



State Officers 2020-2021

Our Dear Knights of Columbus, Brothers in Christ,

Merry Christmas! It is comforting to hear these words especially amid one of the most challenging times in recent history. One could say this year has seemed like traveling through a dark tunnel. As Catholics, we draw from our faith knowing there is always light at the end of the tunnel. In fact, the light that wants to be seen by all the world is Jesus Christ Himself.

Jesus was born in challenging times too yet came as a light to shine in a dark world. In the Gospel of Matthew (5:16) we are exhorted. **Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.**

Everything we do as God's family, as Christians, as Knights of Columbus begins with answering the call to be beacons of Christ's light. The light shed by our lives can produce real effects in souls. Echoing this call in an address given before last Christmas, before the pandemic, Worthy Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson stressed to Knights that we must forge new paths to strengthen the Church and the Order. Speaking of the importance our actions must have in *our* families and communities, he said "we cannot expect someone else to come in and make everything right."

Just as ships follow lights to prevent aimless drifting and to ensure safe passage, people everywhere are looking for the adult in the room to stand up and to boldly let their light shine in our world like our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney did. Ultimately, his vision has spread across the world, touching millions of lives.

Throughout these past months, Knights everywhere with a mindset to "leave no neighbor behind," have also touched lives by standing up and stepping into the breach with countless acts of charity and personal sacrifice.

We, the State Officers of the Knights of Columbus in California want to thank all you Worthy Brothers for your visible commitment to the mission of Christ as it comes to us through the Church.

This is our desire for our Jurisdiction. We are Christ-filled Knights of Columbus determined to let our light shine giving the world cause for true celebration and joy. In so doing, we will not only point to the light out of the tunnel but to Jesus who is the Light of the World.

May the good Lord direct all our lives as we live our Faith in Family and Community.

Sincerely, in Christ,

Stephen E. Bolton
State Deputy

Rev. John F. Neneman
State Chaplain

Dr. Noel Panlilio
State Secretary

Rene Trevino
State Treasurer

Gregory Marracq
State Advocate

James Larson
State Warden

David Abbott
Immediate Past State
Deputy