

## Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus

### NOMINATION FOR CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR 2006

**Council #:** 3335

**Diocese:** Steubenville, Ohio

**Council Name:** St. Louis Parish Council

**Nom. Parish:** St. Louis Parish

**Chaplain's Name:** Msgr. William R. Myers

**Address:** 85 State Street  
Gallipolis, Ohio 45631

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**Pastor's Name:** Msgr. William R. Myers

**City/Zip:** Gallipolis, OH 45631

**Telephone:** (740)446-0669

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**Years Active in Council:** 17

**Position:** Pastor

**Church Activities:** Msgr. Myers has been the pastor and spiritual leader of St. Louis Church since 1980. Besides providing for the usual spiritual needs of the parish members, he has provided benediction, Eucharistic adoration, missions, and ample reading materials and Catholic periodicals. He has overseen material renovations and improvements such as the Verdin Alpha Bell System, parish van, organ, etc. Currently, funds are being raised for a Parish Center.

During his tenure, a parishioner has been ordained and a Right to Life group, a women's group, and a youth group have been established. Every year he takes a large group of parishioners and others from neighboring parishes to participate in the Right to Life March on Washington. The parish has organized parish picnics and days of recollection to regional shrines. He is the former Dean of Gallia/Lawrence Counties and a Catholic chaplain for area institutions.

**Interaction With the Knights of Columbus:** As Chaplain and a knight himself, he participates in meetings and activities as a regular member, leads prayer, and serves as its spiritual director/adviser. From his position as pastor, he facilitates the activities of the local council knights in the parish, such as hosting the Lenten fish fries, providing honor guards for Eucharistic Adoration, sponsoring the rosary devotion before all masses on the first Sunday of the month, etc. His input is invaluable for membership and the recognition dinner awards sponsored by the knights.

**Community Activities:** He has been a member of the local Ministerial Association which breeds ecumenical cooperation. Msgr. Myers provides chaplain services for local hospitals, nursing homes, and the home for developmentally handicapped. He often participates in civic ceremonies for Memorial Day, Veterans' Day, etc. Under his tutelage, the parish has participated in the city's bicentennial celebration and local parades, provided lunches for the high school students next door, etc.

The annual parish fest and Lenten fish fries are open to the public. Msgr. Myers is a member of the Volunteer Chaplaincy Program at the nearby University of Rio Grande. He is especially concerned with the needs of the Catholic students there, including the founding of a campus Newman Club.

**Reasons For Nomination:** Msgr. William R. Myers has served his parish and the Knights of Columbus Council with dedication and distinction. Being a knight himself, he seldom misses a meeting. He was instrumental in the re-activation of the Council in 1989 after a hiatus of 20 years. Since then, our local Council has often won State Council awards for its numerous charitable activities including the Matching funds Award, Administrative, Measure Up, Public Relations, Spirit Involvement, Vocations, and Community Relations.

Because of our Chaplain's leadership and his position as pastor, it was easy for the local knights to participate in Right to Life activities as for example, carrying a K of C banner in rallies locally and in the March on Washington, in which he leads a bus load of faithful from our parish and neighboring ones every year. Msgr. Myers has provided and facilitated many opportunities for the knights to serve the parish....the Lenten Fish Fry Fund Raiser, Pancake Breakfasts, Parish Festival, dinners, Family Days, Picnics, etc.

He has enthusiastically supported and promoted the Knights of Columbus, including announcing its meetings and activities from the pulpit and in the parish bulletin. As a member of the Ministerial Association, he has fostered good ecumenical relations in a Bible Belt area dominated by Baptists while fostering unity in his own parish. He has maintained excellent upkeep and continuous improvement of parish properties.

**Submitted By Grand Knight:** Bruce Davison

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