

## Knights' state deputy reflects on order's 125th anniversary, end of term

By Roxanne King, Denver Catholic Register

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE OF CATHOLIC LIFE

DENVER— On March 29, the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic men's fraternal benefit society, celebrated a milestone — the 125th anniversary of its founding.

To observe the landmark, the Colorado Knights held a Ceremonial Weekend in the metro-Denver area March 23-25 to enroll and promote membership. More than 200 candidates participated in the festivities: 36 men made the first degree, 80 made the second or third degree and nearly 100 candidates made the fourth degree — the highest rank in the order.

"Other than the Boy Scouts, the Knights of Columbus is the only fraternal organization that continues to grow in numbers every year," said Jay Nothstine, Colorado Knights' state deputy.

"The anniversary marks 125 years of continuous service," he added with pride. "We continue to bring support to our communities and the Church."

In addition, the 105th Annual Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus State Convention will offer a new schedule from May 3 through May 6 at the Doubletree Hotel Denver, 3203 Quebec St. in Denver.

This event gathers Knights from every Council across Colorado to celebrate the program, projects and recruitment successes of 2006. Grand Knights, State Officers, Past State Deputies, Insurance Agents, State Appointed Officers, and Faithful Navigators and Knights of all degrees will be in attendance.

The Knights of Columbus was founded in New Haven, Conn., in 1882 in the basement of St. Mary's Catholic Church by Father Michael J. McGivney and a handful of Catholic laymen. The organization sought to foster the Catholic faith of its members, and to provide financial support to the widows and children of deceased members, which eventually led to the order's famed insurance programs.

Today, with more than 1.7 million members, the order is the largest Catholic lay organization in the world.

That the organization keeps growing shows a persistent desire among Catholic men to develop spiritually, Nothstine said. The order remains committed to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity and has added a fourth, patriotism. Each rank in the order is tied to one of those virtues. To fulfill the order's motto "faith in action," members are involved in numerous apostolic works and community programs.

In 2005, the last period for which figures are available, the Knights donated more than \$139 million and 64 million hours of volunteer service to charities.

In Colorado, two of the many causes Knights are heavily involved in are seminarian support having contributed some \$1 million over the last decade and helping the developmentally disabled.

Last October's Developmentally Disabled Drive, in which Knights stand outside churches and grocery stores and hand out Tootsie Rolls in exchange for donations to benefit the disabled, raised \$165,000. Beneficiaries of that money, Nothstine said, included Colorado Special Olympics; the Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs dioceses for their programs serving the developmentally disabled; and a brain injury rehabilitation program in Grand Junction.

In a project related to patriotism, Nothstine said the Knights sponsored 100 radio spots between Christmas and New Year's that gave soldiers serving in Iraq the opportunity to send personal greetings to their loved ones in Colorado. Another 30 spots reminded people to keep Christ in Christmas.

A current project that aims to keep Christ at the forefront of a Knight's daily life is promotion of a Scripture-based devotional now in its third edition, "Knights to Christ," which is a Colorado Knights' project.

Although Nothstine's term as state deputy will end in June, he said the end of his tenure as the Number 1 Knight won't mean his retirement. There's simply too much yet to do. "Every Catholic man should have the opportunity to join the Knights. It will make them a better Catholic, husband, father and man."

Pleased with recent council growth — one was just established in Wray, one was reinstated in Florence, and four are in the process of being formed — and that Denver was selected as the site for the Supreme Council Convention in the year 2011, Nothstine said there's much to keep the Knights busy far into the future. "As we move forward," he said, "we continue the teamwork."



Jay Nothstine



## Priests celebrate 50, 40, 25 Ordination Anniversaries

PUEBLO— Each May the Clergy Assembly acknowledges the members of the Presbyterate who are celebrating significant anniversaries of their ordination that year.

During their May Conference in Cañon City Bishop Tafoya recognized three of the priests for their years of ministry in the Diocese of Pueblo: Father Bill Nelson for 25 years, Father Tom Adrians for 40 years, and Father Bob Carden for 50 years.

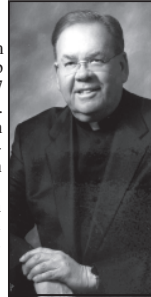
### Father Tom Adrians

A Wisconsin native, Father Tom Adrians was ordained by Bishop Charles Buswell on May 13, 1967 at the Holy Cross Abbey Chapel. His years of service have taken him beyond the reaches of the Diocese of Pueblo to serve initially in Boulder and Colorado Springs. Father Tom was involved early in his priesthood as a teacher at the Abbey School and also as a Campus Minister, both on the Campuses of the University of Colorado and Colorado College.

His first pastorate was at St. Benedict's in Florence, Colorado. After this he became Diocesan Director of Religious Education under the direction of Bishop Buswell. He then served as pastor at St. Mary's Church in Montrose for six years and ten years at Holy Family Parish in Pueblo. He currently is serving as pastor of Christ the King Parish in Pueblo and has been there for the past twelve years.

Father Tom has served in many Diocesan positions over the years. He presently is Chairman of the Presbyteral Council, Chairman of the Clergy Personnel Board, Chairman of the Clergy Assembly, Chairman of the College of Consultors, a member of the Diocesan Foundation Board, and has served on a variety of committees in the Diocese over the years, especially being active in Clergy Formation.

Bishop Tafoya appointed Father Tom as his Vicar General in the Diocese in 2003. In that capacity he serves at the Bishop's direction. Father Tom will be celebrating with his present parish community and friends on the 12th of May with a Mass of Thanksgiving led by Bishop Tafoya at 4:30 p.m.



Rev. Tom Adrians

### Father Bill Nelson

Father Bill Nelson was born in White Plains, New York on October 3, 1951.

In the early 1970's, as a young man Nelson majored in Philosophical studies at the College of Great Falls in Great Falls, Montana.

Nelson came to the Diocese of Pueblo in 1977. And, after attending seminary, he was ordained at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart for the Diocese of Pueblo by Bishop Arthur N. Tafoya on June 11, 1982.

After ordination, Nelson was initially assigned as associate pastor to St. Mary's Parish in Walsenburg. He subsequently spent time in pastoral ministry at Christ the King in La Veta, Sacred Heart in Gardner and Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission in Chama.

He was next assigned to serve as associate pastor of the La Junta Catholic Parish in July of 1984 where he spent years in active ministry to the local Catholics.

In July of 1994, Father Bill was given a new assignment to serve as Pastor of St. Margaret Mary and Mission in Cortez. He also said weekly Masses at its missions of St. Jude in Dove Creek; St. Rita Parish and its mission in Manco; Our Lady of Victory in Dolores; and, Immaculate Heart of Mary in Rico.

Appointed Vicar Forane for Durango Deanery on August 1, 1990, Father Nelson continued in the position for the next four years.

In 1995, he was once again assigned as Vicar of a cluster of parishes including Holy Name of Mary and Missions in Del Norte; St. Francis of Assisi, Valdez, Holy Family, South Fork; Immaculate Conception, Creede; St. Francis Jerome Parish in Center; St. Agnes in Saguache; and St. Joseph in Monte Vista.

Appointed to serve as member of Clergy Personnel Committee on February 5, 1997, he continued in that position for the next four years.

In 2001, he assumed the role of pastor at Sacred Heart Parish, Paonia and St. Margaret Mary Mission, in Hotchkiss effective through July 5, 2007.

### Father Bob Carden

Celebrating his 50th Anniversary to the priesthood, Father Bob Carden is retired and living in Vineland.



Rev. Bill Nelson

## Act of Consignment of Public Status for the WUCWO

VATICAN— On Wednesday March 21, the Pontifical Council for the Laity confirmed the erection of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) as a public international association of the faithful, in conformity with the canonical norms in force and according to canons 298-320 and 327-329 of the Code of Canon Law.

Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko, President; Bishop Josef Clemens, Secretary; and staff members of the Pontifical Council for the Laity gathered in the Aula Magna with members of the WUCWO leadership to celebrate this historic occasion. Archbishop Rylko noted that the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations is one of the first associations to receive this public status.

The Act of Consignment was read by Dr. Maria Rocio Figueroa, head of the Pontifical Council's Women's Section, to WUCWO President-General, Karen M. Hurley, who was accompanied by WUCWO's Ecclesiastical Assistant, Father GianMaria Polidoro, o.f.m., former President General (1996 - 2006) Maria Eugenia Diaz de Pfenning, Secretary-General, Gillian M. Badcock and Vice President of the European Region Maria Giovanna Ruggieri.

Founded in 1910, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, with a membership of almost 100 organizations, active in 66 countries, represents millions of Catholic women of every walk of life. President General Karen M. Hurley said, "...This status honors the tireless efforts of millions of faithful Catholic women active in our Union at the parish, diocesan, national and international levels. We appreciate the decision of the Pontifical Council for the Laity and, with the grace of God, will work diligently to fulfill the responsibilities which accompany this status. We pledge to you our fidelity to the Church and our faithful Catholic witness to the world, which is rooted in spiritual formation, evangelization and the Social Doctrine of the Church..."

The mission of WUCWO is to promote the pres-



L-r: Monsignor Miguel Delgado (Pontifical Council for the Laity); Father GianMaria Polidoro, OFM; Gillian Badcock; Maria Eugenia Diaz de Pfenning; Bishop Joseph Clemens; Karen M. Hurley; Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko; Maria Giovanna Ruggieri; Dr. Maria Rocio Figueroa; Guzman Carriquiry (Undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for the Laity); Maria Grazia Villani (Pontifical Council for the Laity). Photo courtesy of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

ence, participation and co-responsibility of Catholic women in Church and society in order to enable them to fulfill their mission of evangelization and to work for human development.

The WUCWO Priority for 2006-2010 is Building a Culture of Peace with special attention to education and the alleviation of poverty (2006 General Assembly).

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### 6 July - Feast of Saint Maria Goretti

On 12 June 2003, a Prayer Card was launched at St Mark's Primary School in Drummoyne, NSW (Australia) by Barbara Holborow, Retired Magistrate of the Children's Court. The Catholic Women's League of Australia (CWLA) has initiated a promotion of an Annual Prayer Day corresponding with St Maria Goretti's Feast Day on 6 July to highlight and pray against the sexual violence and exploitation perpetrated against women and children, especially in regard to trafficking for purposes of prostitution.



"One million children throughout the world are victims of sexual slavery."