

Dedication of the Convention to Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza and Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN the Knights of Columbus in Texas and the Texas State Council dedicate the 119th annual convention to the Most Reverend Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza for his leadership as Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and Bishop of San Angelo, and Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta for his leadership of the Diocese of Amarillo, and

WHEREAS Archbishop Fiorenza was born in Beaumont, Texas on January 25, 1931, to Sicilian immigrants Anthony and Grace Fiorenza, and dedicated his life to serving Texas and its people through the church, and

WHEREAS Archbishop Fiorenza was a proud graduate at the age of sixteen from St. Anthony High School in Beaumont, Texas, who as a senior in high school knew he wanted to be a priest and later graduated from St. Mary's Seminary in La Porte, Texas. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Wendelin Joseph Nold on May 29, 1954, and

WHEREAS from 1954 to 1979, Archbishop Fiorenza served the Diocese of Galveston-Houston as an assistant pastor at Queen of Peace Parish from 1954 to 1957, as administrator of the Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral from 1959 to 1967, as pastor of St. Augustine Parish from 1967 to 1969, as pastor of St. Benedict the Abbott Parish from 1969 to 1972, as pastor of Assumption Parish from 1972 to 1973, and as diocesan chancellor from 1973 to 1979, and

WHEREAS, Archbishop Fiorenza joined the Knights of Columbus in 1955, at age 24, and became a Sir Knight, a member of the Fourth Degree in 1987, and accommodated requests from the Knights of Columbus and supported the Order and its activities, and

WHEREAS he served as a professor of medical ethics at Sacred Heart Dominican College and Chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital in Houston from 1957 to 1959. In 1973, Pope Paul VI named him a Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, and

WHEREAS Archbishop Fiorenza participated in the Selma to Montgomery marches in Alabama during the Civil Rights Movement, and was an outspoken advocate opposing the use of the death penalty, especially among young people, and

WHEREAS on September 4, 1979, Archbishop Fiorenza was appointed by Pope St. John Paul II as the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of San Angelo, Texas, receiving his episcopal consecration on October 26, 1979, from Archbishop Patrick Flores, and

WHEREAS on December 18, 1984, Archbishop Fiorenza was named by Pope St. John Paul II as the Bishop of Galveston-Houston, installed by Archbishop Patrick Flores, and was elevated to Archbishop when the Diocese of Galveston-Houston was elevated to an Archdiocese on December 29, 2004, and

WHEREAS during his twenty-seven years as a Bishop and Archbishop, Joseph A. Fiorenza served as a member of the Bishops' Committee for Black Catholics, Vice-President of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops from 1995 to 1998, President of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops from 1998 to 2001, Board Member for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, a Trustee of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, and as a President to the Board of Trustees of Catholic Charities, and a Member of the Administrative Board for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops beginning in 1995, and

WHEREAS in testament to Archbishop Fiorenza's service to the Galveston-Houston community, Bishop Joseph Fiorenza Park was dedicated in 1999 at the Westpark Tollway and Eldridge Parkway in Houston, Texas, the Queen of Peace Parish community center is named in his honor, and the Archdiocese operates the Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Priest Retirement Residence Fund, and

WHEREAS Archbishop Fiorenza's collaboration with practitioners of many faiths for the betterment of society earned him a nickname as one of the "Three Amigos" along with Rev. William Lawson and Rabbi Samuel Karff, the three of whom are honored on the Brigitte and Bashar Kalai Plaza of Respect at the Midtown Campus for Interfaith Ministries, and

WHEREAS as Archbishop of Galveston-Houston, Joseph A. Fiorenza dedicated himself to building the new Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, a sacred space in downtown Houston where all were welcome to worship, which dedication was realized when the Co-Cathedral opened its doors to the people of Galveston-Houston on April 2, 2008, and

WHEREAS in 2005, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Archbishop Fiorenza was appointed chairman of a task force created by the U.S. Bishops to coordinate the Catholic response to recovery efforts in the devastated regions hit hard by the hurricane, and within days after it was formed, the task force's mission was expanded to address similar problems caused by Hurricane Rita,

WHEREAS Archbishop Fiorenza retired on February 28, 2006, after 27 seven years as a bishop, when Pope Benedict XVI accepted his resignation at the age of 75, and

WHEREAS in the years after his retirement, Archbishop Fiorenza continued to be an advocate for social justice issues and a supporter of interfaith collaboration for positive social change across all social and economic borders, and

WHEREAS Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza passed away on September 19, 2022. A native Texan, Archbishop Fiorenza dedicated his life to the Lord for more than sixty-eight years as a priest, including twenty-five years as a Bishop, two years as an Archbishop, and sixteen years as an Archbishop Emeritus, serving devout Catholics in the State of Texas, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus, assembled in Dallas, Texas on May 5-7, 2023, hereby recognizes and affectionately honors Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be placed in the official minutes of this 119th Annual Texas State Convention and that an attested copy of this Resolution & Proclamation be presented to Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza's family as a lasting statement of the love, respect, admiration, and gratitude held by Knights of Columbus in Texas and the Texas State Council.

AND

WHEREAS Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta was born on October 2, 1931 in Runge, Texas, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was ordained a priest in 1956 in the Diocese of San Antonio, Texas. He served as assistant pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church in San Antonio where he was instrumental in forming a youth ministry and Catholic Youth Organization, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta became pastor at Sacred Heart and then St. James parishes in San Antonio and founded the San Antonio Neighborhood Youth Association, where he also served as the Executive Director for six years,

WHEREAS he further served the faithful of San Antonio by leading the Archdiocesan Office for the Laity where he directed the Better World Spiritual Renewal program for three years, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta served as Editor of Today's Catholic Newspaper and was co-founder and first executive director of Catholic Television of San Antonio, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was consecrated an Auxiliary Bishop of the San Antonio Archdiocese on the feast of the Holy Family, December 30, 1994, by Archbishop Patrick Flores with Bishop Nossol of Opole, Poland, and Bishop Grahmann of Dallas as co-consecrators and Cardinal Maida of Detroit as the homilist at the ceremony in Panna Maria, Texas, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was installed as the Bishop of Amarillo, Texas, on the feast of St. Patrick, March 17, 1997, where he served for eleven years, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta's service in Amarillo was noted by his service in rebuilding the Diocese and pro-life advocacy, as well as service on committees dealing with migration and refugee services, farm workers, and marriage and family life for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and

WHEREAS after Bishop Yanta completed eleven years of service as Bishop of the Diocese of Amarillo he returned to San Antonio to continue his efforts for the development of the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria, as well as leading study groups, promoting the Rosary, and being a mentor to other leaders in the community, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was proud of his heritage and was the first Texan of Polish descent to become a Bishop and was a charter member of the group of priests founding the Polish American Priests Association of Texas in 1970, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta founded the Polish American Congress of Texas in 1971, serving as President for five terms; attended the Ksciuszko Foundation Summer Session at Jagellonian University, Krakow, Poland, in 1971, and the University of Kansas Summer Program at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland, in 1972, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was the originator and leader of the first-ever tour of Silesian Polish Texans back to the Opole areas of Upper Silesia of Poland in 1973 and also coordinated Pope John Paul II's visit with Panna Maria parishioners and Texas Polonia in 1972, and

WHEREAS he was general chairman of the first Polish American Priests Association Convention in 1990 in San Antonio, was elected the first National President of PAPA in Chicago in 1991, and also founded the Polish American Council of Texas in 2011, and

WHEREAS Bishop Yanta was awarded in 2019 the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit by Polish President Andrzej Duda for his life-long work on behalf of American Polonia, and

WHEREAS Emeritus Bishop John W. Yanta passed away on August 6, 2022, at the age of 90, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus, assembled in Dallas, Texas on May 5-7, 2023, hereby recognizes and affectionately honors Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be placed in the official minutes of this 119th Annual Texas State Convention and that an attested copy of this Resolution & Proclamation be presented to Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta's family as a lasting statement of the love, respect, admiration, and gratitude held by Knights of Columbus in Texas and the Texas State Council.

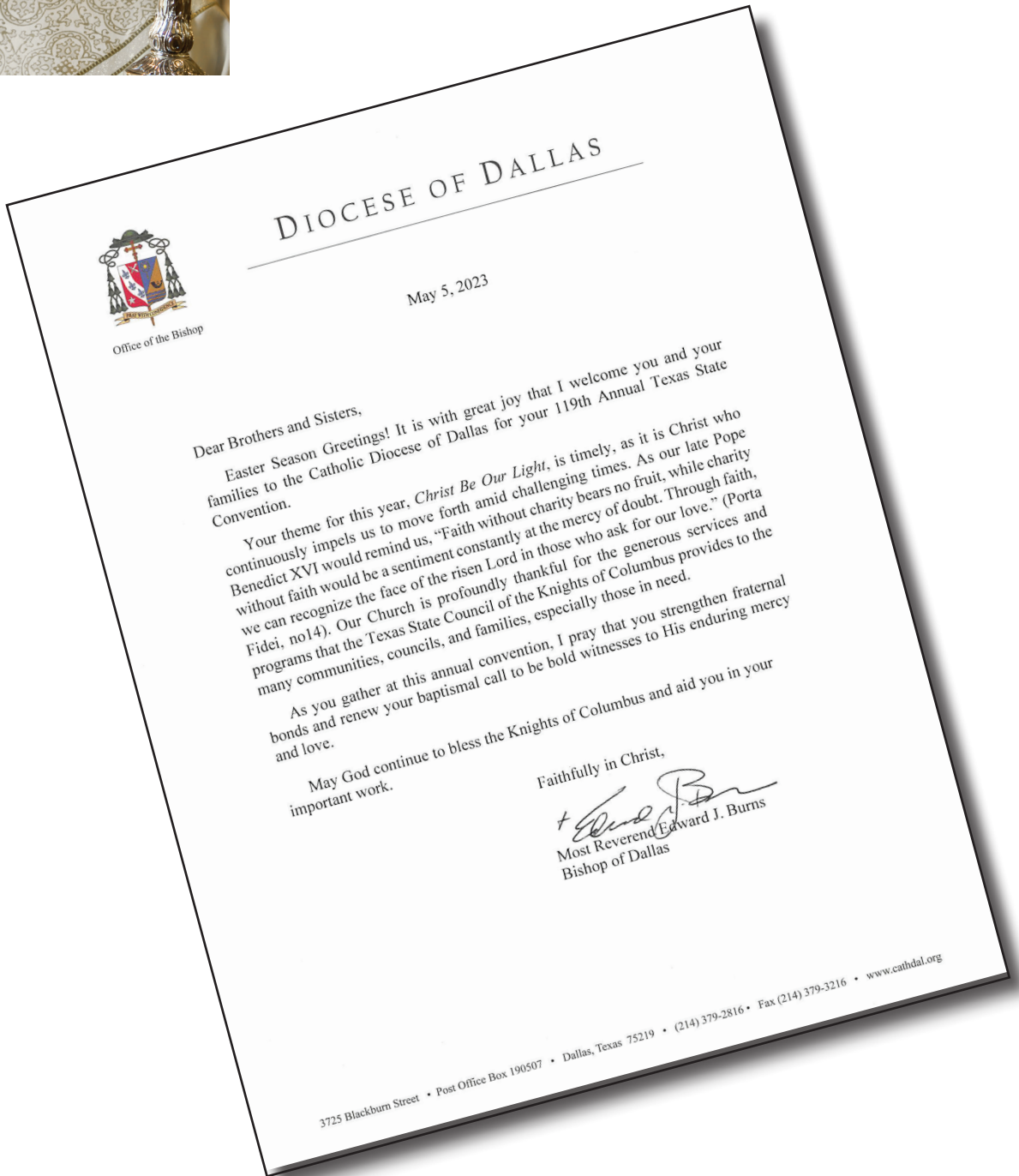


By Korea.net

His Holiness Pope Francis



Most Reverend Edward J. Burns
Bishop of Dallas



DIOCESE OF DALLAS

May 5, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

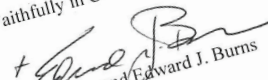
Easter Season Greetings! It is with great joy that I welcome you and your families to the Catholic Diocese of Dallas for your 119th Annual Texas State Convention.

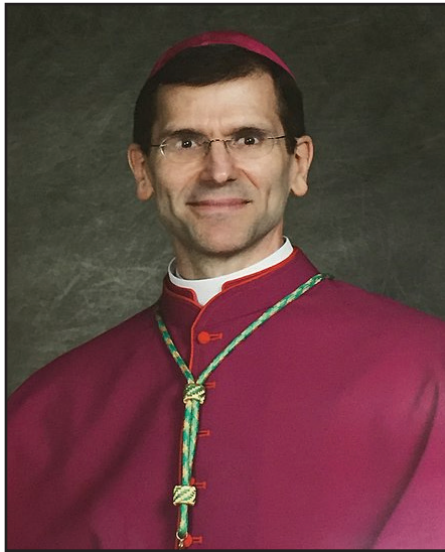
Your theme for this year, *Christ Be Our Light*, is timely, as it is Christ who continuously impels us to move forth amid challenging times. As our late Pope Benedict XVI would remind us, "Faith without charity bears no fruit, while charity without faith would be a sentiment constantly at the mercy of doubt. Through faith, we can recognize the face of the risen Lord in those who ask for our love." (Porta Fidei, no.14). Our Church is profoundly thankful for the generous services and programs that the Texas State Council of the Knights of Columbus provides to the many communities, councils, and families, especially those in need.

As you gather at this annual convention, I pray that you strengthen fraternal bonds and renew your baptismal call to be bold witnesses to His enduring mercy and love.

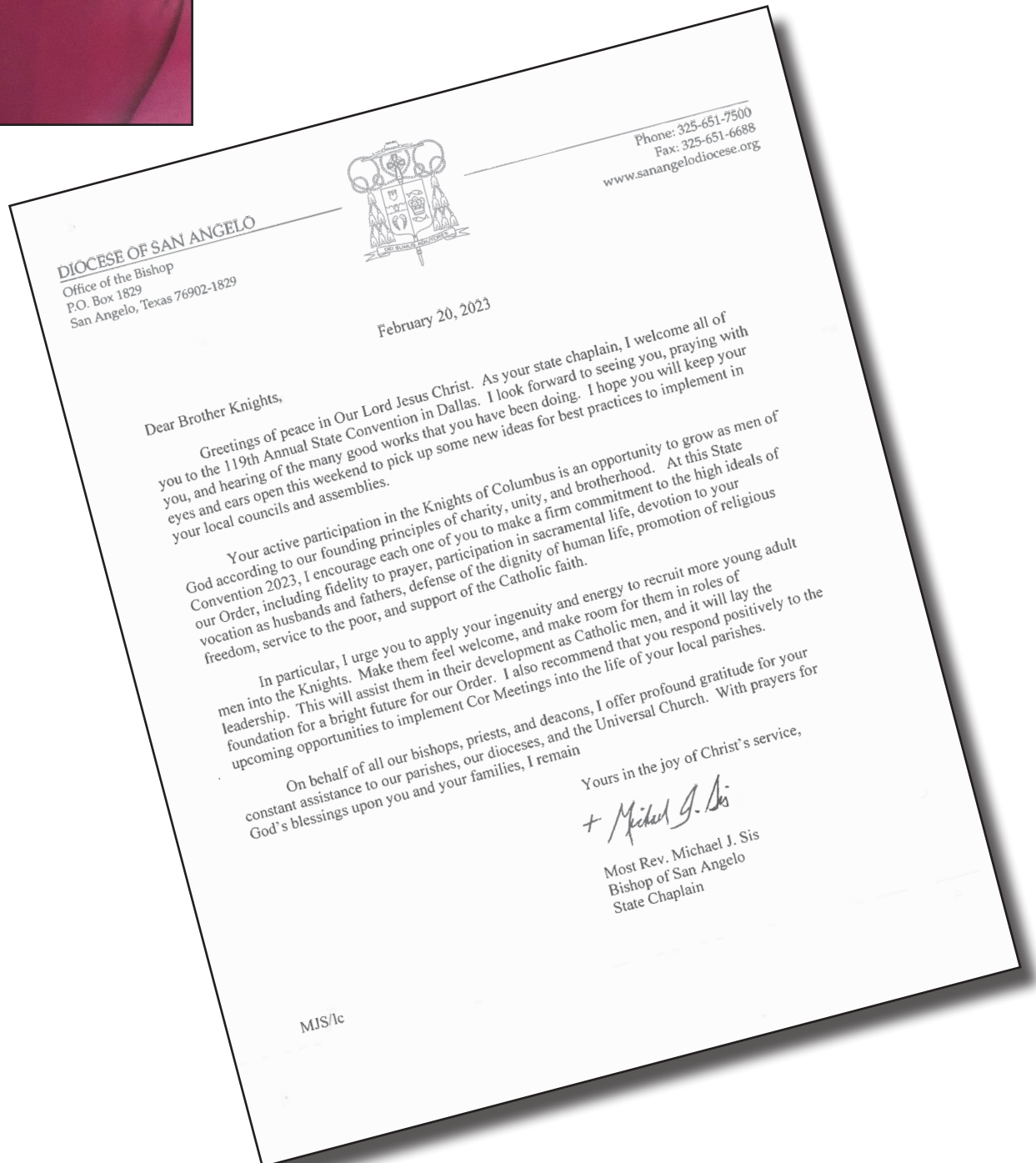
May God continue to bless the Knights of Columbus and aid you in your important work.

Faithfully in Christ,


Most Reverend Edward J. Burns
Bishop of Dallas

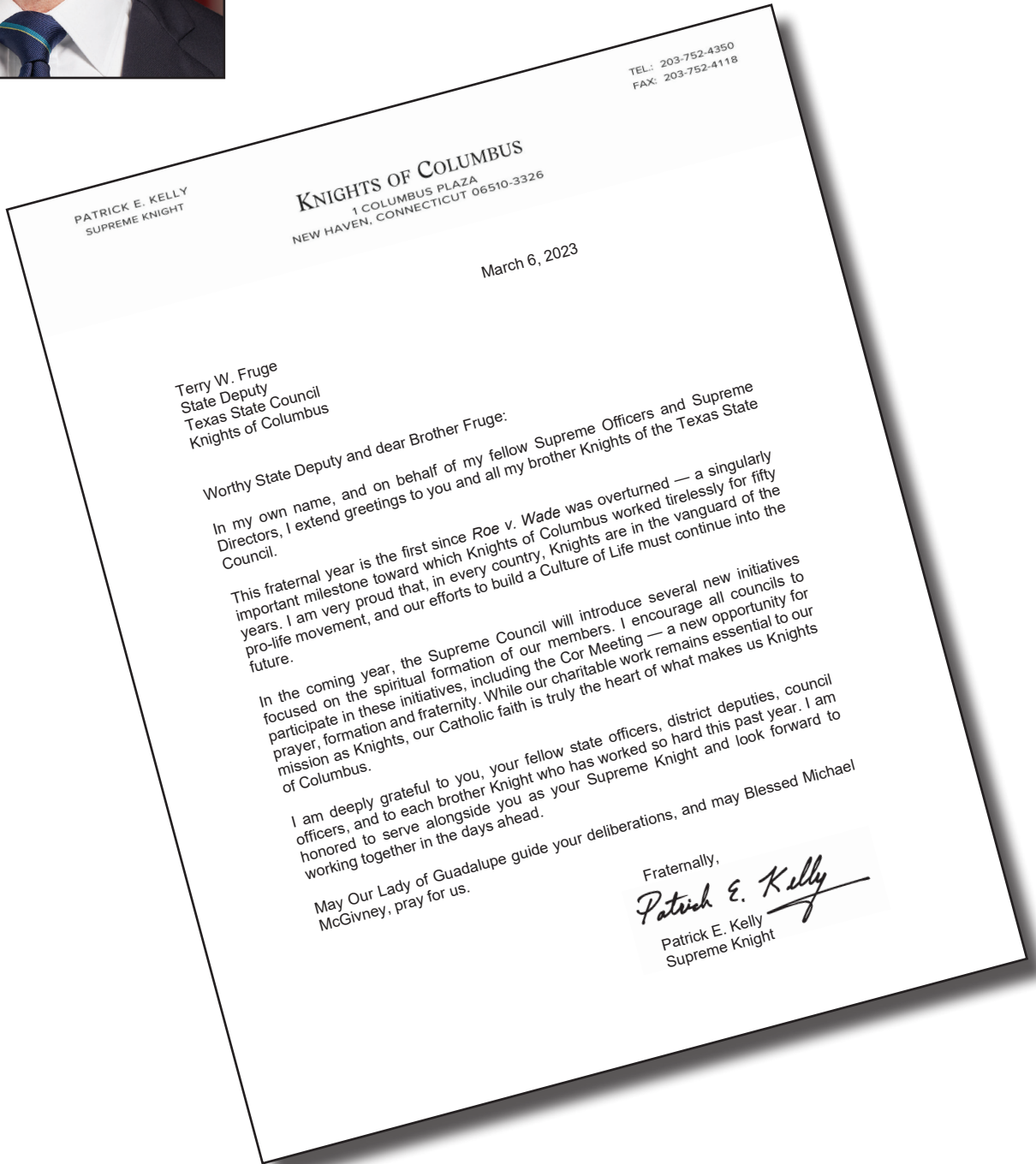


Most Reverend Michael J. Sis, STL, DD
State Chaplain, Bishop of San Angelo





Patrick E. Kelly
Supreme Knight



TEL: 203-752-4350
FAX: 203-752-4118

PATRICK E. KELLY
SUPREME KNIGHT

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
1 COLUMBUS PLAZA
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510-3326

March 6, 2023

Terry W. Fruge
State Deputy
Texas State Council
Knights of Columbus

Worthy State Deputy and dear Brother Fruge:

In my own name, and on behalf of my fellow Supreme Officers and Supreme Directors, I extend greetings to you and all my brother Knights of the Texas State Council.

This fraternal year is the first since *Roe v. Wade* was overturned — a singularly important milestone toward which Knights of Columbus worked tirelessly for fifty years. I am very proud that, in every country, Knights are in the vanguard of the pro-life movement, and our efforts to build a Culture of Life must continue into the future.

In the coming year, the Supreme Council will introduce several new initiatives focused on the spiritual formation of our members. I encourage all councils to participate in these initiatives, including the Cor Meeting — a new opportunity for prayer, formation and fraternity. While our charitable work remains essential to our mission as Knights, our Catholic faith is truly the heart of what makes us Knights of Columbus.

I am deeply grateful to you, your fellow state officers, district deputies, council officers, and to each brother Knight who has worked so hard this past year. I am honored to serve alongside you as your Supreme Knight and look forward to working together in the days ahead.

May Our Lady of Guadalupe guide your deliberations, and may Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.

Fraternally,
Patrick E. Kelly
Patrick E. Kelly
Supreme Knight



Alfredo Vela
Supreme Director



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE

TEL: 956-500-0169
EMAIL: alfredo.vela@kofc.org

ALFREDO VELA
SUPREME DIRECTOR

May 5, 2023

My Brother Knights and Lovely Ladies,
Rosa and I welcome you to the 119th Texas State Council Convention being held in Dallas, Texas.

The Dallas convention committee has been hard at work to put this gathering together. Kudos to the committee for their efforts and hosting us this weekend.

Thank you to our Texas State Chaplain, Most Reverend Bishop Michael Sis, and to our Associate State Chaplain, Reverend Mel Besselieu for their spiritual guidance to the Texas State Council and their parishes. Also, thank you to Most Reverend Bishop Edward J. Burns for giving us the opportunity to meet here in Dallas this weekend.

Congratulations Texas on having another banner year. But, we must not and cannot stop doing what we are doing. We must continue to grow our membership, continue our charitable efforts and, most importantly, continue in our Faith Formation. We must continue to be the right arm of the Catholic Church.

Grand Knights and District Deputies, please challenge your council and yourself to strive for and achieve Star Council/Star District status. It is NEVER too late to get started. As of this weekend, you have approximately two months to get it done. That is more than enough time. Let's get it done.

Finally, the convention is a time to get together with some of our dearest friends, but it is also a time to make some new ones. Also use the time this weekend to gather some ideas for your councils.

Vivat Jesus!

Alfredo and Rosa Vela
Supreme Director/IPSD



Terry Frugé State Deputy



May 5, 2023



**Knights of
Columbus®**
Texas
State Council

STATE DEPUTY
Terry Frugé
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Most Rev. Michael Sis, STL, DD
Bishop of San Angelo

ASSOCIATE STATE CHAPLAIN
Rev. Mel Bessalieu

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Brother Knights and Lovely Ladies,
On behalf of the Texas State Council, Beth and I welcome you and your family to the 119th Texas State Convention of the Knights of Columbus here at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center in Dallas, Texas.

The Convention is dedicated in honor of Past State Chaplain, His Excellency, Bishop John W. Yanta and His Excellency, Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza. Their level of dedication to the Order will be greatly missed.

We want to thank our State Chaplain, Most Reverend Michael Sis, Bishop of the Diocese of San Angelo and our Associate State Chaplain, Fr. Mel Bessalieu, from the Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas for their spiritual guidance and support to the Texas State Council. Let us welcome all Bishops and religious throughout the state who are in attendance this weekend.

Even though we are still facing some challenging times, The Dallas Convention Committee has been working very hard to make this convention a memorable event for all Knights and their families. This convention will give us a chance to renew and make new friendships and to share ideas with each other.

We know some of you are still facing some challenging times. But, every challenge brings a new opportunity. The Knights, as usual, have faced and overcome some of these challenges. Thank you for what you have done for the Order, your council, and your parish. Please remember our motto of "Christ Be Our Light".

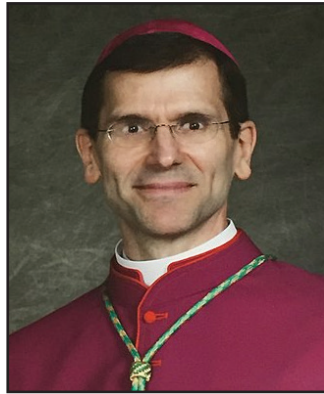
Fraternally,

Terry Frugé
State Deputy
Texas State Council

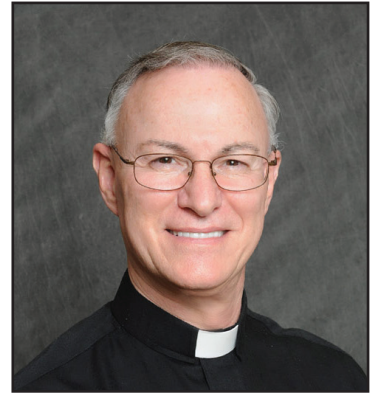
Texas State Council Officers



State Deputy
Terry Frugé



State Chaplain
Most Reverend
Michael J. Sis, STL, DD
Bishop of San Angelo



Associate State Chaplain
Reverend Mel Bessalieu



State Secretary
Ronald J. Alonzo



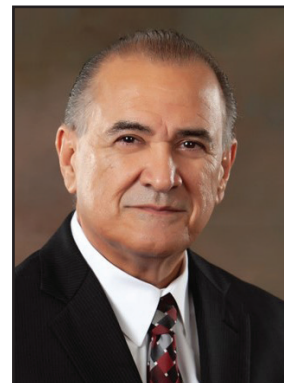
State Treasurer
Robert "Bob" B. Goss



State Advocate
David J. Pels



State Warden
Bruce Mallory



Immediate Past State Deputy
Supreme Director
Alfredo Vela

Past State Deputies



Tim Von Dohlen



Ray Neumann



Lou Barbour



Jacob Gaona



Ron Gay



Kenneth L. Otte



Leo E. Hanus



Larry J. Zapalac



Tony Herreth



Jim Collins



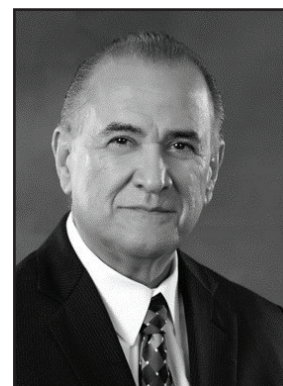
Terry Simonton



Douglas E. Oldmixon



T. Mark Evans



Immediate Past State Deputy
Alfredo Vela

State Directors



State Membership
Derek Rabey



State Council Growth
David Zeigler



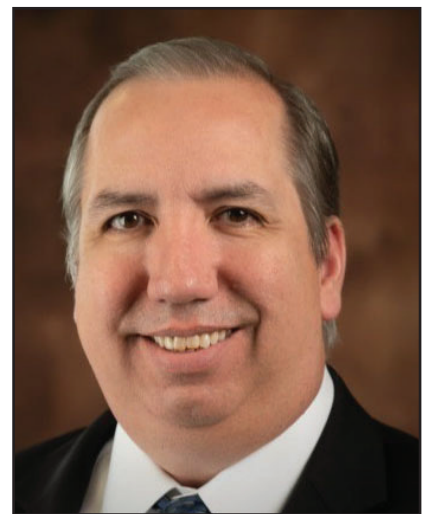
State Charities
Reed Fontenot



State Education and Training
Ed Tydings



Star Council Awards
Bill Tillotson



State Programs
Carlos X. Martinez

State Office Personnel



Executive Secretary
Michael L. McLaughlin

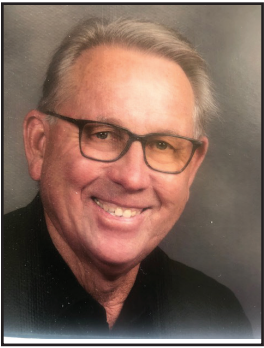


Council Records
Kathleen McLoughlin



Accountant
Kari Jordan

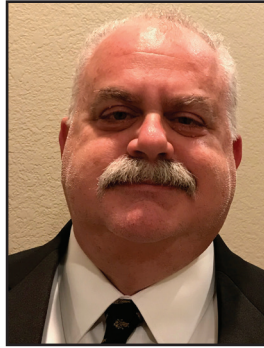
Diocesan Deputies



Amarillo
Ron Railsback



Austin
William Tartaglia



Beaumont
Philip Chauvin



Brownsville
Fernando Garcia



Corpus Christi
Rudy Ortiz



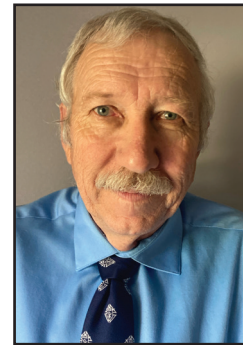
Dallas
Mike Courtney



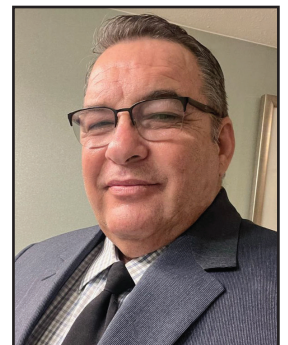
El Paso
Art Aguirre Sr



Fort Worth
Craig Modrzynski



Galveston-Houston
Ron Frerich



Laredo
Angel Luna



Lubbock
Arlie Markusen



San Angelo
Joe Jacobo



San Antonio
Michael Rademacher



Tyler
Larry Pfiefer



Victoria
Kenny Trochta

Fourth Degree Masters



Vice Supreme Master
Matt Maly, PSD



District 1 Master
James A Hatcher



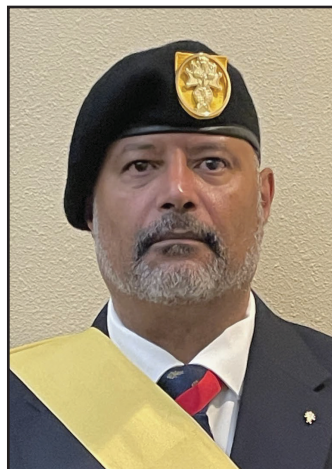
District 2 Master
Javier Martinez



District 3 Master
Kenneth D. Franch



District 4 Master
Guadalupe Ortiz



District 5 Master
Giovanni Hyppolite



District 6 Master
Jesus Villarreal Jr

General Insurance Agents



William Britten, FICF



Juan Carlos Carlin, FIC



**Mickey Dougherty, FIC,
CFFM**



**Tony Rangel, CLU, CSA,
LUTCF, FICF, CFFM**



**John F. Regan, CFP, CLU,
CHFC, FIC**



**James McCabe, FICF,
LUTCF**



Chris Stark, FICF, CLTC



**Thomas R. Supak, FICF,
LUTCF, CSA**

2022 Kinane Award Winners



Terrence O'Brien Award for First Year Life Equalizer

Jody Supak, FICF, LUTCF, CSA
Supak Agency

Highest Number of Life Applications

Cesar Lozano, FICF
Rangel Agency



Highest Life Volume

James Bell, CFP®, FIC
Regan Agency



Shaun O'Brien Memorial Rookie of the Year

Todd Crosby, FIC
Rangel Agency