

Dear Worthy Alaska Knights of Columbus,

It was my great honor to participate in the Knights Alaska State Convention last week. Thank you for the great honor you have bestowed on me to continue to serve as your State Chaplain. Throughout the whole convention, there was universal gratitude and praise expressed for the community effort to make this a great state convention, and it showed. I am most appreciative of Archbishop Schwietz and Bishop Kettler for their participation and Mass co celebrations. I also wish to extend many thanks to the Alaska State Council and to Dan O'Hara from the Supreme Council. Thank you also to the Holy Family Cathedral for hosting us for meetings in their facility. I especially want to thank Our Lady of the Snows Council 4859 for preparing so many marvelous meals for us. Each meal really was excellent, and there was so much variety (tasty and plenty of good food available). It was very well organized and a pleasure for me to attend.

I believe that I am witnessing a new springtime of renewal and cooperation within our Alaska State Council from the state level to the council level, and a genuine commitment from those who attended to seek to live the principles of our Order of Knights. It seems to me that the more closely and cooperatively we can all work together as Knights, the more effective we are able to accomplish our mission. When we work cooperatively, we can more effectively support our priests, promote the Catholic faith, defeat those initiatives against the Church's teaching, and promote priestly vocations. As the Special Forces of our Church, I expect you to continue to do just that.

Vivat Jesus,
Fr. Fred Bayler
State Chaplain