

**REPORT OF THE HARRISBURG DIOCESAN CHAPTER
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



Presented at the Pennsylvania Knights of Columbus State Convention

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By Jason Gottesman, Acting Chapter President

My Brother Knights all,

The Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus covers 3rd Degree Councils in the Diocese of Harrisburg, covering 15 counties and boasting 24 member councils.

We proudly report that after several years of low-key participation, we are in the process of Chapter renewal and have recently formed a task force to grow Chapter membership, increase Chapter activities, and grow our organization as the repository for best practices, diocesan-level coordinated events, and fundraising.

In that vein, this report will focus on three activities we are currently supporting at the Chapter level that we are especially proud of and look to use as building blocks for further growth.

1) Support of Holy Family Radio

Holy Family Radio AM720 is the Catholic radio station in the diocese of Harrisburg. This struggling, but fruitful apostolate currently broadcasts EWTN and local programming to eight counties in our diocese and is looking to expand that coverage with the purchase of a high power radio tower.

Over the last three years, the Knights of Columbus in our diocese, through the work of our Chapter, have supported the radio station through financial contributions, volunteering at the radio station, and providing spot construction and handyman work as requested.

Much of the day-to-day work at the station is completed by Knights of Columbus.

In recognition of our efforts, Holy Family Radio allows the Knights of Columbus in our diocese to advertise events, degrees, and membership at little or no cost.

We are also very proud of our effort in providing funds to the station for bumper stickers. On the one side of the bumper sticker is information about the station while the peel-off section includes recognition of councils in our Chapter that have donated to their effort.

2) Fundraising for the Apostles of Jesus

In conjunction with Holy Family Radio, the Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus also served as the pass-through for a fundraising campaign benefitting the Apostles of Jesus.

As many of you know, the Apostles of Jesus is a missionary order of Priests located throughout Africa with international headquarters in Pennsylvania with strong ties to the Knights of Columbus.

Through the efforts of Fr. Paul Gaggawala—our past State Chaplain—and Brother Knight Bob Kluegiewicz and advertising on the radio that was led by Knights of Columbus, we were able to raise enough funds to buy dozens of life-saving mosquito nets for students living at a school run by the Apostles of Jesus that hosts many AIDS/HIV orphans.

If you wish to know more about the important work of the Apostles of Jesus, please see the August 2015 issue of *Columbia Magazine*.

3) Quo Vadis Days Support

While acting as a fundraising pass-through and advertiser for the successful Quo Vadis Days program held at Mount St. Mary's University and Seminary every June, the Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus has assisted this programming in helping young men discern their vocational call.

To briefly detail the success of this program, which is now in its 12th year, when it first started our diocese had seven seminarians. Currently, we have 32.

The program is led by Brother Knight Mike Yakubick, our State Youth and Squires Director.

While we in no way take credit for the hard work he and his volunteers put into putting on this great event, we do take great pride in the small role our Chapter plays in coordinating the fundraising and providing what support we can to help young men discern their path, their calling, and their vocation.

Brothers, in closing, we in the Harrisburg Diocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus are very proud of the work we do in supporting our councils and local Catholic community.

We are excited about the year to come, and the new activities that will be reported to this body at next year's state convention.

Vivat Jesus!