

New officers invested during K of C summer meeting

By Alex Paul

State Publicity Chairman

PORTLAND — Incoming Oregon State Knights of Columbus officers were officially invested into their new offices during the fraternal organization's annual summer organizational meeting June 23-25 at the National Sanctuary of our Sorrowful Mother (The Grotto).

The new officers were elected by their fellow Knights at the annual state convention held in April in Hermiston.

Officers include: Kenneth Anderson, State Deputy; Robert Adams, State Secretary; Michael Pranger, State Treasurer; Christopher Cummings, State Advocate; David Judy, State Warden; and Ray Prom, Immediate Past State Deputy.

Also invested were District Deputies.

Anderson, 29, lives in Tigard and has been a Knight for nine years. He is an Oregon State University graduate.

This year's theme is "Become who you were born to be."

Anderson outlined his goals for the coming year. They include:

- Making the world a better place and helping Knights become better men. "There is a need for a beacon of light that men can turn to for support," Anderson said. "As Catholics, the world is becoming increasingly secular and bad influences are becoming more prevalent. This is where the Knights of Columbus can provide that beacon for men seeking to lead their family in a Christ-like way."
- Promote more family activities. "It is our goal to invite families to as many events as possible in order to foster good family values, encourage men to spend quality time with their families, offer men the opportunity to bring their family to good and wholesome events that will have a positive influence on his family and be a public witness to the world," Anderson said.
- Continue to increase membership in the Knights of Columbus. "We are at 9,400 members strong," Anderson said. "Imagine what we can do with 10,000 strong. We want to invite men to join the order to help them become better men, better family men. The more men who join the Knights, the more good we can do."

Participants attended numerous training sessions, especially on the importance of recruiting new members. State Advocate Chris Cummings said 400 men joined Oregon's ranks in the last year.

Past State Deputy Ray Prom walked participants through the new COR program that will be implemented statewide. "The Supreme Council is rolling out a COR initiative that is currently in the pilot stage," Anderson said. "Upon submission of the Oregon Knights of Columbus for consideration in the pilot stage, Oregon was selected to participate. Cor is Latin for heart. It is named such so that men can get their very heart right. If they can embrace a life of Catholic virtue and Knighthood to the very depths of their heart, it will be an inspiration to live a better life and make the world a better place."

Anderson said COR will involve a monthly gathering, open to all men, where they can pray together and participate in "good, dignified Catholic fraternity."

Other topics included the Faith in Action program, new council development, young adult goals, Hispanic and college goals, the Safe Environment program, the importance of submitting forms on time and navigating on-line forms and submissions.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic fraternal service organization, founded in 1882 by Rev. Father Michael J. McGivney primarily to assist widows and orphans. Its guiding principles are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

There are more than 1.7 million Knights in more than 14,000 councils worldwide. Last year, Knights donated more than \$200 million to charitable causes and devoted more than 100 million volunteer hours to their parishes and communities.



