

## Chris Bencharski- State Secretary

Chris joined the Meadow Lake Council Knights of Columbus in 1984 and has served the council in the positions of youth director, lecturer, PR director, membership director, general program director, first degree team member, deputy grand knight, and grand knight.

At the district level, he served 5 one year terms as district deputy of District 19, and received the Star District Award three times and All-Star District Award once.

Prior to his election to the state board, he served as state council activities director as well as N.W. regional membership director.

Chris and Pat and their children were selected as the Saskatchewan State Family of the Year in 1991 and that same year Chris attended the Supreme Convention in Baltimore, Maryland as a delegate representing Saskatchewan.

He was elected to the state board in 2010 and has served for two years as state warden and state general program director, two years as state advocate and state church activities director, two years as state treasurer and state charity appeal chairman, and presently serves as state secretary and N.W. cluster leader.

Both Chris and Pat are very active in their church. Chris has served as youth group leader, catechism teacher, parish council member, building committee member, 75<sup>th</sup> parish anniversary history book chairman, liturgical minister, finance council member, and lay-led services team member.

He is a Fourth Degree member of Meadow Lake Assembly #2752 and served two years as the charter faithful navigator.

He is a member of the V. I. P. Membership Club and has signed up 71 members to join the Knights of Columbus since he joined the knights.

His community involvement includes president of Meadow Lake and District Farmers' Market, former provincial director of the Sask. Farmers' Market, past chairman of Meadow Lake Nordic Ski Club, past chairman of Meadow Lake Winter Festival; Former vice president of the River Junction Parks and Recreation Association, former coach and commissioner for Meadow Lake Minor Hockey and

Meadow Lake Minor Ball; founding co-president of Meadow Lake Right to Life; boy scout and cub leader; and many other volunteer organizations.

Chris has been married to his beautiful wife Pat for 36 years and they have three children: Michael- 32; Jaimie-30 (Chase) Sabot and grand-sons Roman (age 4) and Tyson (age 2)-the joy of their life; and Karen-28(Shane) Selinger.

Pat was a registered nurse, who now works at United Tax and Bookkeeping Services.

Chris is a retired schoolteacher who taught for 30.6 years at Lashburn, Waseca, Marsden, and Meadow Lake. He also served as Principal at Green Acre School in Rapid View, Sask.

Presently, Chris and Pat own and operate 2 small businesses- Meadow River Market Garden and Meadow Lake Overhead Door Services. His interests and hobbies include carpentry, gardening and landscaping, fishing, camping, hunting, and coin collecting.

Chris believes that we are all called through our baptism to be field workers in God's vineyard to help build the Kingdom of God. Chris has, throughout his life, held his faith and his involvement with the Knights of Columbus as a high priority which has enabled him not only to grow spiritually but also to help live out his baptismal promises.