



# Cowboy Bulletin

## Wyoming Knights of Columbus



September 2023



### FR. TOM OGG

Father Thomas George Ogg died on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at Monument Hospital in Rapid City, SD. He was preparing to golf with friends and better his recent years record 92 score achieved the day prior when he accidentally fell and incurred fatal head injuries.

He was born on November 30, 1940, to George Harper Ogg and Lena (Salzman) Ogg in Worland, Wyoming. Fr. Tom grew up working on the family farm north of Worland with his four brothers. He was an active FFA member participating on a state champion poultry judging team and serving as a State Officer. He attended the University of Wyoming, graduating in 1962 with dual BS degrees in Agronomy and Vocational Education. He recognized his true vocational call and entered St. Thomas Seminary earning a MS in 1964. He was ordained a Catholic Priest forever for the Diocese of Wyoming on May 25, 1968 at the home parish of St. Mary Magdelene in Worland. He was delegated to acquire advanced education in counseling and returned to UW and earned a PhD in Counseling. In his tenure of active service to the Diocese of Wyoming, Fr Tom had parish assignments in Rocksprings, Glenrock, Laramie, Powell, Gillette and Sheridan. Additionally, he served as the State Vocations Director, assisting many people to discern their life's calling and recruited several men to serve as Priests. He served as the national President of the American Association of Vocation Directors in 1982. Fr Tom was motivated to serve the World Wide Marriage Encounter program and in semi-retirement from parish assignment, was elected to international levels of leadership and traveled frequently to facilitate growing this organization. His tireless farm-raised work ethic was only surpassed by his dedication and faithful service to God, his Church and his unselfish and genuine passion for helping people.

Fr Tom was preceded in death by his father George Ogg Jr, mother Lena Salzman Ogg, brothers Ken and Paul Ogg, sister-in-law Cindy (Paul) Ogg and nephew Leo Ogg.

He is survived by brothers Matthew (Mary) Ogg and Bill (Patti) Ogg; sisters-in-law Shirley (Ken) Ogg and Yvonne (Paul) Ogg; nephews Robert Ogg, Gerald (Cari) Ogg, Mark Ogg, Michael (Beth) Ogg and Wilson (Brittany) Ogg; nieces Monica Ogg, Melissa (Joey) McBride and Alena (Todd) Standley; grandnephews: Cade McBride, Eric McBride, Charlie Ogg, George Ogg and Henry Ogg; grandnieces Cailin Ogg, Leah McBride, Maysa Standley, Madi Standley, Merideth Standley and Morgan Standley; Many Ogg and Salzman and extended family cousins, Worldwide Marriage Encounter Leaders, Clergy and Friends dearly loved by Fr Tom.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am Friday September 8, 2023 at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Gillette, WY with Bishop Steven Biegler officiating. The Funeral Mass may be livestreamed. Check website [stmatthews-wy.weconnect.com](http://stmatthews-wy.weconnect.com) for details.

A vigil service and celebration of life will be 7 pm Thursday September 7; at St Matthew's.

Inurnment service will be at 4 pm Friday September 8, 2023 in Riverview Memorial Gardens in Worland, WY. Memorial contributions may be made to the Diocese of Cheyenne for the Wyoming Priest Retirement Fund/St. Josephs Society and Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Fr. Chuck Gallagher Fund, [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).



### POWELL KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Knights of Columbus Council 3043 in Powell host an ice cream social after St. Barbara’s Parish Saturday night Mass. They provide their ice cream for all of St. Barbara’s parishioners numerous times throughout the summer. A lot of people like to stay around after Mass! This is a fun opportunity to provide some fellowship for everyone



### SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Please feel free to make any submissions to [w yoknews@gmail.com](mailto:w yoknews@gmail.com). I will do my best to put out an issue of The Cowboy Bulletin every month, but I need your help to know what’s going on out there. Upcoming events, council projects, and sharing ideas that could benefit other councils are all things we as Knights are interested in hearing about. Remember that we are Brother Knights, united in one cause.

Vivat Jesus  
Steve Grapes

There is a wealth of information on our State Council web site. Check out [www.wyomingkc.org](http://www.wyomingkc.org). All members are encouraged to check it out.



### JACKSON KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Knights of Columbus Council 9431 supported the parish Feast Day celebration at Our Lady of the Mountains parish in Jackson on Sunday August 13. After a bilingual mass, a Knights honor guard processed with a statue of Our Blessed Virgin through the streets of Jackson accompanied by 250 parishioners. Then everyone gathered outside the church for fellowship, dancing and a Knight's supported BBQ on the new 3-sided BBQ purchased by the Knight's council this summer. A wonderful celebration!



### GREEN RIVER KNIGHTS IN ACTION

Council 7453 in Green River recently cooked spaghetti dinners for the Running With the Horses Marathon at the annual River Festival. This is one of our largest fundraisers for the year. The following week we set up our portable grill at the County Picnic Grounds and served hotdogs and hamburgers at Immaculate Conceptions Annual Picnic. We are **tentatively** scheduling an Exemplification of **Charity, Unity, and fraternity** after the 9AM Mass on September 17 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Green River.



### GILLETTE KNIGHTS IN ACTION



State Special Olympics held in Gillette  
The Council 3477 assisted with the recent Special Olympics held in Gillette this summer by helping with the various events helping the athletes arrive at the events, timing and etc. The 4th Degree honor guard was on hand for the opening ceremonies. The picture shows the assembly line of Knights creating sack lunches for the athletes and staff to take on the journey home.



Graduation breakfast is an annual tradition at St Matthews with the Knights cooking breakfast for the graduates and their families. This year we served about 250 people, our biggest crowd.

John Cosner  
Grand Knight  
Council 3477 Gillette





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## AUGUST 2023 MARKET INSIGHTS

By: [Tony Minopoli, President & CIO of Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors](#)

The Knights of Columbus annual convention occurs the first Tuesday of August and as this was August 1, the convention was as early as it can possibly be. I was blessed to be elected to the Board of Directors at our 2018 convention in Baltimore and it really reenergizes me when I see Brother Knights and their families from around the country and indeed around the world. We enjoyed several special masses, our annual awards presentations at the States Dinner and an incredible address on the state of the Order from Supreme Knight Kelly.

I have also been blessed from being with the Knights for the incredible experiences I have had and the incredible people I have been able to meet in my nearly 18 years with the Order. At this convention, two of the greatest people I have ever met were honored at our convention. Father John Grace was awarded our St. Michael Service Award for his many years with the Knights, and he served as our first director for Knights of Columbus chaplains. He has been a blessing because he has been a true friend and our discussions on faith are too numerous to ever chronicle. I am sad as I type this because my dear friend has been recalled to Ireland and I am not sure when I will see him again. We had a chance for a final hug and well wishes. My first trip to Ireland may be on the table. Mother Agnes, the first Mother Superior of the Sisters of Life, received the Gaudium et Spes award and this is the highest award from the Order. To put it in perspective, St. Teresa of

Calcutta was the first recipient, so this is a pretty lofty award. Mother Agnes has become a friend since the Past Supreme Knight first asked me to advise the Sisters of Life on financial matters over 10 years ago. I am blessed by every encounter I



have with Mother Agnes and all of the Sisters, and their work on supporting women in crisis pregnancies is a tremendous expression of

Christ's love and healing. Our Order is so blessed because of our special relationship with the Sisters. The picture below was after our opening mass, and I wanted to be sure that Karen and I got to have a photo with this tremendous woman who is such a special friend to us both.

Though I was in the oven that is Orlando, life and the markets continued to roll on. We continue to wrestle with the differing views on what type of recession we might encounter as well as the thought that we may have no recession at all. Certainly, annual GDP growth of 2.6%, up from 1.8% at the end of the first quarter suggests growth, perhaps not robust, but growth, nonetheless<sup>1</sup>. Unemployment remains low, at a level of 3.5% as of July and wages continue to grow<sup>2</sup>. These data points have many politicians and pundits focusing on the question of how can we have a recession with low unemployment, rising wages and a growth rate of 2.6%?

As we ponder this same issue, we are thinking about the lag effect of the interest rate hikes. Historically, it has taken 12 to 18 months for the full impact of rising interest rates to be felt by the economy. Also, while

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unemployment remains low and wages are high, inflation is still much higher than the Fed prefers. The CPI index stood at 3.0% annual growth as of the last release in June, and when one factors out food and energy, inflation is growing at an annual rate of 4.8% annually<sup>3</sup>. This is certainly below the peak we reached in June 2022, but we are still a long way from the 2.0% inflation target that is sought after by the Fed. Energy remains an important component for the economy both in terms of direct consumer demand and as an input for industrial production. At the end of June, crude oil was trading at \$70.78 per barrel based on the September 2023 futures contract<sup>4</sup>. As I write this essay on August 7<sup>th</sup>, crude closed today at \$82.82 per barrel on the same September futures contract. This represents a price increase of 16.5% in 38 days. We are starting to see prices creep up at the pump and higher energy prices will find their way into the CPI index. The point is that inflation is not dead yet and, in my opinion, the more serious Federal Reserve voting members still have further rate hikes on their minds. The reason we believe that Fed hikes are not off the table is because longer term rates have started to meander higher. The 10-year Treasury ended the second quarter at a yield of 3.84% and it closed today at a yield of 4.09%<sup>5</sup>. That is a pretty sporty 25 basis point move in the span of five weeks. We are also seeing a flattening of the yield curve as the spread of rates between 2-year and 10-year Treasuries has become much less. On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, that spread was about 109 basis points and stood at 69 basis points as of the close today. If an inverted curve has traditionally indicated a recession, a positively sloped curve is one that is looking at inflation and also properly compensating investors with a term premium for investing longer. I will leave the prognosticating on the depth and timing of a potential recession to others. We do however find ourselves increasingly focused on inflation drivers and these include a tight labor market, stubborn inflation, increasing wages and renewed upward pressure on energy prices. It is for these reasons that we do not think the Fed is quite finished...yet.

Until next month.

## SAVE THE DATE! OCT 17<sup>TH</sup> 2023 FINANCIAL SEMINAR WITH TONY MINOPOLI.

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 support@kofcservice.com



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**DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**



## SUPREME CHAPLAIN'S MONTHLY CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 2023

**“Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”** (Gospel for Sept. 10, Mt 18:20)

Christ is present to us in many different ways: in his Word, in the Mass, in the community of believers at prayer, and in the poor, vulnerable and suffering among us. He is especially present in the Eucharist, his true body and blood, soul and divinity. Let us also be mindful of his presence in the person of his priest, who is an *alter Christus* (another Christ), as he offers the sacraments to the faithful. May we always be aware of Christ's presence with us.

**Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month, I challenge you to support your parish priest in some tangible way, even by simply writing a note to tell him that you appreciate his service and sacrifice. Second, I challenge you to support the Faith in Action Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP).

**Questions for Reflection:**

Are you aware of and grateful for the sacrifices the priests in your life make to serve the Church? Do you seek to support priests in their vocations, whether through prayer or in other ways? How can you better incorporate praying for our priests into your prayer life?

## FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS

### REFUND SUPPORT VOCATIONS PROGRAM (RSVP) (FEATURED)

**A HIGHER PURPOSE**

Keep the faith alive by supporting our seminarians and postulants. As the strong right arm of the church, Knights of Columbus are committed to providing moral, financial and spiritual support to our future priests and religious at all stages of their formation. A featured program, RSVP counts for two credits toward the Columbian Award.

**OVERVIEW**

Knights of Columbus stand in solidarity with our priests and religious. Through this program, council and parish families will raise funds to support seminarians in their area. For every \$500 given to an individual, the Supreme Council will refund the council or assembly \$100. The maximum refund a council or assembly can receive is \$400 per individual supported. Though financial support is vitally important, it is not the only aspect of the RSVP. Councils are also called to provide their “adopted” seminarian or religious aspirant with moral support and prayers for their success.



**SEMINARIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF CHEYENNE**

**Lee Noel**



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**Dokken Malmberg**



Propaedeutic Year  
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**Anthony Richter**



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Home Parish: St. Matthew's, Gillette  
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**Wyoming Knights of Columbus—For the Good of the Order**

**Deceased Knights**

- [George Francis Kohl III](#) of Council 9917 in Casper passed away October 10, 2022.
- [Ignatius “Tony” Maiorana Sr](#) of Council 1563 and Assembly 1224 in Casper passed away November 2, 2022.
- [John Bustos](#) of Council 3043 in Powell passed away on November 5, 2022.
- [William Meehan Jr](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away December 15, 2022.
- [David Yearout](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away December 19, 2022.
- [Ray Haydel](#) of Council 9917 in Casper passed away on January 15, 2023.
- [Jim Spaulding](#) of Council 9917 in Casper passed away February 10, 2023.
- [Neal Forbes](#) of Council 11291 in Saratoga passed away January 20, 2023.
- [Bob Otero](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington passed away February 5, 2023.
- [Carl Joe Welte](#) of Council 6623 in Torrington passed away March 10, 2023.
- [Rev Fr. Robert Fox](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away March 28, 2023.
- [Neil Obrigewitch](#) of Council 6558 in Douglas passed away May 12, 2023.
- [Marty Connolly](#) of Council 2578 in Thermopolis passed away March 1, 2023.
- [Alfirio “Al” Martinez](#) of Council 1563 in Casper passed away July 7, 2023.



— [Dennis Eckhardt](#) of Council 4031 in Cody, passed away June 8, 2023



--- [Ken Piazza](#) of Council 4031 in Cody, passed away July 12, 2023



-- [Fr Tom Ogg](#), past Wyoming State Chaplain, passed away August 23, 2023.

Please pray for our Brother Knights:

Brian Dever Family, Council 9917, Casper

Glenn Scheuler, Council 7453, Green River

Please send any future prayer intentions to [w yokcnews@gmail.com](mailto:w yokcnews@gmail.com)



## Blessed Father Michael McGivney



### Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

*Founder of the Knights of Columbus*

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Please report all favors received:** The Father McGivney Guild  
1 Columbus Plaza  
New Haven, CT 06510-3326 • USA  
[www.fathermcgivney.org](http://www.fathermcgivney.org)

Painting by Chas Fagan © Knights of Columbus  
10502 10/20

### *A Prayer for Study*

Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words and deeds.

O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of You. Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delights in thinking of You, Your grace and Your tender compassion toward us.

Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for.

— Saint Thomas More (1478-1535)

To aid blind or low vision members in your council or parish, direct them to [xaviersocietyfortheblind.org](http://xaviersocietyfortheblind.org) for audio and braille versions of many Catholic books and references.

If any member of the Knights of Columbus (or anyone else, for that matter) missed the beatification Mass of Father McGivney, you can still view it at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMF2aOZBQ3M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMF2aOZBQ3M).

### Join the Father McGivney Guild

As the sainthood process for Blessed Father Michael McGivney continues, it becomes ever more important to increase membership in the Father McGivney Guild. Membership stands at over 171,000, but only 464 listed to be from Wyoming. There are 2600 members shown in Wyoming.

Please encourage every Knight in your council, and their families, to join the McGivney Guild. Membership is open to everyone, not just Knights and families. It is easy to sign up at <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html>. And please continue to pray the canonization prayer for Father McGivney.

Shawn Moody

Father McGivney Guild Chairman

[esmmoody@gmail.com](mailto:esmmoody@gmail.com)