremerton lead yet another extraordinarily successful Food for Families food drive, garnering an estimated 6,000 lbs. of food! This is their third drive, and each have been between 3 and 4 tons of food. What a tremendous effort!

Council 8297 in Poulsbo chipped in for 500 lbs. for this drive on short notice.

WELL DONE TO ALL!



SUBMITTED BY LARRY DEVLIN

**Teach
them about
Jesus.
They're going
to need Him!**

I John 3:18

THE VANDALIZED 54TH MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT MEMORIAL



THE 54TH MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT



If I could save the Union without
freeing any slave, I would do it.

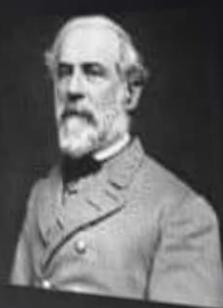
- Abraham Lincoln

AZ QUOTES

Robert E. Lee



There is a terrible war coming,
and these young men who have
never seen war cannot wait for
it to happen, but I tell you, I
wish that I owned every slave in
the South, for I would free them
all to avoid this war.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL
TOGETHER WE CHANGE LIVES & SAVE LIVES!

**C
O
N
G
R
A
T
U
L
A
T
I
O
N
S
B
R
O
T
H
E
R
J
M
R
E
I
N
C
K
E**

Happy Day, Friends!
Thanks to the graciousness of Knights on Bikes WA State President Worthy Brother Blanco (Bruce Hines), and a vote of confidence from KonB WA President of Diocese (Spokane) Worthy Brother Seamus (Anthony Curran), I received my vest today AND was surprised with the patch of "Diocese Vice President" for Spokane! I will work to serve with honor!



Knights On Bikes Washington is a recognized group attached to the Knights of Columbus through the Catholic Church. With 4,000 members nationwide, we are working to build even more charitable works in our neck o' the woods.



GREAT SAINTS



BY KARL HADLEY PSD, FMFD, FVSM

Kyle and I went on a pilgrimage in September 2019 to visit Abbeys and Great Women Saints of France. See if you can identify where we went in this monthly quiz:

MONTHLY QUIZ

According to tradition, in 709 St. Michael the Archangel appeared to the bishop of Avranches, St. Aubert, and told him to build a chapel in his honor on an island. Saint Michael had to appear to him at least two more times before he took the vision seriously. On the third occasion, it is said that Saint Michael drove his finger into Aubert's skull and ordered him once again to complete the task. The bishop finally obeyed and within a short time he sent a group of monks over to live on the island. In 966 AD, a community of Benedictine monks replaced the former monks and began construction of an abbey on the island. To accommodate the increasing number of pilgrims, the monks expanded the abbey. In the eleventh century, a large church was built on the summit of the rock, and later additions were made in the Gothic style.

WHERE IS THIS?

Mont St. Michel in Normandy, France.

Did you know that a mysterious Sword of St. Michael is a straight line across Europe of churches and shrines dedicated to the archangel?

Skellig Michael, an island of the coast of Ireland, settled by Celtic monks.

1. Saint Michael's Mount, an island off the coast of Cornwall, England.
2. Mont Saint Michel, an island off the coast of Normandy, France.
3. Sacra di San Michele, an abbey built on top of Mount Pirchiriano, Italy.
4. Sanctuary of Monte Sant'Angelo sul Gargano, on top of another mountain in Italy.
5. Monastery of the Taxiarchis, Symi Island, Greece.
6. Stella Maris Monastery, Mount Carmel, Israel.

Most of the sites claim an apparition from St. Michael. St. Patrick saw St. Michael over the island of Skellig Michael as he was exorcizing Ireland. The Archangel appeared before local fishermen on Saint Michael's Mount in the 5th century AD. Sacra di San Michele was built at the request of the Archangel in 983, appearing to the hermit St. Giovanni Vincenzo. He appeared at Monte San Angelo in 490 and 663. Taxiarchis is home to a miraculous icon of Michael, which is said to have protected the monastery from Muslim invasion (with the archangel even appearing before the enemy). Mt. Carmel was a place of spiritual battle where Elijah slew the prophets of Baal. One Ukrainian folk legend claims that St. Michael gave Elijah the thunder he took away from Satan.

**Newsletter of Bishop Charles D. White Assembly 1539,
Chartered May 30, 1908June 2020 [Vol. 4, No. 6]**

Faithful Navigator: Christopher Bettman

FEAST OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST: John the Baptist spent his adult life preparing the way for Jesus and proclaiming that “the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.”. He was born to Zachary and Elizabeth, an elderly married couple. The Angel Gabriel had visited Zachary and told him that his wife would bear a child, even though she was already past the child-bearing age. Elizabeth was Mary’s cousin and Zachary was a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem. As a baby in the womb, John recognized Jesus’ presence in Mary’s womb when Mary visited Elizabeth soon after the Annunciation. Both women were pregnant at the same time. John was probably born at Ain-Karim, which is southwest of Jerusalem. As a young adult, he lived as a hermit in the desert of Judea until about A.D. 27. When he was 30, he began to preach on the banks of the Jordan, calling for repentance and baptizing people in the river waters. When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John recognized Jesus as the Messiah and baptized Him, saying: “It is I who need baptism from you.” John continued to preach after Jesus was baptized, but was imprisoned not long after by Herod Antipas, after he denounced the king’s adulterous marriage with Herodias, wife of his half-brother Philip. John was beheaded at the request of Salome, daughter of Herodias. He is the patron of tailors, lambs, converts, farriers, baptism, and monastic life. He was a prophet & cousin to Jesus. St. John the Baptist's feast day is August 29th.

THE CATHOLIC COMPANY



HOLDING HIS HAND

"A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside. 'Your son is here,' she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened.

Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement.

The nurse brought a chair so that the Marine could sit beside the bed. All through the night the young Marine sat there in the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand, and offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally, the nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest awhile. He refused.

Along towards dawn, the old man died. The Marine released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did what she had to do, he waited.



Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the Marine interrupted her, 'Who was that man?' he asked.

The nurse was startled, 'He was your father,' she answered.

'No, he wasn't,' the Marine replied. 'I never saw him before in my life.'

'Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?'

Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital – the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the other patients. Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

'I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized that he was too sick to tell whether I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed. I came here tonight to find a Mr. William Grey. His Son was killed in Iraq today, and I was sent to inform him. What was this gentleman's name?'

**The nurse with tears in her eyes answered,
'Mr. William Grey...'"**



SEE YOU NEXT MONTH

