



# Wheelchair Sunday

Answering prayers with the gift of mobility!



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

AMERICAN  
**WHEELCHAIR**  
MISSION





Carolina can now go to school

# Wheelchair Sunday

Since 2003, the Knights of Columbus wheelchair ministry has delivered over 100,000 wheelchairs throughout Mexico, the Holy Land, Latin America, the Caribbean, Pacific Islands, the Philippines, Vietnam, and to US Veterans and local needs throughout the United States.



Fadi, 10 in Jerusalem

In partnership with the American Wheelchair

Mission (AWM), Knights of Columbus raise funds to purchase and deliver wheelchairs to immobile people who cannot afford a wheelchair. There are more than 100 million people worldwide in this situation.

Wheelchairs allow children to go to school for the first time, adults to work to provide for their families, and the elderly to get out of a bed they may have been confined to for years. Each wheelchair changes and improves an average of 10 lives. Wheelchairs answer prayers and change the lives of entire families.

The brand-new wheelchairs provided would sell for up to \$500 in a medical supply store, but because they are delivered by ocean freight containers of 280 wheelchairs each, they can be sponsored for only \$150 each.

For a \$150 donation, a wheelchair is sponsored, and the donor receives a beautiful folder with the photo of a wheelchair recipient and a personalized certificate of thanks that can be a gift in honor or memory of a loved one.

The most successful way to raise funds for the sponsorship of wheelchairs is to conduct a Wheelchair Sunday parish drive. It allows parishioners to join this ministry and is easier than a pancake breakfast. For assistance, please contact Dan Moberg at [dmoberg@amwheelchair.org](mailto:dmoberg@amwheelchair.org) - (208) 457-0745 or Chris Lewis at [clewis@amwheelchair.org](mailto:clewis@amwheelchair.org) - (702) 580-0705.

**“Answering Prayers with the Gift of Mobility”**



First mobility in Vietnam

### **To conduct a Wheelchair Sunday:**

1. Obtain the permission and support of your pastor by talking with him and showing him the AWM materials. AWM staff can talk to him with you and supply the materials needed. The Wheelchair Sunday parish drives **do not** impact the church's weekly collection. Parishioners understand we are doing God's work, so they are inspired to support us in addition to their weekly offering to the church.
2. Once approved, coordinate with the appropriate parish staff person to select two consecutive weekends for the event that do not compete with other parish fund drives. (A single weekend is much appreciated for the drive if two are not possible)

3. Publicize the event in your parish communications, such as the weekly bulletin, website, email to parishioners and bulletin boards, up to six weeks before the event. (Bulletin announcements supplied later in this booklet)
4. Get the supplies needed from AWM for your Wheelchair Sunday.

#### **5. Supplies include:**

- A sample wheelchair, certificate of thanks with photo, donation envelopes, newsletters, brochures, DVDs, pins, and AWM posters.
- Pens, clipboards, collection baskets, sign saying "Please make checks payable to American Wheelchair Mission," and a sign saying "Your \$150 donation will provide a wheelchair for a person in need who cannot afford one."
- KofC literature, information cards, Form 100's or tablet to fill out online Form 100.

#### **6. On Wheelchair Sunday weekend:**

- Have at least one table setup in the narthex or outside so Knights can take donations, hand out materials and answer questions. Collect cash donations in baskets after mass,

and be sure to have a basket at all the exits. (The wheelchair can be placed near the altar so it is visible to the congregation, or placed on the table staffed by the Knights council. Please discuss this with your pastor.)

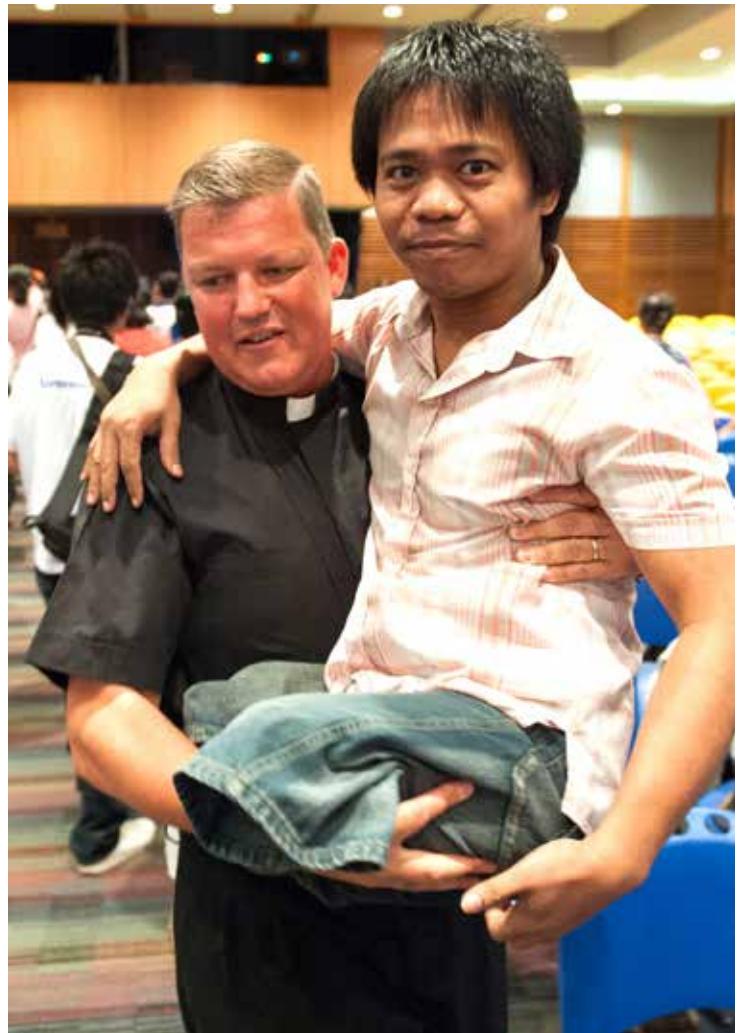
- Read a pulpit talk of about 3 minutes (A sample can be obtained from AWM) and/or show a DVD at all the masses. If you have the drive over two weekends, a brief pulpit announcement about the continuation of the drive should be made at all the masses on the second weekend.
- Checks should be made payable to the American Wheelchair Mission. If a parishioner gives \$150 cash, a donation envelope needs to be filled out so the certificate folder can be sent.
- For credit card donations, parishioners can use their phone to scan the AWM donation QR code, write their credit card information on the donation envelope or go to [www.amwheelchair.org/donate](http://www.amwheelchair.org/donate) to donate online. If an AWM representative is at your parish drive, they will have a credit card machine to process donations.
- Invite your field agent to be there. He can discuss KofC principles and insurance with prospective members.

7. For the loose cash received, your Council will write a check to the American Wheelchair Mission for the cash amount. For the envelopes containing \$150 or more in cash, please write "CASH" on the envelope. Those envelopes should be sent with the check written for the total cash amount.

8. Take note of the donors who indicate an interest in attending a wheelchair distribution so your council can contact them about future distributions.

9. Donations can be made after the drive via mail or online.

10. All checks and forms should be mailed to Dan Moberg, American Wheelchair Mission 2600 E. Seltice Way, Suite A172, Post Falls, ID 83854-7991.



Fr. John Neneman in the Philippines

An ocean freight container delivers 280 wheelchairs and requires a \$42,000 donation. All arrangements for procurement and shipment of containers are managed by AWM.

A council, district or jurisdiction raising enough funds to provide a container of wheelchairs, may designate the location for distribution, from a list of approved destinations. Anyone wishing to attend a distribution may do so at their own expense.

Thousands of wheelchairs are distributed each year across the United States to veterans and their families, VA facilities, Honor Flights, retired clergy and religious, churches and local needs. Your council or district can partner with a neighboring jurisdiction to share a container of wheelchairs. Please consult with AWM staff for information.

Wheelchair Sundays will raise funds to answer prayers with the gift of mobility, but will also present an excellent opportunity to recruit new KofC members. CHARITY is being demonstrated as the first principle of our Order, and is very appealing to younger men.

To help councils succeed and encourage program participation, the Featured Program minimum requirement has changed. Councils are encouraged to donate a minimum of 10 wheelchairs at \$150 each to the American Wheelchair Mission. Report activity using the Global Wheelchair Report Form (#10071). This fulfills the minimum requirement for 2 program credits toward the Columbian Award.

Please make checks payable to American Wheelchair Mission and mail to:

Dan Moberg, American Wheelchair Mission  
2600 E. Seltice Way, Suite A172 , Post Falls, ID 83854-7991

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **(Six weeks before Wheelchair Sunday)**

Please mark your calendars for (dates – Saturday & Sunday). The Knights of Columbus invite you to a very special event, “WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY!”

### **(Five weeks before Wheelchair Sunday)**

It is estimated that over 100 million children, teens and adults lack mobility worldwide, due to birth defects, war, disease, accident, natural disaster or advanced age, and are in need of a wheelchair, but cannot afford one. Please join the Knights of Columbus on “WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY” (dates – Saturday & Sunday) to learn how you can help answer the prayers of entire families.

### **(Four weeks before Wheelchair Sunday)**

Since 2003, the Knights of Columbus have helped provide tens of thousands of brand new wheelchairs all over the world, to children, teens and adults in need of mobility, but they could not afford a wheelchair. Please join the Knights of Columbus and Fr. (Pastor's name) to learn how a \$150 donation can purchase and deliver a free wheelchair to someone in need. "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY," (dates – Saturday & Sunday)

### **(Three weeks before Wheelchair Sunday)**

The Knights of Columbus will be here at all masses on "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY," (dates – Saturday & Sunday), to explain how you can answer the prayers of the poorest of the poor, and help them gain mobility, hope and freedom. Join the Knights and Fr. (Pastor's name), for this very inspirational and moving presentation.

### **(Two weeks before Wheelchair Sunday)**

Next Sunday is "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY!" Please join the Knights of Columbus for a brief presentation on how you can answer prayers and help someone in need of mobility receive a free wheelchair. \$150 can purchase and deliver a brand new wheelchair that would sell for over \$500. Your tax-deductible donations help the Knights change lives in an immediate and tangible way. Please help Fr. (Pastor's name) in his efforts to reach the goal of \$42,000 for an ocean freight container of 280 wheelchairs to help those in need of mobility.

### **(Wheelchair Sunday)**

Today is "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY!" Please open your hearts and join the Knights of Columbus for a brief presentation on how you can help answer the prayers of a child, teen or adult in desperate need of a wheelchair.

*"Some pastors might worry that a Wheelchair Sunday would take away from their collections, but we have never had a drop in our budgeted collections at all. We are the number one fundraising parish in America, and I believe when people see a good cause, it goes beyond their own sense and budget; it touches their hearts."*

**Fr. Tom Cloherty, Prince of Peace  
Plano, TX**



Bill Weber touching lives



Fr. Lane Akiona in Naga City



Richard Moken with a veteran in Selma, AL



Carmelite nuns in the Philippines



Honor Flight at WWII Memorial



Fr. Stephen Ingram feeling a mother's gratitude in Mexico



Celebrating mobility in Vietnam



Prayers answered in Sierra Leone



Cruising along in Honduras



Fatima is excited to attend school



Pure joy in Southern Chile



Happy brothers in the Bahamas



New mobility in Kenya



School is now possible in Haiti



Happiness and relief in Vietnam



Luis is moving himself for the first time



A new life in Jamaica



Disbelief and happiness in Ethiopia



First day of school in American Samoa



For questions, assistance or any other information, please contact:



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2600 E. Seltice Way, Suite A-172  
Post Falls, Idaho 83854  
Phone: (208) 457-0745  
Email: [dmoberg@amwheelchair.org](mailto:dmoberg@amwheelchair.org)

**To watch videos of Knights of Columbus wheelchair distributions around the world, please visit:**

**[www.amwheelchair.org](http://www.amwheelchair.org)**