



**Knights of
Columbus®**
**Arizona
State Council**



Pope Francis Intention for May
For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



K O C O A

Knights of Columbus of Arizona

Fourth Quarter Newsletter

He is risen, Alleluia! He is indeed risen, Alleluia!

Brother Knights we have just completed one of the most beautiful, sorrowful, and joyful liturgical seasons of the year. I hope and pray that the Triduum and Easter was blessed for you and your families also!

We are now heading into the last quarter of the fraternal year. While we do our separation year by year, bringing men closer to Christ does not fall within those bounds! For those councils who are close to or even over their goals, do not stop recruiting! Our goals do not stop because we hit our numbers!

Speaking of which, do not forget to file your SP-7! Your councils have been doing a lot of good work and should be recognized for it! Please make sure to file this form. If you have any questions or need help filling out, talk to your district deputy.

In May 17-18, we have our 117 Annual State Convention at the beautiful El Conquistador Resort in Tucson. This is a celebration of everything that your councils have done throughout the fraternal year, our annual Awards banquet, and the big drawing for the Charity State Raffle! Be sure to have your council represented as a delegate or attend as a member!

Delegate Registration: <https://www.cognitofrms.com/StateWebArizona/DelegateForm>

Attendee Registration (Must be done in addition to Delegate Registration): <https://kofc-az.org/state-convention>

Hotel Registration:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=TUSHTHH&arrivalDate=2024-05-17&departureDate=2024-05-18&groupCode=AKC516&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectL>

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Faith



Family



Community



Life



CHARITY * UNITY * FRATERNITY * PATRIOTISM

The Official Newsletter of the Arizona State Council

Don't forget to submit your advertisements for the program book! Let's get creative with some of the advertisements by putting pictures of your council events as part of the advertisement! <https://kofc-az.org/state-convention> (Scroll down to 2024 State Convention Advertising)

On a completely different note, I was honored to attend the 120th Anniversary of our mother council, Bisbee Council 863. There is so much history involved with the council, from the starting of the council to the many different ways the council help start other councils in the state. Is your council tracking history? (Hint: Recorders notes!) Every council has a rich history from the starting of the council with the support of your pastors, through the first programs that you did, to the sustaining programs that you do for your parish and community. It could be pancake breakfasts, fish fries, blood drives, golf tournaments, scholarships, fifth Sunday Rosary, supporting pregnancy centers, etc. If you don't have a council historian, consider asking someone (long time member) help out with this!

I can't say this enough, Thank You!!! Thank you for all that you are doing for the different programs you have to support your pastor and parish, thank you for bringing men closer to Jesus, and thank you for living your Faith over Culture!

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Kato

Knights of Columbus

Arizona State Deputy

A year ago, Sir Knight Edwin “Skip” Hopler passed away. Many of us knew Skip through the magnificent ceremonial work he performed for many years for the Arizona Knights of Columbus. Skip was also State Secretary and next in line to be State Deputy when he once again answered the call to train our military’s next generation of fighter pilots. The article below is a Defense Visual Information Distribution Publication and shows just how important the training Skip was called to do was for our Country and the high esteem others had for our Brother Knight.

The 56th Training Squadron hosted a renaming ceremony for the newly deemed Skip Hopler Fighter Training Center, March 29, 2024, at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona.

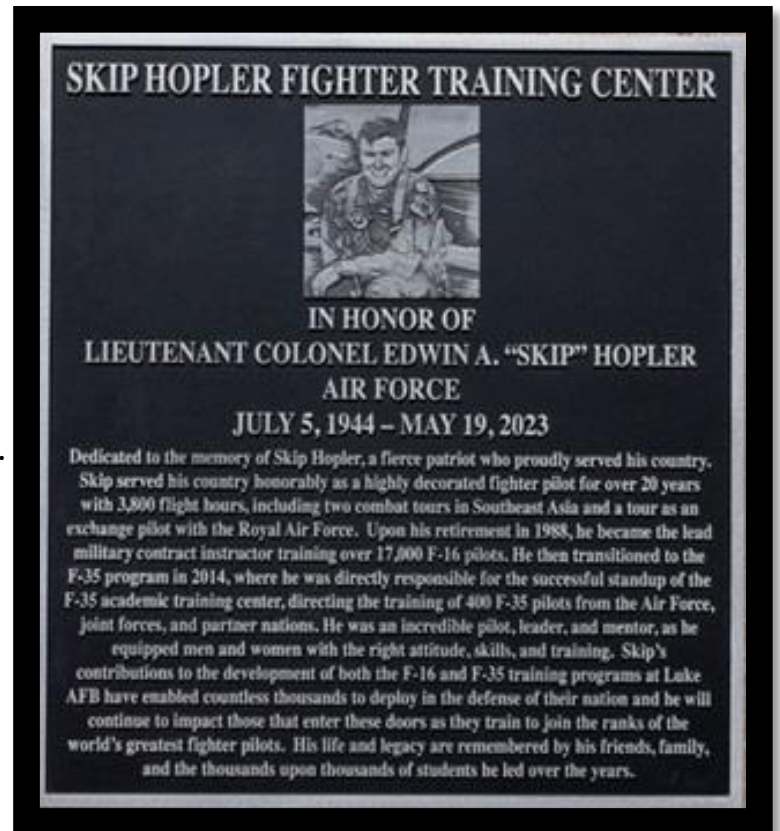
“This building will serve as a world class training center for the F-35 for decades to come,” said retired Lt. Gen. Tom Jones, former deputy commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Africa. “For the men and women who train here, work here, and learn here, they’re going to refer to this building as the Skip Hopler building.”

Late and retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Edwin “Skip” Hopler was a renowned fighter pilot and instructor, serving 21 years as an F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot, which included two combat tours in Vietnam. In 1988, Hopler retired as a pilot but continued serving as an instructor at Luke AFB. He was directly responsible for the training of over 17,000 F-16 pilots, before he followed the Air Force into the F-35 Lightning II training program.

“We are so grateful that this building now shares Skip’s name,” said Heather Hopler, widow of Skip Hopler. “Skip was truly honored to have served here and impacted so many lives.”

After the ceremony, attendees participated in a long-standing fighter pilot tradition, “the nickel on the grass toast”, serving as a final salute to the fallen aviator.

The Skip Hopler Fighter Training Center immortalizes Hopler’s legacy amongst Luke AFB and the fighter pilot community. His dedication as a fighter pilot, leader, and mentor significantly enhanced both the F-16 and F-35 programs and directly contributed to the 56th Fighter Wing’s mission of training the world’s greatest fighter pilots and combat ready Airmen.



In October 1881, Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney called together a number of the leading men of his parish to present his idea to form a fraternal organization "to promote the principles of unity and charity so that the members would gain the strength to bestow charity on each other. The group would collectively protect the families of its members, providing charity to those in need while offering fraternal connections and activities for those who were involved" (Walther & Walther, 2020). Father McGivney's vision was realized when the Knights of Columbus held their first meeting in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, on February 6, 1882.



Fast forward 22 years and on Sunday, March 27, 1904, Council No. 863 was founded in the city of Bisbee, Cochise County, Territory of Arizona.

Councils were numbered in order and by the time the Bisbee Council was established, the order had reached 183,000 members and was international (Walther & Walther, 2020). By 1900, the order had crossed the Mississippi. The Mother Council in Texas was El Paso No. 638, founded on April 13, 1902. Its prime movers were James Clifford, who became its first grand knight, and his friend E. V. Berrien, a territorial delegate and organizer for the region (William H. Dunn, 1995). Fittingly Mr. Berrien, was tasked with the honor of initiating and installing the Officers of The Mother council of the Territory of Arizona. He was accompanied by 35 members of the El Paso council. Also in attendance were three candidates from Cananea, Sonora, Mexico. The first three degrees of the order were conducted on Saturday the 26, taking just over nine hours. On Sunday, all attended a morning Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, which was followed by a meeting at 10:30 to elect and install the Officers of the new council:

GK Michael E. Cassidy, Attorney, appointed Postmaster of Bisbee in June 1904, Captain in the Spanish American war, native of Ireland

DGK Frank Coles, Comptroller, Copper Queen Store

Chancellor John Connolly, Superintendent Copper Queen Mine

Lecturer Edward J. Flanigan, Assistant District Attorney

Warden C.U. Mandis

Treasurer D. E. Brodrick, Physician

Advocate D. P. Hickey, Assignee of the Jas, H Long Dry Goods Company (Broker or Lawyer)

Fin Sec J. F. Jacquemin, Comptroller Bisbee-Naco Water Company

Recorder A T Sowle, Board Member Cochise Building and Loan Association, City Councilman

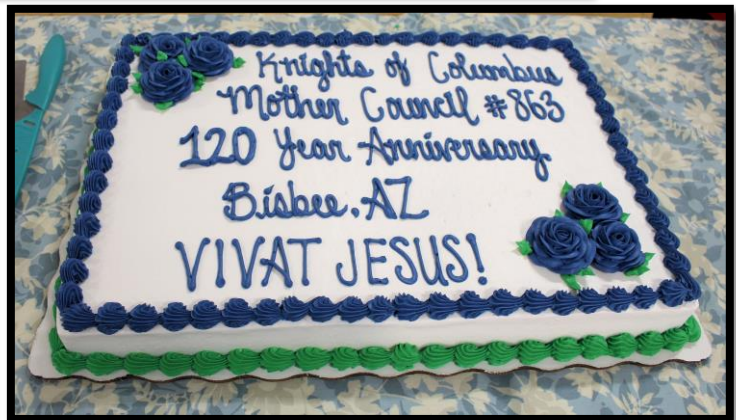
Inside Guard John Hogan, Clerk at Copper Queen Mercantile eventually became a City Councilman and Justice of the Peace

Outside Guard James Brogan, Fiscal Agent for a number of Mining companies

Trustees: W. H. Brophy, President Bank of Bisbee; Michael J. Brophy, Board of Directors Bisbee-Naco Water Company; John A. Campbell, Treasurer Cananea, Consolidated Copper Company.

Later that evening, a banquet was held at the Copper Queen Hotel. From the Bisbee Review, "The invocation was by the Bishop Henry Grajon, the second bishop of Tucson and the address of welcome from W.H. Brophy. After the coffee and cigars, Edward J. Flannigan took charge and the following toasts were responded to: 'Our Mission' Rev Father Roy of El Paso Council, 'Our Holy Father Pope Pius X,' Reverend Henry Grajon of Tucson, 'Good Fellowship' The El Paso Council, 'The Ladies, Dr. D. E. Broderick 'Our Order,' E.V. Berrien, "Our Misson in Mexico," James M. Walsh. (Walsh was the Comptroller for the Cananea Consolidated Copper Company). (Kts of Columbus Arrive from El Paso, 1904) *Courtesy Larry Powers, State Treasurer, Diocese of Tucson Newsletter*

Bisbee Council 863 Mother Council of Arizona Celebration



Pictures courtesy of Cristy Felix

Executive Assistant, Notre Dame Des Victoires Ministry
and Care Net Pregnancy Center of Cochise County, Inc

Brothers,

In Arizona we have 138 Councils, 49 have completed the Safe Environment Program requirements. Although this number appears low, there is hope. 22 Councils are missing just 1 position to comply and many more are only missing 2 positions. When I speak to the District Deputies and Grand Knights of these councils, they assure me that everything has been completed on their end and they are waiting on Supreme to complete the process.

With 2 months left in the Fraternal Year I ask you this, as a District Deputy have you looked at your District compliance status recently? This is available to you on the Daily Membership dashboard on pCloud. As a Grand Knight, have you looked at your Council's compliance status recently? This is available to you on Officers Online. I ask you to check the status today and continue to check it regularly through the end of June. In the past there have been men whose compliance expired in May or June; this caused the council to miss out on award opportunities.

At this point in the Fraternal Year, it is too late to submit a new Form 365 or Form 185 to start the compliance process, that ship has sailed. We need to focus on men completing the training they have been assigned and following up with Supreme Fraternal Missions and The Office of Youth Protection. Fraternal Missions can be reached at fraternalmission@kofc.org or (203) 752-4270 and Office of Youth Protection can be reached at oyp@kofc.org or (203) 800-4940. If you have any questions about a man's status call or email them directly.

As a reminder, all of the requirements and a detailed explanation of the process can be found at: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/safe-environment-program/state-leader-compliance-guide.pdf>

Bobby Nielsen

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Brothers all,

Work is well underway for 117th State Convention; it is shaping up to be a great time to get together and acknowledge your accomplishments during this Fraternal Year. I look forward to seeing everyone.

I am still compiling this year's Necrology List. The list will be read at the Memorial Mass on Saturday afternoon of the Convention. If you are aware of Brothers passing between May 1, 2023, and April 30, 2024, please send those names to me. If the Brother is a Priest, Deacon, Former District Deputy, or Past State Officer, please include this information too. Thank you to the Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and Council Necrology Chairmen who have sent (and if necessary, updated) their Council's list.

At the time I'm writing this note (April 10th), there are 225 Brothers that will be remembered at this year's Memorial Mass. Please pray for the souls of our departed Brothers and for comfort for their families, friends, and Brother Knights.

Also, in response to the April 9, 2024, opinion issued by Arizona Supreme Court regarding current Arizona law regarding abortion, the Arizona Catholic Conference, representing the Bishops in Arizona, issued this statement:

[Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference Statement on AZ Supreme Court Abortion Opinion - Arizona Catholic Conference \(azcatholicconference.org\)](https://www.azcatholicconference.org/Bishops-of-the-Arizona-Catholic-Conference-Statement-on-AZ-Supreme-Court-Abortion-Opinion)

If you have any questions, please call me at 520-904-3175 or email at: Rich.TracyAZKofC@icloud.com.

God bless and Vivat Jesus!

Richard J. Tracy, Jr.

State Warden
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Brothers,

It is time to start thinking about the State Awards for your Councils. In previous years the number of applications submitted has not been as many as it should have been. Let us change that this year. There are so many councils doing wonderful projects, it is your job to see that they are recognized for the great things they do.

District Deputies may submit applications for:

- 1) **Council-of-the-Year** - Form COUNCIL-YEAR 23-24
- 2) **Grand-Knight-of-the-Year** - Form GK-YEAR 23-24
- 3) **Raul Navarrete Vocations Award** - Form RAUL-NAV 23-24

Councils may submit applications for:

- 1) **Chaplain of the Year** – Form SBMMA 9/22
- 2) **Family of the Year** – Form 10680 11/22
- 3) **Knight of the Year** – Form KNGT-YEAR 23-24
- 4) **Service Programs** Form STSP 10/23 (**Only ONE Entry Each Category**)
 - a) Faith
 - b) Family
 - c) Community
 - d) Life

All Award Applications can be found on the State Website. Click on the Drop Down Menu **FORMS – STATE FORMS** or the direct link is <https://kofc-az.org/state-forms>

Be sure and read the instruction Sheet carefully before making your submission. This form is marked “**READ THIS FIRST**”

Deadline for submission of applications is MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024. No application will be accepted after this date.

VERY IMPORTANT: Send application **ONLY** to [KOFCRICK.GARRISON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com). **DO NOT COPY** State Officers, ASO or anyone else, otherwise your application will be rejected.

You may contact me if you have any questions.

Vivat Jesus!

Rick Garrison

Arizona Knights of Columbus

Awards Chairman

480-522-7064

kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com



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Brothers Knights,

We are coming down the home stretch of our Fraternal Year. The response of council program reporting has been outstanding. Gentlemen, this is how your hard work is recognized with the Knights of Columbus. Thank you to all who continue to participate.

Last month the State of Arizona made national news with the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. Congratulations to Christ the King 8th Grade Student, Abigail Paugh, sponsored by Christ the King Council #3419 of Mesa. Abigail is one of 15 national recipients recognized by Supreme for her essay, "How Can the Church Evangelize in the Digital Age." Congratulations Abigail and Council #3419!

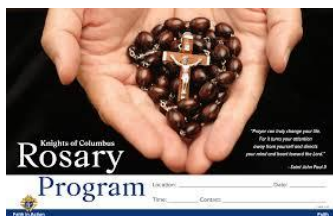


The Annual Basketball Free Throw Championship at Notre Dame Prep was a huge success. Congratulations to all the winners and those who competed. This year's participation was off the charts and well surpassed the numbers from last year. Thank you to all the Knights who assisted with officiating and encouraging the participants. A special thank you to State Basketball Chair, Eric Barna for your hard work and Rick Garrison for your organizational expertise.



Congratulations to Christ the King, Council #3419, they are the winners of the March Program feature of the month, Good Friday Promotion/Eucharistic Processions. They won a \$200 State donation to the RSVP Program. Council 3419 along with 6 councils submitted 10784s for the featured program. A total of 244 forms were submitted by 35 councils. I will announce the April Spiritual Reflection incentive winner in May.

The month of May will be the month of Our Lady. The featured program will be the Rosary Program and it is the perfect time to start hosting regularly scheduled rosaries. Many councils are already participating in continual rosaries within their parishes. The drawing will be for a \$100 St. Joseph's Youth Camp donation. For further information on the Rosary Program, [Rosary Prayer - Faith Programs | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](#) and [319 Scriptural Rosary \(kofc.org\)](#)



Program Updates:

Eucharistic Devotion

Brothers a reminder of Eucharistic Devotion, councils should consider getting involved in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage that starts on May 17 in four locations across the US: Connecticut, Minnesota, California, and Texas. Each route runs from mid-May to July 16, ending in Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress. Details of the stops and events happening on each route can be found at [National Eucharistic Pilgrimage - Official Website](#)

Helping Hands

As spring approaches, now is the time that many parishes need assistance to freshen up their grounds with cleaning or planting of flowers. Encourage your councils to contact their parishes for help with spring cleaning. For more information about Helping Hands and the different opportunities available to councils click [Helping Hands - Faith in Action | Knights of Columbus \(kofc.org\)](#)

Award Reminders:

McGivney: Schedule a church drive and hold a CUF degree to meet those membership goals.

Columbian: As we close out the fraternal year brothers, a reminder to complete your SP-7 for the Columbian Award. Get it in now and if necessary, add to it before the end of June.

Founders: Contact your Fraternal Agent now to schedule a Benefits Seminar. Waiting until the last month can get hectic and stressful.

Star Council: Earn the McGivney, Founders, and Columbian Awards. Submit #365 (program personnel) and #1728 (fraternal survey) Safe Environment compliant and good standing with Supreme Council.

Brothers Knights, continue the hard work as we round the corner to the finish line.

God bless you in all that you do for your parish and council.

Vivat Jesus!

Benjamin Jimenez
Arizona Knights of Columbus
State Program Director
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bidodgblue@gmail.com



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COR in Arizona

Is your council holding Cor dialogs at your parish? Through Cor, men are formed and sharpened as disciples of Jesus, committed to serving Him and willing to boldly live and share their faith. Catholic men need to proactively invest in their ongoing faith formation, to be a part of a dynamic brotherhood that supports, sharpens, and strengthens them to be holy men, husbands, and fathers, and to engage in the mission of the Church.

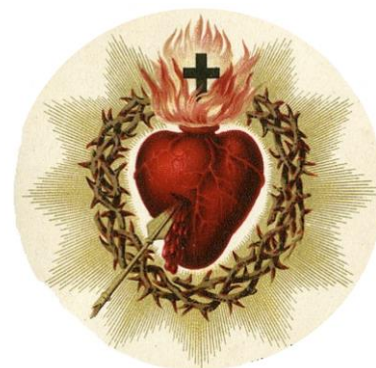
Have you heard that Cor is in competition with other groups at the parish? I have heard this a number of times and just don't understand. We are not in competition. We actually can be collaborative with other groups since we hold our dialogs on different days and different times. There are many men that are participating in multiple groups and have noted that their spirituality just grows even more.

What do you need to do to start a Cor dialog at your parish? First, talk to your pastor and get their approval. Go to the kofc.org website page at kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/why-cor.html

Every council/parish in Arizona should be holding Cor dialogs. Many councils are conducting these, but I do not know who you are. Grand Knights, will you please send me an email letting me know when your dialogs are being held and where. Also, please ask the coordinator/director of the dialog to send in the Supreme form each time a dialog is held. It is found at kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/why-cor.html as a link on the right side of the page. Thank you for helping with this. If you have questions or would like me to come to your council meetings, let me know.

May God bless you and those you love.

Dcn. Bruce Bennett, EdD
AZ State Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation
dcnbruce.bennett.kofcaz@gmail.com
480 294-0282



Brother Knights,

I first reported on this in the last newsletter, but it is worth repeating. By now you are aware of the proposed Arizona Abortion Access amendment which would enshrine abortion rights in our state's constitution. It is an extreme proposition that greatly expands abortion at the cost of the basic health and safety of girls and women. It Goes Too Far.

The proposed abortion amendment:

- Allows abortions up to the moment of birth
- Forces taxpayers to pay for abortions
- Shuts parents out of their minor daughter's abortion decision
- Removes the required medical doctor, leaving girls and women in the hands of unqualified providers with no training in obstetrics
- Removes safety standards for abortion clinics, leaving women at risk of uterine perforation, infection, hemorrhaging, incomplete abortions, and infertility

The pro-abortion advocates report that they already have the necessary signatures to put the amendment on the ballot for the upcoming November elections. As Knights we respect all life from conception to natural death, we are the protectors of life. We need your help to fight and defeat this amendment in the upcoming elections. You can help by spreading the word through your councils, families, and friends.

How can you do this? At my parish, Our Lady of Joy in Carefree, we talked to our pastor and got him to agree to address our parishioners at all Masses. We provided him with literature and videos to use as reference, and all three of our priests presented the facts on the dangers of this amendment during their homilies. We also setup a table in the courtyard where we provided literature to parishioners after Mass. Our priests read the letter from the Arizona Conference of Bishops which was issued back in February and were very direct in explaining that we as Catholics cannot support this amendment. The following link points to the recorded Mass by Fr. Clement. You can find his homily starting at minute 29: bit.ly/OLOJhomily

You can use this as a reference of the type of message that all Catholics need to hear.

We have brochures, business cards, lawn signs in English and Spanish that I can provide to you. Contact me if you need any help.

It is essential that we act now and not wait until it is too late!

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.itgoestoofar.com/>

Vivat Jesus!

Nick Gaudio

Arizona Knights of Columbus

AZ State Life Director

480-227-1619

prolife@gaudio.us



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St. Joseph's Youth Camp April 3, 2024
P.O. Box 23658 Tempe, AZ 85285
4860 Mormon Lake Rd. Mormon Lake, AZ 86038

Worthy State Deputy, District Master, and Brother Knights,

I write you today with a special plea for help from St. Joseph's Youth Camp. As part of our ongoing mission to support the members or our armed forces we have identified many children of veterans who are living in homeless shelters.

This year we have started with a goal of sending ten homeless children of veteran's to camp, giving them an opportunity to get out of the homeless shelter for a week. We have actually found more, but we do not have the funding yet for the ten.

I would like to ask the Assemblies and Councils, and individual knights to help us in this mission to support those who have sacrificed for our nation. The cost is \$8000.00. I am starting by donating \$100.00 to the effort.

Sincerely,
SK James Mead
President, Board of Directors
St. Joseph's Youth Camp

Worthy Sir Knights of the Arizona District,

The Supreme Master has encountered some Sir Knights inappropriately wearing name badges on the uniform. Please see the following guidelines for proper wearing conditions.

As a reminder,

1. Any member may wear their assembly's Fourth Degree badge on the uniform.
2. It is worn on the right-hand side, level with the top of the left-hand pocket.
3. It is worn in social settings only. Never in an honor guard.
4. It should have a magnetic or pin backing since there is no pocket on the right breast.
5. There is no requirement for a specific style of badge nor a necessity to order a special badge from Knights Gear.
6. A member in Memphis asked the WSM if he could just add a magnetic backing to his current badge, and he said that would be fine.
7. The only exceptions to a Fourth Degree badge are badges of office for current state officers (including DDs) and a Past State Deputy.

Our Worthy Supreme Master received a request from the Military Assemblies, which were formed and are being formed in South Korea. Many of these soldiers, sailors, and marines stationed in that theater are Brother and Sir Knights. They wish to or have procured the Uniform of the Fourth Degree but cannot afford the Sword and Baldric.

Our Supreme Master Michael McClusker, has requested that if there are any veteran Sir Knights who served in the Korean War or not, they would wish to donate their sword (if no longer able to be a member of the Honor Guard). If you do so, your name, rank, and dates in service would be etched onto the sword before being presented to the SK in Korea.

We have one sword already donated to our Vice Supreme Master, Chris Foley, for this program.

Can our Sir Knights in the AZ District provide any swords for this program?

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Paz

AZ District Master, John H. Reddin Province, Knights of Columbus
(602) 790-1789

SirKnightMichaelPaz@gmail.com

<https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree>

"Faith over Culture"

Sir Knights,

The Arizona Fourth Degree Biennial Meeting will take place on April 27, 2024 at St. Anne Catholic Church in Gilbert. Each Assembly is represented by the Faithful Navigator and one delegate for each 100 members or portion thereof.

Date: April 27, 2024 (Registration will close April 19, 2024)

Where: St Anne Catholic Church

440 E Elliot Rd

Gilbert, AZ. 85234

When: 8:00 AM Registration

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Meeting

Cost: \$15 Registration fee for each delegate attending. Cost includes continental breakfast and lunch

How: Please register at:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/StateWebArizona/BiennialMeetingForm>

Delegate registration should be completed by the Faithful Comptroller.

If you would like to attend the meeting as a non-delegate, please click on No for the checkbox "Are you register delegate(s)".

Checks should be made out to "Arizona State Knights of Columbus" with "Fourth Degree Meeting" in the memo line. Checks should be mailed to:

Arizona State Knights of Columbus

835 W Warner Rd, #101-411

Gilbert, AZ 85233

If an Assembly has a resolution that they would like considered to be presented and voted on at the meeting, please send the resolution with the date of reading and signatures from the Faithful Navigator and Faithful Scribe to: sirknightmichaelpaz@gmail.com with "Biennial Meeting Resolutions" in the subject line by April 19, 2024. The resolutions will be compiled and presented to the Committee on Resolutions for review and recommendations.

We thank you for all that your assemblies are doing in order to grow the order, promote patriotism, and support our priests and bishops. We look forward to seeing you on April 27, 2024 at St. Anne's.

Vivat Jesus!

Michael Paz

AZ District Master, John H. Reddin Province, Knights of Columbus

(602) 790-1789

SirKnightMichaelPaz@gmail.com

<https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree>

"Faith over Culture"

Dear Worthy Officers and Brothers All,

The next scheduled Exemplification of the Fourth Degree will be in Scottsdale on Saturday, May 4, 2024 hosted by Our Lady of the Rosary Assembly 2374. The ceremonial will held be at St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 10744 N 124th St, Scottsdale, AZ 85259. The Class Honoree for this Fourth Degree Exemplification is Sir Knight George Florentine (In Memoriam).

The agenda for this degree is check-in from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM with a start time of 2:00 PM. Following the ceremony please plan to attend the 5:00 PM a parish mass at St. Bernard of Clairvaux. After mass, there will be an opportunity to reenact the Knighting Ceremony with family members. This will be followed by a dinner in the parish Social Hall. If priests and deacons in attendance want to participate in the Liturgy of the Mass, this requires advance approval by sending a request to the District Master. These request will then be forward to the Pastor for approval to concelebrate. This is an invitation for all Brother Knights and families to enjoy fellowship and build on the Knights of Columbus as the being the largest Catholic Family Fraternal Organization.

One of the top Exemplification Teams in the entire order will present the degree ceremony. All Candidates must be in a dark suit (black, dark grey or dark blue), a white shirt, black shoes, and a conservative tie. Active Duty Military, Police and Firefighters are urged to wear their dress uniforms, and Priests their traditional dress. See the Letter of Instructions for more details. For Sir Knights, the preference is the Fourth Degree Uniform. Alternatively, a dark suit with social baldric is acceptable.

Requirements: To be eligible for the Fourth Degree, candidates must have attained their Third Degree, or obtained their Membership through the CUF degree, and be in good standing with their council. Information within this packet contains more details regarding the May 4th Exemplification activities. General Instructions regarding the registration and the Form 4 that must be followed. The Form 4 requires multiple signatures as well as the candidate's information. Completed Form 4s need to be sent to the District Master by April 29th.

The Reservation Form is online at: <https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree>

A confirmation email will be sent confirming the registration provided the information is correct. Please mail a check to the address in the packet.

For further Information contact Arizona District Master Michael Paz.

Michael Paz

AZ District Master, John H. Reddin Province, Knights of Columbus

(602) 790-1789

SirKnightMichaelPaz@gmail.com

<https://kofc-az.org/patriotic-degree>

"Faith over Culture"



The Definition of Culture Is:

the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.”

Custom is defined as: "long-established practice considered as unwritten law”

However, culture is not static. It evolves over time and is influenced by various factors such as **politics, media, technology, and globalization**. What was once considered acceptable in a particular culture may no longer be deemed so in another era.

This ever-changing nature of culture highlights the importance of prioritizing faith over culture. Catholicism teaches that our **faith** should shape our actions and worldview, not the other way around. Our faith must take precedence over cultural norms when there is a conflict between the two.

As Knights of Columbus, following Blessed McGivney’s vision, let us ensure that we choose Faith over Culture!

The Complete Knight

God is the center of all that a knight does, his **family** comes second, and self third. God drives all that we do.

In order to be successful, he needs to:

- Recruit
- Engage
- Motivate
- Evangelize
- Retain

The areas of focus are:

- Membership
- Programs
- Cor
- Insurance

