Hi Steve,

As promised, here is the chronology of what has transpired since my PSA blood test insistence June 24th. There is an initial letter I put out to several guys, then two updates. I know it is a lot of reading, but I want every man to know this information. It is essential even in General Inslee’s eye.

For ten years, I have wanted a PSA, but was discouraged. It used to be a regular test for any male physical, but they stopped that several years ago for reasons that are attached.

Brother Michael Rutland mentioned us praying to Fr. Michael McGivney for an intercession. That is something maybe we should push throughout WA State Order. I need the intercession help, and it would not hurt getting Fr. McGivney one step closer to sainthood. It is just a thought, but I am doing it.

Thanks,
State Secretary-Kim Washburn  
Prostate Cancer  
July 9, 2020

Hello brothers,

A few of you know I have been going through testing, as recent as a biopsy of the prostate last Thursday July 2nd. Yesterday, Barbara and I received the results from that biopsy. Some of you know of my insistence over the past two weeks for all men to get a PSA and start tracking numbers to see where your normal is. PSA's are NOT a determination of prostate cancer, but only numbers specific to you. Your normal number may be above the normal PSA range, but it is a number to watch over a period. Insurance companies have discouraged PSA testing for the very reason of false positives, but they are not you. It is your body. I was discouraged from getting a PSA for the past 4+ months because I appear to be healthy, and other than high blood pressure and a controlled brain tumor, I am healthy. However, I knew something was not right down there. It was at my annual wellness check two weeks ago that I insisted they throw in a PSA, again receiving resistance. Just throw in a PSA test along with your normal annual blood test and I will leave it at that.

Prostate cancer is a broad term. It is characterized by a Gleason number. Gleason rates are all your blood and biopsy information to give a few the stage of cancer you might be in. Out of all the data gathering Gleason becomes a factor with a reading of 6.5 on a 1-10 range. Then they move on to other determining factors. That is where your PSA number comes into play. Therefore, I say a track record is important because that is what can raise the red flag to get a biopsy which is the only way to get a Gleason number for further research. My Gleason is 10.

A normal PSA number (remember PSA's are different for every man) ranges from 0-4, however your normal maybe something higher than that. Your normal maybe 10, and that is ok if it remains within that range. I know, it is confusing. Anyway, my PSA is almost 24. That number then supports the finding of Gleason as to what stage the cancer is in and the following criteria.
The third criteria are the saturation of cancer cells in the biopsy. The prostate is a heart shaped organ where the urinary tract runs from the bladder to the penis. On that heart shape, there are two large sections (around 10-12cm per side) that make up the heart shape. In a biopsy, they take samples, six per side or twelve. In my case, they took 13 because of a nodule. In those 13 samples, they test for cancer cells and saturation (not thinking of a better term). 3 of my 13 had cancer cells and the saturation was 40% in 1 and 70% in the other 2. This put me in the middle to high end of the spectrum. If you just have one sample with a 10% cancer cell saturation, you have cancer.

Next is, do you have a nodule? There are three levels of seriousness that are a part of the stage determination. If the nodule is inside the prostate, then you are on the lower end of severity and will likely be localized. Nodule protruding is middle, which is where I am. Nodule wrapped around the prostate is the most severe.

At this point, my prostate is advanced and aggressive. The next phase of testing will determine what course of action to take. Since the nodule I have is outside of the prostate, has it spread? This is where my mind was wandering into proactive life scenarios, so my remembrance is not as accurate. The way I understand it, a CT scan of the pelvis and abdomen will see if the lymph nodes (the vast information center for immune detection system) have any cancer cells. If they do, then it has traveled to the network of lymph nodes. Next, is it in the bone structure from those lymph nodes?

Each one of these present a different scenario of treatment. I'll use an example. If you can imagine the prostate being a beehive. If all the bees (cancer cells) are in the hive (as in a cool night), you take the hive and hope none of them escape. If it is daylight and warm, not all the bees are in the hive. You take the hive, but it does not make much difference. If the bees go to create another hive (I know the queen enters the picture, but this is just my way of creating a simpler picture in my head), now you deal with how many hives and so on.
If you take the hive in the night, there still might be a microscopic bee left, but that cannot be determined until prostate surgery.

I know you maybe growing tired of reading and have other things to do. Here it is in a nutshell (yes, they are affected too).

If prostate cancer is localized in the prostate (bees in the hive) removal or treatment is imperative. In that scenario, the surgeon would determine if microscopic cancer cells are outside the prostate which cannot be determined without surgery. Now we go back to the PSA number. With removal of the prostate, PSA should be zero. That's why guys continue testing after prostate surgery, because any number above zero might mean a small bee or two were outside the hive.

Next, if the lymph nodes have cancer cells, bodily treatment would be the order and may not involve prostrate removal. All depends how the victim wants to proceed.

Next, if the cancer is metastasized somewhere in the bone structure, then prostrate would not be removed and treatment for length of life would be the order. Right now, we are in the prostate removal mode. Radical, but not like the other scenarios.

Testosterone is the culprit in all of this. Without Testosterone, guys would not get cancer. They probably would not have children either since the prostate ushers the sperm.... blah, blah. With any scenario, testosterone must be taken out of the picture whether through hormone treatment or physical castration.

You hear of testosterone supplements, not only for virility, but many other benefits to the body. Do not do it. Remember testosterone is the culprit. An immediate erectile dysfunction over a two-week period is why I wanted a PSA from the beginning. I tried an over the counter testosterone supplement from Costco to see if it would make a difference for two months. It did not but might have accelerated. Who knows, but the supplement is not what brought me to this point. Just an FYI.
At this point, let this all settle in for me. No phone calls (unless other business concerns), just encouraging email messages would be great, except Fr. Miguel and Fr. Kenny. In this Covid 19 environment, can you call at your convenience?

My mind is in the low part of the valley, but being positive, continuing to exercise, remaining health and active are the order of the day. just an FYI, stay away from processed food. I know it is hard, but it will help as this country has the highest rate of prostate cancer in the world. We also consume the highest rate per capita of processed food in the world. When you go into the grocery store, think of the outer rim. As much as you can, stay away from the center of the store. That is where the processed food is. Ice cream is in the center, but it might be looking at the outer rim.... I was not a believer in organic before, but it follows the least amount of process for food intake. Might consider it.

As my dear friend Jeff told me last night (and everyone on this email list knows), God is the first remedy/treatment, the rest follows with his guidance. That will lead me to the top of the mountain regardless of what happens. Yes...pray, regardless of who or what it is for.

I will update you all after each step, but it will not be this long of a message, I promise. I am very fond of bees and fascinated by them (not the cancer ones), so that example will likely continue. The doctor is seeking insurance approval, and then the CT scan is next.

State Officers, closeouts for June are coming. Greg has his part and I will have mine before the deadline.

Fraternally, Kim Washburn

Washington State Jurisdiction

-State Secretary
State Secretary-Kim Washburn
Prostate Cancer update
July 21, 2020
Hello brothers,

It has been a busy week, appointments, CT Scan Monday, bone Scan Thursday, results appointment Monday 20th and a second opinion today (Tuesday 21st).

We had some good news, though it is guarded, the CT scan showed the lymph nodes free of cancer cells. That does not mean there are not microbial size cancer cells (bees out of the hive). The CT scan did show two spots on my right hip and two in the lung, but they were undefined as to whether they were metastasized, or what they were.

The prostate, however, is enlarged on the right side and oblong on the left. Many nodules and lesions, which mean it is highly likely microbial size cancer cells, have made it out of the hive.

The bone scan backed up the CT scan findings, but without a biopsy, would not be able to determine if the findings on the right hip and lung are cancerous.

Next is an MRI of the prostate for 3D imaging for surgery. At this point, that will be August 6th, but I do not want to wait that long if I do not have too.

More than likely, surgery will be the course of action. Due to its aggressiveness, the prostate will be removed in its entirety, 4 inches of urinary section and all lymph nodes in and around the area. Then a microscopic determination of cancer cells will be completed for bees outside the hive.

If the cancer bees were all in the hive, we monitor PSA’s for my lifetime. If there are bees that escaped, now we are into radiation and hormone therapy (remembering testosterone is the cancer culprit), or physical castration if necessary .

As to whether the surgery can be done locally or in Seattle will be determined by who can get me in first. Every day that goes by, there is more of a chance the bees escape, at least in my way of thinking.

Keep the prayers coming and I will update when necessary.
State Secretary-Kim Washburn
Prostate Cancer Update 3
July 30, 2020

Brothers, just a short update.
The Robotic Radical Retropubic Prostatectomy machines are booked up across the State. These machines do not only do prostate surgery, but many others in the pelvic area. I guess there are not many in the State either.

I focused in on keeping it local here in Wenatchee or going to Seattle. I narrowed it down to Swedish with Dr. James Porter. He initially could not get me in until August 27th, but a cancelation occurred for August 6th. That pushed up my required MRI of the prostate to build a model for the most accurate surgery. I was able to move my MRI from August 6th to July 30th, which was unexpected good news.

Many blood tests, EKG, Covid 19, General MD final visit, surgery prep conference, will take place over the next week until surgery August 6th.

Brother Michael Rutland suggested we all pray to Fr. McGivney for intercession to Our Father, and I have already started. Maybe you could all join in with me.

Next update August 10th, or so.

Fraternally, Kim

State Secretary-Kim Washburn
Prostate Cancer Post Surgery

August 10, 2020

Brothers,

Surgery was a success. The prostate, large section of the urethra and pelvic lymph nodes were removed. A urethra replacement line was inserted to join the bladder to the penis again and all is healing. I will not have the results from the lymph node test for microscopic bees; I mean cancer until around the 18th.

A catheter was inserted to the bladder leading to the penis and must be in place for the next couple of weeks. That is the most painful of all and is very annoying. Once that is out, I feel I will be back to normal (probably not), better anyway. I must stay away from lifting anything heavier than 15 pounds for 4-6 weeks. That will be difficult, but I must listen.

The five robotic probe holes are healing well. That is where the arms insert to do minimally evasive surgery. The machine is fascinating. When they wheeled me into the OR, I had them stop me for a moment to look at the machine. They all laughed at me in the room. To me, it was like looking at a new airplane.

The doctor wanted to kick me out the day after surgery even though I was in extreme pain, losing lots of blood and dangerously low blood pressure. I had to talk them into another night and that was not even enough.

Anyone that knows me, having to stay quiet and recuperate at home is not easy for me. As simple as having someone mow my yard is hard.

Next will be a post op visit with the doctor to get the results of the lymph node test. That will determine which way we go with treatment that has been discussed before. As stated above, that will be around the 18th.

Thanks to all for the prayers and Novenas. I felt your support.

Fraternally,

Kim
HEY GUYS...GET SOME ROCK SALT AND MAKE SOME ICE CREAM FOR THOSE HOT SUMMER NIGHTS.

**ICE CREAM IN A BAG**

*Ingredients (one serving) duplicate as many pint bags as will fit into gallon bag for shaking or add gallon bag for more shaking going on:*

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup half and half
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup ice cream salt (rock salt)
- Ice cubes (enough to fill each gallon-size bag about half full)
- 1 quart-size zip lock bag
- 1 gallon-size zip lock bag

*Directions:*
1. Combine the sugar, half and half, and vanilla extract in the pint-size bag and seal it tightly.
2. Place the salt and ice in the gallon-size bag.
3. Place the sealed smaller bag inside the larger bag and seal the larger bag.
4. Shake the bags until the mixture hardens (about 8-10 minutes).
5. Take the smaller bag out of the larger one, cut off the corner of the bag, and squeeze it into a bowl.
6. Top with fruit, sprinkles or candies and enjoy!
We held our Installation of Officers today in the park-like setting at the home DGK Eric and his wonderful wife, Jody. We are grateful for their warm hospitality. We are blessed to have a strong and committed leadership team this fraternal year!

Along with Installation of Officers, we were pleased to welcome our newest member, Brother Ron Moore. We invested him with his rosary and emblem of the Order.
The Hyphen, Webster's Dictionary defines, Is a symbol used to divide a compound word or a single word. So it seems to me that when a man calls himself An "Afro-American," a "Mexican-American," "Italian-American," An "Irish-American," "Jewish-American," What he's saying' is, "I'm a divided American." Well, we all came from other places, Different creeds and different races, To form a nation...to become as one. Yet look at the harm a line has done-- A simple little line, and yet As divisive as a line can get. A crooked cross the n***s flew, And the Russian hammer and sickle too-- Time bombs in the lives of Man; But none of these could ever fan The flames of hatred faster than The Hyphen. The Russian hammer built a wall That locks men's hearts from freedom's call. A crooked cross flew overhead Above twenty million tragic dead—
Among them men from this great nation,  
Who died for freedom's preservation.  
A hyphen is a line that's small;  
It can be a bridge or be a wall.  
A bridge can save you lots of time;  
A wall you always have to climb.  
The road to liberty lies true.  
The Hyphen's use is up to you.  

Used as a bridge, it can span  
All the differences of Man.  
Being free in mind and soul  
Should be our most important goal.  
If you use The Hyphen as a wall,  
You'll make your life mean...and small.  
An American is a special breed,  
Whose people came to her in need.  
They came to her that they might find  
A world where they'd have peace of mind,  
Where men are equal...and something more--  
Stand taller than they stood before.  
So you be wise in your decision,  
And that little line won't cause division.  
Let's join hands with one another...  
For in this land, each man's your brother.  
United we stand...divided we fall.  
WE'RE AMERICANS...AND THAT SAYS IT ALL.
HEALING WHEELS

Pend Oreille council 14268 in Newport, Washington, donated three new wheelchairs to Newport Hospital and Health Services. The chairs will be used in the organization’s recently opened advanced care facility for long term patients.
The Washington State Senate passed a resolution ([SR 8613](#)), introduced by Sen. Phil Fortunato (R - Auburn), honoring the more than 17,000 members of the Knights of Columbus in our state. The Knights were commended for their contributions "to a strong civil society [and] for their work serving the poor and vulnerable in our state and around the world..."

Whereas the Knights of Columbus founded in 1882 by the venerable Father Michael Joseph McGivney is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization with over 1.9 million members and 15,000 councils worldwide;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus was instituted to serve working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States who faced discrimination, unfairness and exclusion from public life;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus were integral in the development of American Catholic identity to combat popular fears of disloyalty by supporting the United States military with over 100,000 Knights fighting in the Great War and establishing soldiers’ welfare centers (EVERYONE WELCOME, EVERYTHING FREE) at home and abroad;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus were active during the Mexican Revolution starting schools and hospitals and invigorating the spiritual life of parishes in efforts to end the reign of terror by the Mexican government; and, it was the Knights intercession that hastened the end of the Revolution with more than 200,000 people killed from every socioeconomic background between 1910 and 1930;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus initiated a campaign in 1951 to lobby for the public adoption of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance that eventually led the way to the signing of the
phrase into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on Flag Day, June 14, 1954;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus are committed to their Second Responders Program established in 2001 with national support for local councils who serve as “second responders” by providing food, clothing and shelter to those affected by disasters when they occur at home and around the world;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus partnered with the American Wheelchair Mission and Canadian Wheelchair Foundation in 2009, which fall under the Global Wheelchair Mission, to provide aid to those who lack the freedom of mobility in our communities and around the world bringing the recipients self-determination, independence, and dignity;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus are dedicated to living out the mission of the Church through charitable, humanitarian, and philanthropic works, contributing over $1.5 billion to charity in the past 10 years alone;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus are committed to the new evangelization by supporting and defending the Catholic faith and promoting Catholic education in 96 Catholic schools in Washington State;

Whereas the Knights of Columbus stand as a vanguard for the protection of human life, the promotion of families and marriage, and the support of the vulnerable in our state.

Whereas the more than 17,000 members of the Knights of Columbus in Washington State in 161 councils continue to serve their communities, parishes, schools, our state and nation with acts of charity rooted in the Catholic tradition: now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Washington State Senate recognizes and commends the Knights of Columbus for their contributions to a strong civil society, their work serving the poor and vulnerable, in our state reflected in their work serving the poor and vulnerable, in our state
We often talk about compassion.

Compassion has often been twisted.

Indifference is often disguised as compassion.

If we do nothing, we shame ourselves.
Can we protect our values and at the same time show compassion to those who are sick and struggling?

We cannot ignore our way out of the attacks on our values. Are we wandering in the darkness looking for answers?

A council of knights is a living thing that has a rhythm, a heartbeat, a soul, a collection of ideas that we protect and defend, old ideas and new ones, these are all about a better life for our families.

Great ideas and dreams do not survive without a fight.

*We have not forgotten about the dreams,*
*but we may have forgotten about the fight.*
"You know why Chicago is circling the drain right now? You know why all those children are getting murdered? Because of Christopher Columbus. Yes. An Italian navigator who never got within a thousand miles of The Loop and who, by the way, died more than five hundred years ago. He did it. Mayor Lightfoot ordered the city to take down two Christopher Columbus statues -- one in Little Italy and one in Grant Park. That will fix the problem, you can let your kids play outside now."

CREDIT CARLSON
THESE SOLDIERS CAN NO LONGER STAND UP FOR OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

WILL YOU STAND UP FOR THEM
Never stop doing your best just because someone doesn't give you credit.

“Be so good they can't ignore you.”

Steve Martin
I was honored to install the Officers of Fr. John Francis Laboom Council 13395 at Submarine Base, Bangor. We were all honored that Fr. GiGi provided spiritual guidance as Chaplain...at Naval Submarine Base Bangor.
The elevator to success is out of order. You will have to use the stairs, one step at a time.

*********************************************************

A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little child went into the old Gentleman’s’ yard climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little one just said, 'Nothing, I just Helped him cry.'

Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about Adoption, I was adopted..' 'What does it mean to be adopted?', asked another child “It means”, said the girl, “that you grew in your mommy’s heart instead of her tummy.

*********************************************************
I was hungry; you formed a discussion group to discuss my hunger.
I was imprisoned; you crept off to your chapel and prayed for my release.
I was naked; in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance.
I was sick; you knelt and thanked God for your health.
I was homeless; you preached to me of the shelter of the love of God.
I was lonely, and you left me alone to pray for me.

You seemed so holy, so close to God.

But I am still very hungry . . . very lonely . . . and without hope.
Please help!
Greetings worthy WA KonB Officers,

FYI:

Our new Dioceses of Spokane-Boise Advocate asked me for a job description of his position, this is what I put together and sent Brother Robert “Santa”.

I am also sending a picture of our newest KonB items.....a dress shirt and Do-Rag with our new KonB Crest....both are now available for purchase and will soon be posted on our new members only online KonB store.

God Bless TFMM Blanco

Subject: WA KonB Dioceses of Spokane-Boise Advocate job description

Greetings KonB Spokane-Boise Advocate Brother Santa,

I thought I go to the Knights of Columbus officer handbook first to explain the Advocate position from where it all starts.... inside the council.

Advocate:

1) Acts as parliamentarian for the council....
2) Has a working knowledge of the Method of Conduction Council Meetings
3) Knows the council’s bylaws and the order’s Charter, Constitution and Laws
4) Has access to Officers Online and Officers Desk Reference
5) Seeks legal assistance from the state advocate as needed
6) Performs other duties as the grand knight may direct

The medal of the office of the Advocate is a scroll and sword, surrounded by a laurel wreath, suspended from a ribbon of gold. The opened scroll represents its defense and enforcement. Thus, it is the Advocate’s role to not only know the laws of the council, but to also follow them strictly. The ribbon of gold represents faith, constancy, and wisdom.
Knights of Columbus
Knights on Bikes-International
Standard Operational Procedures and Polices:
Section #05 explains the position and duties of the National KonB Advocate....this to me fits our motorcycle ministry mission and what I follow. 
(See By-laws)

Spokane/Boise Dioceses Advocate position:

1) First and foremost, we are Knights of Columbus (who own and ride motorcycles nothing more and nothing less) we have been around for 138 years.

2) We are road evangelists of our Catholic faith and Father McGivney’s vision of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism as a Catholic Gentlemen.

3) We are the face of Catholic motorcycle when we wear the emblem of our Order...... as the Dioceses of Spokane and Boise Advocate you are our legal representative being well versed in our by-laws, helping new members to get off on the right foot, and keeping the rest of us all riding between the lines....... Much like an RCIA sponsor.

4) So, I guess the short answer when asked what is the Advocate position....... our “Worthy and Wise Representative.”

(Our Lady of Guadalupe Queen of the Americas most gracious Advocate... pray for us). “

TFMM
Any questions give me a shout.
<image001.jpg>
WA Knights on Bikes Director/Pres.
Bruce Hines “Blanco”
509-727-8251
rodlink@charter.net
"IN GOD WE TRUST, AND RIDE"
“Vivat Christo Rey"
Picture of our groundbreaking for new shrine, paid for by selling memorial bricks to parishioners.

Brian Woolery, Editor 4322 Knight Voyager newsletter
Steve,

Attached is the are photos of Council 7907, Issaquah, St. Joseph’s outdoor induction. Our new District Deputy Jim Chambers officiated along with our Grand Knight, Joel Edwards. We were all inducted out of doors in the Prayer Garden for the Unborn. This garden was constructed by the Knights in 2013 and the garden received second place in the K of C national competition.
Yesterday the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, I decided to make the 65-mile trip from the Tri Cities up to Selah for 10:00 AM Mass with KonB V/P Shooter and his wife with Father Richard presiding. Father Richard baptized me, blessed our marriage, and baptized two of our grandchildren back in 2002 when I came into the church. After Mass V/P Bret and his lovely wife Michelle invited me up to their beautiful Selah hilltop home where we reenacted the miracle of the loaves and fish consuming smoked salmon, crackers, and wine…. sharing stories of our non-Catholic faith journeys into the Church. Miracles do happen….

Thanks again V/P Shooter and Lady Michelle for your warm welcome… I had a great day.

God Bless you both for all you do….

Note:

If you haven’t checked out our new WA KonB web site https://www.knightsonbikeswa.org/ please do…and check out the Events & News page for info and entry of the upcoming Sept. 5th 2020 “POCO Run” in the Dioceses of Spokane.

Lady Angie and I are entered and roomed up……see ya all there.
Fellow Knights,

It is difficult to begin our new council year without one of our most dedicated and committed members by our side, Past Grand Knight Jim Hines. Our council was at our best in terms of community and parish involvement when Jim was at the helm. We could all be assured Jim was smack dab in the middle of the goings on. We will miss Jim’s leadership, vision, and numerous organizational skill sets. God speed Jim.

Eternal rest grant unto Jim, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen
Steve...this is a summary of direct work of Knights the past fraternal year and some are cumulative too.

I also pulled together a synopsis of our Global Expansion.

KOFC CONVENTION NEWS:

Membership reaches 2 million members milestone,

1,255 ultrasound machines placed valued at $60 million (Our Greatest Legacy - one baby saved per business day equals 326,300 babies saved),

US Knights offer $1.3 million to food banks, $187 million and 77 million hours donated to Charity ($2.2 billion valued at $27.20 per hour),

700,400 Coats for Kids to children,

100,000+ wheelchairs donated since program inception across the world,

Food for Families reached $19 million and 37 million pounds of food since 2015,

Habitat for Humanity 860,000 hours and $805,000 in direct aid this year,

Special Olympics $4.5 million direct contributions and 876,000 volunteers hours (Michigan was tops with $230,000),

$27.4 million cumulative in college scholarships,

RSVP direct donations of $3,823,960 assisted 6,333 men and women seeking priesthood and religious life (more than $80 million since inception of program).

GLOBAL EXPANSION – KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Since 2001 Supreme Knight Anderson has led the global expansion.

His intentions were clear, he chose the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City as the location for his installation in February 2001. There, he spoke of the “spirit of unity that transcends
all national boundaries,” and he has done his part to extend our brotherhood beyond those boundaries. The Knight’s subsequent international growth has been impressive.

In 2005, the Order officially entered Europe, choosing Poland as the first expansion country. Speaking to Polish Knights in 2018, the supreme knight stated: “By establishing the Knights of Columbus in Poland, we fulfilled a request of Pope John Paul II that we bring our work of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism to his homeland.”

The past decade saw the Knights expand into three additional European countries — Ukraine, Lithuania, and France. And in 2014, the Order established a new presence on the mainland of Asia, in the nation of South Korea. As this growth demonstrates, the mission of the Knights of Columbus is particular to no nation, for we address the needs of the Church Universal.

Progress by the Numbers: On the first day of his administration, Supreme Knight Anderson said we have a moral obligation to offer the benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus to every eligible Catholic man. We have made significant progress toward this goal over the past two decades. Between 2000 and 2020, membership in the Knights of Columbus rose from 1.6 million to 2 million. The number of councils also saw dramatic growth, rising from 11,860 to 16,242. Behind these numbers are men who have been transformed by our brotherhood, and who are transforming the world in turn.

Kyle and I visited a cathedral in France last September can you guess where it is?

BY KARL HADLEY PSD, FMFD, FVSM

At least five cathedrals have stood on this site. The first church dated from no later than the 4th century and was burned in 743 by the Duke of Aquitaine. The second church on the site was burned by Danish pirates in 858. In 962, the church was damaged by another fire. A more serious fire broke out in 1020, after which Bishop Fulbert appealed to the royal houses of Europe, and received generous donations for the rebuilding, including a gift from Cnut the Great, the King of England, Norway, and Denmark. In 1194, another major fire devastated the cathedral. Only the crypt, the towers, and the new facade survived. A new choir was completed by 1221 and the whole building was consecrated in 1260.

From 1997 to 2018, the exterior of the cathedral underwent an extensive cleaning, that also included many of the interior walls and the sculpture. The walls and sculpture, blackened by soot and age, again became white. The walls in the nave were painted white and shades of yellow and beige, to recreate an idea of the earlier medieval decoration.
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres
(Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Chartres).

“Flamboyant Gothic” spire. Three great façades are each adorned with hundreds of sculpted figures illustrating key theological themes and narratives.

The famous labyrinth (early 1200s), located on the floor in the center of the nave, symbolizes the long winding path towards salvation. On certain days, the chairs of the nave are removed so that visiting pilgrims can follow the labyrinth.

Since the 12th century the cathedral has been an important destination for Christian pilgrims, many of whom come to venerate its famous relic, the Sancta Camisa, said to be the tunic worn by the Virgin Mary at Christ's birth. A piece of oriental silk given to Chartres in about 876 by Emperor Charles the Bald was miraculously preserved in the fire of 1194 and still survives to this day in the Treasury.
DO ALL FAIRY TALES BEGIN WITH 'ONCE UPON A TIME?'

NO. MANY OF THEM BEGIN, 'IF I AM ELECTED, I PROMISE....'

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER